RECEPTION OFFERS ELEGANT WELCOME FOR NEW PROVIDERS

Mercy’s central campus auditorium was transformed into an elegant ballroom atmosphere Wednesday, Oct. 5, for the 2016 New Provider Reception. The reception is held annually to welcome and celebrate all new providers who have joined the Mercy Family in the prior 12 months. Nearly 300 people attended this year’s event, including approximately 40 new providers along with their guests, Mercy leadership and other Mercy colleagues.

Sixty-seven providers joined Mercy from October 2015 through September 2016, including 27 physicians, 23 nurse practitioners and 17 physician assistants who work in various departments of the hospitals, Mercy Clinics and Iowa Heart Center.

Kathy Johnson, physician relations coordinator, guided the planning efforts for the reception, working with an event planning team for theming, logistics and food selection.

“The annual reception is an inauguration for our new provider colleagues and an opportunity for colleagues to meet one another, network, socialize, and celebrate the strengths of our medical staff,” said Dr. Tommy Ibrahim, Chief Physician Officer and Vice President of Medical Affairs. “This year’s reception was exceptionally successful. We had a great turnout of both employed and independent providers and spent quality time welcoming and reacquainting each other to both the new and existing providers at Mercy.”

Sally Bennett, PA-C, Family Medicine East; attended the reception along with new providers Jessica Rogers, ARNP, Family Medicine Carlisle and Indianola; Tawnya Bauch, ARNP, Family Medicine East; and Brittany Sanger, PA-C, Family Medicine East.

MHN AND WELLMARK PARTNER TO PROVIDE NEW HEALTH PLAN FOR PATIENTS

Mercy Health Network (MHN) is partnering with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide a new health care plan – Wellmark Value Health Plan – for consumers in our area. Members who enroll in Wellmark Value Health Plan products will have access to local MHN physicians and hospitals as their network for health care services. This network will include all Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines affiliated organizations.

The new company is a licensed Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) and is jointly owned by MHN and Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. It will offer individual and small group health insurance plans in 36 Iowa counties, both on and off the public exchange.

Open enrollment for the plan begins on Nov. 1, and coverage will start in January 2017. Interested consumers can visit www.wellmark.com/value for more information once enrollment opens.
**Mercy Family Fun Fest this Saturday!**

Here are the top five reasons why the thousands of you who signed up will have a blast at Mercy Family Fun Fest on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Principal Park!

- **IT’S FREE** family fun to thank you for all you contribute to Mercy.
- Food stations will provide many choices for a delicious, casual meal.
- Games will be available for every age and skill level.
- You crafty types can take home your pumpkin painting masterpiece!
- Everyone who has viewed the video is talking about the Bubble Ball tournament! Maybe it will be your department facing off against the administrative team?

**CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF MERCY HOSPITALISTS**

The Mercy Hospitalist program turns 10 years old this year. To celebrate, the hospitalists are inviting the Mercy Family to celebrate with them on Thursday, Oct. 20, from 2-4 p.m., in the East Tower Auditorium at central campus, and in the Garden Room at Mercy West Lakes. There will be a come-and-go open house with light refreshments served.

The central campus hospitalist team includes: Front row (l-r): Visweswara Vennapusa, M.D.; Misty Hatfield, hospitalist manager; Jeff Morris, M.D.; Joel Ward, D.O.; Andrew Zeff, M.D.; Ameenah Jones, receptionist; Sarah Giliaspie, ARNP; and David Terrero, M.D. Back row (l-r) are: Francisco Nakagawa, M.D.; Maher Saegh, M.D.; Varnhinda Peterson, billing specialist; Joan Julseth-Lewis, ARNP; Priscilla Kalthorn, M.D.; Maria Guevara-Hernandez, M.D.; and Melissa Jacoby, ARNP. Not pictured: Ranga Macherla, M.D.; Moanis Omar, M.D.; Rodney Nagimesi, M.D.; Wendell Sapanhila, M.D.; Sunshine Jennings, ARNP, Candice Strickler, ARNP; Melissa Batt, ARNP; Sayeed Ahmed, ARNP; Andrew Bernard, D.O.; and Bryan Topf, D.O.

The West Lakes hospitalist team includes (l-r): Herman Cregger, ARNP; Megan Nielsen, ARNP; Ahmad Al-Najjar, M.D.; Laura Estinger, ARNP; Marina Stankovich, M.D.; and Dianne McBroom, receptionist. Not pictured: Mengwen Wu, D.O.; Mark Smith, ARNP; and Kristin Adams, ARNP.

**A WARM WELCOME TO THE MERCY FAMILY**

- Shannon Green
  ARNP
  Pediatrics Johnston
- Mary Hackworth
  ARNP
  Iowa Heart Center
- Rebecca Kriha
  PA-C
  Family Medicine
  East Village
- Emily Myers
  PA-C
  Internal Medicine
  Central Campus
- Lindy Nordstrom
  ARNP
  Family Medicine South

**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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