

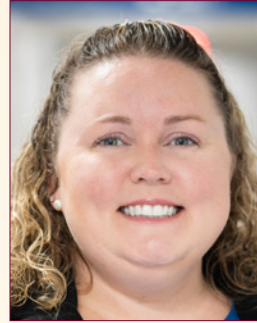
Appointments



Francesca Beaudoin, MD, PhD, appointed chair of the Department of Epidemiology at Brown School of Public Health

PROVIDENCE – After leading the Department of Epidemiology in an interim capacity for over a year **DR. FRANCESCA BEAUDOIN**, associate professor of epidemiology and of emergency medicine, has been appointed chair of the Department of Epidemiology

effective July 1, 2023. A clinical epidemiologist and practicing physician, Dr. Beaudoin began her academic career as assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School in 2010. Conducting research at the intersection of pain, opioid use, and opioid use disorders, her work is widely recognized as impacting the landscape of pain management and improving post-overdose care in acute care settings. A frequent collaborator with state stakeholders, she also leads an initiative at Brown focused on the health effects of Long COVID and serves the community providing clinical care at the nation's first mobile methadone clinic. ❖



Sherri L. Sprague named Kent's Senior VP for Patient Care Services & Chief Nursing Officer

WARWICK – **SHERRI L. SPRAGUE, MHA, BSN, RN, CENP**, has been named as Kent Hospital's new Senior Vice President for Patient Care Services & Chief Nursing Officer.

Sprague has been part of the Care New England/Kent Hospital family since 2005 and has repeatedly proven herself to be a valuable leader in the healthcare system. She has held numerous leadership roles including interim CNO, Associate Chief Nursing Officer (ACNO) of ED and Ambulatory Services for Kent Hospital, ED Nurse Director at Kent, and ED Nurse Manager at Memorial Hospital.

Her leadership skills have also been recognized outside of the organization as she was awarded the 2022 Providence Business News-40 Under Forty Award and was appointed as a member of the special legislative commission at the RI State House to study and provide recommendations to RI political leaders.

Sprague is a graduate of Salve Regina University where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Health Care Administration. ❖

RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL JOURNAL

RIMJ seeks social-media-savvy Board member

The Rhode Island Medical Journal (RIMJ) is seeking a social-media-savvy applicant to join its Editorial Board. Responsibilities include assisting in expanding RIMJ's reach and visibility on social media platforms, reporting site analytics, and researching and reporting on other medical social media platforms to inform the Board.

Expected time commitment is flexible, at several hours a month, and attendance at quarterly board meetings held via Zoom. A volunteer position, it is open to health care professionals in the RI medical community, and students, residents, or fellows.

Interested candidates can contact **William Binder, MD**, editor-in-chief, and **Mary Korr**, managing editor, at:

william_binder@brown.edu

mkorr@rimed.org

Help your Patients Keep their Medicaid Coverage

Medicaid members will need to renew their eligibility with the State of Rhode Island to keep their health insurance.

You can help now by reminding your Medicaid patients to update their account information with their current address and phone number. Medicaid members can update their information by:

- Logging into their HealthSource RI account: <https://healthyrhode.ri.gov>
- Calling HealthSource RI at 1-855-840-4774 (TTY 711)

Thank you from all of us at Neighborhood for your commitment and partnership in ensuring Rhode Island families keep their health care coverage!



Neighborhood members can scan the QR code to update their address through our new e-form or visit www.nhpri.org



Neighborhood Health Plan
OF RHODE ISLAND™

www.nhpri.org 1-800-459-6019 (TTY 711)

Appointments



Gov. McKee nominates Richard Charest to serve as Executive Office of Health and Human Services Secretary

PROVIDENCE – Governor Dan McKee recently announced his appointment of current Department of Behavioral

Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH) Director **RICHARD CHAREST** to serve as the next Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). The Governor has sent Charest's name to the Rhode Island Senate for advice and consent.

Charest has more than 30 years of experience in the health care sector, leading not-for-profit and for-profit community hospitals with specialty programs and a for-profit specialty hospital. Previously serving as President and CEO of Landmark Medical Center, Charest successfully led hospital operations and finances through receivership, reassured the community and engaged employees and medical staff to ensure uninterrupted high-quality care. He also served as President and CEO of the Rehabilitation Hospital of Rhode Island and held several executive leadership positions with Landmark Medical Center. Charest has served as BHDDH Director since 2021.

ANA NOVAIS, who has been serving as Interim OHHS Secretary since the departure of Womazetta Jones, will return to her role as Assistant EOHHS Secretary.

DR. LOUIS CERBO, Deputy BHDDH Director, will serve as Interim BHDDH Director until a permanent selection is made. ❖

Recognition

HopeHealth gala supports exceptional care for hospice and palliative patients

PROVIDENCE – HopeHealth, the leading non-profit provider of hospice, palliative and home health care in the region, will host its annual gala, "An Evening of Hope & Gratitude," on June 8, 2023, 5:30pm, at WaterFire Arts Center in Providence. The event will raise funds to support HopeHealth's mission of providing compassionate care, support, and education to hospice and palliative care patients and their families.

During the gala, HopeHealth will honor outstanding individuals with three unique awards:

The Human Dignity Award will be presented to **RICHARD W. BESDINE, MD**, and **TERRIE FOX WETLE, PHD**, who have dedicated their careers to research, education and policy to improve the care of people at end of life. Dr. Besdine, until his stepping down from leadership in 2020, was inaugural Greer Professor of Geriatric Medicine at Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Interim Dean of Medicine from 2002 to 2005. Dr. Wetle, a gerontologist, was founding dean of Brown University's School of Public Health.

The Distinguished Advocate Award will be presented to U.S. Senator **SHELDON WHITEHOUSE**, a champion for end-of-life care in the U.S. Senate, emphasizing Rhode Island as a leader in patient-centered care. He is known on Capitol Hill for his passion about care at the end of life and his work to make healthcare better for all Rhode Islanders and Americans.

The Spirit of Hope Award will recognize the extraordinary expertise and compassion of HopeHealth hospice aide, **PATRICK WALLACE, CHPNA**, whose commitment to patients and families embodies hospice and palliative care at its best. Employed at HopeHealth since 2007, Wallace was nominated by his peers who praised his expertise and leadership. One nominator commented that he is "a shining example of the HopeHealth spirit."

The fundraiser is hosted by The Public's Radio morning host **LUIS HERNANDEZ**. Guests will enjoy cocktails, a three-course dinner, live music and a "Mystery Box" drawing for a getaway at Newport's Wellington Resort.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available for companies and individuals who wish to support HopeHealth's mission. "The support of our community makes it possible for HopeHealth to provide important services, such as grief support, veterans' programs, Alzheimer's and dementia services and free care for the uninsured," says **SUZANNE FORTIER**, chief philanthropy officer at HopeHealth. "And 100% of the proceeds from this event support patients and families in need of compassionate care."

For more information about "An Evening of Hope & Gratitude," please visit HopeHealthCo.org/2023Gala. ❖