



## Supporting Our Community





partnerships and interdependence. It's clear that our four hospital Foundations for decades have played a key role in advancing our organization's mission to improve the health of communities we serve in Southwest Ohio. And we can only be successful in

Atrium Medical Center Foundation; Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton; Miami Valley Hospital Foundation; and Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation – all are committed to enhancing quality of life for our patients by bringing new technology to the region and addressing barriers to a patient's ability to pay for their care. We take this responsibility seriously as an innovator and as

Today, philanthropy remains at the heart of Premier Health. Our nonprofit health system provides about \$150 million in unreimbursed health care services each year. The work of our Foundations supports our hospitals and affiliates in delivering optimal health care services through the advancement of services and technology, providing scholarships to employees and their

On behalf of the Premier Health Board of Trustees and our Foundations, thank you. Your support is strengthening local health care more than ever.

all The

Michael C. Riordan

President & CEO, Premier Health

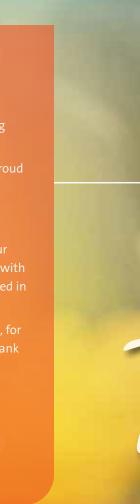
## Making a Difference Through Your Generosity



The extraordinary generosity of our donors allowed us to meet the

I am deeply grateful to each of you, our donors and supporters, for

Jenny M. Lewis, CFRE









## 2021 Revenue for All Premier Health Hospital Foundations



### Funds Distributed in 2021 by All Premier Health Hospital Foundations



#### **Patients**

Admissions - 83,813

Inpatient & Outpatient Surgeries - **44,595** 

Emergency Trauma Visits - 244,438

Outpatient Visits - **645,812** 











2021 ANNUAL REPORT | PremierHealth.com/Foundations 5

## "The team at Atrium took really good care of me for the six days I was there. I am so grateful for their help." "The days when a meal is -Gary Gross, Atrium Medical provided fills us with so Center COVID-19 patient much gratitude and the ability to manage our acuity and volumes. We appreciate this more than words can express." -Val Brown, RN, ED nursing team leader, Miami Valley Hospital North

**HEALTH FOUNDATIONS** 

## Caring for the People Who Care for You

Health care came to the forefront during the COVID-19 pandemic. The four hospital Foundations have worked together to support our patients, community, and health care heroes during the largest health crisis in more than a century.

The COVID-19 response of the Foundations would not have been possible without the generosity and support from our community. During the past two years, more than \$2 million in monetary and in-kind contributions were provided to the four hospital Foundations' COVID-19 response efforts. Gifts included personal protective equipment (PPE) by more than 900 volunteers who sewed masks, gowns, and loop relief bands; Crocs shoe distributions to more than 5,000 frontline workers across the health system; thank you and get-well cards and electronic messages for patients and staff who could not receive visitors; food and drink donations; and monetary gifts that assisted with essential needs, such as pre-screening analysis equipment for COVID-19 testing and PPE.

As the number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients began to soar, each Foundation ramped up efforts to solicit contributions in support of critical care hospital staff. The Foundations were instrumental in identifying and outfitting respite areas for staff at each campus. Due to increasing patient volumes, there was little time for caregivers to eat or take a short break away from the unit. The Foundations sought

contributions of recliners, cash, grab-and-go food items, and energy drinks to allow staff to get away from the long hours spent in care units.

maxed out on my ventilator settings, and my oxygen level was 70 percent. I'm so appreciative of the care I received to recover."

"When I was at the worst, I was

-Amy DeVos, Upper Valley Medical Center COVID-19 patient

The Foundations also realized the

pandemic not only impacted our patients, but our workforce. The Foundations established a COVID-19 Relief Fund to support Premier Health employees and their families who faced an unexpected or extreme catastrophic situation directly connected to the pandemic. Through this fund, the Foundations allocated financial assistance to more than 300 Premier Health employees, helping pay essential expenses such as rent, utilities, mortgage, and medical bills.

The generosity of the community has been critical to the success of our pandemic response, and for that we simply cannot say thank you enough.

> "I didn't realize how sick I was. The expertise and compassion from the team at Miami Valley Hospital made all the difference in my recovery." -Roy Webb, Miami Valley Hospital COVID-19 patient



# Supporting Women and Children

Supporting families and children is a core focus of the Foundations at Premier Health. Last year, the Foundations worked closely together to help new, single mothers; provide comfort and care for families with children in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU); renovate a Special Care Nursery; and provide accessible services for families in crisis due to the unanticipated outcome for their babies.

Atrium Medical Center Foundation provided operational assistance to the Help Endure a Loss (HEAL) program, which provides bereavement counseling and support to families struggling with the loss of a child. Atrium Foundation also provided funding to Atrium's Maternal Health Clinic, which delivers comprehensive health care regardless of a patient's financial status through health prevention, routine examinations, detection, screening, and the treatment of illness. The Foundation supported the clinic's Centering Pregnancy Program, which serves mothers through education, advocacy, collaboration, and action. Numerous published studies have found Centering moms have healthier babies and that Centering nearly eliminates racial disparities in preterm birth.

Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton funded the Michael Sawdey Samaritan Clinic for Women and Families. Located at St. Vincent de Paul Gateway Shelter for Women and Families, this center provides primary care, women's care, and pediatric services for women and families experiencing homelessness. In Montgomery County, studies have found a significant, persistent racial disparity in infant mortality, with Black infants dying at four times the rate of White infants before reaching their first birthday, according to Public Health-Dayton & Montgomery County. The goal of this new center is to provide in-house services for homeless women and families by offering more accessible routine care – such as vaccinations, screenings, gynecological exams, and treatment for minor illnesses or chronic conditions.

Miami Valley Hospital Foundation donors facilitated funding for care of addicted moms and their babies through Promise to Hope. This comprehensive program provides medication-assisted treatment for the moms, and

withdrawal treatment for infants to improve health outcomes for newborns exposed to drugs or alcohol during the fetal period. The Foundation also supports Emmett's Place in the hospital's Level IIIB Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). This space offers an area of respite and hospitality for the immediate family members of newborns who are hospitalized in the NICU, and for hospitalized women and their families experiencing a longer than usual hospitalization.

In Miami County, the Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation helped fund renovations for the hospital's

Level II Special Care Nursery. It offers specialized care, close to home, for infants and their families. Enhancing the Special Care Nursery's capabilities will help prevent

transfers of infants to hospitals outside Miami County, keeping parents and infants closer during a critical stage in an infant's early development. Read more about this project on page 32.



## Atrium Medical Center

While the past 12 months continued to test our resolve, it has not dampened our desire to justly care for every patient with empathy and kindness. Atrium Medical Center's patients, their families, and our staff have been heartened by your generosity and your presence in standing with us during this challenging time.

The stories and statistics in this report demonstrate how your donations and kindness are making a difference in the lives of the patients and families who call

> Southwest Ohio home. In 2021, Atrium Medical Center Foundation's donors supported the hospital's Maternal Health Clinic, which provides comprehensive health care regardless of our patients' financial status through health prevention, routine examinations, detection, screening, and the treatment of illness; helped raise funds for new equipment and procedures for a cardiac catheterization lab: provided operational assistance for

> > Atrium's HEAL

(Help Endure a Loss) program; raised funds for the Joy of Movement campaign that benefits orthopedic and spine services at Atrium; and continued to offer support for our staff and patients dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each gift, no matter the size, contributes to myriad possibilities to improve the health of Butler and Warren County residents. We hope the stories in this annual report will demonstrate the incredible effect you have on so many individually and collectively - when you give your gratitude, trust, and support to our Foundation.

We also thank you for your continued support in the days ahead, as we continue to create, expand, and improve health care services to our community. On behalf of Atrium Medical Center and the Atrium Medical Center Foundation, we are grateful

> for your continued commitment to provide compassionate care for our community.





Michael D. Stautberg President. Atrium Medical Center Foundation

### 2021 Revenue for Atrium Medical Center Foundation



### Funds Distributed in 2021 by Atrium Medical Center Foundation

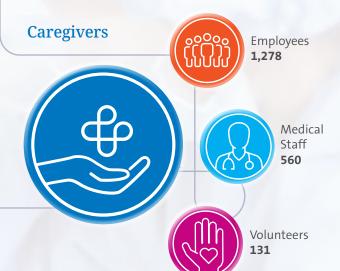


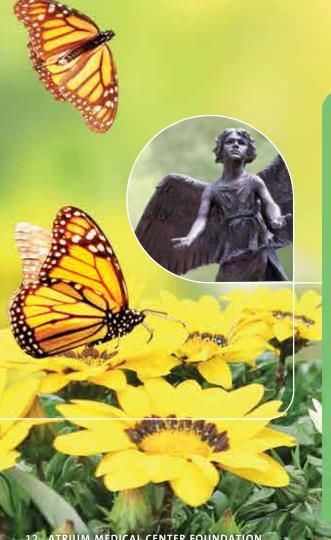
#### **Patients**

Admissions - 13,244

npatient & Outpatient Surgeries - **6,158** 

Outpatient Visits - **101,283** 





Helping Families HEAL

"Every day is hard. Every little detail reminds you of

For this reason, parents and families in Southwest Medical Center's Help Endure a Loss program, better Through HEAL, the Lovys received bereavement

"HEAL has shown us that we are not alone," says Liz.

Atrium's HEAL team members — including registered

the death of a child.

"Through the generosity of Atrium Medical Center Foundation's donors, we raised \$80,000 for the HEAL to raise \$2 million to fund HEAL for the foreseeable future. behind the hospital. The family also helped "Sometimes it feels fruitless when someone is explains Jeremy. "Any gesture does not go unnoticed by

NNUAL REPORT | PremierHealth.com/Foundations 13



# Putting Joy Back in Your Journey

When you're suffering from bone, joint, or muscle pain, everything seems harder. Atrium Medical Center Foundation's *Joy of Movement* campaign aimed at benefitting those who require therapy, medication, and surgery by committing \$500,000 thus far.

"You've heard the phrase, 'There is joy in the journey," says Candice DeClark Peace, chair of the *Joy of Movement* campaign. "The saying is clever, but it's not always true. When our muscles and bones are injured, diseased, or sore, it can rob patients of enjoying life's many journeys."

Through the help of our Foundation's donors and endowments, the Atrium Foundation purchased vital equipment in helping orthopedic and spine patients in Southwest Ohio by adding new rehabilitation technologies.



"We want all of our orthopedic patients to return to the life they love as quickly as possible," says **Richard L. Davis II, MD**, an orthopedic surgeon at Premier Orthopedics in Middletown. "Through the kindness of the Foundation's donors, this campaign provides Atrium with the latest orthopedic and spine technologies available."

The Joy of Movement campaign supported the purchase of Alter G anti-gravity treadmills. The Alter G treadmills reduce the effects of gravity on a patient's body. This equipment gives Premier Health Sports Medicine physical therapists the ability to lower a patient's body weight percentage, reducing pain during rehabilitation.

"The anti-gravity treadmill is especially popular with injured athletes," says **Lisa Duncan, PT, ATC**, site coordinator at Premier Health Sports Medicine located at

Countryside YMCA. "This equipment reduces the risk of re-injury during rehabilitation, while also maintaining cardiovascular fitness."

Donor support also purchased a ProAxis spine table.
This specialized table is the first of its kind, featuring



software-controlled advanced hinged technology. ProAxis offers the latest technology in spinal surgery tables and supports the biomechanical aspects of spinal and imaging procedures.

Additionally, the campaign provided funding for updated surgical cameras, which are instrumental in making surgical procedures quick and precise. The updated 4K camera equipment provides Atrium's surgeons with ultra-high definition, magnification, and a wider range of color – giving the surgeon more data to clearly identify and define structures, such as blood vessels. This device is used not only for orthopedic procedures, but also benefits general; ear, nose, and throat; and gynecology patients.

Over the past several years, the *Joy of Movement's* donors have helped improve the lives of patients right here in Southwest Ohio.



# Good Samaritan Foundation - Dayton



We are so excited for the future of Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton. Your dollars are hard at work, making a difference in the lives of our patients, their families, and our staff at the North Campus.

Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton has a heart for people of all faiths, beliefs, and backgrounds. From our founding to today, our mission has always been to provide shelter and support services to those in the Dayton community with the fewest options.

Over the past year, the Foundation has been working diligently keeping the spirit of the Good Samaritan alive in our community. Thanks to the kindness and generous support of our donors, the Foundation was able to help open the Michael Sawdey Samaritan Clinic for Women and Families at St. Vincent de Paul in Dayton. Gifts to the Foundation helped fund the clinic and the children's area.

Additionally, the Foundation has begun the important journey of the Trail of the Good Samaritan. As part of the first phase of this project in 2021, the Aull Garden opened for patients and staff at the North Campus. The garden contains beautiful artifacts from the former Good Samaritan Hospital's Marie Aull Courtyard and the Mary West Fountain. The Statue of the Good Samaritan that

stood at the former hospital's main campus for more than a decade is now proudly displayed at the Aull Garden entrance.

While change will continue to be a big theme in 2022 for our Foundation, we remain committed to our unique call of philanthropically supporting and advancing the mission of the Good Samaritan.

We want to thank you once again for your interest in our vision and our progress. We hope this report compels you to stay in touch and to support our work as we prepare for the future of local health care in Northwest Dayton.



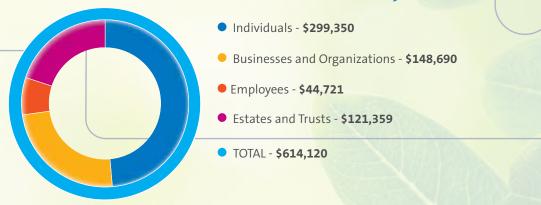
Kenneth M. Watson Chair. Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton Board of Trustees



**Beth Hutter** Vice President, Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton



### 2021 Revenue for Good Samaritan Foundation - Dayton



### Funds Distributed in 2021 by Good Samaritan Foundation - Dayton





Admissions - 1,862

Inpatient & Outpatient Surgeries - **6,110** 

Emergency Trauma Visits - 43,507

Outpatient Visits - **121,996** 

## Caregivers

## Fift of Communication

Charlie Watson is a man who loves to talk, laugh, and joke.

"My hobbies are cooking, eating, singing, and running my mouth," the 67-year-old Vandalia father of two quipped.

Nothing could have prepared him for the day when all those joys would be stolen from him – or when he would lose his voice to tongue cancer.

Months after undergoing a surgical resection of the tongue that required a tracheostomy, Charlie still speaks haltingly. But he has found his voice again, thanks to the ingenuity and dedication of Jenny Niekamp, BSN, RN, his Premier Health oncology nurse navigator.

At their first meeting, Jenny explained she guides patients on their journey through cancer as nurse navigator. She connects them with resources and provides education about diagnoses and treatment.

True to her word, Jenny has been by Charlie's side

ever since - through the surgery and the months of radiation and therapy that followed. One of the toughest challenges for Charlie has been his ability to communicate.

"He wants to be able to talk and joke and do all of the things he did before, but it's not there yet," says Charlie's wife, Donna.

A simple communication board, called a Boogie Board, provided the breakthrough the couple needed.

"The communication board gave Charlie that autonomy piece that was taken away from him," says Jenny.

Before the Boogie Board, Charlie lugged around a whiteboard and dry erase markers. With this new device, he simply writes a message with a stylus, then pushes a button to erase it.

"After surgery, it was really hard to communicate with Charlie," says Donna. "Since he has the Boogie Board, he has gotten better at socializing."

Charlie's enthusiasm inspired his social worker,
Jennifer Masny-Bushman, MSW-LISW-S, with an idea:
Why not provide Boogie Boards for other patients?
She and Niekamp applied for funding from Good
Samaritan Foundation-Dayton, and through the
foundation's oncology fund, Jenny was able to
purchase nine Jot Boogie Board tablets and
one Blackboard writing tablet to better assist
cancer patients.

"It's amazing what one simple thing can add to a patient's quality of life," says Jennifer.

Charlie continues to face a challenging recovery, and he doesn't know when or if he will regain his ability to speak. But his loving and supportive family are thankful every day for his presence in their lives.

"We have two children, and he can do things with them and be there for them," explains Donna. "We know he could have died from this, but he is still here."



## Keeping Care Close to Home

Providing patients care, close to home, is critical when seconds matter. Gifts made to Good
Samaritan Foundation-Dayton helped in providing an additional surgical suite at Miami Valley



Hospital North that will offer ease of access to patients in need of surgical care.

"We see a high volume of patients at the North Campus," says **Michelle DeGroat, MD**, a

general surgeon at Gem City Surgeons at Miami Valley Hospital North. "The additional surgical suite allows us to provide more scheduling options for patients - without them having to travel to larger hospitals in neighboring cities."

In 2021, more than 3,200 surgical procedures were performed at the North Campus, and the need continues to grow. Donations provided to the

Foundation helped in bringing the total number of operating rooms to five at the hospital.

"Thanks to this expansion, we're already experiencing opportunities where we can see patients in the operating room faster," says Dr. DeGroat. "The North Campus is smaller than other regional hospitals; however, it's efficient in providing care to our patients so quickly."

This additional surgical suite offers patients the ability to be seen even faster, sometimes the same day. It is estimated the new surgical suite will facilitate an increase of nearly 1,000 patients annually.



"Many patients have expressed their desire to receive care at a hospital in their own community," says **Mary Garman**, chief operating officer at Miami Valley Hospital North. "The addition of a new surgical suite will significantly expand availability of surgical services at North Campus, providing improved patient experience, ease of access, and reduce surgical wait times in the entire Greater Dayton region."

Donor support allowed this project to come to fruition and staff at the hospital say donations, no matter the amount, made a significant impact on the lives of our hospital's patients and their families.

"The generosity of donors to the Good Samaritan Foundation-Dayton is so appreciated by our staff and patients," says Dr. DeGroat. "This project is going to help our patients stay close to home and still receive great care with state-of-the-art equipment and technology."



# Miami Valley Hospital

We want to begin by saying how grateful we are for your generous giving on behalf of our caregivers and staff over the past year. Your generosity helps us continue our mission of enhancing comfort and care to the patients and families who choose Miami Valley Hospital.

When Rev. Carl Mueller and the Protestant Deaconess
Society of Dayton opened Miami Valley Hospital in
1890, their focus was to help those in the Dayton
community by treating patients for an average
cost of 74 cents per day or whatever
the patient could afford. Today,

that mission is still alive.
As one of the nation's
15 largest hospitals,
the Miami
Valley Hospital
Foundation
has a

distinct responsibility to our patients and staff to provide funding for new services and technology that will benefit our community.

Last year, our Foundation's generous supporters helped by funding the Premier Community Health Mobile Clinic, which serves patients in underserved communities; a cancer prevention program navigator, who is the patient's "go-to" person, providing support, encouragement, and direction while working closely with oncology providers; two new police vehicles for our hospital's police department; and a remote patient monitoring program that keeps patients connected to their primary care and specialist providers and promotes adherence to physician-prescribed therapy; among others.

The COVID-19 pandemic also played a significant role in the Foundation's efforts. Over the past two years, the Foundation has allocated financial assistance to Premier Health's health care heroes, helping pay essential expenses such as rent, utilities, mortgage, and medical bills; distributed countless food and drink



donations; and launched well-being initiatives for our employees, including hospital respite rooms that give nurses and providers a space to recharge amid a pandemic.

Moving forward, the Foundation will be asked to raise funds for capital, programs, and operational projects more than we have traditionally supported. This is a natural consequence of the continuing evolution of health care, and we are confident of achieving our goals with the help of our donors. We sincerely thank



you for your support of our efforts on behalf of our hospital's patients and staff as well as the greater community.





**Beth Hutter** Vice President, Miami Valley Hospital Foundation

### 2021 Revenue for Miami Valley Hospital Foundation



### Funds Distributed in 2021 by Miami Valley Hospital Foundation



#### Patients

Admissions - **60,578** 

npatient & Outpatient Surgeries - 28,242

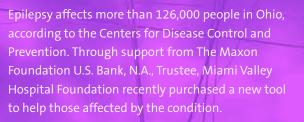
Emergency Trauma Visits - 136,882

Outpatient Visits - **331,743** 



22 MIAMI VALLEY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION 23





NeuroWorks 9.0 Electroencephelogram (EEG) Natus Brain Headbox equipment and technology benefits the Medical Imaging Neurointerventional Department at Miami Valley Hospital.



"The Brain Headbox is for brainwave recording," says **Abuhuziefa Abubakr, MD**, a board-certified neurologist and director of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center at the Clinical

Neuroscience Institute at Miami Valley Hospital. "It gives us a detailed recording of the brainwaves with up to 256 electrodes. This equipment allows us to map the brain and locate the focus of the seizure."

This new technology has greatly expanded our hospital's capability to deal with difficult cases and helped elevate Miami Valley Hospital's status from a Level 3 to a Level 4 Epilepsy Center. This designation allows the hospital to provide the highest level of care to people with epilepsy and other seizure disorders. As a result, our epilepsy patients, in need of surgical evaluation for more complex neurologic procedures, do not need to be referred to other epilepsy centers outside of our community.

"This equipment and the Level 4 Epilepsy Center designation gives us the capability to keep patients close to home," says Dr. Abubakr. "Patients no longer have to drive hours to other hospitals in larger cities to receive advanced treatment for epilepsy."

The Natus Brain Headbox equipment allows our providers to collect, monitor, trend, and manage data (electrical activity of the brain) for routine EEG testing, and for long-term monitoring to include Intensive Care Unit and Epilepsy Monitoring Unit

studies. Since acquiring this equipment and technology in 2021, Miami Valley Hospital has performed more than 1,700 routine and 535 long term studies on nearly 2,200 patients.

"Our prior equipment only allowed us to record brainwaves from outside the head," explains Dr.

Abubakr. "The headbox let us place electrodes inside the brain and gives us the ability to really zoom in and locate the seizure focus and test the different areas of the brain – such as speech, vision, arms, face, etc."

All of this means less invasive, more timely and safer care for the patients who need neurological care at a time when minutes often matter.

"The funds provided by The Maxon Foundation are very generous," says Dr. Abubakr. "It certainly supports the epilepsy community that has been impacted by this issue by giving our patients an opportunity to live seizure-free."



## Lifesaving Equipment During a Pandemic





Testing positive for COVID-19 was something Shayna Stanley never thought would happen. The 31-year-old from West Milton was active in independent filmmaking when she began to fall ill.

"I had a fever and it kept fluctuating," says Shayna.

A few days after her birthday in July 2021, Shayna says her symptoms began to worsen.

"I started having trouble breathing," recalls Shayna. "I only remember being in the ambulance and waking up two months later."

Shayna was hospitalized at Miami Valley Hospital's Level I Trauma Center in Dayton. As her symptoms drastically deteriorated in the Intensive Care Unit, Shayna was intubated and placed on a ventilator.

Shayna's condition began going down a path where the cardiothoracic team decided to intervene and put her on an ECMO device.

ECMO, or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, is when blood is pumped outside of the body to a heart-lung machine that removes carbon dioxide and sends oxygen-filled blood back to tissues in the body. Blood flows from one part of the body to the membrane oxygenator in the heart-lung machine, and then is rewarmed and sent back to the body.

Miami Valley Hospital Foundation purchased this equipment, making the hospital the first in Dayton to offer the adult life-saving therapy.

The goal of ECMO is to help the lungs heal and buy more time for the patient.

Shayna was comatose for nearly two months. At one point, her care team had the difficult discussion with Shayna's family about withdrawing her from care.

Her care team says just hours after that conversation, Shayna's condition turned, and she began to make a

"It was the craziest thing," says Shayna. "I remember waking up and it was October. I couldn't believe I had missed all that time."

Many people have called Shayna a "miracle" after surviving her grueling battle with COVID-19.

"I'm very lucky to be here today," says Shayna. "I never thought this could happen to me, but it did. I have a lot of people to thank for supporting me along the way."



# Upper Valley Medical Center

Thank you for your support of Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation. We're excited to help Upper Valley Medical Center provide the best care possible, while helping patients remain close to home. We're pleased to partner with so many of you in creating the Ruth A. Jenkins Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab Center, upgrading and renovating our Special Care Nursery to include private rooms, and continuing to provide integrative and complementary therapies to help our cancer patients manage their symptoms of treatment and boost their overall well-being. We could not do it without your support. The hospital has limited resources and has come to rely on the UVMC Foundation to help address their unmet needs.

While these past few years have been extremely challenging, we thank you for helping us provide meals, comfort, and support to our health care heroes who battled on the frontline for weeks on end – taking care of your friends and families. We hope those challenges are behind us as we have begun to look forward.

> The next few years are going to be very exciting for UVMC, as we plan to

expand and increase the health care services available in our community. From upgrading and moving the Catheterization Lab closer to the emergency department to save more lives; to focusing on women and their health needs from breast cancer – to obstetrics – to osteoporosis; to expanding our oncology services so patients can stay close to home, UVMC Foundation is looking forward to helping the hospital build these services to provide you, your co-workers, friends, and neighbors with the best health care available in the northern Miami Valley region. We hope you're as excited as we are and will want to help make it happen



On behalf of the patients and families who benefit from your generosity, we thank you.



Chair, Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors



**Duanna Osting** President/Executive Director, Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation

## 2021 Revenue for Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation



### Funds Distributed in 2021 by Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation





Admissions - 8.128

Inpatient & Outpatient Surgeries - 4,085

Outpatient Visits - **90,790** 











## Bouncing Back from Cardiac Case

Heart problems were something Mike Peterson never thought he would experience. The 60-year-old Wright-Patterson Air Force Base employee says after being moved to an overnight shift, his health began to decline.

"During COVID-19 restrictions, our shifts were moved, and we had to work 12-hours," explains Mike. "I wasn't sleeping very well, and I began drinking caffeinated, sugary drinks to keep me awake."

In July 2021, Mike began feeling sluggish and had very little energy.

"I began to have a sharp pain in my left shoulder region," says Mike.

Mike visited the Emergency Department at the base - hoping he could find some answers.

"The doctor examined me and said we could rule out a heart attack," says Mike. "He explained to me that

was experiencing congestive heart failure because they found a buildup of fluid around my heart."

The 36-year Air Force veteran wanted to find a solution to getting better. His doctor referred him to the Level II Cardiac Catheterization Lab at Upper Valley Medical Center, the only cardiac cath lab in Miami County.



"When Mike arrived, we first did a cardiac cath to see if he had any blockages," says Nishant Kalra, MD, a board-certified cardiologist

After no blockages were found, Dr. Kalra determined that Mike had Type II diabetes and prescribed medication to improve his heart function.

"In two months, Mike's heart function improved from 20 percent to 50 percent," says Dr. Kalra.

"Dr. Kalra explained to me that the worst was over, but I needed to go to cardiac rehab to improve the strength in my heart," says Mike.

Twice per week, Mike participated in exercise and educational programs at the new Ruth A. Jenkins Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab Center at UVMC. The center provides patients with a spacious facility with updated equipment funded by UVMC Foundation and its donors, where patients like Mike with cardiac and pulmonary conditions receive an individualized treatment plan.

"We are so grateful to the Foundation's donors for supporting the rehab center," says Dr. Kalra. "They're helping to provide this service to the community and improving the lifestyles of their neighbors."

"My exercise levels increased every week, and I got better and felt stronger," remembers Mike. "My blood sugar readings were good and my A1c count dropped dramatically."

After more than three months of rehab, Mike has found a new lease on life.

"I have my diabetes under control," explains Mike. "I'm working out and walking more, as well as regulating my diet to be healthier for years to come."

## for the UVMC Cardiac Cath Lab





## Special Care for New Families

Some newborns need more specialized care than a typical nursery can offer. Since 1998, Upper Valley Medical Center has provided families the option of a special care nursery that helps pre-term babies overcome challenges, become stronger, and continue to grow and develop.

As the only Level II nursery between Dayton and Lima, the goal is to keep parents and baby close to home.

"We're keeping families together," says **Paul Weber, MD**, a board-certified pediatrician at the Pediatric Group at UVMC. "The fact that we can take care of babies, without transferring them to a larger hospital in another city, is critical – especially here in rural communities."

Since early 2022, the Special Care Nursery has moved to a temporary location in the hospital as crews work to make much-needed renovations that will offer state-of-

the-art technology and services to our patients and their families, as well as convert the open space to five private rooms.

"This space will offer advanced monitoring systems, as well as updated nurses and physician stations that provide staff with the latest and greatest equipment for positive patient outcomes," says Teri Gulker, MAOM, BSN, RN NEA-BC, director of nursing at UVMC.

"When we opened the nursery in 1998, it was extremely advanced," explains Dr. Weber. "Over time, the equipment and facility needed updated to best suit the needs of our community."

Upper Valley Medical Center Foundation helped fund more than half of this renovation project through generous contributions from our donors, as well as community events, including the annual golf classic. The lead and largest gift to this initiative came from UVMC Auxiliary and Volunteers, for which the nursery will be named.

"We are so grateful for the Foundation," says Teri. "Their donors have stepped up to the plate to help us pay for a large piece of this renovation."

> "It is clear to us that the Foundation's donors understand the importance of something like this to our community," explains Dr. Weber. "Other

> > hospitals our size do not offer this type of service. This is a huge and very positive facility for our community."

The Level II Special Care Nursery at UVMC is equipped to address and manage complications, unlike regular nurseries. Conditions a Level II nursery manages include low birth weight/premature birth, genetic conditions, respiratory difficulties, infections, and drug dependence.

The newly renovated Level II Special Care Nursery at UVMC s scheduled to open in fall 2022.





Premier Health Foundations 31 Wyoming Street Dayton, OH 45409

PremierHealth.com/Foundations

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 14
Dayton, Ohio