

This Week at MCL

A Memorandum to the Employees of the Medical Center of Louisiana, New Orleans
Charity Campus ■ University Campus

August 18-24, 2003



Maternal Child Services Strive to Make Our Pediatric Patients Star Students!

Health and education go hand in hand. That's the belief of the staffs of all units and areas within Maternal Child Services. (For instance, parents must be able to read instructions and follow directions from health-care givers.) And they're turning that belief into action.

It all began because Yevetta Chesser, Administrative Manager for Maternal/Child Services and also a community activist and former teacher, was deeply concerned over the ongoing problem of many parents waiting until after Labor Day to send their children to school. That delay, depending on the parish, could range from seven days to more than two weeks. As a result, many of the children – some are our patients – miss projects and assignments that may put them behind others in class, causing feelings of frustration and failure. The number of children who attend the first day of school also affects federal funding for the schools.

Because the staffs of the areas within Maternal Child Services deal daily with children and their parents, the department was in a unique position to encourage all school-aged children to attend school from the first official day of the school session. So they devised a campaign, and now each of the Maternal Child Service units and

areas are doing the following aimed at our pediatric patients and their parents:

★ ***Displaying a decorated bulletin board or poster*** announcing the first day of school in Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard parishes and stressing the importance of on-time attendance. The first day of school in St. Bernard Parish was August 14; in Orleans Parish it is Thursday, August 21, and in Jefferson Parish Monday, August 25.

★ ***Passing out a brochure*** announcing that "Medical Center of Louisiana Patients are Star Students on the first day of school and every day!" The brochure contains important information from the New Orleans Public Schools System.

★ ***Encouraging parents to do the right thing*** for their children, themselves and the schools by sending their children to school on the first day that classes start.

★ ***Asking our new mothers*** if they have school-aged children at home and if so reminding them to send the children to school on the first day.

This campaign is meant to serve in a cheerleading, not a judgmental, capacity. Our goal is for each child to attend school on time all the time. Maternal Child Services plans to continue and expand the program in the future.



Applause! Applause!

■ **Ladell Carroll**, Rehabilitation Services, is the August Employee of the Month for University Campus. Her nomination

reads, "No one is more deserving of the Employee of the Month honor than Ladell. She treats everyone with utmost respect. Not a day goes by that a patient does not comment on her congenial personality and willingness to go that 'extra mile.' Two recent comments from patients were: 'She makes me want to come to therapy,' and 'You can't tell if Ladell is having a bad day or not. Every day I come here she is smiling and cheerful.' Remarks like these are not uncommon. It is comforting to know that Ladell is the first person patients meet in our department. Her demeanor always seems to comfort and relax the patients who often arrive with feelings of anxiety and uncertainty. After a brief time with her, the patients are uplifted and in better spirits than when they arrived.

"During Ladell's 17 years at the Medical Center of Louisiana, many changes have taken place, but she had made the necessary adjustments with flexibility, creativity and thirst for knowledge. As her job has grown, so has our respect for her. She is always busy and never complains. Above all, the patients always come first, and somehow her work always gets completed. A co-worker once stated, 'Heaven help us if we ever had to replace Ladell!' Everyone in the department can count on her, not only as a co-worker but as a true friend."

■ Those receiving promotions in July were: **Lisa Alexis**, LPN 3, Emergency Surgery 2; **Collette Blancq**, RN Assistant Section Manager, One Day Stay, University Campus; **Letitia Davis**, Clerk Chief 1, Pediatric Emergency Room; **Angelique Eddington**, Clerk Chief 1, Fast Track, University Campus; **Mazey Ferrier**, Office Coordinator, Pathology; Medical Assistance Program – **Connie Galloway**, Office Manager 5, and **René Taylor**, Office Coordinator; **Ella Harrison**, Stock Clerk Supervisor, Facility Maintenance; **Joan Miller**, Police Officer, Hospital Police; **Lowell Penland**, RN 3, EMS-Adult; **Glenda Ratcliff**, Accounting Specialist, Patient Billing; **Paulette Richoux**, RN Assistant Section Manager, Telemetry/Intermediate Care, 5 West; **Paul Rollins**, Plumber/Pipefitter

Master, Facility Maintenance; and **Amanda Walker**, Hospital Admit Tech, Admit.

■ In Pharmacy: **Doctors Gregory Guillory and Robert Hamilton** are the authors of "Counseling Patients on Secondary Prevention of Acute Myocardial Infarction" in the July 2003 issue of *Pharmacy Times*; **Dr Robert Hamilton** completed the American Society of Health-system Pharmacists (ASHP) fellowship in Anticoagulation Management; **Dr. Mary G. Lewis** has been accepted by the ASHP for fellowship training in Critical Care Pharmacy; and **Dr. Lisa D. Ross** completed the ASHP fellowship in Asthma Management.

Happenings & Deadlines.

■ Parking Contract Renewals This Week.

August 18 – Derbigny parking site, and August 19, 20, 21 & 22 – Perdido and Brown parking sites. If you park in any of these lots, bring a copy of your vehicle's registration to the Parking Coordinator in the MCL Parking Office located in the University Medical Office Building, 2025 Gravier Street, room 702, to finalize your paperwork. All parkers must be wearing their MCL ID badge.

■ **LSU/Tulane Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Conference.** Each Monday, 4-5 p.m., 1542 Tulane Avenue, room 507. Physicians who wish to have a case presented, call Christy Durbin at 568-4765.

■ **August Microsoft Classes.** *Outlook 2000*: 19th & 20th, 9-11 a.m.; *Power-point 2000*: 27th, 9-11 a.m.; *Excel 2000*: 21st, 9-11 a.m. Classes in E805, Charity Campus. To register, call 2-6369.

■ **Tulane University Health Sciences Center Medicine Grand Rounds.** August 20, noon-1 p.m., 1st floor auditorium, 1430 Tulane Avenue. "How to Use Troponin Biomarkers," with Dr. Allan S. Jaffe, Professor of Medicine, Cardiovascular Division, Mayo Medical School, Rochester, Minnesota.

■ **Health Call.** Dr. Keith Van Meter will talk about bariatric medicine during this week's Health Call. He welcomes your calls during the show. August 21, WLAE TV, 8 p.m., and rebroadcast August 24 at 12:30 p.m. Health Call, now in its 13th year on the air, is sponsored by the Medical Center of Louisiana. If you have a health topic you wish to recommend for the show, call Jerry Romig at 2-3967.

- **Cancer Activities Committee.** August 27, Medical Staff Services Conference Room, 4th floor, west. Lunch at 11:30; meeting at noon.
- **CPR Classes.** *Heartsaver* – August 27, noon-4 p.m.; *Health-care Provider* – September 9, 7:30 a.m.-noon. In Staff Development, C-900, Charity Campus. Must register in person with \$4 per class, payable by check or money order to MCLNO Foundation. Call 2-2854 or 2-2057.
- **Critical Care Course Offering #2:** “Introduction to Critical Care: Physiologic Foundation.” September 2, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Charity Campus, 9th floor; Staff Development & Education. 8.1 ANCC contact hours. Second class in the course which runs through December 16. Call 2-2854 for cost, registration and other details.
- **Crime Prevention & Safety Awareness Inservice.** Tuesday, September 2, 8-10 a.m., 10 a.m.-noon, 1-3 p.m. and 3-5 p.m., University Campus auditorium. A member of the National Crime Prevention Task Force will talk about personal safety awareness and crime prevention. Free. Each session limited to 100 people, so pre-registration is recommended by calling 2-3372.
- **ACLS for Non-Critical Care.** September 10 & 11 in Education & Staff Development, C-900, Charity Campus. Call 2-2854 to register.
- **Hazardous Material Team Training.** September 15 & 18. Covers skills and knowledge required to be a HazMat Team member. 16.8 contact hours/CEUs for RNs, radiology techs, and respiratory therapists. To register call Tim Butcher, 2-2687.
- **Exercise Classes.** *Exercise* – Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m, Education, 9 center, Charity Campus. □ *Tai Chi* – Thursdays, noon-1 p.m., Lions Clinic, Neuroscience Center. Free.
- **Employee Assistance Programs.** All the following groups meet at LSU Lions Clinic, 2020 Gravier Street, 5th floor. Call 568-3931 with questions or for full details: *Codependency Anonymous*, Mondays at noon, free; *AA*, Tuesdays at noon, free; and *a psycho-educational group* for those who may be chemically dependent or have family members who are, Thursdays, 4-5 p.m., \$10 per week for 10 weeks.



Performance Improvement Transitional Duty & Return to Work

The Transitional Duty and Return to Work Policy (#8143) applies to all full-time, permanent employees on leave as a result of accidental injury or occupational diseases contracted during the course and scope of employment with the Medical Center of Louisiana. The goals of this policy and the whole transitional duty and return-to-work program are to:

- ▶ facilitate rehab of employees by returning them to their normal work routine as soon as it is safe to do so without loss of benefits or pay;
- ▶ give employees more options in returning to work;
- ▶ retain qualified employees;
- ▶ reduce worker's comp expenses;
- ▶ facilitate a safer work environment; and
- ▶ provide the earliest possible return to work.

Although MCL cannot guarantee traditional duty placement, this policy and program were developed to assist employees by providing opportunities to perform productive work on a temporary basis until the employee can return to her/his regular job.

As with all MCL policies, we encourage you to review this policy which clearly outlines responsibilities of employees, managers and department directors, and specific procedures that must be followed in the event transitional duty becomes an option. Adherence to these procedures is critical, from the documents that must be completed within certain time lines, to the continual follow up and reporting.

**For further clarification or assistance,
call Jemma Mendoza,
MCL Worker's Comp Analyst, at 903-0291.**

Welcome to MCL!

Patient Escort – *Marjorie Causey* and *Marque McClain*; *Terrazz Causey*, Medical Records; *Doretha Darville*, Rehabilitation Nursing; *Katrina Davis*, High Risk Antepartum, 4 West; *Marilyn Francis*, Operating Room; *Zannette McCrea*, Pharmacy; Pathology – *Olga McMillan*, *Anh Tuyet T. Nguyen, Jr.*, *Suzanne Sheppard* and *Demetrius Williams*; *Claire Minvielle*, Human Resources; *George Simpson*, CRNA, Anesthesia; *Monique Toney*, Diagnostic Radiology; *Patricia Young*, Telemetry Intermediate Care-5 West; and *Raquib Washington*, Mental Health Services. **RN Pool:** *Savitri Tillery*, ICU, University Campus

Do you have high blood pressure?

Tulane University Health Sciences Center, Department of Medicine, is seeking volunteers with mild to moderate high blood pressure to participate in a high blood pressure research study. To qualify, the individual must be between 18-55 years of age with treated high blood pressure and no other serious medical or mental health problems. The volunteer will have a complete physical exam to determine if he/she is eligible and will be compensated if accepted for the study. To sign up for the study or for more details call 585-6460.

CAMPUS FEDERAL

If there is anything we can expect, it's the unexpected. When you get your new auto loan through Campus Federal Credit Union, you receive something extra: a Skip Payment Reward Certificate for each year of your loan. Hold onto it, and when one of life's unexpected expenses come up, sign the certificate and return it to Campus. They will wait a month for your payment. It's that simple. To help you manage life's unexpected expenses, call Campus at 568-8425.

Are you eligible for DROP?

- *Are you approaching 30 years of service with the state?*
- *Will you soon be 55 or older and have 25 years or more of service with the state?*
- *Will you soon be 60 or older and have 10 years or more of service with the state?*

If you answered "yes" to any of these

questions, you may be eligible to apply for DROP, a program which might enhance your LASERS retirement. To make an appointment to apply for DROP or if you have questions about the program, please contact Ricky Turner in Human Resources at 2-2721.

Employee of the Month Guidelines.

Following are some of the main guidelines when placing a person's name into nomination for the Employee of the Month honor:

- 1.) Anyone can nominate another employee for the Employee of the Month honor. However, the nomination must be approved and signed by the individual's supervisor and department director before being submitted.
- 2.) An individual who has been Employee of the Month in the past can be nominated for the honor again but only after a 10-year period has passed.
- 3.) An individual who is nominated for the honor must be a full-time employee of the Medical Center of Louisiana for at least two years.

Honorees are chosen by an Employee of the Month Committee established on each of our two campuses. Each person chosen receives a framed certificate, a monetary gift from the Medical Center of Louisiana Medical Staff, a distinctive plaque which is given to the individual after it has been on display in the Employee of the Month cabinet on the respective campus for a year, coverage in *This Week at MCL*, and eligibility for the Employee of the Year honor.

You can pick up a nomination form from either Eudell Vine in Administration, 1st floor, Charity Campus, or Carol Hubert in Marketing, room 518, 2025 Gravier Street, University Campus or speak to either of them if you have any questions about the program.

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This Week at MCL is published through MCL Marketing & Public Relations, suite 518, 2025 Gravier Street, New Orleans 70112, Jerry Romig, Director, Lynn Lorando, Editor. All items submitted must have prior supervisory approval. Please send information to Lynn Lorando on e-mail to mloran@lsuhsc.edu; by fax to her attention at 903-3699; or to her attention through interoffice mail. Thank you.