

# CARING TO LEAD



JARE





2015 Annual Report





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Barbara Morrow
Assistant Vice
President,
Compliance &
Samaritan Summit
Village Administrator

# Dear Friends & Neighbors:

# 2015-2016 Samaritan Medical Center Board

# **Officers**

Reverend Fred Garry, Chair Melanie Parker-Geurtsen, DVM, Vice Chair Jan Turcotte, MD, Secretary Paul Kraeger, Treasurer Lisa Weber,

Immediate Past Chair

# **Trustees**

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It is with pleasure that we present to you Samaritan's 2015 Annual Report. The theme chosen for this year's report, "Caring to Lead. Leading to Care," reflects the role that Samaritan plays as a leader within our community and within our region's healthcare system.

"Caring to Lead" reflects our strong belief that there are always opportunities to improve our healthcare system through continual performance improvement. It means recognizing that our community wants and deserves the best healthcare services, and to that end, caring enough to never be satisfied with the status quo. It means implementing the best proven healthcare practices to ensure that our patients have the best possible outcomes. Our performance in quality measures, including recognition from The Joint Commission as a top performer, means that our patients can have trust and confidence in the high level of care we provide. It means bringing over 40 different medical specialties to our region through innovative recruitment and retention strategies. And as a teaching hospital, it means investing in future healthcare professionals to ensure that quality healthcare is available to future generations for many years to come.

"Leading to Care" reflects our unwavering commitment to being a leader within our community and our region. It is our responsibility to ensure that healthcare needs are being met not only by Samaritan but through our collaboration with other healthcare and community agencies. It means identifying gaps and opportunities in our healthcare system and working with others to find long-term solutions. It means offering assistance to struggling agencies to provide the tools and expertise to ensure their ability to continue providing essential programs and services long into the future. It means having the resources and financial strength to invest in new equipment, facilities and services to ensure the full continuum of care exists and is accessible to all.

In closing, let me extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to the people who make all of this possible by providing vision and guidance, by supporting and advocating for our efforts, or by keeping vigil over the health and well-being of our patients, residents and their families. The successes highlighted in this 2015 Annual Report are the results of collective efforts of the employees, physicians, volunteers, Trustees and supporters of Samaritan whose dedication and contributions make Samaritan a leader in our region's healthcare.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Carman President & CEO

# **2015 Financial Highlights & Statistics**





- Samaritan Medical Center & Samaritan Medical Practice \$215,769,083
- Samaritan Keep Home \$21,671,222
- Samaritan Medical Center Foundation \$1,072,819
- Samaritan Summit Village \$19,629,865



Caring. Healing. Leading.

Samaritan

Medical Center

# 2015 By The Numbers

**8,738**Acute Care Discharges

**52,415** ED Visits

116,247

Imaging Procedures

**808,369**Laboratory
Procedures

1,654

**Births** 

7,256

Surgical Cases

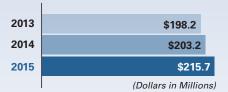
1,466

Acute Rehab Patient Days

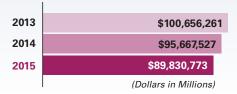
9,043

Inpatient Mental Health
Patient Days

# Samaritan Medical Center Revenue Growth



# Samaritan Medical Center Net Assets



# Samaritan Medical Center Foundation Net Assets

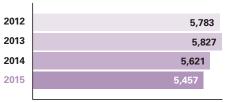


# Family Health Visits



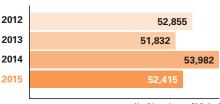
(In Number of Visits)

# Non-Maternity Discharges



(In Number of Discharges)

# Emergency Department Visits



(In Number of Visits)



# Samaritan as a Major Employer

Samaritan Medical Center and its affiliates' payroll expenditures serve as an important stimulus, creating and supporting jobs throughout the local and regional economies. Samaritan Medical Center, Samaritan Keep Home, Summit Village, the Foundation, and Samaritan medical practices employed 1,978 FTE's at year end 2015 with paychecks totaling \$121,661,450. Paychecks earned by our employees are spent on housing, transportation, groceries, clothing, etc. which generate about \$221,715,826 in economic activity for the local economy. Further, \$31 million in tax dollars are generated by Samaritan and its employees.

# Impact of Buying Goods and Services

Samaritan and its affiliates spent \$88,010,156 in 2015 on medical supplies, goods and services necessary to provide care to our patients and residents. The dollars we spend generate about \$140,747,438 for the local economy. Our spending flows to vendors and other businesses who also buy goods and services, creating a ripple effect throughout the economy.

In support of our mission as a not-for-profit, Samaritan provides \$25 million in community benefits and investments, including charity care. At the same time, Samaritan received 44% of its revenue from Medicaid and Medicare. These are fixed reimbursement rates, and do not cover the actual cost of care provided.

\* Economic community benefits based on the US Department of Commerce's "Regional Input-Output Modeling System II" or multiplier effect.







Long-Term Care 2015 By The Numbers

**8,363**Adult Day Health Care Visits

97,767 Samaritan Keep Home Resident Days

**98%** 

Average Occupancy at Samaritan Keep Home

60,074

Samaritan Summit Village Skilled Nursing Resident Days

39,825

Samaritan Summit Village Assisted Living Resident Days

98%

Average Occupancy at Samaritan Summit Village Skilled Nursing

91%

Average Occupancy at Samaritan Summit Village Assisted Living



# HUE Starts Here.

In Fall 2016, Samaritan Medical Center will break ground on a project that will transform the way that cancer care is delivered in our region. Samaritan's new comprehensive cancer care center has been in the making since the Board of Trustees adopted an updated strategic plan in January 2015. Based on a regional assessment of cancer care needs that was conducted in January 2014, the recommendation was made to establish a comprehensive oncology service line that would position Samaritan to meet those needs.

Samaritan's goal is to offer first class treatment of cancer through an integrated, coordinated program. Cancer care encompasses so much more than chemotherapy, radiation or surgical treatment. It must also address the nutritional, social and spiritual needs of cancer patients. A truly coordinated program will be enhanced by providing cancer care in one location.

# Building medical oncology

For over 30 years, Dr. John Poggi and Dr. Charles Romano served the medical oncology needs of the community. Anticipating the future retirements of these two well-respected physicians, Samaritan successfully recruited three new medical oncologists to continue their legacy of caring: Dr. Florence Arnold, Dr. Osagie Bello and Dr. Day Hills. This was an important first step in expanding oncology capacity.

# Striving for accreditation

In 2015, Samaritan embarked on its journey for accreditation by the Commission on Cancer, a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, which promotes cancer prevention, research, education and monitoring of comprehensive quality care.

Achieving Commission on Cancer accreditation will allow Samaritan to demonstrate the high quality of care provided and its commitment to continuous quality improvement. It means proudly demonstrating to the community that it has invested in systems to ensure that cancer patients receive high quality, coordinated care, as well as making the commitment to ensure that supportive services and resources addressing the full continuum of care are available in the community.

For patients, it means the assurance that Samaritan is concerned with the full continuum of cancer – from prevention to survivorship and end-of-life care – while addressing both survival and quality of life, including:

- Quality cancer care, close to home
- Comprehensive care offering a range of services and equipment
- A multidisciplinary team approach to coordinate the best cancer treatment options available
- Access to cancer-related information and education
- Access to patient-centered services, such as psychosocial distress screening and navigation
- Options for genetic assessment and counseling, and palliative care services
- Assessment of treatment planning based on evidence-based national treatment guidelines
- Information about clinical trials and new treatment options
- Follow-up care at the completion of treatment, including a survivorship plan



To help with a gift of support for the new Cancer Center or other projects that are transforming healthcare in our community, please contact the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation at 315-785-5745 or donate online at samaritanhealth.com/foundation.

Commission on Cancer accreditation is granted to facilities that are committed to providing the best in cancer care and demonstrate compliance with its standards. Each cancer program must undergo a rigorous evaluation and review of its performance and compliance with the standards. To maintain accreditation, Samaritan will undergo an on-site survey review every three years.

Samaritan's Commission on Cancer accreditation efforts are coordinated and led by its Cancer Committee, comprised of many specialists and disciplines, as well as Samaritan's new Director of Oncology, Mr. James Steggeman.

# A special place of hope

To facilitate its patients' care in one convenient location and through true multidisciplinary collaboration, Samaritan will build a new comprehensive cancer care center on its main medical campus. Its modern design features abundant natural light, easy and convenient accessibility to staff and supportive services and a calm, healing environment.

In addition to the clinical exam and office space featured in this new 28,000 square foot, two-story facility, the center will also offer space for:

- Appearance Center retail sales for oncology patient specific clothing, headwear, skin care products, wigs and breast prosthetics
- Counseling and Supportive Care resource center/library, patient navigation services, social workers, complimentary palliative care
- Medical Conference, Education and Meeting Rooms
- Covered, Dedicated Entrance

For patients receiving chemotherapy or other infusions, the time that they spend in treatments can be long. Eighteen comfortable stations feature reclining chairs, seating for family members, televisions and a view to the outside rooftop green space.



# Welcoming /2/ New Physicians to the North Country

The latest technology and treatment options are only part of what allows Samaritan Medical Center to meet our community's healthcare needs. That's why Samaritan remains committed to bringing in new physicians to care for our growing community. In 2015, Samaritan Medical Center and its Medical Staff proudly welcomed 14 new physicians.

Florence P. Arnold, MD Osagie Bello, MD Daniel A. Bryden, DO Jie He, MD Heather Irobunda, MD Akshat Jain, MD Archana Kathpal, MD Hematology/Oncology Hematology/Oncology General Surgery Hospitalist Obstetrics & Gynecology Family Medicine Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Tarun Kumar, MD
Paula A. Lidestri, MD
Andrew R. Majak, DPM
Diemthuy Nguyen, MD
Jenica A. O'Malley, DO
Thaddeus M. Pajak, DO
Patrick Parker, DO

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Podiatry
Anesthesiology
Pediatrics
Family Medicine
Urology

# Renovations Continue to Transform Samaritan Medical Center

In 2006, Samaritan Medical Center completed a comprehensive Facility Master Plan that outlined the expansion and modernization needs of its physical space in order to continue meeting the growing healthcare needs of the community over the next 15-20 years. While this "bricks and mortar" plan was exciting in itself, the opportunities it presented for the addition of new technology and services was just as essential.

Since then, the first three phases of that four-phase plan have been completed, and the fourth phase kicked off in 2015 and addresses the facility's remaining areas most in need of modernization. The areas slated for expansion and/or renovation include:

Maternity (Labor/Delivery, Recovery & Post-Partum)
Pediatrics
Inpatient Mental Health
Acute Rehabilitation
Radiology
Medical Staff Services
Support Services (Shipping/Receiving, Storeroom, etc.)

# Center for Women & Children

The Maternity and Pediatrics departments are currently located on separate floors. When renovations are complete they will be located on one floor in order to provide an environment that appeals to the needs of women, children and families.

It begins as soon as they enter the Samaritan campus. A parking lot intended only for patients and visitors to the Center for Women and Children will be located within a few yards of the new dedicated entrance. Just inside the door, an elevator will take them directly to the reception area of the new unit. There, they will be greeted with a relaxing, spa-like environment featuring soothing colors, nature themes and abundant natural light.

# **Labor and Delivery**

- Increasing from six to eight labor/delivery rooms, each with its own Jacuzzi tub
- Rooms large enough to comfortably accommodate family members who are present for the birth
- Addition of a second operating room to accommodate both scheduled and unscheduled Cesarean-section births
- Operating rooms designed to provide convenient access for dad, as well as a direct visual line between mom and baby

Consider investing in the health of our community.

To support the new Center for Women and Children or other current projects, please contact the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation at 315-785-5745 or donate online at samaritanhealth.com/foundation.



Work-in-progress: Artist rendering of the new Center for Women and Children.

# **Pediatrics**

- Bright, child-friendly colors and a "virtual" playroom to appeal to young patients
- Rooms that include chalk/white boards for drawing and gaming capabilities

# **Inpatient Mental Health**

The outdated institutional environment on this unit will be transformed to one that considers the unique healing needs of our patients in a calmer, warmer environment. In addition to an increase in beds from 32 to 34, the programming and activity space will feature the greatest enhancements for the patients and staff, including:

- · Additional space for physical activity/exercise
- Improved group rooms with amenities, such as sinks and open lounge seating
- Designated space for individual or group meetings with patients, family members or others
- Enhanced visibility of patients in day rooms or other gathering spaces

# **Acute Rehabilitation Unit (ARU)**

- This newly renovated unit will accommodate patients requiring inpatient rehabilitation after a surgery, accident or illness. Their therapy team will have all of the tools and equipment they need in this space that is designed to create a true rehabilitative environment that prepares patients for their return home and back to their lives to the fullest extent possible.
- As part of the renovations, the unit will grow from the six shared rooms that exist today to 12 private rooms with enough space to accommodate family members.
   An expanded gym within the unit means that additional equipment can be made available as part of the patient's therapy, including stairs, walking bars and even a car simulator to ensure that the road to recovery is traveled safely.
- Prior to their discharge, patients will stay in a full apartment within the unit in order to gain confidence in their daily living activities once they return home. A living room, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom enable patients to test the skills and adaptive techniques learned during their rehabilitative stay.

# A Big Win for Moms and Babies!





#### About Blue Distinction Centers Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) met overall quality measures for patient safety and outcomes, developed with input from the medical community. A Local Blue Plan may require additional criteria for facilities located in its own service area; for details, contact your Local Blue Plan. Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) also met cost measures that address consumers' need for affordable health care. Each facility's cost of care is evaluated using data from its Local Blue Plan. Facilities in CA, ID, NY, PA, and WA may lie in two Local Blue Plans' areas, resulting in two evaluations for cost of care; and their own Local Blue Plans decide whether one or both cost of care evaluation(s) must meet BDC+ national criteria. National criteria for BDC and BDC+ are displayed on bcbs.com. Individual outcomes may vary. For details on a provider's in-network status or your own policy's coverage, contact your Local Blue Plan and ask your provider before making an appointment. Neither Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association nor any Blue Plans are responsible for non-covered charges or other losses or damages resulting from Blue Distinction or other provider finder information or care received from Blue Distinction or other providers.

# Samaritan Medical Center Designated Blue Distinction® Center for Maternity Care

In an effort to help prospective parents find hospitals that deliver quality maternity care, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield announced that Samaritan Medical Center has been designated as one of the first hospitals to receive the Blue Distinction Center for Maternity Care designation, a new designation under the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.

Nearly four million babies are born in the U.S. annually, making childbirth the most common cause of hospitalization. This new Blue Distinction Centers for Maternity Care program evaluates hospitals on several quality measures, including the percentage of newborns that fall into the category of early elective delivery, an ongoing concern in the medical community. Compared with babies born 39 weeks or later. early term infants face higher risks of infant death and respiratory ailments such as respiratory distress syndrome, pneumonia, and respiratory failure, among other conditions. These babies also have a higher rate of admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Units.

In addition, hospitals that receive a Blue Distinction Center for Maternity Care designation agreed to meet requirements that align with principles that support evidence-based practices of care, as well as having initiated programs to promote successful breastfeeding, as described in the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative by Baby-Friendly USA or the Mother-Friendly Hospital program by the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS) through its "Ten Steps of Mother-Friendly Care." The program also evaluates hospitals on overall patient satisfaction. including a willingness to recommend the hospital to others.

Blue Distinction Centers for Maternity Care, an expansion of the national Blue Distinction® Specialty Care program, are hospitals recognized for delivering quality specialty care safely and effectively, based on objective measures developed with input from the medical community.

"The expertise and experience of our Maternity providers and nurses here at Samaritan resulted in this distinction, which recognizes their commitment to providing the highest quality of care to both mothers and babies," explains Thomas H. Carman, President and CEO of Samaritan. "We are proud of the level of care that is provided by these true professionals, as well as the compassionate manner in which it is provided."

Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) companies across the nation have recognized more than 280 hospitals as Blue Distinction Centers for Maternity Care. Hospitals recognized for these designations were assessed using a combination of publicly available quality information and cost measures derived from BCBS companies' medical claims.

Since 2006, the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program has helped patients find quality providers for their specialty care needs in the areas of bariatric surgery, cardiac care, complex and rare cancers, knee and hip replacements, spine surgery and transplants. Research shows that, compared to other facilities, those designated as Blue Distinction Centers demonstrate better quality and improved outcomes for patients.

For more information about the program, visit www.bcbs.com/bluedistinction.





# 2015-2016 Clifton-Fine Hospital Board

Walter Todd, Chairperson through 12/15 John Burns, Chairperson beginning 1/16 Deborah Norman, Treasurer Lorraine Laurin, Secretary

Thomas Carman Joe DeMart Allen Ditch Daphne Henri-Foley Charles Hooven Derek Lough John Russell Robert Seamon Susan Westbrook John Wheeler



Clifton-Fine Hospital CEO, Robert Seamon (L) and Samaritan Medical Center CEO, Tom Carman at Clifton-Fine Hospital's July 2015 Open House.

# Visible Changes Happening at Clifton-Fine Hospital

# **Samaritan Affiliate Introduces New Logo**

In March 2014, Samaritan finalized its affiliation with Clifton-Fine Hospital, a rural Critical Access Hospital located in Star Lake, New York. Since then, the two organizations have continued to explore the benefits of their affiliation, including shared patient care services, information technology upgrades and joint purchasing programs. All of which translate into better care with more options for the patients of both hospitals.

In July 2015, Clifton-Fine Hospital introduced a new hospital brand, visibly linking itself with Samaritan.

"There are few times in the life of an organization when it has the opportunity to reintroduce itself. With our partnership with Samaritan, this was a good time for Clifton-Fine to reposition ourselves in the community," explains Robert Seamon, Chief Executive Officer for Clifton-Fine Hospital. "We wanted our logo to represent the strength, vitality and growth that come from our partnership with Samaritan, as well as to reflect our physical sense of place here in the Adirondacks."

The new Clifton-Fine Hospital logo features evergreen trees within a diamond as well as a blue and green color scheme. Transitioning to the new logo is an ongoing process, as it will be used on many things from signage to advertising to patient care materials.

"When the people we serve see this logo, we want them to see our dedication to excellence, professionalism and compassion," adds Mr. Seamon. "We know that a new logo earns meaning over time, and we will build that meaning with every experience our patients, residents and family members have with us. Our look may be changing, but Clifton-Fine Hospital is still the place you depend on for trusted care, close to home."

# North Country Initiative Aids in Recruiting, Retaining Physicians

It's no secret that physician recruitment remains a top priority at Samaritan Medical Center and most other North Country hospitals. With a continuing nationwide shortage of physicians and a low percentage of physicians who choose to settle in rural areas, North Country hospitals must compete not only with other hospitals in New York State, but also across the country.

To add to the challenge, a recent Community Needs Assessment identified a shortage of primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists, psychiatrists, psychologists and certified diabetes educators in our region who are positioned to provide care for patients insured by Medicaid.

The resulting barrier to patient access to primary care and behavioral health services in a timely fashion is intensified by the population demographics in our region. Compared to statewide averages, our population is older, has lower income, has a disproportionate burden of chronic disease, mental illness and substance abuse, and has higher rates of uninsured children.

To help address these gaps the North Country Initiative (NCI) recently concluded Year 1 of its Provider Incentive Program. This program focuses on the recruitment, retention and education of primary care and behavioral health providers in the Tug Hill Seaway Region (Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties). In 2015, North Country Initiative partners, such as Samaritan Medical Center, were eligible to apply for funding to provide signing bonuses, retention bonuses, educational loan repayment, Immigration support, continuing education savings accounts and other options to help with recruiting and retaining providers.

Top Performing Hospital
Right Here in Watertown

Tannonal Quality Rado

Samaritan Medical Center has been recognized as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures® by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of healthcare organizations in the United States.

PNEUMONIA
SURGICAL CARE
IMMUNIZATION
PERINATAL CARE

SMC was recognized as part of The Joint Commission's 2015 annual report "America's Hospitals: Improving Quality and Safety," for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance for surgical care, pneumonia, perinatal care and

pneumonia. Samaritan is one of only 1,043 hospitals out of more than 3,300 eligible hospitals in the United States to achieve the Top Performer distinction.

The Top Performer program recognizes hospitals for improving performance on evidence-based interventions that increase the chances of healthy outcomes for patients with certain conditions. The performance measures incorporated in the recognition program include heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care, children's asthma, inpatient psychiatric services, stroke, venous thromboembolism, perinatal care, immunization, tobacco treatment and substance use.

"Delivering the right treatment in the right way at the right time is a cornerstone of high-quality health care. I commend the efforts of Samaritan Medical Center for their excellent performance on the use of evidence-based interventions," says Mark R. Chassin, MD, FACP, MPP, MPH, president and CEO, The Joint Commission.

"We understand what matters most to patients at Samaritan Medical Center is the quality and safety of the care they receive. That is why we have made it a top priority to improve positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care processes," explains Mario F. Victoria, MD, Chief Medical Officer for Samaritan Medical Center. "Samaritan is proud to be named a Top Performer as it recognizes the knowledge, teamwork and dedication of our entire hospital staff."

To be a Top Performer, hospitals had to meet three performance criteria based on 2014 accountability measure data, including:

- Achieve cumulative performance of 95 percent or above across all reported accountability measures;
- Achieve performance of 95
   percent or above on each and
   every reported accountability
   measure with at least 30
   denominator cases; and
- Have at least one core measure set that had a composite rate of 95 percent or above, and within that measure set, achieve a performance rate of 95 percent or above on all applicable individual accountability measures.

Provider Incentive Program recipients for Year 1 were announced in early January 2016. Twenty-eight applications were received. From this, fourteen funding awards were given, totaling slightly over \$1 million dollars. Samaritan Medical Center received two awards; one to recruit a primary care physician who will join the Samaritan Family Health Network, the other to recruit a provider in the area of Behavioral Health. Other recipients of the Year 1 awards include the Children's Home of Jefferson County, Claxton Hepburn Medical Center, Credo Community Center, Lowville Medical Associates, Massena Memorial Hospital, North Country Family Health Center and River Hospital.

As the NCI moves into Year 2 of the Provider Incentive Program modifications will continue to be made to improve the application and award process. "Allocated funds in Year 1 resulted in one new psychologist, two dentists, five nurse practitioners, two physician assistants, three primary care providers and one psychiatrist

being hired," explains Tracy Leonard, Deputy Director Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and North Country Initiative Workforce Lead. "The fruits of this program are of strategic value. For example, a county that has not had dental care for Medicaid children for many years and which currently has a third grade dental cavity rate in excess of 40% now has a full-time, five-day a week dentist. Sometimes it takes awhile to see the tangible results of our efforts, but when they arrive they are invaluable to the region."



The NCI is a partnership of hospitals, physicians and community agencies working together to transform the healthcare system in the Tug Hill Seaway Region.

# **Expanding our Patient Care Services**

At Samaritan, our focus on serving community needs means that we continually work to increase access to care while building a foundation for a healthier future for every member of our community. We're dedicated to making the communities we serve stronger, healthier and better. Over the past year, we have introduced several new patient care services and treatment technologies.

Trealing Begins Here.

Samaritan Wound Care Center Fills Critical Need in Jefferson County



L to R: Diane Freeman, PT; Sueellen Allen, Receptionist; Melissa Snyder, Program Director; James Stillerman, MD; Emily Bachman, LPN and Lesley Beasley, RN

Most wounds heal on their own. Whether it's a cut, an incision from a recent surgery or even a sore spot on your foot, the majority of us heal without specialized intervention. However, if you or someone you know suffers from a wound that won't heal, you know how painful and frustrating it can be. You know how it can affect your lifestyle and interfere with the activities you love.

In 2015 Samaritan opened a new Wound Care Center in Watertown, specializing in advanced treatments that are proven to help chronic wounds heal faster. To provide this new service, Samaritan has teamed up with the nation's leading wound care specialists at Healogics. With exceptional outcomes and healing rates, as well as high patient satisfaction, Healogics is Samaritan's partner of choice.

Dr. James Stillerman, the Center's Medical Director and a physician solely dedicated to and specialty trained in wound care, leads the treatment team. "Our goal is to diagnose the cause of the wound, to get the wound to start healing and to finish healing rapidly," he explains. "We also educate our patients to help prevent reoccurrence of the problem."

The Wound Care team provides a variety of medical and surgical treatment options to speed the healing process – including dressings, debridement (cleaning of wound surfaces), vascular assessment (evaluation of arteries and veins) and skin grafting. The Wound Care Center also offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) to certain patients whose particular wound and condition warrant it. During this treatment, the patient breathes 100 percent oxygen while relaxing in a pressurized chamber. HBOT is approved for the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers, compromised skin grafts or flaps, and osteomyelitis (bone infection) among others.

According to Dr. Stillerman, the benefits of seeking care at a dedicated wound care center like Samaritan's are many. "Wound care is all we do, and it's what our treatment team is passionate about. We're here five days a week to provide continuity of care for our patients. With most wounds, we see the patient at least once a week to check on progress, allowing us to quickly change our treatment approach if necessary. For most patients, this means less pain at the wound site, a shorter healing time and fewer wound-related complications."



Dr. James Stillerman and Diane Freeman, PT examine a patient using a Doppler to assess arterial flow for the lower extremity.



Michelle Barr, RN, Case Manager, checks a Home Health patient's lungs.

# Samaritan Welcomes Home Health Care to its Continuum of Services

As of January 1, 2016, the agency formerly known as Genesis Home Health Agency was officially acquired by Samaritan Medical Center and is now known as Samaritan Home Health. The former Genesis Home Health Agency had been operating under a management contract with Samaritan since early 2014.

"By adding a certified home health agency (CHHA) to our continuum of healthcare services, Samaritan is working

to help manage the overall health of our community," explains Nicole Davis, RN, Director of Patient Services/Administrator of Samaritan Home Health. "Care from the Samaritan Home Health team can often help prevent hospitalizations, reduce the need for nursing home placement, and enable patients to remain in the comfort of their own homes."

Patients seeking home healthcare services may include individuals who have recently been diagnosed with a chronic condition (diabetes, COPD, etc.) and need to learn how to manage their disease at home; individuals who are still recovering from an injury or illness and need additional care; or individuals who have an on-going health need (home IV therapy, wound care, etc). Samaritan Home Health is based at 165 Coleman Avenue although all patient care is provided in the patients' homes.

# New MRI/Ultrasound Fusion Biopsy Provides Added Precision to Prostate Cancer Care

In 2015 Samaritan Medical Center and the Samaritan Urology Center began using a new combination magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)-ultrasound imaging system that can result in fewer biopsies and better treatment decisions for prostate cancer patients. Samaritan is the first and currently only healthcare provider in the North Country using this powerful cancer detection tool.

While prostate cancer may be suspected, the actual diagnosis can only be made with a prostate biopsy. The current method of biopsy, which typically involves taking samples from twelve different areas of the prostate, provides a definite diagnosis for most men. However, there are some who would benefit from undergoing a fusion biopsy.

With the new fusion technology, called UroNav, the patient first has an MRI at Samaritan Medical Center, which detects lesions in the prostate that may be cancerous. At a separate appointment at the Samaritan Urology Center, this MRI image of the prostate is "fused" with a real-time ultrasound image



L-R: Nicole Green, RN and Dr. Alejandro Rodriguez, MD

to create a clear, three-dimensional view of the prostate. The system then employs GPS-type technology to guide the biopsy needle to the lesions detected by the MRI. This improved view helps physicians perform biopsies with much higher precision, and increases prostate cancer detection, says Samaritan urologist Alejandro Rodriguez, MD.

"This new technology provides greater certainty regarding the extent of the disease and more accurate staging of the tumor," Dr. Rodriguez explains. "This information in turn helps us develop a more targeted, individualized prostate cancer treatment plan that optimizes the patient's outcome."

# Enhancing the Healthcare Experience... Samaritan Forms Patient & Family Advisory Council

While physicians, nurses and hospital staff are experts at planning how healthcare should be provided, hospitals nationwide are recognizing that patients and their family members can provide a unique perspective on all that is involved in the delivery of patient care.

"Patient and family advisory councils are becoming very common in healthcare today," explains Rachel Holmes, Manager of Patient Engagement and Community Relations at Samaritan. "This approach is a best-practice for high performing hospitals, and we are excited to implement it here at Samaritan Medical Center. Who better to ask about their healthcare experience than the very people who entrust us with their care?"

In September, after an extensive application and interview process, nineteen community members attended their first meeting as part of Samaritan's newly formed Patient and Family Advisory Council. Through their monthly meetings the group has started working to identify patient and family needs and concerns, provide feedback on current systems and processes at Samaritan, and

generate new ideas to enhance the healthcare experience. Feedback and suggestions from the Council are already helping Samaritan evaluate everything from the patient registration process to planned construction projects, to various forms of patient communication.

Its role in enhancing the healthcare experience makes the Patient and Family Advisory Council an integral part of a larger picture. In 2014 Samaritan embraced its mantra of Caring, Healing, Leading as the organization's core values. This included a promise to place the comfort, safety and well-being of our patients and residents at the heart of everything we do ... to deliver better healthcare and a better healthcare experience.

This means a healthcare experience with healing environments, state-of-the-art technology, and new and expanded services. It also means a healthcare experience where every

These Council members are a diverse group who are providing insight that represents different genders, ages, incomes, geographic locations, personal inpatient or outpatient experiences, and more.

Samaritan's inaugural Patient and Family Advisory Council includes:
Front Row (L to R): Donna Barber, Mary Dasno, Erin Loomis, Kimberly Contino,
Claudia Smith, Denise Wallace, Cathy Vaughn. Back row (L to R): Dick Greene,
Sheryl Crandall, Candy Burke, Larry Coburn, Hon. Rodger Duvall, Donald Moody,
Laura Cerow, Yvonne Weiler. Missing members: William Johnson, Anthony
Surber, Amanda "Mandy" Thompson and Stephanie Widrick.

person at Samaritan – from our physicians and nurses, to our technicians and therapists, to our environmental service workers and volunteers – is dedicated to making the communities we serve stronger, healthier and better.

"Our Advisory Council is grounded in the belief that some of the most informed voices on



the care team are those of the patient and his or her family. Ultimately, they alone can confirm whether a plan of care was explained thoroughly; whether their questions and fears were appropriately addressed; and whether care was tailored to their specific needs," says Mrs. Holmes. "Hearing their voices and examining the delivery of care through their eyes ensures that Samaritan is delivering the enhanced healthcare experience our patients deserve."

# Shaping the Future of Long-Term Care

Samaritan is committed to long-term care in Northern New York. Our goal is to take care of people at all stages of life, providing the most appropriate level of care for each individual's unique medical, physical and emotional requirements. With that in mind, Samaritan offers a broad range of services to meet the ever-evolving needs of seniors. All of Samaritan's long-term care services are designed to engage the mind, body and spirit ... helping our residents live life to the fullest.

# **Pet Therapy Program Provides Furry Support**

Animals have long been recognized as being a positive force in the healing process. Dogs, for example, can have a calming and therapeutic effect ... just one reason why pet visits are becoming a powerful, common mode of therapy in many long-term care facilities, including Samaritan Keep Home and Samaritan Summit Village.

Samaritan Keep Home has a thriving pet therapy program that includes several dogs who come to work with their owners, members of the Therapy Department. Captain, a three-year-old yellow lab belonging to Mary Barber, PT, Rehab Manager, comes in every weekday to interact with residents,

visitors and staff.



"Captain is known by everyone in the building and he is often seen visiting the social day care room, medical day care room, people in the lobby, or staff offices. Residents that come to therapy can work with the dogs on their standing balance while playing fetch or dynamic gait activities while taking them for a walk," explains Ms. Barber. "These dogs never fail to bring a smile to the faces of our residents."

Samaritan Summit Village, which also has a pet therapy program for its Skilled Nursing residents, welcomed its own "facility dog" last year. According to staff in both facilities, these dogs have a powerful impact on the residents. They offer physical contact with another living creature; invoke pleasant memories of past pets; give the residents something to do, talk about and think

about other than themselves; stimulate activity and communication; lower stress levels; calm those with dementia; help with depression; and generally bring joy and laughter to what might otherwise be an uneventful day.



# Samaritan Hosts 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Parkinson's Disease Dinner & Walk

Rasheda Ali

A new tradition was started in Watertown in 2015 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Jefferson County Parkinson's Walk held at Samaritan Summit Village on October 17th. Co-sponsored by the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation, Samaritan Summit Village, Samaritan Keep Home and the Parkinson's

Coalition of the North Country, the event brought out those who have the disease, their families and friends, and Rasheda Ali, daughter of the late boxing legend Muhammed Ali.

Rasheda Ali, a nationally known advocate for Parkinson's awareness, served as Grand Marshall for the walk and guest speaker for the fundraising dinner held the night before. She wrote a book entitled I'll Hold Your Hand So You Won't Fall: A Child's Guide to Parkinson's Disease. The book was written to help her children understand the disease as they interacted with their grandfather. Muhammad Ali was diagnosed with Parkinson's in the 1980s.

With more than 75 attendees at the dinner and over 100 individuals joining in the walk, the two-day event raised more than \$6,200 that has been donated to the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation Parkison's Program for use in research and improving care for those with Parkinson's Disease.

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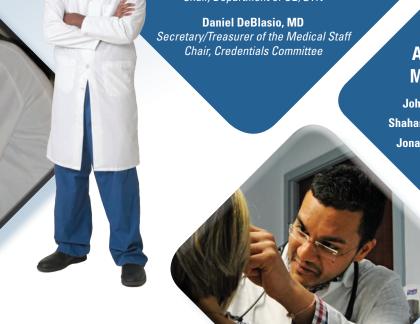
President/Chief Executive Officer 1 4 1



LaVerne VanDeWall, DO

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# Fraduate Medical Education Program Seeks National Accreditation

"Accreditation from the ACGME puts Samaritan's program on par with all other major medical training institutions thereby allowing us to attract the best students from medical schools across the country."

After four years of program building and a six-month application process, the Samaritan Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program has been granted Initial Accreditation as a Sponsoring Institution by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Samaritan is one of very few American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredited sites in the country to have achieved this milestone during 2015.

Considered the highest standard setting organization for graduate medical education in the United States, the ACGME is a

private, non-profit organization that reviews and accredits graduate medical education (residency and fellowship) programs, and the institutions that sponsor them. This past year the ACGME formerly entered into an agreement with the AOA and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) to create a Single Accreditation System (SAS) for graduate medical education and training in the United States.

In mid-February 2016 the Samaritan GME team completed the ACGME application process for the Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Residency programs. Both are now considered pre-accredited. In the spring Samaritan will host an ACGME site visit and after that, pending a favorable decision by the residency review committees, initial accreditation for both programs is anticipated. Once full accreditation is achieved the Samaritan program will be able to accept and train both allopathic physicians (MDs) and osteopathic physicians (DOs). Currently Samaritan trains only osteopathic physicians.

"This is an exciting time in osteopathic graduate medical education," says



Dr. David Rechlin, Director of Medical Education. "Accreditation from the ACGME puts Samaritan's program on par with all other major medical training institutions thereby allowing us to attract the best students from medical schools across the country. Our graduates will also have greater opportunity for advanced specialty fellowship training."

"It is Samaritan's intention to prepare our residents and medical students to be excellent practicing physicians with a comprehensive understanding of patient care," adds Dr. Rechlin. "To that end, enrolling residents from diverse schools of medical training will allow us to combine the strengths of each in molding physicians for the future."



# **Teaching the Next Generation**

Samaritan's Physician Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program currently offers three American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredited Post Graduate Residency programs: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, and a Traditional Rotating internship (typically utilized by medical students who are still in the process of choosing a specialty for their residency). These programs are offered in conjunction with the Lake Erie Consortium for Osteopathic Medical Training. In addition, the Samaritan Physician GME Program also offers clinical rotations for third year medical students from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and elective rotations for fourth year students from programs all across the United States who are interested in showcasing for one of our Post Graduate Residency programs.

The 2015 Graduate Medical Education program included: (L to R): Caitlin Donegan, DO, OGME-3 (FM); Yu Sung, DO, OGME-3 (IM); Shervin Shahriari, DO, OGME-2 (IM); Joseph "Ryan" McLain, DO, OGME-2 (FM); Jason Federline, DO, OGME-2 (FM – Jr Chief Resident); Viliane Vilcant, DO, OGME-2 (IM); Benjamin Rudd, MD, FM Program Director; David Rechlin, DO, DME/DIO; LaVerne VanDeWall, DO, IM Program Director; Daniel Morgan, DO, OGME-1 (IM); Boyu Wang, DO, OGME-1 (IM); Brogan Schoeneman, DO, OGME-1 (FM); Paul Tran, DO, OGME-1 (FM); and Tad Lanagan, DO, OGME-3 (FM – Chief Resident)



# Dr. David Rechlin Recognized with 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lifetime Achievement Award

In April 2015, Samaritan hosted its third annual Physician Recognition Dinner. This event, supported by the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation and Medical Executive Committee, is held each year on or around National Doctors' Day (March 30th) to honor Samaritan's active and retired physicians for their dedication

As part of this event, Dr. David Rechlin was named the recipient of the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award. This award has been established to recognize a Samaritan physician for his/her leadership and service to the health and well-being of the Northern New York community.

Dr. Rechlin, a pulmonologist, has been a member of the Samaritan Medical Center (SMC) Medical Staff and the Watertown community since 1989. During the 26 years (and counting) that Dr. Rechlin has practiced medicine in Watertown, he has held several leadership positions at SMC, from chairman of the department of Medicine to President of the Medical Staff. He founded the Sleep Disorders Center of NNY in 1991, and has served as both director and co-director of Samaritan's inpatient critical care unit. In 2001 Dr. Rechlin began the first formal program in graduate medical education at SMC. The program has grown to now offer twelve residency positions in Internal Medicine and Family Medicine and, since 2012, Dr. Rechlin is once again serving as the director. He also serves as a physician representative to the North Country Initiative and continues to practice at Pulmonary Associates of NNY.

# **Celebrating Our Samaritan Nurses**

At Samaritan, our patients rely on the education, experience and caring of our nursing staff each and every day. As part of our National Nurses' Week celebration, Samaritan and its Medical Staff established a program to formally recognize outstanding achievements by our nursing professionals.

Each year, physicians, employees and Trustees from Samaritan are invited to nominate nurses for the exceptional work they do every day in the categories of Quality & Safety, Education & Mentorship, Leadership, Excellence in Nursing Practice, Innovation & Leading Change, and Rookie of the Year.



# The 2015 award recipients:

(Back row from left)

# Staci Michelson, RN

Emergency Department
Innovation & Leading Change

#### Lori Hanno, RN

Progressive Care Unit (PCU) Excellence in Nursing Practice

#### **Timothy Lehman, RN**

Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

Rookie of the Year

# **Bruce Smith, RN**

Assistant Nurse Mgr 5 Pratt/4 Pratt Quality & Safety (Front row from left)

#### **Deborah Barney, LPN**

Maternity

Excellence in Nursing Practice

#### Shanin Maitland, LPN

Samaritan Keep Home 8th Floor

Excellence in Nursing Practice

#### Julie Hulbert, RN

Surgical Services Leadership

# Hillary Middlemiss, RN

Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

Education & Mentorship

#### Theresa Quintin, RN

Lifetime Achievement



# Samaritan Employees Recognized for Service

Each year, Samaritan holds an Employee Service Award dinner to recognize those employees who reached a milestone service anniversary the prior year. In 2015, 112 employees celebrated 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40-year anniversaries at Samaritan. Special recognition was given to those employees who celebrated 40 years of service and dedication to the organization, including (L to R): **Charleen Raye Fiske**, SKH 4th Floor; **Leann M. Carbone**, SMC Outpatient Procedures; **Joan M. Monroe**, SMC Operating Room; **Linda L. Buker**, SMC HIM; and **Christine L. Bibbins**, Dietary (not pictured).







# **Community Strong. Samaritan Strong. Fort Drum Strong.**

March 20, 2015 was a very big day for our community and Fort Drum. It also was a day that Samaritan shined as brightly as the yellow t-shirts that soon became symbolic of our love and support for Fort Drum, its soldiers and families and its importance to our community.

As part of the reduction in the nation's defense budget, Fort Drum was again on the list for potential troop reductions of 16,000 troops out of the 19,000 it had (not including their family members) ... an 85% reduction. The contingent of top Army and Defense Department officials responsible for making these decisions was scheduled to visit to conduct a follow-up assessment of the community prior to making a final decision.

Our community rose to the occasion, as did Samaritan's staff, physicians and leadership.

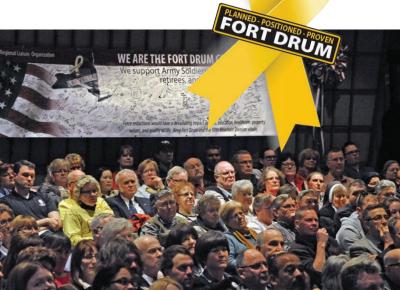
The Fort Drum Rally and Listening Session held as part of this visit on March 20th was a HUGE success! Thousands of community members packed the venue at Jefferson Community College, including over 200 from Samaritan who came out in a show of support for Fort Drum. The "Sea of Yellow," a term coined because of the hundreds of yellow shirts worn by our staff and families, was impossible to miss during the rally. Sitting together in the bleachers, hundreds of yellow shirts made a loud and proud statement to our Pentagon visitors as they walked through.

The Army officials from Washington DC visited Samaritan for a smaller session with healthcare leaders and leaders from various community agencies that support Fort Drum. Included in the presentation were numerous patients/clients who provided first-hand testimonials about their experiences with the North Country. The group also toured the Fort Drum Ob/Gyn clinic in the Medical Office Building, as well as our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). As they were departing, and in true Samaritan form, close to 100 employees in yellow shirts gathered for a warm Samaritan send-off.

This visit couldn't have gone any better – and Samaritan certainly left a lasting impression about how much Fort Drum means to us and to the North Country.

The final impact to Fort Drum once the decisions were made: reduction of 28 troops.





# Samaritan

# **Medical Center Foundation and Children's Miracle Network**

2015 Donors

Dear Friends:

Caring to lead, leading to care is the resounding theme of this year's annual report. It's clear that you - our donors - care deeply. The generous members of our community listed on the pages in this report have cared enough to support the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation. Your caring gifts make a difference in patient care, provide advanced tools for physicians and staff and assure a safe environment for them and hundreds of volunteers. All of us at Samaritan are grateful.

Our donors' gifts enable Samaritan to be a caring leader in health and long-term care services. This year, donors' gifts to the newly created Inspiration Fund enabled Samaritan to open a vitally needed wound care center in our community and to purchase Accuvein devices that make finding veins for blood draws and IVs less challenging and painful for patients. Dozens of Samaritan employees and departments were recognized through gifts to Heart to Heart, our grateful patients, family and friends program, because they led by caring and were leaders in caring. Attendance and sponsorship of each of the events hosted by the Foundation and Children's Miracle Network at Samaritan grew tremendously. Lastly, a portion of the gifts donated to the Foundation were invested in the Endowment so that Samaritan may continue to lead well into the future.

On behalf of everyone at the Foundation, I thank you for leading to care through your generosity and assisting the Samaritan family to be the leading force in North Country healthcare. All of our Trustees and devoted staff look forward to continuing on this journey together with you as we build Samaritan's capacity to lead in an ever changing healthcare environment.

Thank you again for being a valued leader in caring.

With warmest personal regards, very truly yours,

Martin A. Yenawine

Martin Olympire

Board Chair, Samaritan Medical Center Foundation

The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern New York and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals greatly appreciate the generous support we receive from our donors. Each donation, no matter what its size, is precious to us, and every donor is considered priceless. These donations help to make important advancements at Samaritan possible. Charitable gifts allow us to enhance patient care services, provide continuing education for our talented healthcare professionals, expand facilities and bring specialized equipment to Samaritan Medical Center that otherwise might not be possible. Decades from now, patients and staff will look back on the contributions made today as evidence of a strong, ongoing commitment to the mission of Samaritan.

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The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation was the proud recipient of KeyBank's 2015 Community Impact Award, presented annually to a nonprofit that has made a positive impact in our community. The Foundation was selected for its "critical role in continually expanding and enhancing the vital services and programs the hospital provides to the community." Foundation staff are pictured with (L-R) Steven Pierce, KeyBank Sr. VP & Relationship Mgr., Martin Yenawine, Foundation Bd. Chair, and Stephen Fournier, KeyBank CNY District President.

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"Samaritan's **Progressive Care Unit nurses are** among the best I've ever seen, especially **Christy Traylor, RN** and Tammy Potter, RN. The nurses were all kind, caring and very responsive."

Kathy Coleman Community Bank, N. A. Paul Conrad Martins Contracting Andrew & Megan Converse Francis A. Cook Celia Cook Betham Corfield Jacqualine Costello William & Margaret Couch Kensington Countrymen Covera Solutions Josh Cox Clifford J. Cranker Brooke Crashaw

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"The therapy
department at
Samaritan Summit
Village is a group of
energetic people with
fantastic attitudes.
Always helpful and
positive, they all go
above and beyond
and really show
a caring attitude
toward the residents
in the facility."

Amy E. Hunt

Daniel Hunt

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"As a recent patient at your facility, I would like to send my love and my biggest thanks to all the staff from Progressive Care Unit and the ED that helped nurse me back to health. Your efforts will always be greatly appreciated. If it wasn't for you, chances are I would not be here to even write this letter to you fabulous people ... thank you so much for everything!"

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"Thank you to all of the Intensive Care Unit staff for being so kind, caring and compassionate during our father's stay there. Our whole family is also grateful for everything that you did to make us feel welcome and comfortable."

Giulio Vecchia Cindv L. Vecchio Alesha Velasquez Maryjo Vetrano Michele A. & Mario F. Victoria, MD Daniel & Nancy Villa Barry and Ellen Waite Crystal Waite Christian Waite Waite Motor Sales, Inc. DBA Waite Toyota Chad Waleisky T. Urling & Mabel Walker Jada Walldroff Rebecca Walldroff Sarah Walldroff Walmart Stores, Inc. Thomas Walsh Walter S. Atkinson Fund Kenneth Ward Shirley J. Ward Dr. John & Roberta Wasenko Shirley Washburn Megan Washburn Washington Summit Associates, LLC Watertown Appliance & TV Center, Inc. Watertown Internists, PC Watertown Pediatrics, PC Watertown Savings Bank Dr. Jeffrey D. Way & Mrs. Maureen Lundy-Way Laurie Wayte Debra Weaver Joe & Lisa Weber Jennifer Weeks

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Mr. & Mrs. David Zembiec

\* Deceased



**Samaritan Society 2015** 

The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation is pleased to honor our Samaritan Leadership Society donors, who have collectively contributed or pledged more than \$2,100,712 in support of improving the quality of healthcare in our community. Membership is extended to those who make a commitment of \$15,000 or more with up to ten years to pay their commitment. These compassionate individuals united by this honorary distinction share a profound commitment to Samaritan and its tradition of quality healthcare.

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Nancy Young Duncan Dr. Jin Qi & Dr. Yilin Zhang

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# The Stevens Society

The Stevens Legacy Society recognizes individuals who provide support for Samaritan through wills, trusts, life income gifts, retirement plans, life insurance designations, and other planned gifts. By joining others who have taken this step, you can take satisfaction from knowing that you are part of an important legacy for the future. The Board of Trustees established the Stevens Society in honor of Dr. Henry M. Stevens, Samaritan's first Board President. Dr. Stevens served from 1881 to 1895.

How can you make a difference in the lives of your family, your friends, your neighbors and the entire Northern New York community? It's as easy as remembering the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation in your will.

# Dr. David "Sandy" Gregor's Continuing Legacy



In 2013, we mourned the passing of Dr. David "Sandy" Gregor, a respected general surgeon and long-time supporter of Samaritan. Recently an additional \$500,000 dollars was distributed from his estate to three local organizations he supported during his lifetime. The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation, Northern New York Community Foundation and Jefferson Community College Foundation and all received additional bequests. We are deeply appreciative of Dr. Gregor's commitment and leadership to our community and specifically to Samaritan – his legacy will live on and he is greatly missed.

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Mr. & Mrs. T. Urling Walker
Loretta E. Wright\*
Martin & Linda\* Yenawine

\* Deceased





2015 marked the 18th Annual Thousand Islands Golf Classic. This two-day event includes a pre-tournament dinner and an auction on Sunday prior to the Monday tournament. In 2015, the Thousand Islands Golf Classic raised over \$134,000 for programs and equipment that enhance patient care and promote health and education in the North Country.





A. J. Missert, Inc. Advanced Business Systems Anesse & Associates Antique Boat Museum Aubertine & Currier Architects, Engineers & Land Surveyors Bailev Haskel Agency Don & Janet Barter Chris & Dawn Bastien Bernier, Carr & Associates Big Apple Music Blue Mountain Spring Water Boeheim Foundation Bonnie Castle **Branding Solutions** Tom & Irene Carman Dr. & Mrs. Paul Carr C-Clear Window Cleaning Frank & Ann Cean Bob & Sandra Ciasulli Coca Cola Refreshments Ben & Peggy Coe Rich & Elise Cognetti John & Melinda Comstock Delta Dental Mary & Gerald Donahue DPAO Dry Hill Drs. Marylene & Eric Duah

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# **The North Country**

# Festival of Trees

The North Country Festival of Trees, benefiting children's services and programs at Samaritan Medical Center and the Watertown Family YMCA, is one of the holiday season's premier events. In 2015, the event raised over \$129,000 for both organizations with 65 community-sponsored trees and wreaths.

The three-day festival offered something for everyone. Friday evening featured a Gala where more than 300 guests mingled among creatively decorated trees, enjoying fine food and drink while they participated in a spirited live auction on select trees. Saturday evening was the very popular Sugarplum Ball, attended this year by over 700 fathers and daughters and mothers and sons all dressed in their finest holiday attire. Over Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the public viewed the trees and participated in a silent auction.

This year the North Country Festival of Trees also introduced a new way for the event to directly benefit community members. While trees were decorated as usual and available for purchase by either silent or live auction during the festival, this year there was an option for the buyer to donate the tree to a local family in need or to a nonprofit organization in the community.

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# Steart to Heart

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**David J. Flint** Jenna M. Moore

Maja Lundborg-Gray Jenna M. Moore

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Jonas Swartzentruber
Abe Troyer

Sarah Wallace Jenna M. Moore



# The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation's Grateful Patient, Family & Friends Program

When words just aren't enough to say "Thank you" ... Samaritan Medical Center Foundation's Heart to Heart program allows patients, families and friends an opportunity to thank a special caregiver or department who went the extra mile and made a difference in their visit or stay. Donations from this program will benefit patients and staff for years to come. Since its inception in 2010, the Heart to Heart program has raised over \$75,325 and touched many of our caregivers.

# **Samaritan Medical Center Foundation Creates Special Endowment Fund**

# Adds New Director of Major Gifts & Planned Giving



Bonnie Eppolito, Samaritan Medical Center Foundation's Director of Major Gifts & Planned Giving, meets with Foundation Board member and donor, Steve Pierce. Caring, Healing, Leading. These are much more than words to the Samaritan organization. They are responsibilities. As the region's leading healthcare provider, it is important for us to look ahead and to continually plan for the healthcare needs of future North Country generations.

To help us do this, the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation has set a goal of building a \$30 million endowment, while also supporting current and future Samaritan projects. An endowment is a permanent fund whose assets are invested with the sole purpose of generating income that can then be used to help to make important advancements at Samaritan.

As part of the efforts to reach this goal, the Foundation welcomed Bonnie Eppolito as its new Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving.

"Ms. Eppolito is passionate about fundraising and brings a unique combination of skills to support fund development for Samaritan," says Beth Fipps, Vice President, Foundation and Community Services. "She will be working primarily with our current donors and community members in an effort to secure resources that will allow Samaritan to continue to offer much needed services."

"Samaritan appreciates the tremendous support we receive from a generous community that understands the value of the healthcare we provide," Ms. Eppolito adds. "They realize that, in the ever changing world of healthcare, our work is never done."

Please consider funding the endowment or current projects, such as the Center for Women & Children, Cancer Center, Inpatient Mental Health Services and many more with an outright gift, a planned gift, or a combination of both. To learn more, contact Bonnie Eppolito at 315-779-6696.

# The Inspiration FUND

Over the years, many community members have shared with us the stories and experiences they have had with Samaritan Medical Center and our network of care across the North Country. These individuals have told us how inspired they are by the Samaritan organization, by the daily work of our talented professional staff, by the new programs and services being offered, and by the cutting-edge equipment found in our facilities.

From these stories, a new opportunity for supporting Samaritan was created – The Inspiration Fund. Each year The Inspiration Fund will raise money for specific hospital initiatives. For 2015, the priorities were support of the Samaritan Wound Care Center, the purchase of AccuVein vein finder equipment, and the endowment fund.

It is our hope that this campaign will inspire giving in a whole new way!

**BCA Architects & Engineers** Nancy Breslin Bev & Bernie Brown Car-Freshner Corporation Thomas & Irene Carman Jerome F. Cuyler, MD Beth & Randy Fipps Erika & Travis Flint Dr. Daniel S. Gray & Dr. Maja Lundborg-Gray Harris Beach PLLC Urban & Sally Hirschey John & Susan Johnson Hugh Keegan Associates, Inc. Robert & Norma Kemper Marcia Kettrick KeyBank, N.A. and KeyBank Foundation Mr.\* & Mrs. Carleton H. Lamica Dr. Rachel E. Lewis & Mr. Roger Johnson Michael C. Miller Dean & Barbara Morrow Mr. & Mrs. John P. Murtha Mr. & Mrs. Mark J. Naso Barry M. Ormsby Jeff & Mary Perrine David & Michelle Pfaff Patricia A. Phillips Steve & Cindy Pierce Peter & Laurel Pike William & Catherine Quencer Theresa L. & Douglas S. Quintin Shelly A. & Rande S. Richardson Donald & Kay Rickett Harold & Gloria Rothschild Diane & David Roy Patricia Inglesby Tague & Rick W. Tague Anthony V. & Tana Tarzia Daniel A. & Lauran B. Throop Joan Treadwell-Woods Dr. Jan K. Turcotte Addison F. Vars III & Barbara R. Vars Barbara N. Webber Dr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Weber Mary & Fred Whalen Martin & Linda\* Yenawine

# Memorials and Monorariums

Memorial gifts to the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation create a lasting tribute to family members, friends or anyone else who has a meaningful place in your life while also providing valuable support to Samaritan.

# **Archie Buchanan**

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# **Ray Campany**

Karyn B. Rushlow

#### **Pam Caswell**

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Ann B. Chase

Diane L. Abele Nancy J. Kall

# **Shirley A. Crump** Mary B. Hodge

# Marilyn S. Earl

Patricia W. Simpson Fernando S. Ongkingco Dennis Smith Cora Smith

# Marion C. Empsall

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# **Everett G. Foster**

Northern New York Community Foundation Richard Cardone

#### Brian I. Fowler

Frances L. Fowler

# Sandy Gregor

Twin Trees Foundation

# Eva Gutierrez

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Sally J. Harriman

Thomas Bradley

# **Betty J. Jeffers**

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Anne T. Kellogg Glenn H. Gough

Frederic S. Kendall

# Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Joan Knudsen

Rubenzahl, Knudsen & Associates

# Joseph P. Lundy

Sally L. Scanlon

# John P. McCreary

Crossley Dental Associate, P.C.

# Robert G. Mesires

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# **Margaret Narrow**

Rhonda D. Rutledge Theresa D. Fallon Betty A. Fitzgerald Robert J. Mullin Delia G. Mullin Barbara J. Narrow

# Allan R. Oatman

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Susan O'Brien

Mary D. Whalen

# Virginia Osborn

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

## **Mary Parks**

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# **Elaine Rubenzahl**

Rubenzahl, Knudsen & Associates

# John E. Scanlon

Sally L. Scanlon

# William Shultz

William E. LaClair Betty M. Bartlett Richard E. Wagner Peter Roden Daniel B. Tallman Rocco Derrigo Dollie L. Doldo Bernier Carr & Associates, P.C. James R. Liddle Patricia L. LaClair

## Pamela K. Shuman

Virginia S. McCreary Richard L. Withington Anna Jane Van Slyke Sheila M. Martin Harold Christensen Watertown Pediatrics, P.C.

Henry L. George Robert E. Hawthorne Deborah L. Testerman Whalen Davey & Looney, CPA, LLP Heather Tarzia Jeane M. Jones Cinda Alteri Judith G. Brown David C. Stoodlev Corby L. Cleveland Patrick J. Lanigan New Day Children's Center, Inc. North Country Orthopaedic Group, P.C.

# Louis Siegemeier

Samaritan Medical

Medical Staff of

David R. Burns Nancy J. Williams

# **Mary Soule**

Center

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C.

# Elena Van Eenenaam

North Country Orthopaedic Group, P.C.

### Sally Wilkes

Nurses Alumnae Association House of Good Evelyn Lennon

#### Benjamin Winkler

Charles Leibling Car-Freshner Corporation Rebecca Blake William T. Garrison Donald T. Winkler Sarah C. Baldwin

# Grace A. Wright

Crossley Dental Associates, P.C. Jenna M. Moore

# Kathleen Wylie

Demetra Hurst USW Local Union 4-503

# Samaritan Auxiliary & Volunteers

The Samaritan Auxiliary was established in 1896 to serve as ambassadors and volunteers to support and enhance healthcare programs at the House of the Good Samaritan. Today, almost 120 years later, the Auxiliary's 242 members play a vital role in improving the quality of care in the Samaritan system through volunteer activities and financial support. Since 2009, the Auxiliary has supported the Samaritan volunteer program, which serves a crucial role in the day-to-day operations at Samaritan.

In 2015, Samaritan's 172 volunteers contributed 20,343 hours of service helping in areas such as: the information desk, patient registration, the Emergency Department, patient visits on the inpatient units, the Gift Shops, and Samaritan Keep Home and Summit Village outings and special events. This is an increase of more than 1,800 volunteer hours over 2014!

In 2015,
90 new volunteers
began serving
Samaritan Medical Center,
Samaritan Keep Home
and Samaritan Summit
Village in a variety of
caring and
helpful ways!



# Leading the Way with Community Support

The Samaritan Volunteer Program provides critical support in the day-to-day operations at Samaritan Medical Center, Samaritan Keep Home and Samaritan Summit Village. But did you know that the Samaritan Volunteer Program plays an important role in supporting our community as well?

Our Volunteer Program works in partnership with many other local health and human service agencies, providing meaningful opportunities for clients to give back and make a difference in our community. Over the past year Samaritan has supported volunteers from JRC, BOCES, Credo Community Center, Northern Regional Center for Independent Living, Mental Health Association, Watertown Housing Authority, and The Workplace. In turn these volunteers have generously donated many hours of their time to support our patients, residents and staff.

Pictured is Logan Trickey, a community volunteer from Credo Community Center. Logan volunteered twice a week in the Samaritan Storeroom helping to unload and deliver supplies.



# **2015 Summer Teen Volunteer Program**

The 2015 Summer Teen Volunteer program included fifteen teens ranging in age from 13 to 17. The program is a rewarding experience that helps students learn more about Samaritan, themselves and the importance of giving back.

Volunteer Spotlight:

# **Janet Hunter**

In January 2013 while visiting a family member at Samaritan Medical Center, Janet "Jan" Hunter was inspired to become a volunteer. She was impressed by the dedication of the volunteer who assisted in her family member's hospital room and quickly decided that she too would like to participate in such a meaningful endeavor. Jan now volunteers at Samaritan Summit Village providing assistance with resident activities and, until recently, gave of her time at Samaritan Medical Center providing clerical support at Registration. She donates over 30 hours monthly as a Samaritan Volunteer!

"I volunteer because helping others makes me feel good about myself, "Jan shares. "And when I think I'm having a bad day, helping others in poor health really puts things in perspective. After spending time trying to help them feel better, my bad day gets better as well."



Photos provided by Photoessence Photography

# "One Night, One Diamond"

The Auxiliary's biggest community fundraising event of the year is One Night, One Diamond. The event, held annually in March, has raised monies for many significant equipment purchases at Samaritan over the years. Proceeds from the 2015 event – the 13th Annual One Night, One Diamond held on March 21st – totaled almost \$46,000 toward the purchase of a Neoprobe Gamma Detection System, used to identify the sentinel lymph node during breast cancer surgery.

Meet Our 2015 Auxiliary Scholarship Recipient:

**Justin Farman** 

Each year the Samaritan Auxiliary awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a Samaritan employee wishing to further his or her education in a healthcare related field. The 2015 recipient was Justin Farman. An aid in the Emergency Department, Mr. Farman has worked for Samaritan Medical Center since 2011. He graduated in May with an Associates' degree in Nursing from Jefferson Community College and is now eligible for licensure as a registered nurse (RN).

# Join the Samaritan Auxiliary!

If you want to make a difference, meet new people and donate your time and talent toward making a great organization even better, consider becoming a member of the Samaritan Auxiliary. Annual membership dues are \$15; seniors \$5.

There are also currently 72 Auxiliary Life Members who lead the way with their support! Life Membership is a one time payment of \$200. For more information about joining the Auxiliary, please contact Jane Schmitt at jschmitt@shsny.com or Shawna Cutuli at ymca\_sgee@yahoo.com.

# Volunteer and Auxiliary 2015 Highlights

Proceeds from the Auxiliary's ongoing fundraising ventures continue to be given directly back to Samaritan by supporting equipment purchases, new services and expansion. In 2015 these included:

- The purchase of a bladder scanner for use in the care of the residents at Samaritan Summit Village to help prevent infections.
- The purchase of equipment for patients in the Samaritan Medical Center Inpatient Mental Health Unit for relaxation and easing anxiety.

# The Auxiliary also continues to support on-going projects such as:

- Children's tours for second graders from schools throughout Jefferson County. The program is funded by the Auxiliary, with Samaritan volunteers helping to provide the actual tours.
- Stuffed animals, coloring books and crayons for young patients in the Emergency Department and Surgical Care area.
- Complimentary newspapers donated each day of the week for patient use.
- Flowers for each resident's birthday at Samaritan Keep Home and Samaritan Summit Village.



# 2015-2016 Auxiliary Board

# Executive

Maria Alicea, President Christine Cisco, Vice President Maryann Rondon, Treasurer Wendy Grimm, Assistant Treasurer Marcie Marcolini, Secretary Renee Waterbury, Past President

# **Directors**

Irene Carman Shawna Cutuli Erika Flint

\* Deceased

Joanne Rhode Susan Sovie\*

# 75 Years of Miracles

In 1990, Samaritan Medical Center elected to participate in the Children's Miracle
Network Telethon, which would raise much needed funds for pediatric healthcare in the
region. What began as a single fundraising event has evolved over the years into
a year round fundraising effort which involves many local events, national programs,
and corporate partnerships. Today, the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals
program at Samaritan raises more than \$400,000 annually and allocates 100%
of the funds raised locally in Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Lewis Counties.

2005



Helping Local Kids

2003

Soldiers volunteering at the 2005 Radiothon pose with a Miracle Family.



Just Fore Fun presents a check for more than \$15,000 to CMN Hospitals at Samaritan.



2008
Madison Draper is chosen as the 2008
New York State
Miracle Champion.



Class of 2008 New Vision students lead a morale dance at the Dance marathon.



Team "Lifesavers" takes a quick break from the 2008 Stayin' Awake for Kids' Sake 12-Hour Dance Marathon to pose for the camera.

# 1991



Phone bank volunteers during the 1991 Telethon.

1997



Johnny Spezzano during the 1997 Telethon.



Walmart Associates wait for phones to ring during the 2003 Radiothon.

Johnny Spezzano and

# 2006



Volunteers pose for their annual group photo during the 2006 Telethon.

# Number of families helped through direct family assistance

# More than 1,000



2009



The New Vision Health Careers Class of 2009 hold up their tote board for the annual Dance Marathon!

2012



The Marketing and Foundation teams celebrate Miracle Jeans Day.



As a proud partner of CMN Hospitals, Miss New York and Miss Thousand Islands paid a visit to child centered areas of Samaritan, pictured here with Maternity Staff.



A pediatric patient accepts a check from the Stewart's Shops Holiday Match program.

2013



Foundation Board Chair, Martin Yenawine, donned his red and yellow to help direct racers during the 2013 River Rat Triathlon in Clayton.



The 1st Place Winner of the 2013 Baby Photo Contest and Miracle Child, Lily Kowalcyzk, is awarded her prize at the Baby Photo Contest Awards Ceremony along with her parents, Elisa and Jay.



Walmart Associates sport red and yellow t-shirts during their fundraising campaign for CMN. Every year, Walmart Associates locally raise about \$100,000 by asking customers for donations and holding special events at their stores.

2014



Andy Short makes a SPLASH for the kids during the Summer Teen Volunteers' Dunking Booth fundraiser for CMN.



Rite Aid Store Manager Pete Mathewson shaves his head in honor of his store's success during their fundraising campaign.

The CMN Radiothon has raised more than \$1 Million

in its history with Samaritan Medical Center. 2015



Kathy Lettiere, A Touch of Grace, presents Morgan Bocciolatt, CMN Development Manager, with a check for \$2,066, raised by selling balloon icons in her shop.



Triathletes cross the finish line with their young fans during the 2015 River Rat Triathlon.



Johnny Spezzano poses for a quick shot during his broadcast for the 15th Annual Radiothon.



Representatives from the Kinney Drugs Foundation present a check to Children's Miracle Network.



samaritanhealth.com



#### **Samaritan Medical Center**

830 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601 315-785-4000

# Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern NY Children's Miracle Network of Northern NY at Samaritan

830 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601 315-785-4053

# Samaritan Keep Home

133 Pratt Street Watertown, NY 13601 315-785-4400

# **Samaritan Summit Village**

22691 Campus Drive Watertown, NY 13601 315-782-6800

### **Clifton-Fine Hospital**

1014 Oswegatchie Trail Road Star Lake, NY 13690 315-848-5404

# A Woman's Perspective OB/GYN

22567 Summit Drive, Building 2, Suite C, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-788-2805

#### Samaritan Addiction Services

1575 Washington Street, Suite A, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-779-5060

#### Samaritan Ear, Nose and Throat & Gastroenterology

826 Washington Street, Suite 204, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-788-1751

# **Samaritan Family Health Center at Adams**

10881 NYS Route 11, Adams, NY 13605 - 315-232-4400

# **Samaritan Family Health Center at Cape Vincent**

782 East Broadway Street, Cape Vincent, NY 13618 - 315-654-2530

#### Samaritan Family Health Center at Clayton

909 Strawberry Lane, Clayton, NY 13624 - 315-686-2094

# Samaritan Family Health Center at Lacona

3 DeMott Street, Lacona, NY 13083 - 315-387-3400

#### Samaritan Family Health Center at LeRay

26908 Independence Way, Suite 101, Evans Mills, NY 13637 - 315-629-4525

# **Samaritan Family Health Center at Sackets Harbor**

105 Barracks Drive, Sackets Harbor, NY 13685 - 315-646-7119

# **Samaritan Family Health Center at Watertown**

1575 Washington Street, Suite B, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-786-7300

#### **Samaritan General Surgery**

428 Washington Street, Suite 1, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-782-1505

#### **Samaritan Home Health**

165 Coleman Avenue, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-782-0415

# Samaritan Imaging & Lab Center at Coffeen Street

1213 Coffeen Street, Suite 2, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-755-2140

# Samaritan Imaging & Lab Center at Washington Summit

22567 Summit Drive, Bldg 2, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-788-1204

#### Samaritan Lab Patient Service Center

1571 Washington Street, Ste 102, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-786-8962

# Samaritan Neurosurgery

629 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-755-1359

# Samaritan Oncology/Hematology

531 Washington Street, Suite 1000, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-788-7990

# **Samaritan Outpatient Behavioral Health**

1575 Washington Street, Suite A, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-779-5060

# Samaritan Urgent Care at LeRay

26908 Independence Way, Evans Mills, NY 13637 - 315-629-4080

#### Samaritan Urology

22567 Summit Drive, Bldg 2, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-782-7230

# **Samaritan Woman to Woman**

1575 Washington Street, Suite C, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-785-4155

#### **Samaritan Wound Care Center**

165 Coleman Avenue, Watertown, NY 13601 - 315-755-2024