

GRATITUDE



Care on demand

Technology delivers clinicians in real time



Northwell
Health®

Our donors help shape the future of health care

By Kerri Tortorella

Giving to Northwell Health has supported advances in patient care throughout our history as a nonprofit, and continues to fuel innovation today.

Last year, more than 16,000 supporters donated \$130 million to the health system. This sum came through individuals, fundraising events like the annual Northwell Health Walk and Constellation Gala, estate bequests and contributions from corporations and foundations.

Donors like you help break through financial limitations so our health system can maintain its patient-centered focus.

Gifts enable Northwell to improve facilities, patient care and, ultimately, outcomes. Charitable giving also supports clinical education and research into new medical discoveries and treatments.

“Really caring about people is at the core of what we do,” said Brian Lally, senior vice president and chief development officer at Northwell Health. “Our health system is nonprofit, so the revenue we generate, alone, will never be enough to let us do all we need to do and can do. Donors make the difference. It’s individuals making the decision to help others in our communities.”

Despite its \$11 billion annual revenue, Northwell operates on a narrow margin and invests funds back into the health system. Every year, 2 million patients come to Northwell for treatment. Your gifts support our mission to care for our communities and fund needed services throughout our region.

“Until all people in our communities are healthy, until we’ve discovered all the cures, there’s always more work to do — more areas to support,” said Michael Dowling, Northwell Health president and CEO. “Our supporters help advance our mission to save and change lives.”

Donors allow Northwell to expand medical research and invest in facilities, services and programs. Here are a few highlights of what giving helped to accomplish in 2016.

 New Openings

 Program and Service Enhancements



SUMMER 2017

GRATITUDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Our donors help shape the future of health care
- 4 Feinsteins' latest \$25M gift fuels the next frontier in research
- 5 Cohen Children's diagnostic center is out of this world
- 6 A generous heart elevates care for cardiac patients
- 7 "We were impressed with the quality care we received"
- 8 Cover Story: Care on Demand**
- 11 Grateful patient funds expansion for neurocritical care
- 12 Instilling a family legacy of giving
- 13 Katz Institute Luncheon and Fashion Show celebrates 25 years of advancing women's health
- 14 Susan and Rick Imbert bring cancer care closer to home
- 15 Huntington Hospital's new ED provides care the moment you need it
- 16 Gambino Foundation improves hospital stays for patients and families in isolation
- 17 Providing a safe place for families impacted by cystic fibrosis
- 18 Giving hope to children in difficult times
- 19 A Christmas display lights the way for cancer research



On the cover

Northwell's Telestroke program provides patients with instant access to specialists through remote video technology.

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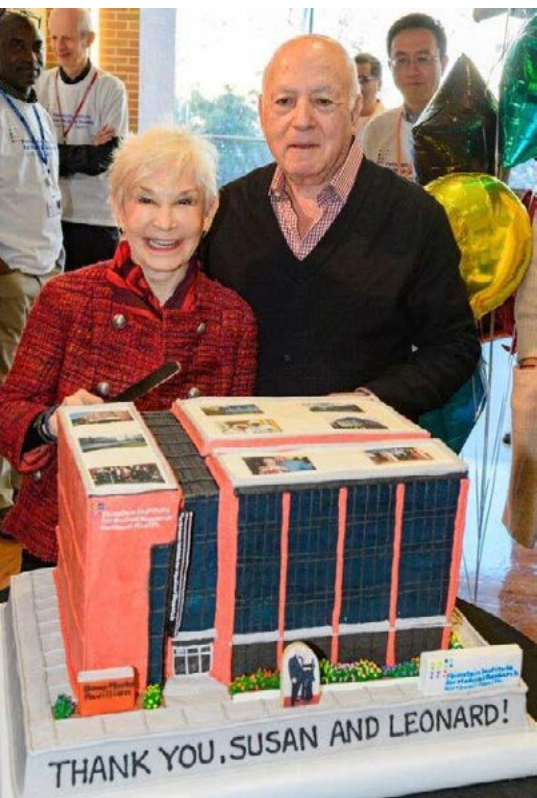
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Feinsteins' latest \$25M gift fuels the next frontier in research

By Julie Robinson-Tingue



“I’ve always believed that giving back is a great – and the right – thing to do. I wish everyone would.”

When Leonard and Susan Feinstein’s son suffered a major brain injury from an auto accident 35 years ago, no long-term healthcare solutions existed to handle his needs. “Lifesaving techniques to keep you alive got so much better, but the deficits you were left with posed a significant challenge for those responsible for caring for you — or you were just put into a nursing home,” Mr. Feinstein recalled.

The Feinsteins realized only research would yield treatments and cures to alter the way medicine is practiced and delivered.

Their support helped establish the Susan and Leonard Feinstein Center for Neurosciences. “We wanted to give where we thought we could make a difference,” said Mr. Feinstein. “Dedicated neuroscience research had never been done at Northwell Health (then North Shore-LIJ Health System) on the scale we imagined, so we stepped in to make that happen.”

Today, the Bed Bath & Beyond co-founder and his wife continue the tradition of research-focused philanthropy they began more than 30 years ago. In 2005, Northwell Health’s Feinstein Institute for Medical Research was rededicated in their name following their \$25 million commitment. The Feinsteins recently announced a \$25 million gift to advance the Feinstein Institute’s work in clinical trials, neuroscience, autoimmunity and bioelectronic medicine.

The Feinstein Institute is the worldwide leader in the new field of bioelectronic medicine, which uses devices to treat disease and injury. Bioelectronic medicine represents the convergence of three well-established scientific fields: neuroscience, molecular and cell biology, and bioengineering. The Feinstein Institute team, led by Kevin J. Tracey, MD, president and CEO of the Feinstein Institute and a neurosurgeon who pioneered the field, has been working in this area since 1998.

The Feinsteins’ gift brings to more than \$200 million the overall commitment for bioelectronic medicine research thus far. This includes company investments and state grants in support of the underlying research for a wide range of acute and chronic diseases and injuries, including neurodegenerative diseases, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, bleeding, diabetes and hypertension.

“Leonard and Susan Feinstein’s unwavering support of our research programs over many, many years has been absolutely key to the founding of the institute, the building of the institute and now the launch of the Center for Bioelectronic Medicine,” said Dr. Tracey. “None of this would have happened without them.”

“The Feinstein Institute is pursuing many promising areas of research that can revolutionize the way medicine is practiced. How exciting is that?” said Mr. Feinstein, who also is a member of the Feinstein Institute’s board of directors. “We are realizing useful applications and results now, and within five to ten years, we will see cures for some of the most confounding human diseases. Not many research initiatives show that kind of promise.

“I’ve always believed that giving back is a great — and the right — thing to do. I wish everyone would,” he said. “We want our investments to inspire other people, companies and government to support this research as well, so we can move our work along as quickly as we can.”

To support research at the Feinstein Institute visit support.northwell.edu/feinstein-institute

Cohen Children's diagnostic center is out of this world

Children's Medical Fund of New York brings dedicated MRIs to children

By Kerri Tortorella

Imagine you've journeyed into outer space. You view Earth from orbit against a backdrop of the constellations. The stars in Sagittarius surround you. That's the experience we've created for kids who need an MRI.

The Children's Medical Fund Center for Diagnostic Studies — located at Cohen Children's Medical Center — was conceived to make the ordeal of testing a unique and wondrous experience instead of an anxiety-ridden event. The diagnostic suite's design allows kids to imagine they are in a spaceship with portholes looking out into space.

What sounds like a ride at a theme park is actually highly sophisticated diagnostic technology. Two advanced 3D magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines

specifically dedicated to children include special goggles so children can watch movies during the examination. A mock scanner helps child life specialists prepare young patients before an exam to quell any apprehension.

The NASA-themed Center became a reality thanks to a \$10 million commitment from the Children's Medical Fund of New York (CMF) and will impact more than 4,500 children each year.

Providing our youngest patients with the highest quality care in a kid-friendly environment is the hallmark of Cohen Children's. "Each project is imagined through the mind of a child, with easing their experience as our top priority," said Rafael Mejia, Northwell Health project architect. "The space theme for the MRI

Suite came from the continuity of themes on the Inpatient Pavilion. The ground floor theme is underwater life, the first floor the beach, second floor the forest and third floor the mountain."

"We are very proud to have funded the Children's Medical Fund Center for Diagnostic Studies at Cohen Children's Medical Center," said David Blumenfeld, CMF's chairman. "We knew that the CMF Center would be tremendously important to patients and families, and we could not be more pleased to help Cohen Children's offer state-of-the-art diagnostic services."

CMF's transformational gift is the latest of many from a longstanding partnership between Northwell Health and the Children's Medical Fund, a stalwart supporter of pediatric care at Northwell Health for 50 years.

"This kind of financial support helps us build on our foundation of excellent pediatric care," said Charles Schleien, MD, executive director at Cohen Children's. "The suite is designed exclusively for children and is the latest step in our ongoing commitment to providing the best care possible for children."





A generous heart

elevates care for cardiac patients

By Kerri Tortorella

“I believe that if you can save one person or one animal, you have begun to save the world,” said Sandra Atlas Bass, philanthropist and longtime supporter of Northwell Health.

For more than 25 years, Ms. Bass has supported cardiac care at Northwell. Her most recent gift of \$25 million provides critical funding for our new Heart Hospital — named the Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital in her honor. Ms. Bass’ benevolence will help patients with the most complex cardiac problems — many of whom have been turned away from other hospitals — receive the critical care they need.

“Sandra Atlas Bass has been a tremendous partner of Northwell Health for more than two decades,” said Michael Dowling, president and CEO, Northwell Health. “Her continued commitment and compassion is helping us elevate the quality of care we deliver and improve the lives of countless people within the communities we serve. We are extraordinarily grateful for her generous support.”

“Cardiology is where I can directly change people’s lives,” said Ms. Bass.

The new Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital is among the largest volume centers for complex cardiac procedures in New York and has one of the state’s largest cardiothoracic and interventional cardiology programs. Construction has recently been completed on a new separate entrance, and the hospital has its own parking and curbside registration as well as a distinct lobby featuring personal concierge services. The Heart Hospital also includes a 22-bed cardiothoracic intensive care unit staffed around the clock by critical care physicians, five operating rooms dedicated to cardiac patients, and eight cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology labs.

“Our vision for the Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital is to create a destination where patients receive the highest levels of expertise, take part in the most innovative technologically advanced therapies and enjoy a patient experience that is unsurpassed regionally and nationally,” said Barry Kaplan, MD, co-director of the Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital.

Thanks to Ms. Bass’ support, this is now possible.

“Ms. Bass has long been a pioneer of cardiac innovation in the health system and has continuously demonstrated her commitment to enhancing the patient experience. Her support of the Heart Hospital will help propel the center into nationwide leadership,” added Dr. Kaplan.

In addition to her support of cardiac care, Ms. Bass has generously given to a variety of disciplines across Northwell Health. She has funded the creation of a hearing aid dispensary and touched the lives of young patients at Cohen Children’s Medical Center. She also recently helped establish the Sandra Atlas Bass Center for Liver Diseases.

“We were impressed with the **quality care** we received”

A million-dollar gift to help build Peconic Bay Medical Center’s new regional heart center is the latest act of generosity from Peggy and Stanley Zinberg.

Peggy McNally-Zinberg and her husband Dr. Stanley Zinberg have been residents of Remsenburg since 1985. But it wasn’t until Mrs. McNally-Zinberg was treated at the Emergency Department at Peconic Bay Medical Center that they became aware of the high level of care close to home. As a retired physician, Dr. Zinberg was impressed with the attentive care his wife received, but he also saw opportunities for improving the hospital’s facilities.

After Mrs. McNally-Zinberg’s recovery, the couple decided to donate \$100,000 to help fund renovations to the patient admitting area.

“We were appreciative for the level of professional, quality care I received,” said Mrs. McNally-Zinberg, a registered nurse. “We saw a way to show our gratitude that would benefit the whole community, so we did it.”

Dr. Zinberg had previously served as deputy executive vice president for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Washington, DC, and chief of obstetrics at New York Downtown Hospital. With his distinguished healthcare background, he was nominated to Peconic Bay Medical Center’s Hospital and Foundation boards of directors,



where he continues to serve on the compensation, finance, and investment committees. Through his involvement, the Zinbergs became aware of a need for an extra level of care for patients transitioning from surgery, and they generously donated again. Their support — through a \$500,000 grant — led to the outfitting of the Zinberg Progressive Care Unit, which has been in operation since 2015.

Mrs. McNally-Zinberg was asked to serve as chair for Peconic Bay Medical Center’s 2017 Annual Spring Gala, a major fundraising event to support the development of the new Kanas Regional Heart Center at Peconic Bay Medical Center. To show their support, the Zinbergs have generously stepped forward with their most recent gift — \$1 million — to help ensure East End patients receive high-quality cardiac care close to home.

“East End residents have had to travel farther for advanced cardiac services than anyone else in the tristate area, and considering that heart ailments require quick diagnosis and treatment, this facility will make a real difference,” said Peconic Bay Medical Center President and CEO Andrew Mitchell. “It will save lives and it wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of community members like Peggy and Stanley Zinberg.”

“Peggy and I have been fortunate in many ways, not the least of which is being residents of one of the finest communities on Earth,” said Dr. Zinberg. “We are happy to join our neighbors and friends in supporting the health and well-being of our shared community.”

Care on demand

Technology delivers clinicians in real time

By Kerri Tortorella

Take time and distance out of the equation and more lives are changed for the better.

At Northwell Health, our clinicians and researchers are making this possible through the use of virtual technology. We're elevating care by giving caregivers the ability to remotely check on patients and deliver lifesaving measures around the clock. It's called Telehealth, and it's a powerful collaboration and clinical tool that is becoming an increasingly important component of healthcare delivery.

Extra sets of eyes

From our Telehealth Center in Syosset, New York, specially trained doctors and nurses in our Electronic Intensive Care Unit (eICU) use secure remote video and audio monitoring to provide an added layer of care for our critically ill patients. They become extra sets of eyes, monitoring vital signs, test results and medications, 24/7. Currently, 132 beds from eight ICUs across Northwell Health are monitored, and we're continuing to interconnect.

ICU floors have our most critical patients, and, very quickly, multiple patients can require attention. The eICU team can help prioritize emergencies and provide care in the time it takes nurses to go from one room to the next. Computer software technology helps them proactively detect warning signs so they can alert the bedside team and intervene more quickly.

"The software is designed to constantly look for patterns and trends that suggest someone might be getting in trouble, trying to identify issues before they are clinically obvious," said Martin Doerfler, MD, senior vice president of clinical strategy and development at Northwell Health. "Finding something a little bit sooner makes a big difference. We are reducing complications that once were considered the natural course of disease."

"Medicine is largely reactive," said Iris Berman, vice president of Telehealth at Northwell Health. "Telehealth allows us to be proactive — reacting before there is a problem. It's a perfect blend of professional experience and technology, amplifying care for patients."

Preliminary data collected pre- and post-launch of the eICU shows an ICU mortality decrease of nearly 25 percent. With this new technology, we are significantly improving health outcomes for our most fragile patients.

When every second counts

About 2 million brain cells die each minute during a stroke, so immediate care is critical. When a patient arrives at an Emergency Department (ED) with stroke-like symptoms, our team of board-certified emergency medical physicians takes immediate action. But not all strokes present the same way.

That's why we've made real-time consultations available with a specialized stroke neurologist, providing patients with immediate critical care. Our Telestroke program exists in six EDs across Northwell and will roll out in all of our hospitals over the next few years. Using a portable video cart, we can instantly connect patients to the Telehealth Center and to the homes or offices of stroke neurologists. Patients can be assessed with no wait for a specialist to get to their bedside.

"When it comes to stroke, time can be the difference between a permanent disability or going home the next day," said Dr. Doerfler.

That's because some patients can be treated with tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) — the clot-busting drug that if delivered within the first few hours of symptoms can reverse or mitigate the crippling effects of stroke.

"We are expediting care," said Ms. Berman. "A neurologist is not present in the typical community hospital at all times, especially one who specializes in stroke. ED physicians are trained to administer tPA, but some borderline cases need the expertise of a stroke neurologist. Our Telestroke program makes them immediately available."

Fifty-year-old Thomas Christiansen from Sayville, New York, arrived at Southside Hospital's ED in the middle of the night. His wife thought he was having a heart attack, but the ED staff triaged him and determined he likely suffered a stroke because he couldn't move his right-side extremities. An immediate Telestroke consultation with a vascular stroke neurologist confirmed Mr. Christiansen was in the grip of a stroke. He was administered tPA and transferred to North Shore University Hospital (NSUH). While en route via ambulance, Mr. Christiansen began moving his extremities and became fully functioning. After a few days of observation, he was released from the hospital and able to resume his life without any neurological deficits.

"Northwell Health developed the Telestroke remote monitoring program for cases like Mr. Christiansen's, allowing neurologists to examine patients when a



**About 2 million
brain cells die
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stroke-certified neurologist is not physically available," said Jeffrey M. Katz, MD, NSUH's director, Comprehensive Stroke Center. "The Telestroke program helped save Mr. Christiansen — and countless other patients who have been seen by our Telestroke neurologists."

The future of health care

Donor support helps us expand the breadth of Telehealth services. It funded in-room technology that connects units to the Telehealth Center and interconnects our hospitals. A patient seen in our Manuel H. and Claire Barron Stroke Unit at North Shore University Hospital has that added layer of care and observation thanks to the Barrons' gift to renovate the unit. The Crown family's generosity made it possible for patients at Lenox Hill's Crown Family Pediatric Unit — who may be a little sicker than anticipated — to connect with specialists at Cohen Children's Pediatric ICU for a specialty consultation, and we are planning to extend our children's hospital out virtually across our footprint.

We continue to develop technologies to elevate health care for patients. In the near future, a new mother could remotely access a provider rather than search potential illnesses online. A postoperative patient could forgo the commute for a



checkup. Community members could receive virtualized care and support from nurses, nutritionists, diabetic educators, lactation consultants and other skilled professionals.

“In-person visits will still be necessary, but when appropriate we want to provide the right care at the right time and in the right place,” said Dr. Doerfler. “In 2018 we will see most clinical services begin to have some element of Telehealth. And in five years, 2022, we will no longer talk about Telehealth, we will simply talk about health.”

“Our donors are investing in the future of health care and have the ability to change the way health care is delivered,” said Brian Lally, senior vice president and chief development officer at Northwell. “Telehealth is a great example of the potential that lies ahead at Northwell Health and in the field of medicine.”

Exploring the boundaries

Our researchers are working to identify additional ways patients can benefit from Telehealth technologies, including home monitoring and treatment. Northwell Health’s Feinstein Institute for Medical Research received a grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to study whether home-based pulmonary rehabilitation improves quality of life and decreases hospitalization in Hispanic patients with moderate to severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Enrolled patients received exercise bikes with mounted remote technology. Only three locations on Long Island offer respiratory therapy and no locations exist in Manhattan, making it difficult for patients to access the care they need. Through this study, patients can link up to respiratory therapists, participate in a virtual group exercise program and interact with other patients who have COPD.

“It’s going to be revolutionary,” said Negin Hajizadeh, MD, MPH, associate professor of medicine at Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine and North Shore University Hospital in the division of Pulmonary Critical Care and Sleep and research lead on the study. “It changes how we think about providing care to patients. It not

only brings the device into your home and allows you to portal in, but it also does it in the context of a social worker who has a relationship with you.”

Participant Jose Leon was recently enrolled in the trial. “It has helped me a lot; I feel much more energy,” he said.

His wife, Mercedes, added, “The change has been big. Before, he would feel out of breath from walking very short distances. Now, he can walk the same distances without feeling out of breath. Also, his mood has improved a lot. Now, he is looking forward for the next sessions and is very motivated as he does the sessions.”

Additional research is being conducted in the areas of diabetes and heart failure. A study led by Alyson Myers, MD, North Shore University Hospital medical director of inpatient diabetes, is examining the use of Telehealth to improve control of sugar levels in black and Latino persons with uncontrolled type 2 diabetes. Participants regularly interface with a provider via a tablet and upload their blood pressure, blood sugar, pulse, weight and medication adherence daily. Doctors then monitor and advise on necessary lifestyle and medication adjustments.

Through another PCORI grant we were awarded, Renee Pekmezaris, PhD, Northwell Health’s vice president of community health and health services research is researching home telemonitoring for disparity patients with

congestive heart failure (CHF) to identify warning signs prior to rehospitalization.

Exacerbations of CHF are common, and the use of Telehealth to monitor weight, heart rate, lung sounds, and blood pressure enables improved management through timely treatment adjustments without patients leaving their homes.

“You can actually listen to their heart and lung sounds, which are as clear as if we were sitting together in person,” said Dr. Pekmezaris. “It shocked me the first time.”

And, we’ve only scratched the surface. “We started researching patients with heart failure because it’s the number one reason for hospitalization in the United States, more than all cancers combined,” said Dr. Pekmezaris. “But what we learn will soon impact all areas of health care, enhancing the lives of every patient throughout the Northwell Health network and beyond.”

“In 2018 we will see most clinical services begin to have some element of Telehealth. And in five years, 2022, we will no longer talk about Telehealth, we will simply talk about health.”





Grateful patient funds expansion for neurocritical care

By Kerri Tortorella

At 8 years old, Clifford Lane was hit by a car while riding his bike and as a result was in a coma. Thankful for the team of doctors at North Shore University Hospital who saved their son's life, his parents later became major benefactors to the hospital.

Now Clifford and his wife, Randi, are continuing his parents' legacy and giving back to help meet the needs of and enhance outcomes for patients with neurologic conditions.

Mr. and Mrs. Lane made a multi-million-dollar commitment to fund the Clifford and Randi Lane Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit at North Shore University Hospital. Their gift will relocate the unit to the new Advanced Surgical Pavilion and increase capacity from 16 to 22 beds. The expansion will also include private consultation space for doctors and families.

"Clifford and Randi Lane's generosity is helping us meet the needs of our patients requiring neurocritical care — an area of medicine where we see one of the

nation's highest patient volumes," said Michael Dowling, president and CEO, Northwell Health.

Patients cared for in the unit have a variety of conditions and surgical needs, including brain aneurysms, brain tumors, traumatic brain injury, seizures, skull base surgery and spine surgery. The unit is also home to the Electronic Neuro Intensive Care Unit (eNeuro-ICU), which provides regionalized neurocritical care for seven Northwell hospitals through video monitoring technology.

"It is a strict adherence to quality, patient-focused outcomes and innovative research that make this a program of choice nationally," said Dr. Richard Temes, director of the Center for Neurocritical Care and the Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit at North Shore University Hospital. "Supporters like Clifford and Randi Lane help us to meet the growing needs of our region and ensure that we continue to provide around-the-clock care and the best possible outcomes for our patients and their families."

"Continuing to follow in my parents' footsteps by supporting the Neurosurgical ICU at Northwell is something I know is the right thing to do for our community," said Mr. Lane. "I have been deeply touched by this area, through my own experience and my father's, as he had a brain aneurysm and stroke in his later years. I'm proud to be associated with ensuring that Long Island has one of the finest Neurosurgical Intensive Care Units in the region."

North Shore University Hospital is the first hospital on Long Island and one of only four in New York State to receive advanced certification from the Joint Commission as a Comprehensive Stroke Center and is home to the region's fastest-growing neurosurgical program. The hospital's Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit recently received the Silver Beacon Award for Excellence — granted to providers for improving patient outcomes — making North Shore University Hospital the only hospital in the tristate region to receive this prestigious recognition.

Instilling a family legacy of giving

By Alexandra Brovey



Merry and Richard Slone know access to good health care is essential and are grateful for the excellent health care provided to Mrs. Slone by the Katz Institute for Women's Health and the Katz Women's Hospital. Through their philanthropy, they now ensure other women have access to our exceptional health services.

Their thoughtful giving includes cash donations, Slone Family Foundation grants and charitable gift annuities, funding future projects while providing the Slones a fixed income stream for life. Mrs. Slone serves on the Partners Council for Women's Health. At the 24th Annual Katz Institute for Women's Health Luncheon and Fashion Show last year, she walked

the runway with her doctor, Stacey Rosen, MD. In addition, Mrs. Slone sponsors the Ladies' Day Out, a Northwell Health event that supports women's health. Charities in New York and Israel also benefit from the Slones' generosity.

The couple, married for 57 years, is close to their daughters and sons-in-law — Tara and Wayne Goldstein, Ondine and Michael Miranda, and Lauren and David Leighton. Their seven grandchildren are a source of great joy.

Mr. and Mrs. Slone's example of caring has taken root in the lives of their daughters. All serve as Slone Family Foundation directors. Ms. Goldstein is the board president of the Jewish Education Project,

which ensures innovative approaches are used to communicate Jewish values to children. Ms. Leighton is involved with the Coachman Family Center, a homeless shelter in White Plains. Mr. and Mrs. Miranda founded Jack's Run for Autism Awareness, now in its eleventh year. Mr. Slone participates in the run every year, recently with his grandchildren, inspiring a new generation.

"We hope to make a difference in peoples' lives," Mrs. Slone said. "With a special focus on helping to provide quality health care," Mr. Slone added. Their gifts leave a lasting legacy of health care for their community — for many generations.

"We will not stop giving"

By Amy Pilott



For more than a decade, Richard E. Montag has turned to the doctors at Lenox Hill Hospital for ailments ranging from cardiac and oncologic to hernial. Recently, Mr. Montag celebrated his 85th birthday with his five grandchildren and is enjoying life.

"I'm thankful to the physicians who have kept me alive after all these years," said Mr. Montag.

While he feels there is nothing he can do to fully show his gratitude for the care he has received, Mr. Montag and his wife, Elaine, make an annual gift in honor of his cardiologist, Dr. Israel Berkowitz, and the cardiac team at Lenox Hill Hospital. For more than a decade, the couple, who reside in

Bronxville, NY, has given to the hospital at the end of each year.

The Montags are recognized for their generosity as Discoverer members of the Northwell Health Founder's Society, who are a community of donors giving \$1,000 or more annually to help set the course for our future.

As a way of showing their appreciation for the world-class care he has received, Mr. Montag said, "We will keep doing it for as long as we can — we will not stop giving."

To learn more about the Northwell Health Founder's Society, please call (516) 321-6344.

Katz Institute Luncheon and Fashion Show celebrates 25 years of advancing women's health

Iris and Saul Katz to be honored for their vision



By Kerri Tortorella

For 24 years, the Katz Institute for Women's Health Luncheon and Fashion Show has provided critical support for women's health initiatives — \$8.2 million in total. The 2016 event raised a record-setting \$725,000. "It's an unbelievably exciting day," said Dr. Stacey Rosen, Northwell Health's vice president of women's health. "Truly it's the most well-attended and talked-about event on Long Island."

The 25th annual event, taking place on September 14, 2017, will honor two visionaries who have made the Katz Institute a reality — Iris and Saul Katz. "Iris and Saul Katz have been important benefactors, both in time and financial support," said Dr. Rosen. "The whole vision behind this was theirs. Mrs. Katz knew women's health needs were different — they weren't just like men — and she also saw that women make the decisions for the family. She was focused on all women in our communities getting the same excellent level of care at Northwell."

"A host of women's health issues are different than men's, and we have to focus on them and create best practices across all 22 hospitals in the health system," said Mr. Katz. "We know women make 70 to 80 percent of their family's health decisions. We have to empower women and arm them with the information to make the best decisions not only for their own health but for that of their family."

The Katz Institute is a regional leader in women's health education that is dedicated to improving the quality of life for women by providing educational resources, prevention-wellness programs and clinical intervention.

This powerful collaboration between the Katzes and Dr. Rosen and her colleagues demonstrates how philanthropy is fueling innovation and elevating care.

The 2016 special runway appearances made the event even more impactful. "Three patients walked with their doctors down the runway, and there was a hush, 600 women quiet, because all of a sudden, they saw what they were fundraising for," said Dr. Rosen. "This is about the health and well-being of all the women in our lives."

"Iris and Saul Katz have been amazing supporters," said Dr. Rosen, "holding us to the expectations and working with us to bring this mission to life. We wouldn't have this sort of institute without them."

"The Katz Institute for Women's Health is about clinical care, education and empowerment," said Mr. Katz. "It's Stacey's ability to bring together clinical care and share best practices on women's issues. It's about the education of women and combining it with clinical care that gets the best practices."

To support the Katz Institute for Women's Health Luncheon and Fashion Show visit support.northwell.edu/fashionforkatz



Susan and Rick Imbert bring **cancer care closer to home**

By Kerri Tortorella

Philanthropists and Bay Shore residents Susan and Rick Imbert believe in the importance of having quality health care available for all members of their community. Most recently, they made a transformative gift to help bring cancer care closer to home.

The new Imbert Cancer Center — part of the Northwell Health Cancer Institute — is a 46,000-square-foot facility located in Bay Shore, New York. The center features high-quality cancer services under one roof, including medical oncology, radiation therapy, interventional radiology, surgical oncology, diagnostic imaging, clinical trials and support services — giving Suffolk County residents access to unparalleled cancer services.

Breast cancer survivor Suzette Rodriguez, 40, of West Babylon, is a mother of two young sons and was diagnosed with breast cancer in November 2015. She received 16 rounds of chemotherapy at Northwell's Monter Cancer Center in Lake Success.

"Not only does cancer take a toll on you physically, but so do your doctor appointments and necessary labs," said Ms. Rodriguez. "Add in a long

commute and you're mentally and physically exhausted."

Ms. Rodriguez also had to rely on family and friends to drive her to and from appointments — sometimes leading to a two-hour commute. She can now receive follow-up care in a location convenient for her family. The shorter commute time also means Ms. Rodriguez can take care of appointments and be home before her kids are out of school.

"The new cancer center not only gives patients amazing care but also gives them time — time to rest instead of having to drive, time to spend with loved ones instead of sitting in traffic," Ms. Rodriguez added.

"We recognize the stress and toll cancer treatments can take on patients and their loved ones," said George Raptis, MD, acting executive director of Northwell Health's Cancer Institute, who played a key role in the development of the new

cancer center. "Our goal is to provide the latest advances in cancer treatment and support services all under one roof — and soon clinical trials — so patients can access the very best in cancer care close to their homes."



Ms. Rodriguez is thankful to the Imberts for improving her quality of life.

"The Imberts' generosity made my life better. Cancer takes over your life, but now it won't disrupt my whole day," said Ms. Rodriguez. "The Imbert Cancer Center gives me back some of that control."

Mr. and Mrs. Imbert were recognized at the opening of the Imbert Cancer Center. They addressed

the community and quoted Mother Teresa. "Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you."

Huntington Hospital's new ED provides care the moment you need it

By Julie Robinson-Tingue

We don't think much about emergency care until we need it. "Huntington Hospital has provided essential services to my entire family," said Charles Reichert. "Everyone deserves to have such a quality medical facility so close to home, and an emergency room is especially critical to so many people."

Recognizing the importance of emergency services, the Reichert family — with generous benefactors Clark Gillies and Patricia Peterson and Stanley Gale — provided support to make the new Emergency Department (ED) at Huntington Hospital a reality. "Supporting the community is very important to my family and me," said Mr. Reichert. "We believe strongly in giving back and helping to make the lives of others better."

Huntington Hospital's new state-of-the-art ED, which more than doubled

in size, opened this past January and was developed with one clear objective in mind: to care for people as quickly, efficiently and comfortably as possible.

By increasing the number of treatment areas; adding private results waiting stations; providing dedicated areas for Ob/Gyn, behavioral health, trauma and pediatric patients; and incorporating its own radiology section; the ED can implement a new split-flow model to deliver faster, more efficient care. Staff will triage and assess patients based on the severity of their illness and then route them to the appropriate level of treatment, providing superior care for the 64,000 patients who visit each year.



For those visiting Huntington's new ED, the difference is striking. "We've received positive feedback from our patients and families about our new space," said Leonardo Huertas, MD, chairman of Emergency Medicine at Huntington Hospital. "They've commented on the benefit of being seen faster for minor injuries and how much more pleasant the lobby and waiting spaces are. When you're sick or injured, everything matters and makes a difference."

Paramedics bring care to seniors at home



By Ben Maltz

When frail, homebound seniors suffer a medical crisis, they often have no choice but to call 911 and be taken to the local emergency room. However, not all medical concerns require an emergency room visit or hospitalization, both of which can be difficult for elderly patients.

With generous support from the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Northwell Health has expanded its Community Paramedicine Program, which uses paramedics with advanced training to treat people where they are without transporting them to a hospital. On-call doctors remotely provide guidance by using telemedicine to oversee activity, allowing the paramedics to serve as "physician extenders." By stabilizing and alleviating problems in patients' own homes, community paramedicine creates a highly effective 24/7 alternative to transporting patients to the emergency room.

Since its inception in October 2013, the program has worked toward the new industry goal of reducing avoidable

hospitalizations by 25 percent. More than 90 percent of patients, caregivers and healthcare providers express high satisfaction with the program and state they would utilize the service in a future medical emergency. By reducing ambulance transports, emergency room visits and hospital admissions, the program has also been highly effective in lowering healthcare costs.

Kristofer Smith, MD, MPP, senior vice president of the Office of Population Health Management and medical director of Northwell Health Solutions, said, "We are deeply grateful for the vision and support of the Samuels Foundation in advancing the Community Paramedicine Program model, which is allowing Northwell Health to provide elders in our communities with the comfort and dignity they deserve."

Gambino Foundation improves hospital stays for patients and families in isolation



By Amy Pilott

Isabella Ieraci was not even 2 years old when diagnosed with stage 4 high-risk neuroblastoma in June 2015. Since then, “Bella the Brave” has been treated at Cohen Children’s Medical Center, enduring intensive treatment including chemotherapy, surgery, radiation, antibody therapy and two stem cell transplants.

Like all patients who undergo a stem cell transplant, Isabella was isolated following her procedure. “A patient remains in his

or her room for about a month during the engraftment process, which determines if the blood cells start to grow and make new cells,” said Jeffrey Lipton, MD, PhD, director of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation at Cohen Children’s.

Isabella’s first stay in the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation Stem Cell Transplant Unit lasted 23 days. Each night, either Isabella’s mother, Jennifer, or father, Peter, slept in a chair, alternating nights at home with their older children, Sophia and Alexa. The original unit — built in 1991 — was the region’s first for pediatrics and solidified Cohen Children’s as a destination hospital for pediatric cancer care.

Prior to Isabella’s second transplant in April 2016, the unit was renovated and expanded through the generosity of the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation, providing more modern and spacious rooms. Ms. Ieraci says the Gambinos’

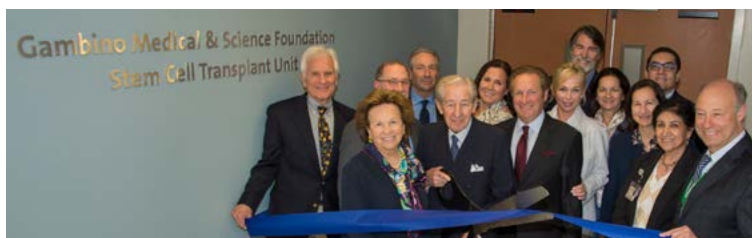
continued commitment to improve the unit made a “world of difference” for her family.

Mom or dad once again slept in the hospital with Bella, but this time on a pull-out bed, in an isolation room with a private bathroom and a small play table. “Pediatric cancer is life changing for the entire family,” said Ms. Ieraci. “We stayed in the new unit with our little ‘Bella the Brave’ for 32 days, and the renovations gave us our sanity back a bit.”

“Our goal is to maintain an appealing and comfortable space for patients and their families throughout their bone marrow transplant journey,” said Dr. Lipton. The Gambinos’ support over three decades made the goal a reality.

“Our foundation is committed to supporting the superior care of children provided at Cohen Children’s,” said Thomas Gambino Sr.

The Ieraci family is forever grateful.



Gambino Medical & Science Foundation endows professorship

In an effort to further Cohen Children’s national leadership in pediatric cancer, the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation recently established an endowed professorship in pediatric hematology and oncology, ensuring our physician scientists can continue their groundbreaking research.

The Gambino Foundation’s long-term generosity has helped create outstanding clinical programs, including the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation Stem Cell Transplant Unit and the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation Trauma and Imaging Center, and has supported important research projects and child life programs. Cohen Children’s is ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the nation’s top children’s hospitals and recognized in nine subspecialties, such as cancer and endocrinology, both disciplines kindly supported by the Gambino Medical & Science Foundation.

GREAT program revolutionizes cancer study



The new Division of Human Genetics and Genomics, led by Kenan Onel, MD, PhD, will enable Cohen Children’s Medical Center to become a destination children’s hospital for pediatric cancer and blood disorders. The information we learn from children, who are less influenced by environmental factors than adults, can be applied to the 19,000 new cancer diagnoses we see across the health system each year. Through the revolutionary Genomics for Risk Evaluation and Anticancer Therapy in Kids (GREAT) program, Dr. Onel analyzes normal DNA and tumor DNA sequences upon a child’s initial diagnosis, as well as his/her parents’, and studies every relapsed and metastatic tumor. Dr. Onel studies the cells that survive chemotherapy and advanced disease, as opposed to looking only at cells that cause cancer. Because cancer changes genes, every personalized cure found through Dr. Onel’s research informs another. These cures can spread across Northwell Health and beyond — changing the way physicians care for patients around the world.

Providing a safe place for families impacted by **cystic fibrosis**

“You know the French expression *joie de vivre*?” said Jennifer Corti. “Matthew epitomizes that.”

Matthew is Jennifer’s 6-year-old son. “He wakes up happy and is very curious.” She paused. “And then there is this small part of his life that is cystic fibrosis (CF). But it impacts his life in very powerful ways.”

Since infancy, Matthew endured repeated deep throat cultures — an uncomfortable procedure that turned this happy boy into a panicked, crying one whenever he went to the doctor.

The Cortis moved to Manhasset three years ago and had an appointment to meet their new doctor, Joan Germana, MD. But Matthew ended up needing emergency care first and, coincidentally, Dr. Germana was the on-call physician at Cohen Children’s Medical Center that day.

“She [Dr. Germana] rushed to the hospital, took on a terrifying situation and gave comfort and confidence to a family new to the area, the doctor and the hospital,” says Ms. Corti.

Dr. Germana and Cohen Children’s have provided Matthew with outstanding care ever since. Then an impactful gift from the Boomer Esiason Foundation further reduced Matthew’s hospital anxiety over the past year. The gift made possible the opening of the Cohen Children’s Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center in Lake Success.

The state-of-the-art center shares space with a full range of outpatient pediatric subspecialties, allowing patients like Matthew to receive all their care in one familiar place. The center also offers comprehensive exercise testing and employs a clinical research nurse, allowing better participation in clinical research trials.

Boomer Esiason started his foundation after his son was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of two.

“He understands what we are going through,” said Ms. Corti. “The support from donors like the Boomer Esiason Foundation allows me to do my job of caring for my son with less stress.”

When Matthew received care at Cohen Children’s, he needed to go to various hospital departments for bloodwork and other services. Meeting with unfamiliar people was scary for him.

“The new facility, with its expanded space and proximity to other services, made it easier and familiar for everyone and much less traumatic for Matthew,” said Ms. Corti. “For a 6-year-old who has faced more than his fair share of challenges, it’s heartwarming to have him eager to see Dr. Germana and the CF team at Cohen Children’s even when he’s feeling his worst.”

“The Boomer Esiason Foundation is committed to heightening awareness, education and quality of life for those affected by cystic fibrosis, while advancing research aimed at finding a cure,” said Boomer Esiason. “We are proud to support the Cohen Children’s Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center and provide world class CF care to our region.”

“Experts talk about cystic fibrosis patients needing a safe zone, a safe place,” said Ms. Corti. “Home is a safe zone, but now the CF center has become another safe place for Matthew — and for our family.”



“The new facility, with its expanded space and proximity to other services, made it easier and familiar for everyone, and much less traumatic for Matthew.”

Giving hope to children in difficult times

Fifteen-year-old Taylor Ryan understands serious illness. She knows what it's like to be hospitalized for long periods of time and has endured many rounds of chemotherapy. And, she has met it all with hope — hope she is now passing on to others.

Taylor has Langerhans cell histiocytosis (LCH), a rare disease caused by the buildup and spread of certain immature white blood cells. In more than half of LCH cases, the cells become cancerous because of a gene mutation. Every case of LCH is unique, affecting different parts of the body and organs depending on where lesions form. Yet, most LCH responds well to chemotherapy treatment.

But, not Taylor's. As her family learned in 2010, Taylor's disease affects her central nervous system.

"This disease is rare," said Carolyn Fein Levy, MD, lead of the Pediatric Oncology Rare Tumor and Sarcoma Program at Cohen Children's Medical Center and Taylor's pediatric hematologist/oncologist. "But LCH of the central nervous system, like Taylor's, is rarer still. Treating it is very challenging."

Donate in Taylor's honor at support.northwell.edu. Designate your gift to LCH Research.

There is no clear course of action, and no clear progression of the disease. Taylor might not have a flare-up for weeks or months, and then she is suddenly dealing with headaches, hand tremors and seizures. "The unknown is terrifying," said Teresa Ryan, Taylor's mother.

Taylor's response, though, has been empathy for others. After noticing another young patient crying at the hospital three years ago, Taylor wanted to encourage her. "Why can't we make a gift basket or something for her?" she asked her mom.

Instead, the family founded the Taylor's Hope Foundation to help children dealing with LCH and other diseases. Through Taylor's Hope, families have enjoyed special outings or received funds to buy groceries or pay mortgages — anything that makes it easier to survive the difficult experiences that are routine for children and their families living with disease.

Now Taylor and her foundation are providing new hope for others with LCH. A Cohen Children's LCH research fund was established in collaboration with the Northwell Health Foundation.

Taylor's Hope has pledged \$100,000 in funds over the next four years.

"LCH is a rare disease. To understand it better, we need patients to participate in clinical trials," said Dr. Fein Levy. Cohen Children's is the newest member of the North American Consortium for Histiocytosis, and Dr. Fein Levy and her team are enrolling patients for the LCH-IV clinical trial.

As exciting as the trial is, Taylor is ineligible to participate because enrollment is limited to newly diagnosed patients. "But she and her mother are at the forefront of pushing our research endeavors to the next level of understanding," said Dr. Fein Levy.

Taylor is passing on her hope to others in a life-giving way. Whether she is cheering on her school soccer team or funding clinical trials, Taylor wants others to be encouraged. She knows the trauma of a difficult disease. Now she is experiencing the joy of providing a beacon of hope to others from the midst of her own struggle.





A Christmas display lights the way for cancer research

By Jillian O'Hara

Joe DiMartino is a kid at heart. Excited for the holiday season, he spends three months transforming his home on Sharrotts Road on Staten Island into the North Pole.

His home illuminates the block with its boldly colored lights, designs and animatronics. Attracting more than 16,000 people each year, Joe's Christmas spectacular has become a successful fundraiser.

"The first year we did it very small, we just did the garage; then the next year was 9/11 and I didn't do anything," said Mr. DiMartino.

Mr. DiMartino's wife, Debra Ann, was killed in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. She was a supporter of children's charities, and in her honor he decided to help children in need through his display. Mr. DiMartino raises awareness and funds to support the children's cancer services at Staten Island University Hospital.

Thanks to the generosity of Joe's visitors, more than \$200,000 has been raised over the last 17 years.

"I swore to my wife that I would keep this house lit up bigger and bigger every year

in her memory," said Mr. DiMartino. "Sick children need the help," and his goal is to get the reach further out. Last December, the DiMartino house went national when it aired on ABC TV's hit show, *The Great Christmas Light Fight*.

"Funds will go to the Children's Cancer Center and pediatric oncology research," said Philip Roth, MD, chairman, Department of Pediatrics and vice president of medical education at Staten Island University Hospital. "The research is critical to improving diagnosis and treatment of children with cancer."

"Research funding is very hard to find and receive," said Sarah Vaiselbuh, MD, director of Pediatric Oncology and HistiCare at Staten Island University Hospital. "The money is spent on something that is very fundamental, research for a cure, which benefits all children."

"No parent or patient is ever prepared for the anguish of a cancer diagnosis.

The support received allows our patients to access lifesaving treatments close to home. We may not always have a reason for why children are diagnosed with cancer, but we are working on finding the answer," said Dr. Vaiselbuh.

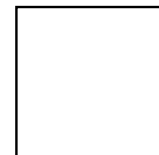
Currently, our researchers are looking at a marker to diagnosis leukemia at a very early stage, which will help to improve the quality of life for children with the disease.

Although the DiMartino family didn't win *The Great Christmas Light Fight*, their message of optimism touched the nation. Breaking his record each and every year, the Christmas House raised more than \$36,000 last year.

"We are incredibly appreciative of families like the DiMartinos," said Dr. Roth. "It's people like this that make a true difference and have a chance to really impact the communities. We are incredibly grateful to them and hope others will follow their example."



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Your gift today can help advance care for the more than 2 million people we serve annually.
Visit support.northwell.edu/Gratitude

Upcoming Events

Moms and Dads Rock for Music Therapy

Saturday, July 22, 2017
Rippowam Cisca School
Bedford, NY

Contact: Whitney Wasserman
(914) 242-8382
wwasserman2@northwell.edu
nwhconnect.org/2017Rock

Southside Hospital Pirate Festival

Tuesday, August 1, 2017
Kismet, Fire Island, NY

Contact: Karen Blank
(516) 321-6337
kblank@northwell.edu
support.northwell.edu/southsidepiratefest

Cohen Children's Circle Golf Classic

Honoring Marty Bernard

Monday, August 7, 2017
Fresh Meadow Country Club
Great Neck, NY

Contact: Katherine Hess
(516) 321-6276
kmcmanus1@northwell.edu
support.northwell.edu/cccgolf

Katz Institute for Women's Health Luncheon and Fashion Show

Honoring Iris and Saul Katz

Thursday, September 14, 2017
Old Westbury Gardens
Old Westbury, NY

Contact: Tamar Segura
(516) 321-6340
tsegura@northwell.edu
support.northwell.edu/fashionforkatz

Staten Island University Hospital 135th Charity Ball

Saturday, September 23, 2017
Hilton Garden Inn
Staten Island, NY

Contact: Evelyn Fonseca
(718) 226-6331
efonseca@northwell.edu

Evening of Gratitude

Wednesday, September 27, 2017
Engineers Country Club
Roslyn Harbor, NY

Contact: Sam Horowitz
(516) 321-6334
shorowitz4@northwell.edu

Southside Hospital Gala

Honoring Eileen and Matt Connors

Thursday, October 12, 2017
The Bourne Mansion
Oakdale, NY

Contact: Karen Blank
(516) 321-6337
kblank@northwell.edu

Champagne Ball

Friday, November 3, 2017
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
Briarcliff Manor, NY

Contact: Marissa Coratti
(914) 366-3104
mcoratti@pmhc.us
phelpsevents.org

Huntington Hospital Annual Gala

Honoring Helen and Charles Reichert

Friday, November 3, 2017
Pine Hollow Country Club
East Norwich, NY

Contact: Dolli Bross
(631) 470-5204
dbross2@northwell.edu

The Constellation Gala

Tuesday, November 14, 2017
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York, NY

Contact: Jennifer Avedon
(646) 766-7134
javedon@northwell.edu
theconstellationgala.com

Imagine What's Next Benefit

Saturday, November 18, 2017
Saw Mill Club
Mount Kisco, NY

Contact: Gaby Golod
Greenwald
(914) 242-8392
ggreenwald@northwell.edu
nwhconnect.org/2017gala