



The Valley Hospital Foundation Newsletter

INSIDE VALLEY

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Letter From the Chief Development Officer

The arrival of a new year marks both a time for reflection and a time to look forward to what is to come. While it seems that 2022 went by in the blink of an eye, it truly was a year of remarkable accomplishments at the Foundation.

These letters serve as an opportunity to keep you up to date on our campaign progress, and I am thrilled to tell you that we have raised more than \$106 million toward our \$125 million goal. In this issue, we speak to Tim and Robin Wentworth, community members who recently provided a \$2 million leadership gift. Passionate about enriching communities through philanthropic impact, the couple hopes to inspire others who are considering a gift in support of the new hospital project. With The Valley Hospital in Paramus set to open in less than a year, we are grateful for each gift received and fortunate for the incredible donors who have stepped forward to help us write Valley's next chapter.



Recent drone footage of The Valley Hospital in Paramus

This fall saw the return of the Valley Ball, a beloved tradition hosted by The Valley Hospital Auxiliary. Since 1944, the women of the Auxiliary have worked tirelessly on Valley's behalf. Today, their collective efforts have raised over \$1.6 million towards their \$3.1 million pledge to establish the Pediatric Section of the Emergency Department at the new hospital and to support the endowment for Valley Home Care's *Butterflies*, a pediatric in-home palliative and hospice care program.

David J. Bohan

After a two-year hiatus, it was wonderful to gather at The Plaza Hotel in New York City to celebrate this great work. We are excited to announce that we will host next year's Valley Ball at The Valley Hospital in Paramus prior to its official opening as a hospital! Stay tuned for more details.

Toward the end of the year, Valley President and CEO Audrey Meyers received a letter from Governor Phil Murphy, congratulating Valley for being named a Top Healthcare Employer in New Jersey by Forbes. In his letter, Governor Murphy expresses his gratitude to our "doctors, nurses, and staff for delivering exceptional service, care, and compassion to the residents of our Great State." He concluded his letter by applauding the Valley team for its "commitment to the health and well-being of citizens throughout the Garden State." Every day our employees, nurses, and physicians go above and beyond to achieve Valley's mission, vision, and values, and donor support has always been critical in helping to provide the best possible care to the communities we serve. Thank you so much for being part of our team.

On behalf of The Valley Hospital Foundation, I wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Sincerely,

Varia pola

David J. Bohan Vice President & Chief Development Officer



Join us on a virtual hard-hat tour and see the progress being made at the new hospital site!

IMPACT

Wentworths Make Generous \$2 Million Gift in Support of The Valley Hospital in Paramus

Tim and Robin Wentworth's philanthropic journey started with a piano. Both proud graduates of Monroe Community College in Rochester, New York, they gifted the school's music department a Steinway piano on which students would be able to learn, compose, and perform. "Robin was a music major, and we wanted the students to be able to sit at a concert piano and dream about a career from that place in their lives at that time," Tim explains. In the years that followed, the Wentworths have made an enormous impact on many organizations with their exceptional generosity.

With Tim's career in healthcare services taking them to different cities around the United States, Tim and Robin have prioritized investing in the communities in which they have settled. "We feel very fortunate to be in this position and look to do things that will then be able to be multiplied in their effectiveness and help the greatest number of people," Robin says. This includes establishing several scholarship funds in their hometown of Rochester, New York, including both Monroe Community College and the University of Rochester, and supporting program and campus expansion at Covenant House Missouri, which serves homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth in St. Louis.

In December 2021. Tim retired as the chief executive officer of Evernorth, a health services solutions company, and the couple settled back East once again in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey. Needing new doctors, one of their daughters directed Tim and Robin to Valley Medical Group (VMG). From there they were reacquainted with Valley as a health system and introduced to plans for The Valley Hospital in Paramus. As the couple considered philanthropic opportunities in the area that aligned with their values, they felt strongly about stepping forward with support for the new hospital, making a generous \$2 million leadership gift. "We are lucky to be grateful, healthy patients," Robin says. Tim agrees, adding, "The guality of care we have received from our VMG doctors has been stellar, and our experience has made us even more confident in Valley as a first-class healthcare destination. The plans for the hospital in Paramus show the leadership and strategic vision of Audrey and her



Tim and Robin Wentworth

board, and we are thrilled to be a part of something that will serve and benefit this community for generations to come."

When it came time to decide where to direct their gift, Tim and Robin chose the new hospital's Imaging Department, explaining that it will serve many patients while also benefiting from advancements in technology and innovation. On a hard-hat tour of the construction site in Paramus, Tim inquired about the new hospital's equipment sterilization area. His father had been a hospital field service technician for sterilizers, and some of his earliest memories were of going to work with him. The space will now be named in his father's honor. "While it may not be something most people think about, or even get to see, it's a crucial area of a hospital," Tim says. "When the Foundation came back to us with the idea of naming it for my father, it made this experience so much more personal and meaningful for us."

The couple, together since high school, have been married for over 40 years. "One of the most rewarding things we have done together is becoming engaged in philanthropy," Robin says. They hope that their efforts inspire others to broaden their ideas on charitable giving. "We haven't always been the 'likeliest' donors to certain causes, but we understand the impact philanthropy can have on crucial community resources, like the new hospital," Tim says. "Our hope is to encourage donors at all levels to do the same."

Grateful Patient Janet Shapiro Makes a Difference at Valley Through Philanthropy



David J. Bohan and Janet Shapiro

Janet Shapiro was discouraged by health challenges in 2021 and wanted to get better. She set about researching new doctors and found her way to Valley Medical Group (VMG) internist and geriatrician Bennett Leifer, M.D. As she began to work with Dr. Leifer in the new year, Janet immediately felt she was in excellent hands. "He was so compassionate and caring! Dr. Leifer would make me feel seen and heard, and better able to deal with what I was going through." As treatment continued, Janet was also connected to other Valley specialists as part of her care plan. "I was lucky to have a great team of Valley doctors behind me throughout this journey," she says. In a note to Dr. Leifer she exclaimed, "You not only helped to fix me up, but you actually created a better, healthier version of me than I was before."

Now a grateful patient, Janet feels strongly about giving back to Valley. She has joined the Franklin Lakes branch of the Auxiliary and has become a member of *Women For Health*. Passionate about making a difference through philanthropy, Janet has also included a bequest to The Valley Hospital Foundation in her will, established a charitable gift annuity, and committed to

two campaign gifts in support of The Valley Hospital in Paramus. The first gift is to name an outdoor garden bench, and the second is to name a patient room on the hospital's Oncology floor, both in memory of her parents, Eleanor and Joseph Shapiro. "My parents were my guiding light and inspired me by the way they lived. They always did things for other people and addressed problems they saw in the world. It was meaningful for me to honor them this way."

Janet says she has also been shaped by the idea of Tikkun Olam, a Hebrew term meaning "repair the world." She explains that to set the next generation up for success, we need to lay the groundwork now for a better future. "There is a line from a Debbie Friedman song that goes, 'We must live for today, we must build for tomorrow,' which really is perfect when you think about the new hospital," she says with a smile. As she reflects on the past year, she considers herself lucky to have received care from VMG doctors and is excited for Valley's excellence to continue at The Valley Hospital in Paramus. "My philanthropy not only helps to express my gratitude, but it also helps to ensure that others in the community have the benefit of the excellent healthcare that I received," Janet says. "Just as Dr. Leifer and my other VMG doctors made a commitment to me, my health, and my future, it was so important to me to make a commitment to Valley Health System."

To learn how we can help you create a life-saving legacy uniquely tailored to your philanthropic and financial goals, visit **valleyhospitalfoundation.giftplans.org** or contact Bettina Daly at 201-291-6193 or bdaly2@valleyhealth.com

P.S. Thank You

Healthcare work is both challenging and immensely rewarding. Even as our Valley employees continue to navigate extraordinary circumstances in our "new normal," they continue to show incredible strength, courage, and kindness.

The video series *P.S. Thank You* was launched to recognize the outstanding efforts of our doctors, nurses, and staff. In each story, an employee from The Valley Hospital, Valley Home Care, or Valley Medical Group recalls the challenges and triumphs of working through the COVID-19 pandemic and is then surprised with a heartwarming letter of thanks from one of their own patients. The series serves as a reminder of the amazing impact that our words, actions, and compassion have on those we serve.





WATCH THE SERIES HERE!

Has a Valley employee provided outstanding service to you or a loved one?

Visit www.valleyhealth.com/patients-visitors/ recognize-valley-employee to recognize them.



2022 Valley Ball

The Valley Hospital Auxiliary held the 74th Annual Valley Ball on October 29, 2022, at the landmark Plaza Hotel in New York City, raising over \$166,000. More than 200 people enjoyed great food, dancing to the Craig Scott Orchestra, and entertainment by the stars of Broadway's "Jersey Boys," who performed a Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons tribute. Thank you to our **Plaza** and **Oak Room** sponsors for their generous support: Bergen Anesthesia Group, HDR, Mount Sinai, Neurosurgeons of New Jersey, Valley Emergency Room Associates, dancker, R4.Architecture, LLC, and Torcon.



The Valley Hospital



Q4 2022

The Valley Hospital



On October 16, 2022, The Valley Hospital Auxiliary partnered for the first time with the nonprofit organization Terri Roemer Paramus Run, LLC. on the annual Annual Paramus Run. The run was held near the Fairfield Inn & Suites and close to the site of the new hospital in Paramus, and nearly 1,000 participants ran or walked the 10K or 5K courses, helping to raise \$12,500!



Central Board members of the Auxiliary present the check to Dave Bohan, Vice President, Valley Hospital Foundation.

In November, The Valley Hospital Auxiliary presented a check in the amount of \$250,000 to The Valley Hospital Foundation. This donation supports the Auxiliary's current \$3.1 million pledge to the hospital; since the pledge began in early 2019, The Auxiliary has raised over \$1.6 million. Thank you to all Auxiliary members and friends of The Valley Hospital Auxiliary whose generous donations made this possible!



The Valley Hospital Auxiliary held its annual Tree of Light Illumination Ceremony virtually on December 4, 2022. Welcome introductions were made by Auxiliary President Theresa Salameno; Charles Vannoy, Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer; and David Bohan, with holiday performances from both the Ridgewood High School choir and orchestra. Donations towards tree lights and pool votives raised close to \$15,000.

SAVE THE DATE — Mark your calendar!



Casino Night at the Indian Trail Club, Franklin Lakes



The Valley Hospital Auxiliary Golf Outing at The Ridgewood Country Club



3rd Annual Sporting Clay Classic at Hudson Farm Club

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 support the endowment for Valley Home Care's Butterflies—a pediatric in-home palliative and hospice care program for seriously ill children.

For more information, please visit: www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary

AWARDS & ACCOLADES



For the 22nd year, Valley Health System has been named one of the nation's "Most Wired" hospitals, according to CHIME HealthCare. This prestigious distinction recognizes that Valley is at the forefront of using information technology to deliver next-level patient care.



The Valley Hospital has received an "A" grade for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group for an incredible 19th time, distinguishing Valley as one of the safest hospitals in the United States. Valley has long been dedicated to maintaining a safe healthcare environment, and this recognition places Valley among 33 hospitals in New Jersey and 29% of hospitals nationwide to receive an "A" safety grade.



Joseph Lorino, Valley's vice president for facilities management, has been recognized by NJBIZ as a 2022 Leader in Real Estate, Construction, and Design. Joe was recognized for his outstanding leadership in the design and construction of Valley's new hospital in Paramus.



The Valley Hospital has received the 2022 Trailblazer Award from Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) and the ABIM Foundation. The award recognizes clinical teams for their efforts to improve the quality of care for older adults — efforts that reduce unnecessary tests and treatments, prioritize patient safety, and improve care coordination.

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