

 Garnet Health.

Gems

Exceptional
Lives Here.



OUR PEOPLE ARE OUR GREATEST *gems.*

Quality and Patient Safety Corner

2022 Performance Improvement, Quality and Patient Safety Plan

Our highest priority as a system is to keep our patients safe. Our three-year Performance Improvement, Quality and Patient Safety glide path plan is updated annually with two goals: to establish the quality and safety priorities and to sharpen our focus. Working the plan helps to ensure success in meeting organization goals and external standards to provide excellence, achieve recognition and continue to be a top hospital.

In 2022, we will use a high-reliability model of care as we implement new programs, including cardiothoracic surgery and neurosciences, and enhance existing services. Please ask your leader to share this year's plan with you. Success starts with each one of us!

For more information, please email mcrittenden@garnethealth.org.

NYS Now Requires All Healthcare Workers to Get Boosted

On January 21, 2022, the NYS Governor issued an executive order mandating the COVID-19 booster for all healthcare workers by February 21, 2022. Under this order, and as a Garnet Health Employee, Contracted Employee, Privileged Provider, GME Resident, Volunteer or Medical Student, you are required to be fully vaccinated and boosted by February 21, 2022. Email Occupational Health at employeehealth@garnethealth.org to provide proof of booster. You may send qualified medical exemption requests to vaccineexception@garnethealth.org. Upcoming Booster Clinics hosted by Garnet Health Doctors will be by appointment only.

Pro tip: Don't wait for the Booster Clinics.

Check with your local pharmacy or go online at covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/ to find a location near you.

Be Cyber-Smart!

Avoid becoming a victim of cyber-attacks and phishing in 2022 by following these simple rules:

- Never click on links or attachments unless you are certain who they are from.
- Be suspicious any time you are asked to provide information or respond to an urgent request.
- Pay attention to the "FROM" email address and look out for the header showing that the email came from an EXTERNAL SOURCE.
- Forward all suspicious emails to spam@garnethealth.org.

New GHMC Employee Parking Garage

Now Admitting Vehicles!

The brand-new, four-level, employee-only parking garage is open 24/7 and features two employee entrances and a separate entrance/exit for physicians.

The spacious garage features:

- 4 parking levels
- 623 parking spaces
- 2 elevators
(accessible on each level)
- 2 stair towers
- An enclosed walking bridge into the first floor of the Hospital
- 27 surveillance cameras
- 15 handicap spots

The garage also includes a large, heated and secure ambulance bay (opening in the spring) to support our future emergency room expansion.

What does it cost to park?

It's free!

How do I access the garage?

Your Garnet Health ID badge will serve as the "key" to electronically access the entrance/exit gates, elevators and the connecting walkway.

What if I have an electric vehicle?

The parking garage is equipped with 20 free electric vehicle chargers.



BEE

AWARDS

THE BEE AWARD



Buzzworthy: Compassion Takes Flight

Camillia Banks, Med-Surg-Tele RN, earned the honor of being named Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills’ November 2021 Employee of the Month, also known as a BEE honoree. Cami, who requested her photo not be used, received accolades from a colleague who is always impressed by her ability to put others first, no matter the circumstances, and showcased her kindness, helpfulness and professionalism—qualities that make someone a true team player. Thank you, Cami, for all you do! Congratulations!



Sam Berger, Emergency Services FNP, was named the Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills’ December 2021 Employee of the Month. A grateful patient sent a letter to administration highlighting an experience they had in which Sam exhibited great care, concern and compassion. “It was clear Sam knew exactly what to do. I felt I was in competent hands,” the grateful patient said. “Being in such a frightening position and having someone you trust made all the difference.” Sam, thank you for the quality care and compassion you provide to our patients in their time of need! We appreciate you!

Michelle Conn, Inpatient Rehab NA, was awarded Garnet Health Medical Center’s December 2021 Employee of the Month for her outstanding care and compassion. Michelle truly went above and beyond to assist a patient with their last wish and was an “angel” in helping the patient’s family through a very emotional time. Michelle’s constant positive demeanor and big smile puts our patients at ease. She is a real team player. Michelle, thank you for making such a difference!



Congratulations to our 4th Quarter Team BEE Award winner, Garnet Health Medical Center’s Children’s Emergency Room! Team members M. Figueroa, M. Vanpelt, S. Mayer, K. Bennet, D. Salijevski, M. Muteelall and Dr. Williams went above and beyond to provide an exceptional experience for a pediatric patient and their family. A grateful patient wrote a letter thanking the entire team for the excellent experience she and her 3-year old son received from the moment they walked into the ED until the moment they left. They were greeted with open arms and treated with the utmost respect. Kudos to the team! Thank you for your care, compassion and dedication!

The Employee of the Month program is also known as the Being Exceptional Every day (BEE) Award—and Being Exceptional Every day takes dedication, loyalty and commitment. To nominate an employee, physician, volunteer or team/department, visit the intranet page, scroll down and click on the BEE Award icon.

Healthgrades Names GHMC a Five-Star Recipient—Again!

Every year, Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance at nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide for 31 of the most common inpatient procedures and conditions. We are thrilled to announce that Garnet Health Medical Center has received multiple Five-Star awards (again!) in 2022.



Pneumonia 2018–2022

Sepsis 2019–2022

Respiratory Failure 2019–2022

Pulmonary Embolism Outcomes 2021 - 2022

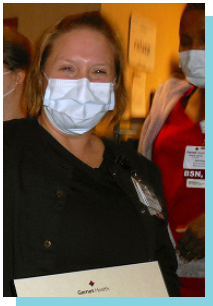
We commend our staff for an excellent job and their ongoing commitment to quality care!

For more information about Intensive Care services, visit www.garnethealth.org/intensive-care.

Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills employees **Christine Butler, RN**, and **Nicole Sotelo, RN**, received Good Catch Awards for their proactive patient care. A Good Catch occurs when corrective action and/or timely intervention prevents an incident or medical error. Congratulations, Christine and Nicole and thank you for providing great patient care!



For more information about the Good Catch Award, whose nominees are judged by the Patient Safety Subcommittee, email Vice President, Quality/Patient Safety Officer Mary Ellen Crittenden at mcrittenden@garnethealth.org.



Christine Butler, RN



Nicole Sotelo, RN (center) is presented her award by CEO Jonathan Schiller (left) and other leaders and colleagues.

New Nursing Assistant Program Launches at GHMC



Congratulations to the first Nursing Assistant Program Class of 2022.

Nursing Leadership, Nursing Professional Development and the Nursing Assistant team collaborated to develop a Nursing Assistant Program. This internal educational program will enhance our Nursing Assistant Pool and will be offered four times a year. Candidates will spend a week in class and receive hands-on training. Topics include medical terminology, age-related aspects of care, safe patient handling and computerized documentation. The classes will be taught by GHMC Nursing Leaders with special internal guest speakers.

For more information, call Shakira Riley at 333-2076.

GHMC SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTS AT American Nurses Association's Annual Conference



Chris Costello, MSN, RN, COHN-S, a Nurse Leader Advisor for the Shared Governance Nursing Committee, presented a poster on behalf of the GHMC Shared Governance Committee at the American Nurses Association – New York 9th Annual Meeting and Conference on October 30, 2021. The poster, titled "It Takes a Village to Put Food in the Bank: Changing Food Insecurity in Our Community One Patient at a Time" was a collaborative effort of the Community Committee, Nursing Research and EBP Committee, Innovations Committee and Project Management Committee.

The team continues its efforts to assist the community to combat food insecurity.

For more information, email GHMC Nurse Scientist Ebony Samuel-Bakpessi, MSN-Ed., RN, NPD-BC, at esamuel@garnethealth.org.

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

The past two years have been beyond trying, but we are eternally grateful for the efforts of all our employees, systemwide. Your dedication to our patients and to each other has been—and continues to be—inspirational. Thank you for all you do every day to deliver quality care to our patients, even in the most challenging times!





JOURNEY to Nursing Certification

Diana Duffy, BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, TCRN, EMTP



Diana Duffy is a Registered Nurse at Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills. In the early 1990s, she passed the Board Certification for Emergency Nurse Exam. The exam was relatively new and not recognized by the hospital. However, Diana set out to

accomplish this milestone for growth and personal satisfaction. She wanted to improve her clinical knowledge and patient care skills. She continued her career in Emergency Nursing with a commitment to renew her certification every four years.

Diana challenged herself again in 2017 by studying for the Board-certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse Exam to improve her skills in caring for pediatric patients. She passed the exam and took her thirst for knowledge another step further, obtaining Certification in Trauma Nursing. Diana currently serves as a member of the Shared Governance Committee at Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills. The committee’s mission is to improve the recognition of staff members who have challenged themselves to obtain certification in their fields.



With healthcare being an ever-changing field, I feel it is my personal responsibility to be as knowledgeable as I can be. Maintaining my certification allows me to do that. Taking classes and learning something new as often as possible helps to keep my skills and knowledge fresh.

Diana Duffy



Studies show that continued learning in nursing, including earning a BSN degree or specialty certification, helps to improve patient outcomes and decrease mortality rates. We are happy to spotlight employees who started in non-nursing roles and worked their way to become certified registered nurses while working at Garnet Health!

Laurie Just, BSN, RN, OCN



Laurie Just has called Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills home since 1992 when she was nursing assistant for a “summer in the Catskills.” The following June, she was hired as a Registered Nurse to work 2-West (Medical/Surgical unit). Within four years, she obtained

her Med-Surg Certification.

In 1998, Laurie transferred into her current role as an Outpatient Hematology-Oncology nurse. She became the only RN within the facility to hold dual certifications in 2000 when she achieved her Oncology certification. She says that obtaining certification is one’s outward demonstration of mastering a broad range of nursing knowledge.

Laurie is always supported and encouraged by nursing leadership to maintain her certifications.



Certification enhances our professional credibility and advances our careers. Most importantly, we become better nurses.

Laurie Just



March 19

Sara Ruggiero, BSN, CRNI, VA-BC



Sarah Ruggiero started working for Garnet Health Medical Center in 2005 as a file clerk in radiology while earning her Associate's Degree in nursing. Now she's Board-certified in Vascular Access.

How did she get there?

- After graduation she started working in the Oncology Unit.
- She then moved to Medical Surgery Unit.
- Next, she made a move to Surgical Telemetry Unit, where she stayed for nine years.
- Then, she went onto Interventional Radiology and completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.
- She then became a Vascular Access Nurse and earned her Certified Registered Nurse Infusion credentials.
- Her final Board-certification was in Vascular Access

Garnet Health nursing leadership was there for Sarah, encouraging and supporting her, and providing financial resources to help her achieve her educational goals. SEUI 1199 Nurses Union also helped pay for her education.



I am truly thankful to everyone who helped me along the way. It is my passion to care for my patients, and I love being an expert in my profession.

Sarah Ruggiero



Melissa Villamil, MSN, RN, CMSRN



Melissa started working for Garnet Health Medical Center in 2012 as a per diem Department Secretary in the Cardiac Cath Lab while enrolled in her first semester at SUNY Orange's Nursing Program. Today, Melissa works in Nursing Professional Development and is studying to

obtain specialization certification in her new field.

Where did Melissa's path start and how did it progress?

2013—Melissa accepted a Nursing Assistant position on the Physical Rehabilitation unit to gain more bedside experience. Her nurse leader at the time encouraged and supported her transition to Registered Nurse.

2014—She earned her Associate's Degree in Nursing and began pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Chamberlain University.

2015—Melissa graduated and accepted a nursing position on the Rehab unit and began her Certified Medical-Surgical Registered Nurse Certification journey.

2017—She moved to the Progressive Care Unit and participated in Nursing Shared Governance.

2019—Melissa enrolled in Chamberlain University's Master's in Nursing Education program and graduated in 2021.



I am very grateful to all the wonderful nurse leaders who supported and encouraged me to further my education. I'm proud of how hard I worked to further my knowledge and skills to help my patients. But I am most proud to be surrounded by wonderful people who helped me along the way.

Melissa Villamil



National Certified Nurses Day

Leading the Way



Karen Canavan BSN, CCRN, NNP-BC, NE-BC, APN,C, has been promoted to Nursing Unit Director of Labor & Delivery at Garnet Health Medical Center. In her new role, Karen oversees the Labor & Delivery Department and birthing resource team. She joined the organization in 2018 and was previously a Nursing Professional Development Practitioner. You can reach Karen at kcanavan@garnethealth.org.

Terence Comiskey, MBA, RRT, CPFT, RRT-ACCS, has joined Garnet Health as the Administrator of Respiratory and Ancillary Services for Garnet Health. He will oversee Respiratory Care, Sleep, Wound Care, Diabetes and Pulmonary Rehabilitation systemwide. Before joining Garnet Health, he led a Center of Excellence that achieved award-winning status for wound care and hyperbaric medicine. You can reach Terence at tcomiskey@garnethealth.org.



Maureen Donnelly, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, RN-BC, has been promoted to Administrator of Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills, Grover M. Hermann Hospital Campus. She previously served as the Director of Nursing Process Management for Garnet Health Medical Center. In her new role, Maureen collaborates with department leaders, community organizations and the Hospital's Auxiliary to support development at Grover M. Hermann Hospital. She joined Garnet Health Medical Center in 2015 as Director of Nursing Informatics. You can reach Maureen at mdonnelly@garnethealth.org.

Mary Kate Donohue, RN, has been promoted to Administrator of Cardiology Services for Garnet Health, overseeing the Cardiology departments at Garnet Health Medical Center and Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills. She will be responsible for the upgrade of the cardiology electronic health record system platform, planning for expansion of services in the Cardiac Catheterization labs and the Cardiothoracic Surgery Program at Garnet Health Medical Center. Mary Kate joined Garnet Health in 2010. In 2018, she assumed oversight of Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskill's Cardiology Services. You can reach Mary Kate at mtonohue@garnethealth.org.



David Gao, MBA, PharmD, has joined the Pharmacy team as the 340 B Manager at Garnet Health Medical Center. David will manage and guide the 340 B program which was implemented in 2021. David has extensive experience in sterile compounding and chemotherapeutic regimens. Before joining GHMC, David worked at NYU Langone's Perlmutter Cancer Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. You can reach David at dgao@garnethealth.org.

Michelle Morgiewicz, BSN, RN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, CPN, has been promoted to Perinatal Safety Nurse Manager. Michelle will collaborate with clinical leaders and staff to integrate patient safety principles into the current and future care practices of the Rowley Family Birthing Center. She joined the organization in 2013 and was previously a registered nurse for Labor & Delivery, Mother/Baby and the Nursery. You can reach Michelle at mmorgiewicz@garnethealth.org.



Nelson Sit has been promoted to Manager of Emergency Management for Garnet Health and will oversee emergency management training for the system. He is also Garnet Health's liaison to outside healthcare agencies including the Greater New York Health Association, Healthcare Association of New York State, the New York State Department of Health and the Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition. Nelson joined the organization in 2016 and was previously Armed Security Officer Lead. You can reach Nelson at nsit@garnethealth.org.

Welcome New Board of Directors Members



Dr. Rafik Elsabrout is a general surgeon with Garnet Health Doctors. He is Chief of Surgery, Chief of the Surgical Services Committee, Vice President of Medical Staff and a member of the Medical Executive Committee at Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills.

He earned his Master's and Doctorate degrees in surgery from Cairo University in Egypt and his Master of Business Administration degree in Healthcare Management from Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Elsabrout is also an educator, having taught as an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at both New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York, and Cairo University in Giza, Egypt.

Bonnie J. Orr, CPA, is a shareholder of Judelson, Giordano & Siegel, CPA, PC. Bonnie specializes in estates and trusts and provides expert tax and accounting advice to a wide range of closely held businesses. She has worked extensively in the complex areas of living trusts, life insurance trusts, personal residence trusts, charitable remainder trusts, special needs trusts and family limited partnerships.

Bonnie has a Bachelor of Science degree from Le Moyne College and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants. She also serves as an officer and board member of several local charities.



Garnet Health Doctors Promotes Reena Patel, MD



Reena Patel, MD, has been promoted to Medical Director for Urgent Care Service at Garnet Health Doctors. She will oversee Urgent Care physicians and advanced practice providers, which include nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Dr. Patel joined Garnet Health Doctors in 2018 and was previously a practicing physician with OneWorld Community Health Centers in Omaha, Nebraska.

She earned her medical degree from the American University of Antigua in Coolidge, Antigua, and completed her Residency at Saint Louis University School of Medicine in Saint Louis, Missouri. She is board-certified in Family Medicine and treats patients in Garnet Health Doctors' Middletown, Monticello and Goshen Urgent Care locations. You can reach Dr. Patel at rpatel4@garnethealth.org.

Nurse Gives Birth to First Baby in the New Year

Olivia Honey Osowick greeted the world at Garnet Health Medical Center at 5:07 p.m. on January 1, 2022, weighing 5 lbs., 13 oz. Olivia's father Nicholas Osowick and her mother Jennifer Osowick, who is a registered nurse at Garnet Health Medical Center, were delighted. Congratulations to all! Welcome to the Garnet Health family, Olivia!



Thank You to Hailey's Hope Foundation!

We are so grateful to Hailey's Hope Foundation for their generous donation of giraffe scales. The scales arrived in November and were installed in December. The nurses are beyond excited to have this equipment to help weigh our smallest and sickest patients in the NICU.

Hailey's Hope Foundation's mission is to support the emotional, financial and educational needs of families in the NICU by providing programs and resources to empower parents and help their babies thrive.

Thank you again to Hailey's Hope Foundation!

Pictured are members of our GHMC NICU staff with donated equipment from Hailey's Hope Foundation.

Save the Dates

Wear Red for Women on February 4!

Garnet Health is proud to participate in the American Heart Association's upcoming annual Wear Red Day. Wear red on Friday, February 4, to show your support of the American Heart Association's mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives!

The Beat Goes On Heart-A-Thon is February 11

Show your love this February by supporting the 44th Annual WSUL Heart-A-Thon!

Purchase a Heart for \$1 or a T-shirt for \$25. You can wear them every Friday in February! Or make a pledge in honor or memory of a loved one. All pledges will be read live on 98.3 WSUL the day of the event.

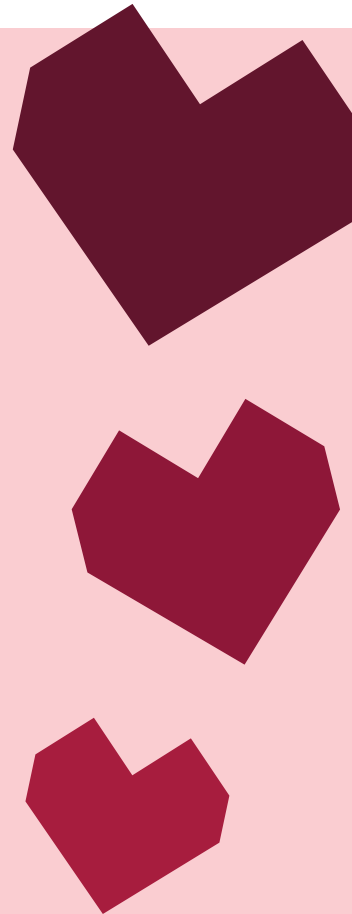
To purchase a heart or T-shirt, or to make a pledge, email Jodi Goodman in the Community Services Office at jgoodman@garnethealth.org.

To make a general donation online, visit:
www.givegab.com/campaigns/44thannual-98-3-wsul-heart-a-thon

FREE Women's Heart Health Webinar

February 16, 2022 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

A panel of medical experts will discuss important indicators of heart issues in women, provide tips to reduce your risk of heart disease and dispel many misconceptions. Registration is required. Visit garnethealth.org/events to register today.



Gems Newsletter

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For more information, email mmanheim@garnethealth.org or call 333-2391.

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