



# NDI Insider

The newsletter of Indiana's

**NeuroDiagnostic Institute**  
and Advanced Treatment Center

5435 E. 16th St., Indianapolis, Indiana 46218 | [www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/2935.htm](http://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/2935.htm) | Vol. 1, Issue 8, October 2019

## Superintendent/CMO update

*by Jerry Sheward, M.D., NDI Superintendent and Chief Medical Officer of the NDI and Indiana State Psychiatric Hospital Network*

I want to give you an update of where we are with several projects.

First, as of September 15, we have been admitting for six months. Our census continues to trend up and our average length of stay is trending down, as desired. One of the numbers I'm most proud of is that the number of discharges per month is going up. That means that our new treatment paradigms are making a difference.

CMS has come and gone, and we corrected the vast majority of deficiencies found in May. There are a few additional items that we'll have to address, but hopefully we can put this hurdle behind us soon.

Cerner update: We have been testing a new treatment planning process that was made necessary by Joint Commission findings in April. Our goal is to have this in place by the end of October.

We have made several other accomplishments. The repairs to the basement are complete and medical records, along with housekeeping, will be returning to their usual spaces. The parking policy phase 2 has been completed and we are working to harmonize it with CHE. Noise abatement surface treatments are being installed to help with the echoes in the recreation spaces and those with harder surfaces. Our heating system is contaminated because the lines were not flushed properly before commissioning, but we intend to have that fixed before cold weather.

And saving the biggest news for last.... On Friday, September 27, Vice President Mike Pence and Dr. Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General, visited the NDI. As Indiana's Governor, Pence was instrumental in proposing and advocating for the authorization and appropriation of

funds to create NDI. He assumed his duties as Vice President before NDI's construction and opening, so this was his first opportunity to visit the hospital. Pence said he would report on NDI's success upon returning to Washington, D.C.



Vice President Mike Pence (far right) talks with (left to right) NDI Superintendent Jerry Sheward, M.D., and FSSA Secretary Jennifer Sullivan, M.D.

(Photo courtesy of Cindy Wilson)

*The NeuroDiagnostic Institute and Advanced Treatment Center, Indiana's newest state psychiatric hospital, delivers advanced evaluation and treatment for patients with the most challenging and complex neuropsychiatric illnesses and moves them more efficiently into the most appropriate treatment settings within the community or state mental health system.*

## A monthly reflection

### *Something to think about*

"Instructions for living a life.  
Pay attention.  
Be astonished.  
Tell about it." – Mary Oliver

Mary Oliver (September 10, 1935 – January 17, 2019) was an American poet who won the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

## Around the NDI

### *Employee news*

#### **We welcome new state**

**employees:** Bola Adegunle (Charge Nurse), Jasmine Gordon (BHRA), Jennifer Gunn (BHRA), Kim Hall (Nurse), Phynesse Harris (BHRA), Ellen Heidemann (Charge Nurse), Mirriam Kateman (Psych Services Specialist), Daisha Key (BHRA), Kayla O'Day (Rehab Therapist), Zakia Self (BHRA), and Letitia Taylor (TCS).

**We welcome new agency/contract employees:** Elizabeth Andresen (Psychologist), Tammy Brewer

(CNA), Rose Crafton (RN), Lakesha Eaton (CNA), Lovie Hunn, (CNA), Janie Klank (RN), Tara Laureano (RN), Kim Manges (RN), Gabriel Mason (CNA), Deja McCullough (CNA), Roxie McNabb (RN), Aretta Redmon (CNA), Brandy Shelton (CNA), Brenda Soinski (CNA), Kelly Tounkara (Charge Nurse), and Laneshia Wilson (CNA).

**We say farewell to:** Amanda Brown (BHRA), Charlene Clay (BHRA), Paul Fedorchak (Training Director), Arielle Fryer (Nurse), Devin Murphy

(Admin Asst), Marie Parrish (Secretary), Jose Seguela (BHRA), and Shawn Smith (Nurse).

**Congratulations and best wishes** to Kausar Siddiqi (Dietitian) as she retires. We will miss you, Kausar!

**Congratulations** to Sharnitta Norfolk and Cheryl Moore on their promotions to BHRA Supervisor and to Rachel Holcomb on her promotion to Charge Nurse Supervisor.

## ART has begun

### *Annually Required Training ends October 30*

ART has begun and **will continue until 4 p.m. on October 30**. **All** employees (state, agency, shared, and contract) must view a presentation via PeopleSoft and successfully complete a quiz (score of 80% or above). Employees scoring less than 80% will be required to review the presentation and to retake the quiz. Also,

student interns who will be here six months or longer must complete ART. Supervisors, if you have an employee who is on leave during this period, please contact Deb Doty.

Remember! **All** employees must complete this mandatory training by 4 p.m. on October 30.

## Use critical computer procedures

*A note from Scott Munoz, Senior LAN Administrator*

I have started receiving Security Risk Assessments from IOT regarding the security of the computers we have here at NDI. The first assessment showed room for improvement. I want to take a moment to remind everyone of common practices that will help immensely in reducing our risk score.

Restart your computer every day before you leave. Don't just sign out or lock the workstation. Restarting

the computer terminates all background processes and puts it into a state that allows updates to roll out.

Don't plug phones or other devices into computers. Use wall chargers to charge devices.

Laptop users need to pick at least one evening per week to leave their laptop plugged in and restarted at the hospital. Please take care to secure it somewhere so that it does not disappear.

Don't use flash drives with state computers. Most users are prevented from doing so, but the few exceptions should take extra precautions.

Do not install any software without going through IT first. Only authorized software is allowed on state computers

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## Advanced Treatment Center training

*News from Cindy Wilson, Director of Nursing*

On August 22 and 23, Dr. Jerry Sheward, Dr. Michael Nicholas, Dr. Ronald Stachler, Katie Kleckner (PA), and Carolyn Smeltzer (RN) participated in rTMS equipment training. This training will allow us to offer another option for our patients in the treatment of depression. We can now begin the process of screening patients for

this treatment as part of their hospitalizations here at NDI.

I would like to thank Dennis Flanagan, Ann Kuhn, and Annie Self for volunteering as "patients." I also want to thank Scott Munoz for his assistance in getting the machine ready for the training.

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## New CPR instructors trained

In the past few months, several people have received training to become CPR instructors here at the NDI. These instructors are: Sabrina DeVol, Amy Frazer, Megan Miller, Caitlin Montgomery, Lisa Passarelli, and Annie Self.

Thank you, ladies!

## State Employee Community Campaign

*A message from FSSA Secretary, Jennifer Sullivan, M.D.*

The 2019-2020 State Employee Community Campaign kicked off on September 26 and ends on November 29. For this year's campaign, I'm setting FSSA's goal at \$170,000. New this year: during each week of the campaign, a different agency head will act as SECC chairperson. FSSA's week will be the week of November 4, and our charity of choice will be Family Voices Indiana. Family Voices Indiana's work aligns with FSSA's mission by informing, training, and supporting families of children and youth with special health care needs and the professionals who serve them. If you wish to donate to Family Voices Indiana, please use book code 764500 on your pledge form.

The SECC section of The Hub (under Quick Links) has been updated to include information on how to donate, how to find and select charities to receive your donation, and many other great resources. The SECC website is [www.indianasecc.org](http://www.indianasecc.org).

Throughout the campaign, additional information will be shared through email and The Hub, and FSSA SECC committee members will be scheduling a variety of events to raise funds for charities.

Thank you for your support of SECC!

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## Flu vaccines and annual TB tests

*Infection Preventionist, Carolyn Smeltzer, RN, shares breaking news*

[Attention NDI State staff: Flu vaccines have arrived!](#)

**Dates:** October 7-11 and October 21, 23, and 25

**Times:** 6:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Place:** Advanced Treatment Center

All State staff receiving the flu vaccine during the first week will receive a ticket for a drawing on October 11 at 1:30 p.m. Four lucky staff tickets (two from shift A and two from shift B) will be drawn to win parking spots in front of NDI for an entire month. Contract staff should receive flu shots through their agency/school/off-site clinic/MD office. The deadline for all staff to sign the 2019 flu consent/

declination form OR submit proof of flu vaccination is November 20. All documentation should be submitted to Carolyn Smeltzer by that date.

[Breaking TB news from the CDC for healthcare workers:](#)

As of 2019, annual TB tests are no longer required! Instead, a new TB questionnaire is required from all NDI staff by October 31.

State staff are to complete the TB form when receiving their flu vaccine/submitting their vaccine documentation.

Contract staff are to obtain their forms from their agency supervisors.

All completed forms should be submitted to Carolyn Smeltzer by October 31. *Failure to comply may*

*result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.*

