Voting on this year’s OUR Place Where in the World contest is officially open! MMC/MMP colleagues should check out this week’s eNews for a link to the contest site on the MMC Intranet.

This year, 22 colleagues have entered photos to the contest. We have photos of co-workers wearing the 2016 OUR Place t-shirts throughout Maine and the U.S. and even in such exotic locales as Ireland, Scotland, Haiti and even Cuba! Vote for your favorite photo by June 2, and we’ll announce the winner on June 8.

As part of the giving program, be sure to check out the dunk tank on Thursday, June 8. It will be in operation from 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. behind the Dana Center.

Giving to the OUR Place program is easy. You can make a one-time donation with cash, credit card, or through payroll deduction, donate PTO hours or participate in biweekly payroll deduction. You can donate online or fill out a pledge form and send it to the Philanthropy Office.

You can also stop by the MMC Main Lobby Monday – Friday, Noon – 1 p.m., through June 9 to make a donation in person.

This year only, our MMC and MMP colleagues have a unique opportunity to strengthen OUR Place for years to come by designating the first $25 of their Employee Giving donation to The Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital specialty license plate.

Every donor will receive either an OUR Place t-shirt or an OUR Place tote bag.

Remember to wear your OUR Place t-shirts on Fridays during the campaign!

Pictured below: 2016 OUR Place Where in the World contest winner Stephanie Stevens at the Great Wall of China.
MaineHealth a Finalist for PHA ‘Partner of the Year’ Award

The Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) has named MaineHealth one of five finalists for the PHA Partner of the Year Award. This award is presented to a partner who is working to ensure the health of our nation’s youth, making healthier choices more affordable and accessible to families and children across the country.

In 2012, MaineHealth signed onto the Partnership for a Healthier America’s Hospital Healthier Food Initiative making a commitment to increasing access to healthier foods and beverages.

Through this work, MaineHealth member and affiliate hospitals including MMC have engaged in a variety of healthy efforts, such as increasing the number of healthy offerings on both patient and cafeteria menus, removing unhealthy foods and beverages from within five feet of cash register stations, and procuring healthier beverages.

“We’ve made a concerted effort to improve our offerings with respect to nutrition, variety and overall quality. This has benefited our patients, their families and our colleagues here at MMC, and the recognition of our efforts by the Partnership for a Healthier America is a great validation of the work we continue to do,” said Kevin O’Connor, MMC’s Director of Nutrition & Food Service.

“We are a health care organization and one of our goals is to promote health and wellness through our food offerings. I could not be prouder of, or more energized by, everything our Nutrition & Food Service team has achieved together to help others lead healthier lives.”

To be recognized as a PHA Partner of the Year, the partner must demonstrate how it is executing key strategies beyond the PHA commitment, including focusing on those populations disproportionately impacted by obesity; doing well while doing good; using an innovative approach to address childhood obesity; or creating a ripple effect within their industry.