

Meet our Physiatry Residents:

Five Questions with Mitch Wright, DO



Mitch Wright, DO, is among Gaylord's inaugural class of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation residents. Mitch talks with FYI about his chosen field, his career goals, and more as he commences his three-year rotation at Gaylord Hospital.

Q. What drew you to medicine?

A. I was very active in high school and college sports. After an injury in high school I developed an interest in physical therapy. With my background in sports, I started out with a degree in athletic training. During my junior year of undergrad, I went on a medical mission to Nicaragua and was encouraged by a group of doctors to consider medical school. That thought never left my mind. After graduation, I worked as an athletic trainer for three years and I had the opportunity to work closely with physiatrists. I was drawn to the discipline and decided to go to medical school and pursue physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Q. What impact do you want to make in your career?

A. As an athletic trainer, I loved being able to return an athlete to their sport. Physiatry is very similar, but on a much larger scale. Instead of returning an athlete back to their sport after injury, we can help return patients back to their lives after a major injury or life-altering diagnosis.

Q. Why is Gaylord a unique place to spend part of your residency?

A. It's the "spirit" of Gaylord. You notice it walking around campus. The fact that people have been here for 20, 30 years, and more speaks highly to the type of institution it is. Everyone - from the very top and throughout the organization - is focused on improving patient quality of life.

It is great to be able to spend time here during my residency training at a well-recognized model system and CARF-accredited organization. It's very exciting to be here!

continued on page 3

Our Values are

Integrity

Compassion

Accountability

Respect

Excellence

FYI DEADLINE

The deadline for the next FYI is Friday, July 21.

Email: publicrelations@gaylord.org

2023

EMPLOYEE of the YEAR



Can't make the event?
Scan the QR code to live stream on your phone.

Who will it be?
Join us:

Thursday, July 13
12pm, Brooker South Lawn

Our mission is to enhance health, maximize function and transform lives.

Did you know...

Launched in June, if a patient's birthday falls during their stay at Gaylord, they are offered a special birthday lunch meal from the cafeteria. Meals are specially prepared by Chef John or Chef Gabe. Patients will have the choice of braised beef, rosemary chicken, shrimp pasta or ratatouille; all made from scratch. A cake and card are also sent.



Congrats



Catharine Burke, APRN

Congratulations on passing your Wound, Ostomy and Continence Certification exams from Emory University. Way to go!

MEDITECH
E X P A N S E

WHAT'S NEW

Interrupted Stay

With the functionality to re-open a previously discharged account due to an interrupted stay qualifier the manual steps to move charges will be eliminated. ETAC: If admitted automatically DC no matter what. If it hits midnight and we are still waiting, depends on insurance. MCD and WC leave open - do not DC. Commercial depends on if insurance needs new auth but most after midnight they DC. This is standard functionality and will eliminate a relatively manual process in C/S.



JULY

Service Awards

Congratulations to the following employees for their years of service to Gaylord:

25 YEARS

Luci Juvan, MD
Physician Services

20 YEARS

Carol Langston
Nursing Services

15 YEARS

Amanda Williams
Inpatient Therapy

10 YEARS

Annette Flores
Nursing Services

Melissa Taylor
Respiratory Services

5 YEARS

Mary Afeltra
HIM

Daniella Riley
Respiratory Services

Pamela Jil Venetianer
Inpatient Therapy

Karen Corriveau
Respiratory Services

Dianeris Florencio
Respiratory Services

Laura Phipps Receives National Recognition for Design Excellence



Congratulations to Laura Phipps, senior graphic designer “extraordinaire,” who was named a “2023 Distinction Winner” of the Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts 2023 Communicator Awards.

The national award honors excellence in strategic, effective, and meaningful communication. Entries are evaluated by a prestigious global panel of industry-leading professionals.

A 16-year Gaylord employee, Laura was lauded for her exceptional work on the “Spirit of Gaylord” history book that was rewritten and redesigned to commemorate Gaylord’s 120th anniversary.

This is Laura’s second Communicator Award; in 2017 she received the honor for her design of inpatient program marketing collateral.

Kim Thompson, Manager of Public Relations and Marketing, said “I am thrilled – but not surprised - that Laura’s work on the Spirit of Gaylord was honored with the highest award in its category. To have an outside organization validate the level of creativity that Laura achieves in all types of design work is amazing every time it happens. She weaves a compelling story using copy and images to engage the reader. Her clarity of vision and questioning attitude during the creative process is admired and respected by her peers. After 16 years of working together, I continue to be in awe of her talent and the level of perfection she holds herself to.”

[Click here to read the Spirit of Gaylord](#)

Physiatry article continued from page 1

Q. What do you think you would be if you hadn’t pursued a career in healthcare?

A. I would have gone to culinary school and opened a restaurant or a food truck.

Q. Tell us a fun fact about yourself!

A. I played high school and college basketball, and I am an avid competitive volleyball player. I also have two girls under the age of two!

Gaylord Celebrates Staff Anniversaries During Legacy Week

Gaylord celebrated staff with service anniversaries on the South Lawn earlier this week. President and CEO Sonja LaBarbera welcomed and thanked those in attendance and also acknowledged those unable to be on campus. Refreshments and laughs were enjoyed by all. Thank you all for your dedication to our patients and each other.



SERVICE awards ‘23



Congratulations to the following employees for reaching a Service Anniversary milestone in 2023

50 Years

Cindy Michalski

40 Years

Sue Paxton

35 Years

Tracy Ouellette
Gail Carr

30 Years

Elizabeth Marquis
Linda Krampitz
Tammy Spurgeon
Michael Moscato
Alyssa Rotman
Cheryl Wiecek

25 Years

Maura Jean Sipples
Luci Juvan
Monica Dalton
Gayle Cole
Carrie Belcourt
Anabel Vendinha
Kimberly Crawford
Dorothy Orlowski
June Napolitano
Senada Duracak
Kimberly Thompson

20 Years

Dawn Peck
Morgan Douglas
Tammy Little
Jillian Cacopardo
Paula Cappola
Holly Werle
Carol Langston
Pedro Guzman
Tara Knapp

15 Years

Mary Ann Lion
Sheila Padilla-Sandoval
Jessica Dale
Casey Kennedy
Jessica Cunningham
David Zaborowski
Amy Benoit
Cheryl Tansley
Brenda Paluszewski
Amanda Williams
Heidi Fagan
Katherine Reilly
Joseph Benson
Donna Rivera

10 Years

Shin Lin
Kelly Shepard
Laura Simaitis
Susanna Bennett
Stefanie Gaidos

Jaclyn Magnuszewski
Jessica Malave
Megan Tokarz
Melissa Taylor
Leah McIlvaine
Eric Puka
Dorene Scolnic
Georgette MacQuarrie
Kathleen Shanahan
Annette Flores
Latoya Moore

5 Years

Joshua Fink
Shane Gallagher
Pamela Jil Venetianer
Kelani Carbonneau
Kimberly Bifano
Madelyn Sola
Jill Hellstrand
Amanda Andrews
Tanya Garcia
Rochelle Clay
Darielle Cooper
Camila Ferreira
Tiffany Scribner
Tavia Bredwood
Caroline Greene
Jason LePage
Kevin Johnson
Daniel Amendola
Linda Alfano
Katherine Kraines
Shannon Masella

Katelyn Donohue
Martinia Smith
Daniella Riley
Karen Corriveau
Dianeris Florencio
Diana Sanchez
Jessica Garcia
Michelle Bailey
Jamilka Rodriguez
Mariah Soto
Domingo Quintana
Eva Laryea
Kimberly Levesque
Lisa Kalafus
Craig Stearns
Christopher Chieffo
Chris Travali
Michael Denette
Tiana Santiago
Alyssa Cardona
Mary Afeltra
Colleen Rawlick
Astou Seye



Positivity for Patients

Gaylord employees and patients may have recently noticed a new art display hanging in the Milne lobby in recent weeks. The display is the brainchild of Meg Moore, a former Gaylord outpatient and Gaylord Sports Association para-triathlete. Meg, who has Cerebral Palsy, created a project called “Positivity for Patients: Project Yes You Can.”

She calls it a group service initiative that strives to brighten the spirits of hospital patients through donations of art and writing depicting positive and motivational messages.

Meg raised funds to support the project and has been recruiting individuals and friends with disabilities to showcase their art and messages of positivity in Connecticut hospitals. Gaylord Hospital was the first organization that Meg selected to display their work.

Read more about the “Positivity for Patients” project at Gaylord Hospital in this [Hartford Courant article](#).

MEDITECH EXPANSE — WEBINAR SERIES —

Universal Discharge



Scan the QR code
or [click here](#)



**Monday, July 17
12 p.m., Via Zoom**

Presenter
Alyssa Rotman

Webinar link is also available on the intranet homepage/PULSE

July	August	September	October	November
Employee of the Year Event July 13	Jeans for Charity August 4, 18	Jeans for Charity September 1, 15, 29	National Physical Therapy Month	Jeans for Charity November 3, 17
Jeans for Charity July 21		Employee Appreciation Day September 19	National Case Management Week	
		National IT Professionals Day September 19	National Respiratory Care Week	
		National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month	National Pharmacy Week	
		National Rehabilitation Awareness Week	Infection Prevention Week	
		Complex Rehab Technology Awareness Week	National Patient Account Management Week	
			Healthcare Quality Week	

Welcome Back Chaplain Vince Gierer!



Rev. Joy Christi is thrilled to welcome back to our Spiritual Care Team, Chaplain Vince Gierer. Vince’s chaplaincy experience, compassion, and care will only add another dimension to the quality of spiritual openness offered to all our Gaylord patients, families, and staff. Rev. Joy Christi is honored

to be able to share this ministry with such a dedicated colleague. Vince has worked as a youth minister, a pastor, and a hospital chaplain. Vince is married to Emily and they have two daughters together: Charlotte and Josephine.

Reflecting on his return Vince noted, “Gaylord is a special place. Like many staff I have a personal connection here. My grandfather was a patient here and the care he and our family received was extraordinary. I am thrilled to be part of this team providing religious, spiritual and emotional support to patients, families and staff.”

Jeans for Charity: Friday, July 21



The featured organization is

Cystic Fibrosis- Local Chapter

“The mission of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is to cure cystic fibrosis and to provide all people with CF the opportunity to lead long, fulfilling lives by funding research and drug development, partnering with the CF community, and advancing high-quality, specialized care”.

For more information, [click here.](#)

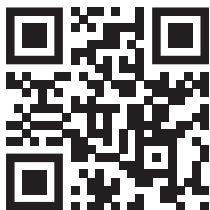
Employees need a Jeans for Charity sticker or button to indicate their participation.

Stickers can be purchased for \$2 in the cafeteria, Jackson Java, Human Resources, Jackson 2 outpatient, North Haven, Cheshire, Cromwell and Madison.



Did your co-worker go above and beyond?

Scan the QR code above and fill out the form to recognize them.



December	January 2024	February	March	April	May
Jeans for Charity December 1, 15, 29	Jeans for Charity	Jeans for Charity	National Nutrition Month	Occupational Therapy Month	National Hospital Week National Nurses Week



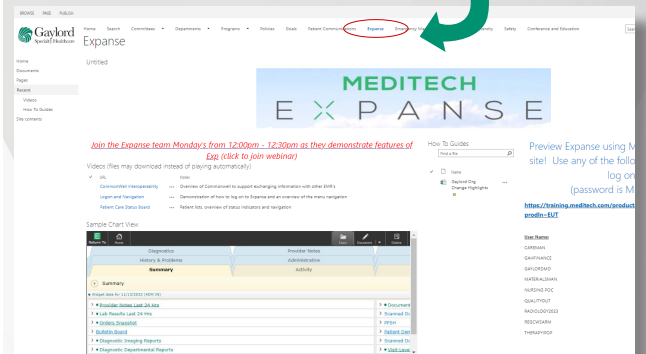
Gaylord and the COMMUNITY

- **July 22 - August 12**-Bartlem Beats Concert Series
- **July 25**-Hunters Ambulance Golf Tournament
- **August 1 - Nov 1**-Cromwell Lions Football and Cheer
- **August 7**-Masonicare Golf Tournament
- **August 8**-Ray LaMay Golf Tournament
- **October 1**-Apple Harvest Road Race

For more information on community events and sponsorships, please [click here](#).

● Community Events ■ Sponsorships

Check out the Meditech EXPANSE Sharepoint page



Look for more Meditech EXPANSE information in upcoming FYIs and Snapcomms

**Need to access Gaylord's
Employee Assistance Program?
Call (860) 233-6228.**

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

ideas?

Please reach out to Leigh Golembiewski
at lgolembiewski@gaylord.org



Did you know Gaylord holds a weekly 'Photo of the Week' Contest on the intranet homepage?

Share your amazing photos with us and your photo may be chosen for display on the intranet homepage for one week for all to see. Please email photo entries to publicrelations@gaylord.org with your name, department, title and brief description of the photo.



Gaylord Tote Bags for Sale

The Cotton Canvas Admiral Tote Bag pictured below is available to purchase for \$25. Please reach out to Georgette @ gmacquarrie@gaylord.org or stop by Brooker 316 to purchase.



Welcome to the Gaylord Team!

Amber Beaty	Intake Representative
Lauren Lessard	Food Services Assistant
Brittney Zampaglione	SNT-M1
Nadia Paré	Associate Director-Psychology
Brianna Talarico	SNT-L1
Olivia Gesler	PCT-M2
Garth Lewis	PCT-L1
Sheila DeOliveira	RN-M1
Alana Villano	SNT-H1
Natalie Vega	LPN-H1
Stephanie Grant	PCT-M2
Lee Pangilinan	RN-M1
Ana Demo	GN-M2
Shannon Woodward	GPN-L1
Alexia Amenta	PCT-Float
Jusana Rodriguez	PCT-M2
Dennise Vega	PCT-L1
Samantha Theodore	RN-M2
Latreese Atkinson	SNT-Float
Bethsabee Bernadel	PCT-L2
Kevin Lanzoni	SNT-M1
Maria Zerla Paz-Gato	RN-M1
Sarah Lam	PCT-H1
Fabio Bueno	SNT-H1





**Be Innovative.
Think Possible.**



**Share your
innovative
ideas with us.**

Scan the QR code or
email innovation@gaylord.org

Preservation Connecticut- The 1772 Foundation, Inc. Grant Awarded to Restore Persky Building



Gaylord has received a \$6,000 grant award to complete restoration of the Alaric Eli Persky Building from The 1772 Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to give for the preservation and enhancement of American historical entities and projects. In the past five years, under careful direction from the Senior Director of Facilities, Bob Hall, the Gaylord team has taken a global approach to campus renewal and upkeep. Gaylord's buildings and the campus's natural beauty benefit patients, families and staff alike. Research has shown that exposure to the natural world and peaceful environments assist in recovery by helping to reduce stress and providing access to unique therapeutic outdoor spaces to build confidence and maximize independence.

The Alaric Eli Persky Building was erected in 1931 to memorialize the son of a New Haven family. Alaric tragically passed away from a broken neck in 1930 at the age of 28, leaving behind a wife. His parents emigrated from Russia in the late 1800s. His father was head of the real estate and insurance firm Simon Persky & Sons, Inc. Alaric also worked at the firm in a variety of roles. He was a 1923 graduate of Yale University.

The Persky building is a small Tudor Revival-style building that originally housed administrative offices. The wood-frame and red brick building stands one story in height and has a steeply-pitched, side-gabled roof with slate shingles. The project includes replacing cemented slate flashings on the back sides of the gabled building ends, removing and recycling cement color slate and copper flashings, and fabrication and installation of new copper step and counter flashings.

Gaylord is grateful to The 1772 Foundation for this support to restore this unique and historic building on our campus.

**GET READY FOR
NEXT YEAR.**



SAVE THE DATE

06 15 24



Follow Gaylord Specialty Healthcare on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/gaylordsspecialtyhealthcare



Gaylord is also on YouTube.
www.youtube.com/user/GaylordHealthcare



Follow Gaylord on Twitter.
twitter.com/GaylordHealth



Clinical Trials Day Recognitions

A message from Hank Hrdlicka, PhD:

On May 19th, we celebrated Clinical Trials Day 2023, recognizing and honoring our investigators who conduct research and help improve the lives of patients and workflow at Gaylord. We had an incredible turnout during our open poster presentation session! We had a record number of 18 projects from various departments. Investigators presented and answered questions about their research while other participants voted on their favorite posters. Following the poster session, a luncheon was held to celebrate Gaylord staff who contributed to a manuscript that was published and/or submitted for peer review this past year.

This year, we had a 4-way tie for the People's Choice Award for best poster, highlighting the number of remarkable studies at Gaylord*. We were also delighted to present the second annual Milne Institute Research Growth Award to Emily Meise. This award recognizes an investigator who has shown exceptional progress and significant advancements in conducting research over the past year. Finally, Michelle Connolly from Admissions won the Clinical Trials Day Research Author Signatures gift card raffle, and Brittany Brown from respiratory won the Published Author Recognition Raffle.

Research activities occur all year round at Gaylord with plenty of opportunities to get involved. Please reach out to one of the members of the research team or contact research@gaylord.org to learn more.

***Poster Presentation Titles or Authors:**

"Assessing the Impact and Reliability of Vocal Volume as a Predictor of Decannulation Success and Readiness: Study Protocol and Interim Updates" - PI: Cheryl Tansley, MS CCC-SLP

"Construct and Criterion Validity Testing of GOT-Cog: A Novel Cognitive Screen to Better Inform Occupational Therapy Treatment Planning" - PI: Emily Meise, MS OTR/L

"Reducing CAUTIs: Quality Improvement Journey on the Reduction and Prevention of Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections" - PI: Dave Rosenblum, MD

"Assessing the Impact of Continuous Visual Monitoring to Decrease Institutional Falls in the LTACH Setting" - PI: Lisa Kalafus, MSN, BSN, RN



Gaylord
Specialty Healthcare

Milne Institute

BINGO NUMBERS

Numbers pulled as of Wednesday, July 12



Did you get a BINGO? Contact Georgette MacQuarrie at gmacquarrie@gaylord.org



Break the cycle of workplace violence With CPI
Prevention First



ATTENTION ALL NURSING EMPLOYEES

CPI Prevention First Training

Due July 31 in HealthStream





Refer A Friend
Employee Referral Bonus Program



Helping fill jobs is **ALL** our job.
Get paid to help.

***REFERRAL BONUS**

POSITION

\$2,000 RN

\$1,500 LPN

\$1,000 PCT

\$1,000 Intake Rep

\$1,000 CSA

\$500 EVS or F&N

***For program details and payout schedules, contact HR.**



July Safety Habit:
**Mentor Each Other
200% Accountability**



A Safety Codeword:
"I have a Concern."

Speak Up for Safety: ARCC it Up -"I have a concern"

**A responsibility to protect
in a manner of mutual
respect—an assertion and
escalation technique.**



**A non-threatening technique you can use to raise concerns.
Each letter in ARCC stands for an action.**

Ask a question: *"Did you forget your gloves?"*

Request a change: *"Please put on your gloves."*

Communicate a Concern: *"I'm concerned about the safety of the patient."*

Chain of Command: *"I'm not comfortable with this; I will need to speak to my supervisor."*

Most of the time, the **A alone or the **A+R** will achieve the behavior change needed.*

Meet Our Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation **RESIDENTS**

**Gage Hurlburt, DO****Hometown**

Martinsburg, WV

Medical School

West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Undergraduate School

West Virginia University

Clinical Interests

Pain Management, Sports/Musculoskeletal Medicine, Regenerative Medicine

Interests

Weightlifting, running, cooking, watching sports, traveling

**Courtney Pinto, MD****Hometown**

Norfolk, MA

Medical School

New York Medical College

Undergraduate School

Saint Michael's College

Clinical Interests

Neurorehabilitation, specifically Traumatic Brain Injury, Neuromuscular Disorders, and Spinal Cord Injury, Regenerative Medicine, and Adaptive Sports

Interests

Hiking, kayaking, yoga, rock climbing, gardening, cooking, and reading

**Priscilla Mapelli, DO****Hometown**

Unionville, CT

Medical School

Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harlem, NY

Undergraduate School

University of California, Los Angeles

Clinical Interests

Addressing health disparities, Spinal Cord Injury, MSK Ultrasound, Regenerative Medicine, Pediatric Rehab, Sports and Interventional Pain Medicine

Interests

Weightlifting, plants, experiencing new foods and traveling

**Mitch Wright, DO****Hometown**

Hampton, IL

Medical School

A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine

Undergraduate School

Carthage College

Clinical Interests

All aspects of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation: General Acute Rehab, Musculoskeletal Medicine, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Spasticity Management, Neuromuscular Rehab

Interests

Volleyball, cycling, cooking/baking, and finding new donut shops

For inquiries or more information
about the residency please contact
Mkoller@gaylord.org.

Class of 2026