



Superintendent's Message

In the midst of continuous cold and snow, getting close to records for both I hear, there are some glimmers of light. The sun has been shining the last two days, even though it was 7 below this morning it is still good to see the sun. Leadership had the opportunity to hear a presentation from a representative group of the BHRA mentors. The information presented was insightful, refreshing and certainly very important that this program continue. It has been a long road to get this up and going, and I am so grateful to those who give time to help welcome new employees to the hospital. As our BHRA's are the largest number of employees and those who spend the most time with the patients, it is critically important that we do as much as we can organizationally to provide a work environment that helps promote team building, communication and values the input from all.

I also had the opportunity to see the new group of QMAs this afternoon. This is another area that I am thankful for those who take on this additional responsibility as it is such a challenging and difficult task and is so vital to the care that we provide. As I shared with the group, I only hope that we can continue to push forward for some financial incentive for those that take on this additional duty. I know Terresa and Gretchen share this philosophy with me and hopefully will continue to look for ways to reward those who are Qualified Medication Aides. Counting the new class we have 88 BHRAs who are QMAs.

Finally, I get excited this time of year because by now thousands of players at all levels from a number of organizations will report to Florida and/or Arizona for spring training. Although it, like other things in sports and life have changed dramatically over the years, what hasn't changed is (with no disrespect to Punxsutawney Phil) that this is indeed the true indication that Spring will be here! I think we all can't wait!

Jeff

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American Red Cross CPR/AED Certification

It has been a great winter for providing certification in CPR for Professional Rescuers here at Richmond State Hospital. We are well on our way to having 100% of our staff certified in this form of CPR.

As new employees arrive in Staff Development, part of their training is to become certified in CPR among many other important classes. To accomplish this, a whole day is scheduled for First aid/CPR training. During the first aid portion of the class, they are trained on quick care in case of an emergency or an injury. They are also trained on many aspects of CPR, like proper hand placement on the chest, proper breathing techniques, and the proper use of the AED (Automatic External Defibrillator).

Veteran staff at RSH gets a yearly refresher and re-certification on their birth month. The refresher course covers the important aspects of CPR and use of the AED.

Both new employees and veteran staff must show that they are capable of performing CPR and using the AED by doing a return demonstration with the instructors and also pass a multiple choice quiz provided by American Red Cross.

I strongly believe that before 2014 comes to a close, Richmond State Hospital will be at that 100% staff certified mark.

Jesse L. Hodges
Staff Development, CPR inst. Educational Asst

Protection & Advocacy

The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Act was signed in May of 1986 by President Ronald Reagan. In September 1986, Governor Robert Orr signed assurances that the State of Indiana would provide protection and advocacy services to citizens experiencing mental illness. Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services was designated as the agency to provide these services and is a congressionally mandated, legally based disability rights agency. IPAS has the authority to provide legal representation and other advocacy services under all federal and state laws to people with disabilities based on a system of priorities. To defend the human, legal and civil rights of people with disabilities, Congress established Protection and Advocacy systems in each state. The Advocacy Specialist representative for our area attends our monthly Human Rights Committee Meetings.

Protection and Advocacy may be contacted at 1-800-622-4845, ext. 236. Protection & Advocacy may also be contacted by calling 1-800-838-1131 or voice mail number at 1-800-622-4845, or by mail at Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services, 850 North Meridian, Suite 2-C, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Recertification in Bridge Building

Dates: March 7 & 21

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Location: Staff Development

Recertification in Professional CPR

Dates: March 7 & 21

Time: 12:15 to 3:45 p.m.

Location: Staff Development

Evening shift recert in Bridge Bldg.

Date: March: TBA

Time: 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Staff Development

Evening shift recert in Professional CPR

Date: March: TBA

Time: 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Staff Development

*Annual recerts are scheduled during your birth-month.



Do you know this building and its location?

It's Food Service, Building 324, located on 4th Street and Grove Road.

New Faces at RSH

Please welcome our new employees at RSH when you see them on grounds.

Welcome to RSH!



Andrea Garcia, BHRA



Cassandra Naylor, BHRA



Corey Scott, BHRA



Courtney Cain, BHRA



Paul Bittelmeyer, Psychologist

Donations For Patients

Items currently needed for patients activities, crafts, etc., are golf balls, shoe boxes, board games, costume jewelry, travel size toiletries, jewelry beads, yarn, puzzles, art supplies, and magazines. These items may be marked for Community Relations and taken to the Switchboard located in the AIT (417) building.

Thanks!
Community Relations

In the Spotlight Denise Townsend

By Jesse Hodges



Today I had the pleasure of interviewing Denise Townsend while she was in Staff Development for her annual CPR/AED recertification. Denise has worked at Richmond State Hospital since January 1985. She started her career here as an attendant and progressed to become a Rehabilitation Therapist. She enjoys working at RSH because she can help people and watch them become healthy and productive people. She enjoys the flexibility of being a RT — she states it allows her to think outside the box and try new things when it comes to client therapy. She also enjoys the staff she works with and believes that we all work as a team.

She is married to Jimmy, and they have 3 children, Sydney, Courtney and Grace. She states her current hobbies are being involved in her children's school sports and preparing for graduation. She was a competitive speed skater and traveled nationally. She enjoys spending as much time with her family as possible and sometimes hitting the open road on the Harley Davidson motorcycle with her husband.

When I asked her if she could travel anywhere in the world with all expenses paid where would she go she said, “ the Caribbean where it is warm, I am tired of the cold and snow”. I asked her that if there was one thing that she couldn't live without besides family what would it be, and she said “definitely chocolate, I like to have at least one chocolate bar a day”.

So if you see Denise out and about, make sure to say hello and maybe offer her a chocolate bar.

Congratulations to Lynette Deloney January Employee of the Month

Lynette currently works on 417C, and she has worked at RSH for a total of 10 years. She trained on 422A and worked that unit for 3 years on evening shift then went to day shift on 422A.

Lynette is married to Calvin Deloney, and they have been married for 7 years and have been together since high school for a total of 18 years. They have two children together and their names are Devon 14 years old and Ashaunti 11 years old. We also raise our niece and nephew. Their names are Mackenzie, 13 years old and Deontae, 11 years old. She says she never thought she would be raising 4 children, but she enjoys them all, for now, as they all aren't teenagers yet. She really enjoys family time, and she thinks that is very important. They have a family dog, and her name is “Dolly”. She is a lab mix, and she is around 6 years old.

She states she does not really have any hobbies, but she likes to go get her nails done and also likes to be outside doing activities and watching the children play sports.

She was born in Newark, NJ and moved here when she was very young and has been here ever since. When she retires she wants to travel the world and go to as many beaches as possible—she might even consider being a beach bum. She really loves the ocean. Her husband always says we are going to buy an RV and travel the world, but I don't really want to drive so I still have plenty of time to convince him to fly wherever we go.

The best thing I like about working at RSH is doing my JOB, and when I have time to try and do a little extra for someone if needed and I have time to. She also enjoys working with her co-workers as they work well as a team, and they have a lot of fun. She truly appreciates the nomination.