11 doctors welcomed at Bristol Hospital open house

By JUSTIN MUSZYNSKI

BRISTOL — Eleven new physicians were given a warm welcome Thursday as Bristol Hospital held an open house to formally introduce their newest doctors.

While many have already began caring for patients at the hospital, the open house was a way to officially recognize them joining the community. The main theme of this incoming "class" was the areas of expertise that the physicians

"One of the most important things that our hospital does is scientifically look at the data to understand what the community's needs are," said Kurt Barwis, president and CEO, Bristol Hospital. "From there we can determine what specialties we need in our physicians."

Dr. Kenneth Rhee, MD, president of the medical staff, expressed his optimism towards the work that the new doctors will be doing for the city.



Dr. Toshita Kumar, MD, center, and Shweta Upadhyay, MD, right, get to know members of the Hospital staff at an open house Thursday night welcoming them to the community.

"Every year we have a lot of new doctors, but I am particularly excited about these," said Rhee. "We're starting a new serviceline, the Beekly Center for Breast Health and Wellness which I believe is already underway."

Barwis explained the hospital's criteria in hiring a new physician and what intangibles are generally

We don't just look at credentials," he said. "While those are know how they will fit into this community and if there's a certain doctor that we have our eye on, we'll go above our financial means to make sure that we get them because that's what is best for the people of Bristol."

Greeted by comforting smiles and humorous anecdotes, all of the newest members of the hospital seemed at home. Dr. Ma. Margarita P. Reyes, MD, was one of the doctors being recognized. Having been with the hospital for two months now, she said she is very impressed with the support that she has received from the hospital and city residents alike.

"I feel very lucky to be here doing work in geriatrics," said Reyes. "My responsibility is to work with the patient's primary care physician and make sure that they are getting the best care possible. There's an expectation here to be extraordinary at what you do and I'm just proud to be a part

Marie O'Brien, chairman of the very important, we also want to board, said that it was great to

welcome all of these new physicians and looks forward to seeing the excellent work they do.

"The relationship between a doctor and a patient is so sacred that you can't afford to not have individuals who are experts in their fields," O'Brien said. "I can guarantee that all of these new members bring a wealth of experience."

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