

# SUB-ACUTE *Connection*

***Back to What Matters!***

SPRING, 2009

## **Coming Soon**

**S**outh Shore Healthcare has again embarked on a facility renovation and upgrade as part of its ongoing dedication to excellence. The photos below highlight some of the more recent redecorating and enhancement efforts ... Future projects include a renovation of the lobby, both dining rooms and the main patient corridors.



*The lower level rehabilitation corridor, often used by physical therapists when working with patients, has been completely updated and redone with warm, rich colors, elegant new flooring and a variety of lively artwork.*



*New pavers and a raised flower bed around the front sign are part of the exterior enhancements underway.*



## ***Against The Odds ...***

In late 2008 and after an extensive hospitalization for a variety of conditions that included pneumonia, Parkinsons, Gestonia, sepsis, and a dangerously elevated heart rate, 57 year old Frank Russo was admitted to South Shore Healthcare. In a fragile and deconditioned state, Mr. Russo arrived wheel chair bound, on a ventilator, unable to speak and in need of rehabilitation.

Mr. Russo recounts how the therapists and staff at South Shore immediately began working with him to build his strength and improve his pulmonary function. He speaks highly of Rosie who worked in respiratory who was “fabulous” and of Peter and Kevin in the rehabilitation department who helped him tremendously. Frank became fondly known as “inspector gadget” by the staff for “rigging up his trach” to allow him

to speak - something that was not normally possible. It wasn't long until he was feeling so well that he even asked to play guitar and entertain the other patients and



*Frank Russo entertains patients and residents with his lively karaoke and guitar playing.*

residents. He would often be found leading karaoke and playing a favorite, “Wake up Little Susie”.

Just twenty one days later, Mr. Russo happily returned back to his home in Mount Sinai and returned to his wife of 36 years, Rosemary. Along with his praise for the staff of South Shore Healthcare, Frank was at a loss for words to truly express his admiration, love and gratitude for his wife whom he said “did everything for me”. His amazingly generous nature became evident when he graciously donated his amplifier and microphone to South Shore when he left and even plans to continue to entertain people in his local community!



# A Century of Experience!

## South Shore's Leadership Team Provides Over 100 years of Combined Expertise

It's no wonder that South Shore Healthcare is Long Island's most active sub-acute provider offering exceptional care and service. Just take a look at its leadership team... collectively, the top thirteen members of this dedicated group offer over 100 years of experience, and talents!

| STAFF MEMBER  | YEARS AT SOUTH SHORE |
|---|----------------------|
| Cathie Doyle, Executive Director                    | 13                   |
| Daniel Raj, Director of Sub-Acute Services          | 15                   |
| Valerie Barba, Director of Nursing                  | 7                    |
| Helen Kiernan, Staff Development Coordinator        | 4                    |
| Cathy Griffin, MDS Coordinator                      | 4                    |
| Lana Shalom, Director of Recreation                 | 3                    |
| Peter McEntee, Director of Rehabilitation           | 13                   |
| Linda Schwarz, Director of Social Services          | 4                    |
| Winnie Bernardez, Food Service Director             | 3                    |
| Joyce Shukri, Registered Dietician                  | 3                    |
| Anthony Bustamante, Director of Environmental Svcs. | 11                   |
| Ester Paez, Business Office Manager                 | 11                   |
| Dr. Olaf Butchma, Medical Director                  | 11                   |

Mrs. Geraghty's daughter, Cathie took on the role of Director. Joyce was part of the team when the facility was one of the very first on the east coast to provide short-term sub-acute care along with traditional nursing services. She was also there when the facility opened one of the first sub-acute respiratory/ventilator units. Joyce recalls how she always loved the new challenges and, wanting to better herself, returned to school. She graduated from Farmingdale University in 2007 with her R.N. and began serving at South Shore as a nursing supervisor.

Today, Joyce is the Assistant Director of Nursing Services under Valerie Barba, Director of Nursing. Known to have "healing hands" Joyce has a particular interest in wound care. She works closely with the Medical Director in coordinating the wound care program through assessing patients and assisting with wound rounds.

Joyce shares her enthusiasm about her role and career at South Shore Healthcare. "I love that it is community-based place. We have a great team and it's a great facility!"



## Exceeding State and National Staffing Ratios

South Shore Healthcare proudly exceeds both State and National Averages for RN and total nursing staff hours (including RN, LPN and CNA hours).

### RN STAFFING HOURS:

| South Shore | National | State  |
|-------------|----------|--------|
| 1hr. 18min. | 30min.   | 36min. |

### TOTAL NURSING STAFF HOURS:

| South Shore | National     | State         |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 4hrs. 3min. | 3hrs. 36min. | 3hrs. 42 min. |

## Staff Spotlight!

Joyce Adams, RN, serves as Assistant Director of Nursing Services at South Shore Healthcare.

With nearly 23 years total years of service, Joyce has a impressive history of dedicated service that extends back to her days as an L.P.N. in 1986. During those early years, the facility was strictly a traditional long-term care nursing home and Joyce worked under the present Executive Director's Mother, Lynn Geraghty. For a short while, Joyce had left South Shore but couldn't wait to return when



275 W. Merrick Rd. Freeport, NY 11520  
*Executive Director*

**Cathie Doyle, M.P.A., L.N.H.A.**

*Director of Sub-Acute Services*

**Daniel Raj, M.B.B.S., M.P.H.**

[www.southshorehealthcare.net](http://www.southshorehealthcare.net)

Medicare/Medicaid Certified  
Most Insurance Accepted

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516-868-7251