

Appointments

Brown University Health names Corey Ventetuolo, MD, Director, Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine



PROVIDENCE — Brown University Health has appointed **COREY VENTETUOLO, MD, MS, ATSF, FAHA**, to serve as Director of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at Brown University Health and the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University after a national search.

Dr. Ventetuolo leads a research program dedicated to advancing care for patients with pulmonary hypertension and right

heart failure. Her groundbreaking studies on sexual dimorphism in pulmonary vascular disease introduced hormonal modulation as a therapeutic strategy and were supported by NHLBI-funded clinical trials. She and her collaborators developed a first-in-field pulmonary artery cell biopsy technique using routine right heart catheter balloons, enabling point-of-care endotyping and precision medicine approaches.

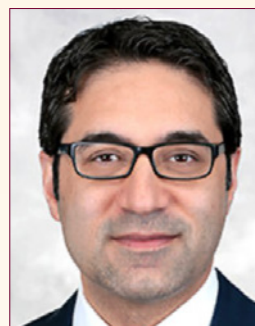
She is nationally recognized for her work in the area, serving as Chair of the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly for the American Thoracic Society and holds leadership positions with the American Heart Association and the Pulmonary Hypertension Association. Her work has been continuously funded by the NIH and the American Heart Association since fellowship, with more than 140 peer-reviewed publications in high-impact journals including *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *Circulation*, *Lancet Respiratory Medicine*, and *The American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

Most recently, Dr. Ventetuolo oversaw the creation of the Center for Advanced Lung Care (CALC) at Brown University Health, which opened its doors in August, 2024.

"A dedicated mentor and educator, Dr. Ventetuolo has been recognized with multiple teaching honors from the Warren Alpert Medical School and the Department of Medicine and has become a model for what can be achieved through strong academic-clinical partnership and aligned institutional vision. A deeply engaged clinician with RI roots, Dr. Ventetuolo is driven to enhance patient care through innovation, collaboration, and academic excellence," said **LOUIS RICE, MD**, Chief, Department of Medicine, Brown University Health and Chair, Department of Medicine, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Dr. Ventetuolo completed her residency and chief residency at Brown University before pursuing fellowship training and an early faculty appointment at Columbia University, where she earned a master of science degree in patient-oriented research. ❖

Ashish Misri, MD, named Chief Medical Officer at Saint Anne's Hospital



FALL RIVER, MA — Saint Anne's Hospital has announced the appointment of **ASHISH MISRI, MD**, as Chief Medical Officer (CMO), effective January 4, 2026. Dr. Misri will lead all aspects of quality, safety, and clinical operations at Saint Anne's Hospital, providing strategic

clinical leadership to support exceptional patient care.

In addition to being CMO for Saint Anne's Hospital, Dr. Misri will continue to serve as associate director of hospital medicine and as a practicing hospitalist at Rhode Island Hospital. His dual presence will strengthen clinical alignment and further enhance the delivery of coordinated high-quality care within the Brown University Health system.

Dr. Misri brings a proven track record of advancing quality, safety, and operational excellence. During his tenure at Rhode Island Hospital, he has played a central leadership role in initiatives that increased patient safety, improved experience, and elevated system-wide performance.

Dr. Misri earned his medical degree from St. Johns Medical College in Bangalore, India, and completed his internal medicine residency at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Memorial Hospital. v

Appointments

Methodius G. Tuuli, MD, MPH, MBA, to serve as the Interim President of Women & Infants Hospital



PROVIDENCE — Care New England recently announced that **METHODIUS G. TUULI, MD, MPH, MBA**, will serve as the Interim President of Women & Infants Hospital. Dr. Tuuli will assume this role during a search for a successor for Shannon R. Sullivan, who has accepted a new opportunity as CEO of Connecticut Children's health system in Hartford, CT.

Dr. Tuuli is a familiar face at Women & Infants. He has served as Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women & Infants and Executive Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology for Care New England Health System since 2021.

"Method is an exceptional leader, not just at Women & Infants, but in our community. He consistently demonstrates vision, integrity, and unwavering commitment to our patients and staff," said **MICHAEL WAGNER, MD**, President and CEO of Care New England. "By appointing him to this role, we know he will continue to guide our hospital into its next chapter of excellence."

Dr. Tuuli earned his medical degree from the University of Ghana Medical School in 2001. He attended the University of California at Berkeley, earning a Master of Public Health degree in 2003 with a concentration in maternal and child health. He completed residency training in Obstetrics & Gynecology at Emory University in 2008 and fellowship training in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Washington University in 2011. Dr. Tuuli completed the Business of Medicine Physician MBA program at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University in 2020.

A board-certified Maternal-Fetal Medicine physician, his research is focused on the prediction and prevention of adverse obstetric outcomes. He currently leads four NIH-funded multicenter trials on intravenous versus oral iron for the treatment of anemia in pregnancy in the U.S., the use of a novel intrauterine negative pressure device for the management of postpartum

hemorrhage and optimizing glycemic control in overweight and obese patients with gestational diabetes, and testing a chatbot for prenatal genetic counseling.

In addition, he leads a Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health grant integrating community-based maternal support services into perinatal care to address care coordination and social determinants of health to promote perinatal health equity. He has over 250 publications in high-impact journals, including the NEJM, JAMA, JAMA Pediatrics, and the Lancet.

In his role as Chief of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital, Dr. Tuuli has been focused on improving quality and eliminating disparities in perinatal outcomes. He also leads the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School as the Chace-Joukowsky Professor and Chair. He was elected to the distinguished National Academy of Medicine in 2023. ❖



Care New England names Thomas Ricci Interim Chief Operating Officer of Women & Infants Hospital

PROVIDENCE — **THOMAS RICCI, MPA**, will be assuming the role of Interim Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Women & Infants Hospital, which became effective December 26th.

Currently Vice President of Finance, he has been with Women & Infants since 2017, serving first as Finance Manager, then being successively promoted to Finance Director and his current VP role.

Before joining Women & Infants, he held financial roles at CVS Health and Citizens Financial Group, and holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in accounting from Rhode Island College. ❖

Recognition



Advance RI-CTR recognizes Chathuraka Jayasuriya, PhD, with inaugural research excellence award

PROVIDENCE [BROWN UNIVERSITY] — Advance RI-CTR has recognized **CHATHURAKA JAYASURIYA, PhD**, with its inaugural Award for Clinical and Translational Research Excellence.

“Dr. Jayasuriya is the embodiment of what Advance RI-CTR was designed to achieve—taking an idea from the lab bench and accelerating it toward patient care,” says **SHARON ROUNDS, MD**, program director of Advance RI-CTR. “His journey, which began with one of our earliest Pilot Project awards, validates a decade of strategic investment in Rhode Island’s brightest minds.”

“I’m really honored to receive it,” Dr. Jayasuriya, an associate professor of orthopaedics, says of the \$10,000 prize, which will support his efforts to develop a stem cell-based therapy for meniscus tears, a common knee injury. “I don’t think we would be where we are without Advance RI-CTR,” he adds.

Advance RI-CTR was formed in 2016 with a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. It provides resources and services to clinical and translational scientists at the University of Rhode Island, Care New England and Brown University Health hospitals, and the Providence VA Healthcare System, as well as Brown, where the group is based.

The goal of the current study, Jayasuriya says, is to obtain safety and efficacy data required by the FDA to greenlight clinical trials in human participants. But, with venture capitalists already showing interest in investing in the technology, he and his former postdoc, **JAY TRIVEDI, PhD**, now an assistant professor of orthopaedics (research) at Brown, cofounded a start-up, EnkaBio Inc., this fall. Just weeks later, they received a \$35,000 grant from the Rhode Island Life Science Hub to build out the company.

None of this would have been possible, he adds, without that early boost from Advance RI-CTR. Dr. Jayasuriya notes that only with federal funding can researchers translate basic discoveries in the lab into therapies or technologies that improve patient care. ❖



Codac CEO Linda Hurley with Neighborhood CEO Peter Marino.

Neighborhood presents CODAC with ACAP Supporting the Safety Net Award Honorable Mention

PROVIDENCE — Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) celebrated CODAC Behavioral Health Care for earning an Honorable Mention in the Association for Community Affiliated Plans’ (ACAP) Supporting the Safety Net Award. Neighborhood, an ACAP member, nominated CODAC for an award for all its work removing barriers to care.

The Supporting the Safety Net award recognizes a community-based organization or individual whose work goes beyond the norm by developing and applying innovative practices to address the medical, behavioral, or social needs of high-risk populations in their service area. The services provided by award recipients are recognized as best practices that serve as models for replication within the safety net environment.

Neighborhood President and CEO **PETER MARINO** presented a plaque to CODAC President and CEO **LINDA HURLEY** at Neighborhood’s Smithfield headquarters. “Neighborhood is fortunate to have CODAC as a partner,” said Marino. “The organization and its staff set a high standard for health care delivery and serve as a model for others.” He added, “The work the agency does to support behavioral health and medical needs is commendable.”

When accepting the award at Neighborhood’s headquarters, Hurley thanked the organization for its ongoing support of CODAC’s mission.

“Recognition from health insurers and their national affiliated organizations goes a long way in reducing the stigma associated with opioid treatment and other behavioral health issues,” Hurley said. “We are fortunate in Rhode Island to have a partner in Neighborhood that is equally committed to taking care of the most vulnerable individuals in our state.”

“Neighborhood’s track record of extraordinary achievement and success wouldn’t be what it is without the partnerships they have nurtured with allied organizations in and around Rhode Island,” said ACAP CEO **MARGARET A. MURRAY**. “We’re delighted to recognize CODAC today for their efforts and for their support of Neighborhood.” ❖

Places

Newport Hospital celebrates ribbon cutting for adolescent behavioral health unit

NEWPORT — Newport Hospital proudly celebrated its new **James P. Nolan, MD and Peggy Nolan Adolescent Behavioral Health Unit** with a ribbon-cutting event on December 15, 2025. This milestone marks the culmination of planning and fundraising to address the urgent need for youth mental health services in Newport County.

The eight-bed specialized unit, developed in partnership with Bradley Hospital, will provide short-term stabilization, assessment, and treatment for adolescents ages 12 to 18 experiencing serious mental health challenges. The unit will begin treating patients in the first quarter of 2026.

"This unit represents hope for families in our community," said **TENNY THOMAS, MD**, President and Chief Medical Officer of Newport Hospital. "We know the mental health crisis for this age group is real and urgent. With this dedicated space, we can now offer specialized care close to home, ensuring that young people receive the support they need during their most vulnerable moments."

Plans to create the unit were announced in the summer of 2023 to address the critical need for pediatric mental and behavioral health services in Rhode Island. Construction began earlier than anticipated thanks to the generosity of donors who contributed more than \$5 million to make this project possible.

The James P. Nolan, MD and Peggy Nolan Adolescent Behavioral Health Unit is the first of its kind in Newport County, where there are no local acute care options for struggling youth and their families.

The unit features modern group therapy spaces, activity rooms, and an enclosed outdoor area. It is expected to serve more than 240 adolescents and their families annually. ❖



Now open in Newport: South County Health's Center for Women's Health comprehensive OB-GYN care

NEWPORT — South County Health recently announced the expansion of its award-winning Center for Women's Health into Newport. Conveniently located at 38 Powel Avenue, the new office extends

South County Health's trusted women's health services to families across Aquidneck Island and surrounding communities.

At the Center for Women's Health – Newport, patients have access to the same expert, compassionate care that has earned South County Health statewide recognition for excellence in obstetrics and gynecology. Services include comprehensive OB-GYN care, prenatal and postpartum support, and wellness visits designed to meet women's needs at every stage of life.

"We're thrilled to bring our team's experience and support to Newport," said **MARTHA MOE, MD**, director of the Center for Women's Health. "Our goal is to make high-quality, personalized women's health care accessible to more families—close to where they live, work, and raise their children."

To further support parents-to-be, South County Health is also offering free childbirth education classes and events at the Newport YMCA. These classes are open to all expecting families and designed to build confidence, connection, and knowledge before delivery. ❖