How Are We Doing?
Performance on our goals through March of FY2018 is doing well. As shown in the radar chart, financial health is lagging behind plan due to lower than expected volumes. However, The Clinic has had two strong months of financial results and is generating positive earnings to cover all of its operating costs.

–Tony Gaglio, Interim CEO

Project Val Needs You

How are we doing?
The implementation of Menninger’s new EHR is 90% on schedule and 10% ahead of budget. More than 130 Menninger team members have contributed to the ongoing work of developing our Future State Workflows.

Thank you to the Information Management Steering Committee (IMSC) members who are leading this critical work and to all those staff who have participated. To facilitate this effort, a clinical team from the IM SC carried out a two-day site visit to the Rogers Behavioral Health flagship campus in Oconomowoc, Wis., to learn from the clinical and leadership teams there about their experience implementing the Cerner EH R. The site visit drove home the need for Menninger to standardize and streamline its current processes and to shift its focus from managing documents and forms to acting on data and information.

While the clinical team was in Wisconsin, the change management team, led by Todd Foster, accomplished the important task of establishing Project Val headquarters in the large private dining room. This dedicated space will house most Project Val meetings and activities, which in turn allows the Board Room to become available to the organization.

Thank you to John Gomolka and the Facilities team for bringing creative and affordable solutions to this project, as well as to Jaime Lovelace, RN, and the ATP team for their willingness to relocate patient meals to the small private dining room.

Where are we going?
The next major milestone is Future State System Validation 1, scheduled for June 12-14. During this three-day on-site event, the Implementation Team will formally review the build of Menninger’s new EHR. The Cerner team will demonstrate the Future State Workflows that the Implementation Team has been working diligently to develop.

The work of developing our Future State Workflows is vital. It is engaging work that is being performed at a swift pace. Input from clinicians and front-line staff is critical to ensuring we configure the Cerner EHR in ways that work best for Menninger’s staff and patients.

To this end, the Future State Workflow sessions are open to all staff. The schedule for these Work Group sessions can be found on the Project Val web page on The Link. Check it out, show up, bring your friends and get involved.

Activities Planned for You During Nurses & Hospital Weeks

Nurses Week
- May 7—At 2 pm Nurse Resident’s Presentation will take place in Classroom 5132.
- May 8—At 2 pm, Patient Care Services Award Ceremony will honor nominees and recipients of the Gary Napier Award.
Nursing Excellence Award in Direct Care and the Mae Smith MHA Legacy Award. The event will be in Classrooms 5128-5130.

Nominees for the Nursing Excellence Award are Prashant Bhagat, Len Calderon, Danielle Collins, Eric Cool, Deb David, Misty Freeman, Tatyana Grant, Joyce M cWilliams, Peggy Parker, Anthony Rushing and Lindy Whitlow.

MHA Legacy Award nominees are Cory Chachere, Frances Eman-Henshaw, Robert Humphrey, Anthony M Graw, Christi M eyer, Alex Nolasquez, Stephanie Pecora, Julie Pierre and Ricky Royal.

- **May 9**—At 2 pm Avni Cirpili will present the State of Nursing Address at the NQPC meeting in Classrooms 5128-5130. At this event, the Nursing Olympics Gold Medal will be awarded as well as individual first, second and third place awards with prizes.

- **May 10**—From 2-3 pm Menninger will extend its best wishes to Jane Mahoney upon her retirement. The program will begin at 2:15 pm, including remarks, presentations and open mic. Please drop by to sign Mahoney’s guest book if you haven’t already written a note for her.

  Mahoney

  M. Mahoney joined Menninger in September 2006, and in her role as Director of Nursing Practice and Research she has been vital to elevating evidence-based nursing practice, nursing research and nursing practice at Menninger. Her leadership has made it possible for Menninger to receive the Pathways to Excellence designation four consecutive times. Her legacy also includes mentoring more than 70 nurse residents. Many of these residents are still with us today, which has given back so much to Patient Care Services staff and patients.

**Hospital Week**

- **May 8**—Weather permitting, a free appreciation picnic lunch will be served in the courtyard. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket to enjoy the spring weather. The Dietary staff will be fixing the picnic fare for all staff and patients to enjoy.

- **May 10**—Chaplain Salvador Del Mundo Jr. will be conducting brief Blessing of the Hands for any employee and faculty member to honor the contribution each person on staff makes to creating a healthy therapeutic environment. Stop by the Interfaith Chapel any of the following times for Blessing of the Hands: 7:30-9:30 am, Noon-1 pm, 2-3 pm or 4 to 5:30 pm.

- **May 11**—To top off your week, choose your favorite flavor for a free snow cone as dessert between Noon and 4 pm. The food truck will be located in front of the Commons. Everyone is encouraged to wear your Menninger Begins With Me shirt with nice jeans.

**Table Sales & Sponsors Fuel Success of Luncheon; Get Your Tickets**

Approximately 450 Menninger friends and supporters plan to attend The Clinic’s Annual Signature Luncheon at 11:30 am, Thursday, May 3, at the Westin Galleria Hotel. Actor and mental health advocate Sean Astin will serve as keynote speaker. Deborah Duncan, host of “Great Day Houston,” will emcee the event.

Discounted staff tickets are available for $40 each. To purchase a staff ticket online, visit the Office of Philanthropy page on The Link, or contact Special Events Manager Charlotte Foster at 713-275-5617.

Lead sponsors include The Louis L. Borick Foundation; Vivie and Chris O’Sullivan, Letty Knapp and Chris Knapp; the Cuenod Families and Indumar; the M Clingvale Family; and Walter Oil & Gas Corporation. Support from our lead sponsors totals $100,000. An additional $237,000 has been contributed by table underwriters, ticket purchasers and donors. Each year, proceeds from the luncheon support Menninger’s work to train tomorrow’s mental health professionals and to advance discoveries that improve mental health treatment.

**Gift to Aid Women Needing Treatment**

The Philanthropy team recently secured an $85,000 contribution from a grateful family member to support The Clinic’s financial assistance program. The gift will assist young women in need with clinical depression to access or continue inpatient treatment at Menninger.

**Join Our NAMI Walk Team Saturday**

There’s still time to participate with the Menninger all-staff team at the annual NAMI Walk Saturday, May 5, in downtown Houston.

Sign up online. Each walker will need a profile page, but if you’ve walked before in this event, type in your user name and password. All Menninger walkers will receive a free T-shirt to wear at the event, including immediate family members who are also participating in the walk.

On walk day at Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston, check in will open at 8 am. A short program will begin at 8:30 am, followed by the walk at 9 am.

**Menninger Partners with KHOU to Raise Visibility of Mental Health**

In addition to the Annual Signature Luncheon, Menninger and KHOU/CBS Channel 11 will be putting mental health awareness on the front page.

**BE MINDFUL**

Advancing treatment. Transforming lives.

To make a referral to Menninger 24 hours a day, call 713-275-5000. Menninger is affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine.
front and center during May with the BeMindful campaign. The campaign will be comprised of:

- A series of public service announcements (PSAs) with mental health facts presented by some of Houston’s top personalities and others. The PSAs will feature some facts and conversation starters about mental health, which will be airing at various times throughout the month.
- A mental health takeover of the “Great Day Houston” show, hosted by Deborah Duncan. The air date will be announced soon.
- A week of mental health-related stories during the 4-5 pm newscast as well as a Facebook live segment in which Menninger clinical staff will respond to viewers’ questions. This is tentatively planned for the week of May 21-25.
- A web page dedicated to mental health resources, facts and information of value to anyone interested in finding care, learning more about mental health treatments and about Menninger. The page will be available on KHOU.com and from Menninger’s own website, as well as on social media.
- A short video to introduce KHOU’s viewers to The Menninger Clinic.

Stay tuned to The Link for advance notice about these broadcasts and links to where you can find the information as it becomes available after airing.

Vocational Program Lifts Up Member of The Gathering Place

Recently Nikari Odele started working in Luby’s vocational program thanks to her preparation at The Gathering Place. Odele wrote the following about what this readiness process was like for her.

“For the past three years, while attending The Gathering Place, I received invaluable support ... After attempting college and discovering it was not for me, I began my search for employment. The job search was hard ... However, I never gave up because of my faith in God and belief in myself.

“With help from Glennis Johnson, Employment Specialist at The Gathering Place, I was trained in interpersonal, interview and job readiness skills. These skills were a self-esteem booster and prepared me to get my current job. I was scared to reach out for help for the clothing, toiletries and professional advice that I needed for work. But once I got these, I felt relief; there was no reason to feel ashamed when reaching out for help.

“My journey is far from over and these experiences have shown me this is not a hand-out but a hand-up and I’m grateful for it.”

Advancement of Knowledge

- Joseph Reed and Katrina Rufino, PhD, presented “The impact of fearful attachment style on nightmares and disturbed sleep in psychiatric inpatients” at the spring meeting of the Division of Psychoanalysis in New Orleans.
- Post-doctoral psychology Fellows William Orme, Lauren Bowersox, S. Vanwoerden, and the PI presented the poster titled “The relation between epistemic trust and borderline pathology in an adolescent” at the American Psychiatric Association’s Division of Psychoanalysis in New Orleans.
- Dr. Rufino and colleagues presented “Emotion dysregulation mediates nightmares and suicide” at the meeting of the American Association of Suicidology in Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Rufino presented “The effects of abuse/neglect history and mental health on recidivism for low-risk juvenile offenders” at the meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society, M empath, Tenn.
- Audrey Pyles, MSN, CPHQ, RN-BC, paper “Suicide prevention for school communities: An educational initiative for student safety” was published in NASN School Nurse. It highlights two core, interrelated topics about suicide prevention: school nurse engagement in dialogue with students’ families and the implementation of an innovative, community-based suicide prevention educational program at a suburban public school district.

View our contributions to the medical literature by faculty and staff on our website.

Contribute to Success Using New Suggestion Boxes

Good ideas can pop up at any time so please don’t be shy about sharing them so they can be given the right attention by the right leaders.

Locked suggestion boxes have been installed in the fire-place area near the doors to the Wellness Center as well as near the time clock in the Commons first floor hallway.

Family Rooms Getting Upgraded

Beginning with the family room on Hope, these unit spaces are getting a face lift. Family rooms are the site of diagnostic conferences, family sessions using secure video-conferencing and family’s visits with patients are getting face lifts. Adding comfortable chairs, dimming can lights, accent paint and technology updates are underway.

New Clinicians Welcomed

The hospital welcomes three new social workers who are on board and filling essential roles. They are Brittany Lawnin, LCSW, float; Amanda Cherry, LCSW, Compass; and Linda Knewton, LCSW, CPAS.

Clinicians & Business Development Reps Meeting Vast Needs

Referring sources refer to providers and clinicians they know and trust. Since January, there are many examples of clinicians and business development representatives reaching out to those in private practice and at treatment centers.

Locally, Jennifer McGinnis, Marketing Coordinator for Menninger.

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the Houston area, and Megan Kale, LCSW, Director of Outpatient Assessments met with Dr. Catherine Stevenson who has referred two patients in the past two months. “Dr. Stevenson was really pleased to meet Megan and to learn about our outpatient assessments, especially about the neurological testing,” McGinnis said. Dr. Stevenson immediately thought of one of her patients who would benefit from the assessment.

Last week, our East Coast representative Meg Horne received a call from a therapist on a Sunday night because her mother-in-law needed a mental health consultation. Even though the first opening was three weeks away, Horne reached out to Kale because the family wanted an outpatient assessment sooner. Kale worked magic on her team’s calendars to fit the patient in sooner.

“After completing the OPA, the patient was admitted to the Hope unit for treatment ... This was a win for the therapist’s family, the client and for Menninger,” said Horne.

Health Fair Draws Large Crowd

More than 140 employees and faculty participated in the April 18 Health Fair featuring vendors from medical, emotional, financial and empowerment businesses. At left: Diane Benefiel (left) reviews the results of her aura test. At right: Mari-Carmen Escalona, Dietary, learns about a credit union’s services.

Calendar of Events

- **May**—National Mental Health Awareness Month and start of the BeMindful campaign presented by Menninger and KHOU; national borderline personality disorders month
- **May 1**—Today marks the sixth anniversary of opening our doors to patients in our current facilities.
- **May 3**—Menninger Signature Luncheon, 11:30 am, Westin Galleria (View story for ticket and event information.) Also Psychological Trauma and Dissociative Disturbance presentation by Dr. Jon Allen. Advanced registration required.
- **May 5**—NAMI Walks Houston (See story for details.)
- **May 6-12**—National Nurses Week and National Hospitals Week (View related story in this issue.)
- **May 13**—93rd anniversary of first patient being admitted to Menninger’s hospital, Topeka, Kansas.
- **May 21**—Leadership Team meeting, 3:30 pm, Classrooms
- **May 28**—National Memorial Day holiday observed by Menninger and Baylor College of Medicine
- **May 30**—Distinguished Clinicians Series continues with a two-hour continuing education presentation by Peter Fonagy, PhD. Advanced registration required.
- **June 1**—15th anniversary of Menninger opening doors to new patients in Houston after relocating from Kansas.