Patient experience, safety worth celebrating

Two units have achieved fiscal year-to-date HCAHPS overall hospital ratings above the 87.38 benchmark goal: SICU and CTICU at St. Francis. Another five—CICU, 7W and 7N at St. Francis and Medical/Surgical at Wamego and St. Teresa—are 81 or higher. In all, 16 units from St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Teresa, Pittsburg, Manhattan and Wamego, are in the top quartile for overall patient experience. Meanwhile, Via Christi has achieved an 85 percent reduction in serious safety events since 2013. Keep up the great work!

Nursing dean praises patient experience at Pittsburg

Anita Mills, dean of Nursing for Butler County Community College and former Via Christi teammate, recently recounted an extremely positive experience her family had at Via Christi Hospital in Pittsburg.

“We were talking about what experience nurses need while in school in order to make the transition to the workforce easier,” says Carla Yost, system chief nursing officer. “As part of that conversation, she shared how her 3-month-old grandchild had to be admitted to the hospital and how the family received ‘the very best care’ from admission through discharge.”

Mills said the family arrived around 9 p.m. They were immediately greeted by a warm and cheerful housekeeper who showed them the way to Pediatrics. She also made mention of a respiratory therapist with a great sense of humor who educated the family along the way.

“Anita’s comments really brought home how the patient experience is so much more than the care provided—it’s the tone of how we deliver care and how much the contributions of everyone on the team matter,” says Carla. “As your advocate, it was such a proud moment to hear such a wonderful review of the care she and her family received.”

Getting in the spirit of March Madness

We’ve been busy, making it a great time to take a moment to celebrate teamwork! From Sunday, March 12 – Saturday, March 18, you’re invited to show your support for your favorite team—and your colleagues—by wearing a work-appropriate sports-themed T-shirt or jersey with your scrub bottoms or slacks (provided, of course, you’re not working in a sterile area).

You can participate on one or more days, but a donation of $1 or more to the Via Christi Employee Assistance Fund is requested. Volunteers will be rounding to collect donations, which will be sent to Philanthropy as a directed gift to the Employee Assistance Fund, or you can drop yours off at any Via Christi Hospital gift shop during regular business hours. Remember, it’s all in fun, so be good sports while supporting a great cause: Each other!