

REGIONAL Reflections

January 2017

West Central Georgia Regional Hospital

In this issue:

**Patient Care
Safety Goals** 2

**Human
Resources** 3

New Hires 4

**Social Work
Updates** 4

**Staff
Development** 5

**Old Wives'
Tales** 6

**Policy
Updates** 7

**Facilitator
Spotlight** 8

ANNUAL MAYORS' MOTORCADE: A HOLIDAY SUCCESS

December 1st saw the transformation of our campus from a state hospital setting to a Christmas Oasis. Through the combined efforts of staff and individuals, an ordinary gym was turned into a "Peppermint Dream" with a magnificent Christmas tree, reindeer, elves, snowmen, wreaths and hand-made glass and wood table decorations. These beautiful centerpieces became treasured gifts to our community visitors and staff members. Our Individuals graced us with a number of Christmas carols and skillful moves. Guests were awed by the solo performance of one of our Individuals as he played the keyboard and sang several original songs. After enjoying a wonderful meal, guests, staff, and individuals were treated to a parade filled with Beauty Queens, Colorful Floats, Antique and Corvette Cars, Fire Trucks, Motorcycles, Safety Vehicles, High School Choral Members, Color Guard and not one but two Mr. And Mrs. Santa Clauses. Through the generous contributions of both money and gifts, our communities helped to ensure that every individual at West Central received several gifts for Christmas. Thanks to all who supported this time honored-tradition.



Joint Commission has released the **Hospital National Patient Safety Goals** for 2017. Please make sure you are familiar with them.

2017 **Hospital National Patient Safety Goals**

The purpose of the National Patient Safety Goals is to improve patient safety. The goals focus on problems in health care safety and how to solve them.

Identify patients correctly

- NPSG.01.01.01 Use at least two ways to identify patients. For example, use the patient's name *and* date of birth. This is done to make sure that each patient gets the correct medicine and treatment.
- NPSG.01.03.01 Make sure that the correct patient gets the correct blood when they get a blood transfusion.

Improve staff communication

- NPSG.02.03.01 Get important test results to the right staff person on time.

Use medicines safely

- NPSG.03.04.01 Before a procedure, label medicines that are not labeled. For example, medicines in syringes, cups and basins. Do this in the area where medicines and supplies are set up.
- NPSG.03.05.01 Take extra care with patients who take medicines to thin their blood.
- NPSG.03.06.01 Record and pass along correct information about a patient's medicines. Find out what medicines the patient is taking. Compare those medicines to new medicines given to the patient. Make sure the patient knows which medicines to take when they are at home. Tell the patient it is important to bring their up-to-date list of medicines every time they visit a doctor.

Use alarms safely

- NPSG.06.01.01 Make improvements to ensure that alarms on medical equipment are heard and responded to on time.

Prevent infection

- NPSG.07.01.01 Use the hand cleaning guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization. Set goals for improving hand cleaning. Use the goals to improve hand cleaning.
- NPSG.07.03.01 Use proven guidelines to prevent infections that are difficult to treat.
- NPSG.07.04.01 Use proven guidelines to prevent infection of the blood from central lines.
- NPSG.07.05.01 Use proven guidelines to prevent infection after surgery.
- NPSG.07.06.01 Use proven guidelines to prevent infections of the urinary tract that are caused by catheters.

Identify patient safety risks

- NPSG.15.01.01 Find out which patients are most likely to try to commit suicide.

Prevent mistakes in surgery

- UP.01.01.01 Make sure that the correct surgery is done on the correct patient and at the correct place on the patient's body.
- UP.01.02.01 Mark the correct place on the patient's body where the surgery is to be done.
- UP.01.03.01 Pause before the surgery to make sure that a mistake is not being made.



Faithful Service Awards

5 Years:

Randolph Edwards, Carol Minefee, April Taylor, Towanda Hodge

25 Years:

Cynthia James

January Birthdays

1/1	Heard,Latavia Denise	1/9	Baker,Sabrina M	1/21	Carter,Daphne A
1/1	Womack,Willie James	1/11	Bell-Martin,Denese	1/22	Tinsley,Jacqeline
1/2	King,Darrius D	1/12	Lenore,Theodora T	1/22	Tookes,Mccullul Jermaine
1/2	Altman,Patricia L	1/12	Walker,Michelle M	1/23	Hamilton,Tamisha L.
1/2	Montford,Stacey R.	1/13	Thompson,Johnny F	1/23	Paige,Robin
1/3	Smiley-Smith,Martinita	1/14	Caldwell,Barbara A	1/24	Browder,Tanganyika V
1/4	Jones,Kristenia J	1/14	Bolden,Tinisha C	1/24	Crowe,Gregory L
1/4	Barnes,Sharon K	1/16	Frander,Windy E	1/25	Davis,Ruggero A
1/4	Rhea,Andrew M	1/16	Wilson,Andrea R.	1/25	Johnson,Valerie V.
1/5	Manuel,Latoshia R.	1/18	Coleman,Rhina L	1/25	Lassig,Staci L
1/5	Jordan,Tremaine	1/18	Brown Jr.,Robert E	1/25	Gonzalez,John R
1/5	Applewhite,Katherine L	1/18	Martin-Ayers,LaKeshia C	1/26	Passmore,Barbara Jean
1/7	Nandamuru,Sai Kishore	1/18	Gonzales,Ada Z	1/26	Prentice,Shawnita C.A.
1/8	Isikwe,Gloria O	1/19	Ashley,Barbara A	1/28	Walker,Sherrie
1/8	Parmer,John C.	1/19	Jones,Courtney N	1/28	Barnhill,Michael W
1/8	Alexander,Keri Y	1/19	Reddick,Carla L	1/28	Tamarit,Denisse
1/8	Green,Audrey L	1/19	Griggs,Eleasure	1/29	Jessie,Demetris D
1/8	Smith,Char'Niece S	1/20	Davis,Shelia A	1/29	Hansbrough,Harold V
1/8	Scott,Shanterra M	1/21	Senior,Betty J	1/30	Adejube,Emily
1/8	Byrd,Pamela	1/21	Sparks,Chrysanthemum V	1/31	Robertson,John L

IMPORTANT

Reminders from Security:

- (1) Make sure to display your parking decal in your vehicle.
- (2) Parking along the side walk in front of building 1 is prohibited. Do not park in a handicapped parking space unless you have and display a handicap parking permit that is issued in your name.
- (3) Pedestrians have the right of way on the hospital grounds.
- (4) Follow all posted streets signs, specially speed limits.

Thanks!

Important Dates:

Pay Days:

January 13th and 31st

Kronos:

Manager Approval days: January 5th and 16th (subject to change). Please reconcile and move all FSLA to OT premium.

Orientation:

Jan. 1 & 17th | 1 PM to 5 PM
HR Conference Room

Holidays:

MLK Day: January 16th

New Hires: Welcome to WCGRH!



Front Row (L to R): John Robertson, RHA; LaToya Franklin, Food Service; Jasmine Taylor, SSP; Mandy McCoy, Pharmacist; Timothy London, Food Service
Back Row (L to R): Ushaunda Anderson, Laboratory Aide; Silar Ruget, RN; Douglas Galloway, Charge Nurse; Joshua Stubbs, Housekeeper

SOCIAL WORK NEWS

In the Social Work Department during the month of Dec. there were several areas of growth! We are excited to announce that Ms. Annie Ward, Unit 3 (AMH) received her License Masters of Social Work (LMSW). This is a great accomplishment, and one that she worked very hard to obtain, and we are very proud of her. Ms. Ward takes her duties to her Individuals and the organization seriously, and is constantly seeking ways to improve on a daily basis. Also during the month, the Forensic Program Manager, Ms. Wanda Donovan graduated from the DBHDD Management Academy/University of Georgia Carl Vinson. This is a 6 month program that provides leadership tools to equip the leaders of DBHDD to maximize their potential in effectiveness. Ms. Donovan is a motivated employer who is always looking to improve herself and others. We are excited about continued growth and advancement in the department, and are looking forward to all of the wonderful things that the New Year will bring.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Block Schedule for Annual Updates

Here is our Block Schedule for Annual Updates in January 2017. You will attend according to your Safety Care date. All classes will show as being full in the LMS, so please contact CarrieAnn Pizarro to register for your classes.

Block 1:

Tues, Jan 10: 8:00-10:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
10:00-12:00 Seizure, and 1:00-3:00 PNS
Wed, Jan 11: 8:00 Safety Care Recert
Thurs, Jan 12: 8:00 CPR and First Aid

Block 2:

Tues, Jan 17: 8:00-10:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
10:00-12:00 Seizure, and 1:00-3:00 PNS
Wed, Jan 18: 8:00 Safety Care Recert
Thurs, Jan 19: 8:00 CPR and First Aid

Block 3:

Mon, Jan 23: 8:00 CPR and First Aid
Tues, Jan 24: 8:00 Safety Care Recert
Wed, Jan 25: 8:00-10:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
10:00-12:00 Seizure, and 1:00-3:00 PNS

Safety Care Initial Dates: January 19-20

Staff Development would like to remind everyone to periodically check to make sure they are up to date with their online trainings. If you have any questions about this or the LMS, please contact Carrie Ann Pizarro at 706.565.3527.

Infection Prevention and You



Is it an old wives' tale or is it smart advice?

Every day, we are bombarded with information from a variety of sources. We can safely ignore some of it, but when it comes to your health, how do you know if the information you're viewing on the TV screen or internet is accurate?

Since you were a child you have heard "old wives' tales" regarding your health: "An apple a day..." or "don't swim for an hour after eating..." When it comes to infection prevention, are these anecdotes safe to listen to?

One piece of advice we have all heard is: "Chicken soup to cure a cold." This one actually has some grains of truth. Researchers from the journal *Chest* found chicken soup appears to inhibit neutrophil chemotaxis, which may be responsible for mucous production. This could help relieve congestion. While there is no cure for the cold the study concluded chicken soup may have anti-inflammatory properties, which may help relieve cold symptoms. So you can follow grandma's advice on this one. Another tale with a long history is having your dog lick a wound. This belief dates back to the Egyptians. It could potentially be very dangerous to follow this practice. Dogs' mouths contain billions of bacteria, some of which could cause your cut to get infected. So instead of allowing a dog to lick your wound, clean your hands, wash the wound with soap and water, and keep it clean and dry.



Probably the most common tale we hear is: "The flu shot will give you the flu." This advice is just not true: getting your annual flu vaccine is the best way to prevent the flu. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), flu vaccine is made either with a) flu vaccine viruses that have been inactivated and are therefore not infectious, or b) with no flu vaccine viruses at all. So don't let this false information keep you from protecting yourself and your family with a flu shot this season.

When it comes to old wives' tales, the best advice to keep you and your family safe is to check with your healthcare provider.

Additional Resources

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Misconceptions about seasonal flu and flu vaccines

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/misconceptions.htm>

Updated: 12/

Republished from Association for Professionals in Epidemiology and Infection Control.

POLICY update

The following new and revised hospital policies are now available in PolicyStat at <http://gadbhdd.policystat.com>. All changes take immediate effect or when specified. Please direct all policy related questions to policyquestions@dbhdd.ga.gov.

Staff, please make sure to review **Staff Appearance and Dress, 22-1209**, located by this URL <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/2934624/latest/?z=ey|pljogMH0>. This policy took effect on January 1, 2017. If you have not completed the LMS and the read-and-sign, please do so.

NEW

Unit Safety Scans, 03-503, <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/2945199/latest/>

This policy provides guidance for conducting regular safety scans on each unit to maintain a safe and healthy environment for individuals receiving services, staff, and visitors. Our Statewide Nurse Executive Committee were our SMEs on this policy and we extend our appreciation to Dr. Kay Brooks, Marcia Allen, Arlise Clark-Milton, Nicolise Claassens, Lisa Folsom and Judy King. Training for this begins this week and all appropriate staff are expected to complete training prior to the full implementation of the policy on March 17, 2017.

Committees, 03-326, <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/2939457/latest/>

The structured process for the formation, operation, management and accountability of statewide- and local-hospital committees is detailed in this policy. Hospital senior leadership were SMEs on this topic and we extend our thanks to Dr Risby, Paul Brock, Dr Li, Andy Mannich, John Robertson, Susan Trueblood, Evelyn Harris and Greg Hoyt. This policy took effect on January 1, 2017. Information regarding training will be forthcoming from hospital TPAs.

Nursing Staff Scheduling, Holdover, and Staff Sharing, 03-202, <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/3027324/latest/>

This policy details the process followed for nursing staff scheduling and the steps taken when it is necessary to hold staff over or to share staff across units. Please note that this policy specifically applies to staff who are supervised by nursing staff. We are very appreciative of the Statewide Nurse Executive Committee who were the SMEs for this topic. This policy is in immediate effect.

REVISED

Suicide, Violence and Victimization Risk Assessment, 03-504, <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/1245321/latest/>

Significant changes have been made to this policy to reflect additional clinicians who are now permitted to sign these assessments, and a change to Attachment A, which is now clearly states (helpful in audit) the other policies and hospital documentation that also include this assessment. As a direct result of the changes to Suicide, Violence and Victimization Risk Assessment, 03-504, please note that attachments G and J of [Psychiatric Assessments and Physician Progress Note Documentation in DBHDD Hospitals, 03-551](#) have been amended. Please ensure that your staff are not using or storing printed versions of any policy attachment to avoid using out-of-date information.

Legal Status for DBHDD Hospitals, 24-106, <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/policy/2583641/latest/>

There is now provision for an attending physician to act as the Chief Medical Officer's designee in relation to discharges of individuals on voluntary status. In addition, several of the attachments have been revised so please familiarize yourself with the changes in the language stated above, and with the revised materials and forms attached to this policy.

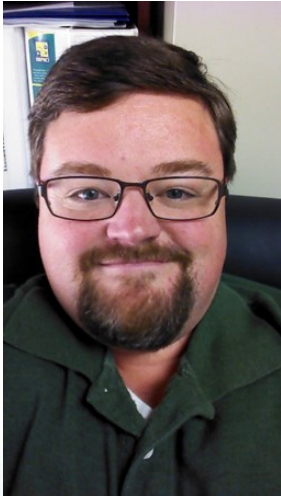


Join the WCGRH Foundation today!

Make checks payable to **WCGRH Foundation, Inc.**

Your *tax-deductible, charitable contribution* to the West Central Georgia Regional Hospital Foundation helps to provide for the special needs of our clients that may not be covered by other funding sources. The Foundation Board, Hospital Staff, and Clients greatly appreciate your continued support of our efforts. For more info on how to join, contact Kayra Velez at 706.568.5207.

Team Facilitator Spotlight: Richard King



I began my college career, as many do, not knowing what it was that I wanted to do with the rest of my life. Being that math was not my cup of tea, Engineering was out of the question! I attended Chattahoochee Valley Community College for two years and then transferred to Auburn University. Over time, I began to become interested in Psychology, declaring my major after my first year at Auburn. I graduated with my Bachelors Degree in 1996, with the intention of getting my PhD in Clinical Psychology. After working in banking for a couple of years, I was accepted to the Masters Program in Clinical Psychology at Western Carolina University. I graduated in 2000 and accepted my first professional job as a Mental Health Counselor at Rutledge State Prison, where I worked for three years. Although this was an extremely challenging environment, I learned a great deal about mental illness that still serves me today. The next six years of my career were spent working in Therapeutic Foster Care, beginning as a recruiter and trainer

of foster parents and eventually working up to a Program Manager and Clinical Supervisor for various agencies. After spending time in the field, I decided against going back to school for a PhD and focused on using my Masters, becoming a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Georgia in 2006. My time working in Therapeutic Foster Care led me to cross paths with the Coordinator of the Bridgeway Adolescent Program at West Central. In 2009, she offered me a position with the newly developed Adult Mobile Crisis Team, where I served as a Social Service Provider II, assessing individuals in the community who were in crisis and in need of services. When the Coordinator accepted another position, I applied and became the Social Service Coordinator for the Adult Mobile Crisis program. As oftentimes happens when working in State programs, the contract for Mobile Crisis was obtained by another agency, leaving me wondering, "What now?" It just so happened that West Central, and the rest of the State hospital system, was developing the new job position of Treatment Team Facilitator to fulfill the requirements of the Department of Justice involvement with the State. I applied, received an offer, and accepted a position, in 2011, as Team Facilitator for the newly opened Unit 10, which was initially populated with individuals who came to West Central from the recently closed Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital. Since that time, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the many disciplines that make up a Treatment Team and have learned a great deal about the challenges faced by individuals in an inpatient environment. Outside of work, I have interests in Politics, both National and International, the 2nd Amendment, and Auburn football. War Eagle!

Regional Reflections is published monthly. The mission of the newsletter is to provide a forum to educate and inform its readership on issues in behavioral health, strengthen teamwork, and archive hospital events and activities. Regional Reflections staff welcomes items including articles, news items, and photos submitted for publication. However, all items are subject to editorial discretion and will be published on a "space available" basis. Please contact the editor if you have any questions or concerns regarding the newsletter. Thank you for your support.

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