



Press contact: Courtney Drone
Director of Marketing & Foundation
618.253.0403
cdrone@harrisburgmc.com

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HARRISBURG MEDICAL CENTER HOSTS FIRST ANNUAL PATIENT SAFETY SUMMIT

On Friday, November 30, 2018, Harrisburg Medical Center hosted its first annual Patient Safety Summit at Southeastern Illinois College. “In this summit, our goal is to inspire, motivate, and inform each other on how to enhance the safety of our patients and our workforce. It’s an exciting and hopeful challenge to meet, and a challenge for which our team is prepared,” states Wes Williams, HMC Risk Manager. The summit was conducted to inform Department managers and front line staff on the internal work that has been done in order to develop plans to go forward in achieving zero harm in patient safety. The areas developed were Vision, Trust/Respect/Inclusion, Board Engagement, Leadership Development, Just Culture, and Behavior Expectations.

“The cultural environment surrounding the patient impacts the care the patient is receiving. By ensuring a safe culture, we improve care and maximize our ability to reach Zero Harm,” states Tracey Brasel, HMC Director of Quality/Medical Services.

“The Patient Safety Summit was instrumental in aligning this organization under one vision: Zero Harm. Throughout the morning, speakers like Michael Nolte from outside the organization and Doug Overturf and Amy Stevens from within the organization shared insight from the patients’ and the staff’s perspective on achieving zero harm,” states Donald H. Hutson, FACHE, HMC President/CEO.

The summit ended with guest speaker, Michael Nolte, author of “Burned but not Broken – For what was I Spared?” Mr. Nolte has two extreme lives: glamor and grit. On the glamor side, he is the Vice President of National Bridal Service, owns a high-end salon, and is a designer and planner with 1,073 weddings under his belt. On the grit side, he was the advocate for the “Pass with Care” national legislation following a catastrophic car explosion in which he suffered third and fourth degree burns over 40% of his body. As a popular speaker, he has inspired thousands as he urges audiences to use the tools in their toolbox to help the next guy.