

# Spirit of **GIVING**

A NEWSLETTER FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN, PROVIDENCE AND HENRY FORD ROCHESTER FOUNDATIONS

Winter 2024



## Inside:

- Anonymous gift will transform cardiac care with new hybrid catheterization lab
- Joint venture begins new era in healthcare
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit to add isolation rooms thanks to major gift from longtime donor
- Family hopes to inspire others through their legacy of community support
- Donor generosity helps OB Academic Clinic provide essential health resources for community
- Kids with diabetes and adults affected by strokes benefit from special camps supported by gifts

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Henry Ford Rochester Foundation  
Providence Foundation  
St. John Foundation



## Lead gift will transform cardiac care at Henry Ford St. John Hospital

A generous lead gift of \$2.5 million by an anonymous donor to the *Give Hope: One Heart at a Time* campaign at Henry Ford St. John Hospital will be transformative in enhancing the hospital's Heart and Vascular program. The gift will not only help expand the program's services and capabilities, it will also give renewed hope to cardiac patients with limited or no other treatment options.

For more than 50 years, the Heart and Vascular program within the W. Warren Sheldon Heart and Circulatory Center at Henry Ford St. John Hospital has offered outstanding patient care. Its top-ranked cardiovascular specialists and heart care team care for nearly 16,000 adult patients annually. Conditions treated include advanced heart failure, arrhythmias, cardiac surgery, coronary heart disease,

structural heart disease and vascular disease.

Catheterization laboratories (cath labs) are a critical component of the program. In these labs, doctors guide a thin, flexible tube (catheter) through a blood vessel to the heart to diagnose and treat conditions such as blocked arteries or irregular heartbeats. Last year, the cardiac care team performed nearly 5,000 catheterizations, of which 30% were high-risk minimally invasive procedures.

The hospital currently has four traditional cath labs and one hybrid catheterization lab for use during complex, minimally invasive procedures.

To continue providing the highest level of comprehensive heart care, Henry Ford St. John Hospital needs to update its

technology and transform two of its traditional cath labs while streamlining services to be able to care for a growing number of patients at all risk levels.

To address these needs, the St. John Foundation launched the *Give Hope: One Heart at a Time* campaign, with a goal of raising \$5 million to convert and fully equip both catheterization laboratories.

**The \$2.5 million gift will enable the program to transform one of its traditional cath labs into a hybrid cath lab.**

A hybrid cath lab combines the traditional diagnostic function of a cath lab with the surgical functions of an operating room. Physicians in the new lab will have the flexibility to perform comprehensive, complex cardiac cath or electrophysiology services in one setting. Patients who need more complex treatment will also benefit from the lab’s integrated surgical functions, which can potentially reduce the need for multiple procedures or surgeries.

The new hybrid lab will also be fully equipped with the most advanced technology. This includes a robotic angiography system with a FlexArm x-ray system to provide superior flexibility, vision and safety during interventional cardiac treatments. The system provides total body imaging without having to move the procedure table or patient. In addition,

the lab will be digitally integrated for optimal data sharing, reporting, analysis and physician collaboration during procedures. Physicians will be able to monitor procedures from a state-of-the-art control room equipped with the latest cardiology image and information management software.

“We are incredibly grateful and humbled by the anonymous donor’s support and the impact it will have on our cardiac patients,” said Thomas LaLonde, MD, Chief of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Services at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. “Beyond upgrading an existing cath lab into a cutting-edge hybrid lab, the gift is a tremendous investment in the lives of people. Patients with significant heart problems may have a better quality of life and live longer, and others with fewer treatment alternatives will gain a new sense of hope.”

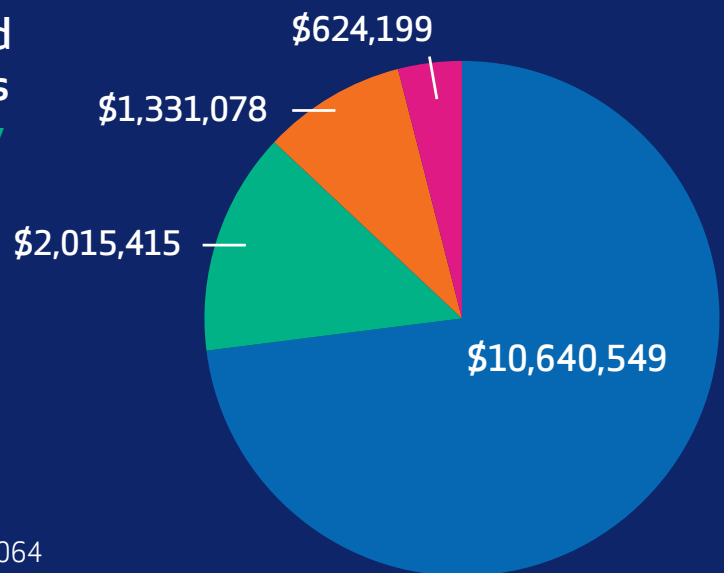
Donations play a key role in helping the Heart and Vascular program remain at the forefront of cardiovascular care for our community and region. Additional gifts are needed to help meet the *Give Hope: One Heart at a Time* campaign goal to fully renovate and modernize the catheterization labs.

**If you’d like to support heart care at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, please contact Sherry Augustine, Senior Development Officer, St. John Foundation, at 313-343-7481.**

**Ascension St. John, Providence and Providence Rochester Foundations  
Fiscal Year 2024 fundraising activity**

- Grants
- Major gifts
- Special events
- Annual giving

Ascension St. John Foundation	\$10,310,064
Ascension Providence Foundation	\$3,542,013
Ascension Providence Rochester Foundation	\$759,163
<b>FY24 Total fundraising</b>	<b>\$14,611,241</b>



Thank you to our generous donors for helping us raise more than \$14.6 million last year to enhance patient and community programs and services, acquire new technology, and expand and renovate our healthcare facilities.

# Henry Ford Health joint venture begins a new journey for your healthcare



**Carol Schmidt, former CEO of Ascension Michigan and now Senior Integration Advisor for Henry Ford Health, and Bob Riney, Henry Ford Health President and CEO, finalize the joint venture at a press conference at Henry Ford St. John Hospital on Oct. 1.**

On October 1, the joint venture to bring together Henry Ford Health and Ascension Southeast Michigan was officially launched, integrating the Ascension Southeast and Greater Flint area hospitals and care sites with Henry Ford Health.

This joint venture was designed to advance the health of the communities we serve and improve outcomes, access and equity for all, as well as drive innovation, academic excellence and advanced, complex care. Our newly combined organization, branded Henry Ford Health, is committed to providing more access than ever to high-quality care and exceptional patient experiences.

The Ascension healthcare facilities included in the joint venture will remain Catholic, with the respected tradition of providing faith-based care. Our longstanding commitment to Catholic values, the Ethical and Religious Directives, and our Mission of serving all with special attention to the poor and vulnerable, will remain at the heart of everything we do.

The Ascension hospital names have changed as follows:

- Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren and Madison Heights Campuses, are now **Henry Ford Warren Hospital** and **Henry Ford Madison Heights Hospital**.
- Ascension Providence, Novi and Southfield Campuses, are now **Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital** and **Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital**.
- Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital is now **Henry Ford Rochester Hospital**.
- Ascension River District Hospital is now **Henry Ford River District Hospital**.
- Ascension St. John Hospital is now **Henry Ford St. John Hospital**.
- Ascension Brighton Center for Recovery is now **Henry Ford Brighton Center for Recovery**.
- Ascension Genesys Hospital is now **Henry Ford Genesys Hospital**.

While location names and signs may change, you will find your doctors and labs in the same place they've always been. Plus, you'll have the opportunity to utilize the complete Henry Ford Health system of services at 13 hospitals and 550 sites.

**Please know that your support continues to directly benefit your local foundation and hospital, allowing us to provide timely and effective care for those in need.**

The names of our local foundations are now:

- **Henry Ford Rochester Foundation**
- **Providence Foundation**
- **St. John Foundation**

Foundation team members are here to help you when you wish to make a gift to a program or hospital that has a special meaning to you. **If you have any questions, please call us at 248-465-5000 for the Henry Ford Rochester Foundation and Providence Foundation, and at 313-343-7480 for the St. John Foundation.**

Thank you for your continued dedication and support as we move forward on this exciting new journey to bring you compassionate and exceptional healthcare.



## Carls Foundation supports Pediatric Intensive Care Unit with major gift for isolation rooms

The Carls Foundation made a \$475,000 contribution to construct, equip and furnish two negative pressure rooms in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital.

The new rooms will enable the pediatric team of caregivers to provide the highest standard of care to vulnerable infants, children and teens who are hospitalized with serious infectious diseases and respiratory illnesses, and protect other patients, families and hospital staff from contracting airborne infectious illnesses.

Negative pressure rooms are used as a method of infection control to isolate patients with contagious, airborne diseases away from other patients, visitors and hospital staff. These special rooms have lower air pressure inside than the air pressure outside the room so that when the door is opened, contaminated air from inside the room will not flow outside into non-contaminated areas. Instead, non-contaminated filtered air will flow into the negative pressure room and contaminated air is sucked out of the room with exhaust systems, which are built with filters that clean the air before it is pumped outside of and away from the healthcare facility.

Many infectious diseases require negative pressure isolation, and it is the standard of care for respiratory pathogens. Annually, a large number of Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital pediatric patients are admitted with one or more respiratory illnesses that require isolation such as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), viral bronchiolitis, bacterial pneumonia, adenovirus and influenza.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent pediatric respiratory illness crisis demonstrated the critical need to equip hospitals with additional resources to protect patients and staff.

Phase 1 of the pediatric services project to enhance Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital created the new Shery L. Cotton Pediatric Emergency Department, which opened in January 2024.

The PICU renovation is Phase 2 of the project. It will include the conversion of two inpatient rooms into negative pressure rooms, funded by The Carls Foundation. The addition of these rooms is critically important to keep anyone who enters the PICU safe and healthy, particularly staff who frequently enter rooms to care for seriously ill patients with contagious diseases.

Besides the gift for the negative pressure rooms, The Carls Foundation made a previous gift of \$1 million to the *Your Child, We Care* campaign to support the renovation of the PICU. For their generosity, the renovated PICU will be named The Carls Foundation Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. A timeline for the renovation of the PICU is forthcoming.

With a mission to support children's welfare, The Carls Foundation has generously supported several other initiatives at Henry Ford southeast Michigan entities since 1995, including The Holley Institute and its programs for those with hearing loss, with donations totaling \$5 million.

# Moceri gifts foster legacy of support



**Mario and Maria Moceri**

For decades, the Moceri family and Moceri Companies have made a significant impact on communities throughout Michigan as a developer of custom homes and apartments. In particular, their

previous senior housing developments were noted for prioritizing wellness and community engagement.

Mario Moceri, of Moceri Companies and the leader of its property management division, along with his wife Maria, also uphold their family's legacy of philanthropy. Their support of community education, health and wellness initiatives includes generous gifts to the Henry Ford Rochester Foundation and Henry Ford Rochester Hospital.

Over the years, Moceri Companies have supported the Henry Ford Rochester Foundation Golf Classic and in 2022 helped bring the Mangia e Bocce event to Henry Ford Rochester Hospital. Mario and Maria Moceri's leadership and passion for making an impact in our community has helped raise more than \$262,000 over the past three years through the Mangia e Bocce event.

In 2022 and 2024, funds from this popular fundraiser supported the purchase of critical medical monitoring systems, new bassinets and other supplies for The Birthplace in addition to specialty equipment needed for patients at the St. John Children's Center at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital.

Proceeds from the 2023 bocce event supported Mental Health First Aid Training to recruit, train and certify instructors to teach others how to provide mental health assistance for people in crisis (see sidebar).

In recognition of Mario and Maria's dedication to the community, the couple was recognized as "Distinguished Volunteers" by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising

## Professionals as part of National Philanthropy Day 2023 celebrations.

"Henry Ford Rochester Hospital serves an important role as a community provider of regular healthcare as well as emergency care," said Mario, "When emergencies happen, seconds matter. And it's important to have a trusted resource like Henry Ford Rochester Hospital available."

Mario said he hopes that his family's charitable work will help inspire others to support community-oriented initiatives.

"Every gift counts – no matter if it's one dollar or ten thousand," Mario said. "Seeing the impact of your gift, learning how it has touched someone else's life, is very rewarding. When you give to the right cause, your heart is filled with joy."

## Mangia e Bocce event supports Community Mental Health First Aid Training

Thanks in part to proceeds from the 2023 Mangia e Bocce event, members of the Rochester community are becoming certified instructors of mental health first aid training.

The event, chaired by Mario and Maria Moceri for the past two years, raised \$43,000 to support Community Mental Health First Aid Training. This service will arm the community with more ways to identify and bring help to people facing a mental health crisis or a substance abuse disorder.

Two training sessions – hosted by The Henry Ford Rochester Foundation and Oakland University Professional and Continuing Education – were held at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital. In May, 13 people became certified to host mental health first aid classes in the community. In October, the newly certified trainers educated community members on how to identify, understand and respond to mental illness and substance abuse challenges in adults.

With the newly trained instructors, we are now able to offer training to many groups in the community.

To learn more about future training sessions, please email [SEMCHCommunityHealthPrograms@hfhs.org](mailto:SEMCHCommunityHealthPrograms@hfhs.org).

# Volunteer leagues join together as one organization to support two hospitals

*"I will not follow where the path may lead, but I will go where there is no path, and I will leave a trail." - Muriel Strode*

The board members of Our Lady of Providence League (OLPL) and Providence Park League (PPL), the legacy Ascension Providence Hospital volunteer auxiliary groups from Southfield and Novi campuses, are creating a new trail.

The two non-profits are joining together to create one united organization. Both groups share the same goal of providing service, philanthropy and advocacy for the newly named Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital and Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital but have traditionally focused on their respective campuses.

Over recent years, the two groups have worked together for many fundraising events like the golf outing, vendor sales and gas card raffles, to name a few. Their service at each

hospital focuses on volunteering to support patients, guests and associates as well as special community events like the Christmas Store. In addition, the volunteer organizations have celebrated their accomplishments together at a joint annual meeting and volunteer recognition luncheon.

The leadership teams of OLPL and PPL have joined together to create one board, comprised of members from the two former boards. The name of the newly combined volunteer group is still to be determined.

"As the leadership evolves into one board, they will still be able to contribute to capital campaigns and emergent needs at each campus but will share ideas and best practices from their combined talents," said Kathy Zaguroli, Manager of Volunteer Services. "We look forward to working with more efficiency and supporting hospital initiatives with vision and innovation."



The newly formed board of the joint OLPL and PPL includes: (l-r, front row) Cathy Bathurst, Christine Jerulle, Tanika Hines; (back row) Connie Joseph, Nancy Gormley, Jim Hynes, Cindy Cox, Bill Goodwin, Pat Rebain, Joyce Redmond, Linda Swan, Ralph Jerulle and Patty McConlogue. Not pictured are: Phil Dennis, Candy Litman and Ed Echelmeyer.



## Sister Mary Louise Stubbs reflects on her ministry legacy

As a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul for more than 55 years, Sister Mary Louise Stubbs has devoted most of her life's service ministry to healthcare initiatives. In addition to being an aide as a national campus for people with leprosy and overseeing the funding for hundreds of ministry projects, she's held administrative and board roles at several legacy Ascension hospitals. This includes her invaluable role as a member of the Providence Foundation Board. For her dedication, she was honored as a Distinguished Volunteer by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on National Philanthropy in November.

In January, Sr. Mary Louise will leave the Board and her role as Executive Director of Daughters of Charity International Project Services. In the latter position, she responds to requests from Sisters in developing countries for resources to support programs for health, education and self-sufficiency.

Although Sr. Mary Louise may be scaling back her duties, she doesn't use the word "retirement," since she'll be reassigned to a new ministry position.

"It's time for the next generation to begin running International Project Services," she said. "We have great staff here in the Detroit area, and I'd like to have someone with the appropriate experience take the reins so the organization remains strong and continues to grow. But I'm still a Daughter of Charity and will be ready for whatever assignment I receive."

The Daughters of Charity, which formed in 1633, has operated hospitals in the U.S. since the 1820s. In 1850, the Daughters established the House of Providence in Detroit, which later became Providence Hospital. In 1965, the Daughters supported the construction of what is now Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital, replacing the Detroit facility. The Daughters of Charity were also a founding member of

Ascension in 1999 before entrusting them with health system operations. The Daughters of Charity were honored with the Order of Charity Award at the 2024 Providence Friends' Ball. This esteemed award recognizes those who live out the hospital's mission and values in extraordinary ways to make the community a healthier, better place to live.

Reflecting on her ministry, Sr. Mary Louise said the most memorable moments occurred while leading prayers at public events and dedication ceremonies.

"I wrap the ministry and clinical focus into a prayer that centers on why the medical service is needed and how it touches peoples' hearts and lives," she said. "The prayer also ties into our mission, the importance of the people involved, and healthcare's purpose of helping people lead healthy lives."

Sr. Mary Louise adds that a hospital is more than just a building or advanced medical equipment.

"It takes many people with different skills and talents to make a hospital," she said. "It's about everyone from administration to medical care to maintenance. If one group was missing, it wouldn't work."

"I encourage team members to take a moment and ask themselves how many lives they've touched that day. Think about the impact you and those around you have on patients. Whatever your talent is, you're sharing it with something very impactful."

Ascension's southeast Michigan and Genesys healthcare facilities included in the joint venture with Henry Ford Health will maintain their Catholic identity. They will continue their longstanding commitment to Catholic values, the Ethical and Religious Directives, and mission of serving all people, with special attention to the poor and vulnerable.



# Dr. Ali Rabbani Memorial Endowment honors his heartfelt commitment to pediatric care

A new endowment honoring the late Ali Rabbani, MD, who dedicated his life's work to improving the health and well-being of children, will help further advance the care of our youngest patients at Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital.

## The Dr. Ali Rabbani Memorial Endowment

will support pediatric residents and nurses who care for newborns, children and adolescents at Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital. The endowment will help fund recognition awards, scholarships, neonatal and pediatric lectures, and other related items. These supplemental educational opportunities will in turn help advance patient care.

Dr. Rabbani played a major role in the development and growth of the Pediatric Department at Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital, as well as in the establishment of the Pediatric Residency program. Through his extraordinary, compassionate service, Dr. Rabbani touched the lives of many physicians, staff, patients and families within the community. He passed away in 2022 at age 85.

Dr. Rabbani joined the staff of Henry Ford St. John Hospital in 1969 after completing his medical training. The following year, he established the hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, one of the first NICUs in the country. In 1971, Dr. Rabbani was named Chief of Pediatrics at the young age of 34, a title he held until his retirement. Then in 1974, he created the hospital's Pediatric Residency program, which became nationally regarded and remains well recognized to this day. Due largely to his work and dedication, Henry Ford St. John Hospital became a member of the National Association of Children's Hospitals in 2012.

**Muthayipalayam Thirumoorthi, MD**, a former colleague of Dr. Rabbani's and a pediatric infectious diseases specialist at Henry Ford St. John Hospital since 1988, established the endowment with a generous donation. Dr. Rabbani's wife of 48 years, **Mahdokht Rabbani, MD**, a retired radiologist, also

made a significant gift to the endowment in memory of her late husband.

"Dr. Rabbani's contribution to Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital, to the Department of Pediatrics, and to the

Pediatric Residency program is incalculable," Dr. Thirumoorthi said. "He took what was a community program and helped develop it into a nationally respected clinic for infants and children. The endowment will keep Dr. Rabbani's memory alive and ensure that his name is associated with our program indefinitely."

Dr. Thirumoorthi added that Dr. Rabbani was also a strong mentor who showed great compassion for patients and their families.

"We always knew that if we needed Dr. Rabbani's assistance, whether with clinical care or with fundraising for the program, he would do all he could to help," Dr. Thirumoorthi said. "Many of our residents who became pediatricians continued to seek his

advice, even after entering private practice. And many of the nurses under his supervision grew in their abilities – some also moved into nursing administration.

"Dr. Rabbani was also an excellent clinician. When it came to children and their parents, he was a soft touch. A number of parents kept in contact with him through the years. They remembered how kind he was during their period of stress, pain and uncertainty."

Many doctors, staff and families have expressed an interest in supporting the endowment and honoring Dr. Rabbani's extraordinary commitment to our young patients.

If you would like to make a gift to the endowment, please scan the QR code to visit the online donation page, then select "Dr. Ali Rabbani Memorial Endowment" from the drop-down menu.



# Announcements



## Carolyn Clifford honored for commitment to philanthropy

**Carolyn Clifford**, a prominent, respected journalist, was honored by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on National Philanthropy Day with the Neal Shine Award for Media Commitment to

Philanthropy. Providence Foundation nominated Carolyn because of her deep-seated devotion to supporting the philanthropic work of Henry Ford Providence Novi and Southfield Hospitals for many years. She has generously volunteered her time and talents several times as emcee for the annual Friends' Ball gala, helping to bring prestige and importance to the fundraising event. Carolyn also volunteers on the Women's Heart Advisory Council, which supports Women's Heart Health for the hospital and outpatient clinics that care for women with cardiovascular disease and those at risk.

Carolyn passionately believes in the Providence team's medical expertise and is grateful for their compassionate care. She goes above and beyond to ensure the hospital gets on the air with crucial medical information to inform and enhance the community's health.

## Distinguished Volunteers recognized

Congratulations to the following individuals honored as Distinguished Volunteers by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on National Philanthropy Day in November.

### *Nominated by Henry Ford Rochester Foundation*



**Amber DeClaire** has selflessly devoted many years to the Henry Ford Rochester Foundation. Her dedication, generosity, enthusiasm and genuine philanthropic spirit make her an invaluable asset to the community. Always ready to lend a hand, Amber embodies altruism, inspiring others. Serving on committees for the Foundation's

signature events, she tirelessly champions the cause. Amber instills the value of giving back in her daughters, fostering a legacy of compassion and service.

### *Nominated by Providence Foundation*



**Shukri David, MD**, is a pillar of medical excellence and philanthropic dedication. His compassion and leadership have advanced the interventional cardiology field and spearheaded transformative initiatives in philanthropy and community service. Dr. David has an unwavering commitment to giving back to those in need. His strategic vision has been pivotal to many major projects benefiting Henry Ford Providence Novi and Southfield Hospitals, the American Heart Association and other nonprofits. He was instrumental in organizing the 2024 Friends' Ball, which raised an unprecedented \$400,000 for essential hospital initiatives.

## New board members announced



**Greg DeMars** has been named Vice Chair of the St. John Foundation Board of Trustees. On the board since 2019, he also serves on the Donor Relations committee. Greg has been a supporter of Henry Ford St. John Hospital and the St. John Foundation for 29 years, beginning his support with his late wife Phyllis. Together, in 2019, they established an endowment to support

awareness about human trafficking and create training programs for associates at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. Greg is a retired partner of Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn, LLP; he now is a partner of GJD Consulting, LLC.

**Alexia Minanov, MD**, has joined the St. John Foundation Board of Trustees. She is a pediatrician who has served on the pediatric faculty at several universities in North Carolina, New York, Kansas City, Kansas and Missouri. As academic faculty, she saw private patients and precepted medical students and pediatric residents in primary care and emergency medicine. Dr. Minanov worked in private practice for five years and is currently a pediatrician at Corewell Health East Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital.



**Amy O'Shea** is a new member of the St. John Foundation Board of Trustees. She is President and CEO of The O'Shea Solutions Group, LLC, a small construction and consulting group that functions in the Aging in Place sector for older adults. She leads the group in assessing the residential needs of older adults and develops plans to execute their physical needs to allow them to stay in the comfort of their own homes longer.

### New role for Foundation leader



**Patrick Kelly** has been named Chief Mission Integration Officer in addition to his role as Vice President, Foundation. Pat is a mission-driven executive with a strong track record in healthcare operations, foundations and donor development. In his new role, he leads the strategic and operational integration of clinical and organizational ethics, ecclesial relations, spiritual care and ministry

formation centers of expertise, fostering the creation of a mission-centered culture.

### New Foundation team member named



**Louisa Artelt** is the new Donor Relations Specialist for both the Providence and Henry Ford Rochester Foundations. She manages donor stewardship efforts and oversees the Providence Society and McGregor Society, which provide recognition to generous donors, invitations to events, specialized communications and assistance in navigating hospital

services. Louisa has a broad background in philanthropy including roles at the New Day Foundation for Families of Michigan, University of Michigan Medicine/North Star Reach, Beaumont Health Foundation and Michigan Ballet Theater.

# Legacy Society educates and honors members

The St. John Foundation recently held an informative appreciation luncheon for Legacy Society members at the Country Club of Detroit.

Legacy Society member Gene LoVasco, President, LoVasco Consulting Group, spoke about the benefits of including a nonprofit in an estate plan. He outlined several tools used by donors to create a planned gift or legacy gift that can benefit the donor and a nonprofit. Dr. Leonard B. Johnson, Vice Chair, Department of Internal Medicine, Henry Ford St. John Hospital, informed the members about research projects in progress at the Thomas Mackey Center for Infectious Disease Research.

The Legacy Society honors donors who demonstrate their deep commitment to St. John Foundation, Providence Foundation and Henry Ford Rochester Foundation by including our hospitals, medical centers or programs within their estate plans.

To learn more about the Legacy Society or how to make a planned gift, please contact Rebecca Sellers, Chief Development Officer, at 248-228-0228 or [rseller2@hfhs.org](mailto:rseller2@hfhs.org).



## Frank L. and Helen Gofrank Foundation scholarships assist 17 associates



**Helen and Frank Gofrank created the family foundation, which now supports nursing scholarships at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital.**

Thanks to the Frank L. and Helen Gofrank Foundation, 17 Henry Ford Rochester Hospital associates who are pursuing nursing degrees have received scholarships to help with their educational expenses.

Henry Ford Rochester Foundation held a special reception at the hospital in July to recognize the current and past recipients of the nursing scholarships and representatives of the Gofrank Foundation. The event provided the opportunity for the donors and scholarship winners to meet each other over lunch. The recipients shared updates about their educational journey and expressed their sincere gratitude about what a game changer the scholarships were, with many of them balancing family, full- or part-time jobs and school.

Shirley and Cathy Gofrank, daughters of Frank and Helen, attended the reception on behalf of the Frank L. And Helen Gofrank Foundation. They and their brother Ronald are carrying on the philanthropic spirit of their parents who created the foundation to support health, medical research, education and community welfare initiatives. The Gofrank Foundation has been donating funds to the Henry Ford Rochester Foundation for nursing scholarships since 2017. At the time of the reception, a total of \$84,000 in scholarships had been awarded. With a new \$25,000 commitment for additional scholarships, the Gofrank Foundation has donated a total of \$109,000 to assist individuals in achieving their nursing degrees and helping to impact countless lives.

## Hundreds of children have a happy holiday because of your gifts!

Thank you to everyone who made a gift in support of the Christmas Store Fund at Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital and Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital. You made it possible for more than 1,200 children to receive gifts this holiday season!

Because of your gifts, the parents of 800 children were able to shop at the annual Christmas Store at Henry Ford Southfield Hospital, and the parents of 400 children shopped at the event at Henry Ford Novi Hospital on Dec. 7. Families in need were able to select an outfit and toy for each of their children. Families also received a grocery store gift card for food for the holidays.

Social workers, financial counselors and case managers refer families who are then invited to shop at the Christmas Store. Other items such as hats, gloves, diapers and school supplies are available as donations allow.

Christmas Stores were also held at Henry Ford St. John Hospital and Henry Ford Warren and Madison Heights Hospitals, where many other families received gifts funded by donations.



# Stroke Camp helps survivors and caregivers continue recovery journeys

As Dennis Uzdale said, recovering from a stroke is not easy. But thanks to the care he received at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, as well as the inspiration and motivation he gained at the Refresh & Retreat Stroke Camp, he's once again thriving and enjoying life.

Dennis, a 76-year-old retiree from Sterling Heights and an avid golfer, had a stroke in February 2018 which paralyzed his entire left side. He received treatment in the ICU at Henry Ford St. John Hospital before transferring to the hospital's Cracchiolo Inpatient Rehabilitation Center.

"It was a really scary time," said Mary Uzdale, Dennis' wife. "I worried that he would end up in a nursing home."

Henry Ford St. John Hospital is a Certified Comprehensive Stroke Center, just one of 12 hospitals in Michigan with this top-earned designation from The Joint Commission. This means the hospital is equipped to treat the most complex stroke cases, and it provides the specialized care that can lead to better outcomes.

This level of care greatly benefitted Dennis, who made impressive strides after five weeks of inpatient therapy. He was then discharged for 10 more weeks of in-home and outpatient physical therapy.

"I absolutely loved the care I received at St. John," Dennis said. "I told the therapists I was very determined to get back to my old self as soon as possible."

Dennis regained much of his mobility and resumed his regular activities, including golf. Although he still has some limitations with his left arm, he plays 18 holes every week.

In 2019, Dennis and Mary attended their first Refresh & Retreat Stroke Camp. Sponsored by the Neuroscience Service Line of the legacy Ascension hospitals now part of Henry Ford Health, the three-day camp is open to stroke survivors who received care at sites across southeast Michigan, as well as the survivors' caregivers. Camp attendees connect, share their challenges and celebrate their accomplishments through activities like support sessions, educational panels, music therapy, swimming, crafts and more.

Gifts made to the stroke fund at Henry Ford St. John Hospital support the camp and have helped several stroke survivors and their caregivers attend. Dennis and Mary enjoyed their first camp so much, they returned again in 2024 to continue their recovery journeys.

"I shared my recovery story with other survivors and encouraged them," Dennis said. "I wanted them to know they're not in this alone and we can learn from each other."

Mary enjoyed a seminar about the importance of meeting caregiver needs.

"I learned that I should also engage in activities that give me joy and help me recharge emotionally," she said. "We both really enjoyed the camp and look forward to going again next year."

Additional funds are needed to support the stroke camp as well as equipment and programmatic needs at the Henry Ford St. John Stroke Unit. **If you'd like to support these initiatives, please contact Sherry Augustine, Senior Development Officer, St. John Foundation, at 313-343-7481.**



Stroke survivors and their caregivers enjoyed fun camp activities both indoors and outside.

# OB Academic Clinic helps vulnerable families



**The Squirewell family attended the OB Academic Clinic's Annual Community Health and Wellness Fair.**

In the United States, black babies have 2.4 times the infant mortality rate compared to white babies, according to recent data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. In addition, the Centers for Disease Control states that black women are three times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women.

These health discrepancies are due to a lack of community resources, longstanding systemic inequities and disproportionate access to healthcare.

Efforts are underway in Michigan and across the U.S. to tackle issues of inequities in care for marginalized communities, but the path to equity is complex and requires sustained action.

The OB Academic Clinic at Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital is taking crucial steps toward addressing the disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes. By offering comprehensive care and addressing non-medical factors that influence health outcomes, the clinic is helping to reduce the number of neonatal intensive care admissions and improve the well-being of both mothers and babies.

"Our OB/GYN residents provide comprehensive and culturally competent obstetric and gynecological care to those who have often been historically marginalized," said Michele Thomas, MD, Clinic Medical Director. "Frequently, these

pregnancies are high risk and face considerable disparities. We aim to address those issues while meeting patient needs."

In her role as a maternal health navigator, Kendra Payton, LMSW, MBA, helps to identify and address the real-life barriers many of these patients face, such as transportation, housing and access to basic necessities. By screening for these issues and connecting patients with resources, the clinic is creating a more holistic approach to maternal care, which can lead to healthier outcomes for both mother and child.

According to the clinic administrator, Wilneshia McGahee, Sophia's Closet is a meaningful addition to the OB Academic Clinic, offering practical support for vulnerable patients while building trust and stronger relationships between the clinic and the community. By providing essential items supported by donations – such as diapers, formula, car seats and clothing – at no cost, the clinic addresses immediate material needs and creates a supportive environment that encourages patients to engage more fully in their healthcare. This initiative helps open the door to deeper conversations about overall healthcare needs and allows the clinic to build long-term partnerships with expectant mothers and their families.

In addition, the OB Academic Clinic's Annual Community Health and Wellness Fair serves as an essential resource for educating expectant mothers and families about the importance of healthcare. Made possible by generous support of **The Philip and Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust, The Pearls of Service Foundation, The Sage Foundation and grants from the Providence Foundation**, the event provides health screenings and workshops. It also fosters community engagement through partnerships with organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Forgotten Harvest.

The continued success of the Community Health and Wellness Fair highlights how crucial access to education, resources and healthcare is for promoting healthy outcomes. By offering these services in a welcoming and accessible way, the event provides vital support that can have lasting effects on maternal and infant health.

Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital's ongoing efforts to renovate the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) are especially critical, as a modernized NICU will enhance the ability to reduce infant mortality rates. Donor support is crucial to transforming the facility to provide state-of-the-art care for vulnerable newborns.

**To make a gift or for more information, please contact Patty Warner, Major Gift Officer, Providence Foundation, at 517-281-2567 or [pwarner5@hfhs.org](mailto:pwarner5@hfhs.org).**

# Motorsports stars turbocharge efforts to help children battling illness

For 35 years, **Racing For Kids**® has led the charge toward focusing public attention and funding on children's healthcare.

The nonprofit organization, founded in Detroit in 1989, draws on the popularity of motorsports in part by organizing celebrity race car driver visits with hospitalized children. The drivers spend time with the kids, sharing stories, posing for photos, signing autographs and brightening their lives.

Through collaboration with Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital, Racing For Kids drivers have come to the hospital numerous times over the past few years to spend time with pediatric patients. This includes special holiday visits with gifts, such as 75 blankets given last December to the new Pediatric Emergency Department. Since 2017, Racing For Kids has generously contributed more than \$150,000 to pediatric services, including the hospital's *Your Child, We Care* Pediatric Expansion and Renovation Campaign.

In 2016, Racing For Kids created the Racing For Kids to the Hill event, with Henry Ford St. John Hospital as a major sponsor. This popular Grosse Pointe summertime fundraiser supports pediatric health initiatives throughout Metro Detroit and features a street fair, cool car displays, kids' games and more.

To further support children who show outstanding bravery and resilience in battling complex medical issues and illnesses, the nonprofit created the Racing For Kids Courageous Kid Awards in 2017. Three children who were treated at Henry Ford St. John Children's Hospital have received the award, including this year's winner Nicholas Gudenau. After receiving a leukemia diagnosis at 17 months, Nicholas is now a healthy and energetic six-year-old boy.

"Racing For Kids has great respect for the pediatric healthcare services Henry Ford St. John Hospital provides to the children of our community," said J. Patrick Wright, Racing For Kids Executive Director and CEO. "Many members of our team have had our children born and treated there. We look forward to our continued collaboration."

To make a gift supporting pediatric care at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, please contact Lisa Pinkowski, Senior Development Officer, St. John Foundation, at 313-443-9102 or [lpinkow1@hfhs.org](mailto:lpinkow1@hfhs.org).



Nicholas Gudenau, Courageous Kids Award recipient, attended the 2024 Detroit Grand Prix Kids at the Track Day, where he was treated to a VIP experience in the IndyCar environment.



## Generous gifts help kids with diabetes make new friends and learn how to thrive

A diabetes diagnosis can be really tough – especially on young kids. Besides experiencing symptoms like intense hunger, dizziness, fatigue and others that accompany low blood sugar levels, many kids feel angry or sad about their condition. They might develop a fear of needles and injections. Or they may feel like a burden to their families or “different” from other kids their age.

To help kids with diabetes learn the skills needed to thrive – and have a blast with other children who have the same health challenges – Camp Midicha is a fantastic resource.

This American Diabetes Association-sponsored camp, located in Fenton, offers these kids opportunities to build self-esteem, develop social skills and learn how to create a healthy lifestyle through nutrition, exercise and glucose control. Perhaps best of all, the kids have loads of fun.

Thanks to the generosity of the **Nino Salvaggio Charitable Foundation for Children in Need**, as well as other gifts made to the David Transue MD Pediatric Endowment, the Endocrinology Department at St. John Hospital provided funding to send 20 children to Camp Midicha in August.

The endowment, which supports diabetes education and care as well as funding for patients attending diabetes camp and other educational programs, was established in 2016 in

honor of Dr. Transue, a pediatric endocrinologist at St. John Hospital. Dr. Transue was also very involved in operating Camp Midicha.

Leo Salvaggio, co-owner of Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace with his sister Andrea Nicolella, developed Type 2 diabetes as an adult. His experiences managing his condition motivated the gift he and his sister made through their foundation.

“We feel very fortunate to help kids with diabetes, especially those who don’t fully understand their condition and have lots of questions,” Leo said. “Many of them also feel out of place or set apart from other kids. At Camp Midicha, the kids can enjoy being together without having other worries. It feels great to help make their lives more joyful.”

Interest in attending Camp Midicha continues to grow, but many families with financial hardships cannot afford the cost of \$800 for one week of camp or \$600 for day camp. Donations to the Transue Endowment are a primary source of support for these families who wish to send their child to camp.

**To support a camper by making a gift to the Transue Endowment, please call Sherry Augustine, Senior Development Officer, St. John Foundation, at 313-343-7481.**



# Beloved sculptures get a new home

Many community residents remember the “Lion and the Mouse” and hippo sculptures at Eastland Center in Harper Woods, where they stood for decades for generations of children and their families to enjoy. Children had fun climbing on the sculptures, and thousands of photos were taken of admirers sitting on them.

After the mall closed in 2022, the two beloved art pieces were donated to the Detroit Historical Society by NorthPoint Development, developers of the former Eastland property.

Now the “Lion and the Mouse,” created by Marshall Fredericks, and William McVey’s hippo found a new home at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, thanks to supporters of the St. John Art Fund.

The NorthPoint Development team worked with the Detroit Historical Society and the hospital to construct a fitting place for the sculptures to go back on display for the public to enjoy. Kasco construction worked closely with NorthPoint to ensure the sculptures were transported and placed successfully. The four-ton “Lion and the Mouse” is now in the hospital’s main courtyard, and the hippo is located near the entrance to Shery L. Cotton Pediatric Emergency Department to help provide hope, inspiration and encouragement for patients, visitors and staff.

Gifts to the St. John Art Fund from generous donors covered the installation of both sculptures and will be used for maintenance costs as well as to acquire other works of art and provide patient therapeutic arts initiatives. Top contributors to the Art Fund were the **Fontbonne Auxiliary** and the **St. John Foundation Board of Trustees**.

A special event was held on Sept. 6 to acknowledge the donors and raise awareness about the sculptures. Megan McAdow, Director of Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, spoke at the event, and members of the Detroit Historical Society attended.



Guests mingled and reminisced as they viewed the “Lion and the Mouse.”

## Save the date

### Friends' Ball

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi  
*Proceeds to benefit the Digestive Health program at Henry Ford Providence Novi and Southfield Hospitals*



### Rochester Golf Classic

Monday, Aug. 4, 2025

The Wyndgate Country Club, Rochester Hills  
*Proceeds to benefit Henry Ford Rochester Hospital*

### Providence Golf Classic

Monday, June 2, 2025

Indianwood Golf and Country Club, Lake Orion  
*Proceeds to benefit the Care of the Poor Fund and the Believe in Miracles Fund at Henry Ford Providence Novi and Southfield Hospitals*



### Mangia e Bocce

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025

Palazzo di Bocce, Lake Orion  
*Proceeds to benefit The Birthplace at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital*

# Your event support enhances patient care

**Providence Golf Classic:** The annual golf outing, held on June 3, raised \$98,866 for The Care of the Poor Fund and the Believe in Miracles Fund at Henry Ford Providence Novi and Southfield Hospitals. Dave Imesch chaired the event, held at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion.



The Old Course winning team included (l-r): Paul Kanaan, Brad Nadeau, Alan Jacobs and Josef Imesch.

**Lochmoor Fights Cancer:** The golf outing, held on Aug. 7, raised \$58,616 for the Van Elslander Cancer Center Patient Support Fund at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. Held at Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods, this annual event has been supporting cancer patients for years.

**Jerry Williams Shootout for the Cure:** The annual golf outing, held on Aug. 9, raised \$32,583 for the Jerome F. Williams GI Cancer Patient Support Fund at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. Anne Marie Williams chaired the event, held at St. Clair Golf Club in St. Clair.



**Macomb-Oakland Golf Outing:** Held on Sept. 8, the event raised \$36,149 to benefit the IV team at Henry Ford Warren Hospital, helping to purchase a specialized ultrasound machine. This will allow the team to place PICC lines and midlines for long-term antibiotics, critical care medications and other long-term medications more quickly. Bob Binson chaired the outing, held at Greystone Golf Club & Banquet Center, in Washington.

The first place team from Blue Cross Blue Shield included Peter Dilella, Drew Jursisin, Richard Chrzasz and Jamie Luoma. The Caduceus Cup winners were Dr. Paul Chuba, Dr. Michael Bousamra, Justin Rickard and Dan Amato.



**Rochester Golf Classic:** Proceeds of \$65,000 from the event held on Sept. 23 will support the purchase of 3D imaging equipment for orthopedic, spine and vascular surgeries at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital. The event was chaired by Tim Crawford and held at The Wyndgate Country Club in

Rochester Hills. Winners included: Scramble Contest Men - Tripp Crosthwaite, Greg Kreiner, Adam Gordon and Matt Voss; Mixed Team - Katie Barger, Jeff Davis, Dale Gonzales and a guest; Women's Team - Susan Burkhardt, Amy Rivett and two guests; Longest Drive - Hole #10 Men: Steve Goltz, Women: Katie Barger; and Closest to the Pin - Hole #14 - Men: Adam Gordon, Women: Deanne Goedel.

**Mangia e Bocce:** This fun-filled event, held on Oct. 5, raised \$67,000 to support critical equipment and monitoring needs to benefit our tiniest, most vulnerable patients at Henry Ford Rochester Hospital, helping to ensure the best care possible for mothers and babies in a comfortable setting close to home. Mario and Maria Mocerri chaired the event, held at Palazzo di Bocce in Lake Orion; of the 180 people attending, 128 competed in the tournament. The winning team was The Montclarrians: Megan Stair, Samuel Stair, Karen Moroso and Bill Moroso.



The happy Mangia e Bocce winning team claims their trophy!

**Flew Shot:** This invitational event held on Oct. 15 raised \$48,164 to support Cardiology's cath lab renovation at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. Held at Fox Hollow Farms in Metamora, the event was co-chaired by Andrew Cracchiolo and Michael LoVasco. The winning team included participants from Michigan Marine Terminal, LoVasco Consulting Group and the Cracchiolo family. The individual winner was James Beesley.

To see more photos, visit: [ascnmifnd.org/SEMIEventPhotos](http://ascnmifnd.org/SEMIEventPhotos) or scan the QR code.



## GUILD update

The 62nd annual GUILD Dinner raised \$100,000 to support the purchase of two ultrasound machines for the Emergency Department at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. Held at The War Memorial in Grosse Pointe Farms on May 15, the event was chaired by Phil Myers and Jack Roma.



Guild Dinner honorees included (l-r): Joseph Paluzzi III - Lifetime Achievement Award, Dr. Marcus DeGraw - Physician of the Year Award, Jon Cotton and Shery Cotton - Philanthropic Services Award, and Pastor Corey Kennard - Sister Verence McQuade Distinguished Service Award.

The annual St. John Medical Staff/GUILD Golf Outing raised funds to support the construction of a Coffee Annex in the Van Elslander Cancer Center at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. The event, held on Sept. 16 at the Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods, was chaired by Dr. Kevin Grady, Anthony Kallabat and Mac Bellovich.

THE GUILD recently appointed new executives: President - Michael Cytacki, Vice President - Michael Tindall, Secretary - Joe Fikany Jr., and Treasurer - Phil Myers.

A very special thank you to Andrew Cracchiolo for serving as President and for donating his time and efforts over the last four years to THE GUILD and its endeavors. As past President, he will still be working with the GUILD Board.

## Fontbonne update

The Fontbonne Auxiliary's spring fashion show, "Wild for Fashion," was held on April 17 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Featuring fashions from the Somerset Collection, the event raised \$35,000, with proceeds going toward the transport and installation of the beloved works of art that were once part of Eastland mall. The "Lion and the Mouse" and hippo sculptures hold fond memories for many of those in our community, and now they have a new home at Henry Ford St. John Hospital.



Fashion show event chairs Stephanie Berri (left) and Camille Cracchiolo (right) with Lorna Zalenski, Fontbonne President

The Fontbonne's "Mingle Jingle" general membership meeting, held at Lochmoor Club on Nov. 20, was chaired by Stephanie Berri. This wonderful afternoon of celebrating Christmas included LeFontbonne Shoppe providing beautiful items for purchase.

The Fontbonne's 71st White Christmas Ball, "A Holiday for Heroes," was held on Dec. 6 at The Henry in Dearborn. Proceeds will benefit a scholarship program for our Healthcare Heroes. Kimberleigh Bill chaired the event, with entertainment provided by Skyline and the Backstreet Horns.

For more information on the Fontbonne, contact Lorna Zalenski at 313-590-5607 or llz523@aol.com.

## Thank you to our generous event sponsors

The sponsors listed here supported one or more of the recent events with a sponsorship of \$5,000 or more. Thank you!

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## Your gift makes a difference every day to a patient in need



A patient can struggle with healthcare needs after a hospital stay, especially a patient who is uninsured or underinsured. Your help is needed now more than ever!

When a patient is forced to decide on paying a utility bill, putting food on

their table or filling a prescription, their healthcare needs may fall to the bottom of the list. This might delay their recovery and cause their overall health to suffer.

**The good news is...you can help!** Your gift helps a patient struggling with expenses after discharge from the hospital. Your gift of \$25 will help one patient, and \$75 can help three patients with needs such as lifesaving prescription medications, medical equipment, diabetes education classes, food, electricity and more through the HOPE (Helping Our Patients in Emergencies) Fund.

To support patients from: **Henry Ford St. John Hospital, Henry Ford Warren Hospital, Henry Ford**



**Madison Heights Hospital or Henry Ford River District Hospital**, visit: <https://ascnmifnd.org/asjf-donate>; then select HOPE Fund and the hospital of your choice from the drop-down menu.

To support patients from: **Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital or Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital**, visit: <https://ascnmifnd.org/apf-donate>; then select HOPE Fund and the hospital of your choice from the drop-down menu.



To support patients from: **Henry Ford Rochester Hospital**, visit: <https://ascnmifnd.org/aprf-donate>; then select Patient Help Fund from the drop-down menu.



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**If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at our hospitals and entities in southeast Michigan, please call 313-343-7480 or 248-465-5000.**