

Butler opens The Hall @ Center House to address health crisis for young adults

Day program offers variety of therapies focused on the mental illness of 18-26 year olds



Pictured left to right: Program Manager Erin Ursillo, LMHC; Medical Chief Michael Wolfe, MD; Senior Vice President Chief Medical Officer James Sullivan, MD; President and Chief Operating Officer Lawrence Price, MD; Foundation Board Member Allen H. Cicchitelli; Director of Operations Partial Hospital Sheila Russell, LICSW, and Medical Director Child and Adolescent Services Joel Solomon, MD.

PROVIDENCE – On Nov. 18, a ribbon-cutting for The Hall @ Center House celebrated the opening of the Hospital's Young Adult Partial Hospital Program. The program, located in newly renovated space, is designed specifically for people ages 18 to 26 years old.

LAWRENCE PRICE, MD, President and COO of Butler Hospital and Executive Chief of the CNE Brain and Behavioral Health Service Line, said, "We are extremely pleased to offer specialized care to a segment of the community that has unique experiences during this transitional period of life. With the support of our specially-selected multidisciplinary team, The Hall offers a place to come together for people addressing the complexities of life situations impacted by depression, anxiety, mood disorders or psychosis."

The program opened to a soft-launch in mid-October and is already seeing the benefits it's able to deliver. "Our goal is to create and provide a community of support and respect to help this group of young people better navigate

this transitional time in their lives with mental illness. We are already seeing from the feedback to date that this program is filling the unmet need of creating a safe and accepting space for people in this age group," said Program Chief, **MICHAEL WOLFE, MD**.

The Hall @ Center House is designed to feel like a campus student union or dorm lounge. The space is a brightly painted hall that connects comfortably

furnished shared and private rooms, including a group waiting area, a quiet room, two group therapy rooms and a series of private offices for the program manager, psychiatrists and team of therapists.

The program offers weekday, day-long treatment sessions that allow for individual, group and family therapy and medication management to support understanding and skill development to address emotional and behavioral health. People admitted to the program have problems that are hindering a healthy daily life at school, at work or with family and friends. The Hall accommodates up to 21 individuals at a time, with each person assigned a psychiatrist, an individual therapist, group therapists and occupational therapists. Open Monday

through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., patients are scheduled for five to eight treatment days, depending on health concerns and progress in the program. Each day consists of customized individual and group therapy sessions that draw on several types of evidence-based therapies, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Acceptance & Commitment Therapy (ACT). ❖

Public Health Accreditation Board accredits RI Department of Health

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has awarded five-year national accreditation status to 17 governmental public health departments, including the Rhode Island Department of Health.

NICOLE ALEXANDER-SCOTT, MD, MPH, director of Rhode Island Department of Health, praised the rigorous assessment process required for PHAB accreditation, noting, "We have built on our strengths and put quality improvement projects in place that have made the Rhode Island Department of Health a more efficient, effective organization. The national standards of quality and performance to which we will now be held will be instrumental in our work to eliminate health disparities and promote health equity by improving health outcomes for all Rhode Islanders in every zip code throughout the state." ❖