

Richmond University Medical Center

An Affiliate of the Mount Sinai Health Network

CHRONICLE

April 2018

Medical Center Hosts Clinical Training on Opioid Epidemic

Richmond University continues to be in the forefront of supplying critical answers to the opioid addiction crisis which has impacted so many families in our community.

Recently we were honored to host buprenorphine certification training conducted by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Staten Island Performing Provider System's (SIPPS) Behavioral Health Infrastructure Project (BHIP) and Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness (SIPCW). The six-hour session was hosted in the Villa Conference Room.

There are many different paths on the road to recovery from opioid use disorder. Each individual must find the path that works for them, and sometimes that path involves medication-assisted treatment such as buprenorphine, also known as Bupe or its brand names Suboxone and Subutex. Studies have shown that buprenorphine is highly effective in treating opioid use disorder. According to the results of a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) survey, physicians and patients reported an average of an 80% reduction in illicit opioid use, along with increases in employment and other determinants of health.

However, in order to be treated with buprenorphine, individuals seeking recovery must first find a provider who is certified (or waived) to offer the treatment. With Staten Island being an epicenter of the opioid crisis, the Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness and the Staten Island Performing Provider System have been working diligently with providers like Richmond University Medical Center to ensure that this evidence-based treatment is available to all individuals in a primary care setting.

SIPCW's Nadeen Makhoul, PharmD., MPH has been providing clinical coaching and support to existing buprenorphine providers in order to expand their services and to certify a new wave of providers to meet the need of the community. Through SIPPS's Behavioral Health Infrastructure Project (BHIP), SIPCW coordinated the buprenorphine training at Richmond University, which was provided by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH).

While previous training sessions only reached a handful of Staten Island-based healthcare professionals, Friday's training included 34 clinicians from various backgrounds and departments, willing and enthusiastic at the prospect of helping Staten Islanders achieve recovery.

Congratulations to all involved in this valuable program!



President's Update

Message from the President & CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, LNHA



Dear Friends,

As we have all survived a very wintery March with the never-ending series of nor'easters that struck our region, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our staff members who once again rose to the occasion to keep our campus safe, clear and accessible for our visitors and patients.

Be it hurricanes, blizzards or nor'easters, the Staten Island community can rest easy knowing that the Richmond University Medical Center team are here for them!

As the snow flurries of March recede into our memories, we will soon be seeing major construction activity on our campus. At recent Employee Town Hall and Management Forum meetings a popular topic was asking about the status of projects going on across our campus.

Since not every employee is able to attend those meetings, I would like to provide updates on the significant progress we are making on several fronts.

Our initial Emergency Department plans included considering transforming the existing Emergency Department into a cancer center. As a result of the acquisition of a radiation therapy center on South Ave., we will now be able to incorporate the existing ED into the design of the new Emergency Department, helping optimize cost management still maintaining original square footage—a critical component of every organization's success. Those revised plans are expected to be finalized shortly with construction projected to begin in late 4th Quarter 2018/beginning 1st Quarter 2019.

To support the new ED and our overall modernization, we will soon be moving forward with our cogeneration plant, expanding parking facilities and FEMA storm resiliency projects. The cogeneration plant will allow the medical center to generate its own power and eventually pay for itself through cost-savings. We will also be undertaking work on expanding parking on our campus with an additional 240 spots being added as well as enhanced landscaping. As part of a project funded by FEMA, we will be increasing our storm resiliency and addressing issues with our drainage, lighting and the replacement of all windows campus-wide. These projects are projected to begin over the next several months, not too far off from our original projections.

I look forward to sharing more milestone on these projects in the coming months. Be confident that these expansion plans are on track and in large part possible because of your hard work and dedication to your patients, colleagues, and community!

Remember, the power of one – you make a difference!

Patient Satisfaction

A Note of Thanks

To all the Doctors who treated Martin,

Thank you so much for all your care, knowledge and professionalism in treating Martin.

Your concern is greatly appreciated by both of us and the hospitality shown to me has been greatly appreciated. You have gone above and beyond the norm in making me comfortable.

I only have praise for all of you and this hospital.

Again, thank you for everything.

To all the nurses who have gotten to know and take care of Martin and all aides and people who have gotten to know us.

Words can not express how grateful we both are for your expert professional care.

It has been a long stay with many complications. You all have treated us so nice and made me feel "at home." You all have been very respectful and have looked out for meals for me and if I needed anything.

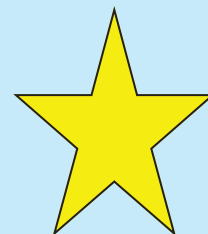
You all are very good, caring, and wonderful compassionate nurses and Richmond should be very proud you work here.

Hopefully he is now on the road to recovery and rehab can begin in earnest and soon we can get back closer to home.

Again—thanks to everyone who has made the situation bearable and we are positive and will let you know how things progress.

Thanks,

Martin & Diane



OB-GYN Department Publishes Research Journal

Richmond University Medical Center's clinical professionals are in the vanguard of the latest methods, techniques and technologies to provide quality, compassionate care to our community. An important part of that commitment is research. Under the leadership of Dr. Nisha A. Lakhi, FACOG, Director of Research, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology recently published its 2018 Research Journal.

In the last two years, the department has acquired over \$1 million dollars in funding for clinical and translational research. The department spearheads several Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials and has established a research laboratory to encourage translational research and innovation.

The department's faculty and residents have presented 16 abstracts at international conferences, 22 abstracts at national conferences, and 8 at regional conferences. In addition, our faculty, residents, and students have published 23 PubMed Indexed Publications with 8 more currently under peer review.

In addition to the journal articles, members of the department have authored 11 book chapters for internationally circulated textbooks. Drs. Lakhi and Michael Moretti, Chair of the OB-GYN Department, published a textbook on Alpha-Fetoprotein in 2017 and Dr. Lakhi is working on a Laparoscopic surgery textbook forthcoming in 2018.

Congratulations to Dr. Lakhi and the entire team responsible for this important publication.

Download an electronic copy of the journal at: <http://bit.ly/2Gp9AYh>



Echo Lab Receives Prestigious Accreditation

The Echocardiography Laboratory at Richmond University recently received the prestigious accreditation from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC). The IAC accredits imaging facilities and hospitals specific to echocardiography. IAC accreditation is a means by which facilities can evaluate and demonstrate the level of patient care they provide.



The purpose of the IAC Echocardiography accreditation program is "to ensure high quality patient care and to promote health care by providing a mechanism to encourage and recognize the provision of quality echocardiographic diagnostic evaluations by a process of accreditation." Through the accreditation process, facilities assess every aspect of daily operation and its impact on the quality of health care provided to patients. While completing the accreditation application, facilities often identify and correct potential problems, revising protocols and validating quality assurance programs. Because accreditation is renewed every three years, a long-term commitment to quality and self-assessment is developed and maintained. Facilities may use IAC Echocardiography accreditation as the foundation to create and achieve realistic quality care goals.

IAC Echocardiography accreditation is made up of two crucial steps. First, facilities conduct a detailed self-evaluation using the IAC Standards for Echocardiography Accreditation and the Online Accreditation application. Completion of the application requires detailed information on all aspects of facility operation as well as the submission of actual case studies for review. The case studies are crucial in determining the facility's compliance with the IAC Standards, and are the basis for judgment of the quality of work that facilities perform.

Congratulations to the Echo Lab staff and Dr. Richard Grodman, Chair of Cardiology, and Kathryn Giovinazzo, RN, AVP Clinical Services, on this achievement!

Honorees Announced for Annual Jack Sipp Golf & Tennis Outing

As we look to put the cold winter in the “rear-view mirror” there’s no surer sign of warm weather ahead than the annual Jack Sipp Golf & Tennis Outing benefitting our medical center. The event is being held on Monday, May 15th at the Richmond County Country Club. In recent years the event has grown in attendance and has become a must on the Island’s social scene. This year, the event will again honor two outstanding members of the Staten Island and medical center’s communities: Dr. Richard Fazio and Brian M. Farley, the President & CEO of Hudson Elevator Group.

Dr. Richard Fazio (*r.*) has been in private practice for over 34 years, with offices in Staten Island and Brooklyn. He is a clinical professor of medicine at SUNY Downstate and an assistant clinical professor of medicine at New York Medical College. He is a Fellow of both the American College of Physicians and the American College of Gastroenterology. He is a member of the American Gastroenterology Association, the American Gastroenterological Endoscopy Association, the Richmond County Medical Society, and the AMA.

Dr. Fazio is an author of many publications, including original work on candida esophagitis. He was named as “Best Doctor” in New York Magazine’s annual listing from 1999-2012. He is also “Top Doctor” in Castle Connolly listings since 1998.

Dr. Fazio is an exceptional clinician with expertise in endoscopic procedures which include colonoscopy, gastroscopy, capsule endoscopy, endoscopic retrograde cholangio pancreatography (ERCP), and also manages diseases of the liver.

His philosophy is to achieve and maintain the highest standards of practice in order that his patients continually receive the best management of their medical care. Dr. Fazio is very active professionally and attends annual conferences to receive the most up to date modalities of treatments.

Dr. Fazio has been an involved member of the local community and is committed to his patients.



Brian M. Farley (*l.*) is the President & CEO of Hudson Elevator Group which is based on Staten Island. Hudson Elevator Group specializes in new construction of elevators in NYC Public Schools and NYC Transit Subway Systems.

Mr. Farley has served as president of the NAEC (National Association of Elevator Contractors) with more than 2,500 members. He has also represented the NAEC lecturing internationally in Brazil, China, and Poland.

In addition to his leadership in the elevator industry, he serves on the Board of Directors of Project Hospitality and supports the Brighton Avenue Soup Kitchen. He is also a former board member of the Staten Island Zoo, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation, Staten Island Children’s Museum, Staten Island Film Festival, and Camp Good Grief. Mr. Farley is the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award, the Snug Harbor Cultural Center Randall Award for Community Service, and the Louis R. Miller Business Leadership Award from the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce.

He is a proud fourth generation North Shore Staten Island resident where he married his high school sweetheart, Susan. They have four children: Sara, Michael, Sean and Lauren. According to Mr. Farley, in his spare time, he likes to win bets with his friends on the golf course and is an avid supporter of the West Brighton business community.

A downloadable copy of the invitation is available on our website at: www.rumcsi.org/golf There are numerous opportunities to attend the event, either as a golf/tennis participant, or attending the awards dinner in the evening. For further details and other options to support the event, please contact Krista Desiderio in the Foundation Office at: kdesiderio@rumcsi.org or (718) 818-2788. Donations of items or gift baskets to be raffled off at the event are especially needed.

The event is held in memory of John L.F. (Jack) Sipp, a noted businessman and philanthropist who served as the Chairman of the Board of the medical center when it was known as St. Vincent’s Hospital. Mr. Sipp, a World War II veteran, was the chairman and chief executive officer of the Staten Island Savings Bank from 1974 until his untimely death in 1987, at age 68.

Artwork Ads to Environment of Care for Behavioral Health



Pictured, fr. l.: Andrew Burt, MBA, CPXP, Rosemarie Stazzone, RN, MSN, NEA-BC and Ihsaan Alim, RN, MSN, MPA.

Recently Richmond University commissioned local photographer Heather Wolf to assist in the transformation of our inpatient behavioral health units.

The project's goal was to enhance the environment of healing and was completed simultaneously with numerous other physical enhancements to the units. Patient rooms, hallways and common areas all received new pieces of art that ranged from scenic landscapes, hot air balloons, gardens and other scenic imagery.

The first round of artwork was so successful that a second round of art was ordered and installed to double the amount of artwork in the units.

The project was collaboratively led by a team from patient experience and nursing in conjunction with behavioral health and operations.

The installation was completed by a team from patient experience and behavioral health education.

Behavioral Medicine Center Expands Offerings to Tobacco Cessation

Individuals with a serious mental illness or substance use disorder die on average 25 years earlier than the general population, and smoking is the leading cause of death for this group. Although the rate of smoking has been declining for the general population, it has not declined for individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

To address this gap in care, The New York City Tobacco Cessation Training and Technical Assistance Center (TCTTAC), funded by the NYC DOHMH, has initiated a pilot program with selected agencies across the city to develop interventions for the behavioral health population which will be shared as a best practice models. The training for this initiative is being presented by Dr. Jill Williams, a nationally known expert on smoking cessation and staff from the Center for Practice Innovations at Columbia Psychiatry and the New York State Psychiatric Institute (CPI).



"The RUMC outpatient department has become a real champion for this initiative," according to Dr. Nancy Covell, Project Director, TCTTAC and Associate Director, CPI. "As an early adopter and champion, RUMC has collaborated closely with TCTTAC in this pilot program and emerged as a real leader among agencies. Further, in addition to sending a large number of staff to be trained, RUMC has taken important steps to ensure implementation of tobacco dependence treatment throughout the outpatient programs. For example, they have identified a champion to oversee the work and have created a workgroup that meets regularly to plan changes in program policy, process flow, and treatment. RUMC is also lucky to have the support of senior leadership.

Mike Matthews, Director of Outpatient Behavioral Health Services at RUMC, has clearly prioritized tobacco dependence treatment, ensuring that staff have time to attend training, meet as a workgroup, and implement changes. Mr. Matthews also regularly attends TCTTAC online technical support meetings to report progress and gain support as needed. To further support this initiative, The Staten Island PPS has hosted a 3-day TCTTAC training on smoking cessation for Staten Island clinical providers. The first two days of this training were delivered on March 13-14 at RUMC (1130 South Avenue), with 17 participants from multiple agencies across Staten Island.

Welcome March 2018 New Hires

Lauren A. Hannigan,
Paramedic

Jason Ruan,
Paramedic

Hector A. Torres,
EMT

Sydney A. Lawrence,
Registered Nurse

Daniel F. Genovese-Sullivan,
Pediatric Trauma Program Manager

Natalie Santana,
Building Service Worker

Job A. George,
Clinical Lab Technologist

Zarina Pinkhasova,
RN 12 HRS

Marie C. Yap-Bangit,
RN 12 HRS

Elisabetta M. Adamo,
RN 12 HRS

Everlove Amankwaa,
Central Sterile Technologist

Morgan B. McMullen,
RN 12 HRS

Employee Town Hall Meeting Provides Updates

Maintaining clear and open lines of communications throughout our organization is a top priority to the leadership at Richmond University Medical Center.

To that end, on March 15th Dr. Daniel J. Messina, President & CEO, hosted the latest in a series of employee town hall meetings.

The Sipp Auditorium was packed to capacity as Dr. Messina presented the latest information on topics including: our Emergency Department expansion, the construction of the cogeneration plant, progress on our new parking lot, FEMA weather projects, DSRIP, our new cancer center, and the status of our affiliation process. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Messina addressed over a half dozen questions from attendees.

To ensure that all employees are included, Dr. Messina and members of the leadership team also met with small groups of employees who work the evening and overnight shifts.



Trauma Teddy Bears Educate Kids on Injury Prevention



Community outreach is an important part of our mission at Richmond University Medical Center. Our Trauma Program believes that the best way to treat pediatric injuries is to prevent them from happening!

To that end, members of our Trauma Team visited Hylan Daycare located in the New Dorp section of Staten Island to conduct a “teddy bear clinic” for the kids in attendance.

The team was able to provide the clinic to a group of over 50 enthusiastic children ranging in age from 3 to 6. The kids were each provided a bear and offered initial education on common medical devices they may come across on routine doctors visit, or when coming into the hospital.

They were also provided basic education on infection prevention as well as the use of equipment for basic health assessment. The kids broke into groups and were able to explore these tools with their hands while trying them out on their bears. From listening to their own hearts to opening and applying band aids the groups expanded their knowledge and comfort with healthcare equipment.

Trauma’s Chris Ruiz Headlines National Conference

Richmond University Medical Center’s Trauma Department was the first in New York City to be verified as a Level I Adult Trauma Center and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons. Our trauma professionals are among national leaders when it comes to the treatment of traumatic injuries.

In September 2017, Richmond University was strongly represented at the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) annual conference and General Assembly held in St. Louis. Christopher Ruiz, RN, Trauma Program Nursing Director, represented Richmond University Medical Center and was nominated by the New York State President to represent New York State as a delegate in voting on 10 upcoming resolutions to the bylaws for the national Emergency Nurses Association

The 2018 ENA conference is scheduled for Pittsburgh this September where the trauma team will attend education seminars, present evidence based studies and poster presentations. We’re proud that the ENA is using Chris Ruiz (at left in ad) to help promote the most exciting, hands-on educational experience for emergency nurses! Congratulations to Chris and the entire Trauma Program!

Reserve your place now for the largest gathering of emergency nurses in

PITTSBURGH

at Emergency Nursing 2018!

Get a head start. Register now to get the lowest rate for the conference that offers the best faculty, products, and technologies in emergency nursing. From hands-on learning labs to advanced practice sessions and competitive simulations — just \$100 down* guarantees your spot!

Visit ena.org/ena18 to register.

* Early registration is only available to ENA members who register for the full conference.

#ENA18

ENA EMERGENCY NURSING 2018

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The RUMC Auxiliary
presents



Sunday, April 22nd
Noon to 4:00 pm

LiGreci's Staaten

Support the RUMC Auxiliary as they host the 2nd annual Designer Purse Bingo, benefitting the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, on Sunday, April 22nd at LiGreci's Staaten.

For the \$45 admission fee, attendees receive: three bingo cards for each of the sixteen regular games, a Door Prize Ticket, and light fare of finger sandwiches and cookies. A cash bar will be available. Additional packs of regular bingo games will be available at a cost of \$10 per pack.

Winners will receive a chance to go home with a top name, authentic designer handbag. The afternoon will also include a 50/50 raffle and a raffle to win a beautiful Louis Vuitton tote (valued at over \$1300).

Please contact Karen Sanicola (sanicola.karen@gmail.com) or Michele Salomon (Michele6007@gmail.com) for a reservation. All players must be 18 years or older unless accompanied by an adult.

Jack Sipp Golf & Tennis Outing

to benefit **Richmond University Medical Center**

Monday, May 14th, 2018

Honoring:

Dr. Richard Fazio and Mr. Brian Farley

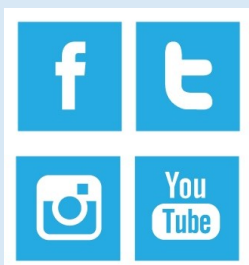
at

Richmond County Country Club

Register at: **www.rumcsi.org/golf**



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us on social media?



While the *Chronicle* is issued once a month, you can find out about the latest happenings at Richmond University Medical Center, in real-time via our Social Media pages. Richmond University maintains an active presence on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter. Links to each of our social media pages are available on the Richmond University Medical Center webpage, which is located at: rumcsi.org.

The Public Relations and Marketing Team welcomes your photos and news tips from around our community. Please send any newsworthy materials to William J. Smith at wsmith@rumcsi.org or Lorraine Scanni at: lscanni@rumcsi.org. Thank you!