Meridian Health Foundation
2019 Donor Report

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Dear Donors and Friends,

When I joined Meridian Health Foundation in 2013, I knew that it was something special. Year after year we have grown, as has our impact on the health and well-being of the community.

I am incredibly proud to share that 2019 was a record-breaking year for our foundation, raising $51.6 million. Not only did we exceed our fundraising target of $37.1 million by 40 percent, what is even more incredible is that we transferred more than $30 million back to Hackensack Meridian Health and our community hospitals—an staggering 372 percent over our budgeted amount—and bringing our three-year total of funds transferred back to the organization to nearly $60 million.

The success of this year brings our total philanthropic dollars raised since the 2015 start of the Giving Heals campaign to nearly $110 million towards our $150 million goal. That fantastic number does not include grants received through the hard work of our grants team. If we counted public grants, our total production revenue would have been nearly $178 million at the close of 2019.

Beyond our tremendous financial success, this year brought local and national recognition to Meridian Health Foundation, including receiving honors from the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy as a “High Performer” and being named the top nonprofit organization in New Jersey by NJBIZ in its 2019 Reader Rankings.

These successes are thanks to many different groups of people, including our leadership team who works hard to keep all philanthropy operations and programs in good administrative and financial order; our dedicated development team who delivers service with compassion and expertise; and our engaged board of directors who help our collective foundations remain strong and capable of fulfilling its purpose. But I know that no matter how well all of those components work, it is all impossible without the generosity of our donors—10,724 of you in 2019—making gifts of varying sizes.

Each time you made a financial gift, joined our Friends of the Foundation program, attended a Meridian Health Foundation event, hosted an event on our behalf, partnered with us for a grant, or just told someone about how we support our hospitals and Hackensack Meridian Health, you became an integral part of our mission; I cannot thank you enough.

In 2020, we will mark the conclusion of our Giving Heals campaign. During this year, perhaps more than any in our history, philanthropy will play an essential role in helping our hospitals, health care teams and our strong network, continue to provide outstanding care to those in need. Working together, we will remain focused on reaching our campaign goal of $150 million, while aiding our network in the goal to transform health care for our communities.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Joseph Stampe
President and Chief Development Officer
Hackensack Meridian – Meridian Health Foundation
What a fantastic year for Hackensack Meridian Health.

From the launch of our Center for Discovery and Innovation (CDI), already hard at work creating breakthroughs to cure some of New Jersey and the country’s most complicated diseases, to the welcoming of our second class of medical students at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine at Seton Hall University, we are living our mission to lead the change that health care needs.

Our regional business model is now well in place helping us to drive the creation and execution of our Care Transformation Services, focusing on the health needs of our community, including cancer, cardiovascular, orthopedics, neuroscience, children’s services, making care more convenient and of course, behavioral health, which will continue to be a priority for our network.

Meridian Health Foundation played a significant role in helping the organization achieve its 2019 goals and I am grateful to everyone for their support and belief in what we are doing as we work to make this the best health care network in New Jersey and beyond.

At the time I draft this letter, the world is suffering from the novel coronavirus pandemic. Philanthropy has played a crucial role in helping Hackensack Meridian Health navigate these unchartered waters, providing vital funding for necessary equipment, protective gear for our team members, iPads so that hospitalized patients can connect with loved ones and so much more. Our teams have been working tirelessly to heal our communities and I could not be prouder of the individuals who help to make this one of the greatest health care organization’s in the country - our generous donors included.

At Hackensack Meridian Health, we believe that health care can keep getting better and we will continue to innovate so that we can help our community to get better as well, and to be prepared for whatever health care crisis may arise in the future.

Thank you for your support and belief in this mission.

With gratitude,

Robert C. Garrett
CEO, Hackensack Meridian Health

A Model for Success

Ihor Sawczuk, M.D.
President, Northern Market
Hackensack University Medical Center,
Palisades Medical Center,
Pascack Valley Medical Center,
Mountainside Medical Center

M. Todd Way
President, Central Market
JFK Medical Center,
Raritan Bay Medical Center
(Perth Amboy and Old Bridge),
Bayshore Medical Center,
Riverview Medical Center

Kenneth N. Sable, M.D.,
MBA, FACEP
President, Southern Market
Jersey Shore University Medical Center,
Ocean Medical Center,
Southern Ocean Medical Center

Transformational Care

Our Care Transformation Services leaders coordinate comprehensive, multi-level care for a growing number of patients who need greater access and higher-quality ongoing care for their medical conditions in the areas of behavioral health, cardiology, neurology, oncology, orthopedics and pediatrics.

Timothy J. Hogan, FACHE
President, Care Transformation Services

Dean Q. Lin, MBA, MHA,
FACHE, FCPP
President, Care Transformation Services and Physician Practices

Donald J. Parker, LCSW
President, Carrier Clinic
President, Behavioral Health Care Transformation Services & Integrative Medicine
With Gratitude.

Because of donors like you, Meridian Health Foundation is one step closer to its fundraising goal of $150 million for eight Hackensack Meridian Health hospitals in Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties as part of our Giving Heals campaign.

Why Giving Heals? Because it’s true. Scientific research proves that generous behaviors not only help the recipient of a gift or act of kindness, but that the person performing the act also reaps tremendous positive benefits, making everyone feel good.

Because you believe in the power of giving as a way to heal, Hackensack Meridian Health is able to improve clinical outcomes for our patients, enhance their experiences, broaden clinical research and academic programs and strengthen oncology services, helping to bring the best care to you, your loved ones and your community.

Thank you.

Your Gifts
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

10,724 donors
made 29,292 gifts,
bringing in
$51,620,000
(including public grants)

Your Impact at Hackensack Meridian Health Network*
*Excluding Mountainside Medical Center and Pascack Valley Medical Center

15,118 births
166,027 patient admissions
108,897 surgeries
618,650 Emergency Department visits

Your Gifts: Giving Heals Campaign
January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019

- $48,885,163 dedicated to improving clinical outcomes
- $12,990,344 to support oncology services
- $11,240,749 for enhancing the patient experience
- $8,401,628 dedicated to broadening clinical research and academic programs
- $28,077,113 unrestricted funds to support the hospitals’ greatest needs
Philanthropy Starts at Home

Thank you to everyone who helped to make 2019 the most successful year ever for Meridian Health Foundation and its affiliated foundations. Whether you gave $1 or $10 million, your gift has a tremendous impact on the quality of health care Hackensack Meridian Health is able to provide to our communities. We appreciate each and every individual, foundation, grant organization, grateful patient and team member who believes that giving has the power to heal tens of thousands of individuals every year.

Thanks to you, in 2019, Meridian Health Foundation and its affiliated foundations transferred $30,811,638 to hospitals and partner companies.

**Bayshore Medical Center**
- Emergency Department Expansion: 50%
- Departmental Operating Expenses: 30%
- Bariatric Center: 12%
- Minor Equipment: 5%
- Scholarships: 3%

**Ocean Medical Center**
- 4, 5, 6W & 4E Room Renovation: 76%
- ED Exp, Med Surg Pavilion & Cancer Center: 10%
- Other Programs and Departments: 8%
- Graduate Medical Education: 5%
- Board Grant Program & Scholarships: 1%

**Jersey Shore University Medical Center**
- General Departmental Support: 43%
- Cardiac Services & Programs: 25%
- Hope Tower & JKL Amphitheater: 22%
- Scholarships, CME and Symposiums: 6%
- Dental Clinic/ Family Health Center: 4%

**Raritan Bay Medical Center**
- General Departmental Support: 51%
- Center for Women: 20%
- Surgical Suite Technology & Departmental Expenses: 17%
- Emergency Department Expansion OB: 12%

**K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital**
- General Pediatric Services and Programs: 60%
- NICU and PICU Care: 25%
- Pediatric Emergency: 8%
- Child Life Program: 7%

**Riverview Medical Center**
- 2N/2W Room Renovation: 54%
- Center for Integrative Medicine: 16%
- Robotic and Tomosynthesis Technology: 10%
- Other Programs & Departments: 8%
- Scholarships, Symposium, CME & Training: 6%
- Cancer Care: 5%
- Board Designated Grants: 1%

**Meridian Health Foundation**
- Surgical Services & Hope Tower: 44%
- Patient Experience & Programs: 38%
- Meridian at Home Hospice: 9%
- Nursing Scholarships & Education: 8%
- Palliative Care Program: 1%

**Southern Ocean Medical Center**
- Linear Accelerator: 51%
- Oncology Center: 25%
- Other Programs & Departments: 23%
- Scholarships: 1%
“Philanthropy plays a vital role in delivering careful and considerate care, with skilled and dedicated physicians and health care teams who utilize their training, education and the available technology to provide excellent patient care to our community. With the help of our strong board and donor support, Jersey Shore University Medical Center and K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital are meeting the standard of excellence that our community members expect and deserve.”

– John A. Giunco, Jr., Esq., chair, Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
Charles (Charlie) Adell (right) was proud to leave a lasting legacy by endowing the first ever chair at Jersey Shore University Medical Center supporting the work of Ronald Matteotti, M.D. (left), in pancreatic and liver cancer.
A Legacy for Future Patients

As Charles Adell’s battle with pancreatic cancer neared the end, he wished to help Jersey Shore University Medical Center stay at the forefront of pancreatic cancer care and research. That wish came to fruition as a gift of $1.25 million to endow The Charles & Jackie Adell Chair in Surgical Oncology — the hospital’s first endowed chair. The gift supports Ronald Matteotti, M.D.’s work in pancreatic and liver cancer as medical director of the Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Program.

Before his passing last August, Charles expressed gratitude for Dr. Matteotti’s “top-notch personality, bedside manner and medical expertise.” Dr. Matteotti was instrumental in helping the hospital become the first in New Jersey to earn The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® as a Center of Excellence for Pancreas, Liver and Bile Duct Cancer Certification. He also treated Charles’ wife, Jackie, who succumbed to pancreatic cancer in 2018.

“It was my honor to care for Charlie and Jackie throughout the years,” says Dr. Matteotti. “I am grateful for their belief in me and will do everything I can to provide those impacted by these diseases with the best, most advanced care possible.”

- RONALD MATTEOTTI, M.D., MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE HEPATOBILIARY AND PANCREATIC PROGRAM
Physician Survivor and Champion

Kenneth D. Nahum, D.O., FACP, and his wife Ann Walsh Nahum, R.N., made a $100,000 gift to support prostate cancer treatment and men’s health at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. Dr. Nahum, a cancer survivor himself who received treatment in the Hackensack Meridian Health network, feels strongly about giving back, particularly after his diagnosis.

“I realized that men’s health needs additional support. My goal is to help other cancer patients and build a stronger men’s health program.”

- KENNETH D. NAHUM, D.O., FACP

Kenneth Nahum, D.O, FACP, is a longtime champion of men’s health at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Hackensack Meridian Health.
Philanthropy’s Impact on Behavioral Health

Contributions from the Perricone and Earle families continue to fuel Jersey Shore University Medical Center’s battle against substance use disorders and the current opioid epidemic. The Department of Psychiatry’s third annual Substance Use Disorders Symposium, sponsored by the Christopher Center for Mental Health & Wellness and The Walter R. Earle Foundation, was held in the John K. Lloyd Amphitheater. More than 250 physicians, behavioral health clinicians and professionals attended the event, which featured author Sam Quinones’ keynote address on “The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic.”

Thanks to another generous gift by the Walter R. Earle Foundation, Jersey Shore University Medical Center will be able to continue its efforts to reduce the stigma associated with mental health and addiction disorders and place patients into appropriate care settings, including comprehensive outpatient services such as Hackensack Meridian Health’s new urgent care setting, inpatient services and specialized care for opioid, substance abuse and addiction. Walter (Rob) Earle, who serves as vice chairman of the Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees, and his brothers Michael and Thomas (TJ), have been supporting the Christopher Center for Mental Health & Wellness in HOPE Tower for the past several years through proceeds from their foundation’s annual golf tournament. Their commitment in support of this cause is inspirational and is making a tangible difference to community members in need.
Care

The James F. Ackerman Federation has been devoted to raising funds for Jersey Shore University Medical Center for many years. **From left to right:** Eleanor Mahon, Ruth Kuzava, Mary Jane Killeen, Joan Wegrziyniak, Camille Doronin, Pam Talarico, Pat Riordan, Peggy Jones, Joan Dilloian and Dolores D’Esposito.

**Care for Kids Cancer**

The James F. Ackerman Federation raised $70,000 toward its five-year, $300,000 pledge to support pediatric cancer treatment and research through our Tackle Kids Cancer initiative. In addition to operating Yesterday’s Best Thrift Shoppe, the auxiliary raises money through card parties, luncheons, vendor sales, raffles, boutiques and other special events. Their largest fundraiser, a benefit performance at Spring Lake Community House and Theatre, raised nearly $25,000.
Welcome to the Family

Jersey Shore University Medical Center is proud to welcome four new members to the board of trustees.

David M. Epstein, Esq., is a founding member of Epstein & Cohen, L.L.C. of Little Silver. He serves on several Hackensack Meridian Health committees and has supported the network in a variety of capacities for more than 20 years, previously serving as a long-time member of the former Meridian Health board finance committee and the compliance and audit committees. David received a B.A. in Economics from Columbia University, New York and a J.D. from Emory University School of Law in Atlanta. He is a graduate of the Private Wealth Management program at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Harpreet Pall, M.D., MBA, CPE, is chair of pediatrics at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital. He is board certified in pediatric gastroenterology and received his medical degree from McGill University and his pediatric residency at Memorial University in Canada. Dr. Pall completed his fellowship in gastroenterology at Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School. In addition to providing clinical care in pediatric gastroenterology, he has special interests in liver disease, inflammatory bowel disease, celiac disease and endoscopy. Dr. Pall quickly and enthusiastically embraced the work of the foundation and has made a personal, multi-year pledge.

Sandra Keary is the out-going president of the James F. Ackerman Federation at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. Under her leadership, the federation made its largest pledge commitment in its history, $300,000 to support pediatric cancer treatment and research at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital. Prior to relocating to Monmouth County, Keary resided in Bergen County and served as president of the auxiliary of Hackensack University Medical Center, raising a significant amount for the Joseph M. Sanzari Children’s Hospital among other projects. She continues to serve on the board of the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation.

Jeremy Grunin built a lengthy career in the private sector and is a current partner of Grunin Holdings, LLC. He is president of the Grunin Foundation, which made a $1 million gift to support the launch of Graduate Medical Education at Ocean Medical Center in 2017. In 2019, the foundation made a $3 million commitment to fund a Hackensack Meridian Health initiative to launch a Patient Care Technician (PCT) apprenticeship program. Jeremy sits on the boards of, and serves on committees for, many local non-profit organizations. He has hosted several talk radio shows on both AM and FM radio, including “Topic A” on WOBO. Jeremy’s greatest accomplishment will always be his three children, Josh, Becca and Emma.
“Through the power of philanthropy, your generosity empowers us to enhance care for the youngest of patients. Support by generous individuals and organizations is literally an investment in their future. From everyone at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

– Harpreet Pall, M.D., professor and chairman, department of pediatrics, K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital and Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation trustee
Adding Life to a Child’s Years

The Pediatric Palliative Care Program at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital offers specialized medical care for children and families facing chronic illnesses and life-threatening medical conditions. A multi-disciplinary team works together to improve the quality of life of these children by focusing on treatment of symptoms, pain and stress management, as well as offering comprehensive patient and family support. The guiding principle of pediatric palliative care is to “add life to a child’s years, not simply years to a child’s life.”

Thanks to a generous $350,000 gift from the Morris and Clara Weshnak Family Foundation, administered by Barry and Carol Anne Cawley Weshnak, the pediatric palliative care team at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital is able to provide more children and families with this high-touch, specialized care inside the hospital, and soon, in the home as well.

People often associate palliative care with end-of-life. But really, it’s about helping people who are impacted by a terrible illness or injury to live their lives to the fullest. My wife, Carol Anne, and I, along with our entire family, feel strongly that no child should suffer, and so if our gift can help to bring comfort to these children – and their families – then it’s worth its weight in gold. We are honored to be able to support such a beneficial program.”

- BARRY AND CAROL ANNE WESHNAK
Healing Through Art

Former patient, Hannah Donner, is grateful for the team at K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital that saved her life after a devastating car accident as a teenager. In her words, she “wanted to say thank you to the hospital in an extraordinary way.” So Hannah launched an incredible community art project, recruiting people to paint inspirational messages on ceiling tiles, which are then hung throughout the hospital and serve to encourage patients and families during recovery. To date, Hannah has placed 500 tiles – with plans for another 500 more and has raised nearly $6,000 for the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the hospital. For Hannah, the project has truly embodied the spirit of the Giving Heals fundraising campaign, “This has been an emotional healing process for me.” We are honored that Hannah has chosen to express her gratitude in such a meaningful and impactful way.
Helping Kids Be Kids

Since 2016, Spirit Halloween stores in the local area have conducted in-store fundraising campaigns during the Halloween season to benefit the Child Life Program at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital. Child Life Specialists work one-on-one with patients and families to help kids focus on being kids during hospitalization. In addition to employing therapeutic techniques to reduce stress and anxiety, they also teach children about procedures and tests in a kid-friendly way and support the emotional needs of both the child and the family to help achieve better outcomes. With last year's grant, Spirit Halloween has donated nearly $280,000 total to the Child Life Program. Thanks to Spirit Halloween's continued generosity, pediatric patients at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital benefit from this kind of specialized, family-centered care designed just for them.

Building a Footprint for Pediatric Cancer Care

The New Jersey Club Foundation is the charitable arm of the New Jersey Club Management Association (NJCMA), an organization that provides advancement opportunities for NJCMA professionals affiliated with country clubs, golf clubs, yacht, racquet and city club professionals and students in culinary and hospitality industries. The association supports members of clubs across both southern and northern New Jersey. This year, the New Jersey Club Foundation’s board wanted to make a truly impactful gift that would touch the lives of multiple communities across the state. After a tour of K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital with Jessica Scerbo, M.D., section chief of pediatric hematology and oncology, the board was so impressed with the integrated Hackensack Meridian Children’s Health network, and especially the team’s emphasis on building a comprehensive footprint for pediatric cancer care in New Jersey, that they committed a $50,000 gift in support of Tackle Kids Cancer, a network-wide philanthropic initiative to raise money for pediatric cancer research and patient care programs. With the New Jersey Club Foundation’s support, along with thousands of other donors, Hackensack Meridian Children’s Health network is leading the way in finding a cure for childhood cancer.
The emergency room can be a scary and stressful place for extremely ill or injured children. A soothing environment may help reduce their anxiety.

The Wawa Foundation gave $70,000 to transform the K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital Emergency Department into a colorful, calming, kid-friendly space. The waiting room, eight exam rooms, nurses’ station and triage area received cosmetic upgrades incorporating beach-themed décor and new furniture. The renovation included the installation of a curtain to hide crash carts and other medical equipment that might alarm our youngest patients. A two-way mirror was added to the triage area, enhancing patient safety by allowing the medical team to monitor the waiting room.

The K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital Emergency Department, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, served nearly 25,000 children in 2019. While many of these patients live in the surrounding communities, the hospital also cares for Jersey Shore visitors from all over the world. The Wawa Foundation has been a strong supporter over the past four years, with contributions totaling $158,000.
“As a community leader, foundation board chair and local first responder, I could not be more thrilled at the way individuals, local foundations and corporations are invested in Bayshore Medical Center’s growth. It’s an incredibly exciting time in the medical center’s history.”

– Serena DiMaso, Esq., chair, Bayshore Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
Groundbreaking
Emergency Care

In October, Bayshore Medical Center officially broke ground on the new Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center, which will open for patients in late 2021. The 32,000-square-foot project will restructure the design of the hospital’s campus while greatly increasing its capacity to treat patients with emergent needs. The facility will have the capacity to treat up to 55,000 people annually and will offer 35 private patient bays, swing space with capacity for pediatric care and new imaging equipment dedicated to Emergency Care Center patients.

Thanks to a generous donation by Mary Ellen Harris, founder and current president of the Golden Dome Foundation, the new, state-of-the-art facility will be named in honor of the late Dr. Robert H. Harris, a prominent researcher. In addition to naming the new Emergency Care Center, a second gift from Mary Ellen Harris and the Golden Dome Foundation will be used to purchase cutting-edge technology that will be placed in several departments throughout the medical center, impacting tens of thousands of patients each year, including those in the Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center. These two gifts will significantly enhance the care received by patients at Bayshore Medical Center and we celebrate the generosity of this Holmdel-based organization.
Philanthropic Physicians

In an inspiring illustration of their commitment to the community, the medical staff gifted Bayshore Medical Center with $250,000 toward the future Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center. With a storied history of individual physician giving, this combined gift by the medical team has the power to elevate emergency care for the Bayshore community who depends on it. Thank you to the entire team of generous physicians at Bayshore Medical Center. Your gift will have the power to heal so many.

Scholarships

With advancements being made every day, knowledge is vital in the medical field. That’s why we are grateful to altruistic supporters who recognize how important it is for our nurses to continue their education in order to provide the best possible care.

The Yong Choo, M.D., Nursing Scholarship awarded three Bayshore Medical Center nurses with scholarships to aid them in their pursuit of knowledge. Dr. Choo and his wife, Moon, have generously been funding scholarships at the medical center since 2010.

Thanks in large part to the continued support of Carol B. Stillwell, who has been supporting nursing scholarships since 2013, eight scholarships were awarded through the Friends & Family Fund as well as in honor of late Bayshore Medical Center benefactor Janice Vassar. In addition, nurses paid it forward and honored Carol’s generosity by raising funds themselves to award two nurses with the Stillwell Award of Generosity in her caring name.

With one recipient of the annual Margaret U. Evans Memorial Scholarship, a total of twelve Bayshore Medical Center nurses received support for their continued education in 2019.
Community Commitment to Emergency Care

In 2019, Bayshore Medical Center received several noteworthy gifts from donors eager to improve emergency care for the community. These donors have given in support of the future Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center:

John DeLiso, a member of the Bayshore Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees, and his wife Ann, gifted the medical center with $50,000 to be used for the expansion.

Holmdel residents, Heidi and Jim Maggs generously gave $50,000 from their DG Foundation to enhance emergency services at the medical center. Heidi is also on the board of trustees for Meridian Health Foundation and is chair of the Women’s Heart Fund.

Gaurav Baveja, an active member of the board of trustees, and his wife Deepika Gupta, made a generous gift in support of this historic project.

Anonymous Gift Given from the Heart

A $250,000 gift from an anonymous donor was given in support of the cardiac catherization lab at the medical center. This substantial contribution will ensure that patients have access to the best care possible when they arrive at the medical center in urgent need of cardiac intervention. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank this silent benefactor, whose selfless gift will undoubtedly save lives.
Welcome to the Family

Bayshore Medical Center Foundation is proud to welcome two new members to the board of trustees.

Glen J. Dalakian, Sr., is president and CEO of CSAV Systems, an AV-integration firm based in Colts Neck, where he is also a founding member and on the board of the Colts Neck Business Association. In addition to Bayshore Medical Center, Glen supports many other organizations, including serving on the board at Colts Neck Community Church and supporting Monmouth Park Charity and Fund for Armenian Relief. He is known for his enthusiasm for business and dedication to his faith and family – his wife Cyndi and sons Glen J. and Lucas. Glen is an excellent addition to the board, particularly during this exciting time of growth at Bayshore Medical Center.

Lori Ann Davidson serves as the chief information officer and system analyst for Hamilton Executions LLC in New York. She was previously the executive director of Keyport Bayfront Business Cooperative and is currently a board member of the Keyport Unified Zoning and Planning Board. Lori lives in Keyport with her family and is a graduate of Holmdel High School and Chestnut Hill College.
“It is truly a joy to play a role in bringing together such a diverse group of individuals who all come together in support of our fantastic medical center, which brings healing to so many. It is in large part thanks to the commitment and investment of our community that Ocean Medical Center is able to continuously raise the bar in patient care.”

– Robert G. Harms, chair, Ocean Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
Gratitude

Heartfelt Gratitude for New Center

In November, Ocean Medical Center hosted a groundbreaking for the future Heart & Vascular Center, a $19.5 million investment that will encompass 17,750-square-feet above the Emergency Department. The space will feature heart and vascular services with the latest technology to enable the medical center to address the growing number of procedures performed there every year.

The new center will provide three hybrid labs for diagnosing and treating heart and vascular conditions in an advanced environment for optimal patient outcomes. Two labs will be fully equipped hybrid rooms, plus a shell space for a third lab to allow for growth, and 10 dedicated prep and recovery rooms complete the space.

Ocean Medical Center Foundation board chair Rob Harms, who is leading the capital campaign effort in support of the project, spoke at the event. A second-generation foundation trustee, he described how important this project is to his family, the foundation board and the community. He also expressed his heartfelt gratitude and praise for the Kokes family, who made a leadership gift to Ocean Medical Center, much of which is designated for the Heart & Vascular Center. Family member Jereme Kokes serves on Ocean Medical Center’s foundation board.
A Legacy of Outstanding Care

The 30th annual Elizabeth I. Kellogg Awards for Nursing Excellence honored four nurses for their dedication, compassion and professionalism. Left to right: Marie Foley Danecker, vice president, chief nursing officer; Annmarie Kennedy, assistant nurse manager, 5 west; Eileen Egan, RN, 6west, co-chair professional practice for Ocean Medical Center; Jaime Pawlowicz, nursing supervisor; Ellen Juliano, assistant nurse manager, 4 East; and Pam Egnatovich, director of patient care.
A Physician with Heart

Ali Moosvi, M.D., made a major gift to support the Heart & Vascular Center at Ocean Medical Center. Dr. Moosvi serves on the medical center’s foundation board and is a passionate champion for how the new Heart & Vascular Center at the hospital will enhance clinical care for the community. We thank Dr. Moosvi for his generosity, his service as a trustee and his heartfelt desire to improve cardiac care for patients in need.

“The satisfaction of helping someone is immense.”

- ALI MOOSVI, M.D.
Supporting Excellence in Nursing

Nurses serve on the front lines of the patient experience. Ongoing education enhances their leadership and critical thinking skills and keeps them up-to-date on the latest evidence-based practices. Many of our generous supporters understand that when nurses advance their education, everybody wins.

The 2019 Barbara Forfar Nursing Scholarships were awarded to Ocean Medical Center nurses Susan McKenna, Kathleen Scalzo and Rachel Schliep. Since its establishment nine years ago, the fund has awarded a total of $18,500 to 33 deserving recipients. It honors the legacy of the late Barbara “Foof” Forfar, whose nursing career spanned over four decades.

In honor of Nurses Week in May, Ocean Medical Center presented numerous donor-funded scholarships, including the Dr. Robert H. Harris Endowed Nursing Scholarship, George and Lorraine Kerr Nursing Scholarship, Beth’s Helpers Scholarship, Katherine Radcliffe Nursing Scholarship and the Mehandru Nursing Award.

The Ginny Horner Nursing Award was presented to several outstanding nurses. It honors retired nurse and educator Ginny Horner, who is now an active volunteer and trustee of the Ocean Medical Center Association.
Supporting the Hospital’s Mission

Volunteers for our auxiliary partners, the **Guild of Ocean Medical Center** and the **Ocean Medical Center Association**, dedicate countless hours and unwavering energy to enhance health care for the community.

The Guild’s Sixth Annual Fashion Show and Gift Auction in May raised funds for Ocean Medical Center, the Mental Health Association of Monmouth County and Common Ground Grief Center. They also purchased six recliners for the Acute Care of the Elderly Unit and four for the Stroke Treatment and Recovery Center to promote patient mobility and enhance comfort.

The Association continued support for the Mother Hen Fund, which assists financially struggling patients and their families with unexpected, additional costs associated with cancer care. These needs may include nutritional supplements, medication and transportation.

We said farewell to Norma Pols, an Association pioneer who passed away at 91-years-old. Norma’s tireless efforts were integral to Ocean Medical Center’s founding, and she was passionate about the hospital and pleased to witness its growth throughout the years. As we celebrated the 35th anniversary of the hospital’s opening, her contributions were recognized in commemorative events throughout the year.

Medicine of the Future

The 2019 Graduate Medical Education (GME) Resident White Coat Ceremony welcomed 26 new medical doctors to Ocean Medical Center at the end of June. Donor Jeremy Grunin, who made a $1 million gift to help launch the GME program, was in attendance to celebrate the 2018 inaugural class of eight internal medicine residents, along with the current class of eight family medicine and six psychiatry residents who matched at Ocean Medical Center’s residency program. An additional four psychiatry residents who matched at Jersey Shore University Medical Center’s residency program also received their white coats in front of family and friends. These residents will have a profound impact on the health and lives of our communities, helping to address a projected shortage of primary care and psychiatric physicians. We wish to offer them our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for a bright future.
Welcome to the Family

The Ocean Medical Center Foundation is proud to welcome a new member to the board of trustees.

Doug Schwarz built his career in banking, specializing in retail finance and subsequently transitioning into commercial mortgage banking. A lifelong resident of Westfield, he served as a trustee for the United Fund of Westfield, president of the Downtown Westfield Corporation and as a member of the Westfield planning board for 10 years, the last five as chair. Doug spent summers in Brielle growing up and raised his own family at the shore during summers as well. He and his wife Susie are now residents of Point Pleasant. They have two married sons and three grandchildren. Doug is also a trustee of the Bay Head Chapel and an elder at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. He is a graduate of Blair Academy and Gettysburg College.
“We are proud of our supporters and treasure their role in helping Raritan Bay Medical Center bring its vision to life. Our community, along with supporters — donors who make gifts and volunteers who give their time and talent — will always be at the heart of our thinking as we work to grow to best meet the increasing needs in our region.”

– Andrew Citron, M.D., chair, Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
Transforming Emergency Care

The fall of 2019 marked a significant milestone in Raritan Bay Medical Center’s history, as the official groundbreaking for the new Emergency Department in Old Bridge took place on a beautiful October day.

With 25,000 visits annually, the new Emergency Department will provide safer, faster arrivals, newly designed pediatric rooms, greater patient privacy and comfort and state-of-the-art technology that will offer more accurate diagnostics and treatment. The expansion will also join the hospital’s three buildings together, creating an interconnected system, allowing patients and staff to move easily throughout the medical center.

The $39 million investment that will encompass 24,000-square-feet is attracting donors of all levels. Led by campaign co-chairs, Michael Eagan, M.D., FACEP, chair of emergency medicine at Raritan Bay Medical Center, and Timothy O’Brien, former foundation board member, significant community support was contributed in 2019. Thank you to everyone whose gifts will help to transform emergency care for our community.
Supporting a Shared Vision

University Radiology, a large diagnostic imaging and subspecialty radiology practice that provides services at several network medical centers, gifted Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation with $150,000 to aid in the development of the new Emergency Department. Gifts of this magnitude will have a significant impact on the level of care provided to the community and help Hackensack Meridian Health and Raritan Bay Medical Center realize a shared vision to provide the best emergency care experience possible. We are filled with gratitude for their support of, and belief in, this significant project.
Several community-based organizations rallied behind Raritan Bay Medical Center to help enhance offerings for their neighbors, friends and families in 2019.

The Brunetti Foundation, run by brothers Stephen and John Brunetti, developers in Middlesex and Monmouth counties and longtime supporters of Raritan Bay Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center gave $10,000 in support of Raritan Bay Medical Center’s programs and services in 2019.

The Ciepelowski Foundation, another longtime friend of the medical center, gave a gift of $15,000 to enhance emphysema care, bringing their total support for this valuable program to over $122,000.

Atlantic Realty Development Corporation, owned by another brother duo, David and Jack Halpern, gave $10,000 to help the medical center fill its greatest needs. Throughout the years, this organization has given more than $45,000 in support of Raritan Bay Medical Center.

The Middlesex County Association of Chiefs of Police graciously supports pediatric causes at the medical center, running their own fundraisers every year to be able to donate funds at Raritan Bay Medical Center and other Middlesex County hospitals.

Thank you to these philanthropic organizations for your generosity and dedication to Raritan Bay Medical Center. Your commitment helps us provide the best care possible for our communities.

The Middlesex County Association of Chiefs of Police enthusiastically supports this important endeavor. The members of our association can’t thank Raritan Bay Medical Center and its team members enough for everything they do year in and year out.”

- CHIEF DAVID IRIZARRY OF METUCHEN BOROUGH
Welcome to the Family

Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation is proud to welcome a new member to the board of trustees.

Jane Mueller is a real estate agent with REMAX First Realty and has consistently been named the number one broker associate in East Brunswick, beginning in 2015. She has won the New Jersey Circle of Excellence Award every year, was inducted into the REMAX Hall of Fame and was voted the Best of the Best Real Estate Agent in Middlesex County. Mueller currently serves as a board member at East Brunswick Regional Chamber of Commerce and as a trustee of East Brunswick Education Foundation. In addition, she volunteers with and supports a variety of other non-profit organizations and clubs.
“What’s truly spectacular about the community surrounding Riverview Medical Center is the way that they come together in support of the hospital. Everyone really believes in the hospital and are willing to do whatever they can to help it continue to be known as one of the best medical centers in New Jersey.”

– Steve M. Scopellite, chair, Riverview Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
Philanthropy Supports Private Patient Rooms

Construction to create 23 private patient rooms at Riverview Medical Center kicked off in 2019 thanks to the help of philanthropy, which accounts for two-thirds of the cost of the project. The $12.7 million renovation will create 18,000-square-feet of space by combining the 2 North and 2 West units. Each room will be private, and most will have floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the picturesque Navesink River. The project will also create an oversized family waiting room and a centrally located nursing station with enhanced technology to maximize communication capabilities.

The benefits of private rooms include reduced falls and hospital-acquired infections, as well as emotional and psychological benefits that aide in quicker recovery time. The new unit will start seeing patients in the first quarter of 2020.
George and Vita Kolber are grateful that high-quality health care is available to friends and neighbors in their close-knit community. The couple’s most recent demonstration of their dedication is a $250,000 gift toward the purchase of new outpatient rehabilitation equipment. George Kolber is a former chair of the Riverview Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees and Vita is the former chair and a founding member of the Women’s Heart Fund.

The Kolbers’ prior gifts include a $1 million donation to the Campaign for Surgical Excellence at Riverview Medical Center. They are longtime supporters of the annual Family Fireworks on the Navesink fundraising event, former Meridian Health gala chairs and great friends to the organization. Their continued support will have a lasting impact on the thousands of patients who come to the medical center for care each year.

Supporting Care for Friends and Neighbors
Giving Where the Needs Are Greatest

Steve Scopellite, chair of both the Riverview Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees, as well as the Meridian Health Foundation Board of Trustees, gave $100,000 to support the hospital’s greatest needs. We are tremendously grateful for Steven’s leadership and generosity, which gives our team the flexibility to determine the best ways to use these critical resources to ensure our patients receive the best care possible.

“By supporting the medical center, I am also giving back to the community, which is incredibly important to me. I am thankful to be able to do so.”

- STEVE SCOPELLITE
CHAIR OF THE RIVERVIEW MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Supporting Cancer Patients

The annual William I. Riker Oncology Symposium, generously funded by Riverview Medical Center Foundation trustee Maggie Riker, was held on October 24 in the Joan and Robert Rechnitz Conference and Education Center at Riverview Medical Center. This year’s topic focused on survivorship and featured five speakers across disciplines such as oncology, integrative health and medicine and dietary health. Nearly 100 Hackensack Meridian Health nurses, physicians and other caregivers heard from special guest speaker Ethan Zohn, past winner of the television series Survivor and two-time cancer survivor, who shared meaningful ways to support cancer survivors so they are prepared to thrive in their lives after remission.

Kelli O’Brien (left), chief hospital executive of Riverview Medical Center, is grateful to Maggie Riker (right) for her passionate support of oncology education at the medical center.
Tri-ing to Cure Cancer

Riverview Medical Center Foundation trustee Shawn Reynolds and his triathlon team, Never Stop TRI-ing to Cure Cancer, raised more than $24,000 for oncology services at the medical center when they participated in the 2019 War at the Shore Triathlon. Funds raised from this annual event have benefitted countless patients seeking treatment at the hospital and we thank Shawn, his family and his team for caring for our community.

Remembering a Visionary

Playwright, philanthropist, Monmouth University literature professor and founder of Red Bank’s Two River Theater, Bob Rechnitz believed that imaginative people hold the power to make the world a better place. Though Bob passed away in October, his visionary spirit lives on through the positive changes he sought to bring about through his support of community organizations, including Riverview Medical Center.

A beloved member of the board of trustees, Bob and his loving wife of 58 years, Joan, supported the purchase of equipment, building projects and program development, enhancing our ability to provide top-notch care and a positive experience for our patients and their families.
Welcome to the Family

Riverview Medical Center is proud to welcome two new members to the board of trustees.

Robin L. Klein is founder and president of Fashion Retail Group, a consulting firm specializing in retail tenant representation. She is on the board of several non-profit organizations and serves on many committees for galas and events supporting the local community. In addition, she and her husband John were privileged to travel to Rwanda and are now actively involved in raising funds to support the Ubumwe Community Center and School, a lifeline for the Rwandan people. Robin and John share a passion for protecting and saving animals, especially those on the brink of extinction. They reside in Red Bank with their four rescue dogs.

Maria Maher is a marketing professional with 25 years in financial services. She is a born and raised New Yorker who received her B.B.A. from Pace University. Starting her career at IBM, she has held executive positions at both Dime Bancorp and MetLife. As a resident of Monmouth County for the past seven years, Maria has been involved in a variety of nonprofit activities which led to assuming the role as co-chair of the Count Basie Center for the Arts education committee. Maria lives in Rumson with her husband, Christopher, and their five children.
“Southern Ocean Medical Center is a special place, and despite its relatively small size in comparison to other New Jersey medical centers, it is doing very big things in terms of the care it is able to provide to the community. Philanthropy helps to make that possible and we are extremely grateful for the support of generous donors, who give in both big and small amounts.”

— Deborah Mathis, C.P.A., chair, Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees
The Gift That Began It All

Southern Ocean Medical Center’s newly renovated lobby recognizes the gift that brought to life the dream of a hospital to serve the Long Beach Island community.

The Morris L. Shapiro Lobby honors the donation of over 10 acres of land nearly 50 years ago by Herbert Shapiro — one of the area’s premier builders and developers. Morris Shapiro, Herbert’s father, was a visionary and pioneer developer in the region.

A special plaque prominently displayed in the medical center’s entrance commemorates this generous gift.

Herbert and Selma Shapiro generously donated the land on which Southern Ocean Medical Center is built.
Bringing Drama to Real Life

Thanks to gifts from community partners like Greenbriar Oceanaire Community Association and Greenbriar Oceanaire Golf Course, the Emergency Department team at Southern Ocean Medical Center, in collaboration with the Stafford Theater Arts Center and local law enforcement, hosts Project Aware, a unique live educational theater program designed to teach middle school students about substance abuse and the consequences of making poor choices. The one-of-a-kind theatrical performance takes place both on the stage – where a teen actor overdoses – and continues by transporting the audience to the Emergency Department, where the story continues as emergency services personnel attempt to save the teen’s life. After the performance, law enforcement officials and caregivers hold a debriefing session with students. Project Aware has been active in Manahawkin for more than 20 years, and donor support is helping to now expand it to other school districts and hospitals in the network.

Greenbriar Oceanaire Community Association and Greenbriar Oceanaire Golf Course presented a check to Southern Ocean Medical Center for its Project Aware program. Left to right: Michele Morrison, MPH, BSHA, RN, interim chief hospital executive, Southern Ocean Medical Center; Regina Foley, Ph.D., MBA, RN, senior vice president integration/transformation, Hackensack Meridian Health; Walt Kaczka, Sharon Brothers, Tommie Lou Judson and Tom Robinson.
Life-Saving Technology Where It’s Needed Most

Brian Wainwright, owner of Fantasy Island Amusement Park, grew up in Long Beach Island, and he and his family are grateful for the health care services provided by Southern Ocean Medical Center, particularly the Emergency Department and first responders. Recently, after learning about the statistics regarding people who suffer sudden cardiac arrest outside the hospital in places without access to life-saving equipment, Brian teamed up with the Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation to fund the purchase of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) for distribution to local businesses where community members frequent, such as restaurants, beach clubs, health agencies, and of course, amusement parks. When seconds count, access to an AED can mean the difference between life and death for patients experiencing a heart attack. Thanks to the Wainwright family’s generosity, these life-saving devices are now more readily available where they are needed the most.
Links for Life

Since 2013, local resident Bette Bauer and her sister, LuCille Perry, have hosted Links for Life, a community golf outing fundraiser in support of Southern Ocean Medical Center. Last year, the event raised more than $38,000 for cancer care services at the hospital. Over the years, Bette and LuCille have raised more than $100,000 for Southern Ocean Medical Center in memory of their mother, Audrey M. Perry, who passed away from breast cancer at the age of 69. Their commitment to ensuring vital services and technologies in cancer care for the community is inspiring, and we are touched that they continue to honor their mother in such a generous and meaningful way.
Advanced Care for Cancer Patients

The dedicated members of Southern Ocean Medical Center’s four auxiliary chapters donated more than $700,000 to complete their $2.5 million, five-year pledge to support the Cancer Care Center’s purchase of a TrueBeam™ linear accelerator for radiation therapy. This technology delivers targeted radiation beams that can pinpoint a tumor’s exact size, shape and location. The fast and efficient system preserves surrounding healthy tissue, provides a much lower dose of radiation overall and promotes faster recovery.

In 2019, an average of nearly 775 treatments were delivered using TrueBeam technology. We are grateful for the auxiliary volunteers who raise these funds through their chapters’ gift and thrift shops, events and vendor sales.

In 2020, they begin a new five-year pledge of $2.5 million to support a new magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine for the hospital.

Boosters Auxiliary operates our hospital gift shop, The Bird Cage, just off the main lobby.

Holly Auxiliary runs The Holly Thrift Shop in the Waretown Plaza in Waretown.

Laurel Auxiliary manages the Second Time Around resale store in Tuckerton.

SOCH Auxiliary raises funds through its Old and New Shop in Manahawkin.

Leaders of Southern Ocean Medical Center’s four auxiliaries provide tremendous support to the medical center. Left to right: Phyllis Buttermark, Laurel president; Judy Brophy, Boosters president (also president of coordinating council); Jackie Hillman, Holly president; and Matcene Kubler, SOCH president.

Thomas Dolan Retires as Foundation Board Chair

Shortly after moving to Long Beach Island in 2009, Tom Dolan became interested in Southern Ocean Medical Center’s plans for renovating and expanding the Emergency Department (ED). His enthusiasm did not go unnoticed. In 2011, he joined the Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees as vice president of the capital campaign for the ED. Since then, Tom has become one of the hospital’s most passionate champions.

After serving for the past eight years as chairman of the board, Tom took a step back to more fully enjoy his retirement, which began in 2009 after a 40-year career with Xerox. He now holds the honorary rank of chairman emeritus, a designation bestowed in recognition of his dedication and leadership. Tom also serves on the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees and is an at-large member of the Meridian Health Foundation Board of Trustees.

“Tom has been our biggest cheerleader,” says James Young, executive director of the Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation. “We have been fortunate to have him as our number one community leader. We are grateful for the great work he has done for the hospital.”

Thank you, Tom, for your loyal service. We are also proud to welcome Deborah Mathis, C.P.A., as the new chair of the Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees. She most recently served as vice chair of the board.

Longtime board chair Tom Dolan steps down after many years of passionate service in support of Southern Ocean Medical Center.
Welcome to the Family
Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation is proud to welcome a new member to the board of trustees.

Robert R. Stohrer is a familiar face around Southern Ocean Medical Center, having previously served on the foundation board and on various committees over the past 20 years. He is a well-known presence throughout the community, owning several local businesses after playing professional football, including for the Washington Redskins. Bob has volunteered his time and expertise on many regional boards, committees and business associations and has been recognized by several organizations. He and his wife, Carol, currently reside in Beach Haven Terrace. They have two children and four grandchildren. Now that he is retired, Bob is enjoying golf, gardening and quality family time.
“We are grateful for all of the support we have received for our Giving Heals campaign. Whether from local businesses and foundations, organizations awarding us grants, or individuals supporting events, volunteering their skills and time, contributing a monetary gift, or remembering their local hospitals in their wills, all of these acts of generosity make a real difference in people’s lives.”

– Steve M. Scopellite, chair, Meridian Health Foundation Board of Trustees
First-of-its-Kind Gift Creates Career Ladder

Meridian Health Foundation friends, the Grunin Foundation, made a revolutionary gift that will create a first-of-its-kind program for patient care technicians throughout the Hackensack Meridian Health network. The foundation’s substantial $3 million contribution will establish patient care technician (PCT) preceptorship and apprenticeship programs to provide a career ladder for team members looking to move into long-term, higher paying clinical positions such as nursing, while offering growth opportunities for team members who want to build a lifelong career as a PCT, including mentorship and leadership responsibilities. The programs will also provide employment opportunities for local community members with limited education who want to begin a career in health care.

PCTs are hands-on at the bedside taking care of patients every day, but turnover is high, which negatively impacts patient care and increases costs to health care systems. This gift will be a huge help in ensuring that patients continue to receive the best possible care, while creating real career opportunities for Hackensack Meridian Health team members and our community. We are very thankful to the Grunin Foundation for recognizing the value that PCTs bring to the patient care experience.

"We believe strongly in supporting health care as a way for our community and our economy to thrive. We are excited for the new career paths this will open up for individuals enrolled in the programs.”

- JEREMY GRUNIN, PRESIDENT, THE GRUNIN FOUNDATION
Hope and Help for Cancer Survivors

A cancer journey can be overwhelming, but the Women’s Heart Fund is helping to make this difficult time easier. Proceeds of more than $160,000 from the Women’s Heart Fund Annual Reception completed their pledge of $250,000 to support the Center for Survivorship and Wellness Care at Jersey Shore University Medical Center’s HOPE Tower. Led by advanced practice nurses, the center provides a holistic, patient-focused and multidisciplinary approach to care, navigates patients through each level of their cancer journey and coordinates non-clinical services such as emotional and financial counseling.

The Women’s Heart Fund has supported many projects throughout the years, including funding for programs, services, education and technology that benefit our community.
We are an Award-Winning Foundation!

Meridian Health Foundation received two major awards in 2019: recognition as a High Performer from the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP) and as New Jersey’s top nonprofit organization in the NJBIZ 2019 Reader Rankings. AHP’s 2019 High Performer list recognizes organizations who represent the top 25 percent in net fundraising returns, and we are proud to have made this distinguished list for nine out of the last 10 years. The NJBIZ 2019 Reader Rankings are determined by votes cast by NJBIZ readers for businesses they believed deserved to be recognized for their industry excellence and statewide contributions.

The Perricones and Spirit Halloween Recognized by AFP

Meridian Health Foundation would like to congratulate our friends, Phil and Marilyn Perricone, as well as our partners at Spirit Halloween, for being recognized as Outstanding Philanthropists of the Year and Outstanding Corporation of the Year, respectively, by the New Jersey chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). Your contributions to Jersey Shore University Medical Center and K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital have been invaluable to our network and the community and we are thrilled that your efforts have been recognized by such a reputable organization. Congratulations and thank you for all you do!
Announcing the Promotions of Paul Huegel and Jennifer Smith

We are pleased to announce the promotions of Paul Huegel to vice president, development, southern region, and Jennifer Smith to vice president, development, central region. Huegel brings 25 years of development experience to this new position. As senior executive director at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital, he raised nearly $25 million to support the medical center’s programs and services and increased fundraising revenue by 300 percent.

During Smith’s 16 years with Meridian Health Foundation, she has grown progressively through several roles. In her former role as senior executive director of the Riverview Medical Center Foundation and Bayshore Medical Center Foundation, she raised nearly $70 million for those two hospitals. In 2018, she was named to the “Forty under 40” list by the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy.

Both will work closely with donors to achieve their philanthropic goals and help to secure funding for the medical centers and programs in their respective regions, while also seeking gifts in support of Hackensack Meridian Health Care Transformation Services.
A Culture of Philanthropy

Our team members are key to Hackensack Meridian Health's ability to provide excellent care for our communities, and so their support is one of the strongest signs of commitment from those who know our organization best. In 2019, team members from eight Hackensack Meridian Health medical centers in Monmouth, Ocean and Middlesex counties raised nearly $330,000 for the Giving Heals campaign. Their donations will support technology, upgrades and programs that will help them continue to provide the best possible care. Since 2015, team members have raised nearly $1.7 million through the Meridian Health Foundation's Annual Team Member Campaign.
The Healing Power of Philanthropy

After an extraordinary health care experience, patients and their families often seek to express their thanks as an extension of their healing journey. Our Grateful Patient Program, as the name suggests, is a way for patients to express their gratitude to their physicians, nurses and other caregivers through philanthropy. Here are three stories of how gratitude and healing go hand-in-hand:

After Douglas Tibbals, D.D.S., was cared for at Hackensack Meridian Nursing & Rehabilitation at Shrewsbury, he missed seeing the smiling faces of the wonderful team who made his stay enjoyable. He admired the work they did – not only for him, but for all the patients – and wanted to thank them for helping to get him back on his feet. Dr. Tibbals made a gift through our honored caregiver program and joined us as we presented each member of his care team with a gold pin to wear proudly and remind them of the impact that they make each and every day.

Nicole and Chris DiMicco chose to give back to the Ocean Medical Center oncology team for the care provided to Nicole’s mother during her battle with cancer.

To help them through the grieving process, Maria De Socio and her family chose to thank the team who provided compassionate care to their beloved mother in the final stage of her battle with dementia.

“The grieving process hasn’t been an easy one for my family and me but giving back in my mother’s memory helps us to begin to heal,” said Maria De Socio, daughter of Eleanor Badamo. After her mother’s passing, Maria knew she wanted to thank Juan Estrada Carvajal, a restorative aide, and the care team in the dementia unit at Hackensack Meridian Bayshore Health Care Center for the extraordinary care provided to Eleanor during her stay. Last August, Maria and her family presented Juan and the C-Wing team with an honored caregiver award and a generous gift comprised of donations from their friends and family that will support the purchase of a new fish tank in the sensory room.

Mary Jo Torosian received cancer care at Ocean Medical Center and Jackson Health Village in 2017 and sadly, passed away on November 15, 2017. Grateful for the care her mother received and for the meaningful relationships formed with team members in oncology and other areas of the hospital, newlyweds Nicole and Chris DiMicco visited Ocean Medical Center to present the oncology team with a very special gift. In lieu of favors at their wedding, Nicole and Chris chose to give back through a donation to thank the compassionate care team who made an incredible difference in their family’s lives.

To help them through the grieving process, Maria De Socio and her family chose to thank the team who provided compassionate care to their beloved mother in the final stage of her battle with dementia.

“The grieving process hasn’t been an easy one for my family and me but giving back in my mother’s memory helps us to begin to heal.” - MARIA DE SOCIO
$15.8 CMS Award Will Improve Care for At-Risk Youth

At-risk children and adolescents with complex health conditions will benefit from integrated care coordination and case management, thanks to a $15.8 million grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Hackensack Meridian Health, as the lead organization, is partnering with the VNA of Central Jersey (VNA), New Jersey Medicaid Agency and New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute (Quality Institute) to establish and test the New Jersey Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model in Monmouth and Ocean counties. The goal of this population-based approach, and the associated Alternative Payment Model for the Medicaid program, is to identify children and adolescents who have higher than average health issues and improve their outcomes, including reducing Emergency Department use, inpatient admissions and out-of-home placements for escalated behavioral needs and substance use disorders.

The impact of early identification and immediate support of at-risk New Jersey youth and families is two-fold. First, it will lead to improvements in health and service accessibility as well as health outcomes for the highest risk children. Second, lower acuity children will benefit from the improved capacity of primary care offices to screen for and address risks. Once proven, the InCK Model can then be replicated throughout the state.

Only eight awards were issued by CMS across the country and the one awarded to Hackensack Meridian Health, the VNA and the Quality Institute, was the only one given in New Jersey.

Nurse Practitioners in Residence

As demand increases for well-trained nurse practitioners, Hackensack Meridian Health is answering the call with New Jersey’s first Nurse Practitioner Residency (NPR) program, funded by a $3.4 million federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

In partnership with our academic partner, Monmouth University, Hackensack Meridian Health will create a rigorous residency program in community-based primary care practices in Atlantic, Monmouth, Ocean, Middlesex and Bergen counties. Under the guidance of trained preceptors, each year, 10 nurse practitioners will participate in a 12-month, full-time residency program, designed to fortify their clinical knowledge and advance their skills to provide primary care in community-based settings.

A New Grant for Pediatric Mental Health

A new $4.4 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families will continue to support Hackensack Meridian Health’s Pediatric Psychiatry Collaborate. This statewide program provides support, evaluations and quick access to psychiatric consultations for children with behavioral and emotional health issues, while at the same time, providing education to pediatric primary care providers in 20 New Jersey counties on how to appropriately screen children for potential mental health issues.
Welcome to the Family

Meridian Health Foundation is proud to welcome three new members to the board of trustees.

Tom Dolan is a management consultant after retiring from a 40-year career with Xerox Corporation in increasing capacities. He now holds the honorary rank of chairman emeritus, a designation bestowed in recognition of his dedication and leadership. Throughout his career, he received many awards, including winning the Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce. Tom also serves on the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees and serves as vice chair of the board's Human Resources Committee. He has also previously served as a trustee on the Meridian Health Foundation board, the Meridian Health System Inc. board and the Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation board, where he was chair from 2012 to December 2019. Tom earned his Bachelor of Arts in economics at Manhattan College and is a military veteran, having served in the United States Army.

Jeremy Grunin built a lengthy career in the private sector and is a current partner of Grunin Holdings, LLC., a New Jersey partnership specializing in projects from large commercial real estate ventures to smaller local businesses. Since 2013, he has been actively engaged in the community as president of the Grunin Foundation, a proactive grant maker focused on improving the quality of life of all members of our community by using philanthropy to drive economic excellence at the Central Jersey Shore. He has hosted several talk radio shows on both AM and FM radio, including “Topic A” on WOBM. He serves on a variety of boards and advisory committees, including Fulfill, Count Basie Center for the Arts, Arts Ed NJ and the Grunin Center for Law and Social Entrepreneurship at NYU to name a few. He is the immediate past chairman of the United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties and is an executive board member and former chair of the Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce.

Kim Guadagno was the first, and now former, Lt. Governor of New Jersey and the 33rd Secretary of State. She is currently president and CEO of the non-profit Fulfill, formerly the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. An attorney by trade, Kim is also a partner at the private practice firm of Connell Foley, where she specializes in criminal and commercial law. She served the public as a federal and state prosecutor for more than three decades, taught at Rutgers Law School for six years and was the first female sheriff of Monmouth County. Kim is a graduate of American University, Washington College of Law and Ursinus College. She is married to Judge Michael Guadagno and has three sons: a fighter pilot captain in the United States Air Force; a Dartmouth graduate working in finance in New York City; and a 19-year-old who keeps her grounded.
Date: July 3, 2019
Location: The DiPiero Family Home, Locust
Event Chairs: Generous hosts, Domenic and Hilary DiPiero

More than 500 guests gathered at the beautiful DiPiero home for the 7th annual Family Fireworks on the Navesink to support Riverview Medical Center Foundation. This festive event raised more than $260,000 for Riverview Medical Center.
Ocean Medical Center Foundation Golf Classic

Date: June 17, 2019  
Location: Manasquan River Golf Club, Brielle  
Event Chair: Jason Nitche, M.D.

Ocean Medical Center Foundation’s 29th annual Golf Classic was another great success, raising nearly $240,000 and welcoming 120 golfers who competed in a tournament to raise vital funding for programs and services at Ocean Medical Center.

Women’s Heart Fund Annual Reception

Date: May 31, 2019  
Location: Bay Head Yacht Club, Bay Head  
Event Chairs: Mollie Giamanco and Lisa Loshiavo

More than $160,000 was raised at this annual event with 270 guests gathering to support the Center for Survivorship and Wellness Care located at Jersey Shore University Medical Center’s HOPE Tower. New to the 2019 event was the Ultimate Golf Raffle, which awarded 27 winners with a round of golf at one of 27 premiere golf courses.
Signature Events

Jersey Shore University Medical Center Foundation and K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital Golf Classic

Date: July 8, 2019
Location: Deal Golf & Country Club and Hollywood Golf Club, Deal
Event Chair: Robert Mullen
Vice Chair: Robert Smith

This year’s Golf Classic welcomed more than 255 golfers who raised over $510,000 in support of programs and services at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and K. Hovnanian Children’s Hospital.
Bayshore Medical Center Foundation Benefit for Bayshore Oktoberfest Community Celebration

Date: October 11, 2019
Location: Stillwell Stables, Colts Neck
Event Chairs: Carol Stillwell and Mary Ann Larkin
Honorary Chairs: Dr. and Mrs. Asaad and Dima Samra

More than 265 guests celebrated Bayshore Medical Center Foundation’s 4th annual Benefit for Bayshore Oktoberfest Community Celebration at Stillwell Stables in Colts Neck, raising more than $138,000 in support of the future Dr. Robert H. Harris Emergency Care Center at Bayshore Medical Center.
Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Reception

**Date:** May 4, 2019  
**Location:** Laurita Winery, New Egypt  
**Event Chairs:** Stacey Citron, Stacey Hernandez and Jessica Smith

Nearly $135,000 was raised in support of the new Emergency Department on the Old Bridge campus of Raritan Bay Medical Center at the Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Annual Reception. With nearly 200 guests in attendance, attendees rallied around this project that will bring a new level of emergency care for residents in and around Old Bridge.

Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation Signature Social

**Date:** July 19, 2019  
**Location:** Bonnet Island Estate, Long Beach Island  
**Event Chairs:** Joseph Lattanzi, M.D., Kimberly Hogan, M.D., Thomas Yu, M.D., and Jane Yu

At the Fifth Annual Signature Social hosted by Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation, more than 215 guests helped to raise over $175,000 in support of programs and services at Southern Ocean Medical Center.

Signature Events

Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Reception

**Date:** May 4, 2019  
**Location:** Laurita Winery, New Egypt  
**Event Chairs:** Stacey Citron, Stacey Hernandez and Jessica Smith

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**Location:** Bonnet Island Estate, Long Beach Island  
**Event Chairs:** Joseph Lattanzi, M.D., Kimberly Hogan, M.D., Thomas Yu, M.D., and Jane Yu

At the Fifth Annual Signature Social hosted by Southern Ocean Medical Center Foundation, more than 215 guests helped to raise over $175,000 in support of programs and services at Southern Ocean Medical Center.
The Giving Heals Gala

**Date:** November 23, 2019  
**Location:** Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, Atlantic City  
**Event Honoree:** Gordon Litwin, Esq., chair of the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees

The 22nd Annual Giving Heals Gala, attended by 700 guests, raised more than $1.7 million and honored Gordon Litwin, Esq., chair of the Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees, who sadly passed away on April 5, 2020 from complications of leukemia at the age of 90. Gordon was recognized for his longtime dedication to improving health care for New Jersey residents. We would like to thank everyone who ventured down to Atlantic City or supported this gala in another capacity. Your generosity will help to strengthen oncology services, improve clinical outcomes, enhance the patient experience and broaden clinical research and academic programs at Hackensack Meridian Health hospitals in Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties.
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Thank You.

Meridian Health Foundation would like to sincerely thank those who served on the board in 2019 for their time and dedication.

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