

News Release

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Bridgeport Hospital salutes volunteers at annual luncheon

BRIDGEPORT, CT (May 8, 2018) – More than 40 volunteers and auxiliary members were recognized for service milestones of 100 to 19,500 hours during Bridgeport Hospital’s annual Volunteer Luncheon April 23 at Testo’s Restaurant in Bridgeport.

Joan Crossman of Fairfield (19,500) and Anne Lussen of Stratford (15,000) are the hospital volunteers with most lifetime hours donated.

“Thank you for your professionalism,” William M. Jennings, hospital president and CEO, told the volunteers. “You are all part of the healing team.”

The Patient Family Advisory Council (PFAC) received a special award for its efforts to improve the hospital experience for patients and families. The PFAC is a group of former patients and family members who advise hospital leaders on how to improve the hospital experience.

“The council provides guidance from a personal perspective, proposing and discussing ways to improve care at their monthly meetings and even playing the role of patients in simulations,” explained Daniel Walsh, vice president, Support Services and Facilities. “Above all, they are caring, compassionate and conscientious.”

Members of the PFAC, all Bridgeport-area residents, include Mark Ryan (chair) and Heather Alves, Danielle Anderson, Carminda Braz, Lori Chiappiniello, Doris Latorre, Alice Pisani, Beverly Robinson-Jackson, Joanne Ryan and Vanessa Williams.

During the past year, all volunteers and auxiliaries contributed nearly 26,000 total hours to the hospital, including nearly 4,000 hours by 78 junior and college volunteers. Volunteer escorts completed almost 400 patient transports.

“The appreciation we feel for you is second to none,” Shannon Kemp, director, Patient Experience, Volunteer Services and Spiritual Care, said of the volunteers.

Bridgeport Hospital, part of Yale New Haven Health, is a 383-bed acute care hospital (plus 42 beds licensed to Yale New Haven Children's Hospital) serving parts of Fairfield and New Haven counties. The hospital admits more than 20,000 patients and receives over 300,000 outpatient treatments annually. The Connecticut Burn Center at Bridgeport Hospital is the only burn center in the state and one of only 65 verified burn centers in the United States.