

CareLetter

Calais Regional Hospital
24 Hospital Lane Calais, Maine 04619

Statement of Purpose

Calais Regional Hospital exists to provide and plan patient care, educational and restorative services that meet our customer's expectations, commensurate with available resources.

Our Vision

CRH will be known by our customers as the best rural hospital in Maine.

Statement of Values

As an organization we value customer service, leadership and progressive management, compassion, teamwork and collaboration, stewardship of resources, and dedication to quality and honesty, integrity and ethical behavior. At CRH, quality means the continuous improvement of programs and services in an effort to exceed customer expectations.

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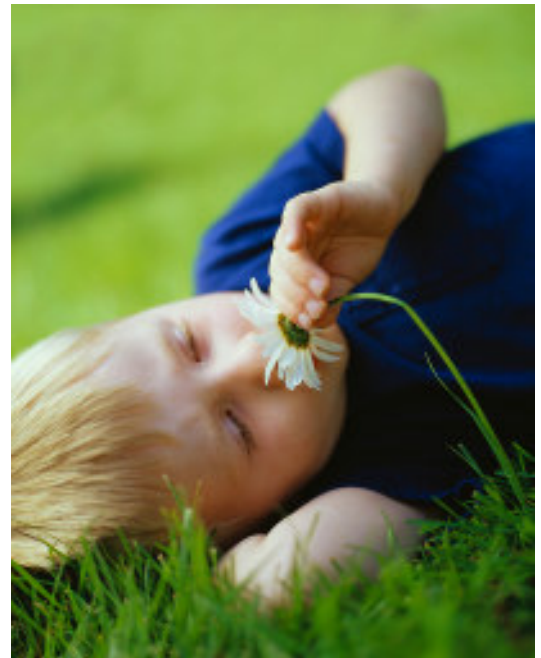
Breathe Easy - We're Going Tobacco Free

The Calais Regional Hospital Board of Directors recently voted to make the CRH campus tobacco free by July 2009. Hospitals are a vital and central part of a healthy community and should share and model healthy behaviors for community members.

With smoking and breathing second-hand smoke being the leading causes of many illnesses, CRH has an obligation to the community to address this issue and ensure a healthy environment for our patients, visitors and healthcare providers. In the past few years, many hospitals across the nation have implemented smoke free campuses to show a commitment to provide a place of wellness and prevention, as well as treatment, for patients, employees and visitors. As soon as CRH implements this change, *all* hospitals in the State of Maine will have tobacco free campuses.

This change may be difficult for people who smoke, and our goal is to make resources available to assist all in abiding by this new policy. A team will be assigned to coordinate all aspects of implementation. Ideally, a cross section of staff will serve on the team: clinical, non-clinical, smokers, non-smokers, former smokers, etc. Employees are encouraged to volunteer to be a team member by contacting DeeDee Travis at ext. 227 or Kristi Saunders at ext 228.

We are asking for your support in our tobacco-free initiative. The decision to go tobacco-free is not an attempt to "force" anyone to quit smoking. Rather, the tobacco-free initiative is a concrete way to demonstrate the hospital's commitment to healthy living. Your help and encouragement is appreciated as we head toward the July 2009 implementation date. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact DeeDee Travis, CRH Director of Community Relations, Customer Service and Development at 454-9227.



Safety Committee Notice

Cellular phones may be hazardous to our patients' health! Incidents have been reported in hospitals linking cellular phone electro magnetic interference with electronic equipment.



Cellular phones must be turned off in all areas of the hospital except for the lobby, coffee shop, the classroom, ED waiting and boardroom.

Staff are asked to inform anyone using a cellular phone in other areas of our policy.

Remember, never discuss protected health information on cell phones.

Do you have an improvement suggestion?

- ◆ Your opinion counts.
- ◆ Share your ideas with us.
- ◆ Fill out the CRH Process Improvement Suggestion Form that was in your last payroll check and is on the CRH Intranet.



COMPLIANCE

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Federal Program Exclusions

In 2006 the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) excluded 3,400 individuals and entities from Federal health care programs. These individuals or entities which includes hospitals and doctors and other providers, engaged in conduct actionable under the Social Security Act or other statutes.

Behavior that is actionable could include submitting false or fraudulent claims, failing to provide services that meet professionally recognized standards of care, patient abuse or neglect, or licensing board disciplinary actions. Individuals or entities found in violation are excluded from participation in Federal health care programs. This means they cannot bill for patients who have Medicare or MaineCare.

ValuesLine 1-800-273-8452

CRH Sponsors Blood Drive



Tuesday, October 14
1 - 6 p.m.

Use side entrance at the Health Services Building

Call 800-448-5433 to schedule an appointment.
Appointments WILL be honored.

Health Insurance Open Enrollment

Now is the time for employees to join or make dependent changes to the health insurance plan effective 11/1/08. Forms must be completed in Human Resources by October 10.

Kudos Korner

Kudos go out to the following CRH family members...

- ◆ To Pam Ivey for all the help offering weight watchers at work.
- ◆ To Kathy Irving for providing RAC training.

If you have kudos to report, please contact the community relations office.

CRH Events Committee

Upcoming Events

The CRH Events Committee will celebrate Halloween making candied apples for each employee on October 31 from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm in the classrooms. We ask that you take one per employee please.



We are selling Calendars of Cash for November. If you are interested in buying a calendar see any events committee member or the community relations department. Cost is \$10 with giveaways totaling \$620!

We are planning a "Soup's On" Luncheon. This event will be held in the classroom on Wednesday, November 5 from 11:15 am- 1:00 pm. Warm up with a delicious mug of soup, breadsticks and dessert.



Employee News

Next reduced staffing holiday is Veteran's Day, Tuesday, November 11.

Welcome to the following new part time employees: Candace Clark, Topsfield, ED registration ward clerk; Rebecca Lingley, RN Eastport, ED; Amanda Larkin, Waite, environmental services worker; Cynthia Rhoades, Topsfield, environmental services worker; Bridgette Murray, Baileyville, Home Health Clerk; and Royann Lozier, Medical Assistant (MA), Calais.

Welcome to Debbie Doherty our new volunteer in the coffee shop on Tuesdays.

Welcome also to temporary employees Amanda Workman, RN, Riverview NB, surgery; Anne Schmidt, RN, CO ED; and Nichole Williams, OT AZ rehabilitative services, temporary.

Anne Sluzenski, RN has transferred from part time Inpatient Unit to Cardiac Rehab, part time. Heidi Williams, RN CRMS has changed status from per diem to part time.

Sympathy is extended to Suzanna Martinez on the death of her mother and to Candace Clark on the death of her father.

Rachel Reynolds of Robbinston completed a job shadow. She is considering a career change from marine biology to nursing.

Congratulation to Great Grammy Barbara McLean on her second great grandchild born September 19 at CRH Lucian Michael John Steadman weighed in at 8 lbs and 4 oz.



The winner from the Above and Beyond nominations for the month of August was Alicea Earl, RN.

To recognize someone through the Above and Beyond program, simply complete a recognition card that can be found in the lobby, cafe, Inpatient Care Unit or nursing employee lounge and submit it to community relations.

Handbook Policy Refresher

Breaks Policy

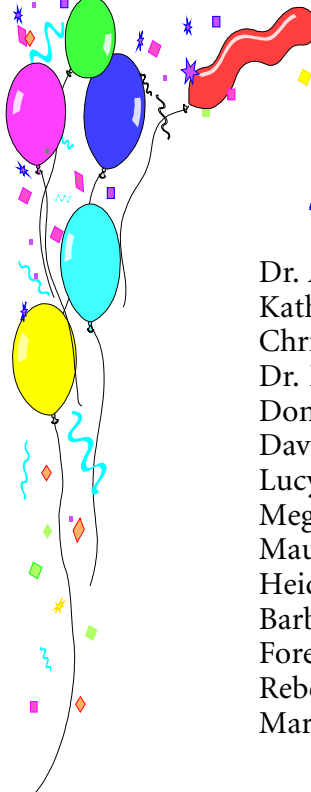
Employees may not leave the Hospital campus on paid break time. Employees leaving the Hospital campus for personal reasons, will clock out when they leave, and clock in when they return. This is not required for the half hour meal break because it is unpaid time. Break time is not cumulative and may not be banked to shorten the workday or lengthen the meal break. Employees are expected to return from breaks promptly.



We Encourage You!

Please refrain from calling Switchboard on these matters:

- ◆ Cafeteria Menu is available on mycrh.com and the website.
- ◆ To be transferred to department extensions that you can directly dial (extensions starting with 2 or 3 add 9 as first digit).



October Birthdays

Dr. Ann Simmons	5
Kathleen Stevens	6
Christopher Scalabrin	12
Dr. Mansoor	13
Donna Gawe	15
David Power	17
Lucy Carver	18
Megan LaPlant	20
Maureen Pike	25
Heidi Norton	27
Barbara Reay	27
Forest Woodruff	27
Rebecca Lingley	31
Mark Kidder	31

Schedule of Events

Cardiac Rehabilitation Support Group
CRH Classroom
Friday, October 3, 3 p.m.

Free Blood Pressure Clinic
Woodland Manor, Baileyville
Tuesday, October 7, 9 a.m.

Encore Plus
Mona Van Wart's office at CRH
Thursday, October 9, 3 – 4 p.m.

Diabetic Support Group
Eastport Health Care Clinic
Monday, October 13, 6 p.m.

Diabetic Support Group
CRH Health Services Building
Wednesday, October 15, 6 p.m.

Free Blood Pressure Clinic
Country View Apts, Pembroke
Thursday, October 16, 11 a.m.

Seniority Celebrates 20 Years
Methodist Homes Rec Hall
Potluck Luncheon
Thursday, October 16, 11:30 a.m.

Seniority Breakfast Club
Wickachee Restaurant
Wednesday, October 29, 7:15 a.m.

Seniority by Carla McCann Bridges

August breakfast club winners were Mary Scribner, Jim Hamilton and Grace Meader. Our next breakfast is at the Wickachee Restaurant Wednesday, October 29, 7:15 a.m.

Seniority is celebrating its 20 year birthday with a potluck luncheon at the Methodist Homes Rec Hall. We hope to have the Dancing Grandmas come join us for entertainment. This will be held on Thursday, October 16 at 11:30 a.m. A chocolate fondue will be set up for dessert and there will be prizes. Call to let me know if you can attend.

*Happy Thanksgiving
to all our Canadian
Friends!*

Auxiliary News by Muriel MacArthur

Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer! Our next Auxiliary meeting is Monday, October 6. This is a potluck dinner at 6 pm. Come and join us!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Anesthesia

CRNA full time

Health Information

Director, Full time

Rehabilitative Services

Occupational Therapist full time

Physical Therapist full time

Nursing

RN ER full time & part time

RN Inpt Care part time

Chief Nursing Officer

Full time

Laboratory

MT/MLT full time

Communications & Registration

Clerk part time

Apply: Applications available from
switchboard or on line @
www.calaishospital.com

*This newsletter is published monthly by
the community relations and human
resources department.*

Calais Regional Hospital
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Calais, Maine 04619

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