Good afternoon! In addition to falling leaves and dropping temperatures, the biggest shift after last week was the collective deep breath we all took as lawn signs were removed from every square inch of open space, and non-stop coverage of the midterm elections finally began to subside. Voter turnout was record high nationwide, reaching levels not seen in nearly sixty years. No matter what your political affiliations are, I do believe the more of us that participate in the process of shaping our government the better.

The implications of last week’s elections will continue to unfold into the new year, with issues impacting the future of health care in general, and specifically Care New England, at the top of the agenda for key local, state and federal officials. The immediate concerns are focused on what could happen during the lame duck session of Congress, which has the potential to be 60+ days of chaos until new members are sworn in. Legislation that could impact the 340B Drug Discount Program, Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments, and numerous other health care bills will be watched closely. There is as much or more concern, however, that health care related items could find their way into non-health care related spending bills that may be passed before the end of the year, including a farm bill, hurricane relief, and the President’s push to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. Once the new Congress is convened, even with a slight shift in the balance of power, it is likely there will be renewed efforts to repeal key components of the Affordable Care Act, which would have a significant impact on Care New England and all essential hospitals that provide critical services to underserved and vulnerable populations.

Our advocacy efforts will also remain strong on the local and state levels. CNE will continue to work closely with Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza as part of his Urban Innovation Partnership efforts. Reelected to a second term, Mayor Elorza has pledged additional time and energy to projects designed to bring the resources of the city’s non-profit colleges, universities and health care providers together to drive economic growth. At the state level, our work to build and maintain strong relationships with Governor Raimondo, as well as House and Senate leadership, will be more important than ever, both in helping to keep our organizations financially sound, and to support us as we move closer to an acquisition by Partners. There is never a shortage of health care related issues to discuss on Smith Hill, and 2019 will be no exception. Have a great week.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer
Recently, The Providence Center (TPC)’s Jessica Zira represented TPC and the Providence Police Department at two national conferences: The Strategies for Policing Innovation (SPI) national meeting in Washington, D.C. and the 28th Annual Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Conference in Providence.

Zira serves as the lead clinical therapist for TPC’s Community Diversion partnership with local police departments, a program that aims to reduce recidivism in the use of emergency services by those suffering from alcohol or drug addiction and mental health issues. Since the program began in Providence in 2012, TPC has started diversion programs in the Warwick and West Warwick police departments.

Zira, who serves as SPI grant project coordinator, and gave a presentation highlighting TPC’s work in the community at the meeting in Washington. At the POP conference, Zira served on a panel of local experts alongside representatives from organizations like Family Service of RI, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, and the RI Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence. Zira also led a workshop and fielded questions from attendees.

“We’re proud to showcase the community-building and training that we’ve helped develop in the last six years,” said Zira.

Last week, Stephen Salloway, MD, MS, Butler Hospital Memory and Aging program director and professor of neurology and psychiatry at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, was recognized at the Brown Faculty Awards Dinner honoring newly endowed chairs.

Dr. Salloway was named the Martin M. Zucker Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Brown University.

Congrats to Dr. Salloway on this achievement!

On Saturday, November 3, 2018 Kent Hospital held a free peripheral arterial disease screening with the Ambulatory Services Pavilion. The event was attended by 68 people who underwent an ankle-brachial index (ABI) test. ABI is a non-invasive, painless test that compares the blood pressure in the ankle with the blood pressure in the arm and provides insight on how well blood is flowing to the limbs and if artery blockages are present.

If a vascular technologist noticed an abnormality in the participant’s ABI results the participant was able to immediately speak with either chief of surgery and vascular surgeon, Dr. Guy Lancellotti, or vascular surgeon and affiliate of Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Dr. Garima Dosi in regards to their results and further testing required. Needed follow-up was then scheduled on-site before the participant left, making for an organized and informative event where each participant received individualized care.
It’s that time of year for open enrollment!

Open enrollment begins Tuesday, November 13 and ends at midnight on Monday, November 26. Open enrollment materials will be sent to each employee’s home.

To enroll in your benefits you can either use your computer at work through carenet or from home by going directly to the enrollment website at https://secure.bswift.com/default.aspx?abbrev=carenewengland. To learn more about our 2019 benefits, visit us at one of the upcoming benefit fairs. Click here for the benefit fair calendar. For benefit and enrollment questions, please contact the iCare benefits team at extension 12273 or (401) 680-4400, option #2.

Kent holds quarterly Good Catch ceremony

The Good Catch Award is a way to demonstrate Kent’s commitment to keeping patients, visitors, and employee’s safe. Employees are recognized for their Good Catch by entering a “near miss” event into Kent’s event reporting system, Quantros.

On October 24, Kent held their quarterly Good Catch ceremony during which award recipients received their certificate and lapel pin for their critical efforts in ensuring patient safety through event reporting.

To see the full list of recipients, visit http://kentri.org/quality/upload/Kent_GoodCatch_110818.pdf.

Please congratulate all recipients—and be sure to say, “Good Catch!”

Kudos!

The Women’s Progressive Care Unit (WPCU) at Women & Infants has been adult CLABSI free for one year! According to Tonya Nappa, MSN, RN, nurse director, “We speak to central lines every day at our daily rounds to ensure that we assess the needs of having central lines in place.” Nice job on this important quality initiative!

We know there are many other departments out there with similar results and other good news. We look forward to highlighting more of these successes every week and would encourage you to share your highlights with the Marketing Communications team at marketing@carene.org.
Participate in the 2018 Employee + Physician Survey

On Monday, November 5 you received an invitation via email to participate in our 2018 Employee + Physician Voice Survey. To complete this survey select the unique link that was sent to your CNE email from Press Ganey Associates, Inc.

More information such as survey instructions can be found on carenet at [http://carenet/pressganey/2018.cfm](http://carenet/pressganey/2018.cfm). Please do not forward the link.

To help encourage participation, we are offering an incentive across all of our operating units. For each operating unit that reaches 50 percent participation we will have an ice cream social. For each operating unit that reaches 75 percent, there will be pizza for all!

This brief survey is a great opportunity to share your opinions and to improve the workplace environment for you and your colleagues. Press Ganey has been engaged to conduct the survey, making your responses entirely confidential. Please complete your survey no later than November 26. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Dean Carlson, senior human resources director at dcarlson@carene.org or (401) 737-7010 x31522. Be heard.

Donate to CNE’s canned food drive

A reminder to please support CNE’s holiday food drive supporting Westbay Community Action ([https://www.westbaycap.org](https://www.westbaycap.org)) if you are able. Our total last year was 399.5 lbs. of food, collected from Service Ave., and we have a new goal this year of 1000 lbs. The drive ends on November 30. To donate, please bring canned goods to the HIM Department at your operating unit and ring the bell for service. Drop boxes are also available at Registration Departments across CNE:

- **Kent**: Registration area at: Imaging Center, Main Testing & Admitting, ED, Ambulatory Surgery, and Outpatient Infusion.
- **WIH**: ED registration and Central Registration areas.
- **CNE Primary Care and Specialty Services**: Primary Care and Ambulatory registration areas.
- **Butler**: PAS registration and Partial Hospital registration in Blumer, and Chambers Building first floor hallway.

Attitude of Gratitude

Did you know that people who regularly acknowledge thanks for the good things, events, and people in their lives are generally happier? It’s true! So to help everyone with an “attitude of gratitude,” we are asking staff from across Care New England, “What are you thankful for?” Friends and family, a roof over your head, sunshine on your face, good health. Whatever it is that brings you joy and a grateful heart—we want to know.

Email marketing@carene.org and please include your name, department, and operating unit. We may share your “attitude of gratitude” on our Facebook, Twitter, and NEW Instagram (@carenewengland) pages or in our ACTivity newsletters. (Note: your email indicates your consent to share internally and externally)

Marketing Communications introduces new project management process and branded templates

Care New England Marketing Communications Department supports all operating units and corporate services with internal and external communications. The team is also responsible for managing the brand for the system to support consistent usage across all mediums. To support this effort, a resource page is now available on carenet with guidelines and templates.

It is important for employees to follow the instructions provided when using the templates and work with the appropriate department contact for guidance and support.
The following resources are available for download at http://carenet/carenet/marketing/index.cfm.

- Brand and style guidelines with information on standards for graphic design and writing.
- Electronic letterhead for digital communications, internally and externally.
- Email signature templates for personalization.
- Powerpoint templates for presentations.
- General letter and legal-sized templates for creating flyers and posters for internal communication.
- Employee appreciation invitation and poster templates.

You will also find department contact information for each operating unit. To request services for public relations, advertising, web, and social media initiatives on a project or campaign basis, contact the appropriate person. To help improve efficiency and increase accountability, the department is also formalizing a project development process, timeline, and approvals. This includes timelines for the development of content and subsequent production, needed approvals, and printing instructions. The team gives priority to projects/campaigns that support business goals established by executive leaders.

**VNA of Care New England holds annual Circle of Love and Light Hospice Memorial**

**Tuesday, December 4 | 6 p.m. | Warwick Public Library, Central Branch**

Employees are welcome to join and/or inform their patients’ families about this annual evening of reflection, song, and remembrance in honor of those we have lost. The evening will include a personal reflection from Warwick’s Mayor, the Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, who recently had a family member receive care from the VNA of Care New England. VNA Chaplain, David Johnson, will also offer words of encouragement and insight on the challenge of coping with grief throughout the holiday season.

During times of great pain and loss, the VNA of Care New England hospice team is honored to offer this memorial event promoting peace, comfort, and time to reflect on the love we’ve shared with our loved ones. Each year families are able to honor their loved ones legacy through the sharing of memories through photographs and stories.

We encourage you to share photos of your loved one(s), whether you are able to attend or not, by submitting them to be included in our slide show that evening. Photos, along with the name of your loved one(s), may be sent electronically to Susan Green at sgreen@vnacarenewengland.org, or mailed to the VNA office, c/o Susan Green, 51 Health Lane, Warwick, RI 02886, or dropped off at the VNA office on or before Monday, November 19.

Please RSVP by Monday, November 19 by contacting Susan Green at (401) 921-7626.

**Artful Awareness: Reflecting on Subjectivity in Clinical Decision-Making**

**Thursday, December 6 | 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. | RISD Museum, 20 N. Main St., Providence**

Women & Infants is again partnering with the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) on a series of CME workshops at the RISD Museum. Led by an interdisciplinary team of art educators and clinicians, this three-hour workshop will use art experiences to encourage reflection on the impact of physician subjectivity on patient care. Though the value of objective information is emphasized in the medical model, clinicians’ personal experience of patients and their problems—emotional reactions, assumptions and judgment—can also provide important information and impact patient care. Through guided engagements with carefully selected works of art and collegial, facilitated discussions, participants will build awareness of personal perspective and subjectivity, and consider ways to translate rigorous reflective skills into clinical practice.

A light dinner will be served and physicians will earn 3.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ on completion of the workshop. Space is very limited and early registration is strongly encouraged. Workshop cost, including dinner, is $70. Participants who register before November 29 receive a $5 discount; residents receive a $35 discount with code CMERES.