

# HospitalRounds

## 37 Graduate Touro Healthcare Career Camp

Thirty-seven high school juniors and seniors representing 23 different schools throughout the greater New Orleans area made rounds throughout Touro Infirmary for the eighth annual Health Career Camp. The intense one-week program included clinical rotations in departments such as emergency, cardiovascular, physical therapy, and medical technology. Working in small teams, students benefited from hands-on learning activities as well as the opportunity to meet and observe healthcare professionals in their work environment.

Following orientation and CPR training the first day, students circulated in small teams through 10 different clinical rotations. Regular sessions included Clinical Nutrition, Family Birthing Center, Infection Control, Emergency Medicine, Radiology/Nuclear Med, Rehab, Respiratory Therapy, Surgical Nursing, and Wound Care. Students chose from five electives this year: the Cancer Program, Cardiology, ICU Nursing, Pathology Lab, and Pharmacy.

Midweek they enjoyed a mini-Health & Safety Fair with a variety of hands-on activities: an Evascled and Hoyer Lift demonstrations, a hand hygiene review in which they viewed their own finger cultures under the microscope, vital signs taught by LSUHSC School of Nursing student nurses and empathy exercise on Alzheimer's and dementia led by the Alzheimer's Association of South Louisiana, worksheets on the BMI and Weight Height Ratio and wheelchair safety.

Approximately 250 high school students have graduated from the Touro Health Career Camp since its inception in 2008. Many program graduates have gone on to healthcare careers in nursing, medicine, physical or occupational therapy, and dentistry.

## STPH Earns ACR Accreditation

St. Tammany Parish Hospital has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in nuclear medicine as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR). The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards after a peer-review evaluation by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field.

Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control



In a mock surgery, Touro surgical nurse educator Aimee Falgout teaches Kaela Kendrick, age 16 and a student at Salmen High School, how to suture.

Commissioners, Dr. Lane is employed by the University of New Orleans, where he is Chair of the Department of Economics and Finance and is Director of the M.S. Program in Health Care Management

DiGiovanni and Isabelle replaced two Commissioners whose terms ended: Daniel A. McGovern, IV, and Thomas H. Hall, MD.

procedures, and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report they can use for continuous practice improvement.

## New Members Appointed to SMH Board

At a recent meeting, the Slidell Memorial Hospital Board of Commissioners formally welcomed two new appointments and one re-appointment to its membership. The appointments and reappointment were made by the appointing authority based on nominating committee recommendations.

New Commissioners are:

- Joe DiGiovanni, representing Ward 9. DiGiovanni is a Certified Public Accountant practicing in Slidell with DiGiovanni & Associates, CPAs, LLC.

- Michael E. Isabelle, MD, representing Ward 9. Board certified in Emergency Medicine, Isabelle is a graduate of the LSU School of Medicine. He is currently employed as the Medical Director of the Louisiana Region of the Emcare Physician Providers, for which he also serves as a staff emergency medicine physician. He is also the Medical Director for the Slidell City Jail. Isabelle serves as the Louisiana State Medical Society representative to the Louisiana Emergency Response Network (LERN) Commission.

In addition, Walter J. "Dub" Lane, representing Ward 8, was reappointed for a third term. Currently serving as Treasurer of the Board of

## West Jefferson Joins LCMC Health System

West Jefferson Medical Center (WJMC) has officially joined the LCMC Health system. The partnership, which received unanimous Jefferson Parish Council approval in February 2015, includes lease payments of at least \$200 million over 45 years plus \$340 million in capital improvements.

WJMC and the Westbank community will receive the benefits of \$340 million in healthcare improvements, provided by LCMC Health. These critical investments will take place over a 15-year period. LCMC Health and Jefferson Parish Hospital District No. 1 will also support the ongoing assessments and monitoring of Westbank community health needs.

As a member of LCMC Health, WJMC will continue to provide exceptional healthcare to the residents of Jefferson Parish. Patients will not experience any disruption in care during or following the transition; current physicians and employees will remain in place. Parish residents and physicians will have greater access to LCMC Health's specialized care centers, including recently opened University Medical Center New Orleans and the state's only regional children's hospital.

LCMC Health was selected as WJMC's partner following a lengthy RFP and bidding process that began in 2012. WJMC joins LCMC Health's community hospitals, which include Children's Hospital, Touro, New Orleans East Hospital, and the \$1.1 billion University Medical Center New Orleans.