



Petersburg Medical Center

Nursing Department Report August 16, 2023

Workforce Wellness

Over the past three months, nursing and CNA staffing have presented challenges, and we have needed additional contract nurses to address our vacant positions. We currently have two traveling nurses and two traveling CNAs. Two additional traveling nurses will be joining us. We are bracing for the loss of our summer CNA support by arranging for additional traveler CNAs.

Due to the staffing shortage, we decreased our acute care (includes ER, Swingbed and outpatient treatment) staffing to only one nurse during the weekdays, which is 50% of our normal staffing. To manage this, our nurse leaders have utilized their time to work on the floor, cover the ER, care for outpatient treatment patients, and work scheduled shifts. We are maintaining in the short term but require additional help to ensure all the administrative work can be completed in addition to patient care. We are advertising for a CNA class to begin in October and are starting the second and final year for our two UAA students.

Community Engagement

Three high school CNAs passed their state examination and one of them has been working with us this summer and is doing a fantastic job.

Patient Centered Care

We are focusing on getting back on track with education and programming after the extended covid pandemic. We are working to educate the nursing staff in high acuity/low frequency areas: trauma, obstetrics, etc.

PMC nurses were trained in Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) in May thanks to the PMC and Bartlett Hospital Foundations' financial support. One of our nurses was selected to become a TNCC instructor, which will provide additional expertise at PMC, and will decrease the cost of upcoming classes.

I will be attending a CALS class (Comprehensive Advanced Life Support) with two of our physicians in October to evaluate the class for trauma team education needs. The class is specific for rural emergency care and we have heard positive reviews.

Our nursing staff will attend the Basic Life Support for Obstetrics (BLSO) in September to increase our knowledge and competency in obstetrics. SEARHC is offering the class at no charge and the PMC Foundation has approved funds for travel to Wrangell from the Pedal/Paddle Battle education funds.

In October, Beat the Odds Foundation is sponsoring a special class for nurses and providers on caring for people during the dying process. We are always very appreciative to learn how to best support patients and their families during this important transition.

We are very excited to be starting our colonoscopy/gastrostomy clinics again in late September. We have been hard at work ensuring our equipment, staffing and processes are up to date to allow our community to have their procedures done in Petersburg again.

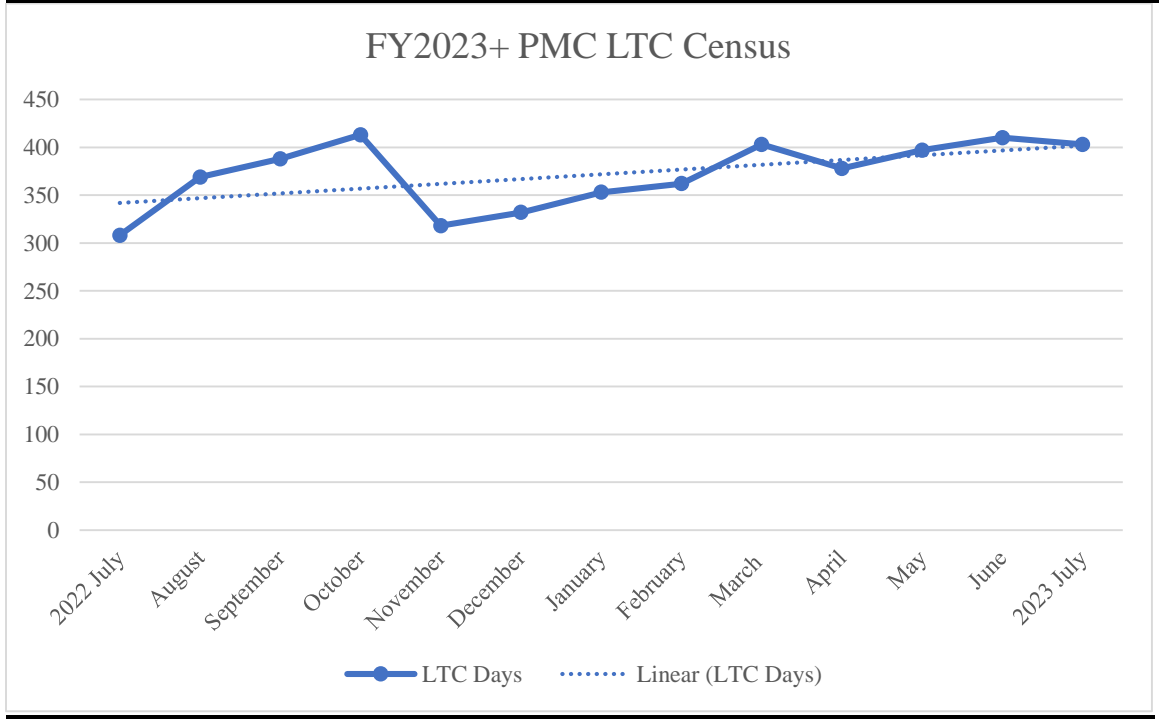
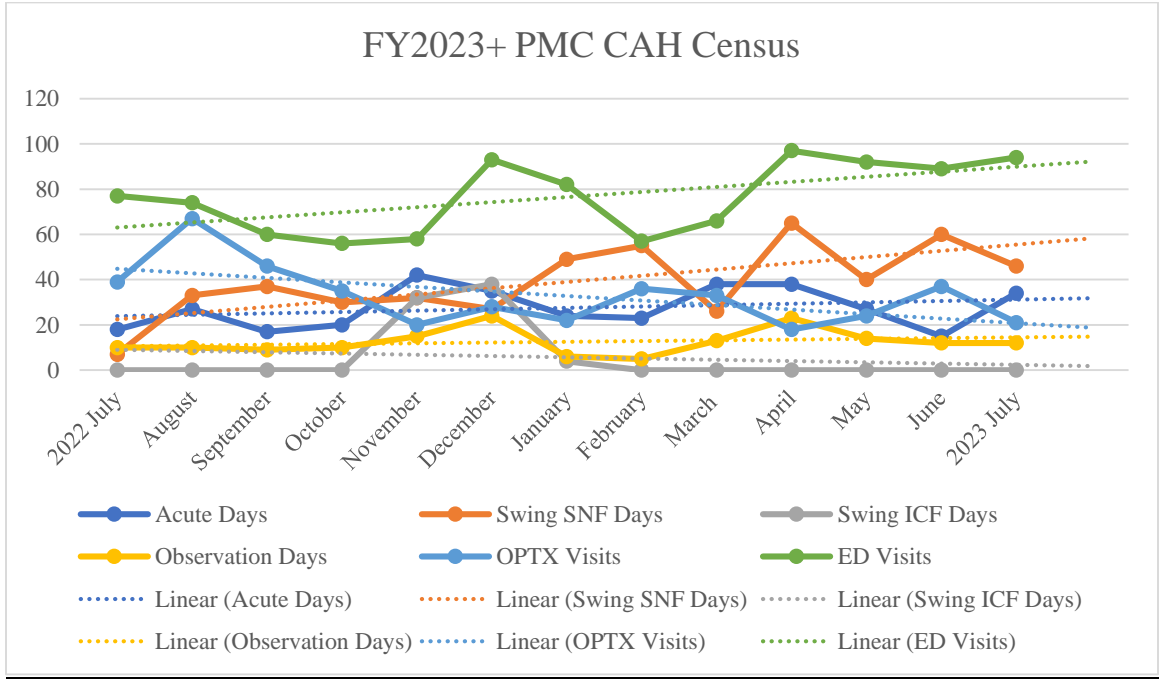
Facility

Space continues to be a very difficult situation for our departments. Over the past four years, the operating room has been utilized for training and storage. As we prepare the room to be used for endoscopy procedures, we have no area for our UAA lab, CPR/ACLS/PALS checkoff/training, and storage of equipment.

Financial Wellness

We anticipate the colonoscopy clinics to result in a long-term financial gain, but the initial expenditures in time and equipment is substantial.

Volumes in our areas have been trending up for most areas as you can see in the graphs below which include the trend lines. Our low staffing savings are likely reversed by the overtime needed to fill the nursing and CNA shifts and call shifts. The statistics used below are from census volume reports, not financial A/R reports.



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