



The Valley Hospital Foundation Newsletter

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# Spotted Supporting Valley

## WOMEN FOR HEALTH

The Valley Hospital Foundation held its annual *Women For Health* Luncheon on May 10 featuring war reporter and humanitarian Hollie McKay as the guest speaker.

*Women For Health* is a group of dedicated women who combine their social and philanthropic resources to support worthwhile causes. Since 2011, *Women For Health* has supported approximately \$1.5 million worth of programs and services throughout Valley Health System. To learn more, visit [valleyhospitalfoundation.org/get-involved](http://valleyhospitalfoundation.org/get-involved).



*Women For Health Co-Chair Julie Epstein, event speaker Hollie McKay, Valley Health System President & CEO Audrey Meyers, and Women For Health Co-Chair Danielle Gaglioti.*



*More than 200 women attended the annual Women For Health Luncheon at the Rockleigh Country Club on May 10.*



## ALUMNI PHYSICIANS' LUNCHEON

The Valley Hospital Foundation hosted its first Alumni Physicians' Luncheon on April 20, bringing together retired members of Valley's medical staff at the Ridgewood Country Club.



*Michael Ietta, M.D., Jack Tohmé, M.D., and Thomas Rakowski, M.D.*



*Standing: Allen Chinitz, M.D. and Rashid Baddoura, M.D.  
Sitting: Frederick Steinberg, M.D.*



## CAMP NICU

Graduates and staff of The Valley Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit gathered for a day of outdoor fun at the second annual Camp NICU event on May 21.



# Letter From the Chief Development Officer

David J. Bohan



As we enter the summer months, it's amazing to think that at this time next year, we will be settled into our new home at The Valley Hospital in Paramus.

While many of us take our vacations and enjoy some well-deserved R&R, our project teams continue steady progress toward construction of our new hospital. We thank them for their efforts as well as the efforts of our donor community, who to date have contributed more than \$115 million toward the *Serve. Care. Transform.* campaign to make this new healthcare resource a reality for our region. We look forward to welcoming patients to this state-of-the-art facility.

In this issue of *Inside Valley*, we honor outgoing Chairman of The Valley Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees, Vic Wortmann, who served on our Foundation board for 12 years. We thank Vic for his leadership during a critical and exciting time in the Foundation's history, and on a personal level, we cherish the friendship we've built with Vic and his wife, Sue, over many years.

We also recognize friends who have generously supported the new hospital, including Foundation Trustee Surya Mohapatra and his wife, Valli, as well as one of our most recent physician donors, Director of Neurosurgery Anthony D'Ambrosio, M.D., and his wife, Sally. We are grateful to all our medical staff members who have answered the call to support the hospital through both their philanthropy and the expert care they provide to our patients.

In May, we held our annual celebration of our *Women For Health* members. This dynamic group of female philanthropists pool their social and philanthropic resources and collectively select worthy recipients of their giving each year. To date, *Women For Health* has provided an impressive \$1.5 million to support programs and services throughout Valley Health System.

As we put the finishing touches on the new hospital, it's notable that many of the building's spaces are named in honor of the generosity of donors like you, memorializing your support of the new hospital. Some naming opportunities are still available for those considering a gift, and the deadline for naming recognition at the time of the new hospital's opening is imminent. To view available opportunities, please use the QR code below to visit our website, or call (201) 291-6300.

While you soak up summer and have a chance to spend time outdoors, I hope you will consider participating in *Step Up For Valley*, a virtual fitness challenge spearheaded by Foundation Trustees Jeff Seidler and Karen Keyes. Jeff launched the effort last year, and we thank both Jeff and Karen for their leadership and support. See page 7 to learn more about the September 8-15 event. Get active, have fun, and support a great cause!

On behalf of The Valley Hospital Foundation, I wish you a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer. And as always, we thank you for your generosity and support.

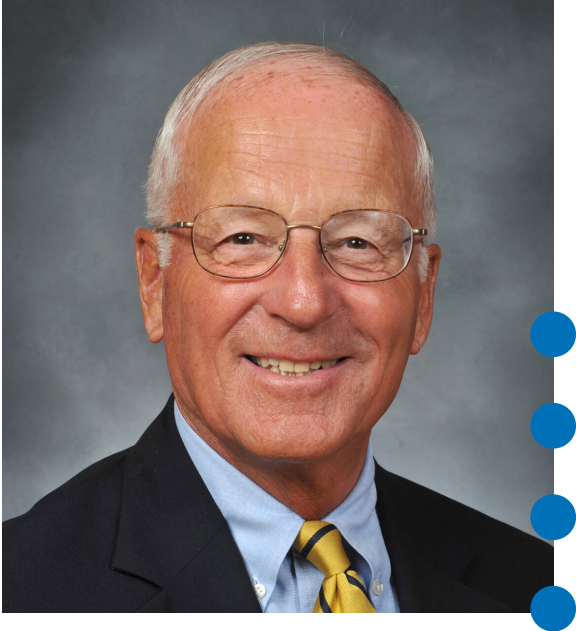
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Bohan".

David J. Bohan  
Vice President & Chief Development Officer



Scan this QR code for a virtual tour and to see available naming opportunities.



Victor D. Wortmann

## Victor D. Wortmann Recognized for 12 Years of Service to Valley Hospital Foundation

As Victor D. Wortmann prepared to call to order his final meeting as Chairman of The Valley Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees in June, he reflected on his five-year term as Chairman and 12 years of service to the Foundation.

Vic looks back on his time on the board – during a pivotal period in Valley’s history – as one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

“I have lived in Bergen County all of my life, and I have seen what Valley has done for our community since the 1950s,” he said. “It has been an honor for me to serve on the Foundation Board and contribute to the great work Valley is doing, now and in the future.”

Vic joined the Board in 2011 after retirement from his founding leadership role with Englewood-based construction firm VRH Corp. He brought to the Foundation Board his sharp business acumen, collaborative nature, and a strong commitment to his community.

Vic led the Board of Trustees through the \$125 million *Serve. Care. Transform.* campaign to write the next chapter of the organization’s history with the upcoming opening of The Valley Hospital in Paramus. During Vic’s tenure as Chairman, the Foundation raised more than \$115 million to support construction of the new hospital and enhance existing programs and services at Valley Health System.

“The new hospital in Paramus is what I’m most proud of,” Vic said, tipping his hat to the hospital’s administration, staff, and project partners for their careful planning and execution efforts. “Beyond great care, exceptional

technology, and state-of-the-art facilities, the new hospital location will allow more patients to be able to conveniently access care at Valley.”

Vic and his wife, Sue, have supported Valley through their generous dedication of time, talent, and their own personal philanthropy for many years. Lifetime Benefactors and Legacy Society members, the Wortmanns were among the first to commit their support to The Valley Hospital in Paramus, with a generous \$1 million leadership gift. Sue is also a founding member of *Women For Health* and has been a member of the Saddle River Auxiliary for nearly three decades.

“Vic’s dedication to The Valley Hospital Foundation and the future of Valley is second to none,” said David J. Bohan, Vice President and Chief Development Officer of The Valley Hospital Foundation. “We are grateful to Vic for his leadership, tireless efforts, and support to date, and we look forward to our continued friendship with Vic and Sue for many years to come.”

Prior to his role as Chairman, Vic served as the Board’s Vice Chairman from 2013 to 2018 and collaborated on multiple board committees. He also joined the President’s Council in 2008.

Though Vic’s Board service has come to an end, he looks forward to continuing to support his local hospital and celebrating The Valley Hospital in Paramus when it welcomes patients in spring 2024.

“This is our home, and Valley is where we’re going to go when we need care,” Vic says. “We are excited to see what’s to come.”

## Mohapatra Family Gift Supports Valley's New Electrophysiology Services in Paramus



*Mohrannie (Valli) and Surya Mohapatra*

Surya and Mohrannie (Valli) Mohapatra always told their children, "If you have \$100, make sure \$10 goes to help the people in your community."

That sense of philanthropy and passion for their community has led the Mohapatra family, decades-long residents of Saddle River, New Jersey, to generously contribute to the *Serve. Care. Transform.* campaign in support of The Valley Hospital in Paramus.

Surya and Valli's leadership gift, provided through the Mohapatra Family Foundation, holds special meaning for the couple.

"Medicine is local, and medicine is personal," Surya said. "The Valley Hospital has always been the go-to hospital, and Valley Medical Group has been the go-to medical group for all of my family members. I'm thankful to everyone at Valley who has really taken care of my family."

As the former Chairman, President, and CEO of Quest Diagnostics, Surya has served in the healthcare industry

for 35 years and seen firsthand the important role healthcare plays locally. He served in leadership roles in London and Cleveland prior to settling in Bergen County and started his career as a research scientist, studying areas of medicine such as oximetry and non-invasive cardiovascular monitoring.

Surya is a strong advocate for healthcare quality, access, and advancements in technology. He has a keen interest in cardiac care, non-invasive patient monitoring, and diagnostic imaging and testing.

These interests inspired Surya, who joined The Valley Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees in 2022, and Valli, a trained nurse, to support the advanced capabilities of the new hospital. The new hospital's electrophysiology procedure room – a versatile space with leading-edge technology to care for patients with advanced cardiovascular needs – will be named in recognition of their generous gift.

"I've always been fascinated by the heart, and some of my own work has been in cardiovascular dynamics," Surya said. "Heart disease remains the number one cause of death in adults in this country and in the world. Anything we can do to reduce morbidity and mortality in heart disease is important to us and will help a lot of patients."

The new hospital in Paramus, Surya says, will bring Valley's high-quality, patient-centric care to new levels, and the Mohapatras are proud to support Valley's next chapter.

"If we can continue to make our local hospital even stronger and more advanced, our whole community will benefit," Surya says. "That's why we chose to support Valley."



## Physician Philanthropy: D'Ambrosio Family Makes Gift To Impact Future Generations

Anthony D'Ambrosio, M.D., MBA, Director of Neurosurgery at Valley Health System, has a clear priority when caring for his patients.

Ultimately, he says, he wants to get his patients back to living and enjoying their lives as quickly and safely as possible.

The head of Valley's Neurosurgery Department since 2013 and the Co-director of the Valley Gamma Knife Center, Dr. D'Ambrosio specializes in both complex brain surgery and Gamma Knife radiosurgery. He treats patients with trigeminal neuralgia, hemifacial spasm, brain tumors, and other neurological conditions.

He and his wife, Sally, residents of Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, are proud to support The Valley Hospital in Paramus with a \$100,000 gift, in part because Dr. D'Ambrosio's personal philosophy of care aligns so closely with Valley's.

"Valley has a comprehensive, long-term view on what it takes to care for patients for decades to come, and the new hospital really reflects that," Dr. D'Ambrosio said. "The design of the new hospital and the equipment going into it is very exciting for our team and will result in even better patient outcomes, shorter recovery times, and an experience that feels comfortable, warm, and caring for our patients and their families."

Since Dr. D'Ambrosio is a director in a subspecialty so reliant on the latest technology, Valley engaged him and his peers early in each phase of the design and construction process of The Valley Hospital in Paramus to fully understand their needs. Dr. D'Ambrosio provided feedback throughout the process and had the opportunity to tour a mock operating space to assess the flow of the operating room and determine the best placement for monitors and equipment.

Among the new hospital's innovative leading-edge technology is an intraoperative hybrid MRI operating room, a versatile space that will allow Dr. D'Ambrosio and his team to operate on a patient and move only a few steps away to assess the patient with an MRI. This



*Anthony D'Ambrosio, M.D., MBA, and Sally D'Ambrosio*

access between the operating space and MRI technology allows the surgeons to evaluate the patient in real time to determine immediate next steps, saving time and stress on the patient and resulting in faster recovery and better patient outcomes.

"Valley Health System is a unique and special place that shows from top to bottom the culture, vision, and fiber of the organization is strong," Dr. D'Ambrosio says. "I love that Valley puts its patients first and doesn't just say it. It has the perfect mix of quality, technology, and compassion, and it's a very patient-centric organization that really cares."

A lifelong resident of Bergen County, Dr. D'Ambrosio was raised in Oakland and attended Indian Hills High School. Growing up, Valley was the hospital that took care of him and his family, and it's where he and his wife welcomed both of their children.

"We made our gift because it's important to contribute to causes that keep our community strong, not only for our benefit, but for the next generation and generations to come."

## It's Time to Step Up For Valley!



Join The Valley Hospital Foundation and event co-chairs Jeff Seidler and Karen Keyes on September 8-15, 2023, for our **second annual week-long virtual fitness challenge!**

Have fun, get active, and compete to win great prizes!

Visit [p2p.onecause.com/stepupforvalley23](https://p2p.onecause.com/stepupforvalley23) to register and learn more. Join as an individual or gather friends and family to start your own team! All proceeds benefit the *Serve. Care. Transform.* campaign for The Valley Hospital in Paramus.

Questions? Contact Lisa Johnson at [ljohnso7@valleyhealth.com](mailto:ljohnso7@valleyhealth.com) for more information.



*Daniel Cummings*

## In Memory of Daniel Cummings

The Valley Hospital Foundation mourns the passing of esteemed Board of Trustees member Daniel Cummings.

Dan served The Valley Hospital Foundation with great distinction from 2014 to 2023 and was a Lifetime Benefactor of The Valley Hospital Foundation.

His friendship and many contributions to Valley Health System will always be remembered fondly.



More than 100 guests enjoyed a night of casino games, great food, and a chance to support a worthy cause at the Auxiliary's second annual **Vegas Night** fundraiser at the Indian Trail Club on April 26. The event raised more than \$24,000!



On June 5, the Auxiliary hosted its **50<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing** at the Ridgewood Country Club. Thank you to all our sponsors and generous donors – including Presenting Sponsors **Torcon** and **Cushman & Wakefield** – for making this event a tremendous success!



The Auxiliary's Employee Branch celebrated its annual **Flag Day Honor Ceremony** on June 14 in the hospital's Friendship Garden, which was decorated with hundreds of American flags.

## SAVE THE DATE — Mark Your Calendar!

AUGUST

**28**  
2023

The Auxiliary's Employee Branch will host its third annual Sporting Clays Classic on August 28. Come enjoy a day of clay shooting, lunch, cocktails, and a delicious dinner, all on the beautiful grounds of the exclusive Hudson Farm Club in Andover, New Jersey. For more information, please contact [auxiliary@valleyhealthnews.com](mailto:auxiliary@valleyhealthnews.com).

OCTOBER

**15**  
2023

The Valley Hospital Auxiliary will partner on the Terri Roemer Paramus Run on October 15. The event will include a 10K, 5K, and a Kids' Fun Run and will take place near the Fairfield Inn and Suites in Paramus. Be sure to join us for this family-friendly event!

OCTOBER

**27**  
2023

This year, the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley Ball will be held on October 27 at The Valley Hospital in Paramus. This year's exciting venue will allow attendees a sneak peek at the new hospital prior to its opening. Guests at this black-tie affair will enjoy an evening of cocktails, dinner, dancing, and entertainment provided by the Max Weinberg Band. Max Weinberg is widely known as the longtime drummer for Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band and the bandleader for Conan O'Brien.

*Proceeds 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 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 about these events, please visit: [www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary](http://www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary)



## AWARDS & ACCOLADES



**The Valley Hospital has been named one of the world's best hospitals by *Newsweek* in its World's Best Hospitals 2023 list.** The ranking recognizes the best medical institutions across 28 countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, and others.



**Audrey Meyers, President and CEO of Valley Health System, was named to the 2023 NJBIZ Power 100 list.** Audrey was recognized for her many accomplishments as one of the longest-serving CEOs in New Jersey, including leading one of the busiest hospitals in the state and a multi-specialty network that employs more than 4,000 physicians and staff.



**NJBIZ has named Valley one of the Top Research Centers in New Jersey.** The ranking was based on the 50 Valley staff members who are involved in both applied and basic biomedical and translational research at our Okonite Research Center. Congratulations to **Drs. Dorothea Altschul, Ephraim Casper, and Suneet Mittal** for their roles in leading Valley's research in the fields of oncology, neuroscience, and cardiology, as well as to the **Okonite Research Center staff**.



**The Valley Hospital has been recognized by Healthgrades as a recipient of the 2023 Patient Safety Excellence Award, a distinction placing Valley among the top 10% of all short-term acute-care hospitals as evaluated by Healthgrades.** Valley is one of 12 hospitals in New Jersey – and just one of two in Bergen County – to receive this recognition.



**Valley Health System has been named the top healthcare brand in the United States** for providing a humanizing experience, according to the sixth annual edition of *Humanizing Brand Experience*, a research report published by healthcare consulting company Monigle. Valley was recognized as an organization that patients trust, where the latest medical treatments and technology are offered and where employees care deeply about the work they do.

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