

Faces you see at St. Mary's....



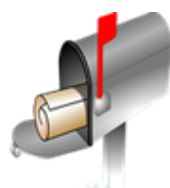
Sophia Huda is our Social Worker on 3CU. Many of you know her well but here is a little more information about our newest Social Worker at St. Mary's. Sophia is a graduate of Hunter College and has her MSW from NYU. After working as a Recreation Therapist in adult long term care for a number of years, she had her "a-ha" moment and decided that Social Work would be her future. Sophia enjoys spending time in nature, visiting area parks and spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys bowling and is crazy for karaoke.

Sophia looks forward to working with the families and her fellow staff on

3CU to develop a sense of family on the unit. Please stop by her office or stop her in the hallway anytime you need her assistance or just to talk.



Change of Address? Please remember to advise your Social Worker of any changes in your contact information including new home addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers. It is important, that we be able to contact you, to keep you informed of the care being provided for your child.



Our Commitment to Patient and Family Centered Care

The staff at St. Mary's continues to focus on building strong family partnerships and improving communication. We want to ensure that residents and families are at the center of every resident care decision made. Feel free to contact Priscilla Martin, Patient & Family Experience Manager, with any issues you would like to discuss.

Contact Us...

Ombudsman 212.812.2911	Maggie Sidarous Administrator, Administration, room 104 718.281.8764 msidarous@stmaryskids.org
Nursery Unit Nurses Station: 718.281.8730 Laura Nunez, Social Worker: 718.281.8944 Benedetta Montalvo, Asst. Dir Nursing: 718.281.8882	Toddlers Unit Nurses Station: 718.281.8740 Sheena Mathew, Social Worker: 718.281.8805, room 1248 Eileen Alvarez, Asst. Dir Nursing: 718.281.8808
Children's Unit 2 Nurses Station: 718.281.8652 Laura Nunez, Social Worker: 718.281.8944, room 230 Michelle Punnette, Asst. Dir Nursing: 718.281.8660	Children's Unit 3 Nurses Station: 718.281.5820 Sophia Huda, Social Worker: 718.281.3985, room 3248 Sharon Rome, Asst. Dir Nursing: 718.819.2752
Children's Unit 4 Nurses Station: 718.281.5830 Fernando Gomez, Social Worker: 718.281.8921, room 4248 Danielle Swenson, R.N., Asst. Dir Nursing: 718.281.8940	Desiree Borre Director, Patient & Family Services, room 103 Grievance Official 718.281.8886 - dborre@stmaryskids.org
Priscilla Martin Patient & Family Experience Manager, room 103 718.281.8826 - pmartin@stmaryskids.org	Jacqueline Lynch, MDIV, MSW, DMIN Chaplaincy Services, room 104B 718.281.8852- jlynch@stmaryskids.org



St. Mary's Healthcare System For Children
 718-281-8800 — www.stmaryskids.org



Where big hearts help little patients



January/February
 2023



Project TALK

Have you seen any of these pictures placed in and around your child's unit? They are an important part of a new program at St. Mary's called Project TALK. TALK stands for "Technology Assisted Language for Kids". A large part of Project TALK is using Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC). AAC is any form of non-verbal communication that a child uses to interact. It may be unaided (simple signs, gestures, facial expressions) or aided (communication boards, voice output switches, or high tech AAC devices). St. Mary's Speech Therapy staff is starting Project TALK on our Nursery Unit and will be creating an individualized communication plan for many of our children. You will also see many staff wearing "badge reels" like the one shown below or may see a communication binder in your child's room. Staff from many departments will be using these items while working with your children to learn this method of communication. Project TALK aims to help our kids reach their maximum potential and improve their interactions



with parents, families and caregivers. Please speak with one of our Speech Therapists for more information.



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PFCC Champions



Christine Fallon, RN, Amanda Cancel, RN and Sarah Estevez, RN were presented with January’s Patient and Family Centered Care Champion award for the tremendous strength shown on the Toddler Unit. These nurses support our families always but for one family in particular, on a very difficult day, they were true pillars of Patient and Family Centered Care. They approached the moment with dignity and respect by recognizing the family’s values, beliefs and perspectives and by ensuring they saw that their child is valued.



Miriam Adelman, LPN was presented with February’s PFCC Champion award. The family that nominated her said, “I have known this beautiful, loving professional since my child was on the Toddler Unit. The love and care they have given my child has allowed me to work nights without any fear. That is something that is in some cases hard to not feel. They give me the ability to be calm as I work, knowing my child is with them. To that person, I say, “Thank you!”



Tranay Lord, CNA is a true professional who has embraced the concept of Patient Family Centered Care as she interacts with visitors, that are required to test, in our COVID testing clinic. She works with each person to complete the procedure as quickly and as easily as possible. She goes out of her way to provide the best possible experience to everyone who walks through her door. If the individual has a positive test, she makes sure that they understand the next steps that must be taken. She provides them with encouragement and confidence that everything will be okay.



Playing the ukulele with Christine.

WE Heard YOU, and this is what we are doing.....

Families told us, “We need up to date information about programs, activities and other issues at St. Mary’s.”
This is what we are doing....

RAVE Messages – From letting you know about Recreation Activities, telephone outages to COVID 19 testing messages, our new messaging system allows us to reach you even quicker.

Television monitors on each unit. Please watch for scrolling pictures and program notices this month.



Family Advisory Council

Join us for our next
Family Advisory Council meeting
on Wednesday, March 29 at 5:30pm
in the Music Room.

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP by contacting Priscilla Martin,
Patient & Family Experience Manager at
718.282.8862 or pmartin@stmaryskid.org.

Can We Talk?



Check in with the Chaplain

Our Spiritual Care Program enhances how the hospital respectfully honors a family’s individual source of peace, hope and community. The Chaplain is available to speak with you, as well as provide comfort during times of distress. For Spiritual Care Support contact:

Chaplain Jacqueline Lynch, MDIV,MSW, DMIN
718.281.8852 – jlynch@stmaryskids.org

Weekly Services

Roman Catholic Mass
St. Mary’s Chapel
Sunday 12:45-1:30pm

Interfaith Worship Service
1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
12 noon – Music Room

Synagogue Services
26-06 213th Street
*Friday night at sunset (time fluctuates)
*Sabbath morning at 10:00am followed by a luncheon.
*Sunday morning at 8:30am
*Monday through Thursday (in the winter)
Afternoon service at 12:40pm.

Virtual Visits

St. Mary’s remains dedicated in assuring that families stay connected with their child thru virtual visits.

If you are feeling ANY COLD OR ALLERGY SYMPTOMS AT ALL, as minor as you think they are, please do not come to the facility to visit your child. Instead, schedule a virtual visit. Please contact your child’s unit social worker or you may reach out to Larissa Estrella at 718.281.8849 or by email at lestrella@stmaryskids.org.

*All virtual visits are scheduled for 15 minutes.

A New Testing Option

St. Mary’s is implementing a new option for COVID 19 testing. Using a rapid test, you can now test at home. Upon arrival at St. Mary’s, please provide our front desk staff with a picture of your negative test that includes your name and the date on the test. Please see the example in the picture below. Our COVID 19 testing clinic will remain open for your convenience. Please contact your Social Worker if you have questions. Thank you for your partnership in keeping our children safe.

