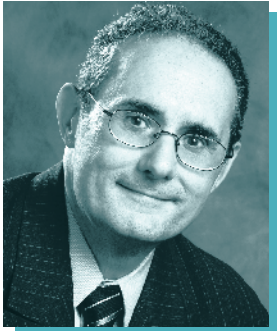


Shared Values and Mutual Commitment Defines the Hospital Family



Joseph A. Quagliata
President & CEO

As quickly as it came upon us, the holiday season is over, leaving us with cherished memories of time spent with family, friends and colleagues. Time-honored holiday traditions, such as joining together for special celebrations and reaching out to those less fortunate, were among the highlights of the holiday season here at

South Nassau. This special issue of *Intercom* looks back at our festive employee holiday party. You will also read about the generosity of our employees who lent a hand to their co-workers and community members who were in need this holiday season.

The season was also a time for us to begin what I hope will become a new tradition for us, an opportunity to build bridges and eliminate the cultural gaps that threaten to separate us. I am referring to our cultural diversity day, during which employees volunteered to share food, fashion and traditions representing their ethnic backgrounds. Aside from offering a delicious diversion, this unique celebration provided us with an opportunity to learn more about one another. In addition to highlighting our cultural differ-

ences, I believe this event emphasized our common values and experiences.

It is those shared values and our mutual commitment to the same goals that define our hospital family and set us apart from other health care providers. Our workforce is far from homogenous. We represent a host of different ethnic, religious, educational and economic backgrounds. Yet rather than divide us, those differences are the foundation of our strength. They provide us with the compassion, tolerance and sensitivity we need to offer our patients unparalleled care.

So whether your holiday festivities included a Feast of the Seven Fishes or beef Wellington, pasteles, curried goat, rellenong manuk, matzoh ball soup or any other family favorite, my wish for you is the same: a New Year filled with peace, prosperity and good health. In the months ahead, I look forward to working with you to fulfill our hospital's mission of providing excellent health care to the entire community.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Quagliata
President and CEO



Intercom is published six times a year by the External Affairs Department for the employees of South Nassau Communities Hospital.

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