

Dartmouth  
Health

New London Hospital

Newsletter

Fall 2022

Pediatrics  
**Caring for our Youth**



Serving our Community

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# A Message from the CEO

## Serving our Community



When I explain New London Hospital (NLH) to those unfamiliar with this region, I always lead with our status as a community hospital that's also part of the larger Dartmouth Health system. There are many community hospitals in the healthcare industry, but there is something so unique about what we share with the neighbors and friends we serve that I am often compelled to elaborate on just how special this region is—and what NLH and its community members truly mean to one another.

During the shutdown days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the phrase “in this together,” gained global steam as a slogan of unity. When I moved into my current role at NLH in March of 2020, I quickly realized this principle was already rooted in the foundation of this region and in the hearts of our employees. Since most of our staff live here, we are neighbors helping neighbors. We care for each other.

As 2022 comes to a close, I reflect on how NLH faced significant adversity this past year. Through it all, the ongoing collaborative efforts of our patients, staff and community partners demonstrate that we are indeed stronger when we work together. Together, we managed to find a balance that successfully propelled us forward—without stepping back.

### Primary Care

Over the past year at NLH, we had several primary care providers (PCPs) depart for a variety of reasons. This trend began prior to the pandemic but has intensified due to it, with PCPs retiring or deciding not to return to healthcare practice. We have been working creatively and diligently with search firms

to identify and hire PCPs who will be a great fit for our community—and who will want to become part of its fabric and enjoy decades-long careers with us. We are pleased to share that we have hired several new providers since the summer months and look forward to filling more vacancies soon. We are grateful for the patience of our community as we move through this process.

### Senior Director of Human Resources



I am pleased to introduce Andrew Face as our new senior director of Human Resources. Andrew is a human resource management career veteran with 20 years of experience working for large

corporations. He holds expertise in the human resource strategic planning process, including strategic direction for organizational structure, talent acquisition, talent development, and retention and compensation practices.

Andrew's proven track record of success will prove invaluable in meeting our goals as a healthcare organization. I am confident that his experience will help guide and support our most valuable asset, our employees.

Andrew, his wife Katharine and their seven-year-old daughter, Allie, live on their family farm in Sutton.

### Express Care

We continue to receive positive feedback regarding express care at NLH and are thrilled this service is filling a void in our region. Express Care is an emergency room type B, which is different than a walk-in, non-emergent clinic or urgent care service. This allows us to provide a higher level of care, including the ability to transition patients to our emergency department if necessary. One of the greatest benefits is that the medical records of patient visits are integrated with records held by NLH and Dartmouth Health providers in primary and pediatric care. This allows for a seamless transition of care if follow-up is required. Express Care is staffed seven days per week (with the exception of a few holidays).

Speaking of holidays, everyone at NLH is thankful for your ongoing support and wishes you and yours a wonderful holiday season. We are grateful to be part of this special community.

Wishing you all the best,

Tom Manion  
President and CEO

To receive the latest NLH updates, please visit the bottom of our website homepage and click on **“Subscribe to eNews.”**

## Recent Additions

### Suzanne Affeldt

Suzanne Affeldt joined New London Hospital (NLH) as development officer. She previously served as the associate athletics director for Development within the University of Arizona Athletics Department. Suzanne was responsible for increasing Wildcat Club memberships, while securing major gifts for capital and scholarship support. She has extensive experience in fund development, event planning, operations management, program development and public relations. She and her husband currently reside in Woodstock, Vermont.



### Kristin Haley

NLH recently welcomed Kristin Haley as program manager of Community Health. She has 10 years of experience managing and facilitating community outreach programs, and holds a master's degree in Public Health. Prior to joining NLH, Kristin worked for the Granite VNA where she assisted with the first New Hampshire pilot program for health education within senior living communities. NLH is excited to work with Kristin in developing new community health programs and partnerships.



### Michael Kricko, MD

We are pleased to share that internist Michael Kricko, MD, has joined our Newport Health Center (NHC) as a full-time primary care physician. Kricko has been serving on a part-time basis this past year, but both he and NLH soon realized he was the right fit for our NHC community.



# Pediatrics

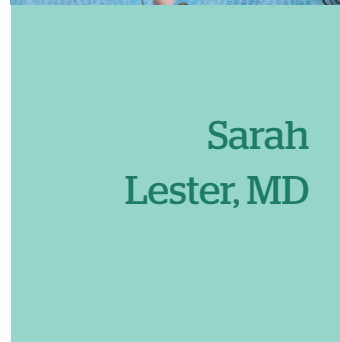
## Caring for our Youth

### Pediatric Care team expands, offers guidance to parents and caregivers



**Vanessa C. Hartstein, MD**

The New London Hospital (NLH) and Newport Health Center Pediatric Care team is pleased to announce the recent addition of Vanessa C. Hartstein, MD. She joins Sarah Lester, MD, Aram Kalpakgian, MPAS, PA-C, and Rebecca Lozman-Oxman, DNP, APRN, MPH, in caring for the many pediatric patients living in the NLH community.



**Sarah Lester, MD**

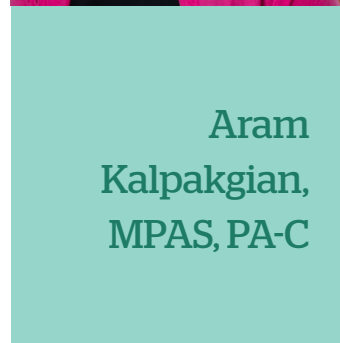
“Our mission is to provide high quality pediatrics care to a large geographic area,” Lester explains. “Having Dr. Hartstein on board allows us to expand accessibility for patients and their families.”



**Rebecca Lozman-Oxman, DNP, APRN, MPH**

Hartstein completed her residency training at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) and then moved to California, where she served as a pediatrician for more than three years. She and her husband happily returned to the region in late August.

“I’m really excited to be at NLH and Newport Health Center and to join the tightknit Pediatric Care group, which has been very welcoming,” Hartstein says. “I love meeting our patients and look forward to watching them grow. It’s a very rewarding job in a lot of ways.”



**Aram Kalpakgian, MPAS, PA-C**

Hartstein will see patients for well child and sick visits at both locations. She has a special interest in helping children with sports injuries so they can heal and return to their favorite activities.

### Providing whole child healthcare

The Pediatric Care team is committed to collaborative care that treats the whole child. With a shortage of mental health providers statewide, NLH providers are filling the gap in addition to meeting physical healthcare needs.

“We are able to help parents get their children the mental healthcare they need,” Kalpakgian says. “Our providers can perform the initial screenings for certain diagnoses, such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), depression and anxiety, and we can assist with prescribing necessary medication until a mental health provider is secured.”

*To review the latest CDC guidelines for COVID-19 vaccinations, visit [www.cdc.gov/covid](http://www.cdc.gov/covid) and click on “Get vaccinated and boosted,” or call your child’s provider for more information. NLH pediatric patients are eligible for vaccinations at various on-site COVID-19 clinics planned in the coming months. Visit [www.newlondonhospital.org/services/pediatric-care](http://www.newlondonhospital.org/services/pediatric-care) for details.*

*The Pediatrics Care team is accepting new patients. Call (603) 526-5363 to transfer your child’s care.*

### Current COVID-19 Vaccination Guidelines

		1 <sup>st</sup> dose	2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	3 <sup>rd</sup> dose	Booster	
<b>Pfizer</b>	6 months to 17 years		3-8 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	2 months after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose (6 months to 4 years of age ONLY)	2 months after primary series is completed for 5 years and older	If >5 years of age Pfizer or Moderna can be given for 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose. If >5 years should have bivalent booster
<b>Moderna</b>	6 month to 5 years		4-8 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	Not recommended at this time	Not recommended at this time	
	6 years to 17 years		4-8 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose		2 months after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	>5 years Bivalent booster recommended for 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose

\*Subject to change with updated guidelines. Consult your pediatric provider or the CDC for the most up-to-date recommendations.

\*Vaccine clinics can be found on the NLH website OR by calling your pediatric office.

### Preparing for winter illnesses

With children back in school, the Pediatric Care team is seeing increased respiratory illnesses. They advise parents to ensure their children are eating healthy foods, sleeping enough, getting exercise and using good hand washing techniques. Children should also receive a flu shot every fall and be up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccines.

“The COVID-19 vaccine has proven to be safe. I’ve given it to all three of my children and they did great—with minimal side effects,” shares Lozman-Oxman. “Getting vaccinated and boosted is such a priority. The more people of all ages who are vaccinated, the safer our community becomes.”





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New London Hospital

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**Dartmouth Health System News**

*Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion*

In the spring of 2022, Dartmouth Health welcomed Teresa Dean Malcolm, MD, FACOG, MBA, as the inaugural vice president of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB).

"Dr. Malcolm is a transformational physician executive and a board-certified OB/GYN with more than a decade of experience cultivating inclusion in healthcare settings. She has expertise in creating a compelling vision and translating strategies into actionable solutions to promote true organizational change," said Joanne M. Conroy, MD, CEO and president, Dartmouth Health, in Malcolm's welcome announcement. "Dr. Malcolm has demonstrated proven success leading multidisciplinary teams and advising leaders to improve patient outcomes and reduce health disparities and has designed and implemented innovative programs to advance DEIB initiatives within an academic health system."

As Vice President of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, Malcolm is developing and leading an interdisciplinary and cross-departmental office. She is responsible for integrating DEIB values into all aspects of Dartmouth Health's culture, goals, metrics and strategic operating plan.

Since her arrival, she has worked closely with the DEIB Steering Committee, led by Conroy, and others on the system's journey toward inclusive excellence.

One of the foundational elements of their DEIB work is a definitive statement that clearly and succinctly declares our commitment, across the Dartmouth Health system, to a diverse and inclusive place of healing, as follows:

**Our Diversity Statement**

*At Dartmouth Health, we believe that the diversity of our patients, people, and community shows a strength we support and celebrate.*

*We are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone to thrive, honoring all within our organization and the communities we serve.*

*Our belief is simple and actionable: Dartmouth Health is better when we embrace each other with open hearts and minds, confront our biases, and take a stand for equity and inclusion.*

New London Hospital (NLH) shares these values and looks forward to continuing its diversity and inclusion work as a member of Dartmouth Health.

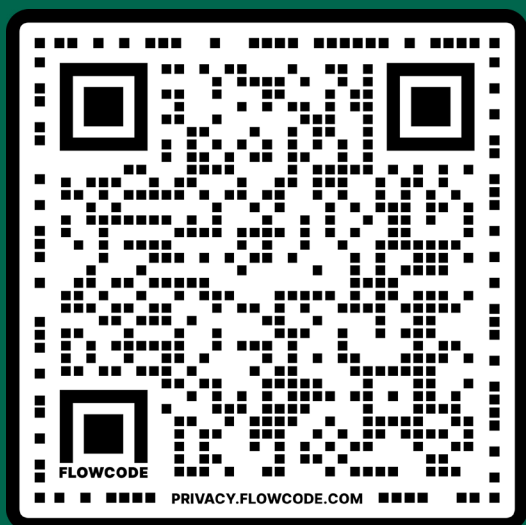


Teresa Dean Malcolm, MD, FACOG, MBA, vice president of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB).

## New London Hospital

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