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Delivering health with care.®



Care New England



BROWN

BETTER TOGETHER, FOR A HEALTHIER RHODE ISLAND.

NURSING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

An integrated academic health system with Lifespan, Care New England, and The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University will allow us to coordinate our resources to better serve the community's needs. The absence of this in our state creates redundancies and potential gaps in care, as well as vulnerabilities for our patients. When patients must access care in different healthcare systems, the transitions between providers, electronic medical records, and systems support can be problematic.

These same challenges apply in the academic arena as well. Nursing programs prepare students to practice in acute settings that care for patients across age and clinical setting continuums, as well as in a variety of specialized emergent and non-emergent settings. An integrated academic system would allow for more cohesive and well-rounded preparation for students in all health professions. There are several schools of nursing in our state that collaborate with the Alpert Medical School, preparing our next generation of healthcare providers to function as an interprofessional team and help patients navigate a complex healthcare system. The merger will allow an expanded focus on this important initiative.



The key to providing high-quality, safe, accessible, and patient-centered care is to reinforce in practice the robust interprofessional experiences provided to students. Too often the transition into practice, and the reality of a sometimes broken system, erodes the patient-centered approach and altruistic qualities and competencies of the care team. The new organization will provide opportunity to leverage the partnership with the two complementary healthcare systems and Brown University, the schools of medicine and public health as well as schools of nursing, social work and pharmacy, to build an interprofessional infrastructure.



The newly integrated academic health system strengthens our partnership with new energy and opportunities to reimagine the interplay between scientific investigation and the nursing profession as a significant contributor. It will align with the Magnet model under the domains of new knowledge and innovation. More nurses will have the opportunity to be principal investigators, leveraging the skillset of nursing to address the unmet needs of the clinical, translational, and innovative facets of nursing research. The future of nursing in research and the work of the newly shaped partnership provides excitement and enthusiasm among nursing colleagues to align our strategy in nursing research, making us Better Together.

The integrated health system will strengthen the call to incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion into nursing policy and practice. The community expects and deserves culturally competent care during every encounter. Aligning the healthcare system and Brown University will allow nursing leadership to lead this critical initiative while increasing our abilities to attract a diverse workforce.

With the anticipation of a significant nursing shortage and multi-state competition impacting recruitment and retention, we will increase our ability to attract candidates who reflect the population of patients we serve.


This opportunity further allows the new company to move beyond nursing's traditional clinical rotation model to a focus on providing education and training earlier in the career pipeline through collaboration with area schools, organizations, colleges and universities.



In the new system, favorable conditions seem limitless. Rhode Island will no longer be competing for the work force; all operating units will be working together to offer innovative career choices along with comprehensive training opportunities.

All will have the ability to learn and work with established systems to provide care with an overarching strategy aligning our staff. Access to this education and training will be simplified and streamlined, allowing our community to become involved in the care delivery process, ensuring diverse and equitable care. There is great opportunity between Hasbro Children's Hospital and the NICU at Women & Infants. Coordination of infant care, and the consistency of such care, becomes a strong process grounded in education, training and collaboration.

A similarly exciting aspect of improved care is the behavioral health arena. There is strong awareness of the need for expanded behavioral health services in the state. There will now be a process to offer specialty opportunities to those entering the



healthcare field or those entrenched in the field
and looking for a different type of care to deliver.

All these opportunities increase staff satisfaction
and resilience, patient satisfaction, and retention of
our valued staff in all roles.

Cynthia Danner, DNP, RN, NE-BC

*SVP and CNO
Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital*

Maria P. Ducharme, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

President, The Miriam Hospital

Marybeth Taub, MSN, RN

Interim Chief Nursing Officer, Women & Infants Hospital

Judith A. Thorpe, MS, RN, NE-C

Chief Nursing Officer, Kent Hospital