

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

## OUR Place 2016 Employee Giving: It's All in the Family



*The Brown family at Gerek's senior soccer night: Blake, Dave, Gerek, Katie, and Nolan*

Thank you to everyone who has already donated to OUR Place! We are more than halfway to our goal of 2,400 participants in Employee Giving. Go online now to make your gift, before our program ends on June 17.

### Why should you give?

Here's why one of our colleagues makes an annual donation to OUR Place.

This month Gerek Brown is graduating from high school. Gerek's proud dad is Dave Brown, the Lead Medical Assistant at Maine Medical Partners (MMP) Surgical Care.

*"In August of 2013, as an incoming high school freshman,*

*my son Gerek was hit in the head while at soccer practice. Due to symptoms of nausea, vomiting, and a debilitating headache, we took Gerek to his MMP pediatrician for assessment. A CT scan identified a 1.5cm midline shift of Gerek's brain due to the fluid present. He was immediately sent to the Emergency Department at Maine Medical Center.*

*Upon arrival, we were met by an attentive and compassionate ED team who took very good care of Gerek, making him as comfortable as possible. Only a short time later, he was headed to surgery for a severe subdural hematoma. I cannot express adequately in words, the level of care Gerek received. My prayers were answered by the choices discussed, the decisions made, the technology*

*used, the team assembled, and the calm environment in which all of this took place. We were scared, but confident that Gerek was in the hands of exactly who should be holding him.*

*Surgery could not have gone any better! Gerek made it through the long and intense rehabilitation, thanks to the detailed attention of so many MaineHealth employees. He is now graduating in a few weeks and headed off to college to play ball in the fall! I feel truly blessed to have received such an unwavering high level of care from the providers and staff at both Maine Medical Center and Maine Medical Partners.*

*That is why I will continue to give back."*

Participating in the Our Place Employee Giving program is a personal decision for each employee. We encourage individuals to base their decision upon how they value Maine Medical Center and Maine Medical Partners for their own health care, the health care of family and friends, and the quality of care provided.

Thank you for all that you do to support OUR Place each and every day, 24 hours a day!

Sally Whitten  
Janice Siegle  
Co-chairs, 2016 Employee Giving Program



*Director of Accounting Stephanie Stevens is the winner of this year's Where in the World photo contest. Her picture was taken at the Great Wall of China. Thank you to the almost 600 of you who voted and to everyone who entered their photos of OUR Place t-shirts and tote bags around the world!*

# Drill Tests Special Infectious Disease Readiness

On Tuesday, June 7, our Special Infectious Disease (SID) Team, an interdisciplinary team of staff skilled in the use of high-level personal protective equipment (PPE) during the care of a patient with a highly infectious disease, conducted a drill to test readiness for an infected patient.

The drill took place in the Emergency Department (ED) and Assisted Ventilator Unit (AVU), in collaboration with the Special Care Unit (SCU), EMS, Safety, Security, Environmental Services, and other departments.

“This drill was a culmination of about two years of work by many MMC staff, departments, and communi-

ty partners to ensure that we are well prepared to receive a patient with one of these illnesses, such as Ebola,” says Melissa Fairfield, ED Nurse Manager. “We tested six critical functions and will use what we learned to adjust our protocols and procedures. This activity and others like it ensure that MMC can provide the highest quality care and ensure the safety of its staff and patients.”

Following the drill, the SID Team held four 4-hour training sessions in the AVU. Three AVU rooms were made available to allow the team to train in the actual space they’d be working in when activated.

“This was invaluable to the



*Jan Pflugradt, R.N., Unit-Based Educator, SCU, and Deb Jackson, Nurse Manager, SCU 4 wipe down the isolation unit used to transport the patient to the AVU. Every step of the transport process requires detailed attention to prevent any disease from spreading.*



team,” says Fairfield. “Team members learned the unique safety and security features of the unit, practicing patient care in PPE, use of the isopod, specialized laboratory testing processes,

and decontaminating and removing PPE.”

The training was coordinated by SID Team Leadership and the Safety Department.

## Don't Miss a Beat!

You and your covered spouse/partner must complete these two easy steps by August 31:

-  Get a health screening — new online signup!
-  Update your online health assessment

Screen in June or July to enter a monthly drawing to win a Fitbit Blaze watch or \$50 gift card!

IT'S TIME TO REWARD YOURSELF.

## WOW! Rewards 2016

from MaineHealth Works on Wellness

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Comments, questions, and story ideas:  
Chelsea Miller, Communications Specialist  
(207)662-4096 [millec7@mmc.org](mailto:millec7@mmc.org)