Good day!

How often do we get to make an impact on the next generation of children?

Fortunately, thanks to the groundbreaking research going on at our institutions, it’s every day. But, last week, that promise for healthier children became a little brighter and a little stronger thanks to a $12.5-million gift from the family of retired Hasbro Chairman and CEO Alan Hassenfeld.

The Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation is being established at Brown University in collaboration with Hasbro Children’s Hospital and Women & Infants Hospital. According to the Brown University news release, the goal of the institute is to focus on discovering and applying strategies to improve the lives of children and their families in Rhode Island, nationally, and globally, in the areas of autism, childhood asthma, and healthy weight, nutrition and physical fitness. Brown has committed to raise $12.5 million to match the Hassenfeld family’s founding gift, supporting an integrated approach to research, clinical practice, public health efforts, and educational programs.

The announcement was made at the State House by Brown University President Christina H. Paxson along with Hassenfeld, Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo, and our own Dr. Maureen Phipps, the Chace-Joukowsky Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Brown, chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and executive chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and Care New England.

“The inaugural focus of the institute’s work will be on these three initiatives—autism, asthma, and nutrition and fitness—in which teams of researchers will develop innovative new solutions over the next six years.”

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continued
We are tremendously honored that Dr. Phipps will play a key role in the new Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation Institute. Along with the leadership of an executive committee composed of Dr. Phyllis Dennery, the Sylvia K. Hassenfeld Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at Brown and pediatrician-in-chief at Hasbro Children’s Hospital, and Dr. Patrick Vivier, the Royce Family Associate Professor of Teaching Excellence, associate professor of health services, policy and practice and of pediatrics at Brown, and director of general pediatrics and community health at Hasbro Children’s Hospital, Dr. Phipps will help build a core research and evaluation unit with the statistical, bioinformatic, genomic, epidemiologic, and medical expertise to conduct rigorous and effective studies of myriad childhood health issues.

“The collaboration, partnerships, focus, dedication, and resources brought together to develop this initiative have set the stage for having a lasting, positive impact on the lives of children, families, and communities in Rhode Island,” Dr. Phipps said at the press conference. “The Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation Institute highlights the commitment of Rhode Island leaders to continuing to shine as a national model for children’s health and advancing community health.”

Hassenfeld said in the press statement, “Many excellent doctors have researched areas of child health and brought us to a certain level, and the question is, ‘Can we take those past learnings and create something even more impactful?’ My greatest hope is that when we look back in 10, 20, 30 years, we will have created global solutions to alleviating some of these child health conditions. I know we can’t remove them, but at least we can put the dollars behind research that will develop innovative approaches that help us truly move the needle in significant ways.” He commented that the inspiration for which areas of child health to target at the new institute came from researchers and doctors at Brown, Women & Infants, and Hasbro Children’s Hospital, the pediatric division of Rhode Island Hospital for which Hasbro Inc. provided lead funding under the Hassenfeld family’s leadership more than two decades ago. Researchers from other institutions, such as Bradley and Butler hospitals, will also be partners.

The inaugural focus of the institute’s work will be on these three initiatives—autism, asthma, and nutrition and fitness—in which teams of researchers will develop innovative new solutions over the next six years. The specific activity cited in the news release includes:

In “Healthy Weight, Nutrition, and Physical Fitness,” the institute will engage in studies and interventions addressing factors, even before birth, that can place children at risk for excess weight, poor nutrition or low physical activity as they grow up. These range from the mother’s health and environmental exposures during pregnancy and after birth, to neighborhood conditions such as safety for outdoor play and the availability of healthy food. The work will build on the leadership of Miriam Hospital’s Weight Control and Diabetes Research Center in confronting these factors.

For “Autism, a Precision Medicine Approach,” researchers will build on the work of the Rhode Island Consortium for Autism Research and Treatment, which has developed a registry of more than 700 families affected by autism spectrum disorders. The initiative will develop and test protocols for integrating genomic and other biomarker information into autism diagnoses to provide fine-tuned clinical care.

In some areas of the state, such as Greater Providence, more than a quarter of children in some schools have asthma. The Childhood Asthma Research Innovation initiative will build on current work at...
Hasbro Children’s Hospital to dig deeper into the complexities of asthma’s causes and treatment, especially among different subgroups of children. Researchers will look at genes, stress, environmental factors, and treatment adherence. They’ll develop new programs and interventions, particularly to address disparities in outcomes among the state’s children.

In addition to the research core and these initiatives, the institute will also create programs to promote research and teaching in other ways:

- Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation Awards. Faculty members can apply for seed grant funding for innovative ideas in children’s health. Such grants fund preliminary work needed to earn major research grants.
- Hassenfeld Child Health Scholars. To engage and train undergraduates and graduate students, as well as early-career physicians, the institute will provide summer research and classroom programs and clinical and research fellowships on topics in child health.
- Workshops, symposia and lectures. In venues at Brown and beyond, the institute will host events on subjects such as healthy weight, child development, injury prevention, maternal health, precision medicine and other topics related to its work.

I believe, because of its size and its strong network of people and organizations, Rhode Island is an ideal incubator for innovation. The Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation is one shining example of institutions coming together to do something great for the children of our state—and well beyond. We are so proud to be part of it.

Do great things this week!

Sincerely,

Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer
Because many of our computer systems and workflows here at Care New England will be impacted by the change from ICD-9 to ICD-10, we have opened an ICD-10 Command Center to help answer questions and resolve any issues that may arise. The CNE ICD-10 Command Center is in Room 104 of the Trowbridge Building on the Kent Hospital campus. The Command Center is scheduled to be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day until Friday, October 16.

The number for the ICD-10 Command Center is (401) 921-7211. Command Center staff will record any ICD-10 related questions or issues and relay them to staff members in various departments who are best qualified to address them. In addition to the ICD-10 Command Center, clinical informatics staff members at each hospital will be available for clinician support, and will be rounding through the hospitals to answer any questions that clinicians may have.

More information about the change to ICD-10 coding is available online at http://www.cms.gov/icd10.

Project Link services join The Providence Center

Project Link, the intensive outpatient treatment program for Women & Infants Hospital, transitioned to The Providence Center’s (TPC) Women’s Day Treatment program effective October 1. Services will remain at 134 Thurberson Ave., Providence.

Project Link provides specialized outpatient treatment for pregnant women and women with young children who are working to overcome substance use and mental health issues. Intensive and non-intensive outpatient services help improve the health and well-being of new moms. Services include individual and group therapy, case management, and parenting and self-care education. On-site child care is also available to remove barriers to treatment. Project Link joins The Providence Center’s comprehensive continuum of recovery-focused mental health and substance use treatment services.

“Adding Project Link to our service offerings allows us to expand our services for a population in our community that has a unique set of needs,” said Holly Fitting, associate vice president for recovery and residential services at The Providence Center. “Women in recovery have been the focus of our Women’s Day Treatment program for many years, and we are eager to support more women and moms as they overcome the challenges of addiction.”

“Project Link was founded in 1991 specifically to provide care for a very vulnerable population, and the impact that this program and our providers has had is immeasurable,” said Margaret Howard, PhD, director, Division of Women’s Behavioral Health at Women & Infants. “As the services are transitioned to our Care New England colleagues at The Providence Center, we are confident that existing and new patients in need of the specialized services will continue to receive the same level of compassion and care that has been the hallmark of Project Link.”

Care New England launches new portal for policies

Care New England has been working to implement a new policy management system that will help ensure easy access and effective utilization of policies and procedures by all members of the CNE community and serve as a platform for sharing best practices among operating units. That implementation has now been completed.

Effective October 1, 2015, all CNE and operating unit polices will reside in this single platform, which can be accessed via the “Policies and Procedures” link on carenet or by typing http://policies/ on your internet browser. The new system will replace Hospro which has now been deactivated.
The new policy site will list all policies and any related materials (manuals, guidelines, and forms) that have been posted by an operating unit, and then by category. Policy documents can be located by either going through the operating unit’s folders or by doing a keyword search in the Search box (top right-hand corner). You should also be looking for relevant policies at the CNE level which may be applicable.

If you have questions, please contact your operating unit’s policy administrators:

**Operating Unit**
- Butler Hospital
- Kent Hospital
- Memorial Hospital
- VNA of Care New England
- Women & Infants Hospital
- CNE
- IS Support

**Administrators**
- Shelly Yochum and Geralyn Gabriel
- Sandra Comerford and Jim Howard
- Justine Belanger and Danielle Cesino
- Lisa Waskiel and Kasey Mowry
- Nelia DeOliveria and Peggi Latorre
- Sui Jim and Barbara Hicks
- Robert Gayhart and Jeff Johnson

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Kent names first DAISY Award recipient

Congratulations to Natasha Kelly, RN, 3 South, who was recently honored as the first DAISY Award winner at Kent Hospital.

The DAISY Award was established by The DAISY Foundation in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at 33 of an auto-immune disease. The Barnes Family was awestruck by the clinical skills, caring and compassion of the nurses who cared for Patrick, creating this international award to say thank you to nurses everywhere. Natasha was nominated by a patient for going above and beyond. Congratulations, Natasha!

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Memorial Hospital funds AED for Progreso Latino

The Memorial Hospital medical staff recently donated funds for Progreso Latino, Inc., to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) machine to use in case of emergency at their Central Falls facility.

The AED is a computerized medical device that can check a person’s heart rhythm and recognize a rhythm that requires a shock. It can also advise the rescuer when a shock is needed, and the steps to take to help someone using voice prompts, lights and text messages.

As part of Memorial’s continued commitment to the local community, the hospital’s nursing staff recently trained staff at Progreso Latino on the use of the AED and also how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Ami Awad, director of social programs at Progreso Latino, said, “The AED is much needed at Progreso Latino, and we are very grateful to Memorial Hospital for the donated funds that bought the machine.”

“Memorial Hospital’s medical and nursing staff continues to reach out in our local community and was happy to provide this important education to Progreso Latino’s staff,” said Donna Horrocks, MS, RN-BC, CNS-BC, CCRN, director of professional development at Memorial.

*Pictured next to the automated external defibrillator (AED) machine, from left to right, are: Dominga Taveras, coordinator, Senior Services and Health Services at Progreso Latino; Mario Bueno, executive director, Progreso Latino; and Marla Goulart, RN, nurse manager, Hodgson 5, Memorial Hospital.*
Let your voice be heard
Care New England’s Employee Voice Survey is being conducted through October 12. We strongly encourage all employees to complete this brief and confidential survey and take advantage of the opportunity to share your opinions and improve the workplace environment for you and your colleagues.

All individual responses are completely anonymous, but the combined information shared by employees at all levels of our organization will guide efforts to ensure the long-term success of our system and help Care New England remain a desirable place to work. Your collective input will help to determine where we are as an organization, where we want to be, and how we get there. Don’t miss out on this opportunity, let your voice be heard!

A Portuguese version of the survey is available.

To complete the “Employee Voice Survey” now or at home, go to http://carenewengland.org/employeevoice.