

MILITARY STORIES

SPRING 2023

Monmouth
Medical Center
Foundation

RWJBarnabas
HEALTH



**PHILANTHROPY
OF FAMILY**
The Tizzio Family
FEATURE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES



MAURICE ZEKARIA

MAURICE ZEKARIA is President of Paramount Realty Services, a real estate company founded in 1994. Maurice spends much of his time dedicating himself to many different philanthropic efforts throughout Monmouth and Ocean counties. In 2018, Maurice Zekaria held the first Tree of Life Fundraising Event at his home in Oakhurst. The event was an opportunity for the Zekaria Family and the Sephardic community to express their gratitude to Monmouth Medical Center for the excellent care they receive. The goal was to strengthen the connection between the community and the hospital. For the next four years, Maurice teamed up with Sam Haddad to create a yearly summer fundraising event for the community, with both seasonal and permanent residents in attendance, to continue to support Monmouth Medical Center. Together, Maurice and Sam have helped raise over \$3.3 million at this annual event.



KERRIN "KERRY" O'BRIEN

KERRIN "KERRY" O'BRIEN Broker/Owner of O'Brien Realty is one of the top producers in Monmouth County. She has won the prestigious NJAR Circle of Excellence highest honor, Platinum, for several years in a row. Kerry has been a successful broker for many years and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to all of her clients, colleagues and fellow associates. Kerry and her partner, Tammy O'Brien, founded O'Brien Realty in 2013. Together they created a unique positive work environment that is dedicated to delivering "Above and Beyond" customer service and exceeding every expectation. Kerry is an active member of the Fireflies Council for Behavioral Health at Monmouth Medical Center and also a generous supporter of Power of Pink.

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MISSION

Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to supporting Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) and its programs and services, has a five-fold mission:

- To develop and implement Foundation programs that provide charitable financial support to Monmouth Medical Center.
- To demonstrate to the public at large how philanthropy benefits donors, patients and the community served by MMC.
- To increase public awareness and enhance the community's positive perception of MMC by being an advocate of the center's commitment to the community.
- To serve responsibly as the steward of contributed funds to MMC.
- To develop candidates for leadership positions for Monmouth Medical Center Foundation and Monmouth Medical Center.

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MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



ERIC CARNEY
President and Chief Executive Officer
Monmouth Medical Center and
Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus

It is with great pride that we share the news that Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) has been named to Newsweek's 2023 World's Best Hospitals' list. It is the second consecutive year that we have received this prestigious award presented by Newsweek and Statista Inc., the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider.

This recognition is meant to identify quality care and according to the Newsweek report, the world's leading hospitals set themselves apart by their consistent ability to deliver the highest-quality patient care and conduct critical medical research. We are so proud to be listed among the world's best hospitals and hope this designation is helpful to patients and families seeking the best care for themselves and loved ones. Public recognitions such as this and our standing as the region's only hospital to consistently earn Leapfrog A's for patient safety are important milestones on our journey to high reliability because they truly reflect the hard work and commitment of the entire MMC team.

In addition to these outstanding recognitions, MMC also recently celebrated our official purchase of the former Fort Monmouth property in Tinton Falls, which will be the home of our Vogel Medical Campus. Construction of the state-of-the-art medical campus, which begins this spring, was made possible by a historic \$50 million gift from local philanthropists Sheldon and the late Anne Vogel.

The development of this new campus is part of our mission to create an integrated outpatient network that helps patients maintain wellness and meet their care needs today and in the future. Our Vogel Medical Campus will leverage the latest medical space planning and technology advancements, making our world-class care more accessible to patients and their families.

The cornerstone of the initial phase of the Vogel Medical Campus will be a comprehensive cancer center in partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, the state's only National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. In this issue of Milestones, we spotlight the generous support of this project by the Tizzio family, who are deeply committed members of MMC's philanthropic community. When we open this state-of-the-art cancer center, we will unveil the Tizzio Community Infusion Bay, one of four spacious infusion bays able to comfortably treat up to 21 patients at a time.

We are so thankful for the Tizzio family's longstanding support and to our incredibly generous family of donors who are making our vision of the transformation of health care in Monmouth County a reality.

“We wish you well on your healthy living journey.”



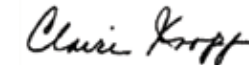
BILL ARNOLD
Executive Vice President RWJBarnabas Health
President RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region
President and CEO, Robert Wood Johnson
University Hospital



“Each of us plays an important role in this compassionate community.”

— CLAIRE KNOPF

As Chair of the Foundation Board, and Co-Chair of the Leon Hess Cancer Center Council, I am consistently impressed by the dedication of this community to helping others. It is my pleasure to work alongside so many volunteer leaders who each bring a unique set of skills and experience to our work. Whether inviting a friend to one of our events, sharing a story of a grateful patient, buying a car raffle ticket, or joining a committee to benefit a special population or service line at the hospital, each of us plays an important role in this compassionate community. As the hospital's caring nurses support their patients through tough times, the Foundation's volunteers and donors support Monmouth Medical Center. And here we are, after three particularly hard years, stronger than ever and looking ahead at a bright future full of possibility. I am so grateful for each of you. I look forward to seeing many of you this spring and summer at one of our events, including Power of Pink on July 20th.



CLAIRE KNOPF
Chair, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation
Board of Trustees

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

This year will be one for Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) history books. Together, we have come through an incredibly challenging period and are building towards a future that will keep our community healthy for years to come. Construction on the Vogel Medical Campus has begun, kicking off an exciting countdown to our expansion to Tinton Falls in spring, 2025. This historic expansion of services will impact every person who comes through the doors at MMC — whether at our Long Branch location or the Vogel Medical Campus. We are elevating MMC as a Top Teaching Hospital, a destination employer for top-tier talent, and the region's only facility designated as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program. The exciting year ahead has been made possible by the trust and extraordinary generosity of this community. We will have many opportunities to celebrate together over the upcoming event season. As you read more about the exciting opportunities to get involved, please do not hesitate to reach out.



CAITLIN OLSON
Regional Vice President of Development
for Monmouth Medical Center and
Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus

“The exciting year ahead has been made possible by the trust and extraordinary generosity of this community.”

— CAITLIN OLSON



Philanthropy of Family The Tizzios

For many years, the Tizio family have been generous members of Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) philanthropic community. Last year, they decided to deepen their commitment in alignment with their gratitude for the care their families have received at MMC.

In 2025, the first building to open and serve the community at the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls will be a five-story, 150,000 square foot facility. This facility will house a surgery center, comprehensive oncology services, advanced imaging, a state-of-the-art infusion center, a center for radiation services and space for education programming.

Therapeutic infusion care will support patients with a variety of needs from brief visits in community infusion bays to private spaces for those patients who may require more intensive symptom management or a short stay for specific protocols. The Tizio family's generous commitment will be recognized with a naming of The Tizio Community Infusion Bay, one of four spacious bays on the Infusion Floor able to comfortably serve up to 21 patients at a time.

The Tizio family's long-standing support for MMC has had an indelible impact on our ability to meet the changing needs of our community. Vincent Tizio, the CEO of Axis Capital, joined the Foundation Board as a Trustee in 2019. Victoria Tizio, after raising their blended family, is active in many charities, attending events in support of various causes from pediatrics to cancer. Their support for cancer services is especially important to them as their son is a childhood cancer survivor and received treatment and care at MMC, making them especially grateful for the compassionate care MMC is known for.

"This investment in our vision for comprehensive care is incredibly important to bringing world-class oncology care close to home. This improves health outcomes for every family we serve and builds stronger and more vibrant communities," said Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC.

The Tizzios are teaching their seven children about philanthropy. "Whatever the motivation, involving others in their giving can be a great way for families to amplify their impact and inspire others to support a cause that is meaningful to them," said Vincent. "It is a powerful way for families to make a positive impact on their community and support a cause that is close to their hearts," said Victoria.

The Tizzios are making a positive impact on our community by investing in healthcare and invite you to join them.

“Philanthropy is a powerful way for families to make a positive impact on their community and support a cause that is close to their hearts.”

— VICTORIA TIZZIO



Christopher, Abigail, Isabella, Julia, Noah, Liana and Olivia

OPPOSITE PAGE: Vincent and Victoria Tizio

The LiveWell Center's Green Market Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness

The expansive new Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness, which opened in 2022, is a critical component in Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) mission of ensuring our communities have the means and ability to live healthier, more fulfilling lives. Thanks to continued generosity from Sheldon Vogel, the new facility provides the region with convenient access to comprehensive women's services, pediatric specialty services, wellness education and nutrition resources, specialty surgical services, GI motility and reflux program, a blood drawing station and an Urgent Care Center.

The LiveWell Center, located in Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness, is a 5,600-square-foot space that provides programming to help community members prevent disease and live healthier lives through multiple pathways, at no cost to participants.

As one of the most pressing social determinants of health, it is imperative to address food insecurity and increase access to healthy food options. MMC and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus (MMCSC) Community Health Education and Social Impact & Community Investment launched the LiveWell Center's Green Market in August of 2022. The Green Market aims to keep the community healthy and strong, prevent chronic disease, and improve outcomes for individuals of all ages. In addition to the WForum Demonstration Kitchen, which focuses on helping people put good nutrition into practice, the Green Market increases the flow of fresh fruits and vegetables to the community at affordable prices. "Last year, we served 213 individuals across six markets and donated \$750 of remaining produce to food pantries in Long Branch and Asbury Park," said Jean McKinney, Regional Director, Community Health and Social Impact & Community Investment, MMC and MMCSC.

In addition to purchasing produce, the community can chat with Jennifer Klein, MS, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at the LiveWell Center, to learn how to prepare each week's produce in a healthy manner. Community members leave the Green Market with fresh local vegetables and fruit, as well as healthy recipes. The LiveWell Center aims to build the skills and capacity of residents to prepare nutritious meals at home.

The Green Market is open June 6 through September every Tuesday from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm at AVFCW 200 Wyckoff Road, Eatontown

“Not only are we able to increase access to fresh, affordable produce but also boost the community's capacity to prepare these items in a healthy manner through nutrition education at each Green Market.

— ABBY THOMPSON, MPH, Program Director of the LiveWell Center, Community Health and Social Impact & Community Investment, MMC and MMCSC



SCAN HERE TO FIND OUR
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
EVENTS CALENDARS



FROM LEFT: Abby Thompson, MPH, Program Director of the LiveWell Center, Community Health and Social Impact & Community Investment, MMC and MMCSC; Kenneth Granet, MD, Chief Medical Officer, MMC; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Jennifer Klein, MS, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, LiveWell Center/ Community Health; Jean McKinney, Regional Director, Community Health and Social Impact & Community Investment, MMC and MMCSC; Gina Lloyd, Administrative Coordinator, LiveWell Center/Community Health; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development for MMC and MMCSC

Create a healthy tomorrow by leaving a lasting legacy today.

Help ensure that the next generation has easy access to extraordinary health care by including Monmouth Medical Center in your estate plans. You can create your legacy today by including the medical center as a partial beneficiary of your will or retirement account. It's simple. It's impactful. It's lasting.

For more information, please contact Greg Ellmer at **973-322-4302** or Gregory.Ellmer@rwjbh.org. Information is also available online by visiting monmouthgiving.org

**Monmouth
Medical Center**

**RWJBarnabas
HEALTH**

Let's be healthy together.



Cranmer Legacy Society Create a Healthy Tomorrow Leave a Lasting Legacy

Leaving a legacy gift to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) can be a powerful way to make a lasting impact on the community and improve the lives of patients for generations to come. As Chair of the Cranmer Legacy Society at MMC, Karen Siciliano is on a mission to educate people about a matter that is near and dear to her heart: planned giving. "Don't leave your legacy to chance. Proper planning now can protect the projects and causes about which you are most passionate," says Karen, who also serves on the Advisory Board for the MMC Foundation.

The Cranmer Legacy Society was established in honor of Ella B. Cranmer, who left a significant gift to MMC in her will. Gifts of any amount can make a tremendous impact in the hospital's ability to provide exceptional care, fund critical research and invest in new technologies and facilities. "Notifying the Foundation of your intent to leave a gift enables you to work together with leadership identifying the best use of your donation. This will ensure that your gift is used in a way that is especially meaningful to your heart," said Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC.

MMC Foundation will be hosting an event to learn more about the Cranmer Legacy Society on Thursday, September 28, at the Anne Vogel Family Care & Wellness center in Eatontown. At this free event, there will be a live cooking demonstration in our LiveWell Center. This will be followed by a program where you will hear from hospital leadership and other professionals about the impact and benefits of planned giving. To register for this event, please contact Eileen.Dupey@rwjbh.org.

**Please consider creating a planned gift of your own for the hospital.
For more information, please call 973.322.4302 or
email Gregory.Ellmer@rwjbh.org or visit rwjbh.org/monmouthplanned**

“Do not leave your legacy to chance. Proper planning now can protect the projects and causes about which you are most passionate.

— KAREN SICILIANO,
Advisory Board, MMCF

“Dr. Tawfik takes his time, never rushes you and he’s a very caring person. He’s not pushy, lets you talk without interrupting and he listens the way all doctors should.

— KIM FESTEJO,
Grateful Patient



THE CARDIAC CATH LAB TEAM WITH Isaac Tawfik, MD, Chief of Cardiology and Medical Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab, MMC; Maureen Bowe, MSN, RN, Administrative Director of Cardiology Services, Renal & Nursing Resources, MMC

Cardiology Lifesaving Procedure

The procedure known as angioplasty, or percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), can save lives – and prevent devastating losses to families, according to Isaac Tawfik, MD, Chief of Cardiology and Medical Director of the Cardiac Catheterization (cath) Laboratory at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), and a member of RWJBarnabas Health Medical Group.

For decades, MMC has performed emergency angioplasties for patients experiencing the most critical type of heart attack. In 2021, 58-year-old Edwin Ribot of Long Branch was one of these patients who was rushed to the Emergency Department after collapsing on his neighbor’s lawn. Luckily, when Edwin was brought to MMC, he was stabilized and sent to the cath lab where he was treated by Dr. Tawfik, who calmly explained what was happening. Dr. Tawfik described the minimally invasive procedure used to open a blocked artery and deliver blood to the heart and to keep blood vessels open with an expandable stent. Today, a healthy Edwin hails, “Dr. Tawfik is the best! I never felt so scared in my life; but he was amazing as he talked me through everything he was doing and he really eased my nerves. Now every time I see Dr. Tawfik, I tell him how thankful I am and I always give him a big hug.”

In August 2022, MMC received approval from the New Jersey Department of Health to perform non-emergent angioplasty procedures on an elective basis during a cardiac catheterization. “This means that if patients who are less acute come to the hospital for, say, chest pain or an abnormal stress test or worrisome enzyme levels, we not only can do the catheterization to assess their arteries, but if we find blockages, we can fix them in the same procedure,” Dr. Tawfik says. “Previously, we would need to transfer a non-emergent patient to a different hospital authorized to do elective angioplasty. Essentially, the patient would need to have a second procedure to fix the problem we had identified.” Edwin believes that having the option to stay at MMC, with doctors known and trusted by patients, will save valuable time and lives like it did for him.

Kim Festejo, 54, of Long Branch, agrees completely. Shortly after a COVID-19 diagnosis in November 2022, Kim, an avid walker, recognized that something was not right as she began struggling just to walk across the street. Thankfully, she did not have a heart emergency, but she knew enough to schedule a visit to see her cardiologist, Dr. Tawfik. After hearing that she was having chest pains that radiated to her back, he determined that she should schedule an appointment at her cath lab. When testing revealed that Kim’s right coronary artery was blocked, she was able to receive her PCI procedure immediately. Within no time at all, Kim was back to walking her dog, playing with her grandchildren, and feeling great. She is truly appreciative of Dr. Tawfik. She said, “He takes his time, never rushes you and he’s a very caring person. He’s not pushy, lets you talk without interrupting, and he listens the way all doctors should.”

This approval is part of a system-wide initiative by RWJBarnabas Health following Governor Phil Murphy’s recent approval of legislation expanding access to elective angioplasties to increase access to a comprehensive range of essential cardiac care for residents throughout New Jersey.

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to monmouthgiving.org

“These recognitions are a testament to our staff’s unwavering commitment to our patients, our communities and each other.

— ERIC CARNEY, *President and CEO, MMC and MMCS*

Monmouth Medical Center Receives Prestigious Awards

In 2022, Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) was recognized by multiple organizations for the outstanding healthcare we provide to the community.

MMC is one of 34 U.S. hospitals to be honored by the Emergency Nurses Association with the Lantern Award, which recognizes emergency departments that demonstrate exceptional and innovative performance in leadership, practice, education, advocacy and research. Chief Nursing Officer, Darla Harmer, MSN, RN, NE-BC, noted that the Emergency Department’s patient satisfaction scores have been consistently high. “The Lantern Award serves as a visible symbol to our community that excellence is valued, and that exceptional care is provided in our Emergency Department,” she said.

MMC has been recognized by Healthgrades for excellence in women’s care, receiving the 2022 Obstetrics and Gynecology and Labor and Delivery Excellence Awards. For seven consecutive years, MMC has received these distinctions, ranking among the top 5% of hospitals evaluated. More than 6,000 babies are born at MMC annually, more than any other regional facility.

“The recognition from Healthgrades is representative of our deep commitment to providing superior care to women of all ages through a comprehensive range of women’s services,” said Suzanne Spernal, DNP, APN-BC, RNC-OB, C-ONQS, Vice President of Women’s Services, RWJBarnabas Health.

The digital platform Money recently announced its inaugural list of the Best Hospitals in America, with MMC among just 148 U.S. hospitals to be named. Among the criteria that weighed heavily in the Best Hospitals in America List selection process was a hospital’s infection rates, maternity care, pediatrics, medication management, hand hygiene practices, nursing workforce, and critical care. This recognition comes on the heels of MMC receiving its 15th consecutive Leapfrog Grade A rating in the spring.

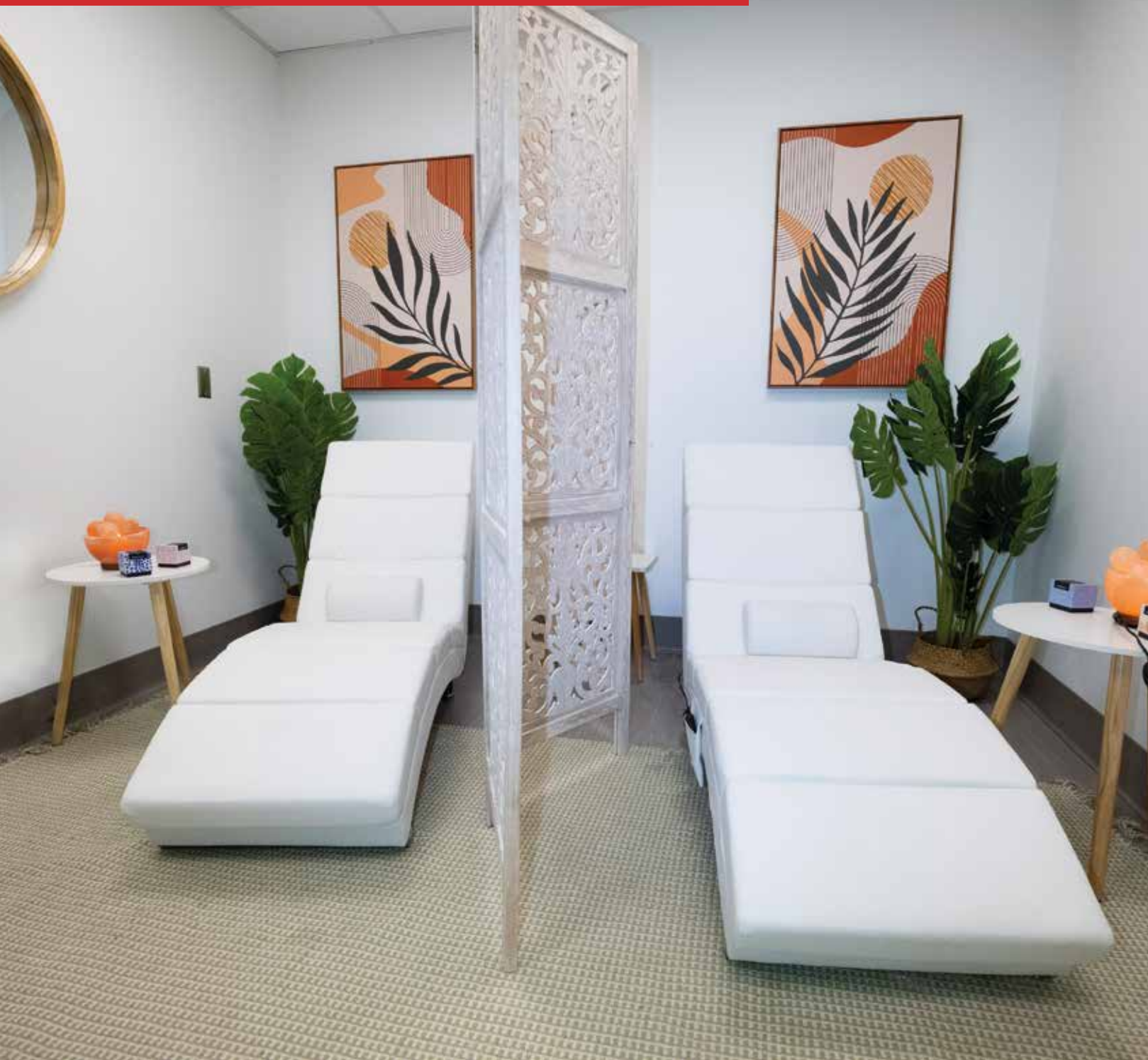
“Every member of our team is essential to achieving and sustaining these outstanding results,” said Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCS. “These recognitions are a testament to our staff’s unwavering commitment to our patients, our communities and each other. They truly make a difference to those we serve.”

In March 2023, MMC was named to Newsweek’s 2023 World’s Best Hospitals list. This is the second consecutive year that MMC has received this prestigious award presented by Newsweek and Statista Inc. The awards recognized the best medical institutions across 27 countries and names MMC one of 414 U.S. hospitals – and among seven New Jersey hospitals named. In announcing the 2023 list, Newsweek said that institutions on their list all share the quality of consistency – consistently attracting the best people, providing the best patient outcomes and implementing the most important new therapies and research.

OPPOSITE PAGE: TOP CAPTION: Hospital leadership including Eric Carney, *President and CEO, MMC and MMCS* and Darla Harmer, *Chief Nursing Officer, MMC*, gather with Emergency Department staff members.

OPPOSITE PAGE: BOTTOM CAPTION: Eric Carney, *President and CEO, MMC and MMCS* and Darla Harmer, *Chief Nursing Officer, MMC*, gather with hospital team members to celebrate the recognition by the digital platform Money as one of the Best Hospitals in America.





Rita's Room Massaging Chairs

Rita's Room Second Location Opens

In 2021, the Terracciano family graciously named the first relaxation room for Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) staff in honor of their mom, the late Rita Terracciano. Rita's Room opened in October of 2021 as a space for all MMC staff to decompress and achieve peace and solitude throughout the day.

The Terracciano's gift enabled MMC to support the well-being and mental health of our nurses, clinical team, and staff by creating a welcoming space that features two massage chairs, dimmable lights, and trickling water. It also includes a comfortable space for yoga, meditation, and reflection. Many who regularly visit the tranquil space have reported feeling more refreshed and less stressed after their time in the room. Since the opening in 2021, the room has been used on average of 500 times per month.

MMC staff have reported that Rita's Room has helped them feel more relaxed between and after their shifts, thereby enabling them to more effectively manage the demands of their job and provide better care for patients. Elisabeth Boone, RN, an operating room nurse at MMC said, "It's a wonderful place where you can get away from everything and decompress if you're having a tough day."

Thanks to the continued generosity of the Terracciano family, Rita's Room now has a second location at MMC. This new space has the same goal: to allow staff to take time to breathe, relax, reflect, receive a chair massage and practice self-care.

"I love to encourage staff to use Rita's Room," says Jessica D'Erasmus, RN, Assistant Clinical Director, Operating Room at MMC. She recalls an instance when a new nurse had experienced a stressful situation said, "We had someone take her to Rita's Room. She enjoyed the massage chair and came back to the unit feeling recharged. The room allows you to leave your work at work and not take it home with you. It's a true gift that we really appreciate."

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to monmouthgiving.org

“It's a wonderful place where you can get away from everything and decompress if you're having a tough day.”

— ELISABETH BOONE, RN

Honoring Eddie's Journey A Special 'Living Room' for Teenagers

In August of 2009, a family foundation created in memory of a young man who lost a seven-year battle with pediatric cancer cut the ribbon dedicating their first teen "Living Room" at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). In June 2022, family members with the Ezra Abraham To Life Foundation returned to MMC to tour the space named for their beloved Ezra, known as Eddie, and see the recently completed renovations and upgrades funded through the foundation.

Shortly after being diagnosed with cancer at the age of 16, Eddie originated the To Life Foundation by selling green rubber bracelets around his hometown, an act that served as a catalyst for what was to come. On October 13, 2005, following his seven-year battle with Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of cancer, Eddie passed on, yet his legacy did not.

"This all started with Eddie's journey," said his father Irwin. "As a brave teen cancer patient, he faced his fears and transcended his illness by thinking of ways to help other teens with cancer. By embracing the philosophy of living every day to its fullest, he truly embodied every meaning of the word 'life' and inspired everyone who met him."

At MMC, the goal of the Ezra Abraham To Life Foundation Living Room, which is located adjacent to the traditional playroom but separated by a folding screen for privacy, is to provide a room that for teens, is like being at home. It was designed as an inviting living room with computers, video games, televisions, WI-FI access, and a cozy reading nook.

“Kids still need to be kids, even when they're sick. These spaces let them be kids. We are very grateful to the Ezra Abraham To Life Foundation for this amazing space and their continuing support.”

— JONATHAN TEITELBAUM, MD,
Chair, Department of Pediatrics,
The Unterberg Children's Hospital,
MMC

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to monmouthgiving.org



GATHERING IN THE EZRA ABRAHAM TO LIFE FOUNDATION LIVING ROOM:

STANDING FROM LEFT: Eileen Dupey, Development Manager, MMCF; Kristin Kuhl, Child Life Specialist MMC; Margi Bijou, Jacob Bijou, Michael Schwecky, and Irwin Abraham, The Ezra Abraham To Life Foundation; Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC

SEATED FROM LEFT: Debra Petersen, Director of Patient Care for Inpatient Pediatrics MMC; Cheryl Solon, Assistant Vice President Development, MMCF; and Margi's husband, Albert Bijou.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Guiliana Tamaso



Fireflies Council for Behavioral Health Cultivation Event

On November 16, 2022, John and Mary Kiely opened their home in Rumson to host a cultivation event for guests to learn more about Behavioral Health Services at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC).

The guests heard from featured speakers Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC; Marli Gelfand, AVP, Behavioral Health at MMC; and Donna Martini, Early Intervention Support Services (EISS) Director who explained the range of behavioral health services at MMC including inpatient services and the unique outpatient services available at the EISS center in Neptune.

The EISS program provides up to 30 days of outpatient treatments to those experiencing mental health issues that are severe enough for putting them at risk of needing hospital services. EISS staff work with individuals to help them avoid the use of emergency room crisis units. Within 24 hours of referral, the patient meets with a therapist and within 48 hours, an advanced practice nurse for medication evaluation. Most often, this prompt care will avoid hospitalization.

The EISS program was initially designed to treat adults. Because the need is so great, the program will now treat adolescents. At the event, Donna Martini talked about the importance of the environment of the EISS program, notably the creation of a "Living Room Model." The waiting area will be designed as a comfortable, warm living room. Studies have shown patients who visit these types of spaces have better outcomes than those who visit the emergency room. This event helped to kick off fundraising for the Living Room. Those who support this space will have the opportunity to add to the Wall of Hope that will be featured in the Living Room to inspire patients with words of hope and quotes to encourage them as they receive their treatment.

Guests listened as Lilly Thygeson, a grateful patient, shared her moving personal story with the group. She noted her positive experience with MMC. "Early Intervention Support Services (EISS) offered me a form of compassion and care that no other healthcare provider was able to offer me in my time of need. Providers at this group normalized the mental health struggles I was going through, which made the whole process of seeking medical and mental health help less daunting."

The Fireflies Council, chaired by Dr. Carolyn DeForte, has been raising awareness and funds for Behavioral Health Services at MMC for over five years.

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to monmouthgiving.org

“Early Intervention Support Services (EISS) offered me a form of compassion and care that no other healthcare provider was able to offer me in my time of need.”

— LILLY THYGESON,
Grateful Patient



OPPOSITE PAGE: 1. Marli Gelfand, M.A., L.P., A.C.S., Assistant Vice President, Behavioral Health Services, MMC; Lilly Thygeson, Grateful Patient and Junior Firefly; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Donna Martini, LCSW, EISS Program Director; 2. John and Mary Kiely, Hosts; 3. Gloria and Len Nilson with host Mary Kiely; 4. Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development for MMC and MMCSC; Carolyn DeForte, MD, Fireflies Chair and MMCF Trustee; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC

THE LEON HESS CANCER CENTER COUNCIL

PRESENTS

THE 28th ANNUAL
POWER
of pink

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

11:00 AM Registration, Boutique Shopping and Raffle Tickets

12:00 PM Luncheon Begins

3:00 PM Boutique Shopping Closes

The Home of Amy and Daniel Reich
41 Oakes Road
Rumson, New Jersey

www.rwjbh.org/POP

R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023

Availability limited ■ Prompt response recommended ■ Parking shuttles

Attire: A touch of pink or lavender for cancer awareness

Invitation generously underwritten by Faith and Warren Diamond

The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council



Stephanie March
Actor, Producer, Activist, Entrepreneur
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Stephanie March is an actor, producer, activist, and entrepreneur, best known for her role as ADA Alex Cabot on the hit TV series, Law & Order SVU. In her capacity as a global activist, Ms. March advocates for women and girls with a focus on reproductive rights, access to education, securing freedom from sexual violence, and just legal representation. Ms. March is currently on the board of the Panzi Foundation, OneKid OneWorld, and has served on the boards of Planned Parenthood Global and World of Children. She is the co-founder of the bespoke beauty brand, SHESPOKE, and an investor in the restaurant SONA, as well as the legendary NYC watering hole, Temple Bar.

In addition to her various television and stage roles, Ms. March will be starring in the upcoming action thriller, Shelter, based on the novel by bestselling author Harlan Coben. In 2019, she made her debut as an executive producer, as well as cast member, in the social media mockumentary, The Social Ones. Ms. March currently sits on the board of The Gotham Film & Media Institute and is a member of the Board of Advisors for Northwestern University's School of Communication. She resides in New York City with her husband, Dan Benton, and her Maine Coon, Taco Cat.



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Drawing to be held at Monmouth Medical Center

WEDNESDAY DEC. 13

2023



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RUTGERS
Cancer Institute
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The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council
cordially invites ladies to the

Swing PINK

A WOMEN'S LUNCHEON & SPORTING EVENT
TENNIS | PADDLE | PICKLE | GOLF

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

NAVESINK COUNTRY CLUB

Availability Limited—Prompt Response Recommended—Valet Parking

TO REGISTER FOR SWING PINK VISIT

WWW.RWJBH.ORG/SWINGPINK

The Unterberg Children's Hospital Toast to Children's Health 2022



FROM LEFT: Molly Kroon, Toast Co-Chair; Meg Fisher, MD, Medical Director of Clinical and Academic Excellence MMC and RWJBH; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC; Meghan Del Priore, Toast Co-Chair, MMCF Trustee; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC

In 2022, A Toast to Children's Health event relaunched with a whole new look. Some might remember attending the last Toast event in 2019 at the Rumson Country Club. The event has since experienced a complete refresh and was held at the chic, yet rustic, Triumph Brewing Company in Red Bank, NJ.

On November 3, over 100 community members, leaders, and Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) physicians gathered to celebrate and honor MMC's immediate past chair of Pediatrics, Dr. Meg Fisher, who serves as Special Advisor to the New Jersey Commissioner of Health and Medical Director of Clinical & Academic Excellence at MMC. Throughout her 20 year career at MMC, Dr. Fisher was a true friend and trusted advisor to the hospital and medical staff, as well as the community and played a key role as Special Advisor to the New Jersey Commissioner of Health during the COVID-19 pandemic. For these reasons, and many more, we wanted to shine the spotlight on this accomplished physician.

Proceeds from the night benefitted the programs and services for Pediatrics, NICU and Mother/Baby units at The Unterberg Children's Hospital at MMC.

For more information on the 2023 event, contact Madison Lopez at 732.923.6884 or email Madison.Lopez@rwjbh.org

“A healthy community starts with the health of our children, and I want to thank the Children's Hospital Leadership Council and event chair Meghan Del Priore for all of their hard work on behalf of The Unterberg Children's Hospital.

— ERIC CARNEY,
President and CEO,
MMC and MMCSC

Hovnanian Regional Newborn Center Big Steps for Little Feet 2022

October 16, 2022 marked a special Big Steps event, as this was the first time the Big Steps committee gathered for a fun fall festival since the COVID-19 pandemic. Little feet pounded the boardwalk as over 300 participants walked to raise funds for the Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation Regional Newborn Center at The Unterberg Children's Hospital at MMC. For over a decade, this walk continues to help MMC provide the best care to our NICU infants.

FROM LEFT: Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC; Lisa Stark, Big Steps Committee; Bonny Adler, Director of Patient Care, NICU nurse, MMC; Meera Kale, MD, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Pediatrics Medical Group



Meg Fisher, MD, Medical Director of Clinical and Academic Excellence MMC and RWJBH, leads the Big Steps walk

For more information on the 2023 event, contact Madison Lopez at 732.923.6884 or email Madison.Lopez@rwjbh.org

The Unterberg Children's Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center

IN-
KIND

The Gift of Play In-Kind Gifts

The 2022 holiday season was filled with generosity and thoughtfulness for our young pediatric patients. The Unterberg Children's Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) was the grateful recipient of over 30 deliveries of thousands of toys from local police departments, clubs and organizations, schools, senior living communities and countless individuals who wanted to bring smiles to all the hospitalized children over the holidays. Many people donated gift cards as well. These are especially helpful for the older teens who may not want toys, but still appreciate a gift.

Kristin Kuhi, Child Life Specialist said, "Being able to provide these toys to our patients helps to lower anxiety and provides a cheerful distraction for the families being treated at MMC. All of the toys were eagerly received and put huge smiles on everyone's faces."

Many of the toy drives were organized by incredible people who support MMC every year. There are numerous dedicated groups and individuals that pride themselves on giving back to their community, and we are extremely grateful to them. Some donations were from families who had received gifts when their child was in the hospital, either in years past or just this year, and they were so happy to pay it forward.

Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC was often present to personally greet and thank the donors. He reflected, "With every winter season comes an increase in hospitalizations for children due to respiratory viruses. This year was particularly hard as we experienced a triple threat from RSV, COVID-19, and influenza. However, as we have come to expect these illnesses, we have also been grateful for the yearly outpouring of support we receive from the local Monmouth and Ocean county residents during the holiday season. As the cold wind rushes through our front door, it is always accompanied by smiling volunteers and generous donations of toys for the hospitalized children. These gifts help to warm the hearts of our staff and patients and staff!"

“Being able to provide these toys to our patients helps to lower anxiety and provides a cheerful distraction for the families being treated at MMC.

— KRISTIN KUHI,
Child Life Specialist, MMC

If you would like information about how to support the in-kind giving efforts at MMC, please contact Eileen.Dupey@rwjbh.org

OPPOSITE PAGE: 1_ FROM LEFT: Robert Zanni, MD, Director of Pediatric Pulmonology and Cystic Fibrosis Center; Jossalyn Kuhi, Santa and Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC; 2_ Members of the Manalapan Police Department; 3_ Rabbi Shmaya Galperin of Chabad Jewish Center of Holmdel; 4_ FROM LEFT: Lisa Serafin, Valentina Serafin, Angela Scuzorzo Kylee Scuzorzo of Brownie Troop 60549; and Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics, The Unterberg Children's Hospital, MMC; 5_ Members of the Tinton Falls Police Department; 6_ Members of the Jersey Shore Harley Owners Group (HOG) and Blue Knights New Jersey XV annual holiday toy run



DID YOU KNOW?

2022 EMPLOYEE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND supported **24 employees** and their families with over **\$38,000** in times of crisis



2022 EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN

MMC received over **75 applications** submitted for the Employee Scholarship program

MMC awarded **42 scholarships** to employees and their families for **\$76,000**

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

The MMC Team Stronger Together

Every year, Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) associates show tremendous pride and generosity toward their fellow colleagues through the Employee Campaign. This program offers employees the chance to give back to one another by contributing voluntary donations for employee-related needs and assistance. All donations to the annual campaign are reserved specifically for our Employee Emergency Assistance Fund and Employee Scholarship Fund.

The Foundation recently received two significant donations outside the Employee Campaign designated for the 2023 Employee Scholarships Fund. These gifts were generously given by long-time donors, The Shaheen Family & Builders' General Supply and Dr. Anil Sharma. Their donations will greatly impact MMC's efforts to help to decrease the financial burden of education on our MMC families.

The Foundation is grateful for the hard work and efforts of our employees. They continue to show up and support one another through a campaign that lends a helping hand to colleagues in need.

“If it weren't for the MMCF scholarship program, I may not have been so lucky to be where I am today. Now, I get to work at the Foundation helping others to receive the same assistance I received to further my education and turn my dreams into real achievements and success.

— CARA ZIMMERMANN,
Development Associate, MMCF

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to monmouthgiving.org

OPPOSITE PAGE: MMC Employees gather together

2023

FOUNDATION SPECIAL EVENTS

JUNE

Golf Tournament

Thursday • June 15

11:00 AM

Hollywood Golf Club

Fundraising to support MMC

Rain date: TBD

JULY

Power of Pink

Thursday • July 20

11:00 AM

Tented luncheon event

at a private home

Fundraising to support

cancer services

SEPTEMBER

Swing Pink

Monday • September 18

8:00 AM

Navesink Country Club

Women's Golf, Tennis, Pickle

and Paddle Fundraising

to support cancer services

OCTOBER

Big Steps for Little Feet

Sunday • October 15

11:00 AM

Beach Front North,

Long Branch

Fundraising walk and

celebration to support

the MMC NICU

NOVEMBER

Toast to Children's Health

Thursday • November 2

6:00 PM

Triumph Brewery, Red Bank

Fundraising event to support

The Unterberg Children's Hospital

Monmouth Medical Center | RWJBarnabas
HEALTH

Foundation

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WATCH WHY PEOPLE ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT POP 2022!