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As your new President and CEO, I want to let you know about the two principles that I intend to guide my leadership here – respect for staff and creating a culture of reliability and safety. You can be quite confident that I will make sure that the most important aspect of my leadership, in my interactions with all of you, and how we move this organization forward, will be respect. That’s the approach I took at the New Jersey Department of Health and the U.S. Veterans Administration and that’s how we were able to achieve so much progress.

As state Health Commissioner, I got to know University Hospital and the community it serves in many different ways. To achieve many of our public health initiatives, in fact, required me to develop a familiarity with this community simply to do my job. When I realized that I could be in Newark working fulltime to serve the people of this city and to become a part of the incredible team that already exists here, I tried the hardest I have ever tried to get this job.

A key focus of my professional background has been patient safety and I received my training in the same place as Chief Medical Officer Larry Ramunno. Quality and safety are going to be absolute foundational principles of how we bring this organization forward. You aren’t going to improve finances without higher quality care. You are not going to improve morale without a sense of confidence among our employees that they are on the road to high quality care.

A few words about myself. I’m married, I have two kids, and we live in South Brunswick. I consider my family to be the most important priority for me outside of work, so expect to see them at all of our events that bring together employees, and that bring together communities. I want you to know that you are going to be a part of my professional family.

I know that leadership transitions can be hard. New leaders can cause a lot of stress and anxiety. Please know that my focus and my loyalty is with all of you.

Follow Dr. Elnahal @ShereefElnahal

Shereef Elnahal, MD
@ShereefElnahal | Follows you

President and CEO, @UnihospNewark, Former NJ Health Commissioner, @GovMurphy Cabinet, Co-founder, @VHAInnovation in the @BarackObama admin.
Trenton, NJ nj.gov/health/ Born June 5 Joined May 2010
305 Following 2,780 Followers
A ribbon-cutting ceremony led by Tanya Freeman (below left), chair of the UH Board of Directors, was held to celebrate the opening of the Minnie L. Presley Gift Shop in the hospital lobby. The late Ms. Presley (below right) served on the UH Auxiliary for more than 28 years, the last nine as its president.

The renovation and expansion of the Gift Shop was led by Chief Operating Officer Eve Borzon and included the additions of Starbucks coffee and a New Jersey Lottery machine.

Members of Ms. Presley’s family (above) attended the event along with members of the UH Auxiliary. Ms. Presley’s daughter, Kim Cook, and former CEO Jim Gonzalez offered remarks.

Ms. Presley advocated healthy eating habits and behaviors, and sponsored a Farmers’ Market at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. She spearheaded numerous programs to buy educational/training materials, medical equipment, new furnishings and supplies for flower beds.
Volunteer marchers from UH clad in rainbow colors came out in force to march down Broad Street during the 14th annual Newark Pride parade. Nationally, Gay Pride month is celebrated during June to coincide with the Stonewall Riots in New York which occurred 50 years ago in 1969. Newark Gay Pride Inc. organized the local festivities during July following the 2005 killing of Sakia Gunn, a lesbian teenager who refused advances by two men in downtown Newark. Weekly events celebrating the LGBTQ community were conducted throughout June, organized by a committee led by Avi Richardson (pictured opposite, top left), with the Department of Education & Professional Development. About 200 UH employees, friends and family marched in the Newark parade which this year included a float. Joining in the march was Tanya Freeman, Chair of the UH Board of Directors.
GAY PRIDE PARADE
As part of the 2019 Nursing Week celebrations, five UH employees nominated by their peers were honored with DAISY and Helping Hands awards.

The DAISY award, created in 1999 by the California-based DAISY Foundation, is presented nationally by health care organizations to members of their nursing staff who excel in their dedication and service to patients. Helping Hands is a unique UH award created in 2017 by the Nursing Department to honor nursing assistants, patient care technicians and medical technicians.

**DAISY AWARDS**

**Grace Amistoso, APN**

“While on medical mission to Haiti with other UH employees, her house burned down and her car was lost as well. She learned of the tragedy, but continued her mission and when arriving back in New Jersey with no home or vehicle, Grace managed to come to work.” Armela Manas, RN

**Legeia Tomacruz, RN**

“Legeia truly upholds the credo of this organization which is to have “One Goal, One Passion, Every Patient, Every Time. Legeia has taken this a step further by incorporating the hospital’s mission and vision into mentoring and coaching of the newly hired nurses.” Jennifer Smith, Assistant Nursing Director

**HELPING HANDS**

**Rasheedah Cook, Patient Care Tech (H-Green)**

“I had a sister who was disabled, and I would often assist my mother in caring for her. Caring for her brought joy to me, because I knew that she needed me, and it felt good to be able to provide care to her. This is where my passion for nursing developed.”

**Amy Ingram, Patient Care Tech (ER)**

“In an environment where it can be difficult to maintain composure, Amy stands out with a pleasant attitude. She has a calming influence on both her co-workers and patients. She actively listens to her patients’ concerns and provides patient-centered care.”

**Inez Maxwell, EKG Technician (H-Blue)**

“Inez is a great team player. She is very flexible with her schedule to accommodate the unit and other members of our team.” Armela Manas, RN

Peta-Kaye Johnson, Education Specialist, ED
ENA IN THEIR DNA

Emergency Room Nurses Heather Linslata (left) and Kimberly Russo (right) were working together at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Paterson a few years ago when they decided to go to a meeting of the northern New Jersey Chapter of the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA).

Both quickly rose through the ranks of the association and through their involvement found their way a year ago to University Hospital, where Heather works as an education specialist for the ER and Kim serves as the ED Assistant Nurse Manager. Heather is President-elect of the New Jersey ENA and Kim followed in her footsteps to become President of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the ENA.

ENA is one of the largest specialty organizations in the medical field, providing education, networking and advocacy for its members. New Jersey has 1,600 members statewide, including 700 in the Northern New Jersey Chapter.

“We started together at St Joe’s 8 years ago and one day, we were like, ‘Do you want to go to an ENA meeting?’,” Kim recalled. “We just started going and we would always go together. “Once you start going for a while, they start giving you jobs – “These people showed up twice! They’re committee chairs now!”,’” she laughed. “Once you keep coming back, they keep giving you more stuff to do.”

Through their leadership, New Jersey ENA now hosts the largest stand-alone conference in the organization, second only to the national ENA conference. That distinction has won the New Jersey chapter national recognition from the ENA.

“It opens a lot more doors than people realize,” Heather said. “I know someone who knows someone at pretty much every emergency room in the state. So if you ever need resources or you’re looking for a job, it’s a really great tool to advance your career.”

ENA is a benefit to UH primarily through its online posting board which is followed by ER nurses internationally.

“We were trying to change something in Epic, so I just reached out to the group and said, ‘Hey, is anyone else using this tool in Epic, how did you go about doing it?’ Then you get instant responses from around the world,” Heather said.

Assistant Nursing Director Jennifer Smith has earned her PhD in Nursing, achieving her goal of attaining the highest academic degree in her field. Mentoring other nurses and implementing the latest evidence-based practices have become high priorities for Smith during her 24-year career at UH.
The Visitor Management System employed at University Hospital will soon be upgraded to improve security and streamline the entry process for visitors. The improvements involve maximizing available features in the existing system and will include integration with Epic and the use of cameras and scanners in creating visitor IDs.

“We’re starting from good and building to perfect,” said Chief Experience Officer Joan Dauhajre.

The goal of the project is to streamline the visitor check-in process and, just as importantly, emphasize safety for staff, patients, and their loved ones. The Patient Experience Office has worked closely with security and nursing in building out the new system features.

Hospital visitors enter through the Main Lobby or the Emergency Room where the information desks have been equipped with cameras to create new photo IDS and scanners to capture forms of identification, such as driver’s licenses and passports. The new passes will designate which room on which floor will be visited.

Web pre-registration will be available online for vendors and job applicants arriving for interviews can enter their information prior to arrival.

With Web preregistration, the front desk will now be able to know when to expect individuals arriving to conduct hospital business.

Conversely, the system will accommodate watchlists, both internal and external to flag visitors who may pose a security risk. An internal watchlist of individuals known to UH will be utilized, as well as external watchlists for sex offenders, terrorists and other individuals.

“We’re working with security to make sure that only those folks who belong in the hospital do gain entry,” Dauhajre said.

Replacing paper with electronic notifications will eliminate the current process that requires staff to leave their stations to visit the front desk.

When there is a security interest in monitoring visitors for a particular patient, that information can be viewed by those who need to know it. In addition, various hospital administrators will have access to the system to be aware of who is in the hospital.

Other benefits for UH will be the ability to know the number and identity of visitors in the hospital in the event of an emergency requiring evacuation. The information collected by the system will enable better analysis of visitor data. And eliminating the current use of plastic passes will improve infection control.

Dauhajre said Patient Experience will continue to work closely with security, nursing and other units to fine tune the system.
A phlebotomist, a data control clerk, and a four-member EMS team were the latest winners honored through the Heart of UH Awards program as it kicked off its second year in operation.

“Our goal for this program is to recognize the good work our employees are doing and to maximize the benefits to our employees, the organization, and ultimately our patients and the community we serve,” Chief Human Resources Officer Gerard Garcia.

The Outstanding Patient Care award was presented to Judith Cumba (top, left), a phlebotomist who was nominated by Kathleen Ruping (top, right) Administrative Director of the Liver Transplant unit.

Data Control Clerk Constance Cartwright (below left); was presented with the Outstanding Service Excellence and Support award for her work in the Infectious Diseases practice. “Clinician Supervisor Jamila Hughley (below right) was one of 11 fellow UH employees who nominated Cartwright for the award.

A highlight of the awards ceremony was the presentation of the Outstanding TEAM award to EMTs (left to right) William Fitzgerald, Willie Massenburg, and Christian Vaca, who were nominated by EMS Supervisor Celeste Jachowski. (A fourth team member, EMT Glenn Mcrae, was unable to attend the ceremony.)

The EMTs pulled a motorist from her vehicle after a traffic accident and discovered she was unconscious and not breathing. Employing continuous CPR, the EMS team transported the patient to UH where, after several days of treatment, she finally regained consciousness.

The patient made a point of attending the awards ceremony to extend her thanks to the team for saving her life.
EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY

NAACP Community Health Fair
The Newark Branch of the NAACP hosted its first Community Health Fair, an event targeted to working parents and their children. University Hospital offered a full complement of resources from the departments of OB-GYN, Pediatrics, the WIC Program, CINJ, Trauma, Violence Intervention Program, Screen NJ, Human Resources and the Emergency Room. This event provided participants of all ages with information about the array of beneficial services offered by University Hospital.

First Zion Hill Baptist Church Health Fair
First Zion Hill Baptist Church held its first annual health fair, open to the community, and UH took part. Participants were offered free blood pressure and glucose screening by UH techs. In addition, the WIC Program, United Healthcare, NJ Screen, the Hospital Violence Intervention Program, and the Newark Fire Department took part. This event provided local residents free screenings, valuable health insurance information, as well as services for qualifying women and children.
Lincoln Park Music Festival
University Hospital cosponsored and participated in the Senior Day, hosted by the Lincoln Park Music Festival Sustainable Health & Wellness Village. UH enlisted the services of EMS, Human Resources, Vision Screening, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, NJ Screen and the Hospital Violence Intervention Program. The seniors were offered Vision Screening and health information provided by University Hospital. UH provided services to about 200 seniors.

Back 2 School Store
Volunteers from UH once again took part in the annual Back 2 School Store hosted by the Essex County Section of the National Council of Jewish Women in Livingston. More than 1,000 children registered through social service agencies were able to shop for free for school supplies, clothes and other essentials.

While volunteers helped the children shop, the parents received vision, blood pressure and glucose screenings, nutrition information, and other services.
### MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### AUGUST 2019

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| AUG 1 | WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK KICK-OFF                                                                                                      | 11 AM – 2 PM | UH Cafeteria                                                             | • Interactive Education  
• Resource Information Table  
• Prizes!                                                                  |
| AUG 3 | THE LEAGUERS INC. ANNUAL WELLNESS AND RECRUITMENT FAIR                                                                               | 10 AM – 2 PM | Wells Cathedral Church (parking lot) 672 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Newark |                                                                 |
| AUG 6 | CHOCOLATE MILK – A FREE, FEATURE DOCUMENTARY AND PANEL DISCUSSION                                                                     | 10 AM – 12 PM | Ambulatory Care Center 140 Bergen Street, C Level, Room C-1625             | Chocolate Milk examines how the socioeconomic factor of race and sex influence breastfeeding rates for black mothers through the stories of three women. |
| AUG 7 | NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK: MAMMOGRAM DAY AND HEALTH FAIR                                                                           | 11 AM – 2 PM | Saint James Health, 228 Lafayette Street, Newark                         |                                                                 |
| AUG 10| CITY OF NEWARK SENIOR SERVICES HEALTH FAIR                                                                                             | 11 AM TO 3 PM | Malcolm X Shabazz School Stadium 80 Johnson Ave., Newark                  |                                                                 |
| AUG 15| THE UH AND RBHS BLOOD DRIVE                                                                                                            | 9:30 AM TO 3:30 PM | Grand Foyer of the Medical School | To schedule an appointment or for eligibility questions, please call 800-933-2566 or go to www.nybloodcenter.org. |
| AUG 17| NJ SHARING NETWORK – MINORITY DONOR AWARENESS FAIR                                                                                     | 12 PM – 4 PM | Military Park, 51 Park Place, Newark                                      |                                                                 |
| AUG 21| KICKOFF FOR MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER                                                                                       | 12:30 PM – 2 PM | UH Cafeteria                                                             | Interactive Education, Resource Table  
Join the Team and Prizes                                             |
| AUG 29| CITY-WIDE BACK TO SCHOOL BACK PACK RALLY                                                                                              | 3 PM – 6 PM | Newark Schools Stadium, 541 Roseville Ave., Newark                       |                                                                 |
| AUG 31| URBAN LEAGUE – FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS STREET FAIR                                                                                        | 11 AM – 4 PM | Liberty Park, West Market & Central Ave., Newark                         |                                                                 |
| AUG 31| COMMUNITY HEALTH EVENT                                                                                                                 | 11 AM – 4 PM | Branch Brook Park, Lake St. & Park Ave., Newark                          |                                                                 |

**COMING SOON:**

- Hospital Barbecue – Tuesday, September 10
- Puerto Rican Day Parade – September 15
- American Lung Association, Asthma Awareness Day – September 21

More info: community@uhnj.org

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS**

To Attend [CLICK HERE]
To Volunteer [CLICK HERE]