

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share with you the first regional edition of **"Physicians in Philanthropy"** — a publication that honors the generosity of our physicians and their commitment to our patients, their families, and our communities.

Philanthropy is the bridge between good and great and provides the opportunity for us to excel in all that we do. Whether we are serving the needs of the poor, creating healing environments, establishing programs and services to support the health and well-being of our communities, purchasing state-of-the-art equipment, or conducting vital research...philanthropy is the bridge.

Our physicians have always played a vital role in supporting philanthropy, and they have inspired thousands of patients to invest in our mission as a reflection of gratitude for the care they provide. What a powerful testament to our physicians.

Each and every story is a reflection of your deep commitment to our beloved hospitals and reminds us of the miracles that happen each and every day because of you. We hope you enjoy these stories of how fellow physicians have honored a loved one, recognized a mentor and supported their area of care. Each gift will transform our hospitals and ensure the best possible outcomes for our patients.

Happy Doctors' Day and thank you again for your commitment to the health of our communities and our neighbors.

With Gratitude,



Lynn B. Rossini  
 Regional Vice President of Philanthropy  
 Chief Development Officer  
 Saint Francis Foundation



Seen L-R: Chris Hayes, vice president, finance, Saint Mary's Hospital; Marc Spencer, interim chief development officer, Saint Mary's Hospital Foundation; Dave Martin, Saint Mary's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors Co-Chair; Carrie Fuller-McMahon, former chief development officer, Saint Mary's Hospital Foundation; Steven E. Schneider, MD, MBA, president, Saint Mary's Hospital; Alison Considine, MD, Woodland Anesthesiology Associates, PC; Wes Knauff, MD, chief of anesthesiology, Saint Mary's Hospital; Paul Porter, MD, chief medical officer, Saint Mary's Hospital.

## Woodland Anesthesiology Associates, PC pledges \$750,000 to Saint Mary's Hospital

Woodland Anesthesiology Associates pledges \$750,000 to the Together Effect Campaign at Saint Mary's Hospital. Their gift will focus on improving the patient and physician experience with a modernized physician locker room, renovated operating room, and a new, more spacious and comfortable waiting room.

Woodland Anesthesiology Associates (WAA) is a committed partner to Trinity Health Of New England, having generously committed millions of dollars to a variety of philanthropic initiatives throughout the region. WAA has anesthesia and pain management services available at 15 locations throughout Connecticut and expanded its care to Waterbury in early 2017. "We are proud to partner with Saint Mary's Hospital Foundation to focus on this vital effort for the thousands of patients that come through the OR each year," said Dr. Wesley Knauff, Chair for the Anesthesiology Department at Saint Mary's Hospital, "We are looking forward to a long and fruitful relationship in the Waterbury community for the betterment of patients and colleagues," continued Knauff.

## Big Heart, Big Ideas...Caring for the Mercy Medical Center Community

When Robert Roose, MD arrived in western Massachusetts to work for Mercy Medical Center and its affiliates, he literally knew no one. However, what he did know was how he wanted to help his new community. As a family physician with an expertise in opioid addiction, he spearheaded a campaign to provide a continuum of care for patients and families affected by this disease. Together, in partnership with the Mercy Office of Philanthropy, and with the support of the greater Springfield community, more than \$2 Million was raised for the Pathway to Care Campaign that promoted earlier intervention, education for patients and families, enhanced facilities, and expanded options for addiction treatment. Through these efforts, thousands more patients have been treated over the past five years.

Dr. Roose is the Chief Medical Officer of Mercy Medical Center, and his wife, Heather, is a Physician Assistant who also works for Mercy Medical Center. Together, they feel strongly about being a presence in their community by supporting many organizations and charities that focus on efforts to heal the community as a whole. As healthcare professionals, they have seen firsthand how healthy, engaged citizens can lead to positive social change and a stronger community.



Roose family – Robert, Heather, Emmett and their family dog, Maisley.



Joseph L. Ianello, MD, president, JM Medical Staff

## Leaving a lasting legacy at Johnson Memorial Hospital

For nearly 30 years, Joseph L. Ianello, MD has served on the staff of Johnson Memorial Hospital (JM) as a gastroenterologist and was recently named president of the Medical Staff. In this role, his hope as they move forward with integration and centralization as a ministry, is that physician leadership will preserve the identity and legacy of JM and the many providers who have tirelessly supported the institution and community they serve. In addition, Dr. Ianello looks forward to carrying on several medical staff traditions — the Medical Staff Scholarship Program and the Holiday Breakfast for colleagues and their children.

Dr. Ianello feels that giving back to your community is extremely important. He and his family have supported the JM annual campaign every year, the Emergency Department renovation and the annual golf outings. All of the support Johnson receives allows them to purchase high-tech equipment and advance medical excellence while improving patient care. And now, with almost \$11 Million raised for the Promise Campaign, JM will break ground on the Enfield Campus project, start renovating the third floor of the hospital for the Geriatric Wellness Pavilion, and finish plans to create a senior emergency care unit in the current ED. Dr. Ianello is excited for Johnson's future and understands that philanthropy will sustain the vitality of both the community and the hospital for many years to come.

## Celebrating one of our giants – Dr. Bimalin Lahiri

The metaphor, “We stand on the shoulders of giants,” goes back to at least the Middle Ages, and was used by Isaac Newton to acknowledge those natural scientists before him that paved the way to his remarkable success. All healthcare professionals can recall those who profoundly shaped their personal careers and to whom they remain deeply indebted. One such giant is Bimalin Lahiri (“The Chief”) and to many in the Saint Francis community of physicians and nurses he is a legend. Dr. Lahiri retired from active practice in 2018. To recognize and express their gratitude and to honor this remarkable person, Dr. Daniel Gerardi and Dr. Richard ZuWallack have established a visiting professor program in his honor, the *Bimalin Lahiri Lectureship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine*.



The visiting professorship will be on a pulmonary or critical care medicine topic closely aligned with Dr. Lahiri's clinical interests. It will be held in the fall, and will be given by a nationally or internationally recognized expert in the field. The main presentation will be at Medical Grand Rounds to enhance the learning experience. The expert will also interact with house staff and healthcare professionals in practice at separate venues, maximizing the professorship by taking it beyond a grand rounds presentation. This approach comes close to the modus operandi of the exceptional physician that we call *The Chief*, who was at ease educating all professionals. The goal is to raise \$150,000 and we are well on our way.

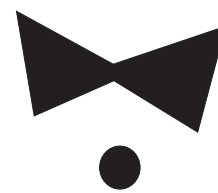
## MIRACLES XXXI

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 12, 2020  
Connecticut Convention Center,  
Hartford, CT

The 31st MIRACLES celebration will support **The Promise Campaign** benefiting Johnson Memorial Hospital. We hope you will join us and honorary chairs, S. Prestley and Helen Blake, for the largest black-tie gala in Connecticut.

The event will feature the presentation of Lifetime Achievement Awards to honorees **Dr. Brendan M. Fox** and **Dr. Bimalin Lahiri**. Guests will enjoy our exclusive wine, whiskey and spirits auction, a spectacular drawing including a chance to win a trip to Ireland and dancing to the sounds of Boston's Beantown Band.



MIRACLES

Miracles XXXI Beneficiary 2020

The Promise Campaign  
Johnson Memorial Hospital



Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees Dr. Brendan M. Fox (top) and Dr. Bimalin Lahiri.

## The Harriet M. Schutzer Fund assists patients who need a helping hand

In 2016, fellow physicians, colleagues and friends of Steven Schutzer, MD, medical director and co-founder of the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, created The Harriet M. Schutzer Patient Assistance Fund in memory of his mother Harriet M. Schutzer. The fund was established to support patients in our community in need of a helping hand for various expenses relating to their orthopedic care at Saint Francis. Harriet had an enduring passion for helping the underserved receive quality healthcare, which played an instrumental role in Dr. Schutzer's life. His mom was instrumental in encouraging him to realize his dream of establishing the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute.

Since inception, nearly \$70,000 has been raised and six patients have benefited from this fund. Linda, from Wallingford, is one of those patients. “There are no words to describe how immensely grateful I am for this fund. It truly gave me my life back and I hope to have my other knee done this spring. I thank those who supported this program for allowing me to work pain free and live debt free,” stated Linda.

For many, healthcare costs prevent them from living an active lifestyle in their retirement years. This program eliminates that stress. We believe Harriet Schutzer is smiling down on its success, and we are grateful to all who made this program a reality.

