



Valley Hospital Foundation Newsletter

INSIDE VALLEY

Letter from David Bohan	Page 2
Bergen Anesthesia Group	Page 3
Serve. Care. Transform. The Next Chapter of The Valley Hospital	Page 4
Impact Stories	Pages 6 & 7
Donor Recognition	Pages 10 & 11

Letter from the Chief Development Officer

David J. Bohan



The development of the new Valley campus in Paramus represents a major investment in our future and in Valley's mission to enhance lives by healing, caring, and inspiring wellness.

With the opening of the new hospital scheduled for the end of 2023, the Foundation is excited to publicly launch our \$125 million comprehensive campaign:

Serve. Care. Transform. **The Next Chapter** **of The Valley Hospital**

The name of our campaign builds upon the existing celebration of Valley's "SERVE" and "CARE" standards of care. The addition of "transform" indicates a future focus as we launch a new chapter, as well as innovation to break down barriers for greater health. You'll also notice that *Inside Valley* has a new look representing our campaign, which will run through the end of 2024!

This is by far the largest campaign in the Foundation's history, almost doubling what we have cumulatively raised in our previous four fundraising campaigns. During today's fundraising campaigns, the majority of supporting gifts come from individuals—members of the community and grateful patients who value and appreciate having a first-class healthcare destination close to home. Philanthropy has been a cornerstone

throughout Valley's history, and it is the strong commitment of our donors that will help bring this important project to fruition. Since January 2018 we have raised over \$90 million towards our \$125 million goal, and in this issue, we speak with some of our early campaign supporters who have generously committed leadership gifts.

We are also thrilled to celebrate President and CEO Audrey Meyers' 41st anniversary at Valley. It is thanks to Audrey's strategic planning and execution that the idea for The Valley Hospital in Paramus became a reality, and we are grateful for her continued vision and leadership. Congratulations!

I had hoped to use this letter to recap the celebration of our campaign launch, which had been slated for an outdoor tented event next to the site of the new hospital on Sunday, September 19. However, with elevated COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant, we chose to host the event virtually. We look forward to seeing you in person to celebrate Valley's promising future, hopefully soon.

To view more information about the campaign, please go to Campaign.ValleyHospitalFoundation.org.

As always, we remain vigilant in the ongoing fight against COVID-19. Valley's commitment to providing care to the community extends to our own staff, and the System is on a pathway to have a 100% vaccinated workforce. This commitment from our own staff will send a strong message to the community on the importance of being protected.

It is Valley's compassionate care that is at the heart of all that we do. It's what drives us today, and a prime motivation for building the new hospital. I look forward to sharing our progress and, as always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

David J. Bohan
Vice President
Chief Development Officer

P.S. Please contact us if you are interested in taking a virtual tour of Valley's new state-of-the-art hospital in Paramus. Call **201-291-6300** or email VHF@ValleyHospitalFoundation.org



Dr. Michael Ietta

Valley's Bergen Anesthesia Group Affirms Support for The Valley Hospital in Paramus with \$1 Million Leadership Gift

For 70 years, Valley's donors have been partners in helping the hospital move forward: assisting in building new facilities, advancing research, and creating new programs. This longtime support is showcased by Valley doctors, who, over the years have provided a wonderful example to the community of their commitment to providing exceptional healthcare while philanthropically supporting the hospital's efforts.

Now, as the hospital embarks on its most ambitious project to date, members of Valley's own medical staff have stepped up once again. In June, with a \$1 million Leadership Gift, the Bergen Anesthesia Group (BAG) proudly affirmed its early support of The Valley Hospital in Paramus. "Bergen Anesthesia Group are well-respected and influential members of Valley's community of doctors," said David Bohan, vice president and chief development officer at The Valley Hospital Foundation. "After many years of generous support, we are grateful to count them among the

benefactors of The Valley Hospital in Paramus. Their gift will make a significant impact on the project."

BAG formed in 1994 to provide comprehensive, state-of-the-art anesthesia and pain management services to all branches of Valley Health System. The team has long been a generous partner to The Valley Hospital Foundation in philanthropy and recently reached a milestone as Lifetime Benefactors at the Gold level with over \$1 million in cumulative giving. After years of generously supporting the Auxiliary, past capital campaigns, and hospital-focused initiatives, BAG's recent campaign contribution continues their steadfast commitment to Valley. "Bergen Anesthesia Group is hospital based, and for almost 30 years, Valley has supported us every step of the way," explains BAG's Dr. Michael Ietta. "We are invested in making sure Valley is the best, both in and out of the clinical arena. For us, it's sleeves up, ready to do whatever we can to help the hospital advance and grow."

Dr. Ietta will serve as a campaign co-chairman alongside Vince Forlenza, chairman of Valley Health System's Board of Trustees, and Carol Gillespie. For Dr. Ietta, the new hospital represents Valley's evolution into the next phase of the delivery of healthcare. A recent visit to the construction site in Paramus and a tour of the mock-up rooms impressed upon him the commitment Valley is making to its medical staff.

"Valley is vital to our community and to its physicians. If we support the hospital, then we support its future in The Valley Hospital in Paramus." He believes this is a sentiment shared by Valley's doctors. Whether just starting out or with the hospital for years, Valley is where physicians have seen their professional careers flourish, where they deliver care, and where their own families receive care. It is their hospital. "Our collective generosity is important," Dr. Ietta continues. "Valley has continually invested in its physicians, and this campaign is an opportunity for our physicians to invest in Valley."



(L-R) David J. Bohan, VP & Chief Development Officer, The Valley Hospital Foundation (VHF); Victor D. Wortmann, Chairman, VHF Board of Trustees; Campaign Co-Chairs: Michael A. Ietta, MD, Bergen Anesthesia Group, Carol A. Gillespie, and Vincent A. Forlenza, Chairman, Valley Health System Board of Trustees; Audrey Meyers, President & CEO, Valley Health System

Serve. Care. Transform.

The Next Chapter of The Valley Hospital

Since 1951, The Valley Hospital has served northern New Jersey and southern New York with exceptional world-class healthcare. The Valley Hospital in Paramus will ensure our continued impact and our ability to serve, care for, and transform our communities for generations to come. With the public launch of our comprehensive campaign, we invite you to join us on this exciting journey.

The Valley Hospital in Paramus

The new 40-acre campus will provide first-class physical facilities worthy of this institution and create a health and wellness destination for the entire region.

Patient-Centered:

- There will be 372 single-bed patient rooms, creating a more private healing environment for patients and families.
- A vastly expanded emergency department will grow from the current 39 exam rooms to 72 individual treatment rooms.
- “On stage/off stage” design will place essential equipment, supplies, environmental services, and other materials that support patient care behind the scenes—accessible to staff, but not interfering with patients or their families.



Built for the Future:

- A new central interventional platform will house the emergency department, diagnostic imaging and testing, and operating (OR) and procedural rooms to deliver the best, most coordinated and efficient patient care.
- All operating, procedure, and patient rooms are designed with modularity and standardization to meet changing needs and accommodate new care models and technologies.

Beautiful, Accessible, and Sustainable:

- More than 30% of the campus has been dedicated to gardens, lawns, and walking paths to provide a beautiful, serene, and park-like setting for patients, families, and visitors.
- All construction plans have been developed with a focus on sustainability to gain top LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rankings.
- The new campus will be easily accessible to major highways and access points, including Route 17 and the Garden State Parkway, conveniently located near public transportation, and will have ample parking for patients and visitors, including an enclosed parking deck.

Serve. Care. Transform.

With an estimated cost of \$800 million and a funding plan that includes bond financing, hospital equity, and private donations, an ambitious campaign goal of \$125 million has been set. Together with our campaign chairs, Vincent Forlenza, Carol Gillespie, and Dr. Michael Ietta, we are turning to our supporters, friends, and those committed to the future of health care in the region to be champions and advocates for this important project.

To learn more, please visit: Campaign.ValleyHospitalFoundation.org

Thank you for your support.

Amster Foundation Continues Support of Valley with Gift to New Hospital

In Bergen County, the name Amster is one that can be traced back generations. In 1926, Sol Amster built the “Amster building” in Waldwick, which operated first as a grocery store until prohibition was repealed in 1933, and then as Amster’s Prospect Tavern. Today, it is owned and operated by Sol’s grandson, Norman Levine, and is among the oldest establishments in Bergen County and the greater New Jersey area. The generosity of spirit felt by legions of Amster’s patrons also extends beyond the four walls of the well-known and beloved landmark. Guided by Daniel Amster, Sol’s son and Norman’s uncle, the family has led by example with their personal philanthropy for many years, committing to organizations around the world, including The Valley Hospital Foundation. When the new campus opens its doors in Paramus in 2023, it can count The Daniel and Lucille J. Amster Charitable Foundation among its leadership donors.

Born and raised in Waldwick, Daniel Amster was a World War II veteran and Rutgers University Law School graduate. Beginning his law practice in his hometown in 1950, he would go on to be a member of the New Jersey Bar for close to 60 years, as well as serve as Democratic County Chairman during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. With wife Lucille, he settled

in Ho-Ho-Kus, and together the couple dedicated themselves to a variety of philanthropic causes including education, social services, and healthcare. “Being good stewards and helping people in Bergen County was very important to them,” explains nephew Norman Levine fondly.



Daniel and Lucille Amster

The couple married 56 years before Daniel’s passing in 2011, followed by Lucille in 2019. Daniel and Lucille’s charitable giving continues to make an impact. At Valley, The Daniel and Lucille J. Amster Charitable Foundation was an early supporter of The Valley Hospital in Paramus. Their gift will name the Timeline Corridor in their memory, which will link the Level 1 Main Lobby to the Imaging and Emergency Departments. The Amsters also made a generous planned gift to Valley through a charitable remainder trust. For Norman, now trustee of the Amster estate, giving to The Valley Hospital is a meaningful way to carry on his aunt and uncle’s legacy. “They always had a long history of donating to Valley. I wanted to make sure that continued as a lasting memory in their honor.”



Donna Fry

In Loving Memory of Donna Fry

It is with utmost sadness and deepest regret that we inform you of the passing of Donna Fry, vice president and executive director of Valley Home Care, on June 18, 2021.

Donna joined Valley in October 1989 as a nursing supervisor and was appointed executive director of Valley Home Care in May 1992. Over the past three decades, Donna spearheaded the growth of Valley’s Home Care

Donna Fry (Continued)

agency and its important role in serving its patients and their families throughout Bergen and Passaic counties. Under Donna's leadership, Valley Home Care recently earned the prestigious five-star rating (the highest available from CMS) for providing an excellent patient experience. In addition to her leadership role with Valley Home Care, she played a vital part in the creation of Valley's Compassion Fund, in working with Atlantic Health System on our first ACO initiative, and in the establishment of its home-based Palliative Care Program, as well as advocating for community outreach in its post-acute facilities. Donna also shared her knowledge and expertise with her colleagues while serving several terms on the Home Care Association of New Jersey's Board of Directors, the Home Care and Hospice Association of New Jersey, and the New Jersey Hospital Association's Home Health Advisory Committee and Post-Acute Advisory Committee.

In addition to her many contributions to Valley, Donna will best be remembered as a loving mother and devoted grandmother. She loved to travel and spend time with friends. She had a quick wit and sense of humor that brought a hearty laugh to many. She will be missed by all who were privileged to know her. A Celebration of Life was held on September 15. Contributions can be made in Donna's memory to The Valley Hospital Foundation for Valley Hospice, the Journeys Program, or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Doris Tarrant's Generous Bequest to Help Ensure Valley's Future Financial Strength

The late Doris M. Tarrant grew up in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, and enjoyed a long life full of success and adventure. She became the first woman president and chief executive officer of a commercial bank in New Jersey and served as a board member for many organizations, including The Valley Hospital. After retiring in 1992, she volunteered at Kurth Cottage in The Valley Hospital and the Red Cross of Bergen County.

Doris had a stellar reputation for business acumen. Customers still recall her many innovative marketing strategies that resulted in exceptional growth for United Jersey Bank while she was president and chief executive officer. For example, when new customers closed on a mortgage, Doris sent a bottle of champagne to welcome them to the community.

An avid golfer into her 90s, Doris was the first woman admitted as a regular member at Ridgewood Country Club. Doris's many adventures around the world included hot air ballooning over the Swiss Alps, the Loire Valley in France, the deserts of Turkey, and the ancient cities of Italy. She enjoyed camel rides in Egypt, safaris in Kenya, annual golf trips



Doris Tarrant

to Bermuda, and cruising on the *Queen Mary*.

As part of her thoughtful estate planning, Doris arranged for a residuary bequest of more than \$1 million to The Valley Hospital Foundation to increase the general endowment fund—helping to ensure the future financial strength of the hospital for generations to come. The Foundation received Doris's generous gift after her passing in January 2020.

Valley is thankful for Doris's kind gift and for the many gifts we receive from our loyal donors.



Hudson Farm Club in Hopatcong, New Jersey

On August 30, The Valley Hospital Auxiliary Employee Branch hosted the Foundation's first Annual Sporting Clays Classic at the Hudson Farm Club.

The sold-out outdoor event raised more than \$63,000 and consisted of a three-hour clay shoot on the picturesque grounds of Hudson Farm, followed by a barbecue dinner. Thank you to Premier Sponsor Airside Sheetmetal as well as additional sponsors and generous donors for making the first Sporting Clays event a huge success!

The Valley Hospital Auxiliary has donated \$350,000 to the Foundation in the past fiscal year, which renders the total amount paid on the current pledge to just over \$1 million.

Funds from Auxiliary events support the Auxiliary's pledge of \$3.1 million to establish the pediatric section of the emergency department of The Valley Hospital in Paramus, and \$100,000 to fund an endowment for Valley Home Care's Butterflies—a pediatric in-home palliative and hospice care program for seriously ill children.

For more information: www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary

SAVE THE DATE

December 5, 2021

Virtual Tree of Light Ceremony

June 6, 2022

49th Annual Valley Hospital
Auxiliary Golf Outing

August 29, 2022

2nd Annual Sporting Clays Classic

October 29, 2022

The Valley Ball at
The Plaza Hotel, NYC

Due to COVID-19, the Valley Ball scheduled for October 30, 2021 has been postponed.



The Valley Hospital has been **invited to participate in a pilot project aimed at improving racial and ethnic diversity in cancer clinical trials**. Valley was one of 75 research sites nationwide to be selected for the project, a collaboration of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC). Valley will work with other research sites to establish strategies to increase participation in cancer clinical trials, particularly among patients from historically underrepresented ethnic and racial communities.



The Valley Hospital has received the **International Board Certified Lactation Consultant Care Award**. This is a global two-year recognition, which is given to healthcare organizations that excel in promoting, protecting, and supporting breastfeeding through their dedicated staff and lactation programs.



Peter Diestel, President of Operations for Valley Health System, has been selected as a New Jersey Fifth District Hometown Hero by U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer. Peter was recognized for his more than 25 years of service to Valley, particularly for his role in ensuring care for patients and frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.



For the sixth consecutive year, Valley has received national accolades for our sustainability practices from Practice Greenhealth, the nation's leading organization dedicated to environmental sustainability in healthcare. Valley received the **Greenhealth Environmental Excellence Award**, which recognizes healthcare facilities for their ongoing commitment to improving environmental performance and efforts to build sustainability into hospital operations.



The Valley Hospital has been awarded **Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification**—the highest-level recognition that a stroke center can receive—from The Joint Commission. This prestigious certification signifies that Valley has met rigorous performance standards and demonstrated the ability to treat even the most complex stroke cases. Congratulations to Dorothea Altschul, MD, FAHA, director, neurointerventional services; David Rivera, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, PCCN, HN-BC, assistant vice president, medical/surgical services; and our entire Stroke Center team for achieving this outstanding certification.



The Valley Hospital is honored to be among the top three hospitals in five categories—Inpatient Experience, Emergency Room, Birthing Center, Breast Care Center, and Hospital Food—for The Jewish Standard's **2021 Readers' Choice Awards**. Valley also ranked among the top two hospitals for Home Health Care.

Contact us



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