

Elliot Health System

PRESS RELEASE

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ELLIOT HOSPITAL ACHIEVES NICHE "SENIOR FRIENDLY" STATUS FOR ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CARE FOR OLDER ADULT PATIENTS



Photo (L to R) Nicola Levasseur with patient Rachel Piet.

Manchester, NH--- Elliot Hospital announces it has achieved "Senior Friendly" status for its NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Health system Elders) program and is one of only two in New Hampshire to receive this status. NICHE is the premier designation indicating a hospital's commitment to excellence in the care of patients 65-years-and-older. The "Senior Friendly" status recognizes Elliot's NICHE Program as having implemented the NICHE Geriatric Resource Nurse (GRN) model; implemented aging-sensitive policies; and included the input of patient, families, and community-based providers in planning and implementation of NICHE initiatives. The GRN is an online course designed for use by NICHE members who educate older adults.

"The Senior Friendly designation represents Elliot Hospitals' 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," explains Nicola Levasseur, RN, MSN, CNL, Patient Care Manager-Fitch Unit and NICHE Co-Chair.

- The Elliot's NICHE team is composed of: Co-Chairs, Nicola Levasseur RN, MSN, CNL, Patient Care Manager, Fitch Unit and Dr. Masooma Athar, Elliot Senior Health Center, Medical Director Hanover Hill, Geriatric Consultant at Elliot Memory and Mobility Center
- Team Members: Karen Labarre, Admin Coordinator, Elliot Senior Health Center, Dr. Colleen Jocson, Hospitalist, Jonathan Napoli, PharmD, BCPS, Pharmacy, Darlene Johnson, Resource RN, Fitch Unit, April Cook RN, Fitch Unit, Dannielle Dube LNA, Fitch Unit, Susan Donnell RN, GPU, Alicia Manning RN, GPU, Kathleen Vaccaro RN, GPU

"The NICHE designation and the Senior Friendly status signal our resolve to provide patient-centered care for older adults and our pursuit of the top Exemplar Status," said Levasseur.

About NICHE- NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Health system Elders) is an international program designed to help hospitals improve the care of older adults. The vision of NICHE is for all patients 65-and-over to be given sensitive and exemplary care. The mission of NICHE is to provide principles and tools to stimulate a change in the culture of healthcare facilities to achieve patient-centered care for

older adults. NICHE, based at NYU College of Nursing, consists of hospitals and healthcare facilities in the United States, Canada and Bermuda.

About Elliot Health System - Elliot Health System is a non-profit organization serving the healthcare needs of the community since 1890. The largest provider of comprehensive healthcare services in Southern New Hampshire, Elliot Hospital, a 296-bed acute care facility and the first community hospital in the state, serves as the cornerstone of the health system. Elliot is home to Manchester's designated Regional Trauma Center, Elliot Breast Health Center, Elliot Urgent Care, a Level 3 Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Elliot Physician Network, Elliot Regional Cancer Center, the Elliot Senior Health Center, Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire, 1-Day Surgery Center, Elliot Memory & Mobility Center, NH Arthritis Center, Elliot at River's Edge and New Hampshire's Hospital for Children.

For more information about any of Elliot's services, call Elliot Direct at 603-663-1111 or visit

www.elliothospital.org.

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