

Lehigh Valley Health Network
LVHN Scholarly Works

LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Newsletters

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LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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LVHN news

Safe, Effective Antibiotic Use

Three Things to Know About Vaping

Expressly for You

Take the 2019 Colleague Engagement Survey April 15-28

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · APRIL 3, 2019

Last year, 68 percent of colleagues took the Colleague Engagement Survey. This year, we want to blow that stat out of the water. We want 100 percent of colleagues to participate. We can do it if we work together. Here are details about the survey:

2019 Colleague Engagement Survey

April 15-28

[Print this flyer](#), post it in your department and encourage your colleagues to participate.

When the survey opens, you'll receive an email from survey@smdhr.com.

The email contains a link to the survey, which is being administered by the

independent firm Strategic Management Decisions (SMD). "Our most important commitment is to ensure the confidentiality of individual responses is preserved at all times," says SMD Cofounder and Managing Partner Scott Mondore. "No one at LVHN is ever allowed to access any individual responses." You have until April 28 to take the survey.

What happens next? SMD will compile the results. Then, senior leaders will review network-wide results, and managers will receive network-wide and department-specific results. Action plans will then be developed to [turn your answers to action, just like we did following the 2018 survey](#).

Let's work together to achieve 100-percent participation. The more colleague who participate, the more feedback we have to make LVHN an even better place to work and grow.



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LVH–Pocono Inpatient Units Compete to Enhance the Patient Experience – PHOTOS

BY [HOLLY YACYNYCH](#) · APRIL 4, 2019

Improving the patient experience and patient satisfaction at LVH–Pocono is a daily goal which has turned into a five-month competition and motivator among the inpatient units and inpatient rehabilitation unit.

The Amazing Race–Pocono Edition began in February with nine units competing to outdo their own goals to improve patient experience and patient satisfaction scores with a concentration on HCAHPS/IRF-CAHPS, nursing communication and response of staff. The nine units named their teams and created slogans. They will race to the finish line to exceed their unit goals by June 30. Here are the teams and some photos.

- 5B – FLY BEES, Working For Your Better Health
- 4B – Pink Panthers, Get Your Pink On



- 3B – Bone Crushers, Always Crushing Patient Care



- Progressive Care Unit (2B) – Heart Throbs, We Rock the Job
- Family Birth and Newborn Center – Baby Sharks, We Will Eat up the Competition



- Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) –Rehab Island Joint Ventures, Improving Function – Renewing Life
- Cardiovascular Telemetry (CVTele) –LIFE SAVERS, We Don't Skip a Beat
- Intensive Care Unit/Cardiovascular Care Unit (ICU/CVCU) – First Responders, We Care Intensely



Good luck to all the teams as they continue on their Amazing Race at LVH– Pocono.

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LVH-Pocono Colleagues: Register for Re-certification No Sooner Than Due Date

BY [HOLLY YACYNYCH](#) · APRIL 4, 2019

Colleagues at LVH-Pocono are reminded to register appropriately for BLS, ACLS or PALS, ACLS re-certification. If your Experienced Provider Card expires in June, for example, please register for your re-certification in June, which is your actual month-date, and not earlier.

Colleagues who register too early and ahead of their actual month-date are taking class seats away from colleagues who appropriately register on their month-date for re-certification.



Monroe EMS Providers Honored as the Lifeline to the Community – PHOTOS

BY [HOLLY YACYNYCH](#) · APRIL 3, 2019

Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN)–Pocono Foundation, along with LVH–Pocono, recognized the extraordinary work to care for the community by the local Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers during the LVHN Pocono Foundation's annual EMS Hero Event held at Camelback Resort in Tannersville.

The event was a night to honor and recognize four providers in the region.

Bushkill Emergency Corps



Pocono Mountain Regional EMS



Suburban EMS



West End Community Ambulance Association



The evening consisted of patient stories as told through the EMS providers and the patients, as well as an award presentation to the lifesaving responders. All proceeds from the event go toward the cost for needed equipment for these EMS providers serving the Pocono area. To learn more or give, please visit Give.lvhn.org/poconohero or call 570-476-3530.

“Lehigh Valley Hospital–Pocono works hand in hand with local EMS providers as part of our recognition of the essential health care they provide within the continuum of emergency medicine. Twenty-four hours per day they provide lifesaving care when each second matters,” says Stephen Cunningham, Vice President of Market Development.

New Colleague Concierge Helps You Advance Your Career, Find a New Role at LVHN

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · APRIL 4, 2019

Have you ever thought about advancing your career at LVHN but was unsure who to turn to for help? Did you ever wonder if there are other career opportunities at LVHN that would be perfect for you but was unsure how to find them? To help you find answers and grow professionally, LVHN is introducing a Colleague Concierge.

LVHN's first Colleague Concierge is Joanie Stofanak. As a member of our human resources team, Stofanak has the experience and knowledge to help you discover the most rewarding career experience possible at LVHN.



Joanie Stofanak, Colleague Concierge

Role of LVHN's Colleague Concierge

- Gives you career advice and direction
- Helps you find a new role within LVHN
- Acts as a bridge between colleagues and LVHN leaders who are hiring
- Works with departments that help colleagues learn and grow – such as the department of education and organizational effectiveness – to build a group of qualified candidates available to fill open positions at LVHN
- Provides information about our tuition reimbursement program
- Promotes existing and designs new grant-funded scholarships and talent development programs

How to use Colleague Concierge services:

- **Step 1:** Review open positions on [org/careers](#).
- **Step 2:** Choose a position you are qualified for and interested in.
- **Step 3:** Email Joanie_M.Stofanak@lvhn.org or call her at 484-884-0935.

“Our workforce at LVHN is filled with colleagues who are experienced and knowledgeable in so many different areas,” Stofanak says. “By offering these services, we will leverage the talents of existing colleagues to make LVHN even stronger and an even better place to work and grow.”

Stofanak has been with LVHN for nearly two years. Prior to become our Colleague Concierge, she worked in provider recruitment. Stofanak has nearly 20 years of experience in human resource, employee relations and recruitment, and has held positions at Rodale, Air Products and Continental Airlines.

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Get Half Off WW (Formerly Weight Watchers) Digital Program

BY [MADELINE CHAFFEE](#) · APRIL 4, 2019

My Total Health is excited to announce a new partnership with WW (formerly Weight Watchers) for colleagues at all LVHN locations. This partnership was formed in response to colleague interest in accessing WW services in an easy, convenient and timely way.

LVHN has teamed up with WW to bring all colleagues the WW Freestyle™ Digital program that provides real-life solutions to get healthier, all at a special price. LVHN is now covering half of the cost of this program – meaning that all colleagues who are interested in participating will pay only \$8.48 per month (state taxes will be added where applicable).



What is WW's Freestyle™ Digital program?

WW's Freestyle Digital program provides freedom and flexibility at your fingertips, all from one convenient, easy to use app. Wherever you are, you can follow the WW Freestyle program. WW's app enables you to:

- *Connect* – Experience a supportive digital community on this social platform.
- *Search* – Browse the app for more than 4,000 healthy recipes, or create and save your own.
- *Sync* – Seamlessly sync to your favorite fitness tracker.
- *Scan* – Scan barcodes on your favorite foods to see and track SmartPoints® values instantly.

How to get started

Join before April 19 to receive a free starter kit (\$70 value). Here's how:

- Visit weightwatchers.com.
- Click "See discounted rates."

- Enter the LVHN Employer ID: 14858746

Please refer to the [Quick Reference Guide](#) for sign-up instructions. You may also reference our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Offering Summary](#) documents for more information.

If you have questions about registering for WW, please contact WW directly at 866-204-2885.

If you have questions or would like additional information about My Total Health program offerings, please contact mytotalhealth@lvhn.org.

Please note

- WW Freestyle™ Digital is not reimbursable with Wellness Dollars.
- new colleagues: It may take up to a month to be eligible for this discounted service. If you are not able to access the discount, please contact us at mytotalhealth@lvhn.org.

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Service Anniversary List – April 2019

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · APRIL 1, 2019

Happy anniversary to these colleagues celebrating a career milestone at LVHN in April 2019. Congratulate them on their years of service.

45 years

Charleen Bower, Central Document Processing

Bruce Curry, Psychiatry

Richard Gehman, Engineering

40 years

Nancy Christman, Clinical Services Observation

Elizabeth Karoly, Quality Assessment

Susan Merryfield, Neuroscience Intensive Care

Deborah Rabuck, Neonatal ICU

Debora Reitenauer, Patient Transport Services

Colleen Starr, Home Health Care

35 years

Andrea Ansbach, Laboratory

Ginger Christman, Sterile Processing

Janet Drumn, Recovery Room

Joan Edwards, Precertification

Wendy Jenkins, Adolescent Psychiatry Unit

Renee Schick, Pre-admission Testing

30 years



Cynthia Anderson, Care Services

Bonnielou Brandmeir, Open-Heart Unit

Rose Davidge, Medical Records

Nancy Dirico, Transitional Skilled Unit

Susan Edstrom, Supply Distribution Services

David Fatula, General and Administrative

Nedra Howells, Outpatient Surgery Preop

Heidi Kistler, PACU

Joyce Litwak, Transitional Trauma Unit

Janet Morton, HealthWorks

25 years

Barbara Docherty, Patient Registration

Robbieann Herring, Operating Room

Laura Kaddis, Pediatric Unit

Cindy Ridner, LVPG-Occupational Medicine-Tannersville

20 years

Amy Broadfield, LVPG Hematology Oncology

Michael Brunell, Respiratory Therapy

Frank DiLorenzo, ASU-OR

Richard Fronheiser, Information Services

Jeanne Gunning, Cardiovascular/Telemetry Unit

Joyce Hall, Behavioral Health

Doris Kardos, HIM Facility Based Coding

Neil Kocher, Emergency Department

Cheryl LeVan, Health Spectrum Pharmacy

Justina Panebianco, ASU-OR

Joseph Roth, Execution ROI Rev Cycle FY16

David Tarr, Operating Room

Amy Trumbore, Cardiac ICU

15 years

Kristen Brown, LVPG Family Medicine-Hamburg

Joseph Casso, Information Services

Linda Colarusso, HealthWorks

Suzanne Diehl, Emergency Room

David Domin, Physical Therapy

Jason Fetterman, Radiology

Ryan Fogarty, Information Services

Melissa Fusselman, LVPG OB/GYN-Laury's Station

Robert Gerri, CT Scan

Garry Hamilton, LVPG Pediatrics-East Stroudsburg

Tracy Hillias, LVPG Hematology Oncology

Jennifer James, Transitional Skilled Unit

Jill Johnson, ED Registration

Cynthia Kalmar, Operating Room

Kathleen Keeling, Dietary

Florence Kern, HealthWorks Bethlehem

Pamela Klaus, HIM Provider Based Coding

Nicole Longbons, Health Care Analytics

Alexis Lukas, Per Diem Pool

Maria Mackins, Vascular/Interventional Radiology

Mary McMenamin, Precertification

Pakama Nogqala-Haynes, Nursing Float Pool

Jolie Paulus, Home Care – Physical Therapy

Regina Quigney, Execution ROI Rev Cycle FY16

Anthony Ripa, APTS Operations

Luis Rivera, Security

Annmarie Ruggiero, Cardiovascular/Telemetry Unit

Lynn Schaeffer, Volunteers Office

Tammy Shaffer, Trauma Reg Res Ctr.

Cynthia Shoff, Information Services Customer Service

Donna Stoeckel, Labor and Delivery

Mark Thomas, Critical Care Unit

Tami Transue, LVPG Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery-1243 Cedar Crest

10 years

Megan Allen, Labor and Delivery

Tonya Bullock, Pre-Servicess/Financial Clearance

Elke Burroughs, 5T

Carol Davis-Crosland, Registration

Christine Deschler, Quality

Jo Lyn Dixon, Sterile Processing

Rachael Hanks Saphore, Nursing Administration

Brandon Helffrich, Neuroscience Intensive Care

Cathy Jacob, Post Operative Unit

Byron Kelly, Information Services

Samantha Kindred, Outpatient Registration

Deborah McCoy, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine-3080 Hamilton

Donna Panico, LVPG Surgical Oncology-1240 Cedar Crest

Janice Petruccelli, Children's Clinic

Kathleen Post, LVPG Endocrinology-1243 Cedar Crest

Jackeyln Ruhf, LVPG Neurosurgery-1250 Cedar Crest

Christina Ruppert, Radiology

Victoria Schieppe, LVPG Occupational Medicine-Tannersville

Lisa Severn. Education Infrastructure

Jasmine Wenner, Information Services

5 years

Santosh AdilInformation, Technology

Lora Bastin, Marketing Sales and Business Development

Tara Benischeck, Pediatric Unit

Chloe Blum, Operating Room

Allison Bolinsky, LVPG General Surgery

Joelle Brandt, LVPG Infusion-Lehighton

Dorrie Brzostowski, Inpatient Rehabilitation Center

Deanna Buhay, LVPG Urology

Andrew Buttillo, Rehabilitation

Morgan Cassano, Home Health

Adam Castro, Pharmacy

Paula Christman, TNICU

Katherine Colyer, Home Care – Physical Therapy

Rachelle Demansky, Patient Accounting

Stuart Eskin, Administration

Florence Evangelista, LVPG Hematology Oncology-Bangor

Krista Farnack, Behavioral Health

Jessica Faustner, Emergency Department

Laura Ferko, Endoscopy

Stephania Fernandez, Comprehensive Health Services

Tiffany Fritz, Behavioral Health

Sandra Furmanchin, LVPG Family Medicine-Brookhill

Clare Gebey-Embon, TLC Moderate Care

Adasa Gibson, Sterile Processing

Francine Gioe, Patient Accounting

Jessely Gonzalez, LVPG OB/GYN-Pond Road

Amy Grubb, Home Care – Physical Therapy

Krista Hadfield, Tech Aide Float

Alice Hager, Professional Services

Mary Hannah, LVPG Cardiology-Muhlenberg

Kimberly Henrich, Hospice Home Health Aides

Jennifer Houman, Cardiology

Keren Khawaja, Med Surg 7

Gaspard Lamour, Epic

Lorianne Lanigan, LVPG Urogynecology-Bartonsville

Renee Lapinsky, Home Health Care

Jessica Leckrone, Children's Specialty Float Pool

Sharon Lehman, School of Nursing

Jennifer Major, PICC Team

Lynn Marcante, Population Health

Jane Martin, Clinical Services Observation

Brittany McDonald, Radiology

George Morton, Information Services

Donna Newton, Communications

Christopher Nine, Population Health

Patricia Overton, MedEvac Ground

Joann Rosenberger, Group Health Administrative Services

Angela Sabaday, Ultrasound

John Schaffer, APTS Operations

Valerie Sherwin, Home Care – Physical Therapy

Ann Silverberg, HIM Facility Based Coding

Laura Snow, Children's Specialty Float Pool

Trina Steele, Population Health

John Steinhart, Emergency Department

John Swim, Human Resources

Laura Turan, LVPG Family Medicine-Hometown

Erica Vasquez, Outpatient Intake

Marie Wetzel, Communications

Judith Williams, Progressive Coronary Care Unit

Allison Yudt, Health System Innovation and Research

Attend the Chronic Pain and Substance Use Disorder Symposium

BY [LORI MCFERRAN](#) · APRIL 3, 2019

A distinguished lineup of physicians and a behavioral health specialist will present a day-long education program in two sessions on the topics of chronic pain, substance use, opioid prescribing and medical cannabis. The upcoming Chronic Pain and Substance Use Disorder Symposium on Saturday, April 27, has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Pain Society. It will kick off with “PA and Federal Requirements for Prescribing Opioids/Controlled Substances and CDC Guidelines: What have we learned?” presented by Lawrence Kobak, DPM, an attorney with Frier Levitt, a health care law firm with offices in New York and New Jersey.



The symposium will take place live at LVH-Cedar Crest, with teleconferencing to LVH-Hazleton, LVH-Schuylkill, and LVH-Pocono. The two information sessions, broken up into a “Mandatory Prescriber and Dispenser Education Workshop” and “Hot Topics,” will be followed at the end of the day with a panel discussion. Attendance at the symposium qualifies for 7.0 AMA PRA Category 1 credits. The following is a review of speakers and topics:

Steve Denton, Director of Behavioral Health Integration at LVHN, Group Visits for Chronic Pain

David Giampetro, MD, Penn State Hershey Pain Medicine, Introduction to Chronic Pain Syndromes from Head to Toe; Interdisciplinary Pain Management

Vitaly Gordin, MD, Penn State Hershey Pain Medicine, Opioid Tapering

Bruce Nicholson, MD, LVHN, Acute Pain; Alternatives to Opioids; Medical Cannabis

Joseph Patruno, MD, LVHN, Chronic Pelvic Pain

Jennifer Stephens, DO, LVHN, Opioid Therapy: Appropriate Prescribing

Mitchell West, DO, Medical Director of Addiction Medicine at Allegheny Health Network, Opioid Therapy: Prevention, Screening, and Signs of Addiction; Psychology of Addiction

[Register here.](#)

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Know a Healthy Adult Experiencing Memory Issues? Join the MIND Study

BY [MARCIANN ALBERT](#) · APRIL 5, 2019

If you are a provider with patients currently experiencing greater than normal age-related changes such as problems with memory, language, thinking or judgment, the Memory Improvement through Nicotine Dosing (MIND) study is now available.

Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) is a state of memory loss that can occur in patients within the normal aging process and early stages of Alzheimer's disease. The purpose of this study is to determine whether nicotine (in patch form) can enhance/improve memory and functioning in adults diagnosed with MCI.

Eligible patients can participate in the study free of charge. During study visits, patients participate in assessments which include a physical, neurological and cognitive exam for safety and efficacy. There are 12 total visits as part of this study. All study participants need to have a study partner who will accompany them to visits.

To be eligible for this study, patients must:

- Be a healthy adult age 55 or older
- Be a non-smoker
- Notice changes in their memory or have family members who notice changes

[Alison Walsh, MD](#), LVPG Neurology, is the lead investigator for this study, and [Andrew Orzel, RN, BSN](#), Network Office of Research and Innovation (NORI) is the designated research nurse.

For more information, download the [MIND study brochure](#) and [flyer](#). Questions regarding the study may be directed to Andrew.Orzel@lvhn.org.

