



Stroke Survivor, Lisa Deck shared her story at the Go Red For Women Luncheon accompanied by her mother Ann and daughter Kaitlyn.

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## News briefs

### CharterCARE, Prospect Medical Holdings begin official HCA process for approval

PROVIDENCE – CharterCARE Health Partners (CCHP), the corporate parent of Roger Williams Medical Center, Our Lady of Fatima Hospital and Elmhurst Extended Care, recently joined with California-based Prospect Medical Holdings (PMH) to make an initial presentation to the Rhode Island Health Services Council, one of two regulatory agencies that is reviewing the CCHP-PMH proposal.

Senior management of CCHP and PMH co-presented a 90-minute description of the joint venture proposal. This included a review of the planned regional coordinated care health system, the benefits this would bring to CCHP and to Rhode Island, and why PMH's expertise in designing innovative managed-care reimbursement models, strong allied physician networks and management and fiscal processes is a natural fit for CharterCARE.

The next step in the regulatory review process, as proscribed by the Rhode Island Hospital Conversion Act, will include additional hearings before the review committee and a series of public hearings in the metropolitan and north central Rhode Island areas. ❖

### HARI: Hospitals provide \$6.7B to RI economy

CRANSTON – The Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) released its annual economic impact report on Feb. 11, which details \$6.7 billion in economic contributions. "Hospitals are a key ingredient to Rhode Island's quality of life. They are a major contributor to the state economy and to keeping families healthy and secure by providing needed health services," said **EDWARD J. QUINLAN**, HARI president. "The financial health of hospitals is directly tied to the strength of our state overall. Hospitals must be financially strong to continue investing in our state's economy."

Highlights of hospitals' economic impact in 2012 include:

- Employing 20,800 health care professionals
- Supporting 22,300 jobs with economic activity
- Paying \$1.9 billion in wages
- Spending more than \$1.4 billion on goods and services
- Dedicating \$90 million to improving facilities and upgrading technology ❖

### Lifespan's Comprehensive Cancer Center opens clinic to target upper GI cancers

PROVIDENCE – The Comprehensive Cancer Center at Rhode Island, The Miriam and Newport hospitals has opened the Upper Gastrointestinal Multidisciplinary Clinic (UGMDC) for the treatment of esophageal, stomach, pancreatic, liver and bile duct/gall-bladder cancers.

"Receiving a cancer diagnosis is overwhelming for the patient and his or her loved ones," said **KEVIN CHARPENTIER, MD**, director of the UGMDC. "There is a lot of information to absorb and a lot of clinicians involved in the patient's care. At the UGMDC, we coordinate all care in one setting and walk patients and family members through every step of their care – from diagnosis to treatment to survivorship."

At diagnosis and during one visit, patients meet with physicians in all related disciplines including surgical oncology, medical oncology, radiation oncology and vascular radiology. The team then meets with the patient to recommend a personalized care plan.

Each patient also will meet with a nurse practitioner who is trained in oncology, specializing in gastrointestinal cancers and who serves as a patient navigator. ❖