



Hackensack University Medical Center FOUNDATION

When You Feel Good, We Feel Good.

Fall 2007

The Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center Receives \$1 Million Gift From The Alfiero and Lucia Palestroni Foundation, LLC

The Alfiero and Lucia Palestroni Foundation, LLC recently made a \$1 million donation to The Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) to fund construction of a new 160,000 square foot cancer center and a 900-car parking garage. This donation will support a program within the new cancer center that will provide specialized care in the treatment of cancer for our geriatric population. Lucia Palestroni made this gift on behalf of the foundation that bears her name and that of her late husband.

The Palestroni Foundation has given generously to the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation in past years, supporting endeavors such as construction of The Audrey Hepburn Children's House, a state-designated Regional Diagnostic Center for Child Abuse and Neglect, and The Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. "We are grateful for the continued and sincere support of the Palestroni Foundation. Their generosity has touched the lives of our

youngest patients, and now through the new cancer center will support our geriatric population," said Robert L. Torre of Hackensack, executive vice president of the HUMC Foundation.

The Foundation was founded by Mr. and Mrs. Palestroni to support charitable organizations and people who assist those who have "one strike against them"—in particular, children who are physically or psychologically disabled or handicapped. "I am hopeful that these funds will aid our seniors in the new cancer center, and I know that Mr. Palestroni would have been very proud of this gift," Mrs. Palestroni said. She continues her late husband's legacy through their Foundation to aid individuals with enormous challenges in their already difficult lives.

Mr. Palestroni's success was built by his own hands in a journey that began in 1914, when he was born to Italian parents in Olivebridge, NY. As a baby, he moved to Pesaro, Italy, where he began working at age 10. At age 15,



Pictured from left at a check presentation: Kristine Sayrafe, executive director of The Palestroni Foundation and niece of Lucia Palestroni; Frank Lloyd, Esq., a member of the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation board of trustees and The Palestroni Foundation board; Frank Huttle III, Esq., a member of The HUMC board of governors, HUMC Foundation board of trustees, and The Palestroni Foundation; Mrs. Lucia Palestroni, benefactor of The Alfiero and Lucia Palestroni Foundation, LLC; Robert L. Torre, executive vice president of the HUMC Foundation; Richard Rosenbluth, M.D., division chief of Geriatric Oncology at The Cancer Center at HUMC; and R. Knight Steel, M.D., division director of Geriatric Medicine at HUMC.

It is with deep regret that we inform you that Mr. Lloyd passed away shortly after this picture was taken. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Lloyd family.

with his mother battling cancer, he rode his bicycle 300 miles to Rome to work and support his family. In 1937, he returned to America and eventually began the Alfiero Palestroni

Real Estate Companies. During the 1950s, he purchased woodlands in the Fort Lee and Englewood Cliffs region and built homes on the

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land that later evolved into a diverse real estate portfolio. In 1961 he married Lucia, who later worked side by side with him in the daily operations of Palestroni Properties, which she now heads. A strong work ethic has allowed them to bless others with their gifts of hope and opportunity.

“Sixty-five percent of our patient population in The Cancer Center are elderly, and they are a group of educated patients who want the very best care,” said Richard Rosenbluth, M.D., chief of The Geriatric Oncology Division at The Cancer

Center at HUMC. “There is a real need for specialty care in the field of geriatrics, and this support assists that need.”

“Aging and cancer are interrelated, and as we get older, we accumulate chronic diseases,” said R. Knight Steel, M.D., of Guttenberg, division director of Geriatric Medicine at HUMC. “Our goal is to maximize the function and the quality of life of our patients for the longest period of time.”

The Cancer Center comprises 14 specialized divisions, featuring teams of experts for each specific type of cancer. A physician directs each of the divisions with significant clinical and research expertise in the type

of cancer. This approach—which brings together a close-knit team of medical, research, nursing, and supportive staff with specialized expertise—translates into more advanced, focused care for patients. The divisions are: Breast Oncology, Gastrointestinal Oncology, Gynecologic Oncology, Head and Neck Cancer, Leukemia, Lymphoproliferative Disorders, Multiple Myeloma, Neuro-Oncology, Skin and Cellular Medicine, Stem Cell Transplantation, Geriatric Oncology, Thoracic Oncology, Urologic Oncology, and Research.

For more information on The Cancer Center at HUMC, please call 201-996-5900 or log on to www.humc.com.

—Dr. Richard Rosenbluth

For more information, or to make a donation to the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation, please visit our web site at www.humcfoundation.com.

IN MEMORIAM



Dennis Porterfield

Dennis Porterfield, one of the most devoted board members at Hackensack University Medical Center and retired Executive Vice President of Summit Bancorp, died on August 13, 2007 at age 70. He served Hackensack University Medical Center in myriad ways for the past 27 years, most importantly as chairman of the medical center’s Board of Governors and the medical center Foundation’s Board of Trustees. “I think he served on every single committee there is at the hospital,” Robert L. Torre, executive vice president of the medical center’s Foundation, said. In fact, the hospital’s resume for Mr. Porterfield lists 17 Board of Governor committees—from audit to strategic planning.

Mr. Porterfield directed many of his efforts toward helping the youngest patients. “He had a soft spot for children,” Mrs. Wendy Porterfield said. “Walking around the hospital and seeing kids who were victims of illness, it just tore at him.”

To honor his many years of service and good deeds the concourse in the medical center’s Joseph M. Sanzari Children’s Hospital is named the **Dennis Porterfield Children’s Concourse**.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Porterfield family. He will be sorely missed.

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WE RECEIVED THE STATE'S HIGHEST MARKS FOR CARDIAC BYPASS SURGERY



Thanks to our highly experienced surgeons, cardiologists, nurses, and support staff, Hackensack University Medical Center received the state's highest marks for cardiac bypass surgery. While others have claimed to be number one, the statistics speak for themselves. **See for yourself. To view a copy of the state's ninth annual Cardiac Surgery Report Card visit www.humc.com.** According to the report Hackensack University Medical was the ONLY hospital with a statistically significantly better-than-average performance. In fact, Dr. Elie Ellmann was one of only three surgeons in the state who had a 0% risk-adjusted mortality rate.

The cardiac surgeons at Hackensack University Medical Center are, from left: Jock McCullough, M.D.; Saqib Masroor, M.D.; Eric Somberg, M.D.; Karoush Asgarian, M.D.; Elie Ellman, M.D.; and Peter Praeger, M.D.



HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

When You Feel Good, We Feel Good.



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Medical Center's Heart Failure Fellow Program Launched by a Gift From the Shepherd Foundation

The Heart Failure program at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) benefited from a commitment of \$500,000 made by Carol and Chuck Schaefer, trustees of the Shepherd Foundation, to launch the Heart Failure Fellowship Program.



Pictured from left: Wassim Fares, M.D., fellow of The Heart Failure Program at Hackensack University Medical Center; Chuck and Carol Schaefer, trustees of the Shepherd Foundation; and Robert Berkowitz, M.D., Ph.D., FACC, medical director of the Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension Program at HUMC

The Heart Failure program is recognized as a leader in heart failure initiatives for its excellence in heart failure care, as cited in projects such as the Pursuing Perfection Initiatives, Premier Pay-for-Performance, and HealthGrades. It has received national recognition for its commitment to excellence. In recently released data

from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), HUMC was listed among institutions with the lowest 30-day mortality rate in heart failure in the country.

The Heart Failure program uses a multidisciplinary approach that has developed innovative ways to improve outcomes for heart failure patients. HUMC developed

the Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension Program in response to an epidemic of heart failure in the United States. More than 5 million people in this country have been diagnosed with heart failure, and it is estimated that there will be 550,000 new cases this year. Heart failure is the only cardiovascular disease still on the rise. Although heart failure occurs in all age groups, it is more prevalent in patients over the age of 65. In fact, it is the most common admitting diagnosis for this population.

The Schaefer's motivation is derived from personal experience. Two years ago, Mr. Schaefer had bypass surgery in New York, and he decided to pursue his rehabilitation closer to home and family, which led him to HUMC. A conversation with a member of the HUMC Foundation board of trustees, Anthony C. Taccetta Jr., led the Schaefer's to Robert Berkowitz, M.D., Ph.D., FACC, medical director of the Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension Program at HUMC.

"After meeting Dr. Berkowitz, we realized his intellect and dedication to his patients matched his compassion. He is an extraordinary physician who is creative and not bound by outdated

dogmas," Mr. Schaefer said. "My wife and I began to explore various opportunities where we could make a contribution that would also help make a difference."

"Remembering my father's death from heart failure 20 years ago, and then subsequently witnessing my husband's experience fueled the motivation to support the pioneering research of Dr. Berkowitz," Mrs. Schaefer said. "We agreed to support the hiring of Wassim Fares, M.D., who comes to us from the Cleveland Clinic, as the first fellow in this program. We are sponsoring fellows for a five-year period and are extremely privileged to join him in his efforts to advance cardiac care in heart failure patients."

"The generosity and tremendous support from Carol and Chuck Schaefer and the Shepherd Foundation establishes the legacy of a yearly fellowship in heart failure at HUMC," Dr. Berkowitz said. "We are extremely grateful to the Shepherd Foundation for providing our Heart Failure Program with this extraordinary opportunity to engage Dr. Fares, for the anticipated benefits in all of our clinical and research endeavors."

A Legacy of Caring

Frank L. Gehrig Gives Back to Hackensack University Medical Center

Frank L. Gehrig says with no hesitation that Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) is an outstanding healthcare facility with “the best doctors and the most skilled surgeons.” “They keep you going,” explained Mr. Gehrig, who will turn 90 in October.

In return—and in appreciation—Mr. Gehrig wants to help keep HUMC moving forward. He has established 10 charitable gift annuities with the medical center as the remainder beneficiary, and he will add to his legacy of caring with a bequest in his will.

“I’m very satisfied with all of the services the medical center offers,” said Mr. Gehrig, who has been an HUMC patient several times. “It’s a good place—and I am living proof that the medical center provides the highest quality patient treatment with the highest ratio of success.”

Mr. Gehrig said he has had plenty of opportunities to donate to other charitable organizations, but with many organizations donors don’t always know where their money is going. This isn’t so with Hackensack University Medical Center.

“Here, you can see the improvements and the expansion,” Mr. Gehrig said. “There is a lot of growth and progress—I am very happy with the outcome.”

Mr. Gehrig is also pleased with the regular payments he receives from his charitable gift annuities. “The percentage I get is a lot higher than with other investments,” he said. “I get a good return, plus I can help the hospital at the same time.”

Charitable gift annuities are just one way in which donors can support HUMC. A variety of giving options are available, and donations can be applied toward any number of projects



Frank L. Gehrig at the main entrance to Hackensack University Medical Center

including the current capital campaign (now in its final phase) to help fund the new Cancer Center.

The new and enlarged Cancer Center will centralize all adult cancer services and enable HUMC to meet the ever-increasing demand for state-of-the-art cancer care.

“It’s something I support,” Mr. Gehrig said. “I’ve talked to my friends about the value of their support, too.”

“I am living proof that the medical center provides the highest quality patient treatment with the highest ratio of success.”

—Frank L. Gehrig



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*The Board of Trustees of the Hackensack University
Medical Center Foundation is pleased to welcome the
following 2007 inductees into The Legacy Society:*

Robert & Laura Garrett
Richard T. Gregg
Vilma Irene Ruscick
Carol D. & Charles V. Schaefer

*And the following members into The Legacy Society
Chairman's Circle:*

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Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation
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A Reminder to Take Advantage of a Tax-Saving Opportunity For Donors Age 70½ or Older Before the End of 2007

Under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, signed by President George Bush on Aug. 17, 2006, you may contribute funds from your individual retirement account (IRA) to public charitable organizations such as Hackensack University Medical Center without reporting the gift as taxable income. (You may not, however, claim a charitable deduction for this gift.)

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70½ or older
- The gift is \$100,000 or less
- You make the gift **on or before Dec. 31, 2007**
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA
- You transfer the gift to a public charitable organization (This excludes gifts made to

charitable trusts, donor advised funds, and supporting organizations.)

For your information, new legislation is now **pending**: The Public Good IRA Rollover Act of 2007 (H.R. 1419/S. 819) which would make the IRA Rollover permanent, remove the \$100,000 cap on gifts, and lower the age threshold for all such gifts from 70½ to 59½.

It is wise to consult your tax advisor and your IRA custodian if you are contemplating a gift under the new law.



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