# The MCH Minute

Introducing a periodic newsletter to keep you informed on all things MCH!

A Message from Executive Health Director Alyssa Tallo

Dear MCH Family, In our ongoing effort to keep you informed, we decided to launch this newsletter. I



hope you will find it interesting and helpful! If there's anything special you're interested in hearing about in future issues, please let me know.

As we take a look back at another challenging but fruitful year, I want to thank all of our employees for your outstanding and ongoing hard work; our amazing residents and their loved ones for your patience and support as we continue to navigate the evolving COVID landscape; and all of our amazing champions - the Foundation, Auxiliary and Advisory boards, our volunteers, and all of our advocates throughout the community. We are tremendously grateful for each and every one of you, and all that you contribute to MCH!

In these pages, we review some of the many developments at MCH in 2021. We got a lot accomplished, and there is a lot to celebrate. Mostly though, I want to celebrate all of you who are such an integral part of the MCH team. Again, I thank you. You are all appreciated more than I can say.

Gratefully

Alyssa Tallo

#### **Staff Recognition & Awards**

We have such a talented group here at MCH! Over this past year, we celebrated participants in the first cohort of the Monroe Community Hospital and Rochester Black Nurses Association Mentorship Program, along with many of our team who were recognized with awards! We also honored our long-serving employees at our annual Longevity Awards, and as part of the Foundation's Gifts of Gratitude campaign, recognized staff throughout the hospital. Thank you all for your outstanding contributions – you make MCH sing!



Our amazing Director of Nursing, Kristen Schulmerich, accepting the 15th annual national McHugh Award for Leadership in Long-Term Services and Supports Nursing from LeadingAge at their annual meeting and EXPO, in Atlanta, GA.



Longevity Awards Celebration



Alyssa Tallo with Laurie MacFarlane, our incredibly talented & hard-working Supervisor of Volunteers and Customer Service, accepting LeadingAge New York's 2021 Employee of Distinction Award!



MCH/RBNA Mentorship Program Graduation Ceremony.

### Staff Recognition and Awards!

The Food & Nutrition Services team join Nicole Magnera as she is recognized as the Clinical Nutrition Manager of the year. This was the first such award given by parent company Morrison - they made an excellent choice!



We don't have pictures to accompany some of the awards that were given, but would also like to give a major shout out to:

Our fearless leader, Alyssa Tallo, who was named to the Rochester Business Journal's Power 30 Healthcare list. Alyssa pours her heart and soul into this place each and every day. She is a relentless advocate for MCH, its residents and staff. Her grit and determination are on constant display, and she radiates an infectious positivity that have sustained MCH through the challenges of a once-in-a-100-years pandemic. We are grateful for Alyssa's leadership!

Gone but not forgotten! Certified Nursing Assistant Harry Diaz retired earlier this year, and his infectious personality and dedication to patient care is certainly missed.

But we didn't want to neglect to recognize that he was honored with the Rochester Latino Rotary Club's "COVID-19 Frontline Hero Recognition Award."

## So Many Events!

Mostly thanks to the Resident Programs Department, who plan and execute so many events for us throughout the year, our residents and staff alike have lots of fun activities to enjoy! Take a look at just a few of the many safe, fun gatherings we were able to enjoy together, even with the challenges presented by COVID. A good time was had by all!



Recognizing our amazing volunteers as part of National Volunteer Week



Checking out all of the cool cars at our annual Classic Car Show



Enjoying some tunes at the annual Memorial Day Concert



Celebrating Veterans Day with a meetand-greet for our Vets here at MCH



Annual tree lighting ceremony to kick-off the holiday season



Crushing on Andy Nahas, as he performs in an outdoor concert



Enjoying some sweet treats at our Ice Cream Social

# THANK YOU COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLO!

County Executive Adam Bello has been a consistent advocate for MCH. Here are a few highlights of his support over the past year.



Joining us to kick-off our first-ever MCH Pride Week!



At an event to thank the National Guard for their assistance here at MCH!



At a press conference announcing that he would hike the minimum wage to \$15 an hour for all County employees, which had a major impact here at MCH



Joined by the MCH team for a press conference announcing a new taskforce to research and make recommendations about the healthcare staffing shortages,



Calling out Fresenius at another press conference, where he criticized them for pulling dialysis treatment services from MCH

#### Congratulations!

We were excited to announce many new hires and promotions over the past year. These include welcoming **Gerald Frith** as the new Director of our Environmental Services Department; **Gary Rose** as the new Director of Safety and Security; and **Amy Prenatt-Michaux** as our new Therapeutic Program Coordinator. Congratulations to the following employees who were named to new positions at MCH: **Kelley Hogan** was promoted to Telecommunications Manager; **Mary Weidert** was named as Admitting Coordinator; **Hayley Spellman** was promoted to Quality Assurance Manager; **Karen Santos** was promoted to Assistant Director of Nursing; **Jenn Porter** was promoted to Clinical Reimbursement Manager; and **Dr. lan Deutchki** transitioned to Medical Director at MCH. We also announced **Greg Lott** as our new Wound Care Nurse, **Deb Perna**, who transitioned to Human Resources Manager and **Shawna Williams** who was promoted to Food Service Manager. We also welcomed **Robert Bennett, Christine Carrol, Tammi Dean, Pat Soles, Lauren Stansberry, Shelly Ann Robinson-Henderson, Robert Terbuska, Josephine Meh and Penny Butterbaugh in their new roles as Nurse Managers!** 

# MCH INSPIRATION!

We have so many amazing moments to celebrate here at MCH. Whether it's the success of a patient, our outstanding fundraising efforts, or the camaraderie of our staff, there is always something happening in these halls that will make you smile. Here is a reminder of a few of the moments we shared this year.

# Saying Good-bye!

Saying Goodbye to Brooke DeVinney! After emerging from a coma, she came to MCH where she worked for almost two months to recover. She had to re-learn how to walk, talk, get dressed, and has slowly been regaining her memory. Supported by her proud parents Gary and Shelley, Brooke epitomized grit and determination.



# A Sweet Send-off!

A sweet send-off for Francisco Marti-Jerez! Francisco is the patriarch of a very tight-knit family. Over New Year's, most of the family came down with COVID. Francisco's case was particularly severe, and he came to us from Strong, where he spent four months and was given just a 3% chance of survival. Francisco improved steadily while he was with us, and was beyond excited to rejoin his beautiful family! The MCH team worked with Francisco's son and daughter-in-law to arrange a special send-off, which was a surprise to Francisco.



# Unveiling Our New C-Mill

Unveiling our new C-Mill VR+, a motivational step and balance treadmill training system that simulates challenges in everyday life through augmented and virtual reality. MCH is the only long-term care facility in all of NY to have a C-Mill VR+ system. Special thanks to West Herr Auto and the MCH Foundation for their incredible support and generosity. As we all know, COVID has been very tough on the healthcare and long term care communities, and this donation - especially from a private company but also from our amazing Foundation - is incredibly uplifting to our entire team and to our residents.



### Meet the Laundry Team

Judith Laing Lee, Supervisor of Laundry Services, has worked here at MCH for more than a decade. In that time, she has consistently made a point of fostering team in her Department, and especially, appreciating the diversity of thought, spirit and backgrounds that contribute to making MCH shine. MCH would like to applaud and salute Mrs. Judith and her entire team for the extremely creative and joyful ways they have found to recognize and celebrate the depth of MCH's culture!

