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State Approves Hartford HealthCare's Acquisition of St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport



The Connecticut Office of Health Strategy has approved Hartford HealthCare's acquisition of substantially all of the assets of St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, and its related operations.



Obtaining the state's approval of the Certificate of Need application was a key regulatory step and allows St. Vincent's to become part of the Hartford HealthCare system.

"This is a major milestone for all the communities served by St. Vincent's and Hartford HealthCare," said Jeffrey A. Flaks, President of Hartford HealthCare.

St. Vincent's, with more than 3,200 associates, includes a 473-bed community teaching hospital, a 76-bed inpatient psychiatric facility in Westport, a large multispecialty provider group, and special needs services for adults and children.

Both organizations expect to complete the transaction by October 1, 2019. Hartford HealthCare will continue to operate St. Vincent's consistent with Catholic traditions.

"Fairfield County needs a vibrant St. Vincent's Medical Center — one that's an essential part of an overall, highly connected system of care," Flaks added. "As part of Hartford HealthCare, St. Vincent's patients will have access to more programs and services, excellent care coordination, and a truly statewide focus on quality and safety — on and off the main hospital campus."

St. Vincent's, which was founded by the Daughters of Charity in 1903, has been part of Ascension, a not-for-profit health system, since 1999.

"We are delighted that St. Vincent's associates, physicians, and volunteers will continue to provide safe, high-quality, and accessible healthcare to individuals in Bridgeport and Fairfield County as part of Hartford HealthCare," said Craig Cordola, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Ascension.

St. Vincent's is the first hospital in Fairfield County to be integrated into the Hartford HealthCare network, and would become the system's second-largest hospital.

Vincent DiBattista, who will serve as President of Hartford HealthCare's new Fairfield Region beginning September 1, 2019, said Hartford HealthCare is already working to improve access to physicians and healthcare programs in Fairfield County — activities he called "essential to creating St. Vincent's future."

"We are committed to providing a fully integrated and statewide network of care — and a bright future for all who work at and rely on St. Vincent's services."

"Being able to partner with an organization like St. Vincent's, which has done so much for its communities, is an exceptionally proud moment for all of us," Flaks said. "Our organizations share a common mission and a forward-facing vision. Together, we will be able to deliver on Hartford HealthCare's vision to be most trusted for personalized coordinated care."

Day Kimball Healthcare and Prospect Medical Holdings Explore Strategic Affiliation



Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) announced that it has selected Prospect Medical Holdings (PMH) for a strategic affiliation to provide best practices, operating experience, and resources to enhance its quality of care, services, and programs. DKH would remain a not-for-profit community hospital under terms of the deal.

"An affiliation with Prospect would strengthen the level of care and provide Day Kimball with the support it requires to continue to provide high quality care and to invest in and expand its facilities, staff, and services," said Joseph M. Adiletta, Chairman, Board of Directors, Day Kimball Healthcare. "This was a very quantitative process with multiple strategic advisors. Prospect Medical Holdings will ensure Day Kimball will remain a local, community hospital, providing necessary capital to enhance services, preserving the level of quality care and maintaining our charitable mission."

"At a time when many communities are seeing their hospitals close, our health system will remain a vital part of the region we serve," said Anne Diamond, President and CEO, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We will remain not-for-profit and continue to deliver on our community mission that began 125 years ago. Importantly, Day Kimball will continue to provide exceptional quality of care while expanding our clinical services to the greater Putnam community."

The parties anticipate signing a definitive agreement this fall, pending satisfactory completion of ongoing due diligence, with the final transaction planned to close upon receipt of state and federal regulatory approvals.

Prospect Medical Holdings owns and operates 20 hospitals throughout the United States, with three locations in Connecticut: Waterbury Hospital, Manchester Memorial Hospital, and Rockville General Hospital, and a two hospital system in nearby Rhode Island anchored by Roger Williams Medical Center and Our Lady of Fatima Hospital.

Hospitals Celebrate World Breastfeeding Week



Hospitals and health systems across Connecticut celebrated World Breastfeeding Week,



WABA | WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2019

August 1-7. The annual awareness campaign is intended to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding worldwide. This year's theme was *Empowered Parents and Partners; Investing in Our Future; Workplace & Week Life*. Here are some of the ways Connecticut hospitals promoted breastfeeding:



At The Family BirthPlace at **The Hospital of Central Connecticut (HOCC)**, breastfeeding mothers who delivered babies between August 1 and 7 received a canvas bag filled with breastfeeding goodies. They were also invited to play a game of Breastfeeding Bingo for a chance to win prizes. Staff competed in their own version of the game and celebrated with ice cream sundaes. The Family BirthPlace hosted a breakfast for its breastfeeding support group, and helped attending moms create their own breastfeeding tree of life artwork to celebrate the unique bond between mother and child. HOCC is designated as a Baby-Friendly hospital by the World Health Organization and UNICEF for encouraging and fostering breastfeeding.



Connecticut Children's celebrated throughout the week with activities including a staff World Breastfeeding Week quiz contest with a daily winner and a grand prize winner at the end of the week. Staff also enjoyed cupcake treats to thank them for all they do every day to support breastfeeding families. All breastfeeding mothers received an "I make milk, what's your super power?" mug. Wonder Woman made an appearance to do face painting and balloon characters for the kids. Frozen yogurt, hula hoops, beach balls, and lots of great breastfeeding information was also provided.



Danbury Hospital and **Norwalk Hospital** Family Birth Centers celebrated World Breastfeeding Week with raffle basket giveaways and patient education about the benefits of breastfeeding for moms and babies. In addition to World Breastfeeding Week, August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month. Each week, Norwalk Hospital will honor a staff breastfeeding champion, and also highlight an educational topic.



Day Kimball Healthcare was featured on the monthly New Day Show on WINY Radio, the area's local radio station. The radio segment provided community education on breastfeeding tips in addition to services available for mothers and babies at Day Kimball Healthcare.



Hartford Hospital held a commemorative event featuring mothers who shared details about their personal journeys toward successfully breastfeeding their children. NBC30 journalist Heidi Voight was among the speakers, and she talked about how she navigated challenges that came with supplying breast milk to her two prematurely born daughters. Mothers who participate in the hospital's breastfeeding support group were on hand, and there was a wide range of information about the benefits of breastfeeding and the hospital's programming.



A gathering of nursing mothers and hospital staff carried on a long-standing tradition at **Lawrence + Memorial Hospital (L+M)** for an annual *Walk-around-the-Hospital*, a celebratory stroll in support and recognition of World Breastfeeding Week. The stroll focuses on the numerous benefits of breastfeeding, including that it helps both mother and child improve their health and immunity, and even potentially helps to protect against disease. L+M Hospital is a designated Baby-Friendly hospital.



Mothers who delivered babies at **Manchester Memorial Hospital** during World Breastfeeding Week received water tumblers to remind them to stay hydrated (especially in the summer months), and had an opportunity to win a breast pump and pumping supplies. Staff members from the hospital's Family Birthing Center participated in a departmental activity to share the ways they support their patients who have an interest in learning more about breastfeeding and the benefits associated for both baby and mother.



Middlesex Health kicked off World Breastfeeding Week with a short walk around the Middletown green. The event featured speaker Heather Pickerign, RN-C, IBCLC, a Middlesex Health nurse and certified lactation consultant, and there were crafts and other activities for participants. Each mom in attendance also received a complimentary photo taken by a professional photographer. Throughout the week, staff members participated in activities aimed at increasing their knowledge about breastfeeding, and were thanked for the support they give breastfeeding mothers.



At **MidState Medical Center**, all breastfeeding mothers who delivered babies between August 1 and 7 received a gift. The Family Birth Center has a designated private lactation room available to all breastfeeding mothers. Mid-State is a Baby-Friendly hospital.



Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center hosted a kickoff event celebrating World Breastfeeding Week. Attendees learned about breastfeeding, lactation, pumping, prenatal and postnatal care, and the services offered by Saint Francis Hospital's OB-GYN department. Hartford Athletics, Yard Goats, Target, and many other community partners donated baby-themed gift baskets that were given away as door prizes.



Saint Mary's Hospital kicked off World Breastfeeding Week by participating in a Trinity Health Of New England kickoff event in Hartford. Throughout the week, Saint Mary's Women and Infants' Center and NICU staff celebrated with a breastfeeding information table with the Breastfeeding Heritage and Pride peer counselors, a staff lunch and learn on breastfeeding and substance abuse/misuse, cake and staff awards, and more. The week ended with an interactive family concert, in partnership with Soulshine Arts; families came together to sing, dance, and play instruments.



St. Vincent's Medical Center, a Baby-Friendly hospital, promoted its free, monthly prenatal breastfeeding classes as well as a monthly support group for new moms.



UConn John Dempsey Hospital shared tips to help ensure successful breastfeeding, which include breastfeeding immediately after birth, holding and feeding baby skin to skin, sharing a room with baby, and breastfeeding exclusively for six months. In addition to the breastfeeding tips, patients who delivered during World Breastfeeding Week received a gift bag with breastfeeding goodies, including a onesie from UConn Health. Last year, UConn Health opened a milk depot to support breast milk donations. To date, it has collected more than 11,500 ounces of breast milk, providing approximately 35,000 meals for premature babies.



Yale New Haven Hospital's lactation consultants, peer counselors, and WIC team celebrated World Breastfeeding Week by hosting an event at New Haven's Edgewood Park for patients and the community. Information was provided about the educational classes and support offered at the hospital to encourage breastfeeding as well as resources available within the New Haven community. Families enjoyed games, face painting, free



raffle item, and a sing-along.

Education Updates

Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare

Friday, September 6, 2019

Friday, September 13, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

As the demands of health reform drive change in all areas of healthcare delivery, hospital leaders are focused on transforming their organizations through strategies that simultaneously increase revenue and sharply reduce costs. *Lean Principles* offer leaders a management system and methodology that improves team engagement, eliminates road blocks, and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care for patients by reducing errors and waste streams, including wait times. It is a systematic approach to reducing costs and risks, while simultaneously setting the stage for growth and expansion.

Please note: this is a two-session program, and participants should attend both sessions.

CHA Nurse Preceptorship Program

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Supporting and strengthening the work of nurse preceptors is critical to the development of new nurses and retention of the highly skilled staff registered nurses who teach them at the bedside. The *Nurse Preceptorship Program* features a curriculum developed by a team of educators from hospitals and schools of nursing, and is designed to provide core content that is foundational for the role of nurse preceptor. The program includes presentations and interactive sessions that cover topics such as roles and responsibilities, characteristics of a professional role model, basics of teaching and learning, tools and strategies for effective communication, principles of constructive feedback delivery, and evaluating competence. The *Nurse Preceptorship Program* will serve to start new nurse preceptors off with critical information and also may be of interest to nurse preceptors that have not had this content, or would like to be refreshed on these concepts.

Staff to Management: Starting the Transition

Monday, September 16, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Transitioning from an individual staff person to being an effective leader is challenging and complicated and requires the ability to use the tools of diplomacy, negotiation, persuasion, and alliance. Managing the demands for high productivity and quality, combined with financial prudence and regulatory compliance, are only part of the equation. Program participants will discover that those tasks must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaboratively with others and managing change.

Conflict Management: Prevention and Management

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Different personalities, different work styles, cultural/ethnic norms, and differences in generational mix, all lead to an endless possibility of conflict surfacing at work. This program will focus on recognizing and managing the sources and trigger points of conflict, as well as determining when conflict is healthy and what makes it destructive. Participants will also learn methods for reducing or defusing unnecessary conflict and identifying various styles of dealing with conflict, and the risks and benefits of each approach.

Financial Analysis Tools for Managers

Monday, September 23, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Financial Analysis Tools for Managers is designed to healthcare employees with tools they can use to address current organization performance and to evaluate the impact of opportunities. The program will assist department managers and directors in making and supporting decisions with sound financial analyses. The program will be presented by Bill Ward, a popular and dynamic lecturer on financial management in healthcare.

Managing the Operating Budget

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Managing the Operating Budget will introduce managers to a variety of analytic tools (revenue and spending analysis, volume-adjusted variance analysis, work process and root cause analysis, revenue and expense forecasting) as well as strategies to improve revenue and expense performance. The program will be presented by Bill Ward, a popular and dynamic lecturer on financial management in healthcare.