$10 Million Gift Announced

In March, Northeast Health Foundation announced a $10 million donation – the largest individual gift ever bestowed upon a healthcare institution in the history of Troy and Rensselaer County. The $10 million donation, from a Capital Region resident, will benefit the St. Peter’s Health Partners (SPHP) $150 million Troy Master Facilities Plan (MFP). The gift is from an individual donor who resides in the Troy area and wishes to remain anonymous.

The foundation noted that the funds will benefit SPHP’s Master Facilities Plan for Troy, originally announced in November 2012. The plan features a $150 million, three-phased strategic development project renovation and reconstruction on the campuses of Samaritan and St. Mary’s hospitals in Troy. The project represents one of the largest private-sector investments made in Troy and Rensselaer County history, and is expected to enhance the accessibility of care to the public and the underserved, and improve patient care for the whole community.

In appreciation of the gift, SPHP will name a five-story pavilion to be built on the Samaritan Hospital campus in honor of the donor. The pavilion will be dedicated (continued on page 6)
As noted on the cover of this issue of Foundations, in March, Northeast Health Foundation announced a $10 million donation – the largest individual gift ever bestowed upon a healthcare institution in the history of Troy and Rensselaer County! This amazing act of generosity from a Capital Region resident will benefit the system’s $150 million Troy Master Facilities Plan (MFP) which was announced last fall.

You may recall that the Troy MFP, to be implemented over an extended period between 2012 – 2025, fulfills a key principle of the merger — improvements to the healthcare facilities and programs in Troy. The 13-year project, which includes construction, renovation and modernization of inpatient facilities on Samaritan’s campus and outpatient facilities on St. Mary’s campus, also includes construction of a five-story pavilion at Samaritan, enhancements to cancer services, other infrastructure improvements, and a parking garage.

On behalf of the Northeast Health Foundation, let me say how extremely grateful we are for this incredibly generous support which promises to touch so many lives in the Troy area community. This is not just a $10 million gift to the hospitals; it is a $10 million gift toward the health, well-being and indeed, the future of the entire Rensselaer County and surrounding areas.

This remarkable contribution gives us a wonderful start toward fulfilling our commitment and preserving our historical mission in Troy and helps our hospitals to be well-positioned to move forward with our strategic development plans and provide the best possible care for patients in our area.

Best wishes,

Robert F. Bristol, Chair
Albany Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

The Albany Memorial Hospital Auxiliary continues its valued presence and support of our hospital through its many fundraising and humanitarian efforts. To date, the auxiliary has donated well over $545,000.

This past winter, a small ribbon-cutting and plaque dedication ceremony was held to recognize the auxiliary’s most recent support — $4,000 for the updating of the 4th floor waiting room for The Heart Program/Intensive Care Unit used by our patients and their families.

In addition, the auxiliary recently purchased an $800 audio/DVD system that will provide 24-hour in-house relaxation therapy via our television network for our patients.

Thank you to the auxiliary for truly making a difference each and every day!

Eddy VNA Awarded $400K Grant to Implement In-home Program for Homebound Seniors

Eddy Visiting Nurse Association (Eddy VNA) has been awarded a $400,000 grant from the New York State Health Foundation to develop an in-home primary care program that will provide long-term and transitional care services to homebound patients who reside in a four-county service area of the Capital Region.

The program will target homebound patients who live in Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady and Saratoga counties who can benefit from coordinated, in-home primary care services, including elderly and disabled adults, individuals in need of palliative care and bariatric patients.

Currently, about one in 20 people over the age of 65 are homebound, suffering from significant functional impairments that leave them unable to access routine medical care. It is estimated that by the year 2030, the number of permanently homebound individuals in the U.S. will increase by 50 percent to reach 2 million. The problem is expected to worsen with the aging of the baby boomers.

“Chronically ill homebound patients, on average, receive only one doctor visit every two years, compared to the monthly physician office visits for those with serious chronic illnesses who are ambulatory,” states Michelle Mazzacco, vice president of Eddy Visiting Nurse Association.

“Unfortunately, many barriers can prevent patients from accessing the routine medical care they need to manage their chronic conditions, from poor health literacy to limited social support,” Mazzacco continues.

Data from Medicare shows that 50 percent of the people who are rehospitilized within 30 days of discharge from the hospital were not seen by a physician. A coordinated in-home primary care program has the potential to decrease acute care readmissions, decrease emergency room use, reduce healthcare costs, improve quality of care, reduce poly-pharmacy issues, and delay or avoid nursing home placement.
Northeast Health Foundation Hosts Patient Care Gala

Jewels in the Night, the 2013 Patient Care Gala held on Saturday, January 19 at the Albany Marriott, was a sparkling success! Approximately 550 individuals attended the annual dinner dance which helps support Albany Memorial Hospital’s and Samaritan Hospital’s commitment to enhanced technology and expanded services.

The event, which raised more than $109,000, featured the presentation of the prestigious Founders’ Award to: Rafael Papleo, MD; Russell Wenacur, MD; James V. Puleo, II, MD; Nini C.Y. Wu, MD; and James E. Prout.

Four Eddy Nursing Homes Receive 5-Star Ratings by U.S. News & World Report

The Eddy is pleased to announce that four of its nursing homes recently received the highest overall rating of five stars in the U.S. News & World Report’s fifth annual Best Nursing Homes 2013 ratings: Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center in Troy; Eddy Village Green at Cohoes; St. Peter’s Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Albany; and Schuyler Ridge Residential Healthcare in Clifton Park.

Only about 18 percent of the nursing homes in New York State were awarded the overall 5-star best rating designation. In the Capital Region, there are 37 homes with only six receiving the highest 5-star ratings.

Additionally, The Eddy’s three other nursing homes all received 4-star ratings by U.S News & World Report:

Eddy Heritage House Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Troy; Eddy Village Green at Beverwyck in Slingerlands; and Our Lady of Mercy Life Center in Guilderland.

“So many families have entrusted the care of their older loved ones to us so we are very proud that our nursing centers have been designated as among the best in the United States,” said Jo-Ann Costantino, chief executive officer of The Eddy. “To achieve all 4-star and 5-star ratings at all seven of our locations truly does reflect the high quality and compassionate care that our staffs strive to provide to all our residents in this region.”
Cuisine Magic 2013

On April 14, more than 350 individuals attended the highly popular Cuisine Magic, a culinary taste extravaganza held annually to raise funds for Eddy Visiting Nurse Association (VNA). This year, the event also provided support to Eddy SeniorCare/PACE in Schenectady.

Held at the Hilton Albany, Cuisine Magic featured seven chefs and restaurants from throughout the Capital Region. More than $31,000 was raised to support the career ladder and specialty training for home health aides, and the volunteer care team program at Eddy VNA; and to support critical technology enhancements to better serve the participants of Eddy SeniorCare/PACE.

Participating Chefs/Restaurants
- Nathan Kutzcher, Executive Chef, Albany Marriott
- Michael St. John, CEC, Executive Chef, The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center
- Jonathan Crean, Chef, Hilton Albany
- Jeremy Kane, Chef, Hilton Garden Inn Troy
- Carmelo LoPorto, Executive Chef, Lo Porto’s Ristorante Café
- Elliot Cunniff, Executive Chef, MezzaNotte Ristorante
- Heidi Melendez, Executive Chef, Morrison Management Specialists

News from the Northeast Health Physician Network

Congratulations to Family Medical Group in Rensselaer which has been granted three-year recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). NCQA’s Patient-Centered Medical Home 2011 is an innovative program for improving primary care, a foundation of the healthcare system.

Also, Family Medical Group, Waterford Family Health and Riverside Family Medical have each been granted three-year recognition through NCQA for diabetes. NCQA recognizes clinicians who demonstrate that they provide high-quality care to patients with diabetes.
Saving for retirement also presents opportunities to satisfy charitable goals. For instance, you can name the beneficiary of your retirement plan. Naming our organization as a beneficiary of some or all of the value of a retirement plan is an excellent way to fulfill your charitable plans. Because we are tax-exempt, we do not pay income tax on this gift. By directing retirement plan benefits to us and other assets to non-charitable beneficiaries, you eliminate tax other beneficiaries would have paid.

Many charitable plans generate charitable income-tax deductions, significantly increase your income in retirement, and provide generous support to our organization.

We invite you to join the Legacy Circle by making an estate gift to a Northeast Health affiliate organization of your choice and by confirming your intention in writing. If you have already honored us with an estate gift, we hope you will let us know by contacting our Foundation Office at (518) 274-1090.

You know how much it means to have a caring and capable person with you when you need help. This is the commitment of the staff of Eddy Heritage House.

The Sliter family sisters, Elizabeth, Beverly and Lorraine, were so touched by this amazing commitment that they bestowed a generous gift of $25,000 to the Eddy affiliate, stating “it was the staff that made the difference in their brother Clarence Charles Sliter, Jr’s ability to return home.” The family’s gift will support both a staff appreciation fund and help complete renovations for access for patients, residents and their families to the outside grounds. When completed, the courtyard will include raised gardening beds so that residents in wheelchairs can enjoy their love of gardening.

One of greatest resources is unquestionably the loyalty and generosity of our many friends. Because of this support, we have been able to continue our mission, making the most-effective use of our resources; helping us meet current needs, including building improvements, financial assistance and strengthening the quality and outreach of our services.

Eddy Heritage House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is truly working wonders every day.

upon completion and will feature a new, expanded emergency department, intensive care unit, progressive care unit, and future medical/surgical unit.

“It was only a few months ago that we shared with the community our vision for a comprehensive, forward-thinking, master facilities plan that acknowledges the sweeping changes of health reform and which encompasses our great commitment to creating a long-term, sustainable acute-care presence in Troy,” said James K. Reed, MD, MBA, president and chief executive officer of SPHP. “Today, we are very pleased that not only has our vision been shared and embraced by the community but now it is supported with this magnanimous gift of heart from a member of our own community,” Dr. Reed continued.
2012 Employee Fund Drive

The first St. Peter’s Health Partners system-wide Employee Fund Drive was an outstanding success raising more than $300,000 to help each of our new system’s five foundations continue their charitable work at all of the legacy institutions.

This year our collaborated effort included a Grand Prize drawing of a $2,500 travel gift card from Liberty travel. And, the winner was ... Sandra Hirsch, a staff member at Albany Memorial Hospital. Sandra works in the environmental services department, specifically in the emergency department.

Sandra is just the person you would hope would win this opportunity. Upon learning she won, she was heard stating “What just happened!” She first thought that this might be a chance to arrange a meeting with the child she has sponsored through Children International for the last 10 years. However, with that being rather difficult to arrange, she then decided to do something nice for a friend. So, after careful planning, Sandra and her lunchtime friend, Colleen (who works at the registration desk of the emergency department), will be shipping out on a cruise in June. Sandra noted, “It is the best feeling to do something truly special for someone you see every day and know we both have had a tough year!”

Team Northeast Health reached 33 percent (1,463 employees) participation. And more impressively, in just seven years from its inception, the Employee Fund Drive has raised over $1 million for programs and services across our system. A sincere thanks to all staff for stepping up to the plate and hitting a home run!

For a list of all Employee Fund Drive participants, go on to www.NortheastHealth.com/Donors2012.

Philanthropy Summit Held

In January, a St. Peter’s Health Partners Philanthropy Summit was held, the first-ever opportunity to bring together community leaders, board members, physicians and leadership staff from throughout St. Peter’s Health Partners to answer the critical question: “How do you orchestrate the efforts of five foundations in such small geographic footprint under one health system?”

This very special event featured the “Vision for St. Peter’s Health Partners” presented by Dr. James Reed, president and CEO of SPHP.

In addition, Peter Semenza, vice president of philanthropy for St. Peter’s Health Partners and chief development officer for St. Peter’s Hospital Foundation, presented a plan for the future that includes collaboration, coordination, sharing resources, combined solicitations and sharing best practices to maximize philanthropy across the system.
Thank You!

It is thanks to the generosity of our donors that we are able to provide the very best in patient and resident care. We’re proud of our rich history ... and the role we play in the lives of so many people.

Thank you for your care and support in 2012.


SAVE THE DATE!

River of Life

2013 Boat Cruise and Dinner Dance

Aboard the Captain JP, Troy

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Join us for the annual event to benefit the volunteer Alzheimer’s Care Team program available through Eddy Alzheimer’s Services, and caregiver support services at Marjorie Doyle Rockwell Center and Eddy Alzheimer’s Center at Hawthorne Ridge.

For information about supporting any affiliate, contact Northeast Health Foundation at 274-0190, 274-0192 (fax), 2224 Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY 12180. Or, go to northeasthealth.com/foundation.