Today’s Generation of Philanthropy
Jack Haddad
Making an IMPACT
FEATURE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6
Message from the President and CEO

Eric Carney

As we head into the holiday season and the approach of the New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our most recent achievements at Monmouth Medical Center.

The shared commitment to excellence shown by Monmouth’s employees, physicians and trustees has enabled us to continue to achieve great things in 2019, including most recently our 10th consecutive “A” Hospital Safety Score by The Leapfrog Group, the nation’s leading experts on patient safety. And this past summer, MMC claimed a top-10 spot among all New Jersey hospitals in the U.S. News & World Report rankings for 2019-20. The report specifically recognizes MMC’s heart failure and COPD specialists for earning the top honors as “high performers compared to more than 4,600 healthcare facilities across the nation.

In September, the Leon Hess Cancer Center achieved another three-year accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS CoC) with commendations on several standards. It is the only facility in the region designated as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program by ACoS CoC, and through our partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, we’re increasing access to the latest advances in cancer research.

Also through our partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute, MMC recently welcomed a physician with exceptional surgical expertise to help assure our patients have access to the most advanced treatment options, including complex surgical techniques. H. Richard Alexander, Jr, MD, FACS, Chief Surgical Officer at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, has been appointed Regional Director of Surgery for MMC. Dr. Alexander is leading our newly developed Center for Hepatobiliary and Gastrointestinal Surgical Oncology, which represents a collaboration between Rutgers Cancer Institute and MMC.

Our minimally invasive robotic surgery program offers the most experienced surgeons and teams utilizing the most advanced robotic systems available. Most recently, MMC became the second in NJ to introduce an advanced robotic surgical system with technology designed for deep and narrow access through a single, small incision. Additionally, our Joint Commission-Accredited Joint and Spine Center, which was the first in the region to introduce minimally invasive robotic-assisted knee and hip replacement surgery, is now offering a revolutionary robotic GPS navigation platform designed for the most accurate trajectory alignment in spine surgery.

As we achieve these advances in technology and top national healthcare accreditations, our focus remains as always on the safety and quality of our care. Each and every one of us at MMC plays a crucial role in our goal of zero events of preventable harm to our patients and staff and embraces this culture of safety through our ongoing dedication to our “Safety Together” journey.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season. As we reflect on what we are thankful for, I want you to know that I couldn’t be more thankful to our generous family of supporters and their shared commitment to Monmouth Medical Center.

Eric Carney
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER
AND
THE UNTERBERG CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Mission

As an RWJBarnabas Health facility, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation is a leader in identifying, cultivating and soliciting charitable gifts in support of Monmouth Medical Center’s mission to deliver quality-driven, efficient and responsive healthcare services to the community.

Vision

Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to supporting Monmouth Medical Center and its programs and services, has a fivefold mission:

1. To develop and implement foundation programs that provide charitable financial support to MMC
2. To demonstrate to the public at large how philanthropy benefits donors, patients and the community served by MMC
3. 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
4. To serve responsibly as the steward of contributed funds to MMC
5. To develop candidates for leadership positions for MMCF and MMC
Dear Friends,

As we close out this year and look forward to 2020, we want to take a glance back and proudly share the medical advancements and accomplishments philanthropy has brought Monmouth Medical Center. Our success and impact is a direct result of the incredible generosity of our donors, trustees and community.

In this edition of Milestones, the stories that are told incorporate personal values, overcoming struggles and celebrating medical milestones. At the heart of these stories, are families and our neighbors forging forward and through the power of philanthropy making an impact.

Jack Haddad, who at only 16 years old is an entrepreneur who envisioned a fundraiser and the potential impact it could have on cancer care. His vision and fortitude has now directly made the difference in many of our oncology patients and their families.

In the pages ahead you will see that we hosted many events and community conversations shedding light on the programs and clinical outcomes Monmouth Medical Center has been nationally recognized for. Over $1 million was raised this year through many of these events and have been directly put back into the equipment needs and expansion of programs. As we look forward, we will continue to build a framework to monitor our success as we set the course and map out the strategic priorities driving the most impact felt by every patient we touch.

All of our success is made possible by your commitment, so as you read forward please know that we are grateful our impact in 2019 was made possible by many who believe, everything is possible!

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

Message from the Foundation Leadership

Claire Knopf
BOARD CHAIR
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

Tara Kelly
VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

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 www.monmouthgiving.org
Today’s Generation of Philanthropy
Jack Haddad: Making an IMPACT
Clothing for Cancer Research (CFC)

A number of relatives and friends from our community have faced the unfortunate challenge of battling cancer. Some have survived, some have not. In supporting them, I recognized that a lot of the messaging around the cancer battle can be aggressive or negative: “Beat Cancer,” “Kick Cancer” or “Be a Warrior,” among others. However, in talking to those actually dealing with the disease, they have told me that surviving cancer is not about a “fight.” It’s about endurance and it’s really about getting back up, again and again. Furthermore, the aggressive energy around cancer can actually make it more difficult for patients to cope. In hearing these thoughts multiple times, I wondered what a more positive messaging campaign might look like and how it might be received. Thus, as my first shot in pursuing a personal dream at running my own retail company — I created “Clothing for Cancer” (CFC) to test the entrepreneurial waters and support a great cause while doing so.

Over the last year, I developed the branding, logo, and product concepts for CFC, and hosted a fund-raiser this past August. The fund-raiser was a basketball tournament, hosted by the Deal Sephardic Network (DSN) Beach Club, to kick off the organization and our campaign. I designed and manufactured T-shirts for six teams, each with different positive slogans as its name and a cool design. For example, two teams were “Never, Never, Never Give Up” and “You’re Not Alone.” The event raised $2,500.

A couple of weeks before the fund-raiser, I hurt my back and went to Monmouth Medical for treatment. While there, I met Robin Embrey, Director of Donor Relations at Monmouth Medical Foundation, and told her about my plans for the summer and the fund-raiser. The first thing she said was, “Where are you donating the money to?” When I told her my plans to donate to a national Cancer Research Institute, Robin explained to me that the money may not stay in our local community. She then explained that if I donated to a local cancer facility, the money would stay local. This sounded like a better plan, as the donation would help more people close to me and have a more meaningful impact on our community. I donated the funds to the Cheryl L. Diamond Cancer Care Pavilion at Monmouth Medical Center.

After the donation I was invited to Monmouth Medical Center for a check ceremony. Holding up the giant check like the ones you see in the movies felt surreal! The gratitude and appreciation offered by the Monmouth Medical team moved me, and provided a glimpse into the rewards of philanthropy. Overall, my experience with Monmouth Medical has been nothing short of amazing. As I continue to sell apparel, I will, without a doubt, donate the money to Monmouth Medical Center.

My plan this year is to sell shirts that coincide with the Calendar of Cancer Awareness Months. I hope to partner with other local non-profits to sell their designs to help broaden CFC’s audience, attract more interest, raise more funds, and spread awareness of other like-minded community organizations.

In sending a softer, more positive message about cancer, one more rooted in the actual experience, I hope that our products ring truer with those we want to support, and help change the rhetoric and energy around cancer survivorship.

— Thank you! Jack Haddad
That day was July 31st and was the first time Kelly had ever been to that particular imaging center. So, on August 9th when she was advised that she did have breast cancer, her world was flipped upside down. Kelly says, “Unfortunately, I am all too familiar with cancer. My mom had breast cancer at 45. I lost my dad’s mom to cancer. I lost my mom’s mom to cancer. And I lost my 10-year-old daughter, Mya, to Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and Secondary Acute Myeloid Leukemia in April of 2013.”

In addition to disbelief and anger, Kelly’s concern was primarily for her son, Michael. How was she going to tell her son, that she too had cancer? How could she protect him, by aggressively pursuing the best treatment to ensure all would be “ok”? “I immediately canvassed my trusted world of family and friends. And despite the diverse background of this network, three names kept rising to the top — Dr. Manpreet Kohli, Dr. Gregory Greco and Dr. Seth Cohen, too many times to count,” Kelly said. After initial consults with each, she felt a second opinion would be unwarranted and went with the team at Monmouth Medical Center.

Dr. Kohli said, “There is no ‘cookie cutter’ to how we treat cancer. We know each patient is different, and so is each cancer. Kelly’s history and life experiences weighed into her treatment decisions just as much as the particulars about her type of cancer. She selected a treatment strategy that allowed her to feel like she was taking charge of the situation and being as proactive as possible so she was not just another family member lost to cancer. With Kelly being a young woman, it is important to us that we are not only preserving the many years ahead for her, but also making them quality years. I look forward to celebrating many milestones of survivorship with her throughout the years to come.”

Kelly is now post double mastectomy. She has started the final phases of reconstruction and is embarking on her preventive chemotherapy protocol. Kelly says, “I can state without hesitation, that I chose the proper team. The doctors have three distinct personalities and are three stellar physicians. They are also three humans that I know will get me through this and will ensure that this will be nothing more than a distant memory. I am grateful.”

"You can imagine how unnerving it was when I was given the initial words — We have found something. It was not evident in your prior studies. We are sending you for additional testing.”

— Kelly Terry

Grateful Patient
Kelly Terry

"We are truly able to get the best outcomes because of the tightknit team we are and our multidisciplinary approach."

— Dr. Seth Cohen

To make a gift to the Grateful Patient Program, visit monmouthgiving.org
The Power of Thank You

Grateful Patient
Kelly Thomas

Kelly Thomas was 33 years old when a doctor told her those three words you hope you never have to hear. "I had carefully planned for everything in my life; I was happily married, I was excelling in my career, and being diagnosed with breast cancer was never part of my plan," Kelly said. It had been a normal Sunday morning for Kelly when she sat on her couch and folded her arms and found a large lump on her left breast. From the moment she felt that lump she immediately knew it was cancer.

She went for her mammogram appointment, where it was discovered she had more than one lump, in fact she had five lumps. "I had gone to the appointment and had been feeling optimistic that since there is no family history of breast cancer in my family and if anything, we potentially caught this in its early stages. I was wrong," Kelly said. The cancer migrated from the breast to her lymph nodes and she was diagnosed with a rare, aggressive breast cancer called Triple Negative. They staged her at 3C and the doctors caught it right before it could become metastatic.

Kelly has undergone 16 aggressive chemotherapies, a double mastectomy, 28 rounds of radiation and breast reconstruction under the care of Seth Cohen, MD, Regional Medical Director of Oncology Clinical Research of Monmouth Medical Center.

Kelly says, "Going through six months of aggressive chemotherapy was hard but Dr. Cohen made it fun. He would always greet you with a big smile and a joke. I never wanted to go to the hospital, but thanks to Dr. Cohen, I looked forward to each infusion."

Upon receiving her toxicology report from her mastectomy, her breast surgeon discovered that there was more cancer, but this time it was estrogen positive breast cancer. She then went on to complete six additional months of oral chemotherapy.

"I am happy to report that I am now a Monmouth Medical Center success story with a health update of having no evidence of disease! The care I received at Monmouth Medical Center by Dr. Seth Cohen and my breast surgeon, Dr. Suny Chang was second to none. At no point was there any doubt that we wouldn’t get a handle on this fight. I am thankful for my entire oncology team (Cohen, Chang, D’Ambrosio, Ashinoff) for not just treating my cancer, but treating me as a whole. I would not be alive today if it weren’t for the determination and compassion of my cancer care here at Monmouth Medical Center," Kelly said.

To make a gift to the Grateful Patient Program, visit monmouthgiving.org
Thank You to Our Sponsors

For the first time in 29 years, golfers were unable to compete at Monmouth Medical Center Foundation’s Annual Invitational Golf Classic & Tennis Tournament due to stormy weather. Tennis players were still able to hit the courts and the entire event was a success, raising over $200,000. The Foundation would like to send a big thank you to our sponsors for their support that strengthens Monmouth Medical Center’s advances in facility innovations, medical services and patient care. We look forward to returning to the links for our 30th year.
The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council presented the 24th Annual “Power of Pink” Luncheon on July 18 at a private residence located in Rumson, NJ. This year’s event featured renowned make-up artist Bobbi Brown as the guest speaker. In addition, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation proudly announced Louis Zinterhofer, MD, Chairman of Pathology at Monmouth Medical Center, 1989-2018, Pathology Residency Program Director, as the 2019 honoree. A sold out audience of 400 people attended the luncheon in which guests participated in a shopping boutique, jewelry raffle, and silent auction.

The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council unites The Women’s Council for the Leon Hess Cancer Center and the Women of Wilentz for the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Comprehensive Breast Center. Together, these dedicated volunteers have raised more than SIX MILLION DOLLARS to benefit The Leon Hess Cancer Center at Monmouth Medical Center, the region’s only facility designated as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program by the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer. This year’s proceeds will go towards the Deep Inhalation Breathing Hold equipment. This is a technique designed for a specific radiation patient population, which will dramatically prevent radiation induced abnormalities of blood flow to the heart, allowing MMC to remain a leader in breast cancer treatment in our region.
The Fifth Annual WhatSUP Paddle Race was held on July 27, at Victory Park in Rumson, NJ. This year’s race had over 100 paddlers that came out to support the Unterberg Children’s Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center, raising over $80,000. These funds raised from the WhatSUP event will go toward the creation of an innovative new pediatric waiting room as well as the addition of a pediatric triage area at The Thomas and Ann Unterberg Pediatric Emergency Department at Monmouth Medical Center. Monmouth Medical Center is looking forward to inviting all longtime supporters of WhatSUP to the opening in 2020.

As our community keeps its promise to raise a generation of healthy and strong children, The Unterberg Children’s Hospital will be here to treat the more than 22,000 young patients who will visit the hospital this year alone, and will continue to proudly serve as a state-designated children’s hospital for Monmouth and Ocean counties.
Big Steps for Little Feet
13th Annual Walk

The 13th Annual Big Steps for Little Feet Walk took place on September 15, along the boardwalk at the Great Lawn North in Long Branch, NJ with over 500 people in attendance. The event featured family-friendly entertainment and activities for children.

This year Monmouth Medical Center honored the Gordon Family, whose son “Yingle” was born 12 weeks early, and the Gianguzzi Family whose son James was born 10 weeks early. Thanks to the wonderful staff at Monmouth Medical Center, both boys have flourished.

Over the past 13 years, $800,000 in funds raised have been used to purchase neonatal state-of-the art Giraffe warmer beds / isolettes, a state-of-the-art neonatal transport isollette for babies coming in or leaving the NICU, an Angel Eyes Camera System to allow families to view their babies in the MMC NICU from outside of the hospital, and an advanced shuttle transport system to keep fragile premature babies safe and comfortable in their isolettes while moving them to and from the NICU in our hospital.

This year’s funds will continue to generously support Monmouth Medical Center’s Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation Regional Newborn Center at The Unterberg Children’s Hospital.
The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council hosted the Fifth Annual Swing Pink event on September 23, at the Navesink Country Club. Guests enjoyed a morning of golf, tennis, paddle and pickleball, followed by a luncheon with guest speaker and grateful patient Kelly Thomas. Kelly captured the room with her story as a breast cancer survivor. Proceeds from this year’s event go towards the purchase of the Hologic Selenia 2D Mammography unit, which provides patients with low-dose digital exposure and excellent image quality. The Swing Pink Committee continues to raise awareness for programs and state of the art equipment for patients diagnosed with breast cancer.
The Valerie Fund Children’s Center’s 9th Annual Yumi Sushi Celebration

The Valerie Fund Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at The Unterberg Children’s Hospital hosted their Ninth Annual Sushi night at Yumi restaurant in Sea Bright, NJ. The event was made possible thanks to the generosity of Carol Stillwell and Bowie and Shaun of Yumi. Proceeds from this successful fundraiser that raised over $50,000 to support The Valerie Fund Children’s Center’s pediatric Palliative Care.

PICTURED ABOVE: Susan Dulczak, Director of The Valerie Center, Pediatric Medical Day Stay, and Bowie and Shaun of Yumi

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Speaker Barbara Keith, Founder of Joan’s Reach; Maria Graminski, The Valerie Center

Yumi Sponsors
Carol Stillwell
Laura Sperber
John Dulczak
Peter and Karen Efros
Ryan Keating
Valley Distributors Inc.

PICTURED BELOW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Beth Rooney, of Plantation Shutters; Lynn and Steve Bidgood of Salt Creek Grille and Carol Stillwell, owner of Stillwell Hanson
Our Impact

The Fireflies Council for Behavioral Health

Together with Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, The Fireflies Council formed in 2018 to end the stigma that surrounds behavioral health and to help to continue to raise funds for the inpatient behavioral health unit at Monmouth Medical Center. “The Fireflies are working to change the attitude towards mental health and light the pathway to mental wellness,” Carolyn Deforte, Fireflies Council Chair and MMCF Board Member said.

The Fireflies Council puts forward an incredible effort to work with community and hospital leaders to let those in need know of the resources available at MMC. Their current project to renovate, redefine and redesign Behavioral Health at MMC will be ongoing and create a brand new environment for patients at Monmouth.

The entire look and feel of Behavioral Health will be transformed to create a more comfortable welcoming space, “breaking the stigma” for families who are visiting their loved ones, as well as the common areas that patients use. New paint, floors and furniture will adorn the units and the main lobby will feature a glass Wall of Inspiration to encourage families that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and they can be inspired by those who have been there before.

The outdoor space that is used for behavioral health patients will be enclosed in ivy, and the garden will feature beautiful flowers and plants to give patients a breath of fresh air and quiet reflection throughout the day. Patients will be able to enjoy the outdoors and the natural daylight will provide a sense of serenity and provide a safe haven for recovery.

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

At Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), our behavioral health services provide comprehensive mental health programs for children, adolescents and adults diagnosed with psychiatric and dual disorders. Inpatient care at behavioral health at MMC offers the only programs for psychiatric services in Monmouth and Ocean counties and include:

- Psychiatric Emergency Screening Services
- Early Intervention Support Services
- Short Term Care
- Children’s Crisis Intervention Services

The current project of The Fireflies Council is to create a new environment for patients at Monmouth Medical Center
Our Impact

Thank You to The Haddad Family Tree of Life

The Haddad Family opened up their home to the Sephardic community and Monmouth Medical Center this past August, to renew their commitment to the hospital.

The connection that the Sephardic community has to Monmouth Medical Center is very strong. At the event, many members of the community spoke about the care that their families have received and how grateful they are that they have exceptional care close to home. Dr. Mark Russo, MD, MS, Chief of the Division of Cardiac Surgery at RWJBarnabas Health & Dr. Ben Terraney, MD both spoke about the talented network of providers available in our system to our community.

This event raised over $440,000 to support the Tree of Life located in the main lobby of Monmouth Medical Center. This partnership with the Sephardic community honors their generosity and commitment to achieving clinical excellence through the power of philanthropy.

We hope you will join those who support MMC, by considering adding your name to the Sephardic Community Tree of Life. You may donate online at www.rwjbh.org/MMCTreeofLife

“I am happy to be part of this special event showing our community’s appreciation and how important it is to be connected to Monmouth Medical Center.”
— Sam Haddad
2019 Employee Scholarship Program

presented by the Monmouth Medical Center Foundation

Every year at Monmouth Medical Center employees participate in the Employee Campaign. Funds from the campaign assist employees and their families with patient comfort, emergency assistance and scholarships. Each year the Monmouth Medical Center Foundation is happy to award scholarships to the hospital’s very own employees so that they may use the monies for tuition, fees, and required course-related materials.

Our Impact

“I was delighted to learn that I was selected for a scholarship earlier this year by the MMC Foundation. I thoroughly appreciate how generously the Foundation supports the educational endeavors of the employees here at the hospital. Choosing to go back to school as a working single parent was a big undertaking for me. I’m thankful for the gift I received this summer and I’m very proud to have just completed my 3rd course towards the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP).”

— Colleen Ward, CPNP
Nurse Practitioner for the Pediatric Medical Day Stay, Scholarship Recipient

Did You Know?

TOTAL OF 59 Applicants

22 Scholarships to both part-time and full-time Monmouth Medical Center employees

AWARDED $38,000 worth of Scholarships

Employees Helping Employees

PICTURED BELOW: Eric Caney, President and CEO, MMC; Tara Kelly, Vice President of Development, MMCF; and Bonnie Klein, Vice Chair, MMCF are seen with some of the scholarship recipients alongside their personal guardians and MMC Supervisors.
Please consider creating a planned gift and becoming a Cranmer Legacy Society Member.

**Cranmer Legacy Society**

By becoming a member of the Cranmer Legacy Society, **YOU have changed lives.**

No matter the size of your gift, you can make an impact, giving our patients what they deserve — the chance to get better. Your support of Monmouth Medical Center expresses your compassion for our patients and their families and your belief in the work we do to ensure a healthier future.

**Your legacy. Our future.**

Invest in the future of health care by making Monmouth Medical Center part of your legacy. By designating the medical center as a partial beneficiary of your will or retirement account, you can help ensure that the next generation has access to extraordinary health care.

For more information, please contact Tara Kelly at 732-923-6886 or Tara.Kelly@rwjbh.org. Information is also available online by visiting monmouthgiving.org.
Only 1,500 tickets will be sold.
Drawing to be held at Monmouth Medical Center
Tickets available for purchase in the Gift Shop, or mail in flyer.
CALL FOUNDATION OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION
732.923.6886

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