

MILESTONES



TERRY INGRAM'S LEGACY GIFT:
TRANSFORMING THE VOGEL MEDICAL CAMPUS
FEATURE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES



WALTER DASZKOWSKI, CPA, PFS

WALTER DASZKOWSKI, CPA, PFS, is the Founder and Managing Shareholder of Daszkowski, Tompkins, Weg, and Carbonella, CPA PC, a leading tax and accounting firm in New York and New Jersey. Walter is a graduate of St. John's University. He also is the founder of the Lotus Financial Group LLC and Lotus Advisory Group, which provides financial planning and insurance services. Beyond his business ventures, Walter is Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors at Empire State Bank, an active member of several professional organizations (AICPA, NYSSCPA & NJSSCPA) and a Board Member of the Rumson Baseball Organization. Walter formerly sat on the Board of Governors of the YMCA, the Executive Board of the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation and the Finance Committee of Holmdel Township.



GREGORY GRECO, MD

GREGORY GRECO, MD is a dual board-certified plastic surgeon in private practice, with offices in New Jersey and New York City. It is with deep gratitude that we welcome back Dr. Greco to the Foundation Board of Trustees after a few years off. At Monmouth Medical Center, he is the Chief of the division of Plastic Surgery and served as General Surgery Residency Program Director from 2016 to 2024, and the assistant Program Director for the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson General Surgery Residency Program from 2018 to 2024. Dr. Greco has held many leadership roles, including serving as President of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons and the New Jersey Society of Plastic Surgeons. He earned his medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, completed his general surgery training at Monmouth Medical Center, and his plastic surgery residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Greco is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomate of both the American Board of Plastic Surgery and American Board of Surgery.

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FOUNDATION PURPOSE

Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to supporting Monmouth Medical Center 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 Monmouth Medical Center.
- To increase public awareness and enhance the community's positive perception of Monmouth Medical Center by being an advocate of the Center's commitment to the community.
- To serve responsibly as the steward of contributed funds to Monmouth Medical Center.
- To develop candidates for leadership positions for Monmouth Medical Center Foundation and Monmouth Medical Center.

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MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

We are extremely proud to announce that Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) has once again received Magnet recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Initially designated in 2020, we joined a global community of excellence in nursing. In 2024, we earned unanimous recognition as *Magnet with Distinction* – becoming the first hospital in New Jersey to achieve this top tier designation.

We also take pride in the recent celebration of the raising of the final beam of the Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion at The Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. Beam-signing events were held at both the Tinton Falls and Long Branch campuses, allowing staff from all shifts to participate and join the excitement. It was incredibly gratifying to have our MMC family, whose award-winning care makes our expansion possible, add their signatures as a permanent part of the pavilion's steel structure.

Set to open in 2026, the Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion will offer outstanding patient experience with seamless access to surgical and imaging services and comprehensive cancer care. Together with Rutgers Cancer Institute, it is our goal to bring cancer treatment, diagnosis and prevention closer to home. As a system, RWJBarnabas Health is taking a giant leap forward with the new Jack and Sheryl Morris Cancer Center, New Jersey's first freestanding cancer hospital, and the new Melchiorre Cancer Center at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center. These new cancer centers will expand our footprint across the state, providing so much more than just cancer care.

In addition, our Thoracic Oncology Program, led by Dr. Richard Lazzaro, is a beacon of hope for those facing lung cancer. Focused on early detection, Monmouth Medical Center is the second in New Jersey, and first in central and southern NJ, to use Ion, a robot-assisted platform for minimally invasive lung biopsies. With more than 200 Ion cases performed, we continue to lead with innovative technologies like the Aliya PEF System and LungVision, offering advanced, minimally invasive treatment options.

Exciting developments such as these are made possible by the generous philanthropy of supporters like Terry Ingram, who is featured in this issue of Milestones. Terry, a longtime friend of Monmouth Medical Center, began her philanthropic support in 1979, and went on to lead successful events that benefit our cancer programs — such as Swing Pink and the Two Rivers Antiques Show and Garden Tour. She also is the current Co-Chair of the Leon Hess Cancer Center Council, overseeing our annual Power of Pink luncheon, which has raised more than \$7 million for cancer services.

Thanks to our generous donors, Monmouth Medical Center provides comprehensive care close to home and family. We are grateful for your support and for being a part of our Monmouth Medical Center family!

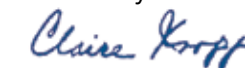
MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION



What a remarkable year to be part of the Monmouth Medical Center Foundation! Driven by the common belief that our families deserve top-tier healthcare, our Foundation Board trustees continue to work both individually and as a team to make this happen in our community. We continue to achieve our goals and it is because of our leadership and our supporters. It has been a true pleasure, and with a sense of accomplishment, to have had so many opportunities to celebrate our successes alongside you.

The Monmouth Medical Center team recognizes the marked growth of our population and has ensured healthcare close to home. There is no need to look beyond state lines to receive this care!

While being a part of a healthcare system that cares is powerful, please realize that the strength of one person is powerful as well. I encourage each one of you to join us in this mission to help secure the future of Monmouth Medical Center and its commitment to our community.



CLAIRE KNOPF
Chair, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation
Board of Trustees

Each year, I am amazed by the lives we touch at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). As we expand to Tinton Falls with the Vogel Medical Campus, the generosity of our supporters and the accomplishments of our community grow even stronger. In this issue of Milestones, we celebrate the contributions of our dedicated board members, selfless philanthropists, and grateful patients.

This year, we've seen our patients and their families become some of our strongest advocates. Inspired by the care they receive, they have shared their stories at some of our signature events like Power of Pink, Swing Pink and Big Steps for Little Feet, which year after year reconnect old friends and build new relationships.

Our Board of Trustees continues to lead by example, ensuring that the legacy of world-class care at MMC endures. In this edition, you'll learn how you can leave a lasting impact on Monmouth Medical Center's future.



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



Terry Ingram's Legacy Gift: Transforming the Vogel Medical Campus with Art

Longtime philanthropist Terry Ingram, whose dedication to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) spans over 40 years, has made a significant legacy gift to support the hospital's new Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. This generous contribution will fund a two-story art installation in the lobby, blending a monetary donation with a bequest in her will.

The art piece, which will be the focal point of the new spacious and airy lobby, holds deep personal significance for Terry and her family. Artistic talent runs in her family. "My father, a doctor by profession, was also an artist in his free time, creating everything from oil paintings to photography. Both of my sons, Jonathan and Jay, have artistic and musical abilities, as do my four grandsons. This made the artwork in the lobby a meaningful choice for me. It is the perfect way to honor that legacy while bringing comfort to those entering the new Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion," Terry explains.

Terry's legacy gift reflects her lifelong commitment to supporting MMC, where she has helped raise funds for many areas, including the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Breast Center. She began her volunteer work with MMC in 1979 through the Stanley Nichols Pediatric Auxiliary, raising funds for equipment in pediatrics. Since that time, Terry has been incredibly impactful as the Chairman of the Two Rivers Antiques Show and Garden Tour, the Founder of Swing Pink in 2015, an Advisory Member on the Foundation Board of Trustees, and Co-Chair of the Leon Hess Cancer Center Council. Terry was presented with the 2023 Judith W. Dawkins Ambassador of Excellence Award for her philanthropic leadership by Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC. Terry's many contributions have touched countless lives, and now her art donation will enhance the experience of patients, families, and staff at the Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion.

Her vision for the artwork is to create a warm, welcoming environment that offers peace and solace in a healthcare setting. "Hospitals can be scary. When my late husband was in the hospital in New York City, I noticed how stark and sterile the environment was," she notes, "and I hope that this artwork will make the new space feel warm, calm, and soothing. It's essential that the artwork at the new Vogel Medical Campus creates a setting for people to feel safe and confident in their care."

"Terry's support of our work through the years is inspiring," said Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC. "Her passion for art and philanthropy will continue to impact Monmouth Medical Center for generations to come."

“Giving back is so rewarding. It’s gratifying to know that your generosity can positively impact others, especially cancer survivors who benefit from the support we provide.”

— TERRY INGRAM



Cole, Jay, Tammy, Gabe Ingram



Jonathan, Ben, Jack, Elizabeth Ingram

The steel framework of the new Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion



The Vogel Medical Campus: Taking Shape

As you travel on the Garden State Parkway between exits 105 and 109, you can see the steel framework of Monmouth Medical Center's new 36-acre Vogel Medical Campus. Slated to open in 2026 in Tinton Falls, the state-of-the-art facility will provide patients with easy access to a wide range of outpatient services in a tranquil, park-like setting.

This first building on the new campus will be the five-story, 150,000-square-foot Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion. It will house an expansive outpatient center offering advanced surgical and imaging services. Most notably, the pavilion will feature one of New Jersey's only NCI-designated cancer centers, a partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute that will increase access to care for patients in western parts of Monmouth County.

The Vogel Medical Campus is named in honor of philanthropists Sheldon and the late Anne Vogel of Colts Neck, whose extraordinary \$50 million gift in 2020 has been instrumental in making this vision a reality. Longtime supporters of Monmouth Medical Center, the Vogels have left a lasting legacy through their generosity and commitment to improving healthcare access for the community.

Since the groundbreaking ceremony in June 2023, the construction site has been buzzing with activity. To prepare the land, 50,000 yards of sand and soil were delivered to the site by 18-yard dump trucks, with an average of 110 truckloads arriving daily over a two-month period. Additionally, 8,000 feet of stormwater management pipe—equivalent to 1.5 miles—has already been installed to ensure proper drainage across the property.

The construction of the building's steel framework marks an exciting milestone in the project's development. The steel structure is now complete, with a total of 1,985 pieces—3,500 tons of steel—used throughout the construction process.



An aerial view of the 36-acre Vogel Medical Campus

We are excited to provide updates to our community throughout the building process. For the latest information, please visit: rwjbh.org/vmc



Benjamin D. Medina, MD, Assistant Professor of Thoracic Surgery, Rutgers Cancer Institute

Grateful Patient Thoracic Surgical Oncology

Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) Ion, a robot-assisted platform designed to enable minimally invasive lung biopsies, is used as a key part of early diagnosis. Benjamin D. Medina, MD, Assistant Professor of Thoracic Surgery, Rutgers Cancer Institute who specializes in thoracic surgical oncology, describes this new robotic technology as a game-changer in early detection of lung cancer, as it enhances reach, precision, and stability for lung biopsies and affords doctors access to all segments of the lung.

Joan, a grateful patient describes her long and challenging journey marked by four separate cancer diagnoses, each one being a primary site. "Facing cancer for the fourth time was no less frightening than the first. Having always been a patient of Rutgers Cancer Institute, I knew exactly where to turn. There was no question in my mind where I needed to go for care," says Joan.

When Joan met Dr. Medina, his knowledge, compassion, and genuine concern for her well-being gave her confidence. She felt reassured that she was in the right hands. Dr. Medina carefully reviewed her case with the tumor board and explained that she would undergo visually assisted robotic surgery.

Grateful Patient Thoracic Surgical Oncology CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Joan was diagnosed with cancer in 2012 on the upper right lobe of her lung, which was resected (a medical term for when a part or all of a tissue or organ is removed.) In 2023, Joan was diagnosed with cancer on her right lower lobe, and after resecting that, she had a suspicious area near the prior surgery site suggestive of possible recurrent cancer. "Ion's ability to navigate to virtually any area of the lung and enable precise biopsies can help patients with suspicious lung nodules get answers sooner, potentially enabling more time to consider treatment options," said Dr. Medina.

The biopsy performed at MMC confirmed Joan's fourth diagnosis adenocarcinoma of the right lung. Joan said, "I had my surgery this past summer, and when I woke up Dr. Medina was there, reassuring me that everything had gone well. His presence and words gave me a peace of mind during such a difficult time."

As a nurse herself, she knew what to expect in terms of care, but the team at Monmouth Medical Center exceeded all of her expectations. Nurse Karen and the rest of the staff showed true empathy, expertise, and dedication throughout her recovery. She felt that she was not just another patient or diagnosis to them — she was treated like a whole person. "Today as I reflect on my journey, I am filled with gratitude. I'm feeling well, enjoying life, and forever thankful for the extraordinary care I received."

In addition to the Ion technology, MMC is the first hospital in New Jersey to offer new, minimally invasive technology to ablate lung lesions called the Aliya PEF System. Utilized in conjunction with the Ion robot, the system delivers high-voltage, high-frequency electrical currents through a single monopolar electrode designed to ablate the targeted cancer cells. "This innovative technique is unlike anything we've seen, as it appears to stimulate the patient's own immune system to activate against the tumor," said Dr. Medina.

Most recently, MMC became the first in New Jersey to introduce intraoperative AI-driven CT imaging for use with the Ion. LungVision is a breakthrough innovation in lung cancer diagnosis, according to Dr. Medina.

For patients diagnosed with lung cancer, the hospital's integrated cancer care model in partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute includes the state's largest network of cancer specialists.

To learn more about MMC's Lung Cancer Program, visit rwjbh.org/beatcancer. To schedule an appointment with one of our thoracic cancer specialists call 844-CANCERNJ.

“Intraoperative imaging has a profound impact on the ability to successfully diagnose patients, and this advanced technology enhances the robotic bronchoscopy platform with real-time imaging. It is the only navigation system that is not reliant on preoperative CT and benefits to patients include less radiation exposure and less time spent in surgery.

— BENJAMIN D. MEDINA, MD
Assistant Professor of
Thoracic Surgery, Rutgers
Cancer Institute

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



Celebrating a Legacy of Compassion: The Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family Foundation's Transformative Gift to Monmouth Medical Center

Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) is proud to announce a transformative gift from the Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family Foundation. This generous donation will support the construction of The Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion at the Vogel Medical Campus, while also supporting the Foundation's Clinical Development Education Fund and enhancing the Fromkin Oncology Unit at MMC's Long Branch Campus. This remarkable gift builds on the long-standing philanthropic legacy of the Plangere family, which has had a profound impact on the New Jersey Shore area and beyond.

This gift is a continuation of the Plangere family's compassionate legacy, which extends back decades. Jules L. Plangere, Jr., known for his leadership as the publisher of the Asbury Park Press and The Home News Tribune, and as an owner and operator of radio and television stations that served Monmouth and Ocean counties, was deeply committed to community service. His dedication to these communities extended further through his service on the board of Monmouth University, highlighting his lifelong commitment to improving the region. He established the Foundation in 1997 with a vision that was deeply shaped by his wife, Jane Plangere. Jane played a pivotal role in shaping the Foundation's philanthropic outreach, and her passion for community causes, especially in healthcare and education, was key to driving the family's many generous initiatives. Together, Jules and Jane made a lasting impact, improving the lives of countless individuals.

In recognition of this extraordinary generosity, the outpatient center at the Vogel Medical Campus will feature The Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family Foundation Community Infusion Bay, a state-of-the-art facility that will provide a welcoming and supportive environment for patients receiving cancer care and other infusion treatments. Additionally, part of their gift will be dedicated to the Foundation's Clinical Development Education Fund, which will help enhance the training and continued education of healthcare professionals at MMC, ensuring they remain leaders in patient care.

As Monmouth Medical Center celebrates this significant contribution, it honors the legacy of both Jules and Jane Plangere—a legacy of generosity, service, and a steadfast commitment to improving lives. Their support, particularly during challenging times like the pandemic, has been instrumental in advancing the hospital's mission to provide exceptional care.

"The Plangere family's commitment to our community is profound," said Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC. "Their ongoing support ensures that we can continue to provide world-class care and education to the people we serve. We are incredibly grateful for their continued partnership in our mission."

Through the compassionate leadership of Jules and Jane, the Plangere family's legacy will continue to shape the future of healthcare at MMC, benefiting the community for generations to come.



Rendering of a community infusion bay.

“Jules and Jane always shared a passion for ensuring the well-being of others. This gift truly reflects both of their values — compassion for the community and a dedication to healthcare that ensures everyone has access to the care they need.”

— DONNA HESSION
Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family
Foundation Trustee

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW
FOR THE 3D VIEW OF THE SPACE.



OPPOSITE PAGE 12:
The late Jane and Jules L. Plangere, Jr.



1. Ben Harvey, IV; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC; Emily Harvey
2. Anastasia Devoti-Politi; Barrie Knee, MMCF Trustee
3. Jessica Truglia; Carla VanZant; Yesenia Madas Ed.D., MMC Trustee; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC
4. Claire O'Brien Auteri; Kathryn Bauer

NextGen Young Future Volunteer Leaders

The first gathering for NextGen was held on Thursday, April 18th, at The Butcher's Block in Long Branch. NextGen is a new initiative at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) and its goal is to provide opportunities for young leaders to become engaged with the hospital and to serve as future volunteer leaders in the MMC community, and our Foundation. The Foundation is grateful to Tom D'Ambrisi, the owner of The Butcher's Block, who hosted an amazing evening.

Guests heard from Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC, about MMC's comprehensive programs and services and on the vision for improving the future of healthcare in our region. Everyone had a wonderful time meeting each other, as well as leadership and board members. "The Foundation is excited to expand our culture of community wellness and philanthropy and inspire a new generation to support and give to their community. We are very excited for the future and thank Ann Unterberg, MMC and MMCF Board of Trustees, for starting this new initiative and Dayna Gold, MMCF Trustee, for taking the lead on NextGen," said Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC.

“This is an exciting time for MMC and we are looking forward to future NextGen events and to connecting with individuals who are enthusiastic about MMC's mission and getting involved in their community.” — DAYNA GOLD
MMCF Trustee



Ben Harvey, IV with Courtney Pollack



Dayna Gold, MMCF Trustee with Bryan Gold and Michelle Gold

Fireflies Council for Behavioral Health Cultivation Event

On Tuesday, May 21, Kelly and Brooks Cullen hosted over 40 people at a cultivation event at their home in Little Silver. The goal of this event was to provide guests with the opportunity 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, Assistant Vice President, Behavioral Health at MMC; and Rebecca Colson, Adjunct Therapy Supervisor, MMC. Eric Carney provided a high-level overview of the many accomplishments of the behavioral health team, led by Marli Gelfand. Marli highlighted the behavioral health services that MMC offers, specifically focusing on pediatric and adolescent programming. Services are offered through inpatient, outpatient and Early Intervention Support Services (EISS), the unique outpatient service available 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 program 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 meets with an advanced practice nurse for medication evaluation. Most often, this prompt care will avoid hospitalization.

Marli was excited to share that in the fall of 2024, the newly remodeled space at EISS would open and that the program was expanding to also serve the pediatric population. Funds raised previously, as well as at this cultivation event, have helped to create the warm, inviting waiting room at the EISS building. The creation of this waiting area was an important part of the remodel. The space, which is modeled after a living room, helps to promote better patient experiences.

The Valerie and Frank Montecalvo "Wall of Inspiration" is a focal point of the waiting area. The donor-funded wall features words of inspiration and quotes of hope and positivity to encourage patients receiving care. The wall will continue to evolve over the years, with opportunities for donors to add their meaningful messages to the wall.

With many parents of young children and teens in attendance at the Cullen home, guests were able to listen to a grateful parent, Corinne Thygeson, speak about the care her teenager received at MMC, through the EISS program. "Our family was grateful for the immediate and needed support that EISS provided for us at a challenging time," Corinne said. Corinne inspired others to share their experiences as well, with many confiding to the group that they know someone who has struggled with mental health, and how important it is to know that MMC has so many services to offer so close to home.

The Fireflies Council, led by Carolyn DeForte, DMD, has been making an impact by raising awareness and funds for Behavioral Health Services at MMC for over six years.

“Our family was grateful for the immediate and needed support that the EISS provided for us at a challenging time.

— CORINNE THYGESON
mother of Lilly Thygeson,
Grateful Patient

Contact Information

Psychiatric Emergency Screening
Services Crisis Hotline:
732.923.6999

Child and Adolescent Outpatient
Behavioral Health Services:
732.923.5355

Acute Partial Hospitalization:
732.923.5257

Early Intervention Support Services:
732.922.1042

Child and Adolescent
Crisis Diversion Program:
732.922.2860

Adult Outpatient Services:
732.923.6500



1. Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development for MMC and MMCSC; Marli Gelfand, Assistant Vice President, Behavioral Health Services, MMC; Claire Knopf, Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees; Corinne Thygeson, Firefly Member; Lilly Thygeson, Grateful Patient and Junior Firefly; Bill Thygeson, MMCF Trustee; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Kelly Cullen, host; Brooks Cullen, host; and Lauren Simons, Director of Development, MMC

2. Carolyn DeForte, DMD, Fireflies Chair and MMCF Trustee; Amy Stark, Joelle Marcelli, Maria Wood

3. Marli Gelfand, Assistant Vice President, Behavioral Health Services, MMC; Lilly Thygeson, Grateful Patient and Junior Firefly; Rebecca Colson, Adjunct Therapy Supervisor, 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



Torcon, Inc. foursome



Ben Harvey Construction foursome



Fromkin Brothers Inc. foursome



PineBelt foursome



MMC leadership, guests and sponsors at the cocktail reception

2024 Invitational Golf Classic

The annual Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) Invitational Golf Classic was held on Thursday, June 20th at Hollywood Golf Course in Deal. This year's sold-out event was supported by generous donors and high-level sponsors, which helped us to exceed our fundraising goal. Over \$300,000 was raised to support the initiatives that strengthen and sustain MMC industry-leading advances in facility innovations, medical services and patient care. A portion of the proceeds also benefitted the MMC Employee Scholarship Fund, helping employees and their immediate family members with higher education costs.

Thank you to all of our Sponsors

SAVE THE DATE
for 2025
Thursday, June 12th
Hollywood Golf Course

For more information on how to get involved,
visit www.mmcevents.org
or call 732.923.6886



Gary Chropuvka's foursome

SPECIAL EVENTS

INVITATIONAL **GOLF** *Classic*

GOLF CHAIR

William E. Thygeson, Jr.

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Alyssa Ruby-Mako
Andrew Sun, MD
Doug Wells



Mark E. Manigan, President and Chief Executive Officer, RWJBarnabas Health; Amy Reich, host; Edie Falco; Daniel Reich, host



Keynote Speaker Edie Falco and Molly Kroon



Grateful patient Toneia Bennett, Edie Falco and Tonia Owens



Boutique Co-Chairs Michelle Kutsak; Jessica Buchner; LHCCC Co-Chairs Claire Knopf and Terry Ingram; Event Co-Chairs Debbie Menkowitz; Sima Yakoby Epstein, DMD



Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development MMC and MMCSC; Claire Knopf, Judith W. Dawkins Award Recipient and Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees with Tammy Murphy, First Lady of New Jersey

The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Power of Pink

The 29th annual Power of Pink (POP) Luncheon raised over \$750,000 to support Monmouth Medical Center's (MMC) cancer services. Held at the waterfront home of Daniel and Amy Reich, the event was co-chaired by Leon Hess Cancer Center Council members Sima Yakoby Epstein, DMD, and Debbie Menkowitz, along with boutique co-chairs Jessica Buchner and Michelle Kutsak. Actress and breast cancer survivor, Edie Falco headlined as the keynote speaker, sharing her personal journey and offering hope to those facing similar battles. Tammy Murphy, First Lady of New Jersey also presented the Judith W. Dawkins Ambassador of Excellence Award to Claire Knopf, Chair of the MMC Foundation Board, in recognition of her remarkable service to the hospital.

This award exemplifies the late Judi Dawkin's visionary guidance, exceptional leadership and highest ethical standard for the betterment of the patients and families who rely on MMC. Claire received this award for her long-standing commitment to the hospital of 24 years. From chairing the Power of Pink event, to leading the Foundation Board, Claire expressed her gratitude for continuing the legacy of her late friend, Judi Dawkins.

The luncheon also included a moving testimonial from grateful patient and breast cancer survivor Toneia Bennett, whose journey really resonated with the audience. Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC, emphasized the importance of fundraising events like POP in transforming cancer care, particularly with the development of the new Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion at the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls.

Mark E. Manigan, President and Chief Executive Officer, RWJBarnabas Health, underscored the importance of expanding access to world-class cancer treatment throughout New Jersey. Mark highlighted the construction of three cutting-edge cancer centers, including the Jack and Sheryl Morris Cancer Center in New Brunswick, the Melchiorre Cancer Center at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center, and Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion at the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. These facilities, developed in collaboration with Rutgers Cancer Institute, the state's only National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, are poised to revolutionize cancer care in the state, providing hope and healing to countless patients.



Event Hosts Daniel and Amy Reich

THE 29th ANNUAL POWER of pink COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS

Terry Ingram
Claire Knopf

CO-CHAIRS

Sima Yakoby Epstein, DMD
Debbie Menkowitz

BOUTIQUE CO-CHAIRS

Jessica Buchner
Michelle Kutsak

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jessica Angstreich
Alexandra Conley
Barbara Etter
Stephanie Flynn
Pari Harrison
Kristen Hoey
Anna Grace Howie
Chris Katz
Casey Kegelman
Debbie Memmott
Sonia Moroney
Debbie O'Donoghue
Susan Olson
Amy Reich
Linda James Smith
Victoria Tizzio
Suzanne Veninata
Lauren Vernon

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Susan Doctorian Kyrillos
Bonnie Levin*
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Gloria Nilson
Leah Soltas
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*Founder



SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW
THE INSPIRATIONAL
GRATEFUL PATIENT VIDEO



SPECIAL EVENTS

“ Together with Rutgers Cancer Institute, our goal is to take cancer treatment, diagnosis, and prevention into the future. The Vogel Medical Campus will be a beacon of hope for so many – expanding our footprint across the state, providing so much more than just cancer care.

— MARK E. MANIGAN,
President and Chief Executive Officer,
RWJBarnabas Health



SCAN QR CODE
TO SEE EVENT
HIGHLIGHTS.



For more information on how to get involved, visit www.mmcevents.org



“I can’t explain the sense of peace knowing you made the right decision and are confident in your doctors. Staying positive is part of staying alive, and these three doctors and their teams made that possible. They take so much of your burden by giving you hope.

— CHRISTY MENDES
Grateful Patient



The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Swing Pink

The ninth annual Swing Pink Women’s Sporting Event and Luncheon was held on Monday, September 16th at the Navesink Country Club in Middletown. The event raised over \$125,000 for breast cancer services and programs at the future Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls.

Event Co-Chairs Terry Ingram and Debbie O’Donoghue led the Swing Pink committee with the support of The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). Swing Pink is a morning of tennis, golf, paddle and pickleball for women, followed by a luncheon. Over 150 women gathered in support of MMC.

Luncheon guests heard from Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC, about the advancement of the Specialty and Cancer Care Pavilion at the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. They also heard from a truly inspirational grateful patient, Christy Mendes about her recent breast cancer journey. “Because of events like this and people like you, I am able to receive the most amazing care, close to home. I shopped for a cancer team in New York and New Jersey, and I quickly realized that the team at Monmouth Medical Center checked all of my boxes and then some! I appreciate all of you for being part of my care team.”

At the event, women were given the opportunity to register for breast cancer screening services at the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Comprehensive Breast Center.



Terry Ingram, event Co-Chair and MMCF Advisory Board Member; Claire Knopf, Chair, MMCF Board; Manpreet Kohli, MD; Christy Mendes; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development MMC and MMCSC; Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC



Swing Pink Committee

For more information on how to get involved, visit www.mmcevents.org or visit rwjbh.org/mammo to schedule your screening today

SPECIAL EVENTS

Swing Pink COMMITTEE

EVENT
Terry Ingram
Debbie O’Donoghue

GOLF
Kristen Hoey
Barbara Keating

PADDLE
Alex Conley
Casey Kegelman

PICKLE
Susan Olson
Kim Smith

TENNIS
Jessica Angstreich
Stephanie Flynn
Sonya Moroney



The Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Big Steps for Little Feet

Big Steps for Little Feet Fall Fest was held on Sunday, September 22nd at the Fort Athletic Club in Oceanport. Over 225 friends of The Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) came together to celebrate the triumph of graduating from the NICU. Guests heard from the parents of Baby Ricky as well as the DiTella Family who shared their incredible stories of compassionate care delivered by their nurses and care teams at MMC.

“This special group of nurses empower parents, offer hope, assist in navigating challenges and celebrate triumphs.

— BONNY ADLER
Director, Patient Care, NICU

Family and friends enjoyed the bounce houses, face painting, a pumpkin patch and a walk to show their unified support of MMC. Special thank you to our supporters at Delicious Orchards, Hearthly Burger and Nicks Ice Cream Distributors for their contributions to make the event festive and delicious.

At MMC, the NICU specializes in care for high-risk premature and critically ill newborns. Each year, this charity walk and fall fest honors our NICU infants and parents. It provides valuable financial support for the unit that cares for hundreds of infants each year.

For more information on how to get involved, visit www.bigstepsforlittlefeet.com



Baby Ricky Honoree Family



DiTella Honoree Family

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 rwjbh.org/monmouthplanned.

RWJBarnabas
HEALTH

Monmouth
Medical Center

Let's be healthy together.



OUR
IMPACT

Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness LiveWell Center Safe Kids

Over the past two and a half years, Monmouth Medical Center's Community Health Education Department has made its home at the LiveWell Center at the Anne Vogel Family Care & Wellness Center in Eatontown. With free health education and nutrition programs available to those of all ages, there is always a session of interest. Many of the educational events for youth align with the team's work to reduce preventable childhood injuries. Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus (MMSC) are proud to be the lead agencies for the Safe Kids Coalition Monmouth and Ocean County, a worldwide organization that equips over 400 coalitions in the U.S. with strategies to help reduce traffic injuries, drownings, sleep-related deaths, falls, burns, poisonings, and more.

Recently, Safe Kids Monmouth and Ocean conducted a needs assessment revealing the highest rates of injuries by mechanism. The most prevalent injuries are falls, drownings, and traffic injuries for children of all ages, as well as suffocation for those under one year old.

"The goal of the Coalition is to identify the true needs of the communities we serve and address them through collaborative and meaningful strategies. Typically, when we think of healthcare, we think about treating those who are already ill or injured. Our work as the Safe Kids Coalition of Monmouth and Ocean works upstream to prevent childhood injuries and keep our children safe," says Anna Busler, MPH, Safe Kids Coalition Coordinator for Monmouth/Ocean.

Safe Kids Monmouth and Ocean has been combating these major injury areas through education and awareness campaigns as well as safety device distribution. Within the current grant year, over two dozen car seats have been given out to identified families in underserved communities. Additionally, reflective vests encouraging our "Be Safe, Be Seen" pedestrian safety campaign were distributed in communities where children are more likely to walk, bike, and ride scooters to school and around town. To address traffic safety, Safe Kids Monmouth and Ocean has hosted and attended "bike rodeos" in collaboration with our Coalition members. These dynamic events offer an opportunity for children to get their helmets fitted properly, receive bike lights and bike safety education, get their bike tires and seat height checked, and practice safe biking skills on a closed obstacle course. Bike helmets are also distributed at these events as well as other community gatherings to ensure that every child is safe at play.

The Coalition meets on a quarterly basis, mapping data-driven programs to affect change in our priority areas. Comprised of youth serving organizations, local faith-based groups, other healthcare systems, non-profits, law enforcement, recreation departments, and government organizations, collaboration is key to making significant change. As Anna has said, "Last year, the Coalition reached over 13,000 children and families, educating them on preventable childhood injuries. We have one common goal, we cannot complete this work without each other."

For a complete listing of all monthly programs at the LiveWell Center, visit rwjbh.org/mmccalendar or email Anna.Busler@rwjbh.org.





Joseph Boscia Jr and members of IAATO presenting a check to Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics and Chief of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition and members of the department and Foundation teams

“By providing food to children facing food insecurity, we not only nourish their bodies but also empower their futures. Hosting a car show to raise funds for this cause fuels both passion and purpose, turning our love for cars into a driving force for change in our community.

— JOSEPH AND ASHLEY BOSCIA

IAATO supports Pediatric Food Insecurity Program

The Italian American Association of the Township of Ocean (IAATO) has once again generously supported The Unterberg Children’s Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) by raising funds through their annual Auto Show Charity event organized by Joseph L Boscia Jr.

This year’s event, held on June 9th, exceeded all expectations by raising \$12,000 to support the pediatric food insecurity program at MMC; bringing their three-year fundraising total to \$30,000. Thanks to the support of IAATO, the program has been able to expand from helping families with children aged five and below to now include families with children aged thirteen and below. The expansion of this program will result in outreach to an additional 100 families per year that would not have been eligible to receive support in the past.

The program works by having Pediatric clinical team members screen patient families to determine whether or not they are facing food insecurity. During medical visits, families that are identified by their medical provider as food insecure, receive a bag of food providing a full week of meals for a family of four. Thanks to the generosity of IAATO, the program has been able to expand and better the health of the vulnerable pediatric population in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

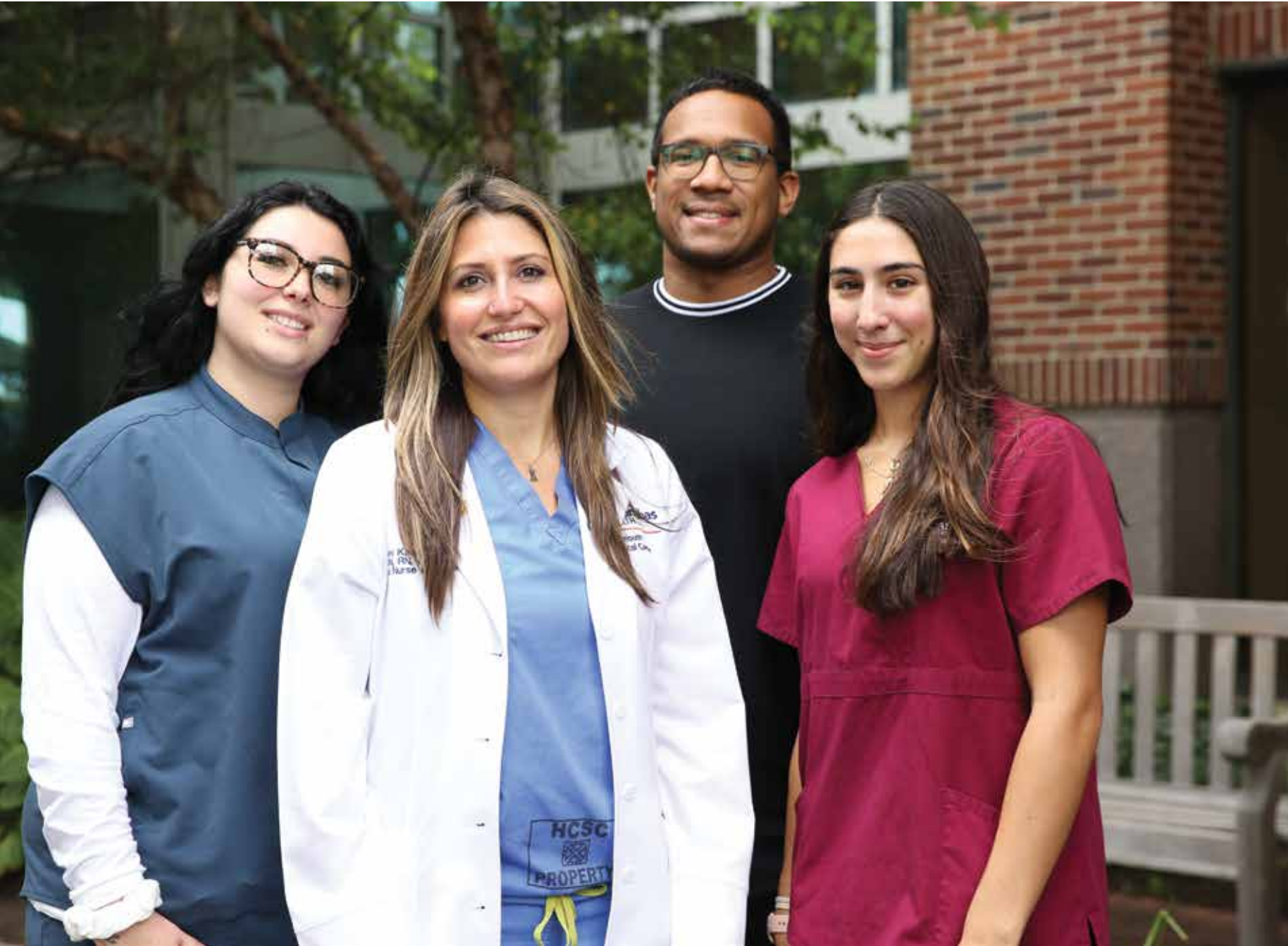
According to Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD, Chair, Department of Pediatrics and Chief of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, “Food insecurity is sadly a common problem in the United States, and unfortunately the families of Monmouth and Ocean counties are similarly affected. Studies suggest that 8-10% of families and 10-20% of the children in these counties do not regularly have food to eat. We strive to identify those families within our community who are struggling to put food on the table, and this generous donation from IAATO enables us to supply nutritious meals to them while connecting them with additional resources.”

Now that Joseph is a proud father himself, he and his wife Ashley said this about the importance of this program, “By providing food to children facing food insecurity, we not only nourish their bodies but also empower their futures. Hosting a car show to raise funds for this cause fuels both passion and purpose, turning our love for cars into a driving force for change in our community.”



Jonathan Teitelbaum, MD and Joseph Boscia Jr.

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



A few of the scholarship award recipients

Clinical Development Scholarship Program

Donor-Funded Education Opportunity

In February of 2024, Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) launched the Clinical Development Scholarship Program. Establishing this transformative opportunity came from the vision of a generous donor family who believes strongly in retention, longevity and advancement of medical professionals. This scholarship program makes a profound impact on MMC employees in the pursuit of furthering their clinical education.

The Clinical Development Scholarship is open to all MMC employees who have been employed for at least one year and who are continuing their education or looking to begin their clinical education journey. Scholarship recipients are pursuing further education in various fields including nursing, laboratory science and simulation and education. Eligible employees can receive up to \$10,000 each year, and to date, over \$260,000 has been awarded.

Employees requesting a scholarship must fill out an application and provide a short essay about their education and the importance of this opportunity. The Clinical Development Scholarship Committee, comprised of leaders from various departments, including clinical, administrative and Foundation, reviews all applications.

Scholarship recipients have shared what this scholarship means to them. "As a nurse educator in school for my MSN, the Clinical Development Scholarship will help me advance my education and improve my skills in nursing education. I look forward to using what I learn to enhance patient care and support the development of future nurses and clinical staff. I am so grateful for this incredible opportunity," said Fotini Katsipoutis, BSN, RN, CNOR, Perioperative Nurse Educator, MMC.

The Foundation is excited to share that the Clinical Development Scholarship Program continues to grow. Additional donors, impressed with the impact that has made in such a short time, have also funded the program, giving more opportunities to employees to further their clinical education. The investment by these donors helps to drive the continual progress of healthcare and contribute to the well-being of our communities. These scholarships signify a great start or the continuation of an important journey for our recipients.

"I look forward to using what I learn to enhance patient care and support the development of future nurses and clinical staff. I am so grateful for this incredible opportunity."

— FOTINI KATSIPOUTIS, BSN, RN, CNOR
Perioperative Nurse Educator, 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

Employee Campaign Employee Scholarship



Celebrating the 2024 Employee Scholarship recipients

Every year, the Employee Campaign continues to grow, as employees of Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) show tremendous generosity to their fellow colleagues. This program offers employees the chance to give back to one another by contributing voluntary donations for our Employee Emergency Assistance Fund and Employee Scholarship Fund.

In 2024, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus Foundation awarded 108 scholarships totaling \$199,000 across both campuses. This is the highest amount of scholarships ever awarded through this program to MMC and MMCSC employees and their children. Full-time students were awarded \$2,000 and part-time students were awarded \$1,000.

Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC, said, "We are so excited to celebrate your hard work. We are honored to be able to help so many employees and their families through this program to further your education. The Employee Campaign continues to grow at MMC due to the engagement and generosity of employees and supporters and enables us all to have a positive impact on one another's lives."

The 2025 Employee Campaign kicked off September 26, 2024 with the Strollo's Lighthouse ice cream truck. Over 300 employees came out to support the campaign and complete their 2025 pledge forms. 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 works to lend a helping hand to their colleagues.

The Employee Campaign continues to grow at MMC due to the engagement and generosity of employees and supporters and enables us all to have a positive impact on one another's lives.

— ERIC CARNEY
President and CEO,
MMC and MMCSC

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

Monmouth Medical Center VITAL STATISTICS



1,108
Physicians



932
Nurses



6,748
Births
507
NICU
Admissions



22,896
Admissions



45,515
ER Visits



159,166
Outpatient
Visits



6,500
Total
Surgeries

HONORS & AWARDS

