

Community Educator Diane Oliver Joins Rome Memorial Hospital Senior Behavioral Health Unit

ROME (May 6, 2004) --Community Education Manager Diane Oliver recently joined the Senior Behavioral Health Unit (SBHU) at Rome Memorial Hospital, announced Program Director Andrea Polidori-Knapp, MSW, CSW.

Oliver is responsible for sharing information about the program with nursing homes, outpatient clinics, human service agencies, home health care agencies, area physicians' medical groups and hospitals within a 100-mile radius of the Rome facility. She is also tasked with organizing and promoting the Unit's annual conference, which drew more than 180 people last year.

Located on the second floor of the hospital, the 11-bed SBHU is a secure therapeutic environment that provides health care for seniors who have depression, anxiety, dementia and other acute illnesses.

"I have a genuine place in my heart to see people enjoy life and do as well as they can do," said Oliver. "I get so much of a reward from seeing people come to the unit and leave so much better," she said.

Oliver moved to Upstate New York from Morganton, GA, where she owned and operated Keystrokes, an office administration company. Prior to that, she provided office administration, marketing and public relations for Medical Alternatives in Atlanta, GA. She also previously held a position as a patient advocate with Memorial Hospital of Chattanooga, TN.

"My biggest strength is that I am a people person and I am able to bond with people so everything else flourishes," she said.

She holds an associate of applied science degree in secretarial science from Edmonson College in Chattanooga, TN and is in the process of receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Empire College. After receiving her bachelor's degree, her goal is to pursue her masters in Health Administration from SUNY Institute of Technology.

Oliver resides in Rome with her husband and their two children, William and Brie.

The SBHU can take admissions seven days a week, 24 hours a day to meet the needs of seniors in crisis. For more information, please call 338-7399.