



## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Susan Pierter  
Manager, Communications – Public Information  
(207) 662-6679 (office)  
[spierter@mmc.org](mailto:spierter@mmc.org)

### **Maine Medical Center Recognizes Importance of Volunteers**

*National Healthcare Volunteer Week is April 10-16*

PORTLAND, Maine — Maine Medical Center is the largest hospital in the state with more than 6,000 employees who provide care. But patients also benefit from 650 dedicated community members who volunteer at campuses including Bramhall, Brighton, Falmouth and Scarborough.

“These dedicated volunteers extend and supplement the services provided by hospital staff,” said Kathy Berube, MMC Director of Volunteer Services. “They derive great personal satisfaction from helping others, and they benefit from the opportunity to learn new skills, develop new interests, make new friends and explore health career opportunities.”

MMC volunteers not only staff information desks and escort patients, they also are engaged in nationally recognized programs including: the use of therapy dogs for companionship; perform Reiki relaxation sessions; serve as volunteer ambassadors who encourage the expression of special needs and patient satisfaction; and serve on family advisory councils that advise staff on ways to improve the quality of care we deliver with input from patients and family members. Also, many high school

students experience their first volunteer efforts for the benefit of the community as a junior volunteer.

For more information on volunteer opportunities at MMC, contact [www.mmc.org/volunteer](http://www.mmc.org/volunteer).

### **About Maine Medical Center**

Maine Medical Center (MMC), recognized as the number-one ranked hospital in Maine by *U.S. News and World Report for 2016-2017*, a complete health care resource for the people of Greater Portland and the entire state, as well as northern New England. Incorporated in 1864, MMC is the state's largest medical center, licensed for 637 beds and employing nearly 6,500 people. MMC's unique role as both a community hospital and a referral center requires an unparalleled depth and breadth of services, including an active educational program and a world-class biomedical research center. As a nonprofit institution, Maine Medical Center provides nearly 23 percent of all the charity care delivered in Maine. MMC is a member of the MaineHealth system, a growing family of health care services in northern New England. For more information, visit [www.mmc.org](http://www.mmc.org).

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