Montefiore Celebrates 2015 President’s Award Winners

The Montefiore President’s Award is the highest distinction attainable by Montefiore associates. The prestigious award was created in 1981 to recognize associates who personify Montefiore’s values of teamwork, humanity, diversity, innovation and equity. On Wednesday, November 18, Montefiore honored this year’s four exceptional award recipients: Anthony Anhwere; Barbara Binder, RN; Cebrena Purcell-Williams, RN; and Anurag Shrivastava, MD at a ceremony in the Grand Hall of the Moses Campus.

Anthony Anhwere, X-ray Technologist, Wakefield Campus
Anthony’s patients and colleagues rarely see him without a smile. Mr. Anhwere consistently demonstrates a willingness to sacrifice his personal time for his patients’ well-being. In one instance, he was called from home at midnight to perform an emergency angiogram. As always, he arrived on time, with a smile, and completed the angiogram for the patient in need. Lauded by his co-workers as one of Wakefield Campus’ most dedicated employees, Mr. Anhwere, an X-ray Technologist in the Radiology Department, is currently being trained as a Special Procedure Technologist.

Barbara Binder, RN, Administrative Director, Oncology Services, Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care
Barbara Binder’s determination to improve the care and experience of all Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care patients has been noticed by everyone who has been privileged enough to work with her. As Administrative Director of Oncology, Ms. Binder is responsible for multiple care sites and subspecialties, as well as a multitude of staff and physicians. However, Ms. Binder’s most noteworthy attribute is her ability to always keep the patient’s best interest at the heart of any decision. Her tireless work ethic and tenacity have been vital in developing the multidisciplinary cancer program as a Notable Center of Excellence.

Cebrena Purcell-Williams, RN, Patient Care Coordinator, Antepartum/6 South, Weiler Campus
The role of Patient Care Coordinator (PCC) requires a unique balance of clinical expertise and managerial acumen. Praised by colleagues as an exceptional leader and team player who works well with patients, family and staff, Mrs. Williams has repeatedly demonstrated the ability to exceed expectations as a PCC. Since beginning her nursing career eight years ago, Mrs. Williams has remained keenly aware of the intricacies of the patient experience, and continually strives to promote a positive working environment for her entire team. Mrs. Williams spearheaded an initiative to improve existing Plan of Care Documentation protocols, during which she created and implemented several Plan of Care forms in less than a week to ensure that specific patient needs are met. Her drive further illustrates why she is such an integral part of the high-risk Antepartum/6 South unit.

Anurag Shrivastava, MD, Director, Residency Education, Ophthalmology, Moses, and Associate Professor, Clinical Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, Einstein
During Dr. Shrivastava’s five-year tenure with the Department of Ophthalmology, his list of accomplishments sets him apart not only as an incredibly talented physician, but also as a one-of-a-kind educator and mentor. He has led multiple initiatives aimed at improving surgery workflow and systems, in addition to completely revamping the Residency Training Program. As the Department’s newly appointed Director of Residency Education, Dr. Shrivastava is chiefly responsible for the complete overhaul of clinic structure. In this role, Dr. Shrivastava has enhanced residents’ academic experience. He is a co-creator of the Ronald M. Burde Surgical Simulation Laboratory within the Department’s Center for Ophthalmic Innovation.

Montefiore and White Plains Hospital Team Up to Tell Louanne’s Story
In 2013, Louanne Mitchell noticed a small bump on her leg. After having the growth biopsied, she was devastated to learn that it tested positive for metastatic malignant melanoma. Under the care of her oncologist, Dan Costin, MD, Co-Medical Director, White Plains Hospital Cancer Program, Louanne underwent video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery at White Plains Hospital to remove three malignant tumors that had spread to her lung. She was back on her feet days later, and continued seeing Dr. Costin to receive a round of immunotherapy treatments to ensure that the cancer had been completely eliminated. A year passed with no apparent complications. Then, a routine follow-up PET scan and brain MRI showed that the cancer had metastasized in Louanne’s brain.

In light of this development, Dr. Costin assembled a world-class team, including Patrick LaSala, MD, Vice Chairman, Neurological Surgery, Montefiore, and Associate Professor, Clinical Neurological Surgery, Einstein, as well as Steven Libutti, MD, Director, Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care;

A Homerun for More than 160 Ambulatory Faculty Practices Live with Epic@Montefiore
"After the third go-live of Epic@Montefiore, more than 160 ambulatory faculty practices are successfully accessing patient data through an integrated clinical system that resides on a unified platform—allowing for better coordination and integration across all disciplines," says Michael Prilutsky, Vice President and Executive Director, Epic@Montefiore. "Now, specialists from ambulatory areas, including Orthopaedic Surgery, Dental and Oral Surgery, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, Radiation Oncology, Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, Urology, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, and the Montefiore School Health Program have the capability to build more collaborative alliances with primary care providers."

Since the first rollout in May of more than 22 Montefiore Medical Group practices and additional ancillary services, to the second go-live in July at the Departments of Family and Social Medicine, Montefiore Einstein Center for Cancer Care, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Women’s Health and other ambulatory sites and the October 30 go-live at more than 90 ambulatory faculty practice locations, Montefiore has maintained ongoing support and resources for associates for their use of Epic@Montefiore, providing better safety, quality and service to patients.

The Epic@Montefiore project team is currently gearing up for the fourth go-live of Epic@Montefiore in January, which will replace multiple medical record systems at the Wakefield, Weiler, and Westchester Square Campuses, as well as perioperative services at the Hutchinson Campus.

Read more about Epic@Montefiore

On the intranet.
Vice Chairman, Surgery; Marvin L. Gledeman, MD, Distinguished Surgeon; Associate Director, Albert Einstein Cancer Center, and Professor, Surgery and Genetics, Einstein.

Dr. LaSala was able to completely remove the mass from Louanne’s brain, and prescribed a follow-up treatment of stereotactic radiation surgery (SRS), performed by Madhur Garg, MD, Clinical Director, Radiation Oncology, Co-Director, Stereotactic RadioSurgery (SRS) program, Montefiore, and Professor, Radiation Oncology and Otolaryngology, Einstein. The innovative treatment combination, coupled with additional immunotherapy, completely eliminated the cancer.

Louanne’s successful treatment was a trailblazing example of what Montefiore Health System and its partner institutions can deliver to its patients—exceptional, close-to-home care through collaboration, resulting in patients living their lives to the fullest.

Louanne is featured in the November issue of Westchester Magazine.

To learn more about Louanne’s story, visit www.louannessay.org.

**Reminder: Time to Take 2015 Annual Review**

All Montefiore associates hired prior to 2015 are required to complete the 2015 Annual Review by the close of business on December 30. Providers should have received the document via email and do not need to log in to Talent Management to complete the review. All others must complete the Annual Review online via Talent Management.

Most associates received the Annual Review as an item on their “To Do” list as a requirement. Associates will need to select either the Clinical or Nonclinical version. For instructions, please see the Talent Management FAQs on the intranet.

If you require further assistance with the Annual Review, contact the Learning Network at LearningNetwork@montefiore.org or 718-920-8787.

**‘Tis the Season of Giving at Montefiore and Einstein**

The season of giving and good tidings has arrived at Montefiore and Einstein, and associates are banding together to provide a festive holiday season for those less fortunate. Several food and toy drives will be taking place during the next few weeks, with collection bins and tables located at numerous Montefiore and Einstein locations.

As part of Montefiore’s 2015 Food Drive, receptacles to collect food will be placed in the Food Pavilion of the Moses Campus, inside the Weiler Cafeteria, at several nursing stations within the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, at several MMG locations, and at the Wakefield Campus. Donations being sought include: Canned food items, paper goods, cereals, canned juices, and plastic jars of peanut butter. Personal care products such as toiletries, deodorant, razors/blades, diapers and feminine hygiene products will also be collected.

Montefiore New Rochelle hosted a Coat Drive on Wednesday, November 11, during which 50 children gathered inside the Goldstein Auditorium to choose a warm winter coat. The event marked the revival of the Montefiore New Rochelle Coat Drive that was started 20 years prior by a grateful patient and her physician.

Albert Einstein College of Medicine students are hosting their own “Season of Giving” with a monthlong initiative. Einstein’s Food Drive involves a friendly class competition to see which class can collect the most items to donate to City Harvest, a non-profit whose mission is to feed New Yorkers facing hunger and homelessness. Another Einstein “Season of Giving” initiative is the WellMed Ugly Sweater Social and Fundraiser on Tuesday, December 1. The Ugly Sweater Social consists of numerous charity stations, which allow students to decorate cookies, “Spin the Wheel” for various prizes and decorate a “Fortunate Flake” snowflake with thoughts of gratitude. All proceeds from the social, including the entry fee of one children’s book, will be donated to the Children’s Evaluation Rehabilitation Center (CERC). Collection bins for the food drive are located in the Belfer, Forchheimer and Van Etten housing buildings, which are accessible to those with Montefiore IDs.

To spread some cheer to those celebrating the holidays while in the hospital, Montefiore’s Healing Arts Program has invited all associates to be part of a special “Care Cards” project. Through Friday, December 11, associates can decorate pre-printed cards, which will then be distributed to patients at the bedside toward the end of December. Contact the Healing Arts program for more information or to request cards.

Visit the Montefiore Intranet for upcoming events and charitable initiatives to join in the Season of Giving.

**Montefiore’s Caregiver Support Center in the Spotlight**

As part of National Family Caregivers Month, Randi Kaplan, LMSW, Director, Caregiver Support Program, Montefiore, was recently featured on the “Strike a Chord” panel discussion on family caregivers, featured on BronxNet and WFUV. In the segment, Ms. Kaplan discussed the challenges that caregivers face, and the resources provided by Montefiore’s Caregiver Support Program. Montefiore was the first medical center in New York City to offer a Caregiver Support Center to all patient families.

View the panel discussion on www.bronxnet.org/iviewvideo/6386/open-20/strike-a-chord-family-caregivers.

**Clinical Trial Spotlight**

**Diabetes Medication Study: Taking Medications for Type 2 Diabetes?**

You may be eligible if:
- You are over age 18
- Have had type 2 diabetes for at least one year
- Read/speak English
- Are currently taking pills for your diabetes

**Researcher:** Dr. Jeffrey Gonzalez

**Time:** One in-person visit, complete questionnaires and talk about your medication, and bring all your diabetes pills with you to the visit

**Compensation:** $25 per visit.

For more information, call Dr. Gonzalez’s lab at 202-599-0698.

**EVENTS**

**HERO High Internship Program Kick-Off Meeting**

A kick-off meeting for departments interested in hosting a Health, Education and Research Occupations (HERO) High intern. The meeting is an opportunity for departments to learn more about the students’ training and the internship program.

Friday, December 4
10:00–11:00 am
Grand Hall, Moses Campus

For more information, please contact Dana Politis at 718-920-6212.