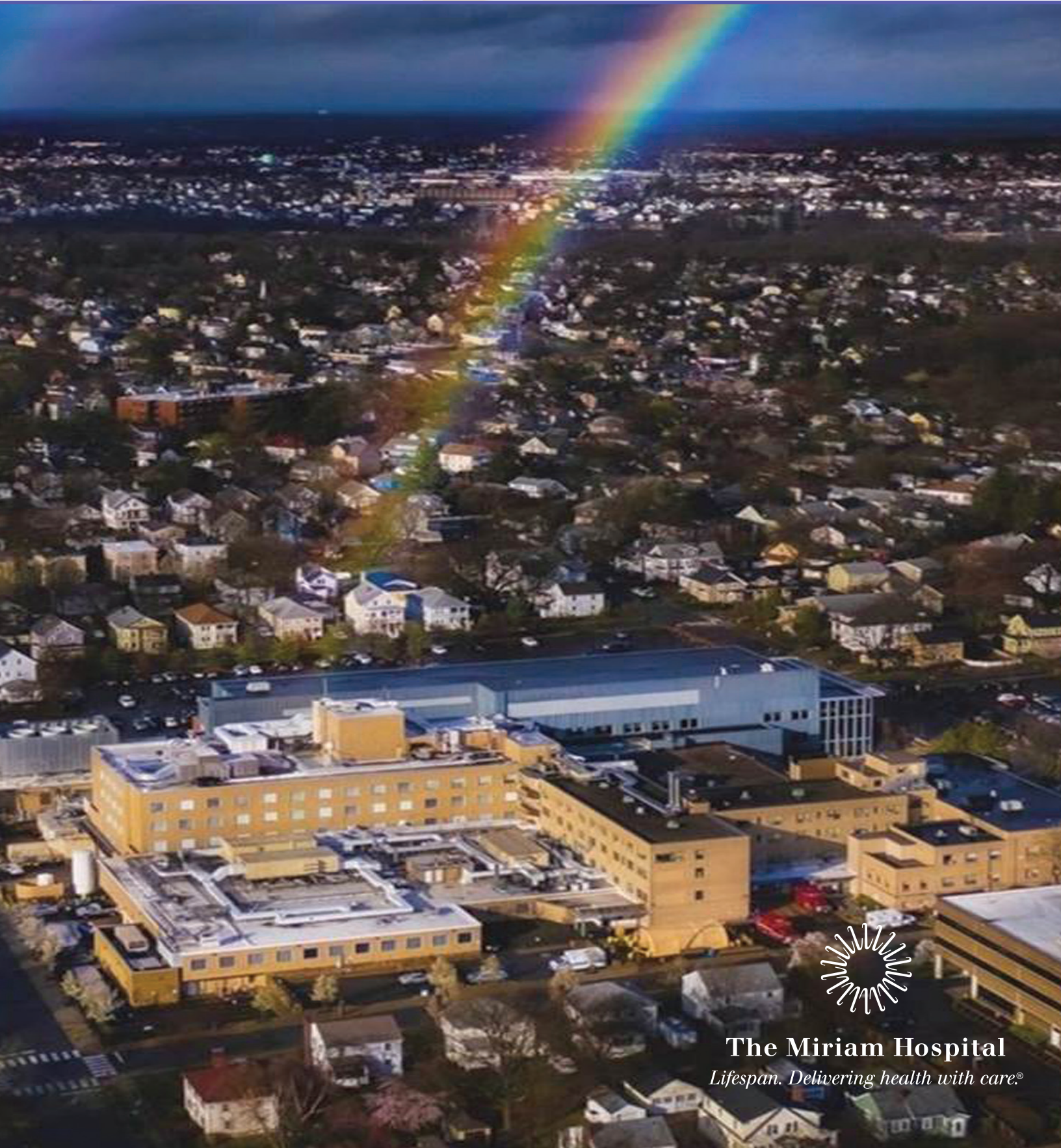


The Miriam *Memo*

2020



The Miriam Hospital

Lifespan. Delivering health with care.®

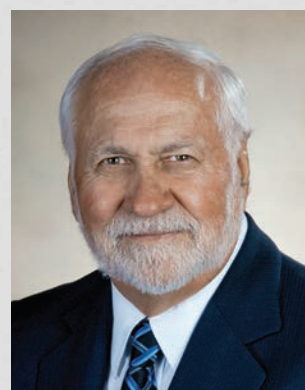


20/20 Vision . . . Far Into the Future

We've all heard how 2020 is "the year of vision and clarity"—a clever play on the fact that 20/20 visual acuity is considered the ideal. Here at The Miriam Hospital, our focus is crystal clear, too. As part of Lifespan, Rhode Island's largest health care system, our sights are firmly set on *Delivering health with care* to the people of southern New England and beyond every day.

Your generosity helps to make much of our work possible, and for that, we are truly grateful. Whether it's clinical care, medical research and education, or community services, we always strive to attain the next level of excellence.

Thank you for sharing in our vision.



Lawrence A. Aubin, Sr.

Lawrence A. Aubin, Sr.

Chairman,
Lifespan Board of Directors and
The Miriam Hospital, Board of Trustees

COVER: Rainbow ending over The Miriam Hospital during the coronavirus crisis in April.

Photo credit: Andrew Bobola



Arthur J. Sampson

President, The Miriam Hospital

It wasn't long ago that COVID-19 first arrived in Rhode Island and changed life as we knew it. The Miriam was the first hospital in the state to treat a patient with the novel coronavirus, and we learned quickly and on our feet how to combat it.

Our doctors, nurses, and support staff showed up for the unknown day in and day out, stepping up for our patients and the community—and I could not be more proud or thankful for all that they do.

In this edition of *The Miriam Memo*, we highlight some of the extraordinary generosity of the last year and share some stories that demonstrate our ability to meet the ever-growing and changing health needs of the community we serve.

Of course, The Miriam would not be able to provide the award-winning, compassionate care it does without your unwavering support. I encourage you to visit miriamhospital.org/2019-Honor-Roll to see the full 2019 Honor Roll of Supporters.

As always, it's your caring and generosity that enable The Miriam to be there for the people who need us most. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Happy reading!

Combating Provider Burnout

Becoming a doctor or nurse is more than a career choice—it is a calling and lifelong commitment. It is also inherently stressful. The level of education and professionalism required, the long hours, the complexity of the health care system, and the impact of their work on the lives of patients and their families can all combine to take a physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual toll.

And now COVID-19 has added an even deeper layer of stress to the role of provider.

But thanks to the generosity of the late Gussie Baxt, the Victor J. Baxt Family Resilience and Wellness Program at The Miriam Hospital is promoting the self-care of physicians, residents, medical students, and nurses with innovative and humanistic resources.

The program is led by Fred J. Schiffman, MD, Sigal Family Professor of Humanistic Medicine, Medical

Director of the Lifespan Cancer Institute, and Associate Physician-in-Chief at The Miriam.

On-the-job strategies for reducing burnout and building resiliency and wellness include such resources as 15-minute massage therapy, mindfulness workshops, designated meditation rooms, psychology wellness checks, and opportunities to learn healthful nutrition.

“Dr. Schiffman is one of our most beloved physicians,” says Arthur J. Sampson, President of The Miriam Hospital. “He understands that the work accomplished through the Resilience and Wellness Program is not just an investment in managing today’s stressors, but in strengthening tomorrow’s health care professionals in their capacity to stay the course.”

The Victor and Gussie Baxt Fund established the Resilience and Wellness Program in 2016, and provided additional support in late 2019.

Kindness Amid COVID-19 Crisis



Bahjat Shariff with his son Jordan

Almost five years later, the memories remain vivid for Bahjat Shariff, and understandably so. “There were times I didn’t think I’d walk out of the hospital,” says the now 55-year-old.

In 2015, Bahjat was admitted to The Miriam’s intensive care unit after suffering severe intestinal bleeding. He underwent 15 blood transfusions and a surgical procedure to repair his bleed, making a full recovery and getting back to his active lifestyle.

Having never needed The Miriam previously, the hospital left an indelible mark.

“The Miriam was amazing in every sense – the way staff went above and beyond in caring for me and my family made all the difference,” he says. “It’s something I’ll never forget.”

Fast forward to March 2020, when the COVID-19 crisis brought the world to a standstill. A longtime restaurant

executive who’d spent his career in hospitality, Bahjat lost his job after two decades with the same company. Then came the call from a friend.

Chris Tarro, owner of the Siena restaurants, needed a hand – he was preparing meals to donate to hospital staff. Bahjat jumped at the chance to help coordinate the effort and be a part of demonstrating the community’s profound appreciation for its health workers.

“Wanting to help is a natural reaction from our industry. When you go into restaurants, you see the plaques for sponsoring baseball teams, and Boy and Girl Scout troops. It’s in their DNA,” says Bahjat. “I’m just the middle guy helping out.”

Kathleen Sullivan, RN, is one of the many frontline caregivers grateful for the community’s kindness.

In her more than three decades as a Miriam nurse and working in the ICU, Kathleen figured she had seen just about everything. That is, until the coronavirus pandemic.

“The big difference is that the acuity is very significant and so many patients are extremely sick at once. There are usually many reasons patients are in the ICU, but not now,” she says.

Adding to this challenge was twofold: virus symptoms that require very specific, very labor intensive treatment, and the emotional toll of standing in at the bedside for families unable to comfort loved ones in person. In place of visits, nurses would coordinate virtual connections via FaceTime and Zoom.

“It might add another aspect to our work,” says Kathy, “but that’s our commitment to patients and their families. And why I’ve been here more than 30 years.”

Within a week of coordinating the first delivery of meals from Siena to The Miriam, word spread to mutual contacts of Chris and Bahjat. Soon, seven restaurants were in on the project, along with a number of volunteer drivers. Meals would also be prepared and brought to staff at Rhode Island Hospital.

“The Miriam was amazing in every sense ... It’s something I’ll never forget.”

—Bahjat Shariff, patient

Before he knew it, Bahjat turned his family’s dining area into a “situation room” to keep track of everything happening.

“Gansett Wraps to The Miriam at 5 p.m. on Thursday. T’s Restaurant by 9 a.m. the following Wednesday for breakfast,” he explains. “It took on a life of its own.”

The additional generosity of Angelo’s Palace Pizza, Antonio’s Pizza by the Slice, Davenport’s, and Kay’s Restaurant had led to more than 1,000 donated meals by the beginning of May.

In the wake of this outpouring of support, Monica Anderson, Lifespan’s Director of Community Relations and Corporate Citizenship, made a quick pivot in

her role – from managing the hospital’s giving to the community, to overseeing the community’s giving to the hospital.

“It has been beyond inspiring. I’m the pass-through of positive energy that is so palpable,” she says. “I’ve had the great honor of seeing firsthand the gratitude and concern for our health care workers.”

Describing the exhausting pace of a 12-hour shift, the necessary PPE, and the emotional roller coaster of unfortunate outcomes and recovered discharges to the music from *Rocky*, Kathy emphasizes how “huge” it is to sit down, enjoy a great meal, and recharge. To have a moment where everyone realizes just how much their work means to others.

“It deepens our camaraderie,” she says, “the food, the masks, coverings, and flowers. It’s all amazing.”

Adds Monica, “If there is any positive in all of this, it’s the humanity and thoughtfulness of one wonderful gesture after another. There is no adequate way to thank people for what they’re doing.”

For Bahjat and the dozens of partners with him, they already feel more than thanked.

“One of the days we brought meals, a bunch of nurses and staff was outside and applauding. It caught us off guard...it’s supposed to be the other way around. They’re saving lives. We’re just bringing them food.”



T’s Restaurant making delivery



Delivery from Siena



Miriam Nurses Receive Sixth Magnet Designation

Widely considered the greatest player in basketball history, Michael Jordan six times reached the pinnacle of his sport, delivering championship trophies to Chicago during his Hall of Fame career. Like Jordan, The Miriam Hospital entered a league of its own this past March, receiving the coveted Magnet distinction for nursing excellence for a sixth consecutive time.

It is such rarified air that The Miriam is now among an elite group of hospitals nationwide and internationally to achieve the four-year designation six times. In the United States, The Miriam is one of only four hospitals to attain the prestigious mark. “This achievement is a testament to the countless contributions of our nurses in the delivery of exemplary patient care and an ingrained culture that allows for an environment that lives and breathes nursing excellence,” says Maria Ducharme, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Vice President of Patient Care, The Miriam Hospital. “This is who we are and what we do every single day. I am both fortunate and honored to work with such outstanding colleagues.”

Magnet recognition is awarded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is based on the most rigorous benchmarks for quality and safety. It is the highest honor available for professional nursing practice.

Achieving the distinction requires a lengthy process that demands widespread hospital participation. The process includes an electronic application, written patient care documentation, an on-site visit, and a review by a special commission. In addition to being a unanimous selection of the commission, surveyors awarded The Miriam exemplars in seven areas, more than in any recent Magnet review.

“Exemplars are best practices that highlight exceptional nursing excellence—they indicate that we’re outperforming national benchmarks,” says Lynn D’Angelo, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Director of Professional Practice, Innovation and Magnet at The Miriam.

Added Maria, “Surveyors also remarked on our nurses’ spirit of patient centeredness and their unwavering pursuit of the best evidence to care for their patients. I couldn’t agree more.”

Dr. Athena Poppas Appointed to Prestigious Role

On March 30, 2020, Lifespan's own Athena Poppas, MD, FACC, stepped into the prestigious national role as president of the American College of Cardiologists (ACC).

The ACC is a professional organization that sets many standards impacting cardiology care around the world.

Dr. Poppas is Chief of Cardiology and Director of the Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute at Rhode Island, The Miriam and Newport hospitals and a professor of medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She specializes in valvular heart disease, heart disease in women, and echocardiography and heart disease in pregnancy, and focuses her research on echocardiography and heart disease in women and the elderly.



Athena Poppas, MD, FACC

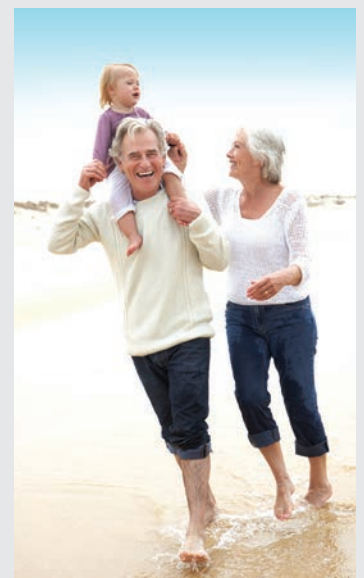
“We are very proud of Dr. Poppas and to have one of our physicians serve in this significant leadership role,” says Lifespan President and CEO Timothy Babineau, MD. “We have some of the best cardiac care in the country right here in Rhode Island and Dr. Poppas’ new role with help showcase that.”

Ways of Giving

If you are like many people, you have seen the value of your investments fluctuate with the markets over the years. The good news is that with a charitable gift annuity's fixed payments, you can find the peace of mind that you are looking for while also supporting the important work happening at The Miriam Hospital.

With a charitable gift annuity, you make a gift to the hospital and in return, we will make fixed payments to you for life. After all payments have been made, The Miriam Hospital will receive the remaining value of your gift. In addition you may also receive the added benefits of partially tax-free payments and a charitable deduction in the year that you set up the gift annuity.

For more information on how you can help ensure the future of The Miriam Hospital, please contact Chris Josephson at (401) 444-6412 or chris.josephson@lifespan.org, or visit themiriamhospitallegacy.org.



Generous Gift Expands Lyme Center's Capabilities



Tis the season . . . for ticks. And that's not good news around here, because Rhode Island has a high incidence of tick-borne illness, specifically Lyme disease.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says there were 7,983 total cases of Lyme disease in Rhode Island between 2000 and 2016. But their data only counts confirmed cases reported to them, which, the CDC acknowledges, represent just a fraction of the actual volume and the real number could be 10 times higher!

“Not everyone who has Lyme disease has the telltale bull’s-eye rash, is administered a course of antibiotics, and recovers quickly,” says Timothy Flanigan, MD, Infectious Diseases. “Far more, unfortunately, have symptoms that can be vague and mimic those of countless other conditions. So, patients may go to their primary doctor complaining of chronic fatigue and lethargy, headaches, stiffness, fever, chills, body aches, joint pains, etc., and be told it’s something else—when in fact, it’s Lyme disease or another tick-borne illness.”

Dr. Flanigan serves as co-director of the Lifespan Lyme Disease Center at The Miriam, alongside Jennie Johnson, MD, from the Division of Infectious Diseases

at Brown Medicine. The center has infectious disease specialists working in collaboration with behavioral health specialists, physical therapists, and other health care professionals to offer an innovative, multi-faceted approach to treatment that’s specifically designed to help patients feel and function better and achieve their health goals.

A recent grant from the Collis Foundation—an organization that has been making grants to Rhode Island nonprofits that support family, education, and health for nearly 25 years—will enable providers to see more patients. “The Miriam has a sophistication and expertise around the Lyme complex that no in-hospital program locally can match,” says Frohman Anderson, a director of the Collis Foundation. “So, we’re proud to support them as they build on their already stellar work.”

Specifically, the Collis Foundation will be matching all donor gifts to the center for the next two years up to a total of \$100,000. The money will be used to hire and train a nurse practitioner to expand access to more patients. “We invite our fellow Rhode Islanders to join us in helping to advance The Miriam’s Lyme Center capabilities,” Frohman adds, “because our state is really underserved in this area.”

Frohman’s own family has been waging a difficult, complicated battle against the disease for years. His son and daughter suffer from chronic Lyme disease, as does his sister and two of her children.

“It’s a significant public health concern that touches many lives,” Dr. Flanigan reiterates, “and without this gift, we would not be able to expand our services or fulfill our vision. So, we are extremely grateful to the Collis Foundation for their support.”

Q&A: Dr. Timothy J. Babineau

Timothy J. Babineau, MD, is president and chief executive officer of Lifespan. He previously led Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital.



Timothy J. Babineau, MD

Why do you believe philanthropy is so important to the hospital?

Support from our donor community plays a vital role in enabling us to keep pace with the ever-evolving advances in medicine and science. Philanthropy affords us the opportunity to ensure our physical environment matches the exceptional caliber of the people who work here and our ability to take programs to new heights. Within The Miriam’s cancer program, more access to genomic testing and clinical trials, and expanded treatment for genitourinary cancers are just a few of the amazing demonstrations of the power of philanthropy.

What are the most pressing issues facing health care today?

From my perspective, one of the most challenging issues surrounds fiscal responsibility. Buildings need to be upgraded, technology is rapidly changing, and treatment costs are rising as reimbursement rates are diminishing. While more patients are either uninsured or underinsured, we turn no one away because of their inability to pay. This is another area where philanthropic support really had an impact on our mission of delivering health with care.

If someone could know just one thing about The Miriam, what would you want it to be?

The Miriam is an invaluable community asset—one built by its community, for its community. And that foundation has fostered both a tradition and culture of excellence that you simply don’t find everywhere. This hospital, nestled in a Providence neighborhood, has received national and international accolades. Yet, The Miriam cannot serve the community without the support of the community, both philanthropic and otherwise. Hospitals that thrive in this country are those that are embraced, supported, and cherished by the community. I know we all want The Miriam to remain in that peer group.

The Miriam People Society

The Miriam People Society was founded by past chair and Miriam Hospital visionary Stanley Grossman to encourage and recognize supporters who give \$1,000 or more on an annual basis, and Founders who have cumulative giving of \$25,000 or more to the hospital over their lifetime. These special Founder supporters are recognized as members of The Miriam People Society for life. As a member, you will see how your gifts are making a difference every day in the lives of our patients and their families. You’ll receive regular news and information from us and invitations to special events, including The Miriam People Dinner, our annual fall gathering that provides us an opportunity to say “thank you” for our donors’ support.



To become a member of The Miriam People Society, please call 401-793-2004.

A Miriam Tradition Stands the Test of Time



Susan Kaplan

Susan H. Kaplan

Chair
The Miriam Hospital Foundation
Board of Trustees

As I approach my third year of serving as chair of the Foundation Board of Trustees, my appreciation for all that we have accomplished here continues to deepen with each passing day.

Our hospital is extremely fortunate to have a donor community whose long tradition of generosity continuously propels The Miriam to new levels of innovation and excellence. It is thanks to the selfless philanthropy of individuals, families, businesses, organizations, and foundations that we have weathered difficult times, celebrated unprecedented successes, and look to the future with unbridled hope.

The Miriam strives to meet the health needs of everyone in the community—our friends, neighbors, and loved ones. And we do so with a spirit of collaboration and a desire to make life the best it can be for those in our care. We are proud to be recognized among the best of the best hospitals in the country and are very grateful you are part of The Miriam Hospital family. Our success is your success as well.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Trustees, thank you for your unwavering commitment to The Miriam.

The Miriam Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees

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*We extend our deepest sympathies
to the family of the recently
deceased H. Jack Feibelman.*

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Hurvitz Award and Scholarship Help Keep the “Chase” Going

“**W**e are going to relentlessly chase perfection, knowing full well we will not catch it, because nothing is perfect. But we are going to relentlessly chase it, because in the process we will catch excellence.” This quote from legendary coach Vince Lombardi was about football. But a legendary supporter of The Miriam—Arthur Hurvitz, a hospital and foundation board member, Quality Oversight Committee member, and Person of the Year—often references it to describe the commitment hospital staff should always keep top of mind as it goes about *Delivering health with care*.

“Arthur repeats that quote to me all the time,” acknowledges Maria Ducharme, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Vice President of Patient Care. “But more importantly, he enables us to make those words actionable through his generous support and passionate advocacy.”

The Arthur and Joyce Hurvitz Quality Awards and the Hurvitz Nursing Scholarship Endowed Fund are philanthropic efforts that drive The Miriam’s pursuit of quality and safety excellence. The annual quality awards honor three hospital teams, and the 2020 fund of \$10,000 is shared based on winners’



Maria Ducharme; Joyce and Arthur Hurvitz; and Holly Palermo

designation—\$5,000 for gold, \$3,000 for silver, and \$2,000 for bronze. Recipients use the money for continuing education, conferences, or other opportunities that will enhance the quality and safety of care. This year, teams were recognized for:

- **Gold** – Working to decrease *C. difficile* infections and improve patient outcomes
- **Silver** – Increasing hospital workforce safety awareness and reporting
- **Bronze** – Improving pain control, anxiety, and safety by reducing opioid medication prescriptions, while lowering costs and optimizing capacity

Established in 1998, the scholarship fund specifically supports the hospital’s award-winning nurses. Currently, the fund is valued at \$500,000 and generates approximately \$15,000 annually for nurses to continue their education.

As Arthur’s daughter, Karen, points out: “My father believes strongly that nurses have a tremendous impact on care and make a substantial difference in patient outcomes. They care for patients 24/7 and are truly the ones who create the healing environment in any hospital. They deserve appreciation for their efforts and support to ensure they continue to grow and keep pace with the rapid changes in medicine, technology, and best practices.” And that approach is paying off. In March, The Miriam again earned Magnet designation, the highest honor available for professional nursing practices. “Arthur has always understood that recognizing those who make quality and safety a priority is a foundational element of establishing and driving a culture of excellence,” Maria says. “His generosity not only rewards excellence at The Miriam, but ensures our chase for perfection continues.”

Emergency Department Project Addresses Critical Space Issue



It has only been six years, but a lot has changed since 2014 when The Miriam Hospital completed a total renovation and expansion of its emergency department. The updates to the 30-year-old facility more than doubled the ED’s square footage and treatment rooms and was designed to meet the future needs of the community. Except patient visits have consistently continued to climb, and already, more space is needed.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, volume at The Miriam’s ED was approaching 80,000 patients a year—far surpassing maximum capacity. The dramatic escalation was driven in part by the closing of nearby Memorial Hospital in January 2018. Additionally, as with hospitals across the nation, The Miriam is seeing increased numbers accessing health care through the ED because of insufficient or no health care insurance, as well as increasing incidences of patients presenting with mental or behavioral health care problems, including opiate and other substance abuse issues.

“Handling such a significant increase in volume is problematic to say the least,” explains Denise Brennan,

MSN, RN, CNL, Director, Emergency Services and VIR Nursing. “We really need to increase capacity and improve flow—and our new ED extension and renovation project is intended to do just that.”

Much of the proposed work will focus on an identified bottleneck: The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) entrance and nine-bed waiting area. Currently, this space is used to hold and triage patients delivered by ambulance who must wait to relocate either to an ED treatment room or to another unit, depending on their medical needs. The project will convert the EMS waiting room and adjacent offices into 12 new treatment rooms, a nurse’s station, and staff amenities.

“Removing the waiting area and expanding available treatment beds will allow all patients to be brought into an ED treatment room and triaged promptly upon arrival, with most patients remaining in their assigned treatment room until treated and discharged,” explains Robert Boss, Clinical Manager, Emergency Unit. “As a result, patient relocation will be dramatically reduced, and wait times for all patients will also be shorter, ensuring the current walk-in ED waiting room is sufficient for our census.”

The project—which also calls for the restructuring of an exterior building alcove and the creation of a basement under the current clinical floor—will be completed in three phases over 14 months and brought to fruition with the help of our generous donor family.

“As a small community hospital, we rely heavily on philanthropy to get critical projects like this done,” Denise says. “Quite frankly, without that support, I don’t think we’d be able to do it.”

The Power of Giving Hearts

When David and Betsey Kilmartin married in 1966, they not only started a life together, they also created a charitable trust. While not your typical newlywed investment, a charitable trust would enable them to help others in the future and that was important to them. Today, more than 50 years later, their forward thinking is making an impact on nursing education at The Miriam Hospital.

David grew up in The Miriam neighborhood and The Miriam has been the Kilmartins' hospital of choice for generations. "I couldn't believe more firmly in the hospital and the way they do things. David was there throughout his life," says Betsey.

After leaving the Navy, David joined his father's tool making business that manufactured presidential coins and medallions, and medals for two Olympics. David had four children when he married Betsey, and together, they had a daughter, Kelly.

Betsey says they "lived modestly" while always feeding the charitable trust. David self-managed the trust's funds and invested wisely.

"David's father was always big on when you could help others, you should help. And he would do it quietly," says Betsey. So, the couple often donated to local schools and community organizations and David financially supported his employees' educational goals.

"For my dad, education was very important. He felt he never accomplished anything because he didn't go to college, despite being brilliant," Kelly explains.

Since David's passing in 2017, Betsey's life has been saved by The Miriam twice. First when she was diagnosed and treated for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. And second, after her primary care doctor detected a rapid and irregular heartbeat and quickly referred Betsey to cardiologist Raymond Russell, MD, PhD, at



Kelly, David, and Betsey Kilmartin

the Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute's Cardio-Oncology Program at The Miriam.

"The Miriam is an amazing hospital and we wanted to give back. The nurses on the cardiac floor while my mom was there were the glue that held things together," says Kelly. As a nurse herself, Kelly knows the importance of education as well as the financial challenges of pursuing advanced training, so it was a natural fit to donate to nursing education.

Created in 2019, The David and Betsey Kilmartin Nursing Education Award is an annual honor presented to a nurse or nurse practitioner in the cardiology and/or cardio-oncology departments at The Miriam to support ongoing educational opportunities. The first award was given to nurse practitioner Ashley Arnold.

"We are excited the first award was given and that we get to help contribute to the Magnet status by supporting the education of nurses," says Betsey. "Nurses really are the backbone."

"I think he'd be very happy," says Betsey of David, "And say that we're making too much of a fuss."

Integrative Therapies Make a Difference Hospital-Wide

A young man in his 20s had just undergone a colostomy at The Miriam Hospital. It was a temporary procedure, but the patient on the 4B unit was in such distress that he couldn't bear to look at his stoma, let alone engage in his post-surgical care.

“He was on pain medication, but his anxiety was so intense,” says Julia Twining, RN, the advanced practice manager of 4B. “He was really struggling.”

Julia talked with the young man about his feelings. Then, as a certified reiki practitioner, she offered him the therapy, which Julia describes as “a gentle, loving transfer of energy.”

“After 45 minutes, the young man said he felt like ‘the darkness had lifted.’ He was able to look at his stoma for the first time,” says Julia. “He began taking care of himself.”

Integrative therapies are not new to The Miriam Hospital. But today, Julia Twining and a team of certified holistic nurses are offering reiki, guided imagery, hand and full massage, and other



relaxation techniques to patients hospital-wide as a nonpharmacological intervention for pain, anxiety, and fatigue.

Philanthropic support helped launch the Integrative Therapy Program in April 2019. By the end of the year, 1,300 inpatients had received complementary therapies. A three-month clinical study of a sampling of those patients, also supported by philanthropy, showed positive results.

“People are looking for other ways to manage pain, partly to avoid opioids, but also in the larger context of good self-care,” says Maria Ducharme, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Vice President of Patient Care. “When patients respond to integrative therapies, they understand that they can take this home with them. That’s very empowering and exciting.”

The Miriam’s providers are excited, too. One surgeon told Julia, “I don’t know what you did, but my patient had a tremendous turn-around.” Amy Schenck, one of three RNs on the integrative therapies team, recalls the relief that reiki provided one patient and, by extension, his distressed loved ones. “This is the essence of holistic nursing,” she says.

Providers are taking the program to heart, says Julia—many are practicing their own self-care.

“We’ve just skimmed the surface,” says Dr. Ducharme. “There is so much potential for adding modalities and expanding the program to more and more patients. We are deeply grateful to the donors who made it all possible.”

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INTO THE 20S

THE MIRIAM HOSPITAL
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For more information about tickets, sponsorship opportunities,
or auction items, please call (401) 793-2062
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Thank You to Our Supporters

Although this year's event did not go on as planned, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Nancy and Howard Safran, MD who have graciously agreed to remain event chairs for next year's event, and their entire committee for their tireless efforts on behalf of The Miriam Hospital.

We also thank all our supporters below for their unwavering commitment and generosity and for redesignating 2020 Gala support to a charitable donation in support of The Miriam's greatest needs.

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Supporter Spotlight: University Orthopedics



UOI staff enjoying 2019 Gala & Auction

Physicians are a vital part of not only the medical community at The Miriam, but also the hospital's donor family. University Orthopedics, Inc. (UOI), a medical group of almost 50 orthopedic and musculoskeletal specialists in Rhode Island, has a long history of partnering with The Miriam clinically, educationally, and philanthropically.

With a mission to provide the highest quality orthopedic care integrated with world-class education and research, UOI physicians have been integral in the education and training of residents and fellows at The Miriam for decades. The biggest programmatic success the two have shared began in 2011, with the collaboration to create the Total Joint Center (TJC). Today, the Total Joint Center at The Miriam Hospital, a program of the Lifespan

Orthopedics Institute, is a center of excellence dedicated to delivering state-of-the-art joint replacement for the hip, knee, and shoulder. Focusing on the patient experience from the initial consultation through recovery is the key to the center's success and it shows in the numbers of patients treated and extremely high patient satisfaction. The TJC is the region's highest volume joint replacement program, hallmarked with clinical and quality outcomes that rank consistently among the top in the nation.

"We have great pride for what has been built with The Miriam Hospital," says Edward Akelman, MD, President of University Orthopedics. "The quality, consistency, and safety of the services and patient care the program is repeatedly recognized for are a true testament to the culture of compassion and commitment to excellence that The Miriam is known for." Philanthropically, University Orthopedics is committed to supporting the community. In addition to hosting an annual 5K race that supports a different local charity each year, their charitable giving committee reviews requests for local support and sponsors numerous community sports teams and charity events. For The Miriam Hospital, UOI has been a lead supporter of The Miriam Gala & Auction for 15 years. They have recently supported the Miriam's *Campaign for the Next Generation*, with a \$250,000 gift.

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We invite you to learn more by contacting the Development Office at 401-793-2004 or visit miriamhospital.org/Donate.