

## **NCH Employees Successfully Earn Lean Green Belt Certification**

North Country Healthcare (NCH) is proud to announce that four Androscoggin Valley Hospital employees, Alysia Corriveau, Clare Fox, Stacey Pelkey, and Mandy Remillard, and one Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital employee, Heather Pollard-Leighton have successfully earned Lean Green Belt Certification.

The Yellow Belt (YB) / Green Belt (GB) Training and Certification is a blended course that covers Lean principles and tools and Six Sigma principles and tools. Lean principles reduce waste in the system to increase speed while Six Sigma principles reduce variation to increase predictability. Both reduction of waste and variation are imperative for a robust healthcare effort.

The formal curriculum for YB / GB training is delivered in five blocks of three days (one two-day block) for a total of 14 days. The blocks of days are separated by approximately four weeks allowing for assignments and project work between.

The requirements for YB / GB Certification are listed below:

- Class attendance (no more than one day missed).
- Participation in workshops.
- Completion of homework assignments.
- Pass a comprehensive exam with a minimum of 80%.
- Lead a Lean Six Sigma DMAIC project to positive outcomes and closure.

“On behalf of NCH, I would like to congratulate Alysia, Clare, Stacey, Mandy, and Heather on this noteworthy accomplishment,” commented Tom Mee, RN, BSN, MBA, Chief Executive Officer. “The dedication to this process is another example of our employees’ commitment to our communities, and an integral part of North Country Healthcare’s journey to high reliability. Our providers, patients, staff, and volunteers will be beneficially impacted by their work to reduce waste and variability. In turn, the patient experience across North Country Healthcare will be enhanced.”

### **About North Country Healthcare**

Named a 2020 Best Place to Work by Modern Healthcare, North Country Healthcare (NCH) is a non-profit affiliation of four medical facilities in the White Mountains Region of New Hampshire. NCH includes numerous physicians and medical providers at multiple locations. This leading comprehensive healthcare network which employs hundreds of highly-trained individuals delivers integrated patient care through three community hospitals, medical laboratories, and home health and hospice services. NCH remains committed to the health and well-being of the communities it serves.

Member organizations include Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, Weeks Medical Center in Lancaster, and North Country Home Health and Hospice Agency in Littleton. NCH is proud to be the largest employer in the North Country.