

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

MMC and Community Counseling Center Partner to Protect Children

Maine Medical Center is partnering with Community Counseling Center (CCC) to better educate health care providers to recognize and take action on childhood exposure to violence (CEV). The undertaking is part of a shared project between CCC and the City of Portland Public Health Division to reduce and prevent CEV. Portland was one of eight sites to receive a federal grant for more than \$2 million from the U.S. Department of Justice as part of their Defending Childhood Initiative.

CEV and Adverse Childhood Experiences are pervasive issues affecting children throughout Maine. Research shows the adverse implications CEV and trauma have on physical health can be both short and long term. Health care providers who work with children and their caregivers have the unique opportunity to help address CEV and trauma to ensure that children have access to resources for support and treatment.

“The impact of exposure to violence can have detri-

mental long-term consequences. Medical settings play a critical role in identifying these children and intervening,” says Rebecca Hoffman-Frances, LMFT, VP of Trauma Services and Community Programs.

The plan is to meet three goals in the next two years:

- Raise the level of awareness of the impact violence and trauma have on children including: short- and long-term health implications

and available support and treatment resources.

- Implement screening processes by medical providers for childhood exposure to violence and trauma.
- Educate patients, staff, and visitors on the issue of CEV through public awareness.

A pilot screening program will be implemented at our Pediatric Clinic. Staff from

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Magnet Drop Attracts Attention

A large crane lifts a new, 8.5-ton MRI magnet through a hatch into our radiology facility at Bramhall February 21.

The 3Tesla (3T) magnet replaces a 25-year-old 1.5T magnet and is part of a new MRI system that will become operational in May. The new system will provide capabilities in neuroimaging, body imaging, and musculoskeletal imaging.

Facebook Kudos

See what visitors are saying about us on Facebook ...

“MMC has saved my life more than once. Thank you MMC.”

“MMC saved my brother’s life! Great hospital.”

“Wonderful place to go when you need medical attention”

“Some 30 years later I still thank [you] for saving my son’s life ... he will soon have his own son, my grandson ... Thanks again to all of you.”

“MMC is a wonderful hospital taking care of my daughter and her two children who were born early. The NICU nurses and doctors were just grand and very devoted to their work.”

“I absolutely have nothing but positive things to say about this place and their staff. PICU and BBCH was our home for 3 months during my son’s heart surgeries. The Peds, Cardio, and nurses were like family. Almost to where you were sad to say goodbye.”

“Partner to Protect Children” from front

CCC will train and offer resources to Maine Medical Center caregivers and providers, teaching them how to identify and manage situations in which children are exposed to violence.

With training, providers

can understand the signs and symptoms of CEV and trauma, and know how best to refer children to evidence-based mental health treatment. Providers also play an important role in the prevention of CEV and ongoing exposure to violence and trauma through raising awareness and early intervention.

John Bancroft, M.D., Chief of Pediatrics, says, “The Portland Defending Childhood partnership will help us better prepare clinicians to recognize children at risk and decrease the life-long effects of adverse childhood events.”

WOW! Rewards Rescreening Ends Friday, February 28

If you completed both steps of WOW! Rewards in 2013 and didn’t meet one or more targets, you are eligible to participate in the rescreening.

For more information visit mainehealth.com/wowrewards.

COMING UP AT MMC

Monthly Geriatrics Grand Rounds
Tuesday, February 25
7 - 8 a.m.
Dana 4

Women’s and Children’s Service Line Town Hall Meetings
Dana Auditorium

- Friday, February 28, 7 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 4, Noon
- Thursday, March 6, 5 p.m.

Mindfulness Meditation Beginning Tuesday, March 4
Every Tuesday
12:15 - 12:45 p.m.
East Tower Meditation Room

Safety, Childproofing, and Basic First Aid
Saturday, March 8
9 - 11 a.m.
East Tower classrooms
\$25/person

For details on all upcoming events, check out the Calendar on the MMC Intranet.



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