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Our surgery center combines an exceptional patient experience with specially designed space, state-of-the-art equipment and, right next door, the 24-hour support of our full-service hospital.



Following quickly on the heels of last month's marketing efforts highlighting the growth of the orthopedics program at CNE and the increasing importance of the Care New England Medical Group, a campaign

to promote the surgical services program at Kent Hospital launches today with elements including radio, newspapers, and social media, as well as video conversations with our highly-trained surgeons and a range of internal communications. The campaign focuses on expanding patient access by combining top surgeons and leading-edge technology, while remaining focused on the best possible outcomes

for general surgery, robotic-assisted surgeries, minimally invasive procedures, or outpatient same-day surgery. Kent's surgical program includes vascular, thoracic, plastic surgery, bariatrics, colorectal, and hernia surgeries.

Guy Lancellotti, MD, chief of surgery at Kent, says it better than anyone: "Our surgery center combines an exceptional patient experience with specially designed space, state-of-the-art equipment and, right next door, the 24-hour support of our full-service hospital," said Dr. Lancellotti. "The result is unparalleled ease of access, comfort, and peace of mind for those who need our services." I have included some of the images from the surgery campaign with this week's column. In the coming months, we will be highlighting other key service lines including primary care, breast health, and services for older adults. These campaigns are all excellent opportunities to publicly promote these important services as well as the growing and highly-skilled team of CNEMG providers.

On another note, as you have hopefully seen and heard, the 2018 Compliance and HIPAA Training Program has been assigned in Healthstream. **It is critical that everyone complete these online trainings by September 8.** As a reminder, your User ID is your CNE Network ID (not your employee number, or first and last name). If you have difficulty logging in or forgot your password, please contact the Help Desk for support.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

KENT HOSPITAL SURGICAL SERVICES

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN WE COMBINE TOP SURGEONS WITH LEADING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY?

Care New England Medical Group is a team of top surgeons and leading-edge technology at Kent Hospital, all working together to give you the best possible outcome. It's general surgery, robotic-assisted surgery, minimally invasive procedures, or outpatient same-day surgery. We work together to find the best possible outcome for you, so you don't have the best possible outcome on your own.

- A team, caring environment that ensures your safety and comfort
- Robotic, minimally invasive, outpatient, or outpatient same-day surgery
- Easy access that's close to you

Your LIFE GETS A WHOLE LOT BETTER.

To schedule an appointment with a Care New England Medical Group surgeon, call (800) 728-8811. For more information, visit kent.hospital.

Care New England Medical Group
Expanding your access to great health care.

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Expanding your access to great health care.

Chief Medical Officer for Kent Hospital Named



Care New England (CNE) announced recently that it has named Paari Gopalakrishnan, MD, MBA, as the new chief medical officer for Kent Hospital and medical director for Integra Community Care Network. He will begin November 26, 2018.

Dr. Gopalakrishnan comes to Kent Hospital after most recently serving as chief, Division of Hospitalist Medicine at Greenville Health System in Greenville, SC. He also served as clinical assistant professor, University of South Carolina School of Medicine—Greenville. There, he championed a rapidly growing division encompassing acute-care hospitalist medicine, post-acute care medicine, section of inpatient psychiatry, and point of care ultrasound. Prior to his time at Greenville Health System, Dr. Gopalakrishnan served as the director of the inpatient medical group (hospitalists) at Kent Hospital from 2009 to 2015.

Raymond Powrie, MD, Kent Hospital interim president said, "On behalf of CNE and Kent Hospital, we are extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Gopalakrishnan back to Rhode Island and Kent Hospital. He has a proven record of accomplishment and clinical success throughout his career to date and will certainly be a tremendous asset to the leadership team as we continue to focus on key initiatives of quality, patient safety, and satisfaction. This is an exciting time for Kent as we not only welcome Dr. Gopalakrishnan later this year, but also new hospital president, Robert Haffey, next month. Re-establishing the foundations of Kent's leadership has been our priority, and I believe we are now positioning the hospital well for many years to come."

Said Dr. Gopalakrishnan, "As the new chief medical officer at Kent Hospital, I am looking forward to returning to an institution that has already been an important part of my career in health care. This new opportunity will afford me the chance to further guide Kent as it continues its journey towards excellence, while providing high quality patient care to the community who looks to this hospital for their services."

While at Greenville Health System, Dr. Gopalakrishnan was responsible for the establishment of new programs and initiatives within the division including the acquisition of new hospitalist programs, the development of an outpatient transition care program, and the expansion of acute care providers into skilled nursing facilities. In addition, he was instrumental in realizing significant improvement in patient satisfaction, quality outcomes, patient flow, physician engagement, and nurse-physician collaboration.

While director of the inpatient medical group (hospitalists) at Kent Hospital, Dr. Gopalakrishnan was responsible for the multi-specialty group encompassing Kent's Intensive Care Unit, House Officer Physician Assistant Program, and the hospitalist program which serves both Kent and Women & Infants hospitals. Earlier in his career, Dr. Gopalakrishnan also served as associate director, Division of Hospitalist Medicine at The Miriam Hospital in Providence, RI.

Dr. Gopalakrishnan received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and completed his internal medicine residency at Brown University. He received his MBA with honors from Bryant University.

Kent Hospital welcomes new nurses, who are also familiar faces

This summer, 10 employees who began at Kent Hospital as CNAs were hired as nurses. Casey Amaral, Care New England's talent acquisition partner, explains, "It's often a typical track for nurses to begin as CNAs then decide to further their education to become a nurse."

The recent new hires received their degrees from an array of institutions: Community College of Rhode Island, New England Institute of Technology, and St. Joseph's School of Nursing. While pursuing their nursing degrees, every new hire attended clinical rotations in various departments at hospitals throughout the state. Yet upon passing their NCLEX exam and receiving their registered nurse licensures, all decided to further their careers at Kent Hospital, in the same hospital where
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"We are always excited and proud when our internal applicants are also the best choice for an open position," says Amaral. "It's important that we foster a career ladder for our employees. These 10 nurses exemplify the opportunities available for career advancement."

Jennifer Rochira, RN, Intensive Care Unit, began as an emergency room tech in 2015. "Before I even began as an ED tech I was a volunteer within Kent's Emergency Department. I really value learning hands-on from the ground up," said Rochira. When deciding where to continue her career as a nurse, Rochira, a local herself, wasn't ready to give up her 10-minute commute or the ease of parking on-site. After her second week on the ICU floor as an RN she reflects, "I like the connectedness I feel with the community here at Kent."

Starting in 2010 as a CNA, Ashley Meegan, RN, Operating Room, has climbed the ladder step-by-step to her current role. In the past eight years she has worked as a CNA, operating room tech, and anesthesia tech, and has developed a compassionate outlook in regards to patient care. "At Kent I have learned to care for patients with respect and honesty. Every patient is here for a reason and that reason is to get better. They can't do that without our motivation and faith," said Meegan. "I have always wanted to be an operating room nurse, and when the opportunity came up I knew it was finally my turn."

New hire, Rebecca LaPlante, RN, float pool, stated that her familiarity with Kent's charting technology, Cerner, impacted her decision. LaPlante joined Kent in 2011 as a CNA on 4 North West where float pool nurse Brea Carson became her mentor. "From day one, Brea was always willing to show me things and explain the purpose of her actions. During my clinical rotations, I felt I was a step ahead because I was already somewhat familiar due to Brea's guidance."

All nurses can attest to the demands of nursing school—long days in the classroom, on the floor, and the endless hours of studying. For Tary Lamy, RN, 2 North, her night shifts as a CNA on 4 West and then as an ED tech allowed her to balance nursing school and beginning a career in patient care. "Working in the ED afforded me the opportunity to see a variety of different patients, symptoms, and treatments. When I was at work, my eyes and ears were always open, taking every opportunity to learn something new and to ask questions," said Lamy.

Lamy is a second generation nurse at Kent, "My mother, a nurse on 4 North West, has been my greatest mentor of all." For Lamy the decision to continue as a nurse here was a clear one. "Kent has become home. I have already invested time and emotion into this company and in return, this company has offered assistance in getting me through school and continuing my education to obtain my BSN."

Similarly, Hannah Peltier, RN, 4 West, served as a CNA in the float pool while continuing her education. During her time as a CNA she learned her way around every Kent department and hospital floor. "I knew I would get great nursing experience at Kent," explained Peltier.

For the past 13 years Melinda Repoza, RN, float pool has been a CNA with the 2 West team. Due to life's ups and downs, obtaining her degree was no easy feat, but Repoza was committed. This May, after 10 years, the letters RN were added to her title. "Almost every nurse I worked with on 2 West was a mentor. They encouraged me to keep going to school," said Repoza. "In particular: Deb Franco for always pushing me to keep going; Albina Feeley for her tender emotional support; Stephanie Roberts for showing me through actions how to take charge in serious situations; and Claudia Maine whom I watched grow from a floor staff nurse into a fantastic manager—the sky is the limit for her."

When asked why she decided to stay at Kent, Repoza responded, "I have a 'Kent family' who have provided ongoing support professionally and personally. The culture in this organization is one of family in many ways."

Maranda Dailey, RN, 3 South; Caitlin Duffy, RN, 5 West; Madison Bentley, RN, Intensive Care Unit; and Caitlin McKenna, RN, 5 West, have also begun as nurses after launching their careers as a Kent Hospital CNA.

"Becoming a nurse after gaining immense experience as a CNA gave these employees a competitive advantage when applying for our vacant nursing positions," said Amaral. "We're committed to assisting our associate nurses advance to their BSNs and are thrilled when they decide to dedicate their knowledge to providing our patients and their families with the best possible care."

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Governor Raimondo visits Anchor Teen Recovery Center

Recently, Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo visited the Jim Gillen Teen Center, The Providence Center's recovery center for teens. Raimondo brought Sally Susman, executive vice president of corporate affairs for Pfizer Corp. They were given a tour of the facility, and sat with local leaders to discuss what the state is doing to combat the opioid epidemic, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and other recovery services in the correctional system.

Joining the discussion were Kate Pollon and Stacy Perin from TPC's Anchor Learning Academy, Dr. Jennifer Clark from the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, Linda Hurley from CODAC, and Maria Sansiveri and Tom Coderre from the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals. Visit <https://providencecenter.org/anchor-academy> for more information.



Pictured: Governor Raimondo with Anchor staff

WOMEN & INFANTS

2018 Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund

The 2018 Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund (CAH Fund) Grant Program is now open! This year the CAH Fund is accepting applications in two categories: 1) basic science or 2) clinical research. Up to \$25,000 will be awarded in each category. The [CAH Fund Request for Proposals](#) are due by **Friday, October 12**.

The CAH Fund seeks novel projects that have the potential for significant translational impact in the field of women's health and gender-based research. Awards are meant to provide seed funding for exciting pilot studies that will propel research ideas to the level of external funding, including federal and foundation sources.

This fund is generously supported by donors to Women & Infants Hospital. Previous CAH Fund award winners include Drs. Valery Danilack, Paul DiSilvestro, and Niharika Mehta in 2017; Drs. Lynae Brayboy and Juan Sanchez-Esteban in 2016; and Drs. Surendra Sharma and Erika Werner in 2015.

For questions or more information, please email cahfund@wihri.org.

WOMEN & INFANTS

Swim Across America to fight cancer

Saturday, September 8 | 8 a.m. | Roger Wheeler State Beach

Women & Infants and the national non-profit organization Swim Across America (SAA) will make waves in the fight against cancer with the ninth annual SAA Rhode Island Swim. This event has raised more than \$850,000 to support oncology research in Women & Infants' Center for Biomarkers and Emerging Technologies (CBET), an initiative of the Program in Women's Oncology, and the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.



Bring your friends and family. We are happy to have any volunteers who are at least 12 years old and are interested in helping or may need community service hours! Every volunteer gets a t-shirt, breakfast, lunch, and the chance to support cancer research and cancer survivors across Rhode Island. To sign up or for more information on this truly inspirational event, contact Ivan Colon at 921-8509 or icolon@carene.org. 