Health Care Matters: Continuous learning

By Allen Horn, MD, Clinic President

It’s been a guiding principle of my life to focus on building personal accountability traits into my character. As speaker Cy Wakeman has noted, there are four contributing factors to increasing our personal accountability traits. These factors include: making up our minds and committing to our mission; being resilient — bouncing back from hits; taking ownership and accepting circumstances so time is not wasted in denying reality or responsibility; and finally, setting a lifelong path of continuous learning.

As I near retirement, I’m excited about all the new and different learning opportunities I will have. In whatever season of life we find ourselves, we have a vast array of interesting things to learn — different for each of us. On the job, we can remain alert to chances for formal training in workshops, conferences, local classes or e-learning possibilities. Informal training opportunities abound, as well; simply having a role model and watching how they conduct their work duties can provide some of the best lessons. In our field of health care, the possibilities for learning and education are limitless; new frontiers open constantly.

We often see what we expect to see — are you expecting new learning opportunities at every turn? Do you expect to grow in your job? Are you expecting to know more tomorrow than you do today? Continuous learning can help each of us with our mission to provide excellent service and the highest quality of care to those we serve.

Using our mission as our compass

By Lisa Drong, Customer Service coordinator

We are dedicated to providing excellent service and the highest quality of care to those we serve. That simple statement, in itself, creates challenge and puts responsibility on us. But if we read it again, we will note that it is a GIFT. Our mission is our compass, leading us exactly where we need to be and showing us exactly where our focus should be.

Our decision to work in health care is a small, but very important step. This conscious choice needs to be followed by our dedication to provide the highest quality of care and excellent service.

While the choice may have seemed simple, the responsibility does present challenges. It also presents opportunity. Patient care is quite complex, schedules are demanding and time passes quickly. It is during times of high demand that focus and prioritization are crucial. We are faced with changes every day, many of which are out of our control. But our focus, our compass, always is within our control. Our focus and dedication to provide excellent service and the highest quality of care to those we serve will continue to provide the direction we need on a road that is ever-changing.

It is through our dedication to service that we continue to provide high quality care, look for opportunities to improve, collaborate with and gain the trust of patients and colleagues, and make a difference in the lives of those we serve.
CentraCare Clinic leadership changes

Medical Director David Tilstra, MD, will become CentraCare Clinic President Sept. 1. President Allen Horn, MD, will retire Sept. 14. Dr. Tilstra started in 1995 and became medical director in 2003. He will continue to work part-time in the Genetics Clinic.

George Morris, MD, will become CentraCare Clinic’s medical director Sept. 1. Dr. Morris joined CentraCare Clinic - St. Joseph in 2008. He is board certified in Family and Sports Medicine. He will continue to see patients on a part-time basis.

Associate Medical Director Thomas Schrup, MD, will continue to focus on provider relationships and compliance as well as his pediatrics practice.

Recognition for years of service

25 Years: Jon Dennis, MD, Women & Children; Scott Davis, MD, River Campus; Peter Nelson, MD, Plaza – Gastroenterology
20 Years: Juanita Kaiser, Heartland
15 Years: Douglas Brew, MD, Heartland; Kimberly Adelman, Rheumatology
10 Years: Howard Zimring, MD, Heart Center; Kathleen Solorz, Women & Children
5 Years: Jamie Pelzel, MD, and Jacob Dutcher, MD, Heart Center; Sarah Carter, MD, Hospitalist; Aaron Holmgren, MD, Rheumatology; Roxanne Roehl, Plaza – Family Medicine; Moriah Perreault, Women & Children; Irene Skroch, Business Center; Daniel Kraft, MD, Plaza – Gastroenterology

Welcome to our new employees

Tammy Fluharty, Admissions, River Campus; Megan Muellner, Business Center; Amy Cruser, CNS, Heart Center; Cindy Mendel, Clinic Services, Plaza – Family Medicine; Jamie Bartnick, CNP, Plaza – Gastroenterology; Lisa Yamry, Megan Cruzen, and Judith Meyer, Registration, Women & Children.

June correction: Our apologies to Erin Boeckman and Charlene Tschida. Their names were listed incorrectly.

Kudos to:

• CentraCare Clinic received health care home (HCH) re-certification from the Minnesota Department of Health. All primary care sites are HCH certified for another year. Sauk Centre began its health care home program in July.

• Nearly 100 people participated in the June 16 Somali event hosted by CCC - Women & Children at the St. Cloud Public Library. Community Health Worker Fatumo Abdulkadir was introduced and a video on child development and safety was shared. Attendees requested future events to continue the education and communication.

Welcome to these new physicians

Muhammad Fareed Suri, MD, is a board certified in adult neurology and vascular neurology. He completed his residency training at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, Ohio. He also completed a vascular neurology fellowship at the University of Minnesota. From 2008-2012, he worked at the University of Minnesota. He has special interest in cerebrovascular diseases, stroke, endovascular surgical neuroradiology and interventional radiology.

Bharath Manu Akkara Veetil, MBBS, is a board-certified rheumatologist. Dr. Veetil completed his internal medicine residency at the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. He completed his rheumatology fellowship at Mayo Clinic. He has special interest in chronic rheumatic conditions.

Jessie Roske, MD, is a hospitalist who will work at St. Cloud Hospital. She completed her medical degree and internal medicine residency at the University of Minnesota.

Electrophysiologist John Schoenhard, MD, PhD, joined CentraCare Heart & Vascular Center. He is board certified in cardiovascular disease. He completed his cardiology fellowship at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and an electrophysiology fellowship at Stanford University in Stanford, Calif. Dr. Schoenhard specializes in complex ablation therapy and implantable defibrillators.

Dylan Folkestad, MD, is a family medicine physician who joined Long Prairie. Dr. Folkestad received his medical degree at the University of Minnesota and completed his family medicine residency at the University of Minnesota – St. John’s Hospital. He has special interest in psychiatry, emergency medicine, outpatient procedures and farm injury prevention.

Long Prairie clinic addition completed

CentraCare Health System – Long Prairie’s 3,500-sq.-ft. addition includes: nine exam rooms (including two family-size rooms), three physician offices, five specialty clinic rooms, three nursing stations, a new lobby and a library.

6th annual Loop the Plaza is Aug. 18

This 5K Fun Run/Walk for CentraCare employees, family and friends is at CentraCare Health Plaza. The cost is $6 and includes a T-shirt and a gift. Registration forms are available on CentraNet. Employees can earn 20 Reward Points for participating in this non-competitive event.