

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF EVANSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

Grateful By Gene Schadler, L.C.S.W., Superintendent

As the Superintendent/Clinical Director, I have many things to be grateful for at Evansville State Hospital (ESH). Appreciation to the State of Indiana that supports the hospital’s efforts to provide our Mission of Hope and Recovery. Thankful for our patients, who give us purpose everyday as we work with them to achieve their goals whether short or long term. Thankful for our staff, who live out our Vision of promoting a higher level of performance and quality of services. The Mission and Vision is lived out through our Values at ESH by demonstrating Respect, Caring, Honesty and Dependability. When we fully live out our Values, we are at our best as a hospital system. Appreciation is also extended to our community partners and volunteers, who work to give the extras to our patients and hospital community.

During our Joint Commission (JC) survey the end of October, ESH was noted in providing “best practices” in the use of High Reliability Concepts, Compassionate Communication or NVC for all staff, message boards to facilitate communication, Treatment Mall, evening/ weekend Active Treatment, and the use of iPads for real time documentation. The JC surveyor noted that we are further along on the High Reliability process of using continuous improvement with a goal of zero harm and could see our utilization compared to most psychiatric hospitals in the country. Thank you to all of our staff for your efforts in making this happen.

Special thanks to Maintenance, Dietary, and Environmental Services for the lowest number of findings in their departments since we started JC surveys. There are areas we will strengthen in the future with our anti-ligature project and our new electronic medical records program. This will lead to continuous improvement. Part of growth for individuals and organizations is reviewing where we are and where we need to be to reach our goals. This keeps us focused and oriented as does the North Star, which keeps our direction focused in life. With all of the challenges this year, we were able to adapt to a new EMR and have a successful Joint Commission survey. For that I am grateful for the support of all staff and the community.



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Together We Are Stronger



Recovery month activities included team building exercises, yoga, artwork, and music.

Special guest speakers joined us to share their journey through recovery including Stacey Totten, Business Development Manager of Fairbanks Hospital, Inc. in Indianapolis.



Geriatric Services took a recent poll on the unit sharing their favorite things and giving advice to young folks today which included:

- Treat people the way you want to be treated
- Live free
- Do life good and ignore people
- Stay away from narcotics
- Take it one day at a time
- Make sure you have all your P's and Q's in line.
- Use karate
- Apologize



Did You Know?

Donations to the hospital's Patient Recreation Fund are accepted and assist with purchasing zoo, museum, and movie passes, canteen funds for indigent patients, and special foods and entertainment for hospital wide events and activities. A \$20.00 donation would help one patient for an entire month with canteen snacks.



Friend to Friend Halloween Party

Volunteers hosted a costume guessing game for Friend to Friend program participants. Pictured in costume are Renita Webb, Rosie Mesker, Barb Baumholser, Stefani Miller, Doris Thornton, Margaret Drone, Ann Schneider, and Jo Ann Morris.

Holiday Gift Program

Wish lists have been sent to sponsors so if you didn't receive your list yet or would like to sponsor a patient, please contact Community Services at 812-469-6800, ext. 4208.



December Calendar of Events & Visits

- December 1 Our Saviour Lutheran Church
- December 3 Southwestern IN Building Trades Council
- December 5 USI Stellar Club
- December 7 Family Holiday Mixer
- December 8 Hospital Wide Christmas Parties
- December 10 American Legion Auxiliary
- December 12 Friend to Friend Holiday Party
- December 14 Oak Hill Baptist Church
- December 16 Hadi Shrine Community Band Concert
- December 17-20 Gift Opening Parties



Visitation Guidelines

All visitors must sign a confidentiality agreement at each visit.

Visitors should be age 14 and older. Special arrangements for children under age 14 must be made in advance with the Social Service specialist prior to the visit.

Visitors are not to park in the circle area directly in front of the hospital. This is an unloading zone only as this space must be available in the event of an emergency.

Respect hospital rules about securing personal belongings either in ESH lockers provided in the lobby or kept in your personal car.

Please check with Nursing Service or Unit staff before bringing in food items. Snacks brought in need to be consumed during the designated visitation time and should meet the patient's dietary regimen. Caffeinated drinks and high energy drinks are not permitted

No cameras; no cell phones; no tablets or audio/video recording devices of any kind.

No alcohol, tobacco or vapor products.

No weapons, sharp objects or glass containers.

No items containing staples or metal binding.



Our policies are designed to protect the privacy and safety of our patients. If you're not sure, please check with hospital personnel before bringing an item in or clarifying an issue.

Flu Season



A gentle reminder to stay home if you don't feel well. The flu virus is contagious several days before signs and symptoms are seen which makes prevention challenging. You should not visit if you have a presence of a cough and/or fever.

Get a flu vaccination. Practice good hand hygiene by washing hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer.

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COMMUNITY CONNECTION is published every other month for friends of Evansville State Hospital. News items are welcome and should be submitted to the Community Services Office.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.IN.GOV

New Employees



Mary Lou Petrisko, Psychology
Billie Jean Robinson, Nursing Service
Courtney Tucker, Environmental Services
Angela Jordan, Nursing Service
Rachael Schack, Nursing Service
Elizabeth Summers, Nursing Service
Heather Quinn, Nursing Service
Brenda Kramer, Nursing Service
Teresa Ann Richmond, Nursing Service
Staci McCord, Nursing Service
Carol Irick, Medical Support
Lindsey Parrott, Environmental Services

Goodbye Employees

Andre Meriweather Jr, Environmental Services
Sheri Orth, Environmental Services
Nancy Terry, Lobby Receptionist

Welcome Volunteers



Jenna Arington
Amanda Certain
Sharon Hames
Thomas Marshall
William Okey
Rick Rollow

Annual SECC Campaign

The campaign "Together We Serve" is off to a great start! \$63.92 was collected from the breakfast kick-off on September 26 which benefited *It Takes A Village Canine Rescue*. The SECC Picnic and Baby Photo Contest in May raised \$310.06 for the *Shriners Hospital for Children*. *Borrowed Hearts* was out for the annual SECC Cook off which raised \$384.51 for *Aids Resource Group of Evansville*. The SECC fun continues in November with a photo contest.

