

Phelps Hospital Northwell Health Eileen Egan, RN, Esq. Interim Executive Director eegan@northwell.edu 4/24/2020

Dear Phelps Team Members,

As we find ourselves at the end of another unprecedented week, I want to take a moment to acknowledge how far we have come. We've made huge strides in our fight against COVID-19. We have reached our peak and are now seeing a decrease in admissions and an increase in discharges. And while there is still a lot of work to do, it's important that we take a moment to recognize this achievement; we're moving in the right direction, and you should all be extremely proud!

The past month has been more than challenging. We continue to fight battles we never thought we would face, and you have rallied together to fiercely protect our community. Through this unparalleled onslaught, there have also been victories. Patients have been successfully extubated and discharged, and we have celebrated each victory together, just as we mourn each loss. You have risen to every challenge thrown at you and shown everyone what healthcare heroes are made of—compassion, courage, and resilience.

Most of you know that Michael Dowling, CEO of Northwell Health, came to visit Phelps with the intention of meeting, greeting and thanking the front line staff. After his tour of our units and other areas of the hospital, he expressed his admiration and gratitude for the work everyone was doing. He vowed he'd return to Sleepy Hollow for a celebratory event at the James house this summer. We hope you've had the opportunity to enjoy the Relaxation Room, formerly the boardroom, which is open every day, all day, except the hour of 11p – 12a. Thanks to Andrea Hodges and Norma-Jean Aubain for making this concept a reality. We also want to thank Jill Scibilia and Pam Lipperman for coordinating the Meal Train – what a generous and grateful outpouring from our local community. This is a tribute to your unwavering dedication and compassion. This sentiment is echoed by one of our patient's family members, when he says, "How incredible and compassionate the doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, and other staff members were throughout the hospitalization."

I can't imagine a greater privilege than working alongside you through this historic time.

Stay safe and healthy. Eileen

#phelpsstrong #kickingcovidtothecurb

Eileen Egan, RN, Esq.