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BankNewport Awards Rehabilitation Grant to Kent

WARWICK – BankNewport recently presented a grant in the amount of \$16,000 to Kent Hospital to purchase new equipment for the hospital's Acute Rehabilitation Unit.

The BankNewport grant was awarded to purchase LiteGait® an innovative, partial weight-bearing harness to help patients with standing, weight-bearing and walking. This new equipment will continue to enhance the unit's capabilities of care and increase patients level of function to perform tasks and return home.

"We are honored to receive this grant from BankNewport. We appreciate their commitment and dedication to enhance our services and care for the patients of Kent Hospital," said **MICHAEL DACEY, MD, MS, FACP**, president and chief operating officer at Kent Hospital. "Kent's Acute Rehab patients will benefit greatly from their generosity." ❖

Bradley enrolling adolescents with OCD, anxiety disorders for study

Research aims to improve available treatment for families

EAST PROVIDENCE – The Pediatric Anxiety Research Center at Bradley Hospital is enrolling children and teens with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) or anxiety for a study focused on exposure-based cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). The researchers' goal is to identify the best methods to help clinicians improve treatment for this pediatric population.

CBT is a form of psychotherapy that addresses a patient's anxious thoughts and then works toward changing his or her behavior in response to those thoughts. The study will specifically look at a form of CBT called exposure-based therapy. "Through exposure therapy, therapists work together with patients and families to bring them gradually closer to the things or

situations that are anxiety-provoking," said **KRISTEN BENITO, PhD**, co-principal investigator.

The study team hopes to find the most effective ways to train community therapists in the treatment of pediatric anxiety and OCD by improving their delivery of CBT, which is the treatment method that previous research has shown to be most effective. The team will examine which therapist, child, and parent behaviors during therapy lead to better treatment outcomes.

"This study will help to optimize treatment for those suffering from pediatric anxiety and/or OCD," said **JENNIFER FREEMAN, PhD**, co-principal investigator. "There are currently very few providers who offer evidence-based

treatment for adolescents with anxiety or OCD, meaning that effective training approaches may increase access to care and improve the quality of resources available."

The study is currently enrolling children five to 17 years old who display symptoms of obsessive-compulsive disorder, social anxiety, separation anxiety, panic disorder or a specific phobia. Participants will be asked to:

- Complete a pre-screening survey
- Meet with a study therapist and begin CBT treatment
- Complete questionnaires intermittently throughout the study
- Participate in a post-treatment follow-up assessment ❖