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Caption

Elliot Hospital NICHE Team: Standing from left to right are Jaroslava Kotek, RN, Clinical Leader; Sandra Morin, RN, Clinical Leader; Jane K. Sobolov, MS, RN-BC; and Sharon Kostansek, RN, BSN, MHCA, Clinical Nurse Manager. Seated is Betty Welch PhD, Director of Inpatient Behavioral Health Services and Malcolm Perry, MPHA, Director of the Elliot Senior Health Center.

ELLIOT HOSPITAL RECEIVES NICHE DESIGNATION

Manchester, NH--- As Manchester's diverse population ages, the need to bolster geriatric nursing care is challenged. Meeting this challenge to provide quality and compassionate nursing care for the increasing older adult population has led Elliot Hospital to pursue and attain designation as a NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Health System Elders) site from the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, New York University College of Nursing, New York, NY. This is the only national designation indicating a hospital's commitment to elder care excellence.

"This designation represents Elliot's commitment to improve the quality of care for older adult patients and support for their families. It places us at the forefront of geriatric care and by raising the level of care for older adults through evidence based, best practice models, we will create a patient centered approach and environment where older adults receive care that results in more positive outcomes," explained Elizabeth Hale Campoli, RN, MSN, Vice President and Chief Nurse Officer. "NICHE will help us advance the practice of nursing so that as the population continues to age we'll be well equipped to meet their needs," said Hale Campoli.

"The best practice models and strategies that we will be implementing are predicated on nursing care and will highly impact care at the bedside leading to positive patient outcomes. This designation is exciting and promotes the discipline of nursing for both registered nurses and nursing assistants," explained Eileen Mellett, RN, Clinical Nurse Manager.

The Elliot's NICHE team is composed of: Jane K. Sobolov, MS, RN-BC, Jaroslava Kotek, RN, Clinical Leader, Sandra Morin, RN, Clinical Leader, Eileen Mellett, RN Clinical Nurse Manager, Malcolm Perry, MPHA, Director of the Elliot Senior Health Center, Sharon Kostansek, RN, BSN, MHCA Clinical Nurse Manager, and committee chair, Betty Welch PhD, Director of In Patient Behavioral Health Services. Over the summer the team completed the on-line NICHE leadership training program.

Currently, the team is focusing on education, communications, informational services, outcomes/metrics, protocols/practice, and the administration and analysis of the Geriatric Institutional Assessment Profile (GIAP) which will measure improvements in knowledge of care for older adults. These advancements will be piloted on two nursing units at Elliot Hospital before being rolled out hospital wide.

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