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Good afternoon!

Despite some of the challenges Care New England has faced over the past few years, I am proud that administrative, academic, and clinical leadership throughout the system continues to be viewed as thoughtful, caring, and credible experts on a variety of important topics. As leaders in patient care, bench to bedside research, population health, and more, Care New England's expertise continues to be sought after by federal, state, and local officials, mainstream and trade news media, and many others. This is a testament to the smart, talented, and dedicated staff we are all surrounded by every day.

Later this week I will have the privilege of participating in a health care summit being hosted by the *Providence Business News*. This annual event is seen by many as the "state-of-the-state" for the health care industry in Rhode Island, and we are honored to be at the table to discuss the future of the industry with organizations such as CVS, Coastal Medical, Tufts, Neighborhood Health, the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner, UnitedHealthcare, and the Rhode Island Foundation, among others.

For this business-focused audience, topics will include health and wellness, workforce engagement and productivity, escalating drug prices, proposed changes for Accountable Care Organizations, and ongoing efforts to replace the Affordable Care Act. The discussion will certainly include the shifting health care landscape here in Rhode Island, illustrated clearly by both our pending merger with Brigham Health, as well as the proposed mega-merger between CVS and Aetna. I am happy to take this opportunity, as I will be doing a number of times over the next few months, to outline the importance of the acquisition with Brigham Health for Rhode Island, and for Rhode Islanders. Despite what you have and will hear, I have no doubt that an agreement between our two organizations is absolutely in the best interests of both companies and the patients and families we serve every single day.

Care New England has been and will remain an important voice in helping to shape the future of health care in this state, and it is the good work all of you do each day that gives us the credibility to ensure ourselves a place at the table.

Thank you, as always, for the good work that you are doing.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

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ConvergenceRI
VIEW THIS WEEK'S EDITION HERE

WOMEN & INFANTS HOSPITAL

ICYMI – Women & Infants' Women's Behavioral Health specialists featured in local media



Women & Infants' psychiatrist Dr. Anupriya Gogne was interviewed about Moms MATTER, a new medication assisted treatment for pregnant women with opioid use disorder, the stories aired on [WPRI-TV12](#), and [The Public's Radio](#).

In addition, division director Dr. Margaret Howard was interviewed for a [WJAR-TV10](#) story about FDA approval of a new drug to treat severe postpartum depression. ss

WOMEN & INFANTS HOSPITAL

Grateful family donates books to NICU families



(Pictured left to right: Caitlin Arruda, Andrew Arruda, Mason Arruda, Aiden Arruda, Pamela Watts, CNE Philanthropy, and Lynne Wilmarth, Nursing Moms, Etc.)

Grateful mom, Caitlin Arruda of Berkely, MA has given Women & Infants a sweet story - donating children's books in honor of her four-year old son. Arruda says, "My son Aiden was transferred to your NICU and needed emergency surgery after he was born and received amazing care. And I would love to give back!"

Caitlin and her husband, Andrew, (who now also have a seven-month old son, Mason) brought their family to the hospital recently to deliver 30 copies of "I Love You Hoo." She raised funds from family and friends which were partially matched by the publisher, Usborne Books. She hopes her small act of kindness will make a big difference to other moms as they bond with their babies.

BUTLER HOSPITAL

Butler Hospital awarded \$15,000 grant on behalf of Northwestern Mutual financial advisor



From connecting families with housing and food resources to providing valuable mentorship opportunities to local youth, Northwestern Mutual financial advisors are leading impactful change in their communities across the country. The company is recognizing these efforts through its 2019 Community Service Awards program by awarding nearly \$300,000 in grants to nonprofits nationwide. Local resident Michael Matone, a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual – East Greenwich, was chosen as a 2019 recipient of the award, receiving a \$15,000 grant for Butler Hospital to provide Zero Suicide Initiative training for physicians and clinical staff. Matone has been involved with Butler Hospital for more than 18 years, serving on the Butler Hospital Foundation since its inception. In May 2018, Matone was honored as Corporation Member of the Year by the hospital.

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Kent Healthgrades 250 celebration



(Pictured left to right: Brendan Carrero, Marvin Estrada, Josh Napolitano, Robert Pacheco, Alicia Gonzalez, Amanda Andrade, and Marcia Rodriguez)

Last week Kent Hospital celebrated its special recognition as one of Healthgrades Top 250 Hospitals; ranking within the top five percent in the nation for consistently delivering clinical quality. This year, Kent also received recognitions for America's 100 Best Hospitals for Critical Care, and the Pulmonary Care Excellence Award. A total of 497 employees joined together in celebration with an Opening Day baseball-themed celebration, featuring an array of ballpark food along with some fun surprises. In honor of Kent's 250 ranking, all meals were offered at the special price of \$2.50 for lunch and dinner.

Nurse recruitment at Kent Hospital



Kent Hospital is continuing its recruitment effort aimed at attracting qualified nurses to an array of nursing positions throughout the hospital. A Facebook live event was held last week to help spread the word on this ongoing opportunity. So far, approximately 20 offers have been extended!

In addition, we are pleased to offer an enhanced employee referral bonus program in conjunction with this outreach. With this new program, qualified staff will receive \$7,500 paid over three installments of \$2,500 each at the new hire's three, six, and 12-month employment milestones.

This incentive applies to staff who successfully refer benefit-eligible nurses hired in the following areas: emergency services, nurse educators, mother/baby, and cardiac cath lab, in addition to acute care float pool, nurse director of women's care, assistant nurse managers, and an assistant chief nursing officer.

Kent Hospital is hosting walk-in interview days, every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Doctors' Auditorium B. There will be an opportunity to meet with recruiters, have an on-the-spot interview, and learn much more about the nursing positions at Kent.

It can be challenging to find staff to fill these positions. We hope you will serve as hospital ambassadors and draw from your personal talent pool of friends, professional contacts, and others whom you believe have what it takes to join Kent and be a part of our energized and focused team concentrating on clinical excellence, quality and safety, professional development and education, collaboration and teamwork. If you have any questions, please stop by HR.

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April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Sexual violence is a serious public health problem that affects millions of men and women. Statistics underestimate the problem because many victims do not tell the police, family, or friends about the violence. Each April, we recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) to call attention to and stop sexual violence before it begins.

One of the components of SAAM is Denim Day, April 24, an international event honoring an 18-year-old Italian woman whose attacker was set free after the Italian Supreme Court ruled that her jeans were too tight for her 45-year-old attacker to have removed them himself, thereby implying consent.

Employees throughout Care New England are invited to participate in Denim Day for a \$1 donation to help raise awareness of sexual assault. Please speak with your manager regarding department-specific dress codes.

The culmination of Sexual Assault Awareness Month across RI will be the Day One 5K to End Sexual Violence on Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m. in Providence. Care New England will have a team at this event – if you are interested in joining, please contact Brydie Thomasian, BThomasian@KentRI.org (ext. 31446) or Kayla Rodrigues, KMRodrigues@wihri.org (ext. 41924).

Care New England also offers resources to help raise awareness. Our Interpersonal Violence Task Force is a multidisciplinary committee whose role is to provide education to our staff, advocate for our patients, and ensure that all Care New England operating units are implementing best practices in regard to screening for violence and the care of our patients. If you are passionate about caring for patients, especially those who may be affected by domestic violence or sexual violence, please consider joining.

WOMEN & INFANTS HOSPITAL

National Perinatal Association: Interdisciplinary Conference April 3 to 5 | Renaissance Providence Downtown



Women & Infants Hospital is sponsoring the National Perinatal Association (NPA) conference from April 3 to 5 on Improving Access to Perinatal Care: Confronting Disparities and Inequities in Maternal-Infant Health. Register today: member - \$475, non-member \$575, or student/parent \$150. For more information and to register, visit nationalperinatal.org/2019conference.

THE PROVIDENCE CENTER

Rhode Island Opioid Conference April 5 | Roger Williams Medical Center, Kay Auditorium 825 Chalkstone Avenue, Providence



In an effort to address the growing opioid issue in Rhode Island, the American Liver Foundation of New England is organizing a conference to discuss the continual increase of new cases of Hepatitis C due to the opioid crisis. Experts in the field of substance abuse and Hepatitis C management will come together to collaboratively discuss ways to improve care for those in need. Among the speakers is Jonathan Goyer, manager of the Anchor MORE Program at The Providence Center, who will discuss "Barriers to Recovery and Care." Breakfast and registration will take place from 8 to 8:35 a.m., and CME credits will be available. For additional details or to register, please click here or contact Lindsay Ventura, ventura@liverfoundation.org, at (617) 527-5600.