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*We need to find women before cancers are past treatment.*

*We believe that a screening program will affect thousands – and ultimately millions – of women in Rwanda.*



Good Afternoon,

There's no doubt that the work we do across our system impacts the health and well-being of our surrounding communities. But last week, Rick Majzun, president and COO of Women & Infants, wrote about a program that is impacting health *globally*.

If you didn't see Rick's message, you can read it in its entirety on [carenet](#), and here's a summary.

Since 2005, Dr. Star Hampton has led a team from Women & Infants' Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery on a trip to Rwanda with the International Organization for Women and Development. Over the years, they have provided care to women who are suffering with obstetric fistulae and training to the local physicians in how to care for these women.

This year the team from Women & Infants Hospital worked in Kigali, Rwanda, where they served for two weeks at Kibagabaga Hospital with a team of American surgeons, anesthesiologists, and nurses. They collaborated with and trained Rwandan physicians, medical students, and nursing staff, teaching them post-surgical care for the women, as well as basic anatomy, surgical preparation, sterility concepts, evaluation, and surgical approaches.

Dr. Hampton's goals are also to give physicians in training global health experience and exposure to advanced pelvic surgery. Each year the Division sends the senior fellow with Dr. Hampton, and this year she was joined by Dr. Sarah Napoe. Leah Moynihan, the nurse practitioner who works with Dr. Hampton, has joined her team for the past four years as well.

Dr. Hampton is pictured here with Alexia, a patient she cared for in 2016.



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For the second consecutive year, Dr. Hampton was also joined by a team from the Program in Women's Oncology – pictured here, left to right: nurse practitioner Heather Murphy, Dr. Lindsay Beffa (fellow), Darius Rokundo Ezechy (a medical student whose mother had cervical cancer and is studying to become a gynecologic oncologist to improve the access to screening and treatment for Rwanda women), Dr. Tina Robison, and Dr. Liza Lokich. This trip was intended for information gathering so the oncology team could develop a cervical cancer screening program for the women of Rwanda – something which does not currently exist. As a result, most women present with cancers that are beyond surgical treatment and need to go to Uganda for care, where resources are also limited.



While the team was there to meet with the Minister of Health and gather information, once the women of Rwanda found out about their arrival, they showed up at the hospital in search of screenings for cervical cancer. The team screened more than 100 women – almost none of whom had ever been screened before, and found lesions on almost half of the women, a significantly higher rate than here in the U.S.

According to Dr. Robison, "We need to find women before cancers are past treatment. We believe that a screening program will affect thousands – and ultimately millions – of women in Rwanda."

She's right. And the work that these teams are doing will undoubtedly affect the women of Rwanda and of the world. Congratulations on this wonderful work.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## WOMEN & INFANTS HOSPITAL

### Leah K. Moynihan, NP, MSN, receives DAISY Award



Congratulations to Leah K. Moynihan, NP, MSN, a nurse practitioner in the [Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery](#), who was recently presented with the DAISY Award. Leah has been a nurse at Women & Infants since July 2014.

In nominating Leah, the daughter of a patient wrote, "If I had to use one word to describe Leah, it would be compassionate. My mother has been seeing Leah since July 2017 for urogynecologic issues. Leah went out of her way to proactively reduce the cost of (her medications) ...Leah has been instrumental in getting proper diagnostic care, setting up prompt appointments ... supporting my mother and family with calls, and ALWAYS answering many, many patient portal email questions and concerns, even well after normal business hours ...I've never seen the level of human caring, professionalism, support, and dedication that Leah shows in all aspects of her profession. Leah deserves to be recognized for her exceptional patient-centered care and I certainly take my hat off to her!"

## ANCHOR LEARNING

### Jonathan Goyer presents at Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force



How important is peer recovery in overdose prevention? Just ask Jonathan Goyer, manager of community outreach at Anchor Recovery Center, who spoke last week at the Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force.

Jonathan said, "Anchor supports the belief that there are many pathways to recovery, but most of all we believe that nobody needs to be on that path alone."

Thanks to Jonathan and all our staff who represent us so well with our community partners.

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## TPC in the news



February 14 was one year since the shooting in Parkland, FL. ABC-TV6's Daniel Keith interviewed Stacy Perin, director of the TPC School, to talk about what has changed since then and the availability of mental health services for adolescents in Rhode Island. Stacy's interview was part of a longer story about the Governor's calls for stronger gun control laws. View the story <http://www.abc6.com/story/39968245/rhode-island-governor-calls-for-stronger-gun-control-laws>.

## February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

One in three teens in the US is the victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse by a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds other types of youth violence. Dating abuse is a pattern of behaviors one person uses to gain and maintain power and control over their partner. Many people assume abuse means that physical violence is happening, but that's not always the case!

Abuse comes in many forms: physical, emotional/verbal, sexual, financial, and digital. Each type of abuse is serious and no one deserves to experience abuse of any kind. Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence—almost triple the national average. Violent relationships in adolescence put victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behaviors, and future domestic violence.

If you or someone you know is suffering from dating violence or interpersonal violence, you can call the DayOne helpline at **1 (800) 494-8100** to speak to an advocate. The 24/7 helpline is staffed by trained professionals who can discuss available resources and safety planning on an individual basis. Anyone can call to get information over the phone, and advocates are able to travel to hospitals and police stations at any time of the day or night to assist as needed. Please explore and share the available resources below. *Together we join as one voice to help end sexual violence.*

- DayOne 24/7 Helpline: **1 (800) 494-8100** | [dayoneri.org/](http://dayoneri.org/)
- If you are a young person in an abusive relationship, you can text: "loveis" to 22522 or call **1 (866) 331-9474** to speak to a peer advocate. | [breakthecycle.org/](http://breakthecycle.org/)
- [Loveisrespect.org](http://Loveisrespect.org) | Dating abuse poster [loveisrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/LIR-Poster.pdf](http://loveisrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/LIR-Poster.pdf)

### Representatives from Sojourner House will have information tables at the following dates/times:

- Tuesday, February 19 | 3 to 5:30 p.m. | Women & Infants Hospital
- Tuesday, February 26 | 3 to 5:30 p.m. | Butler Hospital
- Tuesday, February 26 | 3 to 5:30 p.m. | Kent Hospital

## Care New England's Talks Your Health Returns



We are pleased to announce the return of Care New England's Talks Your Health blog site and e-newsletter, focused on providing health and wellness tips to maintain a healthy lifestyle for you and your family all year round. Each month through the e-newsletter subscribers receive information on topics such as sports-related injuries, breakthroughs in Alzheimer's research, surgical weight loss, how to keep your heart healthy, women's health, men's health, and much more!

Want to receive health and wellness information?

Sign-up for the free monthly newsletter today at [talksyourhealth.com/signup/](http://talksyourhealth.com/signup/).

Are you a CNE provider interested in writing a blog post? Email us at [marketing@carene.org](mailto:marketing@carene.org).