“GRINS TO GO” BAGS PROVIDE SMILES AT MERCY CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL & CLINICS

On Wednesday, June 15, UnitedHealthcare delivered 200 “Grins to Go” bags to patients of Mercy Children’s Hospital & Clinics. Each bag included toys, games and other fun activities for the patients to enjoy.

Kim Foltz, CEO of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Iowa, along with Austin Pittman, CEO of UnitedHealthcare Community & State, and local UnitedHealthcare employees delivered the bags.

“UnitedHealthcare’s ‘Grins to Go’ bags provide an opportunity to bring some sunshine to Iowa children who are bravely battling health challenges,” Foltz said. “As a former nurse, I know it’s sometimes the little things that make the day just a bit more manageable for these patients.”

President of Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines, Bob Ritz, stopped by to interact with the kids who received the bags and to meet with the UnitedHealthcare team.

“We are pleased to partner with UnitedHealthcare to deliver toys, games and other fun activities to patients at Mercy Children’s Hospital,” Ritz said. “Mercy is committed to providing our patients the highest quality care and we welcome the opportunity to work with others in the community to make that a reality.”

UnitedHealthcare will deliver 1,000 “Grins to Go” bags to young patients across Iowa to kick off a new statewide initiative.

PATIENT APPRECIATES CLINIC EXPERIENCE

In the past, I remember going for doctor appointments and being frustrated with long wait times and busy staff. That doesn’t seem to be the case at Mercy Internal Medicine Urbandale, though. Last week, I spent no more than five minutes in the lobby area and even less than that waiting for the doctor to come into the exam room. And everyone was so nice! Thank you for making it much more pleasant for me to go to the doctor’s office!
CONGRATULATIONS RESIDENCY GRADUATES!

Congratulations to Mercy’s 2016 class of graduating residents! Mercy is proud to have 21 graduating residents in three programs – Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and General Surgery. Mercy also has a Plastic Surgery fellowship, which will produce the first graduating class in 2017. Best wishes to all of the new graduates in their future endeavors in the medical field!

Special congratulations to the following people recognized for their special contributions and achievements within the residency programs:

**Family Medicine:**
- Support Staff of the Year – Shawna Shutt
- Clinical Staff of the Year – Petra Davis, CMA
- Teacher of the Year (First Year) – Sydney Leach, M.D.
- Teacher of the Year (Second Year) – Michael Jacoby, M.D.
- Teacher of the Year (Third Year) – George Clavenna, D.O.
- Family Medicine Physician of the Year – Susan Kennedy, D.O.
- Intern of the Year – Neal Naik, M.D.

**Internal Medicine:**
- PGY1 of the Year – Lindsey Rearigh, D.O.
- PGY2 of the Year – Katherine Thyssen, D.O.
- PGY3 of the Year – Laura Ulmer, D.O.
- Faculty of the Year – Moanis Omar, M.D.
- Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award – Chest, Infectious Diseases, and Critical Care Associates, PC

**General Surgery:**
- Faculty of the Year – Jan Franko, M.D.

Recent General Surgery graduate residents include (l-r): Trent Howard, D.O.; Krista Haines, D.O.; and Mark Witkowski, D.O.

Graduating Family Medicine residents include (front row, l-r): Matthew Skeens, D.O.; Clarissa Zafirov, M.D.; Arvind Kakani, M.D.; and Bulland Zaman, M.D. Back row (l-r) are: Mitalee Dharawadkar, M.D.; Kayla Egli, D.O.; Kristin Gisselman, D.O.; and Jenna Ridlen, D.O.

Internal Medicine residents who recently graduated are (front row, l-r): Kelley O’Reilly, D.O.; George Gera, D.O.; Rajveer Sangera, D.O.; Laura Ulmer, D.O.; and Kapil Vyas, D.O. Back row (l-r) are: Phillip Tran, D.O.; Laura Bishop, D.O.; Ruby Wu, D.O.; Kelsey McAnally, D.O.; and Bryan Topf, D.O.

WHAT’S UP?

**Congratulations to . . .**

Becca Knowles, 7 North, and Brian Noble, on the birth of their daughter, Brinley Ann. Brinley was born on May 26, and is the couple’s first child.

Marisa Martinez, 7 South, and Trinity Holsinger, on the birth of their son, Beau Ryan Holsinger. Beau was born on May 31, and was welcomed home by Brittany, 4.

**Sympathy to . . .**

Jody Rawlings, Mercy Gift House & Flowers, on the death of her aunt.

**Mercy Carlisle Family Practice Clinic celebrates new location**

The staff of the newly-opened Mercy Carlisle Family Practice Clinic celebrated their new location with a community open house on Wednesday, June 15.

After a ceremonial ribbon cutting, welcome remarks were given by Dr. Jennifer Olson; Sharon Phillips, chief operating officer and vice president of operations for Mercy Clinics; Barbara Rasko, executive director of the Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce; and Carlisle Mayor Ruth Randleman.

The new clinic is located at 2755 South Gateway Dr. in Carlisle, near Highway 5. Clinic hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Requests for appointments can be made by calling (515) 989-3221.

Providers at Mercy Carlisle Family Practice include: Jennifer Olson, D.O., JoEllen Heims, D.O., Marvin Huff, D.O., and Jessica Rogers, ARNP.

CONTACT US

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If you are interested in submitting information to be printed in the Bulletin, send it to PR and Marketing or call 515-247-3050.

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