



Pulse

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A PUBLICATION OF ECMC CORPORATION

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New facility on ECMC Health Campus consolidates services



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“This center provides an opportunity to develop better quality, consolidated programs of emergency, outpatient, and inpatient services with one focus: the patients.”

–ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo.

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A Message from ECMC CEO

Jody L. Lomeo



Jody L. Lomeo
ECMC Corp. CEO

During this past summer, I have never been more proud of the ECMC Family. It has been a summer that has tested us all and brought us closer together as an organization.

We had the unspeakable tragedy of Jackie Wisniewski's death and continue to mourn the loss of Jackie and pray for her family and friends. This horrible incident will never be forgotten. We learned a lot about the resilience and dedication of the ECMC Family, and I would like to publicly thank all of our employees for their unbelievable strength during this time.

ECMC also has had a very busy summer as more and more patients choose to receive care at New York State's number one Trauma Center. We have seen an increase in patients throughout the year and this summer has challenged all of our staff as we have cared for this new influx of patients. Western New York is recognizing the excellence ECMC has to offer and choosing to receive their care from the experts that save lives every day. From our new Plastic and Reconstructive program to our new Center for Transplantation and Kidney Care to our growing Orthopaedic program, ECMC continues to grow and thrive.

To accommodate this growth, ECMC's Health Campus has been under considerable construction. One of our main goals has been to increase patient and employee parking. We are in the process of resurfacing and expanding every parking lot and we have added a 390 space parking garage. We also have requests into the State of New York to increase our surgical capacity and will soon be looking to expand our office and outpatient clinical areas. Also, in order to serve the community better, we have seen the addition of Dr. Antonia Redhead's practice and the opening of a New Women and Children's outpatient office, both at the Grider Family Health Center on our campus. Finally, we are also seeing the completion of the 390-bed Long Term Care facility on our campus, which is scheduled to open in February of 2013. It is an exciting and busy time at ECMC and I truly appreciate all of our employees' dedication to our vision and most importantly to our patients.

We are continuing to make ECMC the healthcare provider and the employer of choice. As another step toward that goal, we have

added an employee Fitness Center. The Fitness Center was donated by the ECMC Lifeline Foundation with other large gifts from the Medical Dental Staff and Colucci and Gallaher, LLC. The project was also led by an ECMC Employee Committee and built by ECMC employees. It is a facility built by the ECMC employees for the ECMC employees. I am also happy to announce that close to 1,000 employees signed up to use the facility. I am hopeful that we will have a healthier workplace and that the Fitness Center will also serve as another place for us to come together as the ECMC family.

I am proud and humbled to represent ECMC in the community because of the great work done by our staff everyday on behalf of our patients.

Jody L. Lomeo

Chief Executive Officer

ECMC Corporation

Great Lakes Health Receives \$15 Million for Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Care

New facility on ECMC Health Campus consolidates services

On June 18, 2012, Great Lakes Health announced that New York's Health Department approved a \$15 million grant to help Erie County Medical Center and Kaleida Health consolidate mental health and drug dependency treatment in one \$25 million Regional Behavioral Health Center of Excellence (COE) at ECMC.

The new center, announced as a concept Feb. 13, 2012, is a physician-driven collaboration between ECMC and Kaleida. It will create a state-of-the-art, comprehensive psychiatric emergency program and new inpatient facilities to serve mental health patients in the Western New York community.

"The HEAL-NY grant will help us create a Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health on the ECMC Health Campus, create a new and improved facility for the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP), and continue our collaborative relationship for the good of our patients," said Kaleida President and CEO James R. Kaskie. "Collaboration creates synergies and synergies get things done."

"This is another tangible example of leveraging the talents, infrastructure, clinical expertise of both ECMC and Kaleida to benefit our community and the patients we serve," he added.

The consolidated model will combine the resources of the ECMC and Buffalo General Medical Center behavioral health programs and will create a single, 180-bed inpatient psychiatric program. It will also continue ECMC's current 22 detoxification beds and 20 inpatient chemical dependency rehabilitation beds.

The plan also calls for continuing ECMC's and Kaleida's Main Street outpatient clinics, along with clinics in Lancaster and North Buffalo. The state's Healthcare Efficiency

and Affordability Law-21 [HEAL-NY] funding significantly moves the project forward.

ECMC Corp. and Kaleida Health will fund the remaining \$10 million. The new center, planned to open in March 2014, would expand ECMC's current emergency behavioral health facilities from 6,500 square feet to 18,000 square feet.

"This center provides an opportunity to develop better quality, consolidated programs of emergency, outpatient, and inpatient services with one focus: the patients," said ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo. "It will be state-of-the-art, and will deliver the care the mentally ill in our community deserve. That care will improve by having all our collective expert physicians and staff in one place and this is another example of the success of Great Lakes Health."

Mental health care in Western New York, like the rest of the state, is fragmented and costly to the state's Medicaid payment system. In the last 20 years, the Buffalo Psychiatric Center went from 1,200 beds to 160 and the Gowanda Psychiatric and West Seneca Developmental centers closed, presenting challenges for the remaining providers.

Other inpatient facilities downsized or closed in recent years and while outpatient services exist, there is a lack of coordination among community providers. Psychiatrists are also in short supply throughout the region.

This combination of factors created a crisis for mental health patients and their families in Western New York. Mentally ill and chemically

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“The region has needed a Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health for years,” said Dr. Bakhai. “Not only do we need to expand our facilities to meet the growing demand, we need to bring together the talents of the region to focus on creating a better model for our patients.”

dependent patients in crisis are, many times, forced to find care in crowded hospital emergency rooms, which leads to more costly episodic inpatient care and unsafe conditions for clinical staff.

Dr. Yogesh Bakhai, ECMC Chief of Service of Psychiatry and Dr. Maria Cartagena, Medical Director, Buffalo General's Department of Inpatient Behavioral Health & Psychiatry, will lead this initiative.

“The region has needed a Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health for years,” said Dr. Bakhai. “Not only do we need to expand our facilities to meet the growing demand, we need to bring together the talents of the region to focus on creating a better model for our patients.”

“This project is solely about the needs of patients,” said Dr. Cartagena. “We recognize that creating exceptional quality care for our patients is not necessarily about a particular location, but about the dedication and expertise of the treatment team.”

“As a regional center for psychiatric care, ECMC has the facility and the room to expand our comprehensive services. Additionally, this would allow us to bring the expertise of our physicians and staff together with ECMC's experienced physicians and staff to create a true collaborative effort. The development of a center of excellence in psychiatry would most definitely improve the quality of care for behavioral health patients for generations to come.”

The integrated model will combine the current outpatient volumes of 44,300 annual visits at ECMC and Kaleida's 68,829 annual visits with services provided onsite at ECMC and at its community-based locations.

Currently, ECMC has 132 licensed inpatient psychiatric beds with 2,297 discharges in 2011 and 57 inpatient rehabilitation/detoxification beds with 1,621 discharges in 2011. Buffalo General Medical Center has 91 licensed inpatient beds with 2,307 annual discharges.

This consolidation represents the third major initiative of the Great Lakes Health System to merge the services of ECMC and Kaleida. The first created the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care on ECMC's campus, and the second being the Gates Vascular Institute on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in collaboration with the University at Buffalo, both HEAL-funded initiatives to restructure and right size the region's health care.

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“We recognize that creating exceptional quality care for our patients is not necessarily about a particular location, but about the dedication and expertise of the treatment team.”



ECMC Lifeline Foundation, Sabres Alumni, First Niagara, unveil Mammography Bus



Brings breast cancer screenings to the “never served”

On July 18th, Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, First Niagara Financial Group and the Buffalo Sabres Alumni today unveiled a bus that will convey two digital mammography machines to underserved and under-tested women in all areas of Western New York.

With a combined \$750,000 contribution from First Niagara Financial Corp., the Sabres Alumni Association, and Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, the clinical operations of the bus will be managed by Western New York Breast Health, the practice of Dr. Vivian Lindfield located in Amherst. Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, which is contributing to the purchase and operations of bus, will be the owner and maintain the bus.

Western New York had the highest rate of new breast cancer in Upstate New York, according to a 2010 report. In addition, Upstate New York had a higher breast cancer death rate per 100,000 women in 2011 at 24.5 per year, than nationally, 24, statewide, 23.7, or in New York City, 23.9, according to the Susan G. Komen Foundation of WNY.

All women will be welcome for mammographies on the bus. This includes those with insurance or those covered by Medicaid or Medicare, as well as the uninsured. Exams will require a

prescription, but women without a primary-care physician can obtain a script at the bus. Appointments will be necessary and patients can call 1-855-go4pink (464-7465).

“This is a great community program that will actually save lives and the ECMC Lifeline Foundation is thrilled to be a partner in,” said Jody L. Lomeo, ECMC’s CEO and Foundation Board Member. “We hardly finished our presentation when the Sabres alumni and First Niagara said ‘yes’ and stepped up to fund this. We all know someone touched by breast cancer and we all want to see earlier diagnosis and treatment.”

The bus will tour inner-city as well as rural areas of the region. The 45-foot bus will be parked at festivals, health fairs, churches, and community centers to mention a few.

“Among our membership, we’ve had a number of player wives, daughters, sisters and mothers affected by breast cancer,” said director of Alumni Relations for the Buffalo Sabres Larry Playfair. “This is such a useful and meaningful addition to the tools the region brings to bear to help thwart this disease. We are committed to this project, and will stay involved with its growth.”



There are only a few dozen such buses in use in various regions of the country. There is one for the whole state of West Virginia and others in Alaska, southwest Florida, Arkansas, Michigan, southern Texas, coastal Connecticut and central Tennessee, and even one operating in Pakistan. One of the first started in 2004 in Western Washington. That program added another in 2008 to keep up with demand.

The program in West Virginia, which has the fifth-highest mortality rate from breast cancer nationally, reached 400 women in 2009 and 1,520 in 2011. The mammography bus is expected to screen more than 1,500 in its first year and already has 300 patients scheduled over the first two months.

“We say the bus is for the “underserved”, it is really for the “never-served”,” said John Koelmel, president and CEO of First Niagara. “We all know that the key to surviving any cancer, but especially breast cancer, is early detection and treatment. What better way to provide this care than by saying, ‘You can’t get to us?’ ‘Then we’ll come to you.’”

The bus also furthers ECMC’s commitment to the inner-city neighborhoods around its Health Campus. Although the breast cancer incidence rate is 17 percent lower in African-American

women than in white women, the mortality rate among black women is 32 percent higher.

Moreover, the survival rate for breast cancer in African American women is 75 percent, compared with 89 percent among white women. Mammography screening reduces breast cancer mortality by 35 percent to 50 percent, according to the American Cancer Society.

Although 70 percent of white and African American women 40 years and older received mammograms in the last two years, only 54 percent of African American women nationwide reported having a mammogram within the past year in accordance with American Cancer Society guidelines.

“My philosophy has always been about prevention, access to care, and providing a full spectrum of care,” said Dr. Lindfield. “Breast care in Western New York has been fragmented and inaccessible for those in need. Today that changes.”



Dr. Vivian L. Lindfield,
Founder, Medical Director of
Western New York Breast Health;
Medical Director, Breast Health Services at ECMC



Grand Opening of ECMC's "Grider Family Health Center"



ECMC Corp. CEO Jody Lomeo addresses audience during 5/24/12 grand opening ceremonies for ECMC's Grider Family Health Center.



Dr. Ranjit Singh, Associate Professor, Family Medicine, publicly welcomes Grider Family Health Center Medical Director Dr. Antonia Redhead to the ECMC and Family Medicine "family" during 5/24/12 grand opening.

On May 24th, Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation officially opened and dedicated the *Grider Family Health Center*. Renovating and utilizing the building/space of the former tenant, ECMC Corp. owns and now operates the new primary care facility known as the *Grider Family Health Center*. The official opening of the *Grider Family Health Center* included an open house for residents living in adjacent neighborhoods to visit and tour the facility.

"Our new Grider Family Health Center further addresses the primary care needs of residents in this community," said Jody L. Lomeo, Chief Executive Officer, ECMC Corporation. "With a truly professional staff and access to the full resources of ECMC, Grider Family Health Center is well equipped to care for the entire family and provide continuity of care through our Medical Center."



The Medical Director of the *Grider Family Health Center* is Antonia Redhead, M.D., Associate Professor of Family Medicine. The *Grider Family Health Center* offers a full range of health care services for patients of all ages, from care for expectant mothers to pediatrics to the treatment of acute and chronic illnesses. Appointment schedules are flexible allowing patients with urgent needs to be seen on the same day or within 24 hours. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day and a nurse is always available to answer questions by telephone during regular business hours. The Center is designed with patient comfort in mind, including a spacious and comfortable waiting room area, plenty of patient examination rooms, and an easily accessible business office. New patients are welcome.

The *Grider Family Health Center* is located on the north side of the ECMC Health Campus, accessible through the "Driveway #1" entrance off of Grider Street. Individuals interested in obtaining more information about the *Grider Family Health Center* and/or arranging an appointment should call 716-898-4449.



Surrounded by clinical and administrative staff members, Dr. Antonia Redhead, Medical Director of the Grider Family Health Center and Associate Professor of Family Medicine, cuts the ribbon to formally open ECMC's new primary care facility located on the north side of the ECMC Campus.



Fr. Frances Mazur, Catholic Chaplain, Pastoral Care, ECMC, opens the dedication ceremony with an invocation during the Grider Family Health Center event.



Thomas Quatroche, PhD, Sr. Vice President, Marketing, Planning and Business Development, ECMC Corp., shares enthusiasm about the grand opening of the Grider Family Health Center and introduces speakers during the May 24th opening.



ECMC receives American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines Gold Quality Achievement Award for Two Consecutive Years

Featured in Latest Edition of US News and World Report

Erie County Medical (ECMC) Corporation recently received the Get With The Guidelines®–Heart Failure Gold Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association. The recognition signifies that ECMC has reached an aggressive goal of treating heart failure patients with 85 percent compliance for at least 24 months to core standard levels of care as outlined by the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology secondary prevention guidelines for heart failure patients. Get With The Guidelines is a quality improvement initiative that provides hospital staff with tools that follow proven evidence-based guidelines and procedures in caring for heart failure patients to prevent future hospitalizations.

Under Get With The Guidelines–Heart Failure, heart failure patients are started on aggressive risk reduction therapies such as cholesterol-lowering drugs, beta-blockers, ACE inhibitors, aspirin, diuretics and anticoagulants while in the hospital. They also receive alcohol/drug use and thyroid management counseling as well as referrals for cardiac rehabilitation before being discharged.

“The full implementation of national heart failure guideline recommended care is a critical step in preventing recurrent hospitalizations and prolonging the lives of heart failure patients,” said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., chair of the Get With The Guidelines National Steering Committee and director of the TeleStroke and Acute Stroke Services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Mass. “The goal of the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines program is to help hospitals like ECMC implement appropriate evidence-based care and protocols that will reduce disability and the number of deaths in these patients. Published scientific studies are providing us with more and more evidence that Get With The Guidelines works. Patients are getting the right care they need when they need it. That’s resulting in improved survival.”

“For two consecutive years now, ECMC has received the Gold Award. This award recognizes the excellence in care that we deliver. ECMC’s care for heart failure patients is among the best in the country. We intend to remain a leader in the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines–Heart Failure program, which guides our clinicians to continue to provide the very best care for our patients,” said Jody L. Lomeo, CEO, ECMC Corporation.

Get With The Guidelines–Heart Failure helps ECMC’s staff develop and implement acute and secondary prevention guideline processes. The program includes quality-improvement measures such as care maps, discharge protocols, standing orders and measurement tools. This quick and efficient use of guideline tools will enable ECMC to improve the quality of care it provides heart failure patients, save lives and ultimately, reduce healthcare costs by lowering the recurrence of heart attacks.

According to the American Heart Association, about 5.7 million people suffer from heart failure. Statistics also show that, each year, 670,000 new cases are diagnosed and more than 277,000 people will die of heart failure.

ABOUT GET WITH THE GUIDELINES:

Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s hospital-based quality improvement program that empowers healthcare teams to save lives and reduce healthcare costs by helping hospitals follow evidence-based guidelines and recommendations. For more information, visit heart.org/quality.

Dr. Tisdale Appointed Attending Urologist for ECMC



Britton E. Tisdale, MD, BScPhm, Canadian board certified specialist (and American Board Eligible physician) in the treatment of genitourinary/urologic diseases, joined the ECMC Department of Urology as Attending Urologist.

Dr. Tisdale completed his surgery specialty training at McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and is currently appointed as Assistant Professor of Urology at UB.

Dr. Tisdale completed additional fellowship training, in male and female genitourinary reconstruction at the Devine Center for Genitourinary Reconstruction in Norfolk, Virginia, at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

In addition to general and laparoscopic urology, Dr. Tisdale has a sub-specialty focus on the surgical reconstruction and management of male urethral strictures, female pelvic prolapse, male and female incontinence, urinary fistula and neuro-urology.

Dr. Tisdale has presented his research at the national and international levels and has many published articles. He has co-authored a book chapter on the assessment and initial management of urologic trauma in *Medical Clinics of North America*.

Dr. Tisdale is a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, the Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive

Surgeons, the American Urological Association and the Erie County Medical Society.

Areas of Expertise: urethral strictures; female pelvic prolapse; male and female urinary incontinence; urethral and bladder-vagina fistula; management of urinary tract in neurologically impaired patients; laparoscopic urologic surgery; voiding dysfunction, erectile dysfunction and general urology

Education and Training: Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy – University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; M.D. – Queen’s University School of Medicine, Kingston, Ontario, Canada; Surgery specialty training (Urology) – McMaster University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Subspecialty surgical training (Male and Female Genitourinary Reconstruction) – Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Virginia

Mark Barabas receives American College of Healthcare Executives Service Award



ECMC Corp. President and C.O.O. Mark C. Barabas, D.H.A., F.A.C.H.E.

Congratulations to **Mark C. Barabas, DHA, FACHE**, President and Chief Operating Officer, ECMC Corporation, on achieving the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Service Award. This achievement was commemorated with a special pin and certificate presented by his local chapter colleagues in July. Mark Barabas was honored for his commitment to volunteer service to the healthcare management profession, ACHE, and the area chapter. He was also recognized for his efforts to give back to the community, a hallmark of the ACHE organization.

Mark Barabas is a senior healthcare executive with over 30 years of comprehensive healthcare experience, specializing in operations, the regulatory approval process, and hospital accreditation. For over five years at ECMC, he has worked on numerous initiatives including preparation for the joint commission review and providing administrative oversight for ECMC's building projects. He works extensively to address length of stay issues across all services

and serves as a consultant and accreditation inspector at hospitals across the country.

Mark Barabas is also the administrative leader for the Great Lakes Health System of Western New York consolidation of the ECMC and Buffalo General Hospital Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care at ECMC, and the cardiovascular integration task force.

About The American College of Healthcare Executives: *ACHE is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead our nation's hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journal, the Journal of Healthcare Management, and magazine, Healthcare Executive, as well as groundbreaking research and career development and public policy programs.*

Kathi Mitri recognized with Pastoral Care Award

On May 3rd, 2012, Kathi Mitri, Coordinator of Volunteer Training and Development, ECMC, attended the Network of Religious Communities Appreciation Dinner at the Hearthstone Manor where she was recognized with a *Religious Community Service Award for Pastoral Care* at ECMC. Kathi has worked at ECMC since 2000. She earned her Nursing degree in 2004, and became Volunteer Coordinator in 2005. She currently assists the Pastoral Care

Department as part of her duties. Kathi attends Creekside Assembly of God Church in Amherst and has been a member there since 1977. She is active in women's ministries and sings with the worship team. She is also a member of the Erie County Victim Impact Panel and speaks out against drunk driving. Kathi is married to Rick Mitri and the mother of three daughters and a son. She also has one granddaughter. Congratulations to Kathi Mitri for such a great achievement!



Kathi and Rick Mitri

Nancy Becht provides health services in the Philippines



Nancy Becht has been a nurse anesthetist at ECMC since 1994. In late January, Nancy joined the Diocese of Joliet Peace and Social Justice Ministry on a two week mission to provide surgical services to the poorest of the poor on the

island of Samar in the Philippines. This is the Diocese of Joliet's 5th annual mission in Eastern Samar.

Besides performing 118 surgeries, the team's internists and pediatricians saw 1,745 patients, performed medical consults and gave out over 2,000 prescriptions. The group also consisted of a construction team which built two homes for the needy in the area.

The group performed GYN (gynecology), ENT (otolaryngology) and general surgeries. Anesthesia was provided in a very different setting and with different, sometimes primitive equipment from what is utilized here in the US.

The whole town comes together to help with the mission, as this is the only time the hospital is able to perform these kinds of surgeries. Local volunteers serve as hospital transporters and translators. Most of the hospital's nursing staff during these two weeks consisted of volunteer nurses and nursing students.

"I have heard from many volunteer anesthesia providers that the overseas work may be difficult, but you get back so much goodwill and satisfaction in return. I now understand what they mean and I would love to be able to be part of this team in the future," stated Nancy Becht, CRNA, ECMC.

Dr. Izzo Recognized for Excellence in Clinical Hypertension

Dr. Joseph Izzo was the recipient of the 2012 Marvin Moser Clinical Hypertension Award. He was presented with this award at the American Society of Hypertension meeting on May 21st, in New York City.

This award recognizes excellence in clinical hypertension, including direct care of patients, teaching of physicians and students, clinical research activities, and community service.

Congratulations to Dr. Izzo for this wonderful achievement!



Joseph L. Izzo Jr., MD

Healthcare System, and was appointed to the rank of Professor of Medicine at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Since 2004, Dr. Izzo has been Chief of Medicine at ECMC, a major academic center and regional safety-net hospital. He has been recognized by his peers by being elected to Fellow status by the American College of Physicians, the American Heart Association, and the American Society of Hypertension.

Dr. Izzo has a record of consistent service to the medical profession and the hypertension community. He has been both a member and Chair of the Professional Education Committee, and a member of the Executive, Long-range Planning, Scientific Program, and Finance committees of the Council on High Blood Pressure Research of the American Heart Association. He was a member of the Coordinating Committee of the National High Blood Pressure Education Program of the National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute (NHLBI) from 1996 to 2008, where he contributed to Joint National Committee (JNC) VI, authored the 2000 Clinical Advisory Statement on systolic hypertension, and served as co-author and Executive Committee member for JNC VII. He is a founding member of the American Society of Hypertension and has been highly active in Society affairs, including serving as Director, Treasurer, Inaugural Physician-Leader of the Community Outreach Program, chair of the Finance Committee, and member of the Executive, Long-range Planning, Finance, and Continuing Education committees. Recently, he has worked with the New York State Department of Health to create its 2011 guideline for the care of hypertension in diverse populations and its 2012 guideline for blood pressure care in child-bearing women. Other voluntary positions have included appointment to the Cardio-renal Drug Expert Advisory Panel for the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Pharmacopeia,

ad hoc study sections and intramural review panels for the National Institutes of Health, grant review panels for the American Heart Association, and board member of the Research for Health in Erie County Foundation. Dr. Izzo has been on the Editorial Board for 10 different journals, including the *Journal of the American Society of Hypertension* and the *Journal of Clinical Hypertension*. He has reviewed manuscripts for over 30 journals and remains a member of several other national and international medical societies. In his University and hospital administrative capacity, Dr. Izzo was Vice Chair for Research of the Department of Medicine from 1999-2006 and has served on dozens of other institutional committees. He remains an actively practicing physician, with clinical commitments as teaching attending in General Medicine and consultant in hypertension and related diseases. He has been recognized for these roles by *Best Doctors in America*, *Who's Who in Science and Who's Who*.

Dr. Izzo has made broad academic contributions as well. His research and scientific publications include over 225 scientific articles, monographs, and book chapters and he has been the senior editor for all four editions of the American Heart Association's *Hypertension Primer*. His initial scientific research focused on the role of the sympathetic nervous system in systemic hemodynamics, blood pressure control, and blood pressure variability. More recently, he has been actively investigating the pathophysiology of systolic hypertension and pulsatile hemodynamics with a focus on the interacting roles of large and small blood vessels in normal and abnormal pressure wave transmission, wave reflection characteristics, and central and peripheral blood pressure differences. He has also remained extremely active in the development of anti-hypertensive drugs and hypertension-related diagnostic and treatment devices, serving as principal investigator, executive committee member, or design consultant in over 20 national and international multi-center trials. His teaching efforts have spanned many different levels, including lay audiences, other health professionals, students, residents, fellows, and practicing physicians. He served as Program Director for the Internal Medicine residency from 1988-2001 and the FDA's Pilot Clinical Pharmacology Fellow Training program from 1992-2002. He has been a Visiting Professor on more than 60 occasions and has delivered hundreds of lectures on hypertension-related topics in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Izzo is currently Professor of (Internal) Medicine, Pharmacology and Toxicology, and is Chief of Clinical Pharmacology at the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, State University of New York at Buffalo. He is also Chief of (Internal) Medicine at ECMC.

Dr. Izzo graduated from Princeton University in 1968 with a degree in biochemistry and received his M.D. from the Johns Hopkins University in 1972. He completed an internal medicine internship and residency at Barnes Hospital-Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri before becoming a Staff Associate in the Experimental Therapeutics section of the Hypertension-Endocrine Branch of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in Bethesda, Maryland from 1975-1979. After receiving Board certification in Internal Medicine in 1977, he accepted his first faculty position as Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester, New York, where he was a Sinsheimer Scholar and Director of the Hypertension Service. This experience led to Board certification as a Nephrologist in 1981 and promotion to Associate Professor. In 1988, Dr. Izzo accepted the position of Chairman of the Department of Medicine, Millard Fillmore

ECMC True Care Team competes at Corporate Challenge 2012

The Corporate Challenge held June 7th, was an event filled with enjoyment for all. Thank you to all who participated, and congratulations to our top finishers!



Our Top Finishers:

Female:

1. Tiffany Wilson – 26:35
2. Jennifer Shotwell – 29:25
3. Cortney Parzymieso – 30:11
4. Jennifer Cronkhite – 31:56

Male:

1. John Costello – 23:57
2. Paul Beals – 24:27
3. Matthew Crehan-Higgins – 24:35
4. Richard Skomra – 24:53

Dr. Dietrich Jehle co-authors research study/article: “Deadly Decision: Obese Drivers are Far Less Likely to Buckle Up”

“Finding comes from UB researchers who found in 2010 that obese people are more likely to die in a crash”

A new University at Buffalo study has found a behavior that puts obese drivers at greater risk of severe injury or death during motor vehicle crashes. The UB study found that normal weight drivers are 67 percent more likely to wear a seatbelt than morbidly obese drivers.

“It’s clear that not wearing a seatbelt is associated with a higher chance of death,” says lead author Dietrich Jehle, MD, Professor of Emergency Medicine at the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and an Emergency Department physician at Erie

County Medical Center. “We hypothesized that obese drivers were less likely to wear seatbelts than their normal weight counterparts.”

The finding comes from the same UB researchers who in 2010 identified obesity as a risk factor for death in a study of 155,584 drivers in severe auto crashes. In that study, they found that morbidly obese individuals are 56 percent more likely to die in a crash than individuals of normal weight. The results of the current study, “Obesity and Seatbelt Use,” were presented May 10 in Chicago at the annual meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine.

“We found that the relationship between the amount of obesity and seatbelt use was linear;

the more obese the driver, the less likely that seatbelts were used,” says Jehle. “We need to do something, since one-third of the U.S. population is overweight (not obese) and one-third is considered obese,” Jehle says.

Co-authors with Jehle are Joseph Consiglio, a graduate student in the Department of Biostatistics in the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions; Jenna Karagianis, MD, an emergency medicine resident in the UB Department of Emergency Medicine; and Gabrielle Jehle, a research student.

Excerpts extracted from article on UB website at: <http://www.buffalo.edu/news/13389>

ECMC Orthopaedic Joint Education Classes

Submitted by Judith Haynes



Since the beginning of this year, joint education classes have been held for orthopaedic patients scheduled for joint replacement surgery. The purpose of the implementation of the pre-op joint replacement education class was to educate the patients who are scheduled for surgery so that they are mentally and physically prepared to undergo these procedures. For many patients, surgery can be a concern caused by new faces, complex medical terms and unfamiliar surroundings. When patients are prepared by attending the class, they are much more likely to have a successful outcome. Pre-operative education also enhances the overall comfort level of the patients, resulting in a positive patient experience.

The classes are taught by a collaborative, interdisciplinary team including Lynne Golombek, RN, Charge Nurse 7 zone 1; Gary Gerwitz, RRT, Respiratory Therapy; Sue Current, RPT, Physical Therapy; Kim Rassman, OTR, Occupational Therapy and Jason Yelder, Discharge Planning representative. Patients who attend are able to interact with the staff, freely ask questions and have individual attention. They are able to actually see, touch and feel the various machines and equipment, discuss discharge plans and develop a clear understanding of their role in the recovery process. Topics include instruction on how to prepare for surgery, what to expect during the hospital stay, advanced planning for post

hospital care, the role of physical/occupational and respiratory therapy in the recovery process, and specialized equipment they may need following surgery. Pain management, types, methods and the pain scale are also discussed. Since friends and family members play an integral role in each patient’s recovery process, they too are welcomed to attend.

Pre-operative education plays a vital role in patient outcomes that can be directly linked with enhancing the patient experience. These patients typically experience improved surgical outcomes, reduced recovery times, and reduced pre-operative stress. We thank our experienced orthopaedic surgeons at ECMC for their full support in this endeavor.

Judith M. Haynes, RN, BSN is Unit Manager, 7th Floor, Zone 1

Springfest Gala 2012



A new level of excellence in entertainment and fundraising was achieved in May by the ECMC Lifeline Foundation at Springfest Gala 2012. From the red carpet champagne cocktail entrance to the Jim Beishline Quartet bidding guests adieu; not a detail was overlooked at the May 13th Gala at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center.

The Bobby Militello Quartet entertained nearly 1,300 guests from the ECMC Community while they dined on a wide range of appetizers including a seafood buffet and shopped the extensive silent auction. Jody Johnston from Channel 2 On Your Side graciously invited everyone to a gourmet dinner before bringing up ECMC CEO Jody Lomeo to salute the evening's honorees. Rita Rivers, RN, CNOR, and Dr. Philip Stegemann were each honored with a Distinguished Service Award. The honorees have dedicated their lives to demonstrating *the difference between healthcare and true care* to ECMC patients and family members.



With a light show and fanfare, the Motown Legends took the stage for over 90 minutes, thrilling the crowd. The dance floor was filled from the very first song. The Commodores thoroughly entertained with hits spanning their career, putting on a full concert performance before bringing down the house with their closing hit "Brick House." With barely time to breathe in-between, attention was moved to the second stage where Lance Diamond and the 24 Karat Band closed out the final hour of the evening.

Springfest Gala, presented by AT&T, raised over half a million dollars to support the life-saving medical mission of ECMC; the largest single Lifeline fundraiser to date. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all our sponsors who partnered with ECMC Lifeline Foundation to create an evening that won't soon be forgotten! Mark your calendars now for Springfest Gala 2013 on May 11th. We promise it will be an event you won't want to miss!



10th Annual Shanor Memorial Golf Tournament to Benefit ECMC Transplantation and Kidney Care

Monday, July 23rd marked the date of the 10th annual "Rick & Genelle Shanor Memorial Golf Tournament" at River Oaks Golf Course on Grand Island. The tournament annually raises over \$20,000 for kidney care. Proceeds will benefit ECMC's Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care.

Rick Shanor and his wife Genelle died in a tragic boating accident. At the time, Genelle was awaiting her second kidney transplant.



Date: September 29, 2012

Location: Delaware Park

Salute WNY's Heroes while supporting the lifesaving medical services of ECMC. Join us for **WNY Runs for Heroes**, including a Healthwalk or sanctioned 5K Run around Delaware Park. A family friendly party caps-off our salute to WNY's Firefighting and Law Enforcement Professionals, Emergency Service Providers and ECMC Physicians & Nurses.

For more detailed information on ECMC Lifeline Foundation events and sponsorship information, please contact Stacy Roeder as 898-5881 or sroeder@ecmc.edu.

IDS Dedicated to Serving the WNY Region

Demonstrating continued growth both in unique patient contacts and medical visits, ECMC's Immunodeficiency Services (IDS) remains the region's Designated AIDS Center and continues to grow to meet the area's ever growing need for HIV specialty services.

Within the main office located at the Tunnel Level in the Medical Center and through three rural satellite clinics in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties, IDS provides comprehensive medical care to 1,454 HIV positive individuals – a 15% increase since 2009. These patients accounted for 6,664 clinic visits in 2011.

In addition to their medical provider, patients meet with a pharmacist who provides education on medication adherence and also assists the providers in choosing the most appropriate medication regimen for each patient's treatment

and lifestyle. A nutritionist analyzes their current diet and makes recommendations on how their health is impacted by it and potential areas of improvement. A medical social worker assesses how their social needs impact their ability to adhere to medical care. When appropriate, patients are screened for a variety of research protocols.

"We don't only treat the disease, we treat the person," said Ellen O'Brien, Program Manager, Immunodeficiency Services, ECMC. "With the multidisciplinary staff in the department, we are able to not only provide this, but provide it at a level where patients are living long, productive lives and have quality of life. We are now at 95% retention rate. The staff members are truly some of the most dedicated, well educated and patient-centered people I have ever worked with."

In addition to revenue generated through medical services, IDS is also supported by \$1.3 million in state and federal grants focused on medication adherence, clinical education, treatment of individuals co-infected with Hepatitis C, and expanded HIV diagnostic testing. Further, IDS is the region's only recipient of funds through the Ryan White Care Act Part C, for early intervention services.

Beyond the services provided to HIV positive individuals, IDS operates a large diagnostic testing service. In 2011, 854 individuals received testing through the walk-in rapid testing clinic which resulted in 14 individuals being diagnosed with HIV. Additionally, support offered to the rest of the ECMC patient population resulted in 24 new diagnoses. All of those diagnosed HIV positive were referred for services with IDS.

For further information or to schedule an appointment, please call 716-898-4119.

ECMC plays it's part in helping the environment

Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation is continuing its sustainable solutions for managing hospital waste that include a strong focus on preventing carbon emissions by keeping plastic and cardboard out of landfills and decreasing regulated medical and municipal waste volumes. After being the first in Buffalo to implement a pharmaceutical waste compliance program a year ago, ECMC is striving to reach a goal of recycling almost one third of total waste - a Practice Greenhealth industry best practice.

The American healthcare sector accounts for 8 percent of the U.S. carbon footprint, according to a study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*¹. The analysis found that hospitals are by far the largest contributor of carbon emissions in the healthcare sector.

"ECMC's responsibility to our residents isn't just about improving the health of our patients. It's about promoting and supporting healthy communities," said Juan Santiago, assistant vice president of support and hospital services at Erie County Medical Center. "We are decreasing the medical center's total impact on the environment and helping to improve air quality, public health and overall safety. This sustainable solutions

initiative is also designed for the hospital to reduce risk, increase compliance and maximize operational and financial efficiencies. It's a win-win for everyone involved," noted Santiago.

The recycling rate of the center's total waste volume has increased by 10%, while its municipal solid waste has decreased the same amount. Carbon emissions are being reduced by using reusable sharps containers for items such as needles and scalpels. Each reusable container keeps an average of 600 disposable sharps containers from ending up in landfills. Last year, Erie County Medical Center prevented 39,592 pounds of CO₂ emissions by diverting 67,796 pounds of plastic and 3,137 pounds of cardboard from the landfill. These numbers equate to not burning 2,039 gallons of gasoline².

¹ *The University of Chicago, JAMA, December 2009*

² <http://www.stericycle.com/carbon-footprint-estimator.html>

ECMC Employee receives Grand Prize for National Walk@Lunch Day

Mary Jozens-Dingeldey, Patient Access Services Representative at ECMC, was one of the winners from the National Walk@Lunch Day held on Wednesday, April 25th. She won an iPod offered by Labor-Management Healthcare Fund (LMHF). Winners were selected from all groups under the County who participated in the walk.



Employee of the Year



Kathleen Coe
Coordinator
Youth & Preschool Program
Rehab Services

Kathy Coe has completed another successful year in her role as Coordinator of Rehab Services, Youth for the Preschool Program of Pediatric Educational and Diagnostic Services. She has worked hard on the transition of the Special Education Itinerant Teachers from contractors to employees.

Kathy has also developed a new private pay program, Kindergarten Boot Camp, which will run three days per week for six weeks over the summer. Kathy volunteers her own time to the program. In order to defray costs, she applied for and received financial assistance from ECMC's Volunteer Board to buy supplies for this program. She has a true passion and dedication to her profession.

1st Honorable Mention



Michele Brennan
Administrative Control Clerk
Psychiatry

Michele Brennan cares deeply for the hospital, patients and staff. She is always striving to be efficient and cost effective. Michele carries a heavy workload, and because of her skills and expertise, makes it look easy. She keeps the zones functioning with great efficiency that is made very apparent when she is on vacation.

The patients love her and the staff admires and respects her. She is an outstanding representative for ECMC.

2nd Honorable Mention



Sondra Schreiber
Social Worker
Skilled Nursing Facility

Sondra Schreiber's dedication to her patients has taken her far beyond simply discharging patients; she changes lives. She is able to see patients' full potential, even when patients have lost hope of achieving their goals. She will explore every option to make those goals a reality. Sondra advocates for her patients to anyone who can assist in meeting patient objectives. Her quiet persistence and persuasion are very hard to refuse. She identifies and resolves issues, perhaps not directly tied to a discharge, but very much tied to patients' ability to remain independent.

Volunteer of the Year!



Angie Schwind
Volunteer Board Member
Volunteer Services

Angie Schwind joined the Volunteer Board in 2002. She currently works in the gift shop and has been serving as Treasurer for the Volunteer Board since 2008. Since starting as Treasurer, Angie's bookkeeping, fundraising and reinvesting has helped the Volunteer Board save and raise money. Involved in all aspects of the finances, Angie Schwind has been a real help in increasing the assets of the Volunteer Board, which ultimately benefits patient care at ECMC. Thank you, Angie, for a job well done!

Nurses of the Year!

Professional Nurses Association of WNY *Outstanding Staff Nurse 2012 Winner Julie Reinhardt*



Julie Reinhardt, RN, provides and demonstrates exceptional nursing care on a daily basis at ECMC. Julie utilizes the Transforming Care at the Bedside (TCAB) model to ensure her patient care delivery not only meets but exceeds acceptable standards. The TCAB model offered through AF4Q (Aligning Forces for Quality) and the RWJF (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation) has been the model of care for the front-line nurses since 2009 for Julie on both a medical step-down unit and currently on a trauma step-down unit. The TCAB engages leaders at all levels of the organization in quality and safety, nurse retention, and the patient/family experience.

Julie was the project lead for "Anywhere RN." Julie realized that there must be an easier way to obtain medications. With research, she identified a computer based system, "Anywhere RN." She worked with Pharmacy, nursing staff, and Administration to trial-purchase and rollout this program to the entire hospital. This is saving nursing time and patients can receive all of their medications in a more efficient manner.

Julie spearheaded other important projects including those concerning infection control, elimination of pressure ulcers and medication reports. Her desire to provide the patients their medication in a timely, efficient process has assisted all nurses in the hospital in meeting that goal.

Julie maintains Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification. She has recently taken the Medical Surgical Certification Course.

Julie has exceptional standards, and cares deeply for her patients and their families. She is the first to help a patient who is having a clinical issue. She comforts distraught patient families that are having a difficult time in dealing with their loved ones.

Julie is a preceptor (teacher) and guides and mentors new staff members to standards, policies and procedures. Julie reviews policies so

that front-line staff that are operationalizing the policies have a voice on how care should be delivered. Julie also takes a critical look when there are educational gaps. She assisted in literature development, raising patient satisfaction and implementing a comfort cart. Julie sits on an interdisciplinary pharmacy review team. She provides that critical component of knowledge and practice so that the voice of the front-line staff is heard. She presents in a calm, engaging manner, and has assisted all as technology and care come together.

Julie is a caring and supportive nurse to all of her colleagues. She assists in a recognition board on her unit; when patients and families give compliments, they are displayed. Julie realized the importance of health and wellness for nursing. Julie worked with Human Resources and Administration to start Zumba (a dancercise class) for nursing staff on all shifts. Julie organized the team on the 7th Floor, Zone 2 to complete the Corporate Challenge. A

number of staff members attended and had a wonderful time completing the walk/run. This year she has challenged other nursing units to take part and become involved, thus increasing retention and wellness for the nursing staff. Julie worked with staff in a multidisciplinary approach to have the assignment sheet electronically displayed with each nurse's picture so that the interdisciplinary team (MDs, Therapists, etc.) and also the patients and families can see which registered nurses have their patients.

Julie sets an excellent example for her peers with: her work ethic; consistent enthusiasm for facilitating and participating in a team effort to improve the process and enjoyment of work; commitment to high standards of patient care; compassion toward patients, their families; and camaraderie with her co-workers.

Julie is well-deserving to be chosen by the Professional Nurses Association of WNY as this year's *Outstanding Staff Nurse*.

Outstanding work by a truly *Outstanding Staff Nurse!*



Julie Reinhardt, RN
Outstanding Staff Nurse - 2012 Winner!
Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation

Julie makes a difference in how we deliver True Care.

Congratulations, Julie, on winning the
"Outstanding Staff Nurse" Award!

...from Your ECMC Team

The difference between
healthcare and true care™



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Nurses of the Year!

ECMC Nurse of Distinction Nominee Dawn Keleher Walters



Dawn Keleher Walters, MS, RN, Vice President of Nursing and Rehabilitation Services, ECMC Corporation; Clinical Adjunct Faculty Member, SUNY at Buffalo School of Nursing, began her nursing career in 1985 in the Trauma Rehabilitation Unit at ECMC, first as a nursing assistant and later as a Registered Nurse. This laid the foundation for many of her professional achievements and her lifelong commitment to patient-centered care and those patients in need of rehabilitative services. Dawn's core value that patients and their families' needs must be the main focus of health care providers fuels her dedication to impact health care in innumerable ways. These range from direct mentoring of staff to constructing new systems for optimal patient outcomes and streamlined care delivery.

As a nurse, Dawn had a unique vantage point as she fulfilled various positions that instilled in her a team approach. From first-hand experience, she understood and valued the contribution each direct care employee brought to enhancing a patient's hospitalization experience. She recognizes the unique understanding of why things work or do not work. This varied clinical practice allowed her to gain insight in workflow redesign which was critical to her Nursing Informatics role. She was instrumental in the development and implementation of ECMC's computerized medical record, the first to "go-live" in a hospital system in the WNY region. Her intricate knowledge of clinical informatics has allowed ECMC to push through innovations from scanning medications into the medical record to providing concurrent quality improvement metrics that can be readily used to promote evidence-based practices. In the past year, the success and promise of ECMC and Kaleida Health's newly merged *Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care* can be attributed in part to her leadership and attention to detail in facility planning and care delivery redesign.

As adjunct faculty to the SUNY at Buffalo School of Nursing, Dawn has lectured on rehabilitative nursing principles and clinical informatics. She was instrumental in developing two of the area's first Dedicated Education Units (DEUs) which have enhanced student clinical practicum experience. In addition, Dawn has assisted ECMC internally with the spread of "Transforming Care at The Bedside" or TCAB, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the IHI that engages leaders at all levels of the organization in quality and safety, nurse retention, and the patient/family experience.

Dawn Walters has had both a direct and indirect impact on the quality of nursing care through her evidence-based practice and clinical system redesign as well as her active involvement with the community and numerous professional organizations. Her nomination for this award signifies the high professional regard of her colleagues. Dawn's dedication to her profession, collegiality and commitment to patient-centered care will forever brandish her as an *ECMC Nurse of Distinction*.

We gratefully acknowledge all of the area's many dedicated professional nurses, including this year's nominees.

ECMC has some of the best clinical outcomes in New York State and many reasons for our successes can be directly attributed to our exceptional nursing staff.

Congratulations to all *Nursing Honorees*, and especially two of our own...

Outstanding Staff Nurse — 2012 Winner!
Julie Reinhardt, RN

Staff Nurse
Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation



Nurse of Distinction Nominee
Dawn Keleher Walters, MS, RN

Vice President of Nursing and Rehabilitation Services
Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation
Clinical Adjunct Faculty Member
SUNYAB School of Nursing



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ECMC Nurses Celebrate National Nurses' Week by Educating at the Galleria Mall



On Saturday, May 5th, at the Walden Galleria Mall, a team of ECMC employees including Karen Beckman, RN; Andrew Grzeskowiak, RN, Case Manager; and Paula Quesinberry, Stroke Coordinator, educated mall walkers and shoppers regarding the duties of nurses in honor of National Nurses' Week.

An eight-foot long table displayed nursing handouts, coloring books describing what nurses do, individually wrapped Lifesaver candies, a computer slide show displaying ECMC nurses, and ECMC pens and plastic cups. Information was additionally provided through nursing stories and experiences shared by the ECMC employees.

Next to the table was a six-foot tall ECMC poster that displayed the National Nurses Week theme, "Nurses: Advocating, Leading, Caring," as well as celebration dates, the Nightingale Pledge, places where nurses are employed and other interesting nursing information.

Those who stopped by the exhibit included many people from the general public, as well as retired or disabled nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, ECMC employees, nursing students, and Kaleida employees.

Thank you to Karen Beckman, Andrew Grzeskowiak, and Paula Quesinberry for educating the public about the duties of nursing and for representing ECMC in such a positive way!

ECMC Nurses Celebrate Nurses' Week with Health Initiative in the Community



ECMC Presents *Rising Leaders' Healthcare Day*

On April 25th, ECMC hosted a "Rising Leaders' Healthcare Day" for adults. The day consisted of tours of the new In-Patient Dialysis Center, and the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care.

Participants learned from ECMC clinical specialists Lisa Keenan, PhD, Licensed Health Psychologist, Rehabilitation Medicine; Stacey Lenhard, PT, Lead Physical Therapist,

Rehabilitation Medicine; and Brian Murray, MD, Chief Medical Officer.

After tours and presentations at ECMC, participants continued on their quest for information departing for Urban Family Medicine and Jericho Road Family Practice.

Rita Hubbard-Robinson, JD, Community Health Education and Outreach Director, ECMC, coordinated this event.



ECMC Campus Growth – Progress Report

Long Term Care Facility

Description: A five-story building containing a total of 390 Long Term Care Facility beds. There will be three floors with 96 skilled nursing beds each, one floor containing 66 sub-acute rehab beds, a 20-bed Ventilator Unit, and a 16-bed Behavioral Intervention Unit on the ground floor.



ECMC Fitness Center *Built by Employees for Employees!*

Special thanks to our Fitness Center donors: The ECMC Lifeline Foundation, the Medical/Dental Staff of ECMC, and Colucci & Gallaher P.C. Advisors and Advocates.



ECMC Nurse of the Month

August Susan Sponholz



Susan Sponholz, RN, has been a member of the ECMC team since 1978. Her current role is ECMC Personal Health Nurse. In this role, Sue has demonstrated her acts of compassion and attentive

needs to our ECMC staff. Her professional, courteous, and calming demeanor is much appreciated. While each of us each day strive to care for the needs of our patients, Sue goes above and beyond to ensure staff know their health needs are taken care of and that staff needs are important. Congratulations, Sue, and thank you for your years of service.

July Shelly Davis



Shelly Davis, RN, has worked at ECMC for 10 years. She presently works in the Utilization Review Department and has been acting as the health coach for Medicine A and B services

since 2011. She has embraced this role! Shelly works closely with the interdisciplinary team to identify patients at risk for readmission and supports them during their transition back home. She advocates for her patients to ensure that discharge plans are clearly communicated and feasible for them to carry out. Her actions support our patients and their families when many feel overwhelmed or anxious. Shelly identified health literacy as a contributing factor and worked to develop a library of patient education tools to assist them in understanding their conditions as well as their treatment plans. Shelly maintains close communication with her patients after discharge and identifies any needs or barriers to resuming their pre-hospital level of function.

June Maria Hyjek



Maria Hyjek, NCC, initially worked in the Burn Treatment Center as a Staff Nurse and then as a Nursing Care Coordinator supervising, staffing, and problem solving on the weekends, and off

shifts. Currently she coordinates bed assignments on the day shift to assist the throughput initiatives of the hospital. Maria's disposition is consistent, easy-going, reliable, supportive, and thorough for any situation she undertakes. Hospital staff relish working for her!

May Lindsey Blair



Lindsey Blair, RN, graduated from Genesee Community College (2005) prior to her start at ECMC. She began her nursing career on a medical-surgical floor where she worked for two

years and then transferred to the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) where she has worked for seven years. While in the MICU, Lindsey consistently demonstrates strong critical care knowledge and skills. She is a frequent preceptor (teacher) and charge relief nurse in the MICU. Lindsey demonstrates consistent professionalism and a strong teaching ability, with many compliments and commendations from her students and staff/peers. Lindsey is married and has two children and returned back to school to complete her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Daemen Nursing School (2010) while maintaining her strong work ethics. Currently, Lindsey is the Acting Unit Manager of the MICU for a six week interim. Lindsey exhibits strong leadership skills and has been a positive impact to the MICU staff and the needs within the unit while transitioning to her new role.

ECMC Employee

August Jane Grzebinski



Jane F. Grzebinski, R.Ph., Staff Pharmacist, Pharmacy Department, has been a standout employee for over 20 years. She is the rock of the pharmacy department. She is dependable, always pleasant

to everyone she encounters. She is knowledgeable, and a pleasure to work with every single day. In addition to taking care of our Skilled Nursing floors for the past several years, she is also counted on to do all the various staffing duties in the inpatient pharmacy. She can handle any situation with integrity, composure and tact, no matter how stressful it gets. She has recently been elected to the Pharmacy Standards Committee by her peers. Jane exemplifies what it means to be a health care professional, with patients and co-workers.

July Melody Gonez



Melody Gonez, Health Information Management (HIM) Technician, has been with ECMC since June of 2006. She started as a clerk and went back to school for Health Information

Technology. When she earned her degree, Melody was promoted to an HIM Technician (2009). Melody is always willing to do whatever is necessary to meet the needs of her department. In addition to her normal role coding Emergency Room accounts, Melody is always willing to cover staffing needs in a moment's notice. Melody's friendly and positive attitude towards her co-workers and customers is a true asset. She has always shown a willingness to learn new tasks and proven herself to be reliable and dependable through the quality of her work as well as maintaining exemplary time and attendance standards throughout her career with ECMC.

of the Month

June Julie Buono



Physical Therapist **Julie Buono, PT**, always treats her patients in a friendly and professional manner. Her patients enjoy their sessions because Julie finds creative exercises and activities that challenge them to improve as quickly as possible. She is quick to smile and always puts her patients at ease with her calm demeanor. With her knowledge and dedication, she has earned the respect of her peers, patients, and the entire rehab staff.

May Shelly Buntz



Housekeeper **Shelly Buntz** is an integral member of the Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU) staff. She takes pride in her work, keeps the unit

looking spotless and is always looking for the next thing that needs to be done. Shelly is very much aware of the activities in the TICU. She never hesitates to stop what she is doing and quickly respond to a request to accommodate patient care. Shelly always has a smile on her face and a good attitude, both which tend to be contagious.

ECMC Volunteer of the Month

August Zandra Lewis



Chaplain Zandra Lewis was raised and educated in Boston, MA. She graduated from Lesley College, receiving a Bachelor's degree in Human Services. She later completed various ministerial studies and is now an Elder in the church. She has grown to love Buffalo, NY; the city of "Good Neighbors." Zandra volunteers in the Pastoral Care Department at ECMC. She has been committed to visiting and praying for those in need of an encouraging word. She enjoys being a help in her husband's ministry. When not at ECMC, she is a very active First Lady in her church—Miracle Missions Full Gospel Church—teaching Sunday school, leading the woman's ministry, praise and worship, and organizing various events for the church and the Pastoral Care Department. Chaplain Lewis is the proprietor of Azariah's; a shop for ladies hats, accessories, and natural skin care products. She is active in the community and a supporter of those fighting against violence and educating those affected or infected by HIV/AIDS. Thanks, Zandra, for being a "good neighbor." Keep up the good work!

July Jim Chojnacki



Jim Chojnacki has been a Volunteer in Central Registration since May 2011. He is always courteous with patients, answers their questions and directs them to the appropriate areas. Jim is a wonderful asset to the department and is liked by patients and staff alike. We are very thankful for Jim and all he has done at ECMC.

June Mike Etherington



Mike Etherington has a sincere desire to help patients on the 9th Floor. He came to ECMC as a Volunteer in February 2011. Since then, he has faithfully come in on Fridays. He has assisted in

both individual and group situations. He has done a great job and is always willing to take time to help someone in need and share from his heart. Thanks to Mike for a job well done!

May Naoma Allen



Naoma P. Allen earned her degree as a Medical Secretary at ECC and worked in this capacity at ECMC prior to her retirement. She joined the ECMC Volunteer Board in 2001 and previously served as

Vice President. Naoma currently works in the Gift Shop and is in charge of monthly staff schedules. She also helps out with the blood mobiles as well as candy and flower sales. In October 2000, she was certified by the Bishop of Buffalo to distribute communion. She distributes communion to patients at ECMC. Thank you, Naoma, for your faithful service to us all!

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

ECMC volunteers celebrated their Recognition Luncheon at Sonoma Grille on Saturday, April 21st, 2012. A buffet luncheon was provided along with awards and certificates given for achievements. Volunteers were entertained by the jazz band "Chase the Demo" which did a wonderful job. Thanks to all who participated and who serve ECMC to help make it a better place. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Kathi Mitri at 898-3266.



ECMC teams-up for Kidney Walk

Photos by Joe Mac, Toronto, CA

The 2012 Northeast Kidney Foundation Buffalo Kidney Walk took place June 3rd at Delaware Park. ECMC's team was comprised of members of the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care.

Administrative/Departmental representatives included ECMC CEO Jody Lomeo; Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brian Murray; Dialysis Medical Director Dr. Panesar; and Sr. Vice President of Marketing, Planning and Business Development Tom Quatroche. This team, with support of hospital employees, raised over

\$3,200 in donations to locally support those afflicted with kidney disease and for disease prevention. There was also a dedication ceremony for a bench permanently placed in the park donated by ECMC in memory of past and present patients and those families afflicted with kidney disease. The plaque on the bench reads, "To those past, present and future affected by kidney disease, and to the heroes who gave and will give the gift of life. Dedicated by families, friends and the Kidney Support Group at ECMC."



Farmers' Market at Grider Opens for Season

The ECMC Farmers' Market opened for its third season on Friday, May 25th. The Farmers' Market at Grider has become an attraction for residents, giving the Delavan-Grider neighborhood improved access to locally grown fresh produce, while promoting healthy eating and lifestyles.

Opening day activities consisted of prayer led by local ministers from community churches; Lunch at the Market; *Plant Day* which allows customers the opportunity to plant and take home a free 'garden in a bucket' and get gardening tips from the Community Action Organization (CAO); local farmers selling their vegetables, plants and flowers; and homemade breads and baked goods.

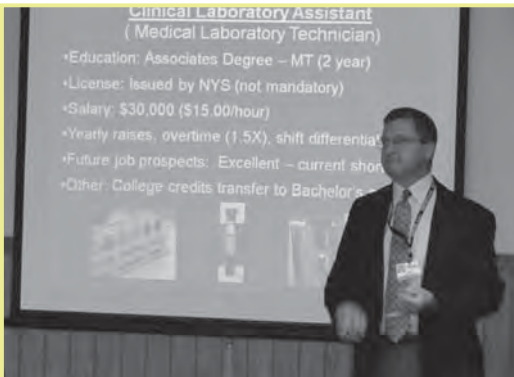


ECMC Hosts MASH Camp

On April 24th, ECMC hosted MASH Camp for the Health Sciences Charter School. MASH Camp exposes students to real life work experiences and allows them the unique opportunity to explore multiple careers in the healthcare and bio-sciences industries.

The event consisted of an overview of customer service, department tours, and career presentations from several ECMC employees.

Career presenters included: Joe Kabacinski, Assistant Director, Lab Administration; Lynn Whitehead, RN; and Joe Morrell, Radiologist. The presenters discussed high school and college preparation and requirements for their positions, and shared various positions in their departments, including those requiring certification and/or two-year degrees.



Volunteers Needed for High Blood Pressure Research Studies

Participants **must have high blood pressure**, but may be on blood pressure medication.

This study will require 9 to 15 outpatient visits over 4 months.

Free blood pressure medication, free blood tests & convenient free parking.

Participants will be reimbursed for this study.

* If interested please contact the office of Joseph L. Izzo Jr., M.D., at either of the following numbers:

Peter Osmond: 716 898 5485

Kelly Carazzolo: 716 898 5653

ECMC Staff Members and/or immediate relatives of Staff Members Serving in the Military

NAME	TITLE	LINE OF SERVICE	CURRENT STATION	RELATIONSHIP TO ECMC AND/OR TO ECMC STAFF MEMBER
Kyle J. Broginski	Meritoriously promoted to Corporal	United States Marine Corps. 1st Marines 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Platoon Combat Engineer	Afghanistan, Combat Outpost Payne, Southern Helmand River Valley	Son of Kevin J. Broginski, Electric Control Technician, Plant Operations, ECMC
Shawn Drzyzga	Specialist	U.S. Army: Recently Honorably Discharged after four years of service	Fort Campbell, KY	Son of Laurie Drzyzga, Hospital Police Officer, ECMC
Kathleen Foy	Lieutenant Colonel	U.S. Air Force, 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (Niagara Falls Airbase) and 455th Expeditionary Medical Operation Squadron (Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan)	Niagara Falls, NY & Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan	On military leave from ECMC Cardiac Care Unit as Charge Nurse
Dr. Kurt Von Fricken	Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)	U.S. Army	Afghanistan	ECMC Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Micah J. Gray	Lance Corporal	U.S. Marines Basic Utilities Electrical Engineer Generator Specialist	Okinawa, Japan	Son of David Gray, LPN, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP), ECMC
Brett Harrison	Senior Airman	Niagara Falls 914th Security Forces	Kirkuk, Iraq	Son of Chuck Harrison Plant Operations, and Rose Harrison, RN, ECMC
Samantha Hoch	Sergeant	U.S. Army 277th Quartermaster Company	Niagara Falls, NY	ECMC Main Lobby Prima Pizza General Manager and co-owner
Katherine A. Keleher	Lance Corporal	United States Marine Corps. Combat Correspondent/ Photographer	Parris Island, SC	Daughter of Kerry Keleher, LPN, Nurse Consultant Patient Advocacy, ECMC
Kevin J. Kuhn	Platoon Sergeant	United States Marine Corps. 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit Military Police Detachment Combat Logistics Battalion	Camp Pendleton, CA	Son of Donna Carr, RN, Patient Safety, ECMC
Thomas W. Liebel	Specialist	U.S. Army	Bamberg, Germany	Son of Bruce Liebel, Director of Reimbursement, ECMC
Brian Payne	Marine	U.S. Marines	Honorably Discharged	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Steven Payne	Reenlisted Recruiter	U.S. Army	Long Island, NY; (previously Stationed in Ft. Gordon, GA)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Tim Payne	Special Forces Member	U.S. Army	Injured in the line of duty in Kandahar, Afghanistan on July 3, 2011 (see separate article in this issue of Pulse)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Andrew Payne	Specialist	U.S. Army	Vicenza, Italy (two deployments to Afghanistan)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Charles D. Schroeder	Master Sergeant	U.S. Air Force Reserves 914th Aerial Port Squadron's First Sergeant	Most recent deployment to Bagram Airfield Afghanistan, January 2010	ECMC MRI Staff Member
Frank J.A. World 4/13/84 - 4/01/10	Sergeant	United States Marine Corp. LAR Alpha Company, 2nd Marine Division, Infantryman	Killed In Action April 1, 2010, in Marjah, Afghanistan (while in 6th yr. of 8 yr. commitment)	Brother-in-law of ECMC Hospital Public Safety Assistant Eric Smith
Joseph A. Zaccagnino Jr.	Master at Arms, First Class	U.S. Navy Stationed aboard the USS Paul Hamilton DDG-60	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii,	Son of Sandra R. Cutrona, Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) Erie County Home

Are you or a family member currently serving in the military?

If so, we would like to publish your/their name, line of service, location of station, and number of years in the military.
Please E-MAIL TO: jcirillo@ecmc.edu

CONSENTS: For any article to be published including a person's name, etc., a completed and signed consent for each person identified must be completed and mailed/delivered to:

Joe Cirillo
Director of Public Relations & Communications
ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATION
462 Grider Street, Third Floor Administration
Buffalo, New York 14215

ECMC and United Way join for *Community Baby Shower*

On May 4, ECMC participated in a “Community Baby Shower” sponsored by The United Way. The United Way initiated the “Day of Action” for at-risk mothers; the organization asked the community to donate essential baby items for newborn babies to have a stronger start and the support they need to have a healthier beginning. Each year in Erie County, thousands of babies are born into poverty. Each week in Erie County, eight infants are born to women receiving late or no prenatal care. Twenty-one babies are born pre-term, 15 are low birth weight, and one will die before age one. Thanks to everyone here at ECMC, those numbers will hopefully decrease.



ECMC Physical Therapy Rotation Reflection

by Matthew Bauman

There is something very neat about physical therapy that goes past the techniques of neuro-reprogramming and muscle hypertrophy. Each person in the hospital PT unit is unique and carries subtle differences in the way they perceive treatment and themselves going through it. This is very similar to chiropractic treatments that focus on “rebuilding the human machine” and getting the dysfunctional parts to work normally and the entire system in unison.

Rebuilding from trauma, whether it's from an acute injury, surgery or some chronic deficit, can be an exhausting process. At ECMC, the therapists are not only doctors of physical therapy with minds full of kinesiology and physiologic diagnostic information, but they are artists, coaches, and mentors. The superficial problems are the smallest part of the process, controlled by the regeneration of damaged cells, strength of individual muscles and integrity of specific joints. The biggest piece of the rehabilitation process is the patient themselves. While the body strives to heal and regain balance, the faces of these patients tell the story of those fighting themselves to remain motivated and mentally engaged in their own well-being.

The Physical Therapist smiles and asks how each patient is doing, trying to delve into their minds to gauge just how much they are going to get out of the patients today, and how much further they can push them to extract what they need. It is amazing how they are able to do this. Cues appear to be the biggest tool utilized, “Chin tucked, rib cage to pelvis...breathe.” Mixed in

are the words of encouragement and reinforcement, “Good job, that's the way, good work”, as well as the occasional pat on the back. The patients respond to all of this. Patients grow and exceed their own expectations and potential.

At ECMC, I learned about the process of nourishment. It is an important component that is often times overlooked; overshadowed by the clinical process that leads to simply performing orthopedics, exams, and manipulations. The positivity doused any pessimism that may have lurked within the minds of any of the patients about their ability to overcome obstacles, and the patients responded whether or not they originally intended to do so. A man crippled with chronic low back pain thought it was something he had to live with and accepted it. His eyes were opened through education and treatment of his ailment. He labored as he entered, but left in a better place. He understood now, he could be fixed, but it started with him. While the therapists worked on him, they coached him; they reinforced him by pouring water over the fire of self-pity and self-doubt.

Medicine is powerful and unique. I've learned that sometimes the best medicine is not through a pill, adjustment or modality, but delivered through human connection and enlightenment.

Matthew Bauman graduated (May 2011) from the D'Youville College Chiropractic Program

ECMC Wins Bronze and Merit Awards

ECMC received four awards during the 2012 Healthcare Advertising Awards. Started almost 30 years ago, this awards program is seen as the oldest, largest and most widely respected healthcare advertising awards competition currently in operation. With over 4,000 entries, a national panel of judges granted awards to those entries that exemplified exceptional quality, creativity and message effectiveness.

ECMC received Bronze Awards for “Dr. Lindfield & Nadine: 60 (second) TV Spot” as well as “That's what true care means to me,” a print advertisement series. ECMC also received Merit Awards for our TV spot series, “That's what true care means to me,” as well as “This is ECMC Expansion Video.”

Congratulations to ECMC, the Martin Group (ECMC's advertising agency of record), and thanks to all who made these achievements possible!

462 Grider Street
Buffalo, New York 14215

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REHABILITATION

**ABOUT ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL
CENTER (ECMC) CORPORATION:**

The ECMC Corporation includes an advanced academic medical center (ECMC) with 550 inpatient beds and 136 skilled-nursing-home beds, on- and off-campus health centers, more than 30 outpatient specialty care clinics and a long-term care facility. ECMC is the regional center for trauma, burn care, transplantation and rehabilitation and is a major teaching facility for the University at Buffalo. Most ECMC physicians, dentists and pharmacists are dedicated faculty members of the university and/or members of a private practice plan. More Western New York residents are choosing ECMC for exceptional patient care and customer service—the difference between healthcare and true care.

Jacqueline Wisniewski Memorial Trust Fund

ECMC and the ECMC Lifeline Foundation have established a Trust Fund at First Niagara Bank for Jacqueline Wisniewski's young son. Jackie was a receptionist in ECMC's Behavioral Health Department.

Donations to the ECMC/Wisniewski Memorial trust Fund:

By Mail or In Person:

ECMC Lifeline Foundation
462 Grider Street, Suite G-1
Buffalo, New York 14215

Online:

www.ecmclifelinefoundation.org
CLICK ON
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(Made payable to
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Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

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 I wish my donation to remain anonymous

**Clip at dotted line,
fill out and mail to:**
ECMC Lifeline Foundation
462 Grider Street, Suite G-1
Buffalo, New York 14215