

Gift of Health

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for donors of
Saint Joseph Mercy
Health System

WINTER 2020

BeRemarkable.



Thanks to donors like you,
Richard Beckerson was able to walk out of the
hospital after 120 days of care for COVID-19.

Story on page 2

You Are A Hero

Your partnership in our healing mission makes remarkable care like this possible...

Richard Beckerson arrived at St. Joe's Ann Arbor on March 29, unable to breathe. His chance of surviving COVID-19 was estimated at 30 percent. During his 120-day hospitalization, St. Joe's physicians, nurses, therapists and staff worked tirelessly on Richard's behalf as he fought for his life and then to rehabilitate.

Thanks to donor support for our COVID-19 response and ongoing dedication to St. Joe's robust cancer research program, we were quickly able to participate in expanded access of experimental treatments. Richard was placed on a ventilator for 5 weeks and underwent a complicated, innovative course of treatment. He was among patients treated with the medication Remdesivir and one of the first to receive treatment using plasma from a person who had recovered from COVID-19 in an effort to treat the virus.

"We were able to get him off that ventilator and ultimately down to the rehabilitation unit," shared Dr. Stephen Bloom, DO, St. Joe's, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. "So he's been on our inpatient rehabilitation unit for over 58 days, and now...he's walking out of the hospital today and we couldn't be happier for him."

"I'll certainly miss a lot of people from here because everybody's top notch," shared Richard. On July 28, St. Joe's staff joined Richard and his family in celebrating reaching his goal of walking out of the hospital.



With help from family and St. Joe's, COVID plasma patient goes home



Sean's Recovery Journey: Fighting COVID-19 and a Stroke with Help from St. Joe's



Sean McCusker received an enthusiastic clap-out from healthcare colleagues at St. Joe's Oakland on June 12, after 64 days of battling COVID-19 and a stroke at the same time. The 51-year-old was able to see his children for the first time in months. Jody DiMaria, Director of Rehabilitation Services at SJMO, said, "There was not a dry eye in the house."

His determination and the love of his family, accompanied by the tireless care provided by physicians, nurses, therapists and other support staff, made his recovery possible. Sean required ventilation support for a few days, and then moved to the ICU. After the stroke, Sean had significant visual impairments and non-fluent aphasia. He also had lost much of his ability to move his right arm and leg. As he slowly recovered, he moved to a step-down floor and began to work with the physical, occupational, and speech therapy teams. When he moved to Inpatient Rehab, he still required a Hoyer lift, and was unable to sit unsupported.

"The therapists, doctors, nurses, and janitorial staff were so caring and pleasant," shared Marla. "They were like our family while he was there." When reflecting on his time at St. Joe's, Sean says, "People were so helpful, every one of them. They were amazing, and always joked with me to keep my spirits up every day."

Sean, who continued improving, completed his first walking training on May 30. A week and a half later, he walked 12 feet with assistance and the parallel bars. Within a few days, he walked 70 feet with a cane and support from a physical therapist. On June 12, 64 days after his arrival, Sean was discharged home to his family.



A Message of Thanks from Shannon Striebich, President, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

"We are so grateful to our generous donors, who have supported critical needs for our hospital and our frontline team so they could be here serving our patients like Sean during this challenging time," shared Shannon Striebich, president, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland. "Every single dollar given has helped us to prioritize safety and be able to care for our community. The giving spirit and seeing everyone come together has been inspiring."

Thank You...

You are making it possible to provide the best level of protection to our frontline healthcare workers

Your investment in St. Joe's COVID-19 response allowed us to purchase more than \$70,000 in Powered Air-Purifying Respirators (PAPRs). A PAPR is a type of personal respirator used to safeguard workers against contaminated air. The system protects against multiple hazards helping to provide respiratory, head, face, eye and hearing protection. Denise Bechard, Emergency Manager, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, Chelsea, and Livingston, shared this message with donors:



Dear Donors,

I cannot adequately put into words the gratitude I have for your generous contributions to support us through this pandemic, but especially with the funding of new PAPRs for our hospitals.

I wish you could have seen the expression on our healthcare workers faces, including those of us who work behind the scenes, when it was communicated that our donors were funding the purchase. The relief and excitement, immeasurable.

The common goal of the organization is to keep our healthcare workers safe while caring for those afflicted with COVID-19 during this pandemic.

The severity of the patients cared for during this pandemic has been life changing for our healthcare workers and their heroism has shone through some of the darkest circumstances when feeling isolated along with the patients they were serving.

Knowing that there are people like you out there who truly care and want to help has warmed and healed the hearts of those closest to the work. In the midst of a global crisis, you have shown compassion, kindness, generosity, and love for humankind that makes all of this easier and motivates all of us to continue doing this good and important work.

Much Appreciation,

Denise Bechard

Emergency Manager, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, Chelsea and Livingston

Thank you to our donors across Saint Joseph Mercy Health System

Because of supporters like you, during our
COVID-19 response, we have



Received \$1.9 million+ from
1,000+ individuals, businesses
and foundations



Purchased vital medical supplies
and equipment through the
COVID-19 Response Fund



Prepared inpatient units
for COVID-19 patients



Received \$215,000+
in donated PPE
for frontline staff



Received \$130,000+ in meals and
gift cards to feed our teams



Received \$45,000 in amenities
to help improve the experience
for our frontline team and
patients



Received 1,000+ handmade
masks from 100 sewers



Provided 475 colleagues with
\$816,000+ in aid through the
Colleague Emergency Assistance Fund



Protected thousands of hands
with 171,000+ ounces of locally
produced hand sanitizer



Brought countless smiles
through special gifts and
acts of kindness

St. Joe's Office of Development

Your continued support helps us

- Sustain our COVID-19 response during this second surge in patients.
- Procure PPE, supplies and medical equipment to keep our colleagues and patients safe.
- Support our colleagues in need of emergency financial assistance.
- Help to sustain our COVID-19 only units and expanded ICU capacity to improve treatment and protect St. Joe's colleagues and patients.

COVID-19 Prevention:

- Wear a mask
- Practice social distancing
- Wash your hands frequently

Together, we are living out our healing mission.

Thank you for supporting
St. Joe's

BeRemarkable.

Your generosity helps sustain our healing mission.

For more information, visit

stjoeshealth.org/giving or call 734-712-4040.

Planting the seeds for a healthier future

Celebrating 10 years of your generous support for the Farm at St. Joe's!



The Farm at St. Joe's is more than a farm, it always has been. Since its beginning in 2010, our donors have shared in our vision to grow a healthy community by empowering people through food, education, and relationships. From planting seeds, to growing and harvesting fresh produce, to learning the nutritional value of fresh foods. From partnering in the sustainable farming and local farm-to-table movement, to creating access for all. From joining together in the knowledge that food is medicine, to living healthier lives by nourishing body, mind and spirit.

You have made it possible for The Farm and the programs it supports to continue to grow. You have made an impact through your investment in education programs, kids camps, the test kitchen, our handicapped accessible hoop house, food assistance programs and more. Philanthropy provides key funding for the Farm's programming and immeasurable happiness for the hundreds who benefit each year.

"The Farm at St. Joe's is about community, and how we can work together to make healthy, fresh food a part of everyone's daily lives," said Amanda Sweetman, Director of Farming and Healthy Lifestyles, Trinity Health Michigan.

One of the first hospital-based farms in the nation and the first in the state, the Farm's mission and your commitment were never more at the forefront than during this past year and the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.



Tracie a Farm Shares member since 2019.

Building on your support to respond to the need for nutritious food during COVID-19

COVID Food Assistance Program was made possible through your philanthropic support, and helped get healthy, local food to home-bound, food insecure community members. This innovative program also relied on community partnerships with The Farm at St. Joe's including Hope Clinic, Food Gatherers, JFS of Washtenaw County, and Cherry Capital Foods.

Market Connection Program funded by the Children's Foundation of Michigan was an innovative response to hunger. Qualifying families received \$100 in Ypsi Area Online Market credit to buy local fruits and vegetables and other staples with safety-focused curbside pickup at several locations including St. Joe's Farm. This virtual farmers market, operated in partnership with Growing Hope, also supported local farms and ultimately sustainable farming.

St. Joe's Farm Share Program is another way generous support makes a difference, allowing free "shares," to go to families who need help securing food – it includes weekly or bi-weekly box/bag of seasonal fruits and vegetables grown onsite and at local farms.

The Farm at St. Joe's by the Numbers 2020

900 Bags of Produce
Delivered through the COVID
Food Assistance Program

232 Farm Share participants
this season and 73 free shares
for those in financial need

4,500 pounds of fresh
vegetables and fruits, improving
the health of those participating
in the Produce for Patients Program

100 Market Connection credits
serving local families purchasing
healthy foods

\$150,000 in revenue for
Michigan Farms participating
programs and partnerships.

Thank you to our Farm Heroes

When an urgent need to cover the cost of the Farm Share program through July and August 2020 arose, donor Steve Sarns came to the rescue with a gift of \$12,000. "Nutritious farm fresh produce is a vital key to keeping us healthy for a lifetime. When I learned of The Farm's need during the pandemic, I supported them due to all they offer to the people in our community," shared Steve. His generous support covered the cost of 40 families who received 12 weeks of produce for fresh daily meals.

Continued on page 10...

A Message of Thanks from Alonzo Lewis, President, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston

"We are grateful to our donors who have stood with us to combat COVID-19, especially in our efforts to create equitable care. Throughout this pandemic your gifts helped serve all those in need, including the two hardest hit zip codes in Washtenaw County – providing treatment, pop-up testing and programs to create food security," said Alonzo Lewis, President, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston. "You have helped keep our staff and community safe and ensured people were not going without medical attention and basic resources, including nutritious food, which is key to physical, mental and emotional health."

Thank You...

for partnering with St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea for 50 years!

As we celebrate 50 years of serving and partnering with our communities, we recognize that your giving and dedication have been an integral part of our history, making remarkable care possible.

Since its opening in 1970, the hospital has grown significantly, especially in recent years, moving from an independent hospital to a member of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, to a joint venture between Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and Michigan Medicine.

After 50 years of growth and accolades for patient safety, satisfaction and quality, St. Joe's Chelsea is planning for the future. The 2018 joint venture has ensured close collaboration between two large health care systems, and today that strategy is bringing new services, physicians and opportunities to our community.

In the past year alone, St. Joe's Chelsea has credentialed more than 100 new doctors and now has a medical staff of approximately 750 physicians. A staff of roughly 1,200 employees has discharged more than 5,000 patients, completed 8,000 surgeries, and compassionately managed 20,000 visits to the Emergency Department. In addition, plans are underway for expanded opportunities for physical medicine and rehabilitation, endocrinology, orthopedic surgery and general surgery.

"It has been an honor for me to join the circle of committed donors who help make St. Joe's Chelsea a leader in patient care," said Alon Weizer, MD, Chief Medical Officer, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, and Professor, Department of Urology, Michigan Medicine. "As we look to our future, it's exciting to have partners who share our vision for a community hospital that provides innovative, high-value patient-centered care to achieve the best outcomes."



Major milestones in the history of St. Joe's Chelsea:

1970: Chelsea Community Hospital opens with acute care beds

1974: Ambulatory surgery center; inpatient psychiatric and substance abuse care; and six-bed critical care / intensive care unit opens

1978: Head Pain program and U of M Family Medicine Teaching Service launch

1980: Therapy wing, inpatient rehab, radiology space and dining facilities open

1992: Surgery, diagnostic imaging and lab expand

2006: Professional Office Building opens

2009: Becomes part of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System

2012: Grand opening of Atrium with new ER, private patient rooms, therapy and radiology space

2014: Hospital name changes to St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea

2015: Cancer Center opens

2018: Hospital becomes a joint venture hospital between Michigan Medicine and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System

2019: Robotic surgery and Bariatric surgery programs launch and 7th OR opens

2020: 8th OR opens

A Message of Thanks from Nancy Graebner, President, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea

"Thank you for 50 years of generosity, commitment, and vision. Your partnership inspires our team and makes it possible to serve our communities. This year, in the wake of the COVID-19 health crisis, you continued to invest and trust in our hospital. We thank you for the donations, kind encouragement, prayers and assistance for our staff and patients, and your commitment to social distancing and staying safe. We are honored and grateful that during a time of crisis, when your families and businesses faced uncertainty, you chose to help sustain our healing mission with your generous support."

Making a difference, every day, for five decades ...

With your support we have made remarkable investments and progress including establishing community programs, expanding advanced care, and enhancing our healing environment on our hospital campus. Your support makes a difference in the lives of patients and families in our community every day:

SRSLY

In 2008, SRSLY was established with the support and insight of individual donors and foundations. To date, you have given more than \$1.7 million to make this important program possible, building on a partnership between the hospital and community. Since 2008, 3,252 student and adult volunteers have provided 42,194 hours working to prevent youth substance through engaging, safe programming. This program is a model of success and has expanded from SRSLY Chelsea to other local cities.

Cancer Center

Your transformational giving for the "Branching Out" Campaign, co-chaired by Carole and Howdy Holmes, allowed St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea to open its state-of-the-art Cancer Center in 2015. Gifts for the campaign surpassed goal, reaching \$6.6 million. Today, your investment makes it possible for our Cancer Center to serve 80 patients a day, with a total of 20,800 visits each year. In addition to medical oncology, infusion services and radiation oncology treatments, St. Joe's has approximately 100 cancer research trials open at any given time, allowing new options for treatment and symptom management in cancer surgeries as well as chemo-, radiation-, immuno- and targeted therapies. Your gifts help patients in the communities we serve to have excellent care close to home.

Behavioral Health Unit

Your generous gifts totaling more than \$3.25 million allowed us to expand and renew our Behavioral Health inpatient unit, building on five decades of serving patients facing depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and thought disorders, such as schizophrenia. The new inpatient unit serves patients who rely on St. Joe's Chelsea for a continuum of services that address the physical, psychological and social aspects of well-being and meet the specific needs of patients and their families.

Continued on page 10...

Breast Imaging Services

Your investment of nearly \$870,000 has helped build on our certified Breast Imaging Center of Excellence. In October 2019, your giving made vital screening and diagnostic services possible with the purchase of a breast coil for our 3T MRI unit, and recently, a new 3-D mammography unit. While COVID-19 resulted in a slight delay in installation, the new 3-D unit has been fully operational since July 2020 and has reduced wait times for routine appointments from eight weeks to two. The state-of-the-art model doubles as a stereotactic breast biopsy system for patients who rely on the best in advanced care at our hospital. Your support is greatly benefiting patients - between July 2019 and June 2020 alone, more than 12,000 screenings were provided.

Wellness Paths

Your gifts and commitment to good health have helped expand and enhance our tree-lined, scenic Wellness Paths, including closing a gap between the hospital and the professional building. The lighted and paved pathways are not only used by our staff and our patients seeking a full range of high quality compassionate care daily, they also sustain our campus as a haven for fitness and wellness and connect us to our community, including seniors at Silver Maples, who use and greatly appreciate the paths.

To learn more about how giving makes a difference at St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, contact Jennifer Maisch in the Office of Development at 734-649-7481 or Jennifer.Maisch@stjoeshealth.org

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The Children's Foundation was a lead supporter launching the Market Connection Program with a grant of \$10,000. This built on their commitment which began with a \$40,380 grant in 2019 to purchase a new tractor. In 2020, the Foundation did not stop with one grant, but also awarded \$23,815 to purchase a pallet jack for the tractor and to provide farm shares to children and families. The Foundation is making a daily impact.

"The ongoing success of our mission would not be possible without such generous support," shared David Ripple, Vice President for Development, SJMHS. "The ability to feed your family and yourself with nutritious food is at the root of good health, and we are so grateful to the individuals, corporations and foundations who join with us and the community on a path toward better health."

To learn more about The Farm at St. Joe's and creating food security for all, visit st.joesfarm.org, or contact Jana McNair, Development Director, at 734-712-3919 or Jana.McNair@stjoeshealth.org, or Melissa Sheppard, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at 734-712-4079 or Melissa.Sheppard@stjoeshealth.org.

Your support has helped the farm grow and add to the vibrancy of our communities - learn more about the Farm at St. Joe's second location at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland on page 14.

Remembering the Felician Sisters

In the wake of this pandemic, our St. Mary Mercy Livonia family experienced the sad loss of 13 Felician Sisters who lived in the Livonia, Michigan convent. The Felician Sisters founded the hospital in 1959, and today, our staff lives out their commitment to serving all those in need. Please join us in remembering:

Sister Mary Luiza Wawrzyniak
Sister Celine Marie Lesinski
Sister Mary Estelle Printz
Sister Thomas Marie Wadowski
Sister Mary Patricia Pyszynski
Sister Mary Clarence (Adeline) Borkoski
Sister Rose Mary Wolak

Sister Mary Janice (Margaret) Zolkowsk
Sister Mary Alice Ann (Fernanda) Gradowski
Sister Victoria Marie Indyk
Sister Mary Martinez (Virginia) Rozek
Sister Mary Madeleine (Frances) Dolan
Sister Mary Danatha (Lottie) Suchyta

St. Mary Mercy Livonia Community Support and Strategic Leadership in Response to COVID-19

With your support St. Mary Mercy Livonia has been a pillar of strength and compassion in the fight against COVID-19. During the spring surge, the city of Livonia had the greatest number of positive cases in Southeast Michigan outside of Detroit. With an influx of patients facing severe illness, the hospital took immediate action to expand ICU space and provide unprecedented care.

Between March and August 31, 2020, 733 inpatients received treatment at St. Mary Mercy Livonia. The second surge is placing intense demands on the hospital, as the number of individuals in Southeast Michigan who are testing positive for COVID-19 surpasses spring cases and patients turn to St. Mary Mercy Livonia for care.

If you would like to learn more about how you can support St. Mary Mercy Livonia, please contact Karen Campbell at 734-655-2876 or Karen.Campbell@stjoeshealth.org, or visit stjoeshealth.org/giving.



NYX was among donors supplying scarce PPE. Company CEO Jay Sandhu, President Vijay Kanakamedala, and Vice President of Sales Mick Sandhu (along with his children Rajan and Rohan) presented 15,000 face masks and 1,500 face shields they made for St. Mary Mercy Livonia to Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan and Sarah Gilbert, St. Mary's vice president of operations.

A Message of Thanks from David Spivey, President and CEO

"Our community partnerships made it possible to lead patients and families through this pandemic," said David Spivey, President and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Livonia. "Working together with individuals, business owners, and local leaders, including Livonia Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan, was critical in fighting COVID-19. Our community developed and donated PPE and supplies; they provided funding for additional expensive protective gear and to support our staff assistance program; they donated meals; and they encouraged us every day. We are grateful for the outpouring of support – it inspired our frontline staff and entire team who continue to show resilience, ingenuity and expertise as we face the ongoing effects of this pandemic."

Colleague Emergency Assistance Program Gives St. Joe's Colleagues a Hand Up During COVID-19 Pandemic



“It was like a weight was lifted off my chest.” That’s how Trish Jackson, Welcome Receptionist at St. Joe’s Ann Arbor, described hearing the news that her request through the COVID-19 Colleague Emergency Assistance Program was approved.

Thanks to our donors like you, the 100%-philanthropy-funded Colleague Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) is possible.

Trish is not alone. Since April, more than 475 staff have received \$816,000 in assistance for essentials like rent / house payments, utilities, car payments and childcare. Through the program, staff can apply for up to \$2,000 to aid with financial emergencies resulting from COVID-19. Applications continue to be submitted.

“When I got the email I was approved, I thought what a blessing, for people to be so kind to donate money to support staff at St. Joe’s – you are angels,” exclaimed Trish.

If you have visited St. Joe’s Ann Arbor, you have likely been greeted by Trish’s amazing smile. She has been extending her signature hello, making patients and guests feel welcome and at ease, for more than a decade from her position at the Welcome Desk in the Reichert Health Building.

Trish feels helping patients is her calling. “There are a lot of patients who come in who are going through major illness and they are afraid, sad, worried. I believe God puts people in our lives for a reason. If I can open them up with a smile, a hello, answer a question, sometimes give a hug, that is all part of their healing journey,” shared Trish.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit our community in March 2020, Trish suddenly became one of St. Joe’s patients herself. She was among those who contracted the virus. While her symptoms were significant including a fever, body aches and fatigue, Trish shared she suffered more upon the devastating loss of many friends.

“I felt overwhelmed with grief. I was really struggling. The only things that have kept me in my right state of mind have been my faith in God, my family, the church, and the hospital.”

In addition to support for CEAP, generous donors have helped St. Joe’s respond to unprecedented health needs throughout this crisis. As part of her COVID-19 treatment, Trish relied on St. Joe’s social work program, pastoral care, and medical care, including using the Twistle medical app so that she could recover at home. Within a few weeks, Trish’s symptoms were gone.

However, soon after, visitor and outpatient clinic restrictions were put in place that led to the temporary closure of the welcome desk where Trish works.

Trish lives on a single income, and the pandemic made a direct impact on her financial stability. But, gifts from donors like you for our CEAP made a difference.

"This has been a hard time, I had been sick and was recovering from COVID-19, I've lost friends, and my mind was filled with worry. I thought am I going to lose where I live, will they come take the car?" explained Trish. "Had St. Joe's not had the Colleague Emergency Assistance Program, I don't know what I would have done."

Then in July 2020, when Trish was out watering her garden, she began to feel faint. She woke up in the mud, barely able to move. She mustered the strength to get to the ER, struggling for breath and with a high-grade fever. A colleague saw her fighting her way toward the entrance and helped her to get inside to get the care she needed.

"Trish was suffering from profound symptoms that were thought to be related to COVID-19," explained Holly Murphy, MD, MPH, Infectious Disease Specialist, SJMHS. "We are seeing long term effects of the virus in up to 50% of patients in different series, which is higher among hospitalized patients."

This time, Trish needed to be hospitalized for several weeks. "I really thought I might not make it. But the care I received was definitely remarkable. I am so grateful to the wonderful team who helped save my life," Trish explained. "The way they tended to me, from the doctors, to the nurses, to the patient care techs and Fr. Cristian Laslo from pastoral care who visited and prayed with me – having an expert and caring team makes a world of difference. My faith and family helped me too, my four living sisters and my mom led a prayer chain. God assigned the right people to me."

Through it all, Trish remains thankful to you, everyone who gave in support of our COVID-19 response and CEAP. "What a blessing to be able to wake up and breathe and to be able to be alive, and because of the kind people supporting CEAP, to be able to get through this hard time and get healthy again. I just want to say thank you and may God bless you."

Trish was able to return to work again on August 14, 2020. "It is wonderful to see Trish back to good health and back at the Welcome Desk," said Dr. Murphy. "I pass by her station nearly every day. She is an amazing person and she cares so deeply about our patients and our mission."

If you would like to learn more or to make a gift to support the SJMHS COVID-19 Colleague Emergency Assistance Fund, please visit: stjoeshealth.org/giving or call 734-712-4040.

Thank you for your support of the SJMHS COVID-19 Colleague Emergency Assistance Fund

*for helping and caring about our staff who serve our community with
compassion, expertise and resilience.*

A special thank you to the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr., Foundation for lead support with a grant of \$125,000, helping make the SJMHS CEAP possible and inspiring unprecedented giving. "Caregivers on the front lines of COVID-19 put themselves in harm's way for the benefit of others and work tirelessly, day in and day out. It's critical that they too are cared for. Our trustees and staff have been touched by stories shared by our grantees about frontline hospital workers accessing basic needs like childcare, transportation, and healthy meals. We hope these grant funds play a role in providing some comfort to these crucial workers," said David Egner, president and CEO, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.

Sunflowers Mark A Bright Future at The Farm at St. Joe's Oakland



This summer 2,000 sunflowers were planted at St Joseph Mercy Oakland, bringing a cheerful presence to our campus and marking our commitment to our newest hospital-based farm!

While COVID-19 resulted in some planning delays, it has also created more awareness about the needs The Farm can help address. "We are so grateful to our donors who have been supporting The Farm at St. Joe's Oakland," shared Shannon Striebich, President, St. Joe's Oakland. "As a community hospital, patients and families rely on us to provide a full spectrum of care. Establishing food security is an important step toward improved health, and The Farm programs touch on all the elements that go into adding nutritious food to a person's daily life – from education, to sustainability, to access."

Our mission is to grow a healthy community by empowering people through food, education and relationships. The Farm at St. Joe's Oakland will have an onsite garden and hands-on education experiences; a food distribution center that will house fresh produce from the Farm at St. Joe's Oakland and other local farms; and

create a deeper connection between health care and aiding in access to healthy, nutritious foods. "For example, our patients discharged from the ER, who are in need of food, will be able to stop by the distribution center for a bag of produce on their way home," shared Amanda Sweetman, Director of Farm Services and Lifestyle Health, Trinity Health Michigan. "We are so fortunate to have partners in this important work. Thank you!"



To learn how you can support the new Farm at St. Joe's Oakland and innovative programs, contact Craig Peiser at 248-858-6142 or Craig.Peiser@stjoeshealth.org or Jill Schubiner at 248-858-6146 or Jill.Schubiner@stjoeshealth.org.

Your Resourcefulness and Generosity *Saved Lives*

When our hospitals were facing shortages, scarce supplies and skyrocketing price increases in PPE, your response was unwavering. Thank you to all those who donated, produced and provided funding for PPE, you helped our frontline healthcare workers stay safe and helped stop the spread of this new virus. You made it possible to provide critical treatment and testing and to serve our community during this health crisis.

"Our focus is on people with urgent needs and the dedicated health care workers serving on the front lines of this pandemic," said Lisa Gonzalez, manager, Ford Motor Company Fund, a longtime philanthropic partner.



Our frontline healthcare workers show their gratitude for PPE, including gifts of face masks from Ford Motor Company and SLI Medical.

Close to the Heart

A personal path to giving, gratitude and heart health



Like so many of us, Cheryl has always loved having dogs and the fun and companionship they give. Today, Cheryl's dog also inspires her to stay active.

Following in her grandmother's footsteps as a St. Joe's volunteer, Cheryl Cooper found her own path, devotion and strong work ethic as a Junior Auxiliary Volunteer at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland during middle and high school.

Cheryl was born at St. Joe's Oakland, when it was a much smaller red brick building, and in her teen years became one of the hospital's revered volunteers, recognized with awards from the Auxiliary and community after completing 2,000 plus hours serving alongside the staff at St. Joe's. She spent weekends and summer vacations helping to make the patient experience better for those on the surgery, pediatric and other units.

St. Joe's role in Cheryl's life only grew deeper each time a family member needed care. "One of the most impactful experiences was my father's heart bypass surgery," Cheryl shared. "As part of his recovery he attended therapy at the Cardiac Rehab Center. He spoke highly of how much this helped his recovery as have several friends who have had procedures in the Cardiac Cath lab and have attended the Cardiac Rehab Center."

Later, Cheryl needed to put her trust in St. Joe's once again. She had been managing her career in IT as well as caring for her aging parents as they faced serious health issues, when she found herself not feeling right.

Cheryl turned to one of St. Joe's Cardiologists who provided her with minimally invasive cardiac treatments and whom she credits as the catalyst of her 100-pound weight loss "It is still very much a work in progress!" she is quick to add. Her treatment plan has helped reduce the risks of chronic heart disease, stress, and other illness as well as enjoy traveling and spending time with friends.

Today, Cheryl cannot wait to return to St. Joe's Wellness Center, which is temporarily paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But she makes the best of it, along with her Airedale Terrier she calls her "furry conscience" with lots of daily walking around the neighborhood.

Like some donors, Cheryl is showing her gratitude by including a bequest to St. Joe's Oakland in her will, made in honor of her cardiologist, his staff, her parents Charles and Alice Cooper and brother Vernon, to support the St. Joe's Oakland Cardiac Cath Lab and Cardiac Rehab Program.

"We are incredibly grateful to Cheryl for sharing her meaningful experiences and the path that led to such a generous commitment with our St. Joe's community," explained Jill Schubiner, Giff Officer, St. Joe's Oakland. "Her lifetime involvement with the hospital is inspiring and her bequest recognizes the people most important in her life while allocating support for programs close to her heart."

"St. Joe's has been important to me and my family for a long time," shared Cheryl. "I wanted to make sure to support a place that has people I care about and has continued to help our community."

To learn more about how you can support the future of health care through planned giving at the hospital closest to your heart, contact Jana McNair at 734-712-3919 or Jana.McNair@stjoeshealth.org.

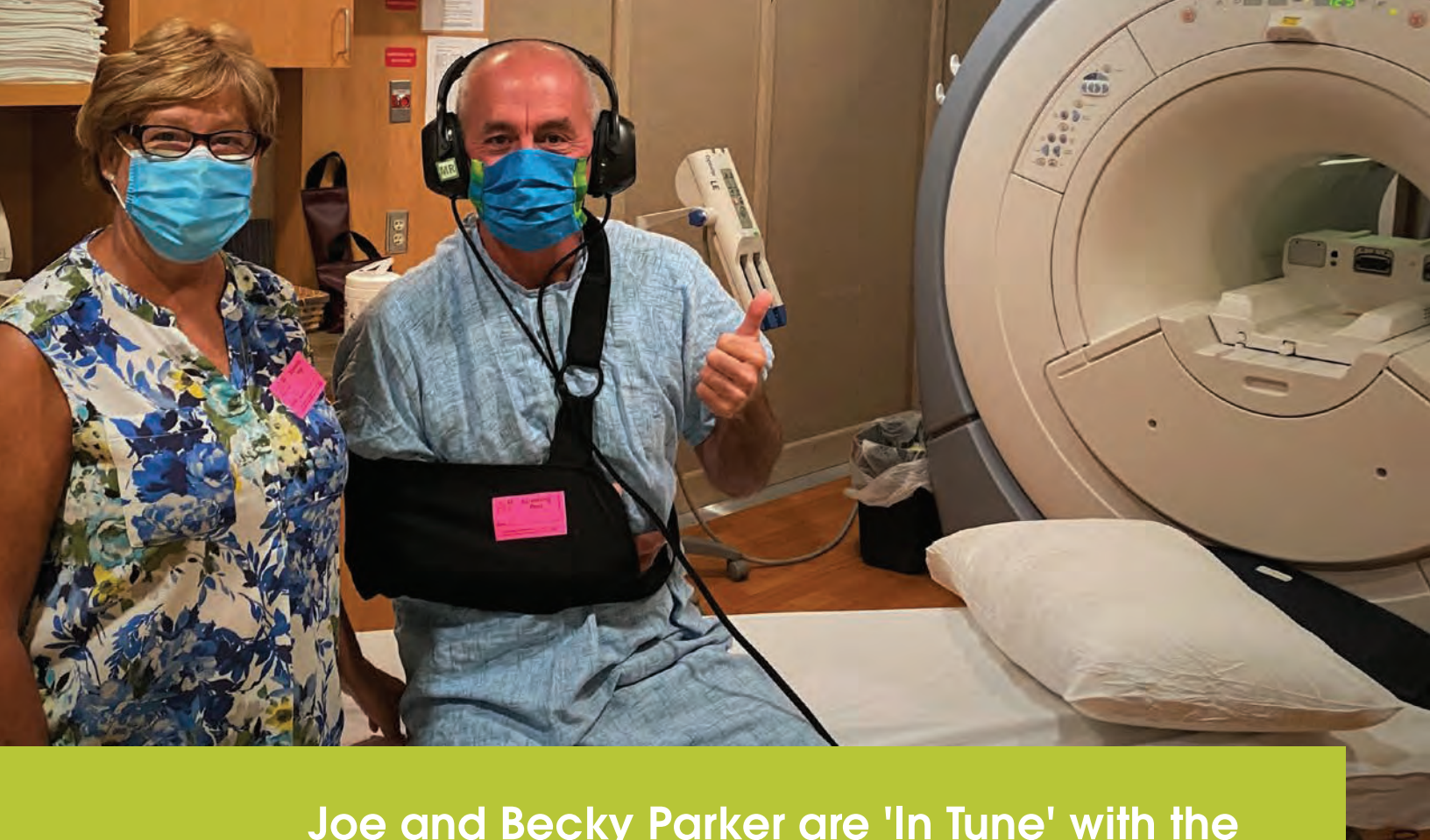


Hearts of Livonia –

A Legacy of Joining Together as One for Remarkable Care

Hearts of Livonia was a lead supporters of the hospital's "Generations Together" campaign to build the new South Pavilion and ER. At the project's August 2011 Beam Raising Event, Tom Celani (left), joined (L-R) Sister Mary Renetta Rumpz, Carol Cassie, and David Parr; (back row, L-R) Jack Kirksey and David Spivey.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia would like to thank Hearts of Livonia for decades of support totaling more than \$1.25 million and benefitting thousands in our community. Throughout the years, Hearts of Livonia leaders and members, including Tom Celani, president and son of Ben Celani who was one of the group's founders, have been philanthropic champions for the hospital. Hearts of Livonia made their first gift in 1978, an unprecedented \$40,000 to improve cardiovascular technology and care and support the good work of the Felician Sisters. Their giving supported vital programs such as inpatient and emergency care and made a significant gift to name The Hearts of Livonia Healing Center in the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center. "We are grateful to the Hearts of Livonia and the Celani family for their legacy of generosity, ongoing commitment, and their partnership in innovative, advanced, compassionate medical care and wellness programs," said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Livonia. Today, while Hearts of Livonia has made the decision to disband, we celebrate decades of joining together as one to make a lasting difference in our community.



Joe and Becky Parker are 'In Tune' with the remarkable patient experience at St. Joe's Livingston

– making a gift of \$12,000 to install a sound system in the MRI suite

Recently, when Joe Parker visited St. Joe's Livingston for an MRI, the staff made everything about the necessary testing remarkable. But, he realized there was one thing missing. While it has become the practice at many hospitals to offer patients a choice of music during an MRI visit, when Joe asked about song options, the staff shared they didn't have a sound system in the suite.

St. Joe's Livingston performs approximately 3,600 MRI procedures each year. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses a powerful magnetic field, radiofrequency energy and computers to create very clear pictures of the organs and tissues of the body. MRI results can show differences between healthy and unhealthy tissue in a variety of areas in the body, including: brain, breast, chest, heart, head, joints, prostate and spine.

The MRI machine is a long, narrow tube with openings on both ends, and an exam table that moves the patient inside the tube. The procedures typically take 45 minutes to one hour. The imaging itself is very loud and can be alarming to some patients, but it is entirely painless.

Heroes Among Us

Joe explained that he's not too bothered by the MRI personally, "But it is loud and music can just help ease the experience and pass the time." So as the machine began to clank, he thought, "Maybe I can help."

The MRI visit was integral to the treatment plan for Joe's August shoulder surgery, which was performed at St. Joe's Brighton Surgery Center by John Anderson, MD. Joe shared he is also scheduled to undergo a procedure on his left knee this fall, by surgeon, G. Victor Gibson, DO, who replaced his right knee last year. Joe has high praise for the IHA Livingston Orthopaedic Specialists team, "Dr. Gibson is incredibly knowledgeable, honest and skilled, and he makes you feel comfortable, it's not the traditional, cold exam-room visit. And, everyone on the staff treats you so well."

From the scheduling process through his MRI visit, Joe found St. Joe's imaging services to be seamless as well. St. Joe's staff provided expert care from their protocols for keeping patients safe during the COVID-19 pandemic to their organized and efficient approach, and from their expertise to their personalized care, "While you couldn't see their smiles under the masks, you could see the twinkle in their eyes," Joe said.

St. Joe's has taken a phased approach to resume procedures and surgeries to provide patients with care they need to get healthy and stay well. Safety remains St. Joe's top priority, and the hospital is exceeding standards and implementing innovative ways to keep patients, visitors and staff safe. This includes temperature and symptom screening for those who enter the facilities; requiring all those who enter to wear a mask at all times; creating COVID-Free Zones to provide care for those known to be free of COVID-19 as well as its symptoms; social distancing measures; limiting visitation; and increasing the frequency and intensity of our facility cleaning, being sure to follow the CDC's new COVID-19 guidelines.

After his MRI was completed, Joe asked the staff, "What would it take to get a sound system in here?" And, he posed the same question to John O'Malley, President, St. Joe's Livingston, when he happened to see him in the parking lot. Both are Board members for the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce.

After talking with John about the cost, Joe said, "Let me go back and ask my wife if this is something we could do." Joe and his wife, Becky, and their family live in the area and are engaged in the community. Joe is the Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of Cleary University. The Parkers, who own C & B Machinery, receive most of their care at St. Joe's Livingston and feel it's important to have advanced services available locally. "I've seen St. Joe's become more technically innovative, and their Surgery Center in Brighton is outstanding – it's clean, with a soothing environment and brilliant surgeons." he added. "St. Joe's progress has a role in the continued growth and investment of businesses and families in our community."

Continued on page 20...

A Message of Thanks from John O'Malley, President St. Joe's Livingston

St. Joseph Mercy Livingston was invited to submit messages of inspiration in a Livingston County Department of Health report. John O'Malley shared:

"By coming together as one in support of our COVID-19 response, our community helped St. Joe's Livingston protect our staff and patients; provide screening and treatment; and serve with compassionate care during a time of profound need. Philanthropic support for St. Joe's Livingston makes an impact every day for patients and staff and sustains the hospital's healing mission, in times of crisis and always."

Continued from page 19...

Becky shared Joe's enthusiasm about a meaningful gift of \$12,000 to support St. Joe's Livingston, making it possible to install a sound system and add music as a regular part of the visit for patients who need an MRI. The installation was completed in August.

The MRI sound system uses free music applications such as Pandora® or Spotify® to stream music via an iPad. The patient is able to select an artist or genre of their choice. For some patients, music during the MRI helps to make the experience more comfortable and can help reduce anxiety or feelings of claustrophobia, and it gives them a better sense of time passing.

"Joe and Becky Parker are incredibly dedicated community leaders and longtime partners in St. Joe's healing mission," shared John O'Malley, President, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston. "Their generous gift will really make an impact, transforming the vital MRI visit from one that is inherently stressful to a remarkable patient experience. The staff and I are grateful for the Parkers' insight and kindness, and for the many ways they continue to make a difference in the lives of our patients and health of our community."

To learn more about remarkable care at St. Joe's Livingston and how you can make a difference, contact Lindsay Debolski at St. Joe's Office of Development, 517-545-5151 or Lindsay.Debolski@stjoeshealth.org, or visit: stjoeshealth.org/giving.

On September 20, 2020, Ambassador Deborah Birx, MD, White House Coronavirus Coordinator, visited St. Mary Mercy Livonia. We were proud to be one of the health care organizations on her nation-wide tour to learn firsthand about the COVID-19 response and efforts moving forward.



Rob Casalou, President and CEO, Trinity Health Michigan; Ambassador Deborah Birx, M.D., White House Coronavirus Coordinator; and Dr. Rosalie Tocco-Bradley, Trinity Health Michigan Chief Clinical Officer.



You Make Life Remarkable for Patients Facing Cancer

A donor wall celebrating support for the "Life is Remarkable" campaign was installed at our Robert H. and Judy Dow Alexander Cancer Center at St. Joe's Ann Arbor on July 15, 2020. Giving for the campaign reached \$9.5 million. The forty-foot, etched glass installation stretches along the window-lined corridor between oncology/hematology and radiation oncology services and reflects the role of philanthropy in renewing the 25-year-old space, which opened December 2018. "Our donors' commitment is making an impact through world-class services, healing spaces, research excellence, and a remarkable patient experience," explained Beth LaVasseur, Executive Director of Oncology, SJMHS. Approximately 200 patients receive care at the cancer center each day. "Thank you to our donors for your commitment to families facing cancer and to sustaining our healing mission," said David Ripple, Vice President for Development, SJMHS.

Celebrating Katie Elliott

40 Years of Service to St. Joe's and Our Donor Community



2015 Whitehouse Endowment celebration (L-R) Walter M. Whitehouse, Jr, MD; Katie Elliott; Sister Yvonne Gellise; and the late Garry C. Faja

We wish Katie Elliott well as she enters retirement from her longstanding career at St. Joe's and role as Director of Major Gifts for St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Director of Planned Gifts for Saint Joseph Mercy Health System.

Katie joined St. Joe's in 1980 and the Office of Development in 1996. She was instrumental in St. Joe's Campaign for Women's Health in the early 2000s and the "Renewal Campaign" that inspired generous donor support of more than \$85 million. She engaged donors in establishing the Walter M. Whitehouse, Jr., MD, Endowed Chair for Surgery in 2015 with gifts of \$2 million – St. Joe's first endowed department chair. With a volunteer cabinet, she led St. Joe's "Life is Remarkable" Campaign, inspiring \$9.5 million in giving to expand and renew the Robert H. and Judy Dow Alexander Cancer Center and create the Cancer Care Innovation Endowment Fund. And, recently, Katie served two longtime donors, each who fully funded renovation projects – Ann Arbor's auditorium and the upcoming Perinatal Wellness Center. Finally, Katie and her colleagues in Development connected with donors who gave generously to support St. Joe's COVID-19 response.

“Each day our patients turn to us for mercy, compassion and healing and we are able to provide these because of our staff, like Katie, who have integrity, care so deeply and are committed to our mission,” said Sister Yvonne Gellise, SJMHS Senior Advisor for Governance. “It has been a blessing working alongside Katie.”

We thank Katie for her years of dedicated service and wish her all the best for a happy and fulfilling retirement. Katie retired on July 29, 2020. Her commitment to St. Joe's, our colleagues, and the patients we serve have made our department and our hospitals better and she will be greatly missed.

For assistance at St. Joe's Ann Arbor Development Department, please contact Jana McNair at 734-712-3919 or Jana.McNair@stjoeshealth.org.

Your St. Joe's Office of Development Team

We know your gifts are an investment, and we are dedicated to helping you make an immediate and lasting impact as a partner in our healing mission.

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FastFacts

- St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor was named the #1 Major Teaching Hospital in America on the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list.
- Nancy Graebner, President, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, was named Chelsea Citizen of the Year by the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce, as the hospital celebrated 50 years of caring.
- Shannon Striebich, President, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, was appointed to the board of directors of the Michigan Health & Hospital Association.
- Thanks to donor support for the robotic surgery program, in July 2020, St. Joe's Livingston celebrated providing 1,000 surgeries using the da Vinci® Surgical System.



Visit [St. Joe's Giving](#)

BeRemarkable.