Day Kimball Healthcare Names Joseph Adiletta Interim President and CEO

The Board of Directors of Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) recently announced that Joseph Adiletta, former Chairman of Day Kimball Healthcare’s Board of Directors, will serve as Interim President and CEO; Board of Directors Vice Chairman Janice Thurlow will serve as Interim Board Chairman.

The announcements were made following the resignation of President and CEO Anne Diamond, who will become President of Bridgeport Hospital. Mr. Adiletta and Ms. Thurlow will fill the interim roles while the DKH Board conducts a search for Ms. Diamond’s replacement. Mr. Adiletta served as interim president and CEO from November 2016 to August 2017, prior to Ms. Diamond’s arrival.

“I want to thank Anne for her contributions to Day Kimball’s position as a high-quality, patient-oriented, local community hospital and wish her all the best in future endeavors,” said Mr. Adiletta. Ms. Diamond will continue to work on key projects as executive advisor to the President and CEO until her departure on Friday, October 25, 2019.

“As we continue the important work being done at Day Kimball, I am confident that the strong leadership of our Board, along with the experience of our administrative team and the dedication of our entire staff, will ensure that our organization continues to move forward in a positive direction,” Mr. Adiletta continued.

Day Kimball recently announced a pending partnership with Prospect Medical Holdings (PMH) to enhance its position as a next generation healthcare provider. Following the closing of the transaction, the Board and PMH will work together to provide best practices, operating experience, and resources to enhance quality of care, services, and programs. DKH would remain a not-for-profit community hospital under terms of the deal.

Connecticut to Receive Federal Grants for Substance Use Disorder Programs

In the past month, Connecticut has been awarded more than $21 million to address substance use disorder initiatives, including a $4.7 million federal grant awarded to the Department of Labor (CTDOL) to fund initiatives that provide employment and workforce-investment services to people who have been impacted by the nationwide opioid epidemic.

The CTDOL will hire peer navigators in each of the state’s American Job Centers hubs; they will be trained to help individuals affected by the opioid crisis as they prepare for new careers and help them obtain employment that is particularly suited to their recovery efforts. Project funds will also assist with the provision of career and training services to eligible individuals transitioning to jobs addressing the opioid crisis, such as credentialed counselors and Recovery Coaches.

In April, the CHA Board of Trustees endorsed the creation of a statewide initiative to expand the use of Recovery Coaches in Connecticut hospitals to address substance use disorders. In addition, every ED is participating in a state program making free Narcan® kits available to patients treated in an ED for an overdose or to those who may be at risk for an overdose. These efforts build on hospitals’ longstanding commitment to stemming the tide of substance use disorders.

The CTDOL will also work with employers to provide training on “recovery friendly workplaces,” with the goal of recognizing that recovery from substance use disorder is a strength and encouraging them to work with employees who are in recovery. “Recovery-friendly workplaces” encourage a healthy and safe environment in which employers, employees, and communities can collaborate to create positive change and eliminate barriers for those impacted by addiction.

In addition to the Department of Labor grant, the state will receive $11.1 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to broaden the availability of medication-assisted treatment, which combines behavioral therapy and medicine to treat addiction. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention allocated $5.9 million to the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) to help track overdoses across the state. Those funds will be used to improve reporting by state vital records offices, allowing DPH to report nonfatal data every two weeks and fatal data every six months.

The state’s Chief Medical Examiner has predicted the total number of accidental overdose deaths will rise to a record 1,088 after decreasing in 2018. In the first six months of this year, 544 people died of accidental drug overdoses. A total of 1,017 people died in 2018 of accidental overdoses, down 21 from 2017, when deaths peaked at 1,038. The number of fatal overdoses has nearly tripled since 2012, when 357 people died. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, Connecticut ranks 9th in the country for opioid-related deaths.

Last year, CHA released updated voluntary opioid prescribing guidelines to help ED medical staff treat patients with chronic pain conditions. The guidelines lower the recommended dose of prescribed opioids from 30 pills to a three-day supply; respond to current clinical recommendations for pain treatment by recommending that alternative, non-opioid therapies be administered or prescribed whenever possible for ED patients; recommend that ED personnel request and review their patients’ voluntary non-opioid directive form; and specify that opioids be prescribed electronically as a way to increase security.

During the 2019 Legislative Session, the Governor signed into law PA 19-191, An Act Addressing Opioid Use. It makes several changes to existing state laws on pharmacies, pharmacists, and prescribing practitioners. Effective October 1, 2019, pharmacists will be required to offer consultations to all patients whenever practical and before or while dispensing a drug (under current law, pharmacists must make consultation
offers and keep related records only when dispensing prescriptions to Medicaid patients). Additionally, effective January 1, 2020, hospitals will be required to administer a mental health screening or assessment on patients treated for a non-fatal drug overdose, if medically appropriate.

**World Patient Safety Day Recognized**

The World Health Organization recognized World Patient Safety Day on September 17, highlighting hospitals’ and health systems’ dedication to patient safety, safety culture, and patient engagement. Connecticut hospitals and health systems are known nationally for implementing a first-of-its-kind statewide initiative to reduce serious safety events through the adoption of high reliability principles. Building on this commitment, Connecticut hospitals are working on a new effort to drive improvement in and mutual accountability for Connecticut’s national ranking in publicly reported clinical outcomes and care experience. The Mutual Accountability Collaborative includes engaging clinical and executive leadership to drive organizational commitment, promoting statewide adoption of best practices, and implementing shared behaviors to drive high reliability at the bedside.

Connecticut hospitals and health systems are also focused on patient-centered care, which is constructed on the platform of high reliability. The effort builds on a patient-centered co-design methodology. Design principles at the microsystem level are being utilized in Patient Family Engagement Units established in hospitals across the state. Medical-surgical staff and patient advocates are also improving the culture of patient- and family-centered care through this effort.

**Eastern Equine Encephalitis Identified In Connecticut Resident**

An adult from the town of East Lyme has tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), according to the state Department of Public Health (DPH). This is the first human case of EEE identified in Connecticut this season. The patient became ill during the last week of August with encephalitis and remains hospitalized.

The EEE virus has been identified in mosquitoes in 12 towns including Chester, Haddam, Hampton, Groton, Killingworth, Ledyard, Madison, North Stonington, Plainfield, Shelton, Stonington, and Voluntown. Horses have tested positive for EEE virus in Colchester and Columbia this season, and the virus has been detected in a flock of wild pheasants. Other states throughout the Northeast are also experiencing an active season for EEE. In addition to the virus being found in mosquitoes, there have been a total of eight human cases of EEE infections in Massachusetts and one human case in Rhode Island, with one case in each state resulting in a fatality.

This is the second human case of EEE ever reported in Connecticut. The first human case of EEE reported in Connecticut occurred in the fall of 2013.

**CHA to Host OSHA Training for Healthcare**

As part of the CHA Safer Hospitals Initiative, CHA will offer OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Outreach Training on Friday, September 20, 2019, and Friday, September 27, 2019. Please register [here](#). The program promotes workplace safety and health by increasing healthcare workers’ recognition, avoidance, and prevention of workplace hazards. The two-day training is offered in partnership with PMA Companies. Registrants must attend both sessions to receive an OSHA card.

The program is intended for hospital staff from the following areas: employee safety, environment of care, workers’ compensation, engineering, facilities, administration, clinical care, risk management, human resources, and anyone involved in the hospital’s safety program.

Presenters include: Certified OSHA Outreach Trainer Mary-Jane Yacovone, RN, BSN, COHN-S, HEM; Ernie St. Amant, CHSO, a certified OSHA Outreach Trainer; and William Moran, CSHO, an expert in the occupational health and safety field.

**Education Updates**

**2019 CHA Regulatory Compliance Conference**

Friday, October 4, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
[View Brochure | Event Registration](#)

This year’s CHA Regulatory Compliance Conference will include a keynote address on cyber security with an FBI Special Agent, followed by sessions on the newly passed Paid Family Medical Leave Act, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)/European Union Digital Privacy Regulations, and antitrust updates with a representative of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**HIIN: When Words and Actions Matter Most: Responding to Unexpected Harm**

Thursday, October 17, 2019
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
[View Brochure | Event Registration](#)

CHA is implementing a statewide disclosure, apology, and early resolution collaborative to promote transparency. This program will demonstrate best approaches and provide an opportunity to obtain hands-on practice.

The program is being presented as part of the Partnership for Patients HIIN educational series.

**Safe Patient Handling Forum**

Wednesday, October 23, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
[View Brochure | Event Registration](#)

The Safe Patient Handling Forum is a full day program offered in partnership with PMA Companies as part of CHA’s statewide Safer Hospitals Initiative. The Initiative is focused on providing healthcare staff with strategies and practices to improve worker safety, minimize workplace violence, and facilitate the adoption of peer-to-peer support programs.
The Forum will feature data-driven best practices, industry standards, and new strategies for reducing patient handling injuries. Attendees will have an opportunity to view and learn more about safe patient handling equipment currently in use at hospitals and available on the market.

**HIIN: Improving Health Equity: Bias and the Impact on Disparities in Health Outcomes**

Tuesday, October 29, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
[View Brochure][Event Registration]

CHA’s 8th annual *Improving Health Equity: Bias and the Impact on Disparities in Health Outcomes*, an inspiring and informative health equity symposium, features a keynote presentation from Mona Hanna-Attisha, MD, MPH, FAAP, the physician, scientist, and activist who uncovered the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. Following Dr. Hanna-Attisha’s keynote presentation, Jaymie Campbell, PhD, AccessMatters, will present a workshop on racial awareness and strategies to eliminate institutional racism.

The program is being presented as part of the Partnership for Patients HIIN educational series.