

FYI

# Third Quarter 2024 ICARE Nominees Announced

Four recipients of the quarterly nominations for the Joseph A. Lindenmayer Employee of the Year were recently announced. This group is the third of the recognition cycle for 2024.

It is our employees who make Gaylord so special for our patients. Whether providing direct patient care or providing the myriad of support to the caregiver teams, each employee is vital to our success and to our mission of improving the health and functionality of our patients. Our core values spell ICARE: Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect and Excellence. In its deliberations of the candidates, the committee constantly reflects upon the importance of respect, not only for patients and families, but also for co-workers.



The first nominee is **Amy Benoit**. Amy is the Manager of Traurig House. She has been here since November 2008 and was nominated by a patient.

The patient states, "Amy Benoit is the person who takes patients from the hospital and truly makes them whole again. Amy welcomes patients and families to the Traurig House like it's her home, and she cares for everyone like they are family. She advocates for all her residents and ensures they are treated with respect and dignity.

My son, Jason, was far from ready to return home after his hospital stay. He has a significant TBI. Not only did she and her staff work tirelessly and lovingly to help him, but she communicated with me every day. Amy Benoit is an exemplary employee, nurse, and caregiver. She deserves the award of Employee of the Year!"

Amy's supervisor, Jacob Hunter states, "I am thrilled to support the nomination of Amy Benoit as a quarterly finalist for the Joseph A. Lindenmayer Employee of the Year Award. Amy has been working at Gaylord for many years as a night Nurse Supervisor and has been the house manager for the Traurig House since 2019. Since starting this role, she has embodied an absolute sense of ownership of the house, the residents, and the staff. She does this without hesitation or reservation and in the spirit of Gaylord's ICARE values. She has truly made the Traurig House a home for many residents and their families.

Amy dives in headfirst to any challenge and takes the initiative to solve problems that arise every day. She is very well known for going the extra mile for her residents. She has met and waited with family members at the emergency room after a medical event to show support and commitment to the resident's health and recovery. She has even slept overnight at Traurig to keep a close eye on any new admissions that need to demonstrate medical stability in case there is a need for medical attention. Amy also did a home visit for a resident to verify progress after she noticed discrepancies in the resident's response versus the family's reports on progress. Her visit helped clear any confusion and helped clarify the treatment plan to ensure we were on track as a team. These are only a few examples of how Amy gives her whole self to this role for the sake of her resident's recovery.

*Continued on page 2*

Our Values are

Integrity

Compassion

Accountability

Respect

Excellence

### FYI DEADLINE

The deadline for the next FYI is Friday, March 1.

Email: [publicrelations@gaylord.org](mailto:publicrelations@gaylord.org)

Our mission is to enhance health, maximize function and transform lives.

# ICARE article continued from page 1

She does this because she genuinely cares and wants the best outcome and experience possible for every resident.

Traurig is the only residential rehabilitation center in Connecticut, which means the bar is set by Amy and her predecessors. Its mission has inspired several televised news stories and newspaper articles and has caught the heart of philanthropic groups who are moved by the amazing recovery stories from the Traurig House. Over the past three years, Amy and her team have received nearly \$600,000 in donations to cover the cost of room and board and therapy for residents who need this specialized care but whose insurance would not cover it. This speaks immense volumes about the trust these donors have in Amy and her staff and is a testament to their hard work that resulted in the miraculous recovery of their residents.

I fully and wholeheartedly support this nomination; thank you for considering Amy for this prestigious award."



Our next nominee is **Marielle Handley**. Marielle is a neuro physical therapist in our North Haven clinic. Marielle started with us in May 2014, left us for a period, and returned in October 2020. She was nominated by a patient.

The patient states, "Marielle worked very hard with me. I came because I have polio, so I wanted to stand up. I did it, and it made me very happy. I knew I couldn't walk far, just the feeling of standing. She had so much patience with me and worked hard every week. She has a great personality. I did great for 10 weeks, and it was a sad day for me to leave Marielle. She gave me stuff to do at home. She puts her patients first. Marielle was the best. She took on the responsibility with me. Answered a lot of my questions. She was very concerned about me."

Marielle's supervisor, Kaila Morin, states, "It is with great pleasure that I am writing in support of Marielle Handley's ICARE nomination. Even though Marielle only recently joined the outpatient family in North Haven, she is no stranger to Gaylord and has held multiple positions within the organization. She started working at Gaylord in 2014 as a rehab aide at North Haven while continuing

her schooling. After successfully becoming a licensed PT, she started working in October 2020 as a per diem in the inpatient department. Marielle joined our North Haven outpatient family full-time in July of 2023. In a short time, Marielle has excelled in the outpatient department and has already made a lasting impression on all her patients. Unsurprisingly, she has been nominated for this wonderful award so quickly by a grateful patient. I've received compliments from patients in awe of Marielle's wealth of knowledge and compassion. In addition to her compassion and kindness, she is a well-rounded clinician passionate about education, mentorship, evidence-based research, and improving patient outcomes.

Marielle thrives on continuing to grow her knowledge and skills daily as a neurologic physical therapist. Marielle is committed to ensuring her patients receive the best care possible and became a neurologic clinical specialist (NCS) in 2021. She has invested a lot of time in continuing education opportunities to provide her patients with the most up-to-date research-based treatment approaches. She has completed several continuing education courses in the areas of concussion/vestibular, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury, Huntington's, Parkinson's disease, and ALS. Marielle has also represented Gaylord at many community events and has presented in-services to the community and our staff. She is also working on various projects within Gaylord to improve patient and staff education, development, and patient outcomes.

Marielle shows up every day with a smile! She is very knowledgeable and provides excellent patient care to all her patients. She strives to learn and grow more as a clinician and leader. Marielle is a valuable asset to her peers, patients, and Gaylord as an organization. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to her peers and patients in their time of need. Marielle is a highly motivated and passionate clinician who is more than deserving of this award. I fully support Marielle as a candidate for the next employee of the year!"



Our next nominee is **Jonathan Guest**. Jon is a Registered Nurse on Hooker 2. Jon started in February 2020, left Gaylord and returned in January 2022. A patient nominated him. The patient states, "He is a night Registered Nurse, and every day, he gave me a toothbrush when I woke up before I had

my medications.

*Continued on page 3*

# ICARE article continued from page 2

He is always very caring and has a pleasant demeanor. We need more people like Jon to bring joy to our lives. God Bless him."

Jon's supervisor, Tina Ufferfilge, states: "I wholeheartedly support Jon's ICARE Nomination. Jon was truly meant to be in this profession. He is often recognized for his compassion and gentle approach. He consistently provides high-quality care to his patients. He is a true role model for others and has often been my go-to person when training new staff. He is a resource for his team. No matter how difficult the assignment is, Jon consistently delivers the same dedication and commitment to his patients and their families. He takes the time to learn about his patient's interests and cares about their overall well-being. Jon not only supports his patients, but he is there to support their families as well. He is always willing to listen to their concerns and answer questions. Jon has a way of putting people at ease with his calm and professional demeanor.

Jon is committed to Gaylord's goals. He participated in our most recent CARF survey. He didn't hesitate to come in on his time off to meet with the CARF surveyor to discuss all the fantastic things we do at Gaylord. He is invested in our success and takes pride in his job. He displays a high degree of loyalty and integrity.

I am not surprised a patient nominated Jon. As stated in his nomination, "We need more people like Jon to bring joy to our lives." I know Jon exhibits all ICARE values daily and is 100% worthy of this nomination. Gaylord is fortunate to have him on our team."



Our final nominee is **Sasha Brown**. Sasha is a Care Manager and has been with Gaylord since June 2017. The patient's family member nominated her.

The family member states: "I remain very much appreciative of and impressed by Sasha's care and concern

for my wife, Christine, and for myself during my wife's 12-week stay at Gaylord, ending on 4/23/23. Following our return home, where Christine needed 24-hour care, Sasha

continued to express concern for Christine's well-being. After it had been determined that removal of meningioma in Chris' front lobe would most likely clear up all of her apparent dementia symptoms, she underwent neurosurgery for successful removal of the tumor, followed by a three-week stay in Hooker 1.

During that early stage of rehab for Chris, Sasha paid several visits to her room in Hooker to provide friendship, encouragement and support. Sasha has asked to be kept apprised of Chris' recovery at Avalon at StoneRidge.

She is remarkably professional and a compassionate Care Manager who juggles the care of many patients while taking ample time to address her many patients' concerns regarding their health issues and recovery.

We had some legal documents that had to be signed off by doctors at Gaylord, and Sasha helped me to resolve all of that problem over a 6-week period of back and forth with legal and medical teams. She worked with us to advance our search and ultimate decision for the best location for Chris' further recovery, which also involved a myriad of phone calls, many documents, and referrals.

Ultimately, we decided that home would be the best place for Chris, and Sasha had set up all of the personnel and firms with whom we will be dealing for some time to include the in-house caregiver who is living here now until Chris is more mobile. You are fortunate to have Sasha as part of your organization."

Sasha's supervisor, Chris Babina, states: "Sasha remains very deserving of the frequent ICARE Nominations she receives from patients and their families. I relate to the sentiment expressed by a patient's spouse regarding Sasha's love and concern provided to his wife (Gaylord is) fortunate to have Sasha as part of its organization.

Sasha's actions are beyond words! She practices her role as a Care Manager "from the heart." Sasha incorporates the ICARE values of Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect, and Excellence into the everyday discharge of her duties. This patient underwent brain surgery for the removal of a tumor and experienced some adverse health issues afterward. Sasha provided support and encouragement to both the patient and her spouse.

*Continued on page 5*



## Gaylord Staff Engages with Students at Career Fairs

Gaylord recently participated in two local career fairs, engaging with students at Daniel Hand High School in Madison. Kristen Berg (nursing), Corey Podbielski (physical therapy), and Jim Russo (Human Resources) shared insights on healthcare opportunities, enlightening students about potential career paths. The second fair was the Regional Healthcare Summit at Gateway Community College in New Haven, attracting college students seeking internships and job prospects within local healthcare organizations. Senator Richard Blumenthal made a brief appearance, expressing regret for missing the grand opening of our Institute of Advanced Rehabilitation. The engagement showcased Gaylord's commitment to fostering connections and providing valuable information to aspiring healthcare professionals.



Coming Up: Gaylord will be attending a career fair at

Quinnipiac University's School of Medicine on Thursday, February 22. We will be promoting opportunities in Nursing, Physical Therapy, Respiratory, among other openings.

## Allen Abayao Named Quarterly DAISY Award Recipient



**Allen Abayao, RN, Hooker 2**, was named the DAISY Award winner for this quarter. The DAISY Award celebrates the extraordinary compassion nurses provide their patients, families and peers everyday.

Allen Abayao was nominated by his colleagues who states, "Allen is an RN on Hooker 2 and has worked at Gaylord for 8 years, working the evening shift. Allen is a silent hero. However, he is well known throughout the hospital as an expert in caring for our Traumatic Brain Injured patients. He has a unique way of approaching this complex patient population and de-escalating the most challenging situations with his calm

demeanor. He often shows up, coming to the rescue on other units during times of need. Allen has a robust skill set and is a valuable resource for the evening staff. He often helps on other units by starting IVs, assisting newer nurses with skills, or even taking charge off his home unit. For example, there was a recent unplanned situation on Hooker 1 where a charge RN resource was needed. Allen, without hesitation, offered to float off his unit to take charge. In addition, the same evening, he was a preceptor to a new employee whose primary preceptor was unavailable. This describes the extraordinary kind of nurse Allen is-always there to help where help is needed to ensure we keep our patients safe and support team members. He is a true professional and keeps his patients at the center of all he does. Allen lives our Gaylord mission, vision, and values. He is a role model to all of us. For these reasons and many more, Allen is most deserving of this DAISY award."

# ICARE article continued from page 2

Sasha went above and beyond to ensure the best discharge disposition for this patient. Initially, this patient was transitioned to a skilled nursing facility and then to home, and Sasha remained actively involved throughout the patient's continuum of care journey. Both the patient and her spouse are grateful. Time and again, her actions are undeniable as she places others, her patients, before herself. I most fully support Sasha's ICARE nomination."

**Attention FYI Readers:**

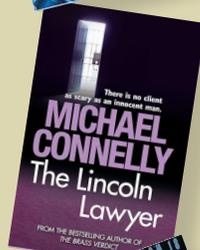
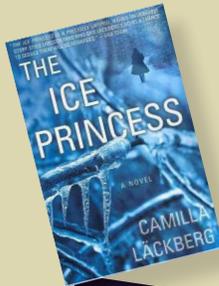
If you would like to submit an article, promote an event, etc., in FYI, please email: [publicrelations@gaylord.org](mailto:publicrelations@gaylord.org) with your details.

**Thank you!**



## Call for **BOOK** DONATIONS

Gaylord's Emily Hall Tremaine Library is looking for book donations. If you have any of the titles listed below or any titles by these acclaimed mystery writers, as well as any others that you think are great, they would be hugely appreciated. There are too many to list here but in future editions of FYI I will be asking for more across genres. Many patients find pleasure in the escape of a good novel so please keep us in mind the next time you're cleaning out your bookcase or maybe even book shopping.



- Camilla Lackberg --- The Ice Princess
- Deepa Anapparra --- Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line
- Harlan Coben ---- Fade Away
- Michael Chabon --- The Yiddish Policemen's Union
- Kate Atkinson --- Case Histories
- Alyssa Cole --- When No One is Watching
- Celeste Ng --- Everything I Never Told You
- Rudolph Fisher --- The Conjure-Man Dies
- Naomi Hirahara ---- Snakeskin Shamisen
- Mignon G. Eberhardt--- The Patient in Room 18
- Laura Lippman --- What the Dead Know
- Shirley Jackson --- We have Always Lived in the Castle
- Keigo Higashino --- The Devotion of Suspect X
- Michael Connelly--- The Lincoln Lawyer
- David Heska Wanbli Weiden --- Winter Counts

**For more information, contact:  
Muriel Garvey x3481**



**SAVE \$10**  
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**Staff24**



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**REGISTER TODAY**

[www.gaylordgauntlet.org](http://www.gaylordgauntlet.org)

# Perfect Attendance Awarded

The Human Resources team is thrilled to congratulate 63 Gaylord hourly staff who achieved perfect attendance in 2023. Eligibility for Gaylord's Perfect Attendance Program requires regularly scheduled staff to not have had any unscheduled time off during the year. The levels are awards for perfect attendance at one, three and six years in addition to the long standing 9-year program (720 hours of extended illness or equivalent for part time staff). This is quite the feat for those who achieve this level of recognition. Bonus payouts, after taxes, are \$100, \$200, \$300, and \$500 respectively. Thank you to all recipients and we are looking forward to even more staff appearing on this list for 2024!

## 9+ years

Milagros Baez, *Nursing Services*  
Lori Baker, *Facilities*  
Mark Baxter, *Facilities*  
Kathleen Caprio, *Patient Financial Services*  
Greg Gora, *Pharmacy*  
Ewa Grzymala, *Nursing Services*  
Maegan Koller, *Physician Services*  
Carol Langston, *Nursing Services*  
Malgorzata Letkiewicz, *Nursing Services*  
Dingase Mabunda, *Patient Financial Services*  
Marzena Michallik, *Nursing Services*  
Colaza Millares, *Nursing Services*  
Michael Moscato, *Outpatient Services*  
Sheila Padilla, *Pharmacy*  
Ignacio Ramos, *Food & Nutrition*  
Patricia Shara, *Traurig House*  
MauraJean Sipples, *Switchboard*  
Bogdan Stepien, *Facilities*  
Daisy Yepez, *Outpatient Services*

## 3-5 years

Jennifer Bordiere, *Administration*  
Alyssa Cardona, *Health Information Management*  
Marianne DiPasquale, *Switchboard*  
Ronell Donovan, *Admissions*  
Dea Muslli, *Physical Therapy-NH*  
Cyndy Najac-Stfleuer, *Nursing Services*  
Emilia Ozga, *Nursing Services*  
Paul Pacileo, *Human Resources*  
Diana Sanchez, *Respiratory Therapy*

## 6-8 years

Allen Abayao, *Nursing Services*  
Anna Claros, *Nursing Services*  
Emily Clifford, *Nursing Services*  
Erin Cusanelli, *Nursing Administration*  
Monica Dalton, *Nursing Services*  
Andrea Fairchild, *Nursing Services*  
Sharif Farag, *Nursing Services*  
Muriel Garvey, *Medical Library*  
Pedro Guzman, *Environmental Services*  
Barbara Janicki, *Nursing Services*  
Vanessa Latozas, *Respiratory Therapy*  
Lynne Lombardi, *Pharmacy*  
Georgette MacQuarrie, *Development/PR*  
Frank Marcella, *Nursing Services*  
Diane Modine, *Accounting*  
Melinda Nunez, *Patient Access*  
William Palumbo, *Inpatient Therapy*  
Kayla Rossignol, *Nursing Services*  
Michelle Saunders, *Inpatient Therapy*  
Keri Saxton, *Nursing Services*  
Janice Shaw-Page, *Medical Services*  
Maryann St Martin, *Nursing Services*  
Terry Talburtt, *Payroll*  
Olivia Valerio-Mata, *Nursing Services*

## 1-2 years

Tamara Alexander, *Physical Therapy-NH*  
Christine Bednarz, *Food & Nutrition*  
Chavah Brackman, *Nursing Administration*  
Danielle Copeland, *Nursing Services*  
Tracey Falasco, *Patient Financial Services*  
Arathy George, *Nursing Services*  
Jaime Kaska, *Nursing Services*  
Jennifer Nelson, *Environmental Services*  
Donna Peluso, *Physical Therapy-NH*  
Tamara Rodriguez, *Admissions*  
Alyson Yakowicz, *Nursing Services*



**PERFECT**  
Attendance




**Gaylord**  
 Specialty Healthcare | **Gift Shop**  
*Corner*

We had a very successful winter season and want to thank everyone for shopping with us. We appreciate your business! We're gearing up for spring and summer and look forward to new merchandise arriving weekly in the shop. Come and browse!



**Meet Cherlynn!**

Cherlynn began volunteering in the Gaylord Gift Shop in 2020, and does double duty by also volunteering for the HR Team!

**Why do you like volunteering in the Gift Shop?**

"I enjoy the interaction with staff, patients and visitors. People really enjoy coming into the gift shop to see what treasures they can purchase. It truly touches me when a visitor or staff thank me for volunteering. I'm thankful to be a part of the Volunteer team!"

Visit Cherlynn on Thursdays for all your shopping needs!

**GIFT SHOP HOURS**

<b>Monday</b>	12:30 PM – 4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday</b>	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
<b>Friday</b>	10:30 AM – 2:00 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	CLOSED
<b>Sunday</b>	10:30 AM – 1:30 PM

*Hours may be subject to change*

## Did you know Gaylord holds a weekly 'Photo of the Week' Contest on the intranet homepage?

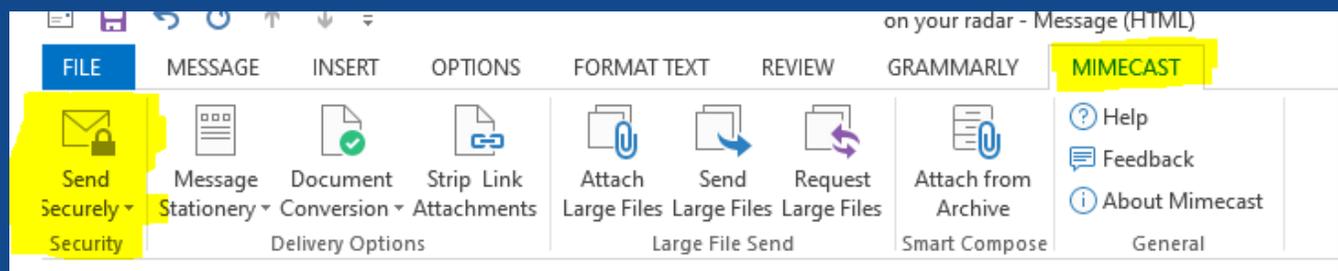
Share your amazing photos with us and your photo may be chosen for display on the intranet homepage for one week for all to see. Please email photo entries to [publicrelations@gaylord.org](mailto:publicrelations@gaylord.org) with your name, department, title and brief description of the photo.



## Reminder to Encrypt PHI Emails

As a reminder, when dealing with emails containing Protected Health Information (PHI), it is crucial to prioritize the security and privacy of sensitive data. Please utilize Mimecast to encrypt any emails that involve PHI properly.

Please contact the IT Help Desk if you need assistance or do not have the Mimecast plug in in Outlook.



## Near Misses:

Heroic Efforts From Our Safety-Minded Staff

A near miss is an event that might have resulted in harm but the problem did not reach the patient because of timely intervention by our amazing staff.

The Safety Coaches have selected the Near Miss submitted by Keri Saxton, RN from Milne1. Keri used the CHAMP tool: **Validate and Verify**, to identify the incorrect diet was on patient's food tray.

This is a great example of how **Practicing a questioning attitude** can prevent possible harm to a patient.

The Quality and Safety Department would like to thank Keri Saxton and Jaime Wortman for Speaking up for Safety and submitting Near Misses in December!



Thank you for Speaking up for Safety!

# Ion Bank Customer? A Vote For Gaylord Is Worth \$25!



Vote for Gaylord at Ion Bank or at [IonBank.com](http://IonBank.com) between February 1 and March 1, 2024. Each customer of Ion Bank has one opportunity to vote for a nonprofit organization to receive

a donation. Gaylord is a nonprofit organization and we have signed up for this contest as a way to garner support for our great patient care.

Ion Bank Foundation will give a minimum donation of \$25 for each customer's vote for Gaylord. If Gaylord receives the most votes we may receive an additional cash donation from the Foundation. Winners will be announced in May 2024.

Please share this opportunity with family and friends who are customers at Ion Bank. Gaylord will post this on Facebook and Twitter as well. Thank you for voting for Gaylord! If you have any questions please contact Cindy Bartholomew at extension 2844.

## Scholarships Available Through Midstate Chamber of Commerce

The Midstate Chamber of Commerce offers several \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school students and one for adults returning to school. Since Gaylord is a member of the Chamber it means ALL of our employees or their kids are eligible for these scholarships. Please see the attached description and application. For questions or clarification, please call the chamber directly at 203-235-7901 (not the Gaylord PR Dept.) and mention that you are with Gaylord. Deadline is March 15. Good luck!

## Yankees Healthcare Workers Appreciation Week

May 17 - May 22

Join your fellow healthcare professionals and the New York Yankees for select games in May at Yankee Stadium.

Each Special Event Ticket includes:

Either a New York Yankees Scrub top or tumbler co-branded with their healthcare appreciation logo and \$15 New York Yankees Food & Beverage Voucher\* (ONLY FOR 5/20, 5/21, 5/22 Games)

Click [HERE](#) for ticket information



### Chamber of Commerce Education Awards

Primarily based on community service, others available for STEM & Business Majors

DEADLINE: March 15, 2024

- Sanford S. Shorr Awards
- HOLA (Hispanic Outreach Leaders in Action)
- Young Award
- Jonal | Kannenberg Award



You might be eligible for more than one award!

[midstatechamber.com](http://midstatechamber.com)



203.235.7901

February	March	April	May	June
American Heart Month	National Brain Injury Awareness Month	Certified Nurses Day March 19	Occupational Therapy Month	National Hospital Week June 7, 21
Black History Month	National Nutrition Month	World Oral Health Day March 20	Jeans for Charity April 5, 19	National Nurses Week June 15
National Therapeutic Recreation Month	National Social Work Month	Patient Experience Week April 29 - May 3	Jeans for Charity May 3, 17, 31	Gaylord Gauntlet 5k June 15
	Jeans for Charity March 1, 15, 29		Gaylord Golf Classic May 20	
	Patient Safety Awareness Week March 10-16			
	Pulmonary Rehab Week March 10-16			



**Be Innovative.  
Think Possible.**



**Share your  
innovative  
ideas with us.**

Scan the QR code or  
email [innovation@gaylord.org](mailto:innovation@gaylord.org)

# Jeans for Charity: Friday, March 1



The featured organization is

**Special Olympics-  
Team West  
Haven**

Special Olympics Connecticut provides year-round sports training and competition opportunities for close to 10,000 athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and Special Olympics Unified Sports® partners (individuals without intellectual disabilities who are the athletes' teammates). Special Olympics is about inspiring inclusion for people of all abilities through sport and revealing the champion in all of us. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Employees need a Jeans for Charity sticker or button to indicate their participation.

**Stickers can be purchased for \$2** in the cafeteria, Jackson Java, Human Resources, Jackson 2 outpatient, North Haven, Cheshire, Cromwell and Madison.

## THANK YOU

to the Human Resources department for sponsoring cupcakes for all employees on Valentine's Day!



July	August	September	October	November	December
Jeans for Charity July 5, 19	Jeans for Charity August 2, 16, 30	Jeans for Charity Sept. 6, 20	Jeans for Charity October 4, 18	Jeans for Charity November 1, 15, 29	Jeans for Charity December 6, 20
Legacy Week July 8-12					

# What does a Gaylord Social Worker do?

Did you know that nearly 4 in 10 adults have reported symptoms of anxiety or depression? Did you also know the field of social work is one of the fastest growing professions? But when did it all start?

The profession of modern social work started in the 19th century as an effort in helping poor and indigent immigrants who were flooding into eastern cities. In 1905, a hospital in Massachusetts hired their first professional social worker to be part of their staff. This moment was the beginning of a movement, changing how medical and social well-being need to be managed. In 1911, there were 44 social work departments in hospitals across 14 cities in the United States; and by 1912, there were 200 social work departments. As a response to this quick growth, the American Association of Social Workers was created in 1918 to enhance formal education with hospital-based practice.

Similar to Gaylord's history, social workers were utilized during the treatment of tuberculosis. In 1925, Harry L Hopkins, who at that time was the director of the NY Tuberculosis Society, wrote, "the fields of social work and public health are inseparable, and no artificial boundaries can separate them. Social work is interwoven in the whole fabric of the public health movement, and has directly influenced it at every point." Today, there are as many as 600,000 social workers and about half of those work in healthcare.

In the Long Term Acute Care setting, social workers participate in the diagnosis and treatment of patients and families, as well as assisting in the facilitation of the rehabilitation program. Here at Gaylord, social workers focus on helping patients adjust to catastrophic injuries (TBI, stroke, and spinal cord injury), substance abuse, PTSD, chronic pain, and general mental health concerns. Some specific responsibilities include:

- Evaluates patients for psychosocial, emotional or behavioral issues with current level of risk
- Plans and administers therapeutic treatments utilizing evidence-based interventions
- Conducts individual psychotherapy, group and family counseling sessions
- Assesses the patient's need for continued care and supports in the community
- Performs crisis interventions, including suicidal patients

Inpatient Gaylord Social Workers are onsite for interdisciplinary team members to utilize them in real time. For example, a patient might not be initially excited with their new ability to self-feed with adaptive equipment, as they still struggle accepting their injury. Or a family member has become more of the caregiver rather than the loved one at the patient's bedside. Another example is a patient who is pressured to feel positive and motivated by family when they need their feelings of sadness and frustration to be validated. These are behaviors and conversations multiple disciplines see or hear during care and treatment sessions. This valuable information can be relayed to their social worker and the social worker can even join your visits!

March is National Social Work Month, recognizing all social workers across the country. Join us in thanking our social workers Blake Gagliardi, Rose Vazquez-Santiago, Dorene Scolnic and Su Stanton for their dedication and empathy!

As March is National Social Work Month, remember that you have Gaylord Social Workers as a vital part of your team! The theme for this year's social worker month is empowerment!

MARCH IS SOCIAL WORK MONTH



Let's celebrate our social workers.

**Thank you for all that you do for Gaylord!**



Follow Gaylord Specialty Healthcare on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/gaylordspecialtyhealthcare](http://www.facebook.com/gaylordspecialtyhealthcare)



Gaylord is also on YouTube.  
[www.youtube.com/user/GaylordHealthcare](http://www.youtube.com/user/GaylordHealthcare)



Follow Gaylord on Twitter.  
[twitter.com/GaylordHealth](http://twitter.com/GaylordHealth)



Congratulations to the following staff who were recognized by their peers in the month of January. Each month a name is pulled to win a prize.

Abigail Myers	Nursing
Alexa Apotria	Nursing
Bill Harpin	Facilities
BJ Palumbo	Inpatient Therapy
Bogdan Stepien	Facilities
Brad Douglas	Mobility Tech
Chris Porter	IT
Colin Parker	Inpatient Therapy
Dr. Rosenblum	Physician Services
Erin Cusanelli	Nursing Administration
Finn LaPierre	Inpatient Therapy
Jennifer Kleinschmidt	Care Management
Jill Hellstrand	Inpatient Therapy
Kara Dorsey	EVS
Kate Rudolf	Inpatient Therapy
Lori Simon	Outpatient Therapy-WL
Madelyn Sola	Outpatient Therapy-NH
Mandy	Inpatient Therapy Facility Dog
Mark Baxter	Facilities
Michael Dinette	Facilities
Mike Bowering	IT
Nicoasha Frazier	Nursing
Phil Silverio	Physical Therapy-CH
Sarah Carpenter	Inpatient Therapy
Scott Siepatowski	Facilities
<b>Tamara Alexander</b>	<b>Rehab Aide-NH</b> <b>RAFFLE WINNER</b>
The Facilities Team	Facilities
Tim Polaske	Facilities

**Did your co-worker go above and beyond?**

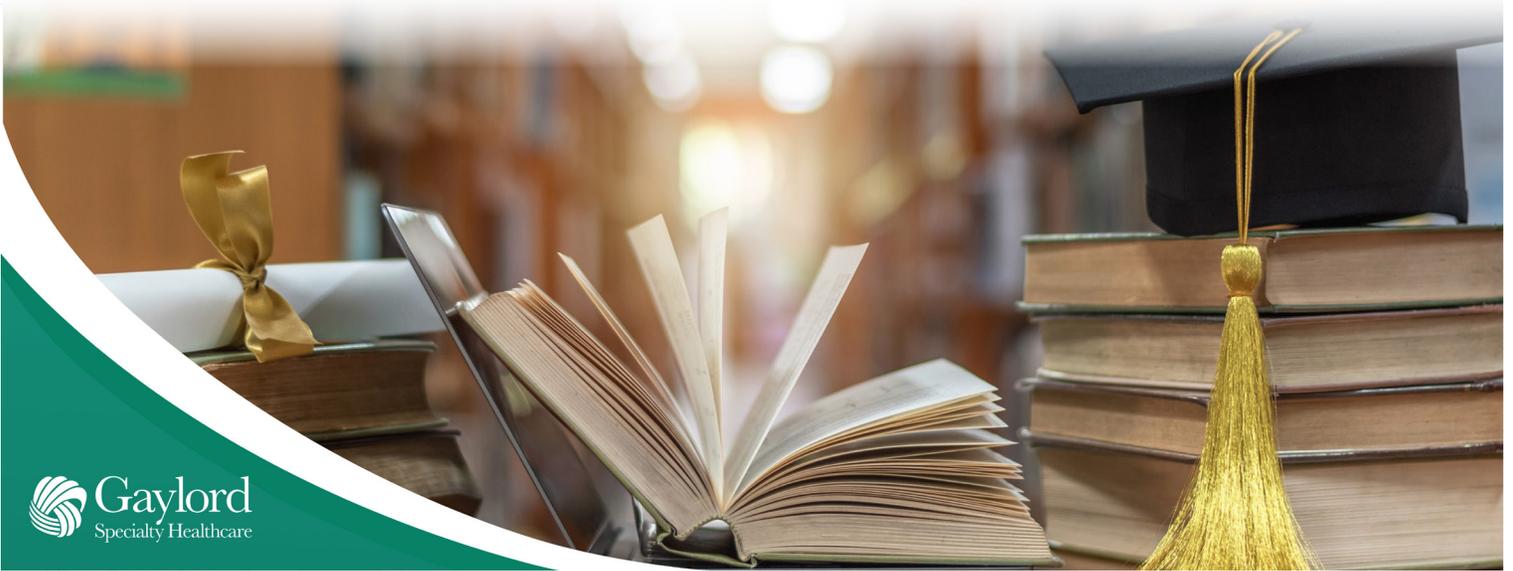
Scan the QR code and fill out the form to recognize them.



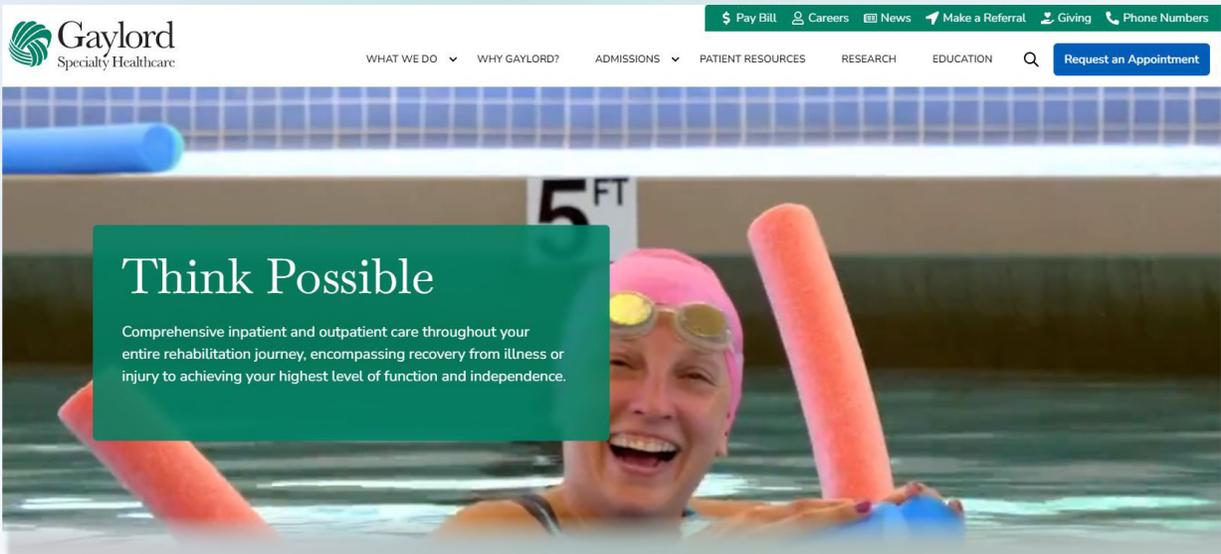
# Academic Scholarships Available

Apply today!

Visit the intranet/Pulse for the application.



## NEW Gaylord Website Coming Friday, February 23



MARCH IS  
**BRAIN INJURY**  
AWARENESS MONTH



# BIKE HELMET DRIVE



for kids

**March 1 -31**

**Looking for NEW  
bicycle helmets for kids.**

Donation boxes located in the lobbies at: Milne, Jackson 1, Jackson 2, North Haven and Brooker.

Don't have time to get to the store?  
**Venmo a donation.**



**@Gaylord-Hospital**  
Title: helmet

*All helmets will be donated to United Way.*



# Research EDucation Development **(REDD)** Series

## Writing a Manuscript Part 1: HOW TO GET STARTED

### ABOUT REDD SERIES

The REDD Series has been developed to provide staff interested in research with a background in various skills and topics that will help them to get their project started. **These bite-sized informative summaries will be presented in 15 – 20 minutes, or less.**

#### For more information:

Hank Hrdlicka, [hhrdlicka@gaylord.org](mailto:hhrdlicka@gaylord.org)

#### Date:

Thursday, February 29, 2024

#### Time:

12:10 p.m.

#### Location:

Contact [jcorbett@gaylord.org](mailto:jcorbett@gaylord.org) for Zoom info

#### Host:

John Corbett of the Milne Institute for Healthcare Innovation

Can't attend live? No worries!

**All series sessions will be recorded and made available on the Research Department SharePoint**



# **Gaylord Café**

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**sign-up today**

**March 14<sup>th</sup>**

**1:00PM**

**14 participant seats available**

**please contact Kelley Breyer at  
[kbreyer@gaylord.org](mailto:kbreyer@gaylord.org) to register**



# Refer A Friend

Employee Referral Bonus Program

Helping fill jobs is **ALL** our job.  
**Get paid to help.**

**\*REFERRAL BONUS**

**POSITION**

**\$2,000** RN

**\$2,000** PT

**\$1,500** LPN

**\$1,000** PCT

**\$1,000** Intake Rep

**\$500** EVS or F&N

**\*For program details and payout schedules, contact HR.**

