

'Hannah Banana' Brings Smiles To Patients At Beth Israel Brooklyn

It took a few trips to their car for June Prisand and Marcy Traub to bring in a big load of goodies they delivered to social worker Denise Taylor to be distributed to patients at Beth Israel Brooklyn.

"We received 100 bright yellow-colored bags filled with amusing readings, blank journals and activity-oriented books for patients suffering from chronic illness," said Ms. Taylor, the hospital's Geriatric, Caregiver Support & Community Outreach social worker.

"We deliver smiles" is the guiding principle of the unique organization established by Arin Prisand to honor her mother whose nickname, "Hannah Banana," became the name of the charity that gives gift bags to hospitals in the NY metro area.

The Hannah Banana Foundation helps brighten lives of chronically ill patients during their hospital stay, according to June Klein Prisand, a retired nurse who was Hannah's sister-in-law. She now works as the Foundation's Director of Product Management

and Hospital Liaison.

"The bags are filled with the type of activities that Hannah enjoyed during her many hospitalizations for cancer treatment," said Ms. Prisand.

Marcy Shwam Traub, also a retired nurse, and Ms. Prisand have been friends since their days as classmates at Beth Israel School of Nursing, from which they graduated in 1967. Ms. Traub has been a supporter of Hannah Banana from its early days and a frequent volunteer for "packing parties." She is the liaison for Beth Israel Brooklyn, which will receive additional gift bags as the supply gets depleted.

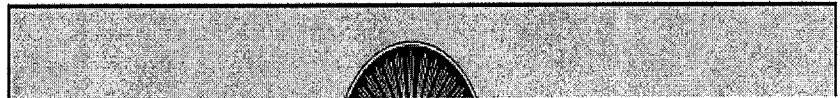
"True to Hannah Banana's motto, the gift bags bring smiles to our patients, and we welcome whatever can brighten patients' stay and aid the healing

process," said Marguerite Corda, RN, MSN, Vice President, Patient Care Services, Beth Israel Brooklyn.

Working with fellow PBISN alumna Mary Anne Gallagher, MA RN BC, Director - Quality, Practice and Standards, Patient Care Services, Ms. Prisand has been arranging deliveries by Hannah Banana volunteer Jared Schulman to Beth Israel in Manhattan.

"We have been sharing the Hannah Banana gift bags with the Brooklyn division because we have found that they truly contribute to the well-being and safety of our patients," said Ms. Gallagher. "We are very pleased that Marcy Traub will be looking after Beth Israel Brooklyn."

Phototext courtesy of Beth Israel Brooklyn



Denise Taylor, MA, LMSW, Geriatric, Caregiver Support and Community Outreach Coordinator, (left) receives Hannah Banana Foundation gift bags for chronically ill patients from June Klein Prisand (center) and Marcy Shwam Traub.

Continuum
Health Partners

Beth Israel Medical Center
Beth Israel Brooklyn
Roosevelt Hospital
St. Luke's Hospital
NY Eye and Ear Infirmary

MAY 6-12, 2013

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Continuum Receives Top Honor for Its Destination Diversity Initiative

Continuum Health Partners has been named one of the "Top 10 Hospital Systems" in the United States by DiversityInc, the country's leading organization in advancing and recognizing excellence in diversity management. Continuum debuts on this year's list at number four, joining some of the country's most prestigious academic medical centers and health care systems, including Mayo Clinic, Massachusetts General Hospital, Cleveland Clinic, Henry Ford Health System and Rush University Medical Center.

DiversityInc's Top 10 Hospital Systems list was determined solely through an arduous review process on data submitted, which included a 300-question survey divided into four equally weighted areas—CEO/Leadership Commitment, Human Capital, Corporate and Organizational Communications and Supplier Diversity.

Each company submitting an application was judged exclusively within its own industry, and each application was carefully vetted by DiversityInc's senior staff.

"This recognition is due to the tremendous efforts of so many Continuum employees who have supported and advanced our Destination Diversity Initiative over the past several years," says **Gail F. Donovan**, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and Cochair, Destination Diversity Initiative. "This includes members of our clinical, nursing and administrative leadership, department heads, mid-level managers and employees throughout the organization. Most importantly, we could not have earned this recognition without the hard work of those members of the Continuum community who lead and serve on our Site Diversity Councils and Subcommittees. Their local initiatives contribute greatly to our success."

"While we still have more to achieve in the months and years ahead, this award signifies national recognition of our efforts to advance a culture at Continuum that proudly embraces and supports the diversity of our staff," adds **Pamela Y. Abner**, Chief Cultural Diversity Officer and Cochair, Destination Diversity Initiative.

DiversityInc
2013 TOP 10 HOSPITAL SYSTEMS



Continuum Honors Healthcare Leadership Academy Participants

At a recent recognition event, Continuum honored eight individuals who completed The Academy for Healthcare Leadership Advancement program. The Academy is a collaborative, six-week certificate program of the Hospital Association of New York State and Cornell University's Johnson Graduate School of Management. Each participant, with the help of a sponsor, developed a Capstone Project plan that addresses organization-specific issues. The results of their work were presented at the event.

Pictured above are the program graduates (front row, from left): **Denise Henry**, Nursing, St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals; **Paul Zucker**, Rehabilitation Medicine, Beth Israel; **Nancy Wohlberg**, Patient Care Services, BI; **Abigail Nimako**, Medicine, SLR; **Maureen Kreider**, Infection Surveillance, BI; **Jennifer Montgomery**, Professional Services, Corporate; and **Joseph Rufa**, Professional Services, Corporate. Not pictured: **James Jones, MD**, Nephrology, SLR.

Among those attending the graduation are (back row, from left): **Etty Burk**, Vice President, Human Resources; **Brian Koll, MD**, Medical Director and Chief, Infection Prevention, BI (sponsor); **Harris M. Nagler, MD**, President, BI; **Rebecca Calabrese, MD**, Department of Hospital Medicine, BI; **Margaret Amato-Hayes**, Assistant Vice President, Patient Care Services, BI (sponsor); **Dahlia Rizk, DO**, Chief, Hospital Medicine, BI; **Kevin Molloy**, Chief Operating Officer, BI (sponsor); **Gregory Calliste**, Chief Administrative Officer, St. Luke's (sponsor); **Timothy Day**, Chief Operating Officer, SLR (sponsor); **Deborah Hackett**, Vice President, Professional Services; and **Rick Pogue**, Senior Vice President, Human Resources.

Not able to attend the ceremony were sponsors **Leticia Gotay**, Executive Director, Department of Medicine, SLR; **Martin Arron, MD**, Vice President, Ambulatory Operations, BI; **Mary Walsh**, Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, BI; and **Michelle Leone**, Senior Vice President, Revenue Cycle Operations and Managed Care.

Continuum's participation in the Academy's certificate program is facilitated and coordinated by Organization Development, Education and Talent Management.

SLR Offers Medical Interpreter Training

St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals' Language Services Department will hold two-days of medical interpreting training on **Saturday, June 1**, and **Saturday, June 8** from 9 am to 4 pm.

If you have native fluency in a foreign language and want to acquire additional skills, contact **Maribel Fiol** at (212) 523-2187 or mfiol@chpnet.org. This training is free of charge to all SLR employees and volunteers.

Caution! Suspicious E-Mails!

While Continuum has industry-leading security controls for e-mail, occasionally an unsolicited commercial or suspicious message ("Spam") makes its way into the chpnet.org system. That happened recently when an e-mail—supposedly from the "Helpdesk," with a subject line, "Message From Administrator"—reached a few members of Continuum's e-mail community. It asked them to click on a link that led to an external, malicious website.

Information Technology wants to remind all e-mail users to be reasonably cautious of e-mails from sources they do not know or recognize, especially those seeking to coerce personal or financial information. If you receive a suspicious or questionable e-mail, delete it. Take no further action and do not send any kind of reply. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

It's also important to note that members of the Continuum Health Partners community are prohibited from asking colleagues for their computer passwords, social security numbers or any other sensitive information via an e-mail communication. If you receive e-mails like this, please delete them.

If you have any questions or concerns about e-mails, please contact Ray Shelton, Information Security Officer at rshelton@chpnet.org or call (212) 523-7019.

CCCNy Slates Next 'Frontiers In Oncology' Lecture

Continuum Cancer Centers of New York (CCCNy) will present the next "Frontiers in Oncology" lecture on **Wednesday, May 8** at PACC, Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Conference Center, second-floor auditorium. The lecture is titled, "Vascularized Lymph Node Transfer in the Treatment of Lymphedema: Renewed Hope for the Oncologic Patient," with guest speaker **Joseph Dayan, MD**, Attending Plastic Surgeon and Director of Plastic Surgery Research at Beth Israel and St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals.

Dr. Dayan specializes in microsurgical cancer reconstruction and lymphatic surgery. His work on vascularized lymph node transfer for the treatment of lymphedema has been presented and recognized internationally.

A reception, with refreshments, starts at **6 pm**. The lecture is from **6:30 to 7:30 pm**. Registration is free, but seating is limited. Register online at www.chpnet.org/cme or call (212) 420-4713 to RSVP. The lecture has been designated for 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*.

Find the Right Geriatric Physician

For the elderly, having a good relationship with a doctor who can meet their health care needs is an important part of healthy aging. **Joyce Fogel, MD**, Chief, Geriatric Medicine, Beth Israel Department of Medicine, will discuss the importance of finding the right geriatric physician and how to prepare and make the most of a visit on **Friday, May 17** from **2 to 3 pm** at PACC.

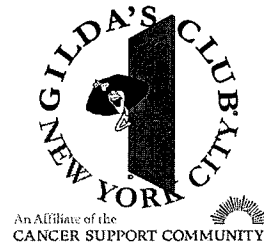
Registration is required. Please call (212) 420-4247 or log on to www.karpashealth.org for more information and to register.

Roosevelt Hospital Debuts 'Gilda Comes to You'

Cancer patients, their families and friends have a new resource at Roosevelt Hospital. "Gilda Comes to YOU" is part of Continuum Cancer Centers of New York, our integrated cancer program.

On April 17, Gilda's Club New York City held a ribbon-cutting for its latest community satellite branch. "Gilda Comes to You" has counselors who help people learn to live with cancer by offering wellness support groups, free workshops and lectures.

Gilda's Club, founded in 1995, is named after famed comedian and original *Saturday Night Live* cast member **Gilda Radner**, who died of ovarian cancer in 1989.



SLR Honors Winners of President's Award for Excellence

Frank J. Cracolici, President, St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals, is hosting a reception to honor the winners of its 2013 President's Award for Excellence on **Friday, May 17** at **1 pm**, Roosevelt Hospital, second floor conference room.

The winners, who exhibit distinguished character and serve as role models to others, are **Blanche Carney**, Child and Family Institute; **Jennifer Combalecer**, Pharmacy; **Michael Grossbard, MD**, Hematology-Oncology; **Adan Gutierrez**, Environmental Services; **Ali Jivraj**, Rehab Medicine; **Joyce Park**, CCC; **Irina Rimel**, CCC; **LaToya Selby**, Medicine-Cardiology; **Aurora Tecson**, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program; **Christopher Tegtmeyer**, Neurology-Stroke; Reverend **Florine Thompson**, Pastoral Care and Education; **James Toatley**, Financial Planning; **Danielle Witman**, Orthopedics; and **Molly Thorn-Johnson**, Radiation Oncology.

The week of **May 13** also will be "Employee Recognition Week," recognizing employees who have achieved service milestone anniversaries in 2012 of 10 or more years. SLR will distribute service awards at the following receptions:

- St. Luke's Hospital—**Monday, May 13, 1 pm**, Muhlenberg Auditorium
- Roosevelt Hospital—**Wednesday, May 15, 1 pm**, second floor conference room 2B

BI Sponsors Nussbaum Lecture

Beth Israel's Department of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery invites Continuum staff to the 14th Annual Moses Nussbaum Distinguished Lectureship on **Tuesday, May 14** from **7:30 to 9 am**, PACC, Friedman Conference Center, second-floor auditorium. The guest speaker is **Carey Balaban, PhD**, Professor of Otolaryngology, Neurobiology, Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh. His topic is "Scientific Medicine and the Sanctity of Life: A Historical Perspective."

RSVP Rebecca Ramirez at (212) 844-8706 or rramirez@chpnet.org.

'Hannah Banana' Makes BI Brooklyn Patients Smile

New York City's Hannah Banana Foundation, which strives to brighten the lives of hospital patients, recently delivered 100 yellow gift bags filled with amusing readings, journals and activity-oriented books to BI Brooklyn for its chronically ill patients.

Hannah Banana's **June Klein Prisant** and **Marcy Schwam Traub**, retired nurses and former classmates at Beth Israel School of Nursing (Class of 1967), delivered the bags to **Denise Taylor, MA, LMSW**, the hospital's Geriatric Caregiver Support and Community Outreach Coordinator.



Denise Taylor, MA, LMSW, BI Brooklyn's Geriatric, Caregiver Support and Community Outreach Coordinator, (left) receives Hannah Banana Foundation gift bags from **June Klein Prisant** (center) and **Marcy Schwam Traub**.

"True to Hannah Banana's motto, the gift bags brought smiles to our patients' faces. We welcome whatever brightens a patient's stay and aids the healing process," says **Marguerite Corda, RN, MSN**, Vice President, Patient Care Services, BI Brooklyn. Hannah Banana, which also brings gift bags to the Petrie Division, was founded by **Arin Amanda Prisant**, and named after her mother, **Hannah Prisant**, who battled cancer for more than 30 years, succumbing to the disease in 2008.

SLR's James P. Mara Center Annual Alpha-1 Walk Coming in May

On **Saturday, May 11**, the James P. Mara Center for Lung Disease at St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals will team up with the Alpha-1 Foundation for the sixth annual Alpha-1 Foundation George Washington Bridge Walk.

The two-mile, set-your-own-pace walk raises awareness and money for research into Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency, a genetic and hereditary condition that leads to decreased circulating levels of alpha-1 antitrypsin, which significantly increases the risk of serious lung disease in adults and liver disease in infants, children and adults.

The walk has grown every year since it began in 2008, with more than 150 people participating last year.

The James P. Mara Center for Lung Disease serves individuals with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which can include such conditions as chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

For more information about registering for the walk and alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, please call **Lori Tartell** at (212) 523-5471.

Why Can't I Sleep?

Join **Boris Chernobilsky, MD**, Department of Otolaryngology, Beth Israel and The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, as he discusses common sleeping disorders on **Friday, May 24** from **1:30 to 2:30 pm**, Petrie Division, Bernstein Pavilion.

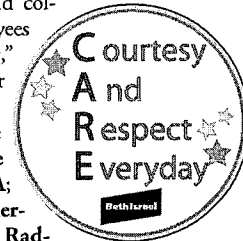
Registration is required. Please call (212) 420-4247 or log on to www.karpashealth.org for more information and to register.

BI Staff 'Caught Being Great'

Beth Israel staff continue to be cited by the "Caught Being Great" Program for demonstrating extra measures of care and compassion toward patients and colleagues. Because so many employees have been "Caught Being Great," *Connections* will publish their names over the next several issues.

Recent winners include **Caroline Brown, RN**; **Caroline Lee, RN**; **Carolyn Lee, USA**; **Catherine Valencia, RN**; **Catherine Zayas, PCA**; **Charmaine Radcliffe, USA**; **Christina Barbao, RN**;

Christina Geordinas, RN; **Christine Fontnelle, RN**; **Christine Rozetto, RN**; **Cindy Lopez, PCA**; **Claudette Daniel, PCA**; **Clyde Inniss, PCA**; **Colleen Fischer, RN**; **Dafana Naydenrma, RN**; **Dahlia Lawrence, PCA**; **Daisy Boyd**; **Danielle Hack Hargett, PCA**; **Daren Gray, PCA**; **Debbie Burnett, RN**; **Deborah Breeding, RN**; **Deborah Gordon-Stephen, RN**; **Delores Acosta, PCA**; **Divina Pascual, RN**; **Dmitry Yanovsky, RN**; **Dominick Rebello, PCA**; **Doreen Hutchenson, PCA**; **Wam Lam, MD**; **Dr. Hecht**; **Dr. Barnett**; **Dr. Crispin**; **Pauline Lesage, MD**; **Dr. Ramnarcine**; **Saadi Ghatan, MD**; **Steven Wolfe, MD**; **Ebele Odukoke, PCA**; **Eichelle Mickenzie, PCA**; **Elaine Pamliega, RN**; **Elizabeth Gavin, PCA**; **Elizabeth Sangiray, PCA**; **Emma Afarenica, RN**; **Emma Hoilett, PCA**; **Esther Adler, RN**; **Eulalec Perez, RN**; and **Evelyn Attipoe, RN**.



Phillips Beth Israel Earns High Marks

Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing (PBISN) is one of "five nursing programs in the nation's flagship cities that nurses love," according to *Scrubs*, a clinical nursing magazine that dubs itself "The Nurse's Guide to Good Living."

Scrubs has created *The Nurse's Guide to Nursing Schools* as a way to get the inside scoop on what it's like at thousands of nursing schools around the U.S. The *Guide's* description of PBISN states, "The Beth Israel School of Nursing is unique to this list in that it maintains small class sizes and is associated with Beth Israel Medical Center." PBISN offers an associate degree program, earned five stars for simplicity of application, value in terms of cost and academics, and that its students like the school.

Congratulations to Dean **Janet Mackin, EdD, RN**, Associate Dean **Lynn Rubenstein, MA, RN-BC**; Assistant Dean **Bernice Pass-Stern, MS, MEd**, and the entire faculty and staff of Phillips Beth Israel!

BI PA Presents at National Conference

Anu Bedi, PA, Chief Physician Assistant at Beth Israel's Neurosurgery Department, recently presented at a workshop for neurosurgical physician assistants during the annual American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) conference in New Orleans. Her topic was, "How to Perform Lumbar Punctures and Place Lumbar Drains."

AANS is dedicated to advancing neurological surgery to promote the highest quality patient care. The theme for this year's conference was "Changing Our Culture to Advance Patient Safety."