



“Socially Isolating the Socially Isolated: The effects of Covid – 19 on the mental health population.”

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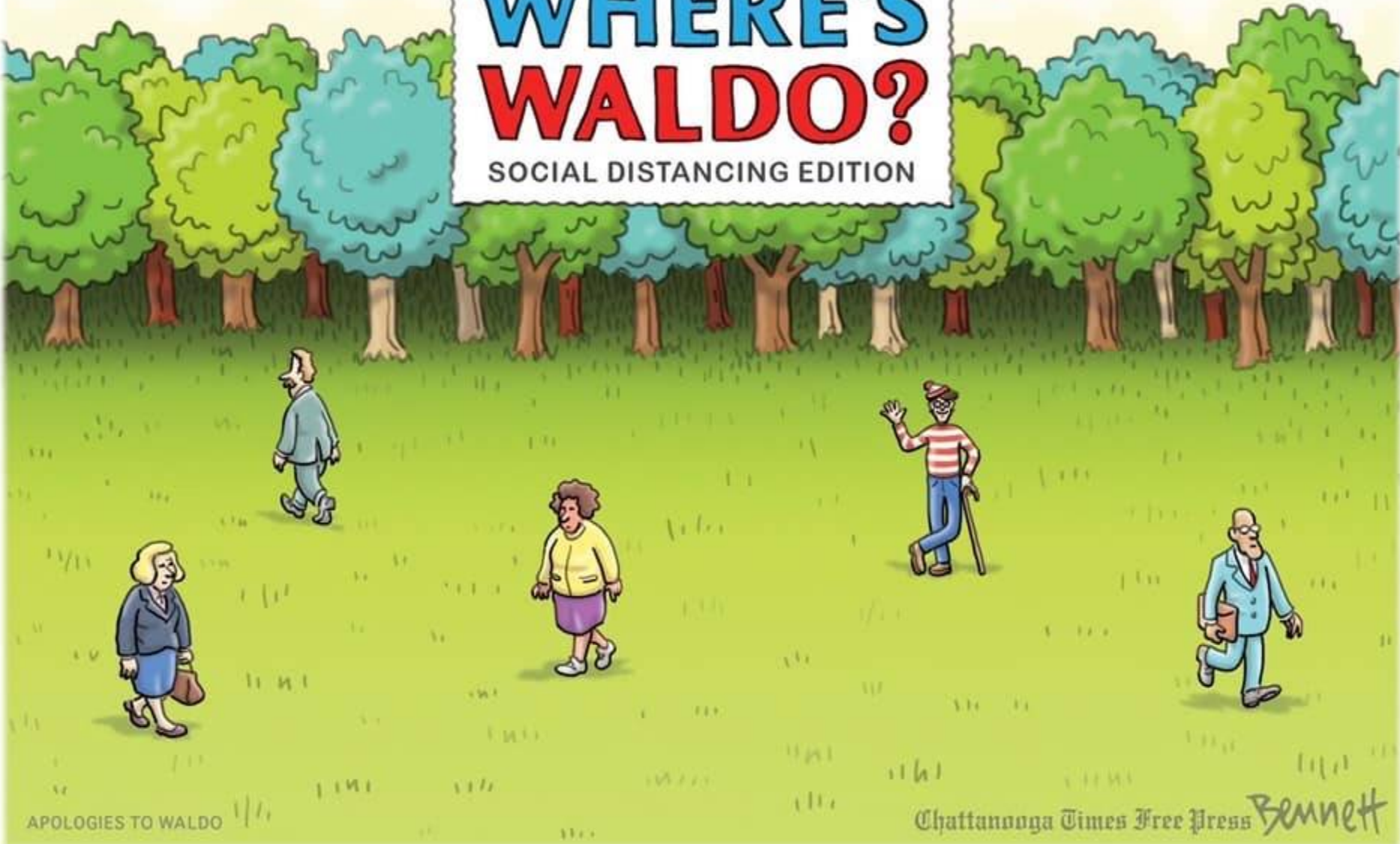
Grey Nuns Community Hospital

Mental Health Program



WHERE'S WALDO?

SOCIAL DISTANCING EDITION



APOLOGIES TO WALDO

Chattanooga Times Free Press *Bennett*



How have the patients been effected?

- no visitors allowed (except when deemed essential)
- no passes or privileges (including smoking!)
- no groups
- no eating together
- less organic relationship forming
- many that are well enough have been choosing to leave if able “I may as well be depressed and alone in my room at home!”



How have staff been effected?

- less opportunities to obtain collateral
- isolated from each other
- difficult to engage patients
- had to step outside their comfort zone
- experiencing anxiety



Creative solutions:

- more 1:1 time
- zoom groups
- secure courtyard
- patient created “zoom groups”
- conferencing over the phone
- expanded “essential visitor” definition



Ethical conversations

- What does it mean to have autonomy? To allow others to express it?
- Experiencing moral distress
- How to respect and comply with directives while struggling internally with the consequences of them
- Compassion
- Servitude/self sacrifice



How am I doing?
Well, I just wiped
down a container of
Lysol wipes with
Lysol wipes, so I'm fine.
Everything's fine.