Good day!

Sometimes the most powerful factors affecting one’s overall health are not the kind of treatment one receives or where one receives it, but more fundamental things like whether one has a healthy home, a safe community, a caring family, and meaningful work. These are called the social determinants of health. As Care New England rallies to the mission of helping people get healthy and stay healthy, more increasingly we will need to focus on these factors.

Particularly for people affected by mental illness and addiction, the opportunity for meaningful work can be a serious challenge. Many of these individuals have big gaps in their employment and find it difficult to get any work at all. Fortunately, in this community, The Providence Center (TPC) is doing something about that.

Through its subsidiary corporation TPC Social Ventures (TPCSV), TPC operates two businesses which are now part of the CNE flagship. A New Leaf is a retail florist and gift shop at 135 Gano Street, and ProMail is a bulk mailing and fulfillment center at 50 Houghton Street, both are located in Providence.

As a social venture, TPCSV has two “bottom lines.” Like any other business, it aims to make a profit. But, it also seeks to re-invest those profits and create employment opportunities for those affected by mental illness and substance abuse. Specifically, TPCSV aims to provide employment and training for more than 50 TPC and Continuum Behavioral Health clients a year.

Along with the retail shop, A New Leaf provides floral arrangements for business and social functions and provides and maintains plants for the offices of area businesses. Recently, A New Leaf began providing all of the flowers and plants sold in the gift shop at Women & Infants Hospital. ProMail has provided mailing services for several of CNE’s operating units for many years.

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Jill Tavares who manages TPC Social Ventures said, “As we’ve joined the CNE family, many of our new colleagues have said that they were already ProMail or A New Leaf customers, but were surprised to learn these businesses were affiliated with The Providence Center. We probably ‘under-sell’ our social mission. We emphasize the fact that we’re a business. We want to compete on quality and price. That’s it. We think that this business focus provides the real-world experience our client-employees appreciate.”

Take it from one who has benefitted from the work experience. Vincent, a client who worked on a complex, month-long project at ProMail described his work experience as, “The best thing that ever happened to me. I don’t know why I didn’t do it before.”

As we have said before, one of the easiest ways for us to be successful is to build business within CNE. In this case, it’s more than just looking at the financial benefits, but the social ones as well. I hope all of our operating units take advantage of the services A New Leaf and ProMail can provide. Doing so means both keeping revenue “in the CNE family” and providing employment and training for more people like Vincent—and getting them on the path to a healthier future.

A New Leaf can be reached at (401) 351-4330 and ProMail at (401) 784-6363. For more information on both businesses, contact Jill Tavares at jtavares@provctr.org or (401) 222-9247.

Have a great week ahead—and don’t forget to sign up for a walk team for the Providence Heart Walk on June 7. Register online by April 30 and all Care New England walkers will receive a company t-shirt to wear on the day of the Heart Walk. When you register online, please indicate your t-shirt size. If you do not indicate your size by the April 30 deadline, you may not receive the correct size. For more information, please contact the Heart Walk Director, Amanda Komorek at (401) 228-2325 or Amanda.Komorek@heart.org.

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer

W&I oncology staff edit, write sections for textbook
A medical oncologist/hematologist with the Program in Women’s Oncology at Women & Infants Hospital was tapped by textbook publisher McGraw-Hill to edit the oncology section of the second edition of Principles and Practice of Hospital Medicine.

Tina Rizack, MD, who is also an assistant professor of medicine (clinical) and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology (clinical) at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, will work with Don Dizon, MD, formerly with the Program in Women’s Oncology, to edit the chapter.

In addition, Drs. Ashley Stuckey and Katina Robison, both of the Program in Women’s Oncology and assistant professors of obstetrics and gynecology at Alpert Medical School, will write the chapter on issues specific to women’s cancers. Stuckey is a gynecologic oncologist and breast surgeon, and Robison is a gynecologic oncologist who also served as one of the Women’s Reproductive Health Research scholars through a career development program initiated by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.
Save the date: Professional lecture on Trauma Systems Therapy

Butler Hospital and Family Service of Rhode Island are hosting a professional education lecture titled *Trauma Systems Therapy: Practical Treatment for Complex Trauma-Related Problems* on Friday, May 8, at the Ray Conference Center on the Butler Campus. The program, which begins at 12:30 p.m., features Glenn Saxe, MD, chair of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at New York University School of Medicine and the director of the NYU Child Study Center.

The presentation will outline a practical approach for working with traumatized individuals. Using principles from the treatment model: Trauma Systems Therapy, the assessment of how children become dysregulated in specific contexts will be detailed. This information will be used to outline practical and effective treatment approaches.

Learning objectives include being able to describe the Trauma Systems Therapy treatment model, identify the core development problems related to child traumatic stress, and describe practical approaches for interventions for traumatized children and adolescents.

Education credits are available for physicians (3 credits); psychologists (3 contact hours); social workers (3 continuing education credits); mental health counselors (3 contact hours); and nurses (3 contact hours). Registration costs $50 for CNE employees and covers the cost of credits and lunch.

For more information or to register, visit [http://butler.org](http://butler.org) or call (401) 455-6265.

Center for Surgical Weight Loss announces new Women & Infants site for info session

The Center for Surgical Weight Loss at Care New England is pleased to announce that it will now offer free public information sessions at Women & Infants Hospital. Helping patients who suffer from obesity and other weight-related diseases obtain optimal weight and a healthier lifestyle, our Center offers surgical weight loss procedures, including the lap band, sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass.

**New site at Women & Infants Hospital:** Free weight loss surgery seminars will be held on Wednesdays, April 22, May 27, and June 24, in the Malcolm and Elizabeth Chace Education Center Auditoriums at Women & Infants Hospital, 101 Dudley Street, Providence, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sessions will then be held once monthly thereafter. Please RSVP to Sherry Peter at (401) 736-3731.

**Kent Hospital:** Free weight loss surgery seminars will be held on the first Tuesday of the month, May 5, and June 2, in the Doctors’ Auditorium at Kent Hospital, 455 Toll Gate Road, Warwick from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free parking is available on the Doctors’ Auditorium side of the hospital by entering at the service vehicle entrance on Toll Gate Road. No RSVP is needed for this site.
‘Face of Pharmacy’ event held at the State House

The 12th Annual Face of Pharmacy event was held at the State House in the Capitol Rotunda on April 1. Bringing together students, faculty, and the associations’ professional and student membership, the observance allowed legislators to ‘see’ pharmacy practices and support legislative changes that would permit wider adoption and implementation of clinical pharmacy services, including point of care testing and expansion of collaborative practice. Demonstration tables staffed by students, preceptors, and URI faculty provided free services (hypertension and chronic disease screening, body fat analysis, medication therapy management, and medication counseling) to legislators and the public. Posters highlighted pharmacy services for everyone to see pharmacy practice in action.

Representatives from Memorial, Kent, and Women & Infants participated in the event. Marco Delbove, PharmD, clinical pharmacy coordinator at Memorial, discussed the successful innovative practice of incorporating students from the University of Rhode Island on rotation at Memorial Hospital during patient home health visits at the VNA. Leaders from all facets of pharmacy presented brief remarks on the successes and challenges facing pharmacists this legislative session. Ewa Dzwierzynski, PharmD, pharmacy site manager at Memorial and president of the Rhode Island Society of Health-System Pharmacists provided remarks on how pharmacists can play a key role in reducing costs and improving patient outcomes as health care focuses on management of chronic care conditions to prevent costly complications and also highlighted legislative advocacy efforts.

Obesity is a disease that is chronic and often difficult to treat. It is often the root of many other serious illnesses including diabetes, heart disease, sleep apnea, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, joint pain, infertility, acid reflux and even cancer. Medical treatments such as diet, exercise and pills fail to help keep off the weight for more than 95 percent of obese people. Yet, surgery is successful in more than 80 percent of the time in achieving long-term weight loss outcomes.

In order to qualify for surgery, patients must meet criteria established by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This criteria include body mass index (BMI), as well as weight-related medical conditions. For more information or to find out if weight loss surgery is right for you, please contact the Center for Surgical Weight Loss at Care New England at (401) 736-3731 or visit http://carenewengland.org/bariatric.
Batter up: PawSox opener slated for April 16
Care New England is again a proud sponsor of the Pawtucket Red Sox, with our Memorial banners adorning the outfield and featured in program books. We have a limited number of ticket for Opening Night at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket when our home team plays the Rochester Red Wings, Thursday, April 16, at 7:05 p.m. Tickets, two per employee, will be made available on a first come, first served basis. Please email Melissa Costello at mfcostello@kentri.org to reserve your seats! Go Sox!