

Op-Ed Post Employee Forums
St. James Mercy Hospital
July 15, 2015

I recently hosted a series of forums to update St. James Mercy Hospital (SJMH) and McAuley Manor employees regarding the progress we are making in transforming healthcare in Hornell. In the spirit of sharing as much as we can with the community, I wanted to provide an overview of what I shared with our team.

St. James Mercy has undergone an unprecedented transition over the past few months. We successfully became an independent entity. We welcomed new clinical talent to our organization, including our new Pathologist and Lab Director, Dr. Tamera Paczos, and a new Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Maureen Graham. We laid the groundwork for Post Acute Partners, Oak Orchard and Loyola to open their doors soon.

We are delighted that our partnership with UR Medicine has brought some terrific healthcare talent to our team to help us continue the transformation. Following are a few members of the UR Medicine team serving our hospital and our patients:

- **Dr. Ray Mayewski**, interim chief medical officer (CMO) of SJMH. He currently serves as CMO for Strong Memorial Hospital and CMO for Highland Hospital. Dr. Mayewski is certified in Internal Medicine and Pulmonary Medicine.
- **Patti Murray, BSN, MS**, who is supporting the nursing leadership transition at SJMH. Ms. Murray previously served as the associate director of the Wilmot Cancer Center.
- **Ann Ottman, RN, MS**, who is supporting Joint Commission preparations. Ms. Ottman is Strong Memorial Hospital's assistant quality officer.
- **Kathleen Adamczyk**, operating room (OR) manager, Strong West, who is assisting the transition in our OR suite. Ms. Adamczyk is a registered nurse who brings much experience in OR management and in implementing same-day surgical services.

We are fortunate to have their support and leadership assistance.

Our jobs are much, much more than organizational changes and administrative hurdles. Our jobs are about care delivery. They are about providing high-quality care, providing it safely, and providing it in a compassionate, safe environment. I am touched by our employees' commitment to these principles, and I see it every day. Moreover, recent visits by accrediting agencies to McAuley Manor, our pharmacy, and the SJMH laboratory earned us high praise from regulators.

I have never been more optimistic about our future. With UR Medicine's help, we are working with our community's physicians to understand what improvements are needed in our inpatient units and in our surgical program in order to boost hospital admissions and strengthen our balance sheet. We will share more about this effort in the weeks ahead. We are also working

with UR Medicine to define the long-range health care needs for Hornell and surrounding communities. All of this planning – at the hospital level, at the community level, and at the regional level -- is central to developing a more formal relationship with UR Medicine. That relationship will ultimately require the approval of the University's board as well as the New York State Department of Health.

We will have more to share in the weeks and months ahead as these efforts progress. In the meantime, please save the date for our next Town Hall meeting, which is scheduled for August 26.

Jennifer L. Sullivan
President & CEO
St. James Mercy Hospital

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