



# Donor Impact Report



# Message from Leadership.

Dear Friends,

In 2022, we returned to cherished events like our annual Leadership Reception and The Auxiliary's Valley Ball. By the end of the year, The Valley Hospital reached a significant milestone delivering more than 4,000 babies, an all-time high in our 71-year history. It was just one of the many highlights for Valley as you will see in this report.

It has been amazing to watch the progress being made at the construction site of our new hospital in Paramus, and unbelievable just how far we have come. We have been fortunate to avoid many supply-chain issues by pre-ordering key materials and equipment, which has helped the project to stay on schedule. Now with construction nearing the end and the finish line in sight, we are preparing for our transition from the current hospital to our new home in Paramus. The response from our community to our new hospital has been enthusiastic and generous, sending a strong message that this project is essential in serving the region's healthcare for generations to come.

It was another year of incredible accomplishments throughout Valley Health System. For a fifth consecutive year, The Valley Hospital was named among the World's Best Hospitals by Newsweek, and was ranked among the top three hospitals in New Jersey by U.S. News & World Report. This year, the hospital earned the prestigious Magnet recognition for the fifth time, a testament to its continued dedication to high-quality nursing practice, and we are honored to have recently been recognized as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals by Healthgrades, placing us in the top 2% of hospitals nationwide. This summer, Forbes named Valley Health System the top healthcare employer in New Jersey, and among the top fifteen across all employers in the state. These awards demonstrate the importance we place on delivering the highest levels of service, care, and compassion to our patients and their families, and reflect our greatest asset, our staff.

The Valley community has been critical to our success, especially our dedicated and generous donors. We are thankful for all those who partner with us to advance Valley's mission.

Sincerely,

**Audrey Meyers**  
President and CEO  
Valley Health System



Dear Friends,

Composing a letter that serves as a reflection on the past year should be something of an organization's greatest hits. It allows you to point to exciting milestones and accomplishments, big and small. However, the last few years of course presented us with some extraordinary challenges. But as I look back on 2022, I am grateful for the many bright spots we celebrated in the Valley community.

In the pages of this annual impact report, I'm pleased to share what made this year so special throughout Valley Health System: world-class research, advancements across all medical specialties, innovative programs, and our ongoing commitment to compassionate care. In Paramus, there was significant transformation at our new hospital site, bringing us that much closer to wrapping up construction and making this longtime dream a reality. At the Foundation, we returned to a robust calendar of in-person meetings and events, allowing us to meet once again with donors and make new connections within our community. After so much time apart, it was wonderful to see so many of our friends face-to-face.

What has never wavered is the support of our donors, which continued to be an integral part of our *Serve. Care. Transform.* campaign supporting The Valley Hospital in Paramus.

This year, with the help of our generous donors, we once again outperformed our annual campaign goal, raising an impressive \$13.4 million, and putting us at \$110 million toward our \$125 million goal! With two years left in the campaign, we look forward to not just meeting this goal, but surpassing it.

While this report is a look back, it is exciting to think of what lies ahead. As we prepare for this next chapter, we are optimistic about what the future holds – and sharing it with our committed, supportive Valley community.

Sincerely,

**David J. Bohan**  
Vice President and Chief Development Officer  
The Valley Hospital Foundation



# Helping Meet the Greatest Needs.

In 2022, many donors directed gifts to the Foundation in support of areas of greatest need. The impact of these contributions could be seen across Valley Health System, helping to transform patient care, advance research, and move strategic priorities forward. Philanthropy helps Valley achieve a culture of excellence and innovation while keeping a primary focus on the health and well-being of our community.

Because of this culture, The Valley Hospital was recognized by Healthgrades for exceptional patient outcomes and clinical excellence and named to their *America's*

*100 Best Hospitals List* for the first time. Valley was one of just three hospitals in New Jersey – and the only hospital in Bergen County – to earn a spot on this prestigious list.

Your commitment to the Foundation's work this year allowed us to provide support throughout the system with flexibility and without delay. This generosity helps ensure that Valley continues to grow and thrive for generations to come.



## The Valley Heart and Vascular Institute.

Valley's cardiovascular team achieved significant accomplishments in 2022, expanding the department's arsenal of innovative technologies and advanced surgical techniques.



- Under the leadership of Raj Tayal, M.D., Valley's structural heart specialists and heart surgeons performed the 1,000th transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedure. TAVR is a less invasive approach to treating severe aortic stenosis than open-heart surgery, which can mean less pain, faster healing, and easier patient recovery. The hospital was the first in the tri-state area to utilize the SAPIEN 3 Ultra RESILIA Transcatheter Heart Valve during the TAVR procedure. The valve's anti-calcification design significantly improves its lifespan, prolonging the need for future reintervention.
- The Valley Hospital became one of the few medical centers in the United States to offer the Ross procedure for aortic valve replacement. First performed at Valley by cardiac surgeon Habib Jabagi, M.D., the procedure replaces a nonfunctioning aortic valve with the patient's own pulmonary valve. The patient's natural tissue acts as a durable replacement, offering a longer valve life expectancy without needing blood thinners.
- Valley's heart and vascular team implemented a program to evaluate coronary artery disease using state-of-the-art technologies, such as computerized tomography and AI-assisted imaging. This comprehensive approach allows physicians to use phenotyping to identify patients who may be at greater risk genetically for coronary artery disease, and implement a personalized and preventative treatment plan for each individual.





## Pediatrics.

This past year saw tremendous growth in the Pediatrics service at Valley, highlighted by the announcement of a clinical collaboration with Mount Sinai to offer an expanded roster of children's services in northern New Jersey. Through this collaboration, specialty pediatric providers from Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital will provide local access to areas such as pediatric cardiology, endocrinology and diabetes care, allergy/immunology, gastroenterology, and more specialties as the program evolves.

In addition to the *Women For Health* grant to support the Pediatric Endocrinology program, philanthropic support of Pediatrics enabled the development of educational videos for parents with infants leaving Valley's Labor & Delivery or NICU in areas such as discharge planning for NICU families, breast feeding support, and education in best practices for ab lactation. Donor support is also seeding a joint Valley-Mount Sinai lecture program for Pediatricians (to be held in April 2023) on the latest research and techniques in treating infants and young children.

To learn more about the *Women for Health* grant in support of Pediatric Endocrinology, please see page 8.

The Kireker Center for Child Development celebrated 30 years of service in helping children and their families, with philanthropic dollars supporting Group Triple P: Positive Parenting Program, and The Joey Center, which offers specialized services for Down syndrome children.



## Emergency Services and Critical Care.

In October 2022, The Bolger Foundation offered a challenge grant to The Valley Hospital Foundation: \$125,000 raised from the community would be matched with another \$125,000 from The Bolger Foundation. Together, \$250,000 supported the purchase of a new Basic Life Support "BLS" ambulance for Valley's fleet of emergency vehicles.

Under the guidance of Valley's Emergency Services department, the fleet makes up a mobile integrated healthcare program that assists patients who have a variety of medical and transportation needs. Valley's BLS service provides backup 911 coverage to surrounding communities as well as

discharges from the hospital. In 2022, this service responded to 7,335 calls – including infants and pediatrics – in more than 20 towns that make up Valley's catchment area.

Thanks to community generosity, along with The Bolger Foundation's matching gift, the challenge was swiftly completed in December 2022, a year ahead of schedule. The new BLS ambulance will help ensure that patients and their families can continue to count on the highly trained emergency services and critical care teams at The Valley Hospital for prompt, attentive care, wherever and whenever it is needed.

## Research.

Donor support in 2022 helped Valley's clinical staff explore innovative approaches to care, new medical therapies, and breakthrough treatments.

- Under the direction of Suneet Mittal, M.D., the Snyder Center for Comprehensive Atrial Fibrillation continued to achieve strong clinical and academic metrics. Thanks to the generous support of donors, the Snyder Center's research program presented at every major global Cardiology meeting, including the American College of Cardiology, Heart Rhythm Society, and European Society of Cardiology.
- Following the successful launch of the Deep6AI platform in 2021, Valley is using AI-based tools for innovative research purposes. In 2022, Valley partnered with VIZ.ai to initiate a study that aims to identify hypertrophic cardiomyopathy using a patient's electrocardiogram and a novel AI-based algorithm. Researchers hope that early identification of patients will allow clinicians to initiate therapies before adverse events occur.
- The Cannstatter Foundation continued its generous support of cardiothoracic surgery research. Research by Habib Jabagi, M.D. focused on providing better care and quality of life for patients with aortic diseases, while Juan Grau, M.D.'s research supported the treatment of Valley's growing population of patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. The Foundation's support enabled research that led to the publication of more than ten peer-reviewed articles by Drs. Grau and Jabagi in areas such as coronary artery disease, mitral valve disease, aortic diseases, TAVR, and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

## Oncology.

The year 2022 marked another remarkable year for Valley-Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Care with strong advancement across the program. The recruitment of talented physicians in surgical oncology, advanced skin cancer, and gynecological oncology resulted in significant growth, while the increase in nurse navigators helped more patients better navigate the system, shortening the time from diagnosis to therapy. The department's Radiation Oncology team equipped all treatment machines with ExacTrac by BrainLab, state-of-the-art imaging capabilities that allow for the most accurate radiation delivery possible. Looking ahead, the department developed a five-year strategic plan with a focus on expanding community access, enhancing services, improving telehealth offerings, and developing additional prevention, screening, and treatment programs.

This year, longtime philanthropic partner Becton Dickinson made a \$625,000 grant in support of Valley's Clinical Trials Diversity Initiative which seeks to increase cancer clinical trial participation among racial and ethnic minority communities over a three-year period. The grant will help establish strategies and solutions to improve the clinical trial experience at Valley and ensure that all patients have access to leading-edge healthcare opportunities.





With doors set to open at The Valley Hospital in Paramus in less than a year, the finish line for this exciting project is in sight.

We saw enormous progress at the construction site in 2022. As glass installation was finalized on the building’s exterior, the project team moved forward with the mechanical fit-out. In the fall, electrical switchgear was activated, powering the building and HVAC, which allowed for the installation of sheetrock and other finishes. Planning sessions continued with commercial real estate services company CBRE to determine the overall facility activation process roadmap to ensure a smooth transition from the current hospital to our new home in Paramus.



Patient-Focused Technologies in Every Patient Room.

- All patient rooms will include interactive 75-inch digital footwall monitors to serve as a key communications tool for patients, families, visitors, and clinical staff. It will feature entertainment options, display care team information, clinical information, schedules, educational videos based on the patient’s conditions, and more, helping improve their experience and outcomes throughout the stay. Real-time location system technology will identify on the monitor who enters the room to make it easier for patients and their family members to know who visited.
- Companion tablets will make it easy to connect patients, loved ones, and care teams from the comfort of patients’ bedsides. Patients will be able to video conference, review medical records, and complete questionnaires without worrying about downloading software or creating accounts.
- Digital door signs positioned outside each patient room will keep patients, staff, and visitors properly informed. Dynamic displays provide real-time access to critical health information and improve care coordination.
- AUGi™ sensors will be in each patient room, using AI technology to continually monitor patients and alert staff if it detects movements that would precede a fall.
- Patient Room Pillow Speakers will have advanced features for calling the nurse and controlling the TV, and allow patients to control room temperature, turn lighting on/off, and raise/lower window shades.

BUILT FOR THE FUTURE.

The Valley Hospital in Paramus will incorporate the latest technologies to ensure that the hospital will serve the healthcare needs of the community for generations to come.

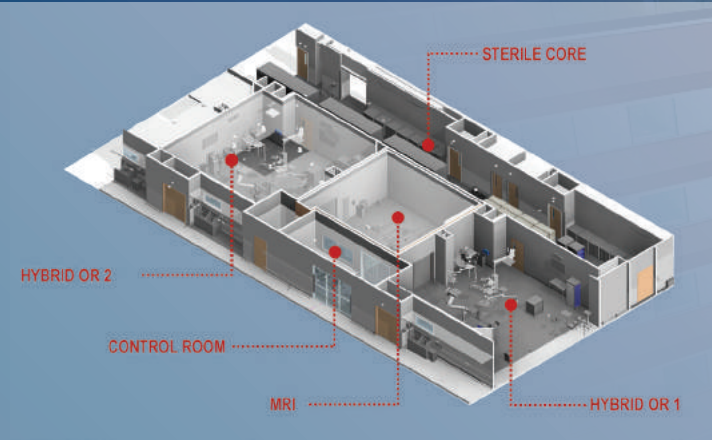


Photon Counting CT.

The new hospital’s diagnostic imaging department will feature two photon counting CT (computed tomography) machines, the Siemens NAEOTOM Alpha® with Quantum Technology. The world’s first machine of its type, it has the potential to overcome the limitations of current CT detectors by providing new, clinically relevant information and improving image sharpness and contrast, while maintaining a low radiation dose for the patient. Patients benefit from precise, noninvasive diagnosis in cardiology, oncology, and pulmonology, while the machine offers physicians an alternative for screening programs and follow-up examinations.

Hybrid Operating Rooms.

Of the 22 procedure rooms in the new hospital’s central interventional platform, seven will offer hybrid capabilities, combining a traditional operating room with advanced imaging devices. Two of these hybrid rooms will feature intraoperative MRI capabilities. Used during neurosurgery, the technology allows for real-time MRI imaging during the surgical process, providing physicians with accurate pictures of the brain that guide them in removing brain tumors and treating other conditions. This will reduce patient transport time and improve care quality.



IMPROVING PATIENT AND FAMILY EXPERIENCE.

Nurse Server.

Patient rooms will have a “nurse server” that houses supplies and medications and can be stocked from the hallway outside, offering privacy and fewer interruptions for patients.

Room Design.

All single-patient rooms are designed to provide patients with an inviting, relaxing, and healing environment, offering patient privacy as well as a dedicated family area for patients and their loved ones to spend time together. Family areas offer sofas that can convert to beds, plus electrical and network outlets designated for family members.

The planning process for The Valley Hospital in Paramus reflects Valley’s priority to place patients and families at the center of care.

On Stage/Off Stage.

Improving the functioning of patient floors was an important part of the design process. Essential equipment, supplies, environmental services, and other materials that support patient care will be placed behind the scenes – accessible to staff in a way that does not interfere with patients or their families. Similarly, essential functions, such as dietary, laundry, and patient transport, will also be placed “off stage”, thereby minimizing congestion on patient floors, providing a safer and more patient-centric experience and streamlining delivery of patient care. All off stage operations will use elevators separate from visitor elevators for safety and convenience.





## Valley Home Care.

In 2022, Valley Home Care (VHC) remained one of New Jersey's largest home care agencies, making 267,024 home visits to individuals in Bergen and Passaic counties.

Now in its 35th year, VHC hired an additional wound and ostomy care nurse to meet the growing need for this specialty. Wound care requires specialized training to ensure that the right techniques are used during the complex healing process. VHC nurses collaborate with patients and their physicians to provide innovative, evidence-based treatments to promote healing and prevent complications, as well as patient and caregiver education for self-monitoring, and managing and preventing wounds. This type of care can help hasten hospital discharge, improve quality of life, and accelerate recovery for patients in their homes.



In 1997, Mary Pat Boron sought to donate her collection of over 350 teddy bears to Valley pediatric patients. As state regulations require that hospitals can only disperse brand-new stuffed animals, the Valley Hospital Foundation worked to find a solution, and thus, the Teddy Bear Party for the *Butterflies* patients and their siblings came into existence. Each year, teddy bears arrive at The Valley Hospital, donated by individuals, families, employees, schools, Brownie and Girl Scout troops, churches, synagogues, and businesses.

In 2022, *Butterflies*, VHC's pediatric palliative care and hospice program, had nine patients, and has now served 363 patients and families since the program began in 1999. Thanks to donor support, *Butterflies* families participated in the 24th annual Teddy Bear Party, a special celebration for patients and their siblings. Philanthropic contributions to *Butterflies* help ensure that patients and families receive comprehensive home care services, including art and music therapy, as well as support for parents, siblings, and extended family members.

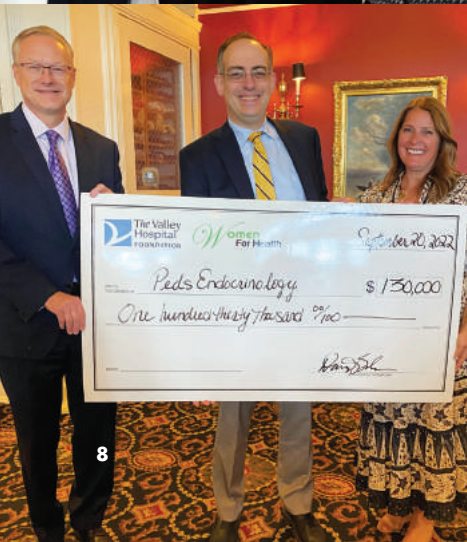


## Women For Health.

Each year, *Women For Health* members pool philanthropic resources and make a grant in support of programs and services throughout Valley Health System. In 2022, the group's 125 members committed \$130,000 to support a full-time Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) in Valley's Pediatric Endocrinology program.

For pediatric patients, type 1 diabetes can be difficult to understand, time-consuming to manage, and requires close collaboration between the caregiver and the endocrine team. Patients often remain under the team's care from infancy through young adulthood, and access to a CDE can be key to their care plan. The CDE helps change insulin doses, makes sure patients have access to – and are appropriately trained to use – the most advanced insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors, and streamlines communication between patients, parents, school nurses, and physicians.

Under the supervision of the Pediatric Endocrine team, patients have had outstanding control of their diabetes. In a recent quality audit from March 2022, 55% of patients have HgbA1c (the marker of diabetes control) values in the target range (under 7.5%). This superb control means patients will have reduced long-term risks of complications from diabetes. With the generous *Women For Health* grant making the CDE possible, the program strives to continue and build on this success.



## NICU.

Valley's NICU provided the highest level of specialized medical care to 500 newborns in 2022. The NICU team worked to ensure that both babies and families felt supported and looked after, and excellent outcomes were achieved.

The department began planning for the move to The Valley Hospital in Paramus where the NICU capacity will increase to 22 beds. This new chapter will include an expansion of physical, occupational, and feeding therapist services, which are crucial in improving developmental growth for patients and decreasing the length of hospital stays. Thanks to generous donor support, the NICU in Paramus will feature AngelEye, the latest NicView™ camera, allowing for virtual visits, communication between parents and the care team, and educational tutorials.

With the return of in-person events, NICU staff and parents hosted the 1st Annual Camp NICU on May 15, 2022. Over 300 people attended the family fun day event and raised more than \$40,000 to benefit the NICU Family Support Program, which embraces the social and emotional needs of the whole family throughout their NICU journey and beyond.



## Clinical Education.

The Valley Hospital prioritizes creating a healing environment that balances the care of the body with the care of the mind and spirit. Since 2001, Valley has offered the Integrative Healing Arts Academy (IHAA), which provides nurses with the knowledge and skills for holistic nursing and integrative care. Valley's nurses have incorporated holistic interventions into their practice for more than two decades, taking a whole-person approach to patient and family care. With over 100 board-certified holistic nurses, Valley has the highest number in the nation for a single organization. In 2022, these nurses made more than 3,000 patient and family visits. Valley Health System brought the IHAA program in-house to be taught by hospital staff for the first time, graduating its first cohort in September 2022 and launching its second in November of the same year.

Valley's exceptional nursing practice earned the organization its fifth Magnet Recognition Program designation in 2022. The American Nurses Credentialing Center awards this distinction to organizations whose nursing leaders successfully align their nursing strategic goals to improve patient outcomes. This prestigious recognition is the highest honor an organization can receive for professional nursing practice. Valley is one of only 33 Magnet organizations in New Jersey and among the 5 percent of all Magnet hospitals that have earned a fifth designation.



Now in its 79th year, the Auxiliary remains steadfast in its philanthropic mission and dedication to volunteering and serving as community liaisons. In 2022, \$21,000 in scholarships was given to 24 area high school seniors and college students, and nine branches participated in Valley Home Care's Adopt-A-Family program, donating \$12,620 in gift cards to families in need.

# Auxiliary.

For Valley Hospital Auxiliary members, 2022 brought a sense of camaraderie, joy, and enthusiasm as they came back together for in-person meetings and events after more than two years apart. The group hosted the 49th Annual Golf Outing at the Ridgewood Country Club and the sold-out 2nd Annual Sporting Clays Classic at the Hudson Farm Club, and embarked on two exciting new fundraisers, Vegas Night and the annual Paramus Run in partnership with the Terri Roemer Paramus Run organization. They hosted the Valley Ball for the first time since 2019, held at the iconic Plaza Hotel. Along with virtual events for Flag Day and Tree of Light, the Auxiliary members raised \$450,000 towards their \$3.1 million pledge to establish the Emergency Department Pediatric Section of the Valley Hospital in Paramus and to support the endowment for Valley Home Care's *Butterflies*. To date, they have raised an impressive \$1.6 million since fundraising began in 2019.



# Hospice.

In 2022, Valley Hospice remained committed to its compassionate and knowledgeable approach to end-of-life care. For patients and families navigating this challenging time, the hospice team ensures they are able to make the transition with integrity, dignity, and support.



- This year, planning took place to move Robin Iversen, M.D., Valley Hospice's longtime medical director, onsite full-time. This move will offer invaluable leadership and guidance to the hospice team.
- Since 2018, Valley Hospice has used the Macy Catheter® to aid in safe and easy medication delivery and facilitate quick and effective symptom management. In 2022, the team was able to provide close to 100 patients with this comfort modality in their own homes.
- With help from donors, Valley Hospice provided essential services such as end-of-life doulas, bereavement groups, and art and music therapy. Established in 2018 with a philanthropic gift from David's Fund, Valley Hospice Music Therapy is a beloved and integral service for those navigating end-of-life care. Since its founding, Board Certified Music Therapist Jennifer Knittel has made over 700 visits to hospice patients. In 2022 Music Therapy entered its fifth year, and additional donor support ensures that it is incorporated into patient care at Valley Hospice as well as *Butterflies*, a pediatric in-home palliative and hospice care program.

# 2022 Statistics.

Total Number of Employees : **5,792**



Valley Health System



The Valley Hospital



Valley Home Care



Valley Medical Group



## THE VALLEY HOSPITAL.

<b>4,049</b> Babies Born	<b>1,065</b> Physicians (All Categories)	<b>600</b> Auxilians
<b>52,081</b> Admissions	<b>69,751</b> Emergency Department Visits	<b>9,956</b> MICU Dispatches
<b>500</b> Neonatal ICU Admissions	<b>5,018</b> Community Care Visits	
<b>5,742</b> Cardiac Catheterization Lab Procedures*	<b>276</b> Cardiac Surgery Procedures	<b>13,397</b> Endoscopy Procedures
<b>11,269</b> Same Day Surgeries	<b>11,942</b> Radiation Therapy Procedures**	<b>1,312</b> Total Joint Replacements



## VALLEY HOME CARE.

<b>267,024</b> Total Patient Visits	<b>953</b> Bereavement Support Group Attendance	<b>227</b> Art Therapy Attendance (Journeys)
<b>94,075</b> Rehabilitation Visits	<b>1,880</b> Maternal/Child Health Nursing Visits	<b>624</b> Tele-management Installations
<b>23,055</b> Hospice Nursing Visits		



## VALLEY MEDICAL GROUP.

<b>51</b> Locations	<b>80</b> Specialties	<b>449</b> Providers	<b>270,762</b> Patients Served
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\* Cardiac Cath Procedures (including Caths, Angioplasty, Rotablator, IVUS, Peripherals, TAVR, MitraClip, Impella, Watchman, Valvuloplasty, ASD/PFO, CTO, Ablations, EP Studies, ICD's, Loop Recorders, Pacemakers, Convergent, Lariat, Laser Lead Extractions)  
\*\* Radiation Therapy includes Tomotherapy (2007 to present). Gamma Knife procedures not included.

## ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE



### Healthgrades

The Valley Hospital has been named one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for 2023 by Healthgrades, recognized for exceptional patient outcomes and clinical excellence. Valley was one of just three hospitals in New Jersey – and the only hospital in Bergen County – to earn a spot on this prestigious list.



### The Leapfrog Group

The Valley Hospital received an "A" grade for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group for the 19th time, distinguishing Valley as one of the safest hospitals in the United States.



### Magnet

For a fifth consecutive time, Valley earned the prestigious Magnet recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the highest honor an organization can receive for professional nursing practice.



### Newsweek

The Valley Hospital has been named one of the world's best hospitals by Newsweek for a fifth consecutive year in its World's Best Hospitals 2023 list.



### U.S. News & World Report

The Valley Hospital was ranked third among the best hospitals in New Jersey and achieved the highest possible rating in 13 areas of care.





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