Good afternoon,

I hope you have been noticing our ‘Forward’ advertising campaign in the papers, on the radio, and elsewhere promoting CNE and all of our operating units. I have been getting a lot of positive feedback throughout my travels.

Recently, CNE has also been in the news for many great reasons and I hope you have been noticing. In case you missed some of the highlights, I wanted to personally share a few here for everyone to see. The notable work of our doctors, nurses, and staff, along with some nice things our patients are saying certainly go a long way in spreading the story of our collective success.

Last week, the Warwick Beacon featured a front page article about Kent Hospital titled, “Respect goes a long way at Kent.” What a fantastic recognition!

During his visit, John Howell, editor, met with Karen Wholey, RN, professional practice coordinator and interim director of education; Nicole Hebert, RN, nurse director; 2 North staff, and a patient to obtain a variety of perspectives. In the article, the receptiveness of both the patient and staff was made quite clear. In fact, one patient, Elaine Lepold, told him, “I asked if I could have coffee and they said, ‘Just call’…it’s like room service.”

As part of this model of care, as some of you may know, staff is also taking the time to build personal relationships through simple gestures such as knowing the patients’ preferred name, taking five minutes within each shift to speak with the patient, sending thank you cards, and more. This model is working beautifully, and people are taking notice.

In addition, Women & Infants Hospital was also in the news last week and it was hard to miss!

A front page spread in the Providence Journal, “Retiring R.I. nurse spent 59 years bringing life into the world” called special attention to Giovanna “Jenny” Todisco, LPN, for her 59 years of dedicated service to Women & Infants, most recently serving in the Emergency Services Department.

Jenny started her nursing career at Lying In Hospital (now Women & Infants Hospital) on March 1, 1960. She
worked in Labor & Delivery until 1983 when she then transferred to the Emergency Department, where she worked for 36 years. Her accolades are vast, from the numerous thank you notes from her colleagues over the years to a patient naming their newborn after her. Her extraordinary patient care is something to be mirrored.

We all appreciate Jenny’s hard work, dedication, and the care she has provided to our patients for almost six decades. It was heartwarming to see one of our nurses ‘above the fold’ in the Providence Journal, showcasing the compassionate professionals Care New England employs.

In addition to these two newspaper articles, there were also a couple of television segments I am including, one featuring an emergency medicine resident at Kent developing a course on basic life-saving techniques, and the second offering important insight into commonly held pregnancy myths. Lastly on the media front, I would also like to call your attention to a recent Providence Journal op/ed submitted by Charles Reppucci, our CNE board chair, and myself highlighting our commitment to Quality, Service, and Access.

Thanks again for all you are doing and I hope you enjoy some of these great stories that highlight you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

Kent Hospital nurse receives DAISY Award

Kent Hospital recently presented Charlestown resident, Patricia Howard, a registered nurse in the Emergency Department, with the DAISY Award. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the above and beyond efforts performed by nurses every day. Patricia has been a nurse at Kent since September 2005.

Nominated by the mother of a patient being treated at Kent, Patricia was recognized for her extraordinary level of attentiveness, care, compassion, and knowledge. Kent Hospital’s Sherri Sprague, MHA, BSN, RN, nurse director, Emergency Department, said, “Every person who comes into contact with Pat during their visit leaves knowing that there is one more person in this world who genuinely cares about their well-being. While providing exceptional care to every patient, Pat maintains a calm and comforting demeanor.”

A specific example of her capacity for caring is when she recently had a patient that was to be discharged home when she noticed an abnormality. Pat acted quickly, working with the emergency physician to perform further testing. Pat’s advocacy helped to prevent a repeat visit to the emergency room and likely prevented the patient from experiencing worsening symptoms.

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

To nominate an extraordinary nurse who works at any Kent affiliated location or the main hospital, submit an application online or in person. Fellow providers and patients may nominate a nurse for the award.
Staff at Butler Hospital recognized for exemplary effort: A message from Mary Marran

Butler Hospital staff is being commended for their efforts in responding to a recent patient event on Delmonico 3 (D3). While providing care in a very challenging situation, our staff, medical response team, as well as EMS crews, worked together in a collaborative and truly supportive manner. We all know this is a hospital and hospitals care for those who are ill – sometimes in ways we don’t always expect. With that in mind, I could not be more proud of everyone who was involved.

Rose McClarnon, nurse manager, for D3 and 3C, helped manage the situation, while each of our units sent staff to lend support and assistance, despite continuing to manage the needs of their own patients. In addition, one of our PAS nurses quickly mobilized to work with patients guiding them through a stressful and certainly confusing situation. This was a tremendous team effort that reflects the heart of Butler Hospital. In no way am I surprised by the response but I am incredibly thankful and appreciative for your ongoing displays of caring, compassion, and professionalism.

The Providence Center’s Jessica Crowe’s article featured in Social Work Today magazine

Congratulations to Jessica Crowe, MSW, LICSW, clinical intake specialist, whose article titled “Supporting Clients With Type 1 Diabetes” was featured in the July/August edition of Social Work Today Magazine.

In addition to discussing type 1 diabetes, an autoimmune disease, which is not preventable and has no cure, the article goes on to discuss the differences between types 1 and 2, the affects they have on the treatment of mental health, and the role social workers play in understanding the disease, both for children and adults.

This important topic is near and dear to Jessica’s heart as her own daughter, Bella, pictured here, has type 1 diabetes.

Jessica states, “It is important to understand the basics of this disease and how blood sugar levels can impact an individual’s life and mood to avoid a misdiagnosis during an intake assessment or throughout a treatment period. Also, it is important for a social worker to understand how this disease can impact the individual’s family, as children and adults diagnosed with type 1 diabetes may need extra support at times to avoid a hospital admission, seizures, diabetic ketoacidosis, and to stay alive.”

Jessica goes on to talk about the importance of coordinating treatment with a patient’s endocrinologist to ensure you are supporting the client and their family in a responsible way. To read the article in its entirety, please visit the link here.
Breast Health Center patient talks about her recent experience with Hidden Scar surgery

Recently, Barbara Morse Silva from WJAR10 sat down with Carrie Ann, a patient at the Women & Infants Breast Health Center within the Program in Women’s Oncology and her breast surgeon Dr. Jennifer Gass to talk about her experience with breast cancer and Hidden Scar surgery. Watch Carrie Ann talk about her story at turnto10.com/features/health-landing-page/the-option-of-a-hidden-scar-surgery.

Maternal-Fetal Medicine provider talks about heart palpitations in pregnancy with U.S. News and World Report

Last week, U.S. News and World Report interviewed Dr. Adam Lewkowitz, assistant professor of maternal-fetal medicine at Brown University and maternal-fetal medicine specialist at Women & Infants about heart palpitations in pregnancy, and when to be concerned. Read more at health.usnews.com/conditions/heart-disease/articles/heart-palpitations-during-pregnancy.

Care New England ProMail and the CNE print shop are on the move

Beginning August 20, 2019, ProMail and the CNE print shop will be relocating to 50 Sharpe Dr., in Cranston. This will allow for both to work more collaboratively in one central location. Please plan accordingly for your ProMail and CNE print shop needs as both will only be able to support emergent requests during the weeks they are relocating.

- ProMail will be moving from August 20 thru August 23.
- CNE print shop will be moving from September 16 thru September 20.

Annual system-wide mandatory education

Care New England is introducing a system-wide core curriculum for annual mandatory education, also known as “mandatories,” through the HealthStream learning management system.

This core curriculum will apply to all CNE operating units and include modules in the following subject areas: Safety, Quality, Risk, Infection Prevention and Control, Human Resources, HIPAA & Compliance, and Environment of Care. The core curriculum was assigned on June 1, 2019 with a completion date of November 30, 2019. We recommend you pace yourself, please do not let the marathon become a sprint; you have six months to complete all assignments.

Most courses will now include a pre-assessment to provide workforce members with strong existing knowledge of a subject area an opportunity to “test out” of a course if passed with an 80 percent or higher on the first attempt. There may also be some operating unit-specific or role-based courses not included in the system-wide core curriculum that will be assigned separately. Butler Hospital will continue its practice of conducting an annual Education Fair, covering the same curriculum.

If you have questions regarding HealthStream or your annual mandatory education assignment, please contact TeamHS@CareNE.org.

If you are having technical difficulties logging into HealthStream, or need your password reset, please contact the help desk at (401) 921-1000 (ext. 11000 internally) or HelpDesk@CareNE.org.

continued >
Women & Infants and the national non-profit organization Swim Across America (SAA) will make waves in the fight against cancer with the tenth annual SAA Rhode Island Swim. This year, we hope to surpass the one million dollar total to support oncology research at Women & Infants. Bring your friends and family, we are happy to have any volunteers who are at least 12 years old and are interested in helping or may need community service hours! Every volunteer gets a t-shirt, breakfast, lunch, and the chance to support cancer research and cancer survivors across Rhode Island. Another way to get involved is through the Women & Infants Swim with the Doctors team, “One Fin Tuna” led by David Edmonson, MD, this year’s team captain. To sign up or learn more about this truly inspirational event, contact Ivan Colon at (401) 921-8509 or icolon@carene.org. Register for the event online at https://www.swimacrossamerica.org/site/TR/OpenWater/RhodeIsland?pg=entry&fr_id=5105.

Save the date! Swim Across America | Saturday, September 7, 2019 | 8 a.m.
Roger Wheeler State Beach

CNE Community Health Fair
Saturday, September 21 | 10 a.m to 4 p.m. | Women & Infants South Pavilion

The upcoming Care New England Community Health Fair hosted by Women & Infants and sponsored by the CNE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council will be held on Saturday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Women & Infants South Pavilion.

The fair will include clinical experts from across Care New England, in addition to more than 25 vendors who will be providing health and wellness tips and information, education programs, and health screenings such as blood pressure and blood sugar checks, and skin cancer screenings. There will also be food trucks, kid’s activities, and much more.

Volunteers are needed and are scheduled in two hour blocks from 8 to 10 a.m., 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 12 noon to 2 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering please fill out this electronic form forms.gle/9CYp8uUFc936udey6.

If you would like to host a table, or for more information, please contact Jai-me at JPotterrutledge@wihri.org.
Butler Hospital is hosting a charity concert called ‘Jammin’ to Save Lives” on Sunday, September 22, 2019, from 4 to 8 p.m. at The Met in Pawtucket, RI. The concert will feature Back Bay Brew with special guest Steve Smith and The NAKEDS. Both bands have been continuously performing in New England for more than 45 years, and Frankie Rossi, former band leader of the well-known Rhode Island band Cover to Cover, will perform with his one-time band Back Bay Brew.

Tickets are only $20 and may be purchased at the door or online. All proceeds will go directly to Butler Hospital’s Zero Suicide Initiative.

Ocean State Tour de Cure
Sunday, September 29 | University of Rhode Island

Join the Care New England team and ride, run, or walk in this year’s Tour de Cure to support the American Diabetes Association (ADA) as we work to meet or beat our goal of raising $15,000. CNE will be sponsoring the event, taking place this September 29, 2019, at the University of Rhode Island and is designed for all fitness levels with options for cycling, walking, and running. Participants will be treated to lunch and a fantastic celebration party for all to enjoy at the finish line.

The event will raise critical funding to help fight diabetes to support the ADA’s mission to prevent, cure, and improve the lives of all those affected by diabetes.

If you are interested in participating, please visit our team page for further details: http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR?company_id=26274&fr_id=12753&pg=company.

Team champions are needed from each operating unit to spearhead the effort for your organization. CNE will be hosting kickoff events at our operating units in the coming days, so please stay tuned for further details.