

Hospital Report

New Cardiac Monitors for Ellenville Regional Hospital

Ellenville Regional Hospital is pleased to announce the purchase of eight new telemetry cardiac monitors. This purchase was made possible under a Federal Health and Human Services grant secured for the *Hospital* by Congressman Maurice Hinchey.

The telemetry cardiac equipment will monitor with a central monitoring system, to be used in the *Hospital's* *Emergency Department*. Telemetry units are used principally to monitor the heart rate, heart rhythm, blood pressure, respiration and oxygen saturation of cardiac and post-operative patients. Each telemetry unit has an individual monitor, which allows the nurse to read the data at bedside or at a centralized location at the nurse's station. Each unit stores up to 180 readings, allowing for a review of a patient's recent cardiac data.

According to Dr. Brooks Mirrer, Cardiologist at *Ellenville Regional Hospital*, "These new telemetry cardiac monitors will allow our nursing staff and physicians to monitor more cardiac patients, and to provide better care to our patients overall. These units allow the *Emergency Room* to continuously monitor the patient. We are very grateful to Congressman Hinchey for providing us with the funding for this purchase." ☆



Virginia Castrogiovanni, RN, reading data from the cardiac monitor.

Volunteers Needed at ERH!

We need you. If you are a retired nurse, we need your skills. Do you have office or telephone skills that you would like to put to good use? Would you like to serve our patients and their families in the Gift Shop or at the Information Desk? Do you want to give back to your community? *Ellenville Regional Hospital* is seeking volunteers to assist our staff and patients in many areas of the *Hospital*.

The *Department of Volunteer Services* is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service and support, respecting the dignity, individuality, and cultural diversity of our patients, their families, and the community we serve. If you are looking to help others and need something rewarding to do, please call Debbie Briggs at 647-6400 ext. 286. Thank you. ☆

Hospital To Receive Nurse Education Funding

In order to address a growing nursing shortage in the region, the state Department of Health has awarded funding to *Ellenville Regional Hospital* to be used to promote and upgrade healthcare training for Certified Nurses Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Registered Nurses.

Thanks to a collaborative effort with *Ulster BOCES*, *Ellenville Regional Hospital* will receive funding in the amount of \$342,709 under The New York State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Health Worker Training Initiative.

Howard Korn, director of High School and Adult Programming at *Ulster BOCES* Career and Technical Center, coordinated the effort to obtain the funding, which will be used to support and foster sustained job retention and to provide employment and career advancement opportunities for new and for current hospital employees.

"This funding will help ensure that New York State continues to have the best health care workforce in the nation by giving participants who are eligible for TANF-funded services training to upgrade their skills," Korn said. The projects will include supervised job shadowing, mentoring, employment retention workshops, case management support services and tuition assistance for Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Registered Nurses.

Deborah Briggs, director of Human Resources and Volunteer Services at *Ellenville Regional Hospital* said, "In light of the financial climate in our region, this funding will give those interested in a healthcare profession the opportunity to realize their goals. In addition, this will allow our current staff to advance in the nursing profession. We are grateful to *Ulster BOCES* for the role they played in helping us secure this grant."

For more information about TANF funding and employment, contact the Human Resources Departments at *Ellenville Regional Hospital*, 647-6400 ext. 286. ↗



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