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Hello! I hope you are doing well and that you are experiencing the heightened level of enthusiasm, collaboration, and teamwork that is becoming very clear to me as I make my way around Care New England's operating units, Town Halls, and patient care units.

Last week, there was a very compelling story about a serious choking scare one of our colleagues at Women & Infants experienced in the course of her daily work. No doubt, this must have been incredibly unnerving for her personally, as well as her many colleagues who administered immediate care and support for her. If you read the piece in Women & Infants' *Vital Signs*, you know that everything ended well. Good news all around!

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It's not uncommon for me to include other stories of teamwork, kindness, and support when I hear about them and they seem appropriate. But in thinking about this a bit further, I thought it might be nice to dedicate an upcoming issue of *carenews* to the teamwork and example you set every day.

While visiting each operating unit I often "pop-quiz" you on important initiatives, key priorities, and so on. Today, I am going to take that one step further and offer a little homework assignment. I think it would be great if you shared personal stories of your team, colleagues, work buddy, or just someone here at work who has played an important role in helping you achieve success, provide exceptional care for a patient, meet a community need. I think you get the idea. Also, I believe it would be fun and meaningful to share a picture of you and your team or the individual who helped you in a way that was above and beyond.

I know this is a bit different, but I think it further serves to illustrate the common themes I am hearing wherever I go. I know the stories and anecdotes are out there. Now, I want you to share them, along with those great pictures. In the not-too-distant future, I will dedicate an issue of *carenews*

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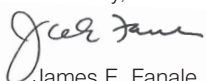
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for everyone to see and read about these important examples of professionalism, kindness, and caring across our workplace.

I am really looking forward to seeing and hearing what you have to share! Who knows, maybe we will even highlight some of these in person, at upcoming Town Halls!

Thanks and have a great week!

Sincerely,



James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer



Send your story (75 words or less) and a photo (if you have one) to <https://carenewengland.formstack.com/forms/stories>, and be sure to include any pertinent information such as the name of department, OU, names of team members, etc. Importantly, please be sure that the photos do not include any patients, and make sure that all staff in the photo have agreed that we can publish the image.



CARE NEW ENGLAND

ACTivity launches tomorrow

Throughout the week each operating unit will receive updates and announcements within Care New England's new internal communications format, ACTivity. The design is based on CNE's core values of ACCOUNTABILITY, CARING, and TEAMWORK. ACTivity will provide OU-specific information in categories that deliver short, quick read messages, each week by email. Also, each operating unit will have an ACTivity message board, where weekly posts will be printed and displayed.

What's coming?

- On Tuesdays, a weekly President's Message will include an update on how the OU is performing against budget.
- On Wednesdays, Dr. Jim Fanale's weekly Operations Improvement Update will continue under the ACTivity banner.
- As needed on Thursdays, you will receive special updates on Clinical + Operations or Services + Research activities.
- On Fridays, Announcements will highlight upcoming events and reminders for the following week.

On Mondays, carenews will continue as usual with no changes in format to provide a snapshot of what's happening across the system. To learn more about what's happening at other operating units you'll be able to visit the home page of **carenet** to read the current ACTivity posts, with a searchable archive available of previous posts. This is just one part of a system-wide effort to improve communications, so be sure to read ACTivity posts to stay up to date on important news and information.



THE PROVIDENCE CENTER

TPC expands services in RI Department of Corrections

Recently The Providence Center (TPC) began providing services in the Rhode Island Department of Corrections' (DOC) high-security division. The program will provide substance use treatment to offenders with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI) who typically incur multiple disciplinary infractions, often for aggressive behavior. The program offers both group and individual treatment and utilizes an evidenced-based curriculum called Start Now, which incorporates techniques like cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectical behavioral therapy, and motivational interviewing.



The program has a staff of one: TPC's Masters-level clinician Caitlin Gomes. "This program is a huge step in the right direction for providing mental health treatment to a vulnerable population," said Gomes. It's an expansion of current programming in the RI DOC, including Recovery Net, a post-release program that provides support to inmates re-entering the community, and mental health assessments for offenders that have upcoming parole hearings.

Dr. Melissa Russo named to national, international organizations



Melissa Russo, MD, a maternal-fetal medicine and clinical genetics specialist in the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Women & Infants, an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and a member of Care New England Medical Group, has recently been appointed to three professional organizations and committees. She has been named to a three-year term of the Genetics Committee of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; a three-year term on the Professional Advisory Board of the Marfan Foundation; and a nominated member of the International Research Society for Genetic Aortic Disease, the Montalcino Aortic Consortium, a consortium of prominent clinical, basic, and translational investigators around the world committed to

diagnosing and managing aortic disorders and discovering their genetic causes and modifiers.

"Marfan Syndrome is a connective tissue disorder that affects the blood vessels, leaving individuals with a genetic predisposition for aortic dissections. The work of these two organizations is crucial to ensuring early diagnosis and proper treatment that can save the lives of mothers and babies," said Dr. Russo. "I am deeply honored to represent my specialty and Women & Infants Hospital with these prestigious organizations."


A magna cum laude graduate of Colgate University, Dr. Russo earned her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology and fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine and clinical genetics at Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Russo is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, and genetics. Prior to joining Women & Infants, she was at Texas Children's/Baylor University in Houston, TX, where she was an assistant professor of maternal-fetal medicine and human and molecular genetics. Her research interests include prenatal genetics, reproductive and pregnancy outcomes in women with connective tissue disorders such as Marfan syndrome and Loeys-Dietz syndrome.

Dr. Russo performs pre-conception and pregnancy genetic consultations at the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Clinic of Women & Infants, (401) 274-1122, ext. 47096.

BUTLER

Donuts for a cause

A team of Butler Hospital researchers delivered donuts to Butler's Memory and Aging Program (MAP) team as a thank you for their hard work. Aptly, the specialty donuts from PVDonuts were designed by artist and friend to MAP, Paul Cote to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association RI Chapter. Paul was awarded the Lila M. Sapinsley Community Service Award at Butler's Masterpiece of Hope event in May. While the donuts were "delish," they still were only available for one day, and yet, they raised \$1,000! 



From left to right: Lisa Williams, Denise Jerue, and Cecelia Bouffard.