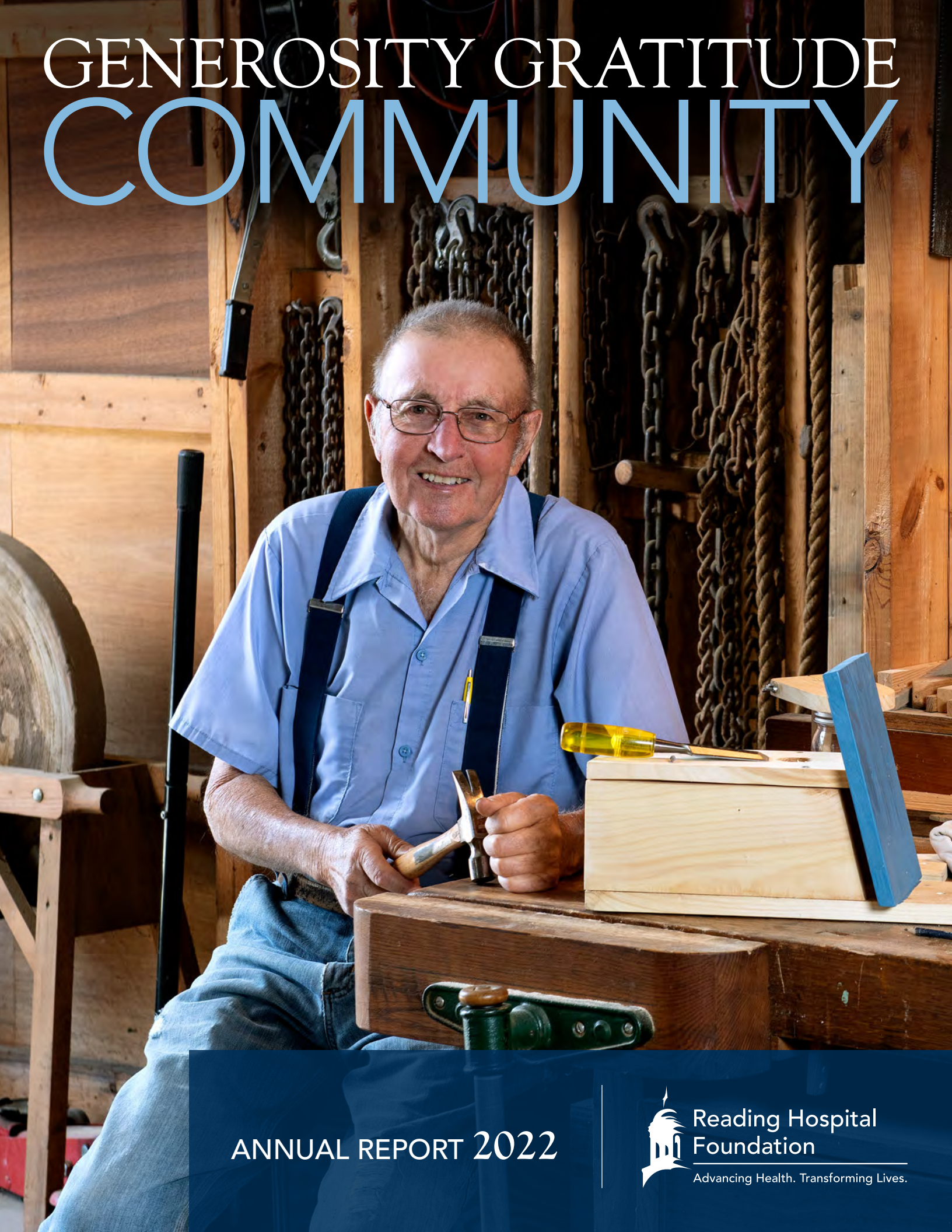


GENEROSITY GRATITUDE COMMUNITY



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Reading Hospital
Foundation

Advancing Health. Transforming Lives.

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Generosity. Gratitude. Community.

Those words resonate with us, our Foundation team, our Board, and our community. The emotions they evoke are at the core of what drives us to carry out our mission in supporting Reading Hospital with programs and services that are delivered at the highest level of care to all those in Berks County.

As the largest community hospital in Berks County, Reading Hospital has cared for multiple generations throughout its more than 150 years. Reading Hospital Foundation is proud to support the hospital to continue to embrace and implement the most advanced technologies that help to ensure that everyone in the community has access to the highest quality care without having to leave the county.

We are humbled by the generosity of our loyal and thoughtful donors.

Through your support of Reading Hospital Foundation, you help deliver valuable programs, advanced technology, and compassionate care now and in the future.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,



Paul Cohn

Chair, Reading Hospital Foundation



Katherine E. Thornton

President, Reading Hospital Foundation



PLANTING SEEDS FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW

Pay it forward and help the people who helped them. That's what 89-year-old George Moyer and his wife, Pearl, are compelled to do after their local community and Reading Hospital supported them through a tremendously challenging and uncertain time.

In the 1970s, George and Pearl owned three Berks County farms with over 300 acres of land and more than 100 dairy cows. George, who participated in a conservation-focused form of farming called "contour farming," earned the distinction of "Master Farmer." Few farmers have achieved that

recognition as it involves a rigid inspection of farm operations and finances.

Despite George's mastery of his craft, on October 8, 1975, a devastating farming accident forever changed his life.

On that day, George took to his cornfields to do some harvesting after strong storms had blown through the area. He got off his tractor when the harvester jammed. He lost his balance, fell, and caught his leg in the equipment. He yelled for help, and the family who lived in a house on the farm called an ambulance.

After nearly a week in Reading Hospital, George learned that his leg would have to be amputated. During George's extended stay in the hospital, people in the community sent cards, many with money enclosed. Local farmers and neighbors gave their time to take care of everything for the Moyers at their home and on their farms. Although independent farmers compete for business, they come together when another is in need — and George's farming operations continued with the other farmers' help. Neighbors delivered meals, did the laundry, and assisted in other ways so that when Pearl returned home from her visits with George, she wouldn't have to worry about household tasks.

George returned to farming, his favorite activities (like square dancing) and, with Pearl, raising his four children. Today, he remains active, still driving his tractor, building bluebird houses in his shop, and volunteering at the Berks County Farm Bureau and his church's food pantry.

With gratitude for the exceptional care George received at Reading Hospital and throughout his rehabilitation, he and Pearl decided to donate their COVID relief stimulus money to Reading Hospital Foundation in 2020 to help fund the purchase of PPE supplies. They continue to contribute to the Foundation and designate their gifts to be used where there is the greatest need.

“We want to help the people who helped me. We want to pay it forward to our community, which generously came to our aid in our time of need. Donating to Reading Hospital Foundation gives us a way to give back.”

– George Moyer



GIVING FROM THE HEART

As a life-long athlete, 75-year-old John Scholl has always had a competitive nature. The Governor Mifflin High School and Albright College graduate excelled in baseball, basketball, and track. His passion in participating in these sports, especially his celebrated basketball career helped to mold him. That winning spirit drove him to business success as well in the accounting, construction, and real estate industries. It has also helped him overcome numerous health issues through the years.

From a heart attack in 2005 to aortic repairs and blood clot issues in 2013, John also survived cardiac arrest in 2018 and a stroke in 2020. Throughout his medical emergencies, John has leveraged his athleticism and strong will to fight the challenges he has faced. He has also relied on the remarkable care and expertise of the Reading Hospital medical team. Since 2005, the hospital's physicians Matthew Nolan, MD and Earl Hope, MD have helped him with various heart issues.

John is both a survivor and a giver at heart. He continues his athletic endeavors by playing

golf and keeps his love of basketball alive by attending local games. He and his wife, Karen, also embrace opportunities to give back to their community. Together, they experience the true power of giving when contributing to initiatives that are near and dear to them, now and in the future. Although John sold his main business at a young age, he says if he had known then what he knows now about the power of giving back, he would have continued with that business to raise and donate more money to support the hospital that saved his life and other causes that

are important to him. He has seen firsthand how contributions affect lives in significant ways.

The Scholls have been inspired to contribute to Reading Hospital Foundation's key initiatives including the Nursing Excellence Fund, which provides learning opportunities for nurses whether in person or virtual to expand their abilities and capacity to serve the community. When they heard about the Mobile Mammography Coach making mammograms more accessible to women in Berks and beyond, they were onboard to help make this become a reality.

“I was lucky to be so close to Reading Hospital, and the community is fortunate to have a premier hospital right here in Berks County. My experiences and the care I received at Reading Hospital have made a tremendous difference in my life. Being a donor makes you feel good when you see how it affects people.”

- John Scholl



INSPIRING PROGRESS THROUGH GENEROSITY

When asked to join Reading Hospital Foundation Board of Directors as Chair of the Finance Committee in 2015, Paul Cohn (a finance executive and wealth advisor) did so without hesitation.

The 64-year-old husband, father, sommelier, and lover of traveling and dogs has had strong connections to Berks County and Reading Hospital since he was very young. He grew up in the community, and his father was a surgeon at the hospital. At an early age, Paul witnessed the hospital's compassionate care for the sick and injured. When he and his wife, Jo, welcomed their two daughters

into the world, the experience reinforced the hospital's legacy of healthcare excellence.

In 2022, Paul now serves as Chair of the Board, helping the Foundation raise funds for life-changing community initiatives like Street Medicine, McGlinn Cancer Institute, the School of Health Sciences, and many others. He says he feels humbled to have an opportunity to be a steward of the generous community's contributions and see first-hand the outcomes of the Foundation's programs.

Beyond Paul's volunteer commitment to the Board, he and Jo support Reading Hospital Foundation

in various ways including their desire to create a legacy that ensures a lasting impact for Reading Hospital to further its mission of transforming lives. According to the couple, giving back is important to their family and they have confirmed that commitment by designating Reading Hospital Foundation in their estate plan. This planning guarantees that their legacy endures. By notifying Reading Hospital Foundation of their plan, they are now part of *The 1867 Legacy Society*, which provides special recognition to people who have indicated their support. In addition to their planned gift, they also contribute annually

and have helped fund the EksoNR robotic exoskeleton used by the physical therapy team at Reading Hospital Rehabilitation at Wyomissing and the Mobile Mammography Coach.

Planned giving opportunities are available through *The 1867 Legacy Society*. If you're interested in learning more about naming Reading Hospital Foundation in your will or trust, please talk with your financial advisor or contact Tony Balistrere, Director of Development at Reading Hospital Foundation, at **484-628-5126** or by email at tony.balistrere@towerhealth.org.

McGlinn
Cancer
Institute

“I'm proud to be a volunteer and a donor to Reading Hospital Foundation, helping it promote awareness of community needs, and provide care and services to the underserved population of Berks County. I encourage others to give to the Foundation to help it support Reading Hospital in advancing its level of clinical excellence.”

- Paul Cohn



CIRCLE OF GIVING

Sharon DePaola is a 15-year employee at Reading Hospital. Often the cheerleader in her departments, Sharon motivates her teams to participate in all the hospital's fundraising and community initiatives. She collected school supplies for the annual *Stuff the Bus* challenge, organized the collection of non-perishable items for the holiday food drive, and participated financially each year in the Employee Giving Campaign. As someone who did not have much growing up and relied on other organizations for help, Sharon swore to give back when she was able. She never realized that later in life, she would need assistance again.

“As someone who did not have much growing up and relied on other organizations for help, I swore to give back when I was able.”

In November 2021, Sharon's home caught fire, destroying everything including all the Christmas presents she had purchased for her grandchildren. In true Sharon fashion, she showed up at work the day after the fire. She needed to be around her other "family" and craved a sense of normalcy after such a tragic experience. Little did she know that her manager had reached out to Reading Hospital Foundation to see if we could offer support. With a few conversations and emails, Sharon's Reading Hospital family rallied around her.

Reading Hospital Foundation, along with Sharon's manager, worked to organize a drive to collect clothing, toys, and personal items for Sharon and her family. Sharon was shocked that her work family, along with Reading Hospital employees that she had never met, would come together for her in her time of need. "It was unbelievable. It was too much." These were the sentiments Sharon continually expressed as she recalled the weeks that followed the fire. She knew that when she and her family got settled, she would pay it forward and she did just that – starting at Christmas. Another family that had faced a tragedy were staying in the same hotel and she carried extra toys to the parents on Christmas Eve so that the children would have gifts to open. She can still hear their screams of joy. She donated toys back to Reading Hospital for pediatric patients and the extra clothes they had been given to Gwen's Closet. She insisted that her family had what they needed and that others could benefit from the generosity that was shown to her.

Sharon is a true vision of gratitude and generosity, going out of her way to make someone else happy. She feels best when she is helping others and likens giving back to "being wrapped in a warm blanket." We are proud to have Sharon, and many others like her, in our Reading Hospital family.



NURTURING A GIVING NATURE

"I truly believe I was put on this earth to help people." Kelsey Shumaker, RN, has been with Reading Hospital since 2015 and credits the hospital with nurturing her generous nature and giving her the opportunity and resources to give back. Kelsey started at Reading Hospital as a Patient Care Assistant and attended Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences to obtain her RN. She is now an RNII on the Ortho Trauma floor (T5). She volunteers in a variety of roles serving as Magnet Champion, Chair of Surgical Division, and Charge Nurse, sits on the Relationship-based Care Committee and Professional Nurse Council, precepts new nurses and has been awarded a Great Catch and Daisy Award. However, these titles and committees are not where Kelsey fulfills her passion of giving back.

“I truly believe I was put on this earth to help people.”

As a PCA, Kelsey worked alongside Gwen MacNeil, social worker. Gwen noticed a patient leaving the hospital one day in a hospital gown and vowed to help. She set up a small closet in which Kelsey often donated items, to ensure trauma patients left with clothing. Gwen passed away in February 2019 and Kelsey wanted to fulfill Gwen's dream of a closet for all patients in need of replacement clothing. Kelsey reached out to the Foundation for assistance. Through Kelsey's determination, Gwen's Closet was formally created. Kelsey works hard to maintain a stocked inventory of all sizes (including children's) and a variety of seasons. She organizes the space to make it easily accessible and helps promote it across departments so all hospital employees know they can utilize this resource.

In Kelsey's interactions with Reading Hospital Foundation, she learned about the Street Medicine

program. Kelsey has always been interested in working in community health and assisting those less fortunate than her. She has volunteered with the Street Medicine team for the last year and jumps in wherever needed. As a nurse, she takes vitals, pulls bloodwork and lab items, but she assists with registration if needed and helps build rapport with the patients. Kelsey has planned "outreach nights" for her nursing unit to get them involved. These nights consist of traversing the landscape of Berks County and finding homeless individuals to provide them with a backpack filled with hygiene kits and essentials, even providing minor medical care if needed. Her family supports her volunteer endeavors by donating multiple backpacks to the Street Medicine program.

Kelsey believes she is a different person now that she actively volunteers and assists those in her community. It's a humbling experience for her and she has a deeper appreciation for the opportunities she has in her life. She is grateful that she can give back and help others because she is a giver at heart and Reading Hospital has offered these opportunities to grow personally and professionally.



UNIFYING THROUGH SHARED EMOTIONS AND EXPERIENCES

Healthcare workers are called to heal, it is in their nature to help others during their time of need. However, no healthcare worker could have predicted the COVID-19 pandemic and the effect it would have on our communities, our profession, or our mental and emotional well-being.

“This is exactly what we need.”

Reading Hospital staff members Deborah Swavely, DNP, RN, senior director, nursing clinical inquiry and research; Tom Adil, LPC, director, department of spiritual care; and Barb Romig, DNP, RN, CPHQ,

NEA-BC, chief nursing officer were involved in a multi-site research group that focused on the impact COVID-19 had on the nurses of designated COVID floors. The results showed that these nurses faced significant stress, depression, and anger. They presented this information to Reading Hospital leadership and asked, “What can we do?” This simple question started the process of Reading Hospital joining together with The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare.

With a grant from Reading Hospital Foundation, Reading Hospital joined hundreds of other healthcare organizations in the world as a site

for Schwartz Rounds. This program is aimed at unifying all healthcare workers, clinical and non-clinical, through shared experiences, feelings, and current trends in healthcare. Held monthly, Schwartz Rounds are facilitator-led, panel discussions with the opportunity for audience participation and reflection. Hospital staff can suggest topics for discussion and previous topics have included: compassionate healthcare in the COVID-19 era, loss of professional identity, anger in healthcare, and when life is unexpectedly short.

“I have found this information to be worth its weight in gold.”

“This was so therapeutic.”

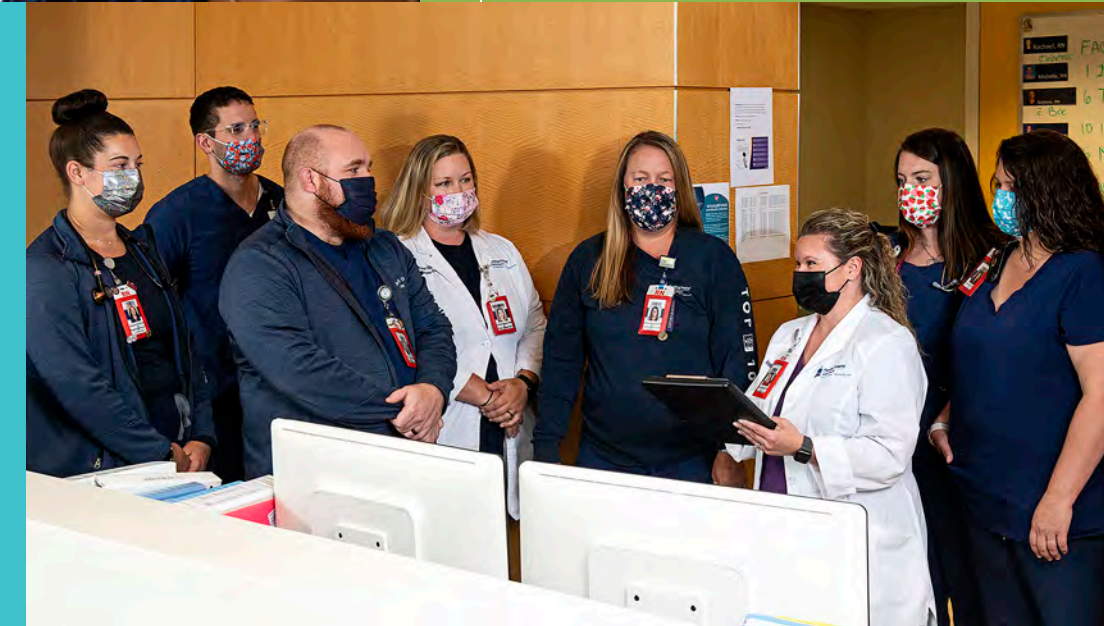
The response from hospital staff has been overwhelmingly positive. Over 70% of participants reported feeling better or much better after attending a session of Schwartz Rounds. These sessions have been a forum to unify our staff and provide a safe space to express and validate feelings that may make one feel isolated or unsure whether they chose the right profession. Providers, nurses, and non-clinical staff are learning from one another and feeling reassured that they are not alone in their experiences. Schwartz Rounds is not fixing specific problems, but it is providing the space to promote healing and compassion which is desperately needed in today's health care climate.

“Informative and really resonated with me knowing we all face the same feelings and emotions.”



“It's great to get off the floors and have discussions with people from other teams. Allowing us to unite with other facets of the hospital.”

“The self-care and support available to staff are appreciated. Sometimes staff ‘carries’ their feelings alone and we need to learn that we are not weak.”



Schwartz Rounds Planning Committee (pictured) – Top L-R: Taniika Mason, MPH Director, Health Equity; Amanda Miller, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Senior Director, Critical Care; Brooke Kosmoski, Executive Assistant; Karen Fattore LSW, ACSW, MBA, Manager, Care Management; Bottom L-R: Vinti Shah, DO, Chief of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and Chair of Ethics Committee; Tom Adil, Director of Chaplaincy Services. Not pictured: Renee Riddle, MD FAAP Staff Pediatrician Tower Health Children's Health Center/Pediatric Medical Advisor THMG Weight Loss Surgery and Wellness Center; Barb Romig, DNP, RN, CPHQ, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer; Amanda McNicholas, DNP, CRNP, Chief Advanced Practice Professional Officer; Deb Swavely, DNP, Senior Director Nursing Inquiry and Research.

INSPIRATIONAL SPACES

Photo Mosaic of Marie Louise Hidell, RN



This photo mosaic artwork, located in C Building, was created in loving memory of Grace Supplee (pictured at left) for her dedication to the nursing profession by her daughter, Lisa Broderick.

The subject of the mosaic, Marie Louise Hidell, RN trained as a nurse at Reading Hospital graduating with honors in 1902. In 1918, during the growing influenza pandemic and World War I, she joined the Navy and was stationed at the Naval Hospital on League Island (now the Navy Yard) in Philadelphia. She worked fearlessly and tirelessly as the growing number of influenza patients overwhelmed the hospital staff. In one night, she was personally responsible for admitting 188 patients. Unfortunately, Marie herself soon contracted the flu. Her condition rapidly declined, and she succumbed to the illness.

The photo mosaic is comprised of pictures of Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences alumni, Reading Hospital nurses, and Grace (Showers) Supplee, Reading Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1954.

Artwork by Gregory Didyoung and Michael L. Miller

All forms of artwork shown were funded by the Reading Hospital Foundation. If you're interested in learning more about projects like this, contact **Melissa Karas** at melissa.karas@towerhealth.org or **484-628-8666**.

The Tree of Hope and Trees of Strength

The Tree of Hope at McGlinn Cancer Institute is a beautiful tribute to those battling cancer. The Trees of Strength at Reading Hospital Rehabilitation at Wyomissing honor those who have worked hard to regain mobilization, strength, and independence. They symbolize the story of hope, perseverance, and courage. The permanent fixtures in both locations are a unique opportunity for families, friends, or organizations to honor or memorialize a loved one while supporting Reading Hospital's on-going efforts to nurture a legacy of exceptional and compassionate care.



NICU Entrance

Blank walls in the hallway entrance of the 30-bed Level III NICU were transformed into a colorful display of art filled with playful animals, including raccoons, foxes, and deer, to name a few. Blue skies, flowers, and butterflies create a warm environment for families who enter to visit newborns not yet ready to be discharged from the hospital.

Mural designed and painted by Michael L. Miller

STREET MEDICINE - NEVER GIVING UP

“When they are ready, we are here.” These words, spoken by Darla Harris, RN, Case Manager capture the passion, hard-work, and determination of the staff and volunteers of Reading Hospital’s Street Medicine team. Yomari Salvador-Rivera, Program Manager, along with Darla run the Street Medicine program. The remaining Street Medicine staff includes five core physicians (Anthony Donato, MD; Eugen York, MD; Sara Luber, DO; Pavani Pagolu, MD; Susmita Paladuga, MD) and other hospital staff that all volunteer their time outside of their hospital responsibilities.

This life-saving program is completely funded by philanthropic dollars and has impacted the lives of not only our homeless population, but our volunteers. Hai Nguyen, DO, Jennifer Mahone, MHA, RRT-NPS, AE-C, and Lisa Lakeman, MS, RN, CDCED, BD-ADM are three volunteers who all help in different capacities, but make a huge impression. Dr. Nguyen has been a constant at Hope Rescue Mission evening clinics. He

truly cares for the patients there and takes the time to see and treat the whole person – finding an appropriate medical solution that fits the patient and their lifestyle. Jennifer is known as the “rock” at clinics. As a respiratory specialist, she assists patients with CPAP machines so they are comfortable utilizing the equipment. She is a mentor to newer volunteers as she understands the overall flow of the clinic and can jump in at any point to direct patients, dispense medications, or assist with an issue. Lisa Lakeman is a Diabetes Specialist who is the “voice” of the clinic. She is known as the greeter and uses her firm, but passionate demeanor, to direct the flow, find patients, and build a rapport with them. These volunteers, and many others, are essential for the Street Medicine team to be successful in helping our community.

The effectiveness of our great volunteers opens valuable time for Darla and Yomari to get to know the patients on a more personal level, oftentimes helping

them to learn the root cause of their current life status. For example, a patient that they had seen approximately 10 times for podiatry and diabetic concerns, started to talk about how he became homeless. This gentleman had come to the US as a Cuban political refugee, was married, working, and living a wonderful life. Unfortunately, a misunderstanding with his spouse led her to destroy all of his documents, including those that prove he’s a US Citizen. Without that document, he couldn’t renew his CDL license, thus resulting in losing his income, health insurance and home. As Yomari and Darla learned more about his situation, they worked to find any and all resources that could help him regain those documents, but it was not an easy feat. Then, because Darla is always thinking about her patients and how to help, she discovered a connection to an individual that works specifically with Cuban refugees and their documentation. This is the power of the Street Medicine team.

He now has an ID, insurance, and is working to regain his CDL. While he was living at Hope Rescue Mission, he worked to complete much needed renovations as his way of giving back. Sharing his story with others has led to multiple job offers as he begins this new season of life. He is eternally grateful to the Street Medicine team and their desire to help others wherever they are in their life.

The Street Medicine team doesn’t give up. They understand the importance of consistency and patience when working with patients who know they need to make life-altering decisions. Your support of this program allows them the time and resources to be prepared with next steps and options when these patients decide it’s time to make a change. By sticking by their patients, learning their backstory, and never giving up on them, the Street Medicine team is a priceless asset to our community.



“I have volunteered with the Street Medicine program for 6 years. For me, helping to provide free medical care to the homeless and uninsured patients in Reading is one way to give back to the community that has opened its arms to take me in as an immigrant since 1993. The patients I work with through the Street Medicine program also teach me many things: hope, kindness, compassion, and resilience. They make me a better person.”
- Hai Nguyen, MD

“I started volunteering for Street Medicine at the Hope Rescue Mission in 2018. I have learned a lot from those we work with and the clients and consider myself very fortunate that I have all the resources I do to manage my disease and I want to help those who are less fortunate. Sometimes all these clients need is just someone to sit and listen to them while others need more. The clients are very grateful for the services that are provided, and the time spent with them.”

- Lisa Lakeman, MS,RN, CDCED, BD-ADM

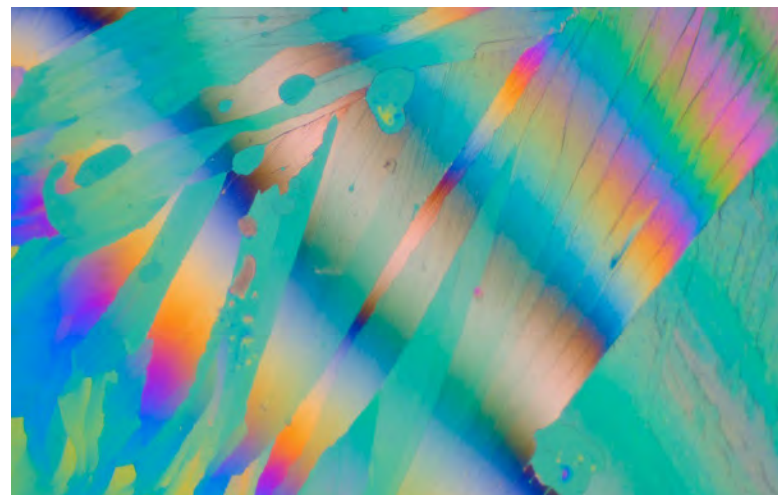


PROMOTING RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

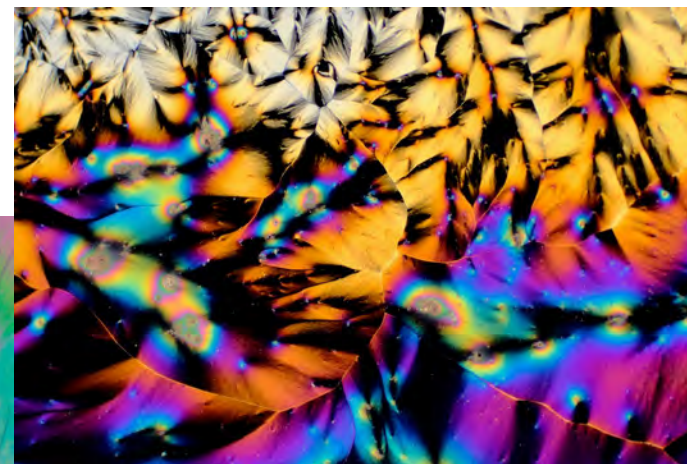
The mission of Reading Hospital Foundation is to support research, education, innovation, and overall improvement of healthcare services in support of Reading Hospital and the community. Each year we provide grants to hospital staff that ensure we fulfill our mission as well provide professional development and continued education for our staff. Hospital staff must submit proposals that are reviewed by a committee for approval to complete their project or request. The number of grant requests have continuously increased each year as more staff learn about the opportunity, develop programs and ideas that need funding, or identify an unmet need in their department. This past year, we approved 7 grants and are proud to highlight a few of our doctors who identified a need and created a plan to address it.

- Adam Sigal, MD – Impact of Expedited Referral to Treatment on Emergency Department Utilization and Recidivism Amongst Patients with Opiate, Benzodiazepine, and Alcohol Addiction
 - Dr. Sigal's grant is providing funding for four interns to assist with data abstraction and chart reviews of Emergency Department patients that are identified with Substance Abuse Disorder. The research, in coordination with the Council on Chemical Abuse, is attempting to determine if these patients receive expedited referrals to rehabilitation or counseling services that it will lower their recidivism in the Emergency Department. The data can also be used to identify risk factors that would allow for targeted interventions for specific patients and update the current process to maximize desired outcomes.

- Luis A. Murillo, MD, MPH – Evaluating the Clinical Impact of a PCP Developed Diabetes Education Mobile Application on Patients with Uncontrolled Type 2 Diabetes
 - Dr. Murillo's grant is being utilized to create a mobile app for Type 2 Diabetes patients that will offer 24/7 diabetes education. It was determined that many patients needed months to years to gather the diabetes education they needed from their primary care physicians because appointment times are restricted and more thorough discussions are needed for patients to properly understand their diagnosis, treatment, and care plan. This app, unlike others, will utilize physicians, nurses, and pharmacists to create the content, including videos that focus on the six key domains of diabetes care: diet, exercise, medications, diabetes pathophysiology, health coping, and problem solving. The goal of the app is to capitalize on pre-existing relationships with their care team and strengthen patient confidence in their self-care.



- Peter A Schwartz, MD – Journal of Medical Humanities
 - Dr. Schwartz, on behalf of the Reading Hospital Medical Humanities Curriculum Committee, received a grant to create a new curriculum that will not be just another educational requirement. Acknowledging the high physician burnout in recent years, Dr. Schwartz wants to create an interactive curriculum that moves beyond PowerPoint presentations and includes art, music, and a blending of different disciplines. Along with the new curriculum, a journal of medical humanities has been created titled, *Silver Linings*, that allows members of our community to express themselves through healthcare related essays, poems, art, and photography. The hope is that the Journal will promote pride and joy and enhance camaraderie among Reading Hospital staff.



- William Santoro, MD, FASAM, DABAM – Embedded Care Coordinator Role to Support Opioid Use Disorder Patients at Tower Health Addiction Medicine
 - In May 2020, Tower Health Addiction Medicine developed a “hub and spoke” model for delivering Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder. This model increased our patient referrals, leading to an average of 25% more completed appointments each month. The Care Coordinator is essential in creating and developing relationships with community site, acting as a liaison between medical providers and social services and advocating for patients. The ability to have a Care Coordinator on-site has resulted in positive patient outcomes because they have immediate access to patients, there is no delay in obtaining referrals for other services, and they help foster coordination between physicians and clinical staff. This grant will ensure that the on-site Care Coordinator can continue their good work in between state grants. It is our hope that this model will become the new standard practice as it has proven its efficacy.



Artwork credits: Top right – Vitamin C by Ivan Bub, MD
Middle above – A combination of B-Alanine and L-Glutamine amino acids by Ivan Bub, MD
Bottom right – Escargotcha by Jeff Sibbett, RT, (R)CT, ARRT

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting Those that Cared for You

When a family member is ill, we oftentimes find ourselves feeling helpless, overwhelmed, and unsure. Sergei Szortyka was faced with these emotions when his father was ill; however, the care from those at Reading Hospital helped put him and his family at ease. Mr. Szortyka felt compelled to do something because a “thank you” didn’t seem to be enough for the compassionate, attentive, and excellent care his father received. Mr. Szortyka donated to the



Education Fund and the Nursing Excellence Fund in honor of Dr. Colarusso and the C-3 nursing staff.

Thanks to Mr. Szortyka’s generosity, Dr. Colarusso was able to attend the 2022 American Society of Clinical Oncology Genitourinary Cancers Symposium in San Francisco, California. This Symposium is a world-wide gathering of members of the cancer care and research communities to learn about the

diagnosis, treatment and study of Genitourinary cancers. Dr. Colarusso expressed the immense gratitude the Department of Medical Oncology felt in response to Mr. Szortyka’s gift and how the positive feedback received from a Grateful Patient helps remind them why they do what they do.

The Nursing Excellence Fund allowed six nurses to travel to the American Association of Critical Care Nurses National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition this past May in Houston, Texas. The three-day conference offered our nurses the opportunity to obtain Continuing Education Units during their sessions and attend inspiring keynote lectures. One nurse noted,

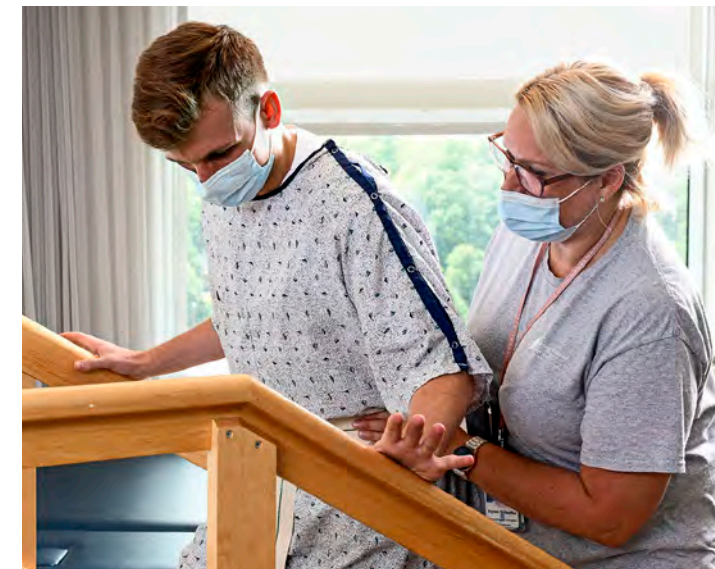
“I feel extremely thankful and privileged to have been given the opportunity to spend three days at NTI, learning, networking, and growing closer to my team.”

These education funds are incredibly important as it helps our doctors and nurses stay on top of the latest developments and to learn from thought leaders around the globe. By attending conferences, lectures and symposiums, our medical staff can continue to provide the best care that our community deserves.

Helping Patients Reclaim their Lives

Patients at Reading Hospital Rehabilitation at Wyomissing receive excellent therapy to relearn skills that will enable them to reclaim their lives. Sometimes, patients need specialized equipment to assist in their healing process and allow them the opportunity to be discharged to their homes. A patient assistance fund was created last year specifically for RHRW and it has changed the lives of patients waiting to regain independence. Over the last year, eleven patients received equipment or additional wellness sessions that are helping them

Kevin Davis, was a patient at Reading Hospital for three months before being transferred to RHRW to relearn how to walk, get in and out of bed, and how to utilize a wheelchair. After another three months at RHRW, Kevin was able to go home thanks to the



patient assistance fund that provided him with an XL Power Lift Chair. This chair helps him get out of the seat by lifting upwards and fully reclines so he may use it for a bed, as his bedroom is on the second floor, and he is still receiving outpatient care to learn how to maneuver steps. The chair has been a wonderful asset to him, and he is incredibly appreciative for it, as well as the amazing therapists who stuck with him throughout his journey.

The patient assistance fund has also helped other patients receive items to help with their continued recovery or their transition to independent living. These items consist of:

- AFO/MAFO – braces for lower extremities to assist patients restore a more normal gait pattern.
- Transfer Board – a board that allows a patient to move from one surface to another at a more independent level
- Tilt in Space Shower Chair – a special chair that enables caregivers to complete patient’s bathing in a safe way that insures proper hygiene
- The Kneeler – an attachment for a walker that allows the patient to be non-weightbearing on an extremity while using the walker
- Drop Arm Commode – the arm of the commode drops down to allow the use of a transfer board

Each of these pieces of equipment, and more, impact the lives of our RHRW patients, allowing them to regain confidence and independence.

Education – Investing in our People

Providing opportunities for continued education and professional development is crucial for staff satisfaction and expert clinical care for patients. Reading Hospital Foundation has worked diligently with a variety of departments to create specific funds that promote education, personal and professional development, research, and collaboration. The following funds were created this past year to support our staff in their desire to continue learning.

Emergency Medicine Residency Fund – provides financial assistance to Emergency Medicine Residents seeking educational or research opportunities that will elevate their knowledge and care. These funds will support conference attendance, lectures, certifications, clinical experiences, and related expenses.

Medical Humanities Education Fund – provides our doctors the curriculum necessary to reinvigorate the humanistic approach to medicine. Through lectures, social meetings, and presentations combined with activities such as museum tours, musical events, and author series, the goal is to provide better patient outcomes and decrease physician burnout.

Stork Recognition Fund – provides our OB/GYN Department and Residency Program with the opportunity for academic development through education and research. These funds will also allow the OB/GYN Department to provide wellness opportunities to staff, participate in team building activities, and allow for recognition and celebrations of achievements.

Family Medicine Residency Fund – provides opportunities for Family Medicine Residents to attend conferences, lectures or pursue certifications or research. These funds will also provide health and wellness opportunities to staff to combat burnout, promote staff morale, and increase positive patient outcomes.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

McGlinn Cancer Institute

Blankets are a sign of hope, warmth, and comfort. After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are happy that our partnership with Steve Moyer Subaru and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for the Subaru Loves to Care Blanket delivery has restarted. An annual tradition that began in 2017, each June we look forward to inviting Steve Moyer Subaru and Leukemia and Lymphoma Society volunteers into McGlinn Cancer Institute to hand deliver blankets and messages

of hope to our patients. On June 14, volunteers delivered 80 blankets, 25 arts and crafts kits, and hundreds of 'Message of Hope' cards from customers that shared a message of encouragement and strength. Unfortunately, due to restrictions, we were unable to have the volunteers deliver the blankets directly to patients. That does not mean our patients were not excited and appreciative of their new blanket. Patients and their family members were surprised and incredibly grateful for this gift as they undergo their cancer treatment.



Area of Greatest Need

Area of Greatest Need dollars provide the flexibility to help any department at the hospital that has an unexpected need arise. The funds are utilized to enhance all aspects of patient care and experience. This past year, the Area of Greatest Need has provided much needed funding to a variety of departments including:

- NICU – storage bins to assist with space restrictions, UV sanitizing machines, hand-washing timers, neonatal transport isolette
- Emergency Department – 3D printer, manikin Gaumard Multipurpose Patient Care, and CPR Pediatric Simulation
- Children's Health Center – scales and stadiometers
- Women's Clinic – doppler ultrasound equipment
- Pediatric Emergency Department – fidget toys, comfort items



Mobile Mammography Coach

Reading Hospital's Mobile Mammography Coach is here and ready to serve the women in our community. This Coach will begin its mission of providing life-saving mammograms to the underserved women of Berks County and surrounding areas this fall. It will be available for appointments at a variety of locations such as: Centro Hispano, Community Health and Dental Care at the Coventry Mall, Berks Community Health Center, Pottstown Hospital, Phoenixville Hospital, Berks Encore, and many of the Diamond Credit Union branches. It is our hope that we will serve 10-20 patients at each location, leading to hundreds of women receiving the healthcare they deserve.

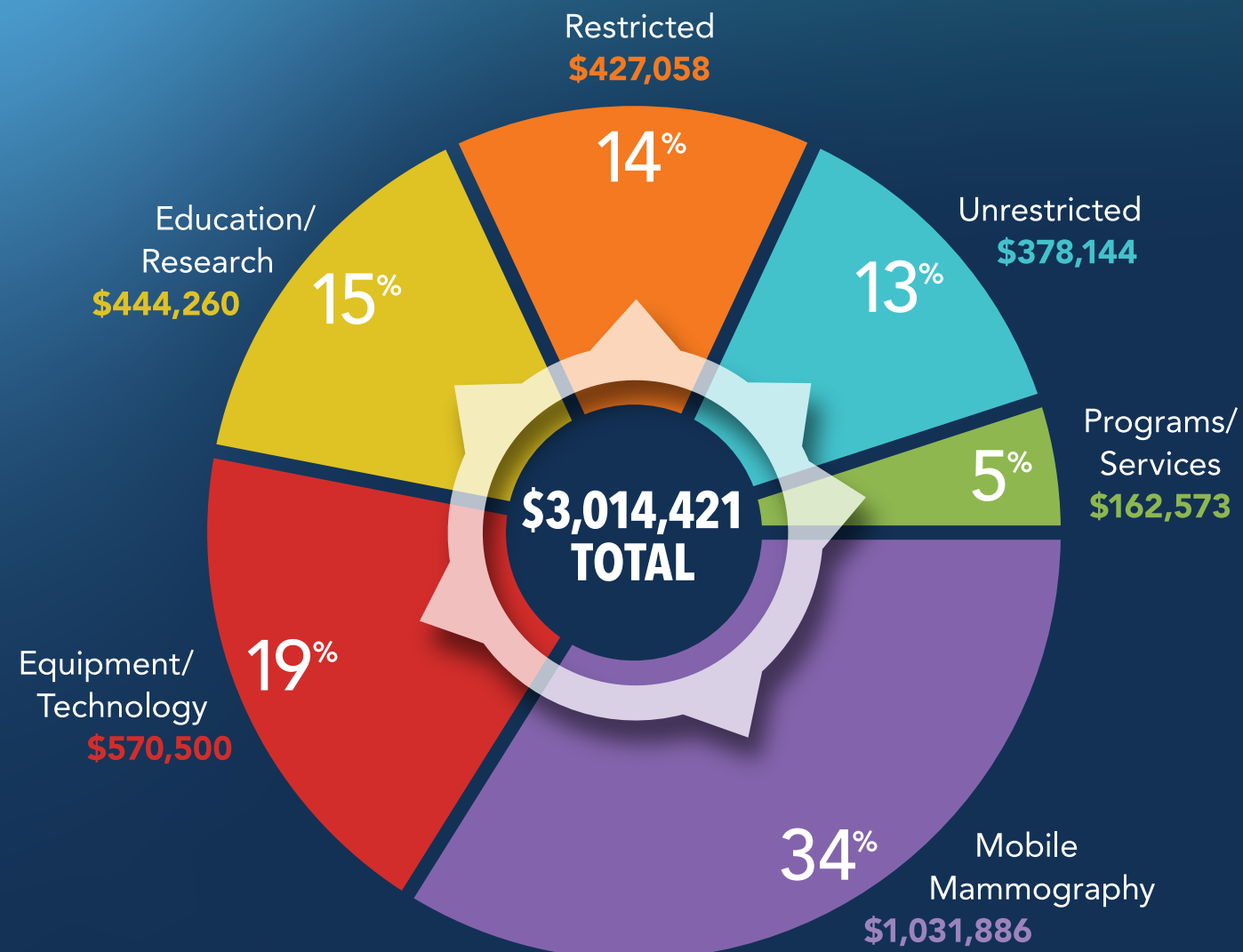
Helping Every Patient

The Mobile Mammography Coach is a great addition to our community. We want to make sure that any woman who needs a mammogram has access. The Mobile Mammography Patient Assistance Fund has been created to ensure that all women in our community, regardless of their insurance coverage, has access to a life-saving mammogram. To support this initiative, please visit [TowerHealth.org/RHFoundation](https://www.towerhealth.org/RHFoundation).



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