



# THE YEAR OF THE CAREGIVER

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*Samaritan Health Annual Report*

## Senior Management Team



Thomas H. Carman  
President &  
Chief Executive Officer



M. Andrew Short  
VP, Chief Operating  
Officer



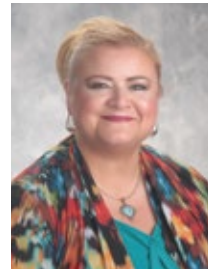
Maxine A. Briggs  
VP, Chief Financial  
Officer



Dr. Mario Victoria  
VP, Medical Affairs &  
Chief Medical Officer



Kimberly L. Thibert  
VP, Patient Care  
Services &  
Chief Nursing Officer  
(January-June)



Jacqueline Dawe  
VP, Patient Care  
Services &  
Chief Nursing Officer  
(July-December)



Elizabeth C. Fipps  
VP, Foundation &  
Community Services



Joel P. Benware  
VP, Information  
Services & Chief  
Information Officer



Barbara E. Morrow  
VP, Long Term  
Care Services & Chief  
Compliance Officer



Christopher J. Bastien  
AVP, Support Services

See page 29 for more on  
*Senior Leader Retirements*

## 2021 Governing Boards

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#### Officers

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Thomas Carman, President & CEO  
Bernard Brown, Vice Chair through June 2021  
Denise Young, Vice Chair July 2021 - current  
Denise Young, Secretary through June 2021  
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Maxine Briggs, Treasurer  
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& Chief Compliance Officer

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#### Officers

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President  
Melissa Schmitt,  
Vice President  
Irene Carman,  
Secretary  
Berline Dodard,  
Immediate Past President

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Jeri Gosier  
Christina Mollison  
Tammie Nabywaniec  
Dylan Pauly  
Jessica Piatt-Walczyk

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## Dear Friends,

When I look back on 2021, I believe it was an important turning point for our health system and community. It began almost indistinguishably from 2020—COVID-19 still loomed large, and fear and uncertainty lingered as new variants of the virus cropped up. Yet, as months passed, the mood began to shift. Though still concerned about the virus, Samaritan's Caregivers began to overcome it with ingenuity, persistence, and compassion. While 2020 might have been the Year of the Pandemic, 2021 was the Year of the Caregiver.

COVID-19 vaccines became widely available in 2021, and Samaritan was at the forefront of providing local access and education. We hosted several in-house vaccine clinics for staff and community members, and we devoted our resources and manpower to a state-sponsored clinic at Jefferson Community College. Samaritan Caregivers were there for community members who had questions about the vaccine, opening the phone lines and addressing patient concerns during "Talk with a Doc" events throughout the year.

Samaritan also ramped up COVID-19 testing initiatives in 2021. Our caregivers operated a free, state-sponsored testing site for the first half of the year until the Department of Health ended the program in August. While advocating for the state to reopen the free site, we continued to offer testing, even to asymptomatic individuals, until successfully regaining the state's support in December. Our testing site performed 49,138 tests in 2021, of which 5,002 were provided free of charge during state-sponsored months.

What truly turned the tide of pandemic response in 2021 were the strategies we deployed to treat and heal patients with COVID-19. Our Home Health Agency helped us launch an at-home monitoring program for patients with less-severe COVID-19, which saw successful results. Our Infusion Unit began offering monoclonal antibody treatments, providing much-needed therapy to COVID-positive community members. A total of 806 doses were administered during the year and only 4 percent of cases required subsequent hospitalization, meaning hundreds of potential hospitalizations were prevented.

These accomplishments alone made 2021 a standout year for Samaritan. Yet, they are just a few examples among many milestones our caregivers reached last year. Many more achievements were celebrated, especially related to specialty clinics and services. Here are a few:

- Samaritan Orthopedics opened in January 2021 and soon after welcomed three new orthopedic surgeons—Dr. David Newman, Dr. Maurice Tom-Pack, Dr. Brian Zafonte—and a new physician assistant, Lisa Schott. Samaritan Orthopedics also invested in the Mako SmartRobotics™ System to offer robotic-assisted total knee, partial knee, and total hip replacements.
- Samaritan opened a new imaging facility in June 2021 after purchasing assets from Northern Radiology Imaging. This comprehensive, community-based location offers MRI, PET, and CT scans, ultrasound, X-ray, mammography, stereotactic breast biopsies, and more.
- Samaritan affiliated with Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in October 2021, linking the Walker Center for Cancer Care medical oncology services with the Roswell Park Care Network. This gives local patients access to leading cancer research, education, prevention services, and enhanced capabilities and resources.

What was the common thread throughout all of our 2021 accomplishments? A team of caregivers with a common goal—to provide the best care possible for you and your family. So, as you read this report and reflect on the past year, I hope you'll join me in remembering 2021 as the Year of the Caregiver.

Sincerely,

**Thomas H. Carman**  
President & CEO

## Staff Awards

### 20 Under 40

For more than a decade, NNY Business magazine has recognized emerging young leaders in the community through its "20 Under 40" Awards. Samaritan has been fortunate to have several of its team members receive this honor over the years, and in 2021 two more Samaritan Caregivers joined the ranks — Dr. Asim Kichloo, Chief of Hospital Medicine, and Lisa Virkler, Emergency Department RN. Both were honored with professional profiles in a special edition of NNY Business and at an award ceremony in May 2022, rescheduled from December 2021.

Congratulations to both 20 Under 40 recipients! We thank them for their contributions to our community and are proud to have them as part of the Samaritan Family.



### Community Health Hero Award

In addition to the 20 Under 40 Award, Dr. Asim Kichloo was named Jefferson County's 2021 Community Health Hero for his selfless and courageous work as Director of Samaritan's COVID-19 Unit during the pandemic. This award, given by the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and North Country Health Compass Partners, honors one person each in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties who goes above and beyond expectations to improve health and wellness in their community. The award corresponds with National Rural Health Day, the third Thursday in November. Congratulations, Dr. Kichloo!



Giving birth to our second child, Aiden, was very different from the first time around, and we're just glad that we were at Samaritan. We want to give thanks to not only our nurse, Matt, but to all the nurses that were there that helped us.

When we got to the hospital, I walked Matt, and I was initially surprised that it was a male nurse in a maternity ward, and he was just there through the whole time helping, talking to my wife, calming her down as well with the other nurse. It just made me feel like he was a friend, you know, as opposed to a nurse.

We really wanted to do something special for Matt. We just appreciated him so much and we really felt like he deserved to be recognized. I wasn't aware of a DAISY Award, and I saw the little sticker or sign on the wall in the room and that's when I thought to myself, 'You know, maybe we should—this is a good way to reward him.' I'm glad that I was able to put down our experience in words and it was enough for him to get rewarded, because I think he deserves it.

The Cordero Family



# Facing the Challenges of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic kept everyone at Samaritan “on their toes” in 2021. Some months, it seemed that recovery and normalcy were just around the corner, only for new variants to arrive and local positivity rates to surge once again. Throughout these ups and downs, Samaritan remained at the forefront of pandemic response, providing our community critical services and resources.

## Expansion of Vaccination Clinics

In 2021, Samaritan joined the New York State Health Department and Jefferson County to ensure as many people as possible had access to COVID-19 vaccines.

Following the approval of COVID-19 vaccines in late 2020, the first doses given by Samaritan were to its clinical staff. These in-house vaccination efforts continued into early 2021, when Samaritan expanded access to other staff, local emergency services personnel and other eligible individuals, administering more than 6,000 doses.

Later, as more of the general population became vaccine eligible, Samaritan provided personnel and resources to operate several New York State-sponsored vaccination clinics at Jefferson Community College. More than 16,000 doses were administered at these clinics.

To help address concerns about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, Samaritan expanded its community outreach efforts. Several “Talk with a Doc” events were organized to provide North Country residents an opportunity to ask local specialists their questions about vaccine safety.

## Specialized Treatment to Prevent Hospitalization

In 2021, Samaritan cared for 550 hospitalized COVID-19 patients. To help accommodate this surge, the hospital increased its telemetry monitoring capacity, adding eight additional vital sign monitors. It also explored opportunities to prevent hospitalization, when possible.

One successful intervention was monoclonal antibody therapy, which Samaritan began offering soon after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized it. Treatments were offered to COVID-positive patients with mild to moderate symptoms who were at risk of developing more severe symptoms that could require hospitalization.

Samaritan’s Infusion Unit administered 806 doses of monoclonal antibodies in 2021, and most who received infusions reported feeling significantly better after a brief period. Moreover, this therapy was effective at preventing progression to severe disease and hospitalization. Only 4 percent of patients receiving monoclonal antibodies at Samaritan required later hospitalization, meaning hundreds of potential hospitalizations were prevented.

Each dose took a minimum of 3.5 hours to administer. At least 2,821 hours of staff time, or nearly 118 full days, were devoted to providing this vital new treatment. Notably, 67 doses of monoclonal antibodies were given to COVID-positive residents of Samaritan Keep Home, helping them recover from the virus and avoid hospitalization.

## Helping Patients Recover at Home

In 2021, Samaritan piloted a program that helps patients with less severe cases of COVID-19 safely recover in their homes with the assistance of remote monitoring and follow-up care.

The program began as a partnership between Samaritan’s Home Health Agency and Emergency Department (ED) staff. Each COVID-19 patient seeking treatment in the ED was thoroughly assessed to determine if he or she could be safely monitored at home or if hospitalization would be required.

Patients eligible to recover at home were discharged with medical-grade pulse oximeters to monitor their oxygen saturation levels and ensure they remained within a safe range. They were also given follow-up appointments within 48 hours from discharge, check-in visits from a team of dedicated nurses and therapists, and an emergency phone number to call if their symptoms worsened.

Most of these patients stayed home, recovering safely in a more comfortable and familiar setting. The program significantly helped reduce the hospitalization rate of COVID-19 patients and allowed Samaritan Medical Center to maintain enough bed capacity for more severe cases.

## Continuing COVID-19 Services from 2020

When COVID-19 hit the North Country in 2020, Samaritan quickly emerged as a regional leader in pandemic response. It quickly established critical resources and vital services during the initial phases of the pandemic, many of which continued into 2021.

Samaritan established the area’s first COVID-19 Resource Line, a call center staffed by medical personnel to help people get tested quickly and answer their questions about the virus. That service continued throughout 2021, receiving 9,000 calls in the year to bring its total to 19,000 calls since it was established.

Samaritan also opened the first drive-up testing site in the region in 2020. That July, New York State began sponsoring free testing at our drive-up location, a service that operated continuously throughout the year. In summer 2021, the state ended the free, state-sponsored testing program, but Samaritan continued its surgical and symptomatic testing. For the 2021 year, a total of 49,138 tests were performed at the drive-up site.

## Award Recognition

In 2021, Samaritan was honored for its exemplary efforts in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. It received the QUEST Hero Award from Premier Inc., a healthcare improvement company and alliance of approximately 4,400 U.S. hospitals and health systems and more than 225,000 other providers and organizations.

Hospitals affiliated with QUEST monitor and measure performances to ensure the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective care. Premier Inc. honored QUEST members for their distinguished service in keeping patients first amid the 2020-21 COVID-19 public health emergency.



### Tribute to a Community Leader

Samaritan Medical Center would like to thank Scott A. Gray, former chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators, for his leadership throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Gray stepped down from his position at the end of 2021 after three two-year terms as chairman. He implemented public health strategies, helped coordinate Jefferson County’s testing and vaccination resources, and served as a spokesman and advocate for our local healthcare facilities. He quickly became a partner to Samaritan and coordinated conversations with the state, Jefferson County Public Health Service, Fort Drum, and several other local agencies during the pandemic. Mr. Gray also worked to keep our local economy alive during many months of obstacles ushered in by the pandemic. Above all, he kept the health and safety of Jefferson County residents a priority in difficult times. For that, we are thankful.



# The Year of the Caregiver

Being a caregiver is more than taking vitals and managing medication. It involves balancing nutrition, ensuring safety, maintaining cleanliness, providing a shoulder to cry on, explaining the details, listening to dreams, planning for the future, and more.

That's why, in 2021, our goal was to recognize all Samaritan employees as caregivers.

Our team of caregivers has an unwavering commitment to our patients and residents. That includes everyone, from Accounting to X-Ray and all roles in between. Each employee has a special skill set and contributes to our quality care.

In the summer of 2021, Samaritan's Senior Leadership restarted the tradition of shadowing employees quarterly, a process that had been on hold due to COVID-19. This practice, as well as rounding, provided a richer understanding of experiences and challenges staff face on a day-to-day basis. We see it on paper, but living it is another thing. This eye-opening experience allowed staff the opportunity to display what was working, what was not, and why. Many offered meaningful suggestions for improvement, and in some cases, we were able to provide timely resolution.

Despite supply-chain issues and staffing shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Samaritan persevered and made necessary changes for the health and safety of caregivers.

Most notably, an \$8 million investment was made in recruitment and retention, and an Employee Retention and Resolution Specialist was hired to help steward this investment.

Market-based salary adjustments were completed to ensure RNs, clinic LPNs and long-tenured employees were receiving fair wages in a rapidly changing staffing climate. Bedside nurses throughout the Samaritan network received a 14% pay increase.

Our system-wide minimum wage was raised to \$15 per hour, which affected 1,200 staff members. All in all, nearly 1,900 employees received raises based on job performance and time in service.

We saw our float pool staff bolstered, and additional visual observation employees, nursing assistants, RNs, unit clerks and traveling nurses were hired.

Long Term Care facilities were in dire need of LPNs in 2021 and because of this, Samaritan launched an LPN Hot Job Program, which covers up to \$10,000 of the BOCES LPN program cost. We have wonderful caregivers who truly put their hearts into serving our Long Term Care residents, and we are proud to invest in their future at Samaritan.

Another major initiative of Senior Leadership was to create a culture of gratitude. This concept was presented at the June 2021 Leadership Retreat, the first held since the COVID-19 outbreak. To show gratitude for all caregivers, Samaritan leadership increased face-to-face interactions and provided fun, meaningful engagement opportunities such as celebrations, resumed Thanksgiving turkey distribution, Samaritan Experience Week, ice cream day, food truck events and snack distribution.

Investing in our caregivers thoughtfully and methodically in 2021 is one of our greatest successes. All of our accomplishments link back to our exceptional team, and for this, we are grateful.

**Well done, team.**

# 2021 by the Numbers

## Year of Financial Recovery

An aggressive financial recovery plan established by Samaritan leadership in late 2020, coupled with grant funds and an accounting protocol change, enabled the healthcare system to finish 2021 with a \$5.57 million profit. Samaritan's path to financial recovery focused on several factors, including increasing revenue, reducing non-staffing expenses, and restoring pre-COVID-19 patient and resident volumes. Although not all of this was achieved in 2021, there were many bright spots throughout the year that positioned Samaritan for continued financial success in 2022.

Occupancy at Samaritan's two long term care facilities and enrollment in its Home Health Agency remained below pre-pandemic numbers in 2021. Fortunately, \$8.2 million in funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the CARES Act helped Samaritan get back on track from some of those losses, recouping a deficit of \$5.5 million incurred in operating Samaritan Summit Village and Samaritan Keep Home. These two facilities were especially hard hit as a result of the pandemic and staffing shortages, causing both to have lower-than-normal occupancy rates.

Our specialty practices also were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic due to decreased patient volume. Fortunately, 2021 provided a reprieve—the receipt of federal funding and the ability to increase patient visits late in the year brought forth financial optimism.

As recovery began, Samaritan leadership recognized the need to make a significant investment in staff wages, which continue to be market-driven. The national labor market had grown increasingly competitive, and recruitment and retention of employees became a top priority for the healthcare system. Since the end of 2020, Samaritan had seen a 50 percent increase in open positions — a reflection of the unexpected burdens placed on healthcare industry staff nationwide. In response, leadership decided to move forward with an \$8 million boost to staff wages, the single largest investment in more than a decade. This major commitment increased the minimum wage for all entry-level staff from approximately \$12 an hour to \$15 an hour and gave higher-level employees pay increases based on a market wage analysis.

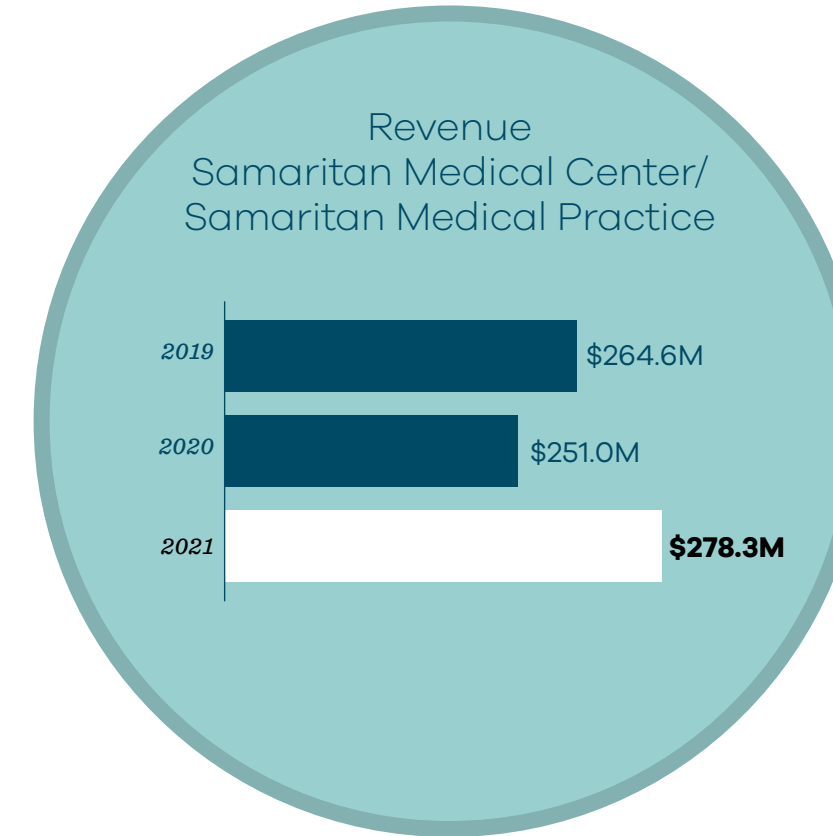
The investment was critical to enhance Samaritan's ability to recruit talented employees from throughout the region and beyond, and at the same time, recognize the tremendous resilience and dedication of current employees going above and beyond to provide vital healthcare services to the community.

Approximately 1,200 existing Samaritan employees received higher pay as minimum wage increased and senior employees also received increased compensation. Employees working evening and night shifts also received additional differential pay.

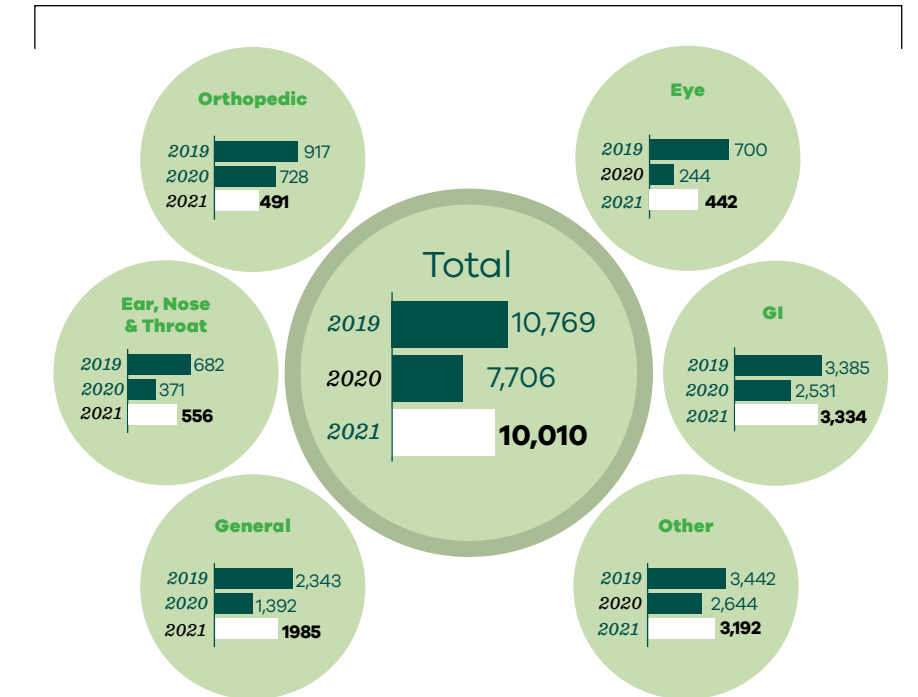
Samaritan's registered nurses (RN) were impacted positively by market changes as we neared 2022. Because of the labor market and sheer demand for nurses, a 14% wage increase for all Samaritan unionized RNs was warranted and needed. In an effort to increase the pool of highly qualified candidates and retain current caregivers, Samaritan combined this significant pay increase with comprehensive benefit packages and sign-on bonuses. An additional goal was to reduce the need for traveling nurses as costs associated with this labor rose dramatically in 2021 due to the pandemic and national labor shortage.

Lastly, an update in the accounting practice for reconciling insurance payments also positively affected the audited financials for the year. The updated and industry-standard practice focused on actively reconciling these accounts, resulting in a \$6 million increase in assets. This played a vital role in helping Samaritan achieve a higher-than-expected year-end profit, and the updated accounting practice established a more effective method for future insurance payment reconciliations.

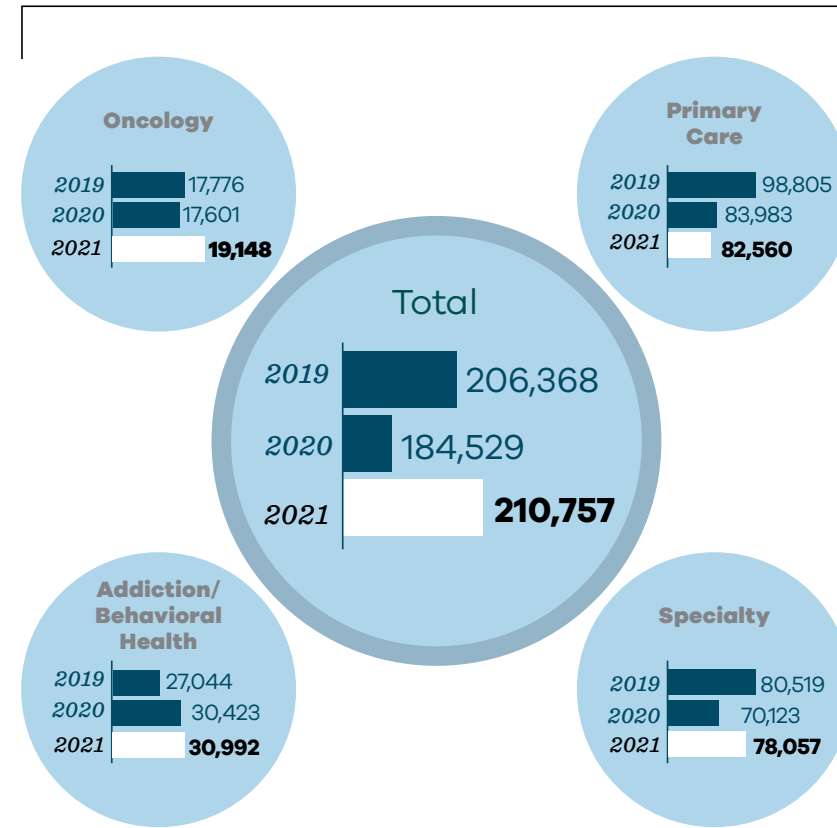
The success of Samaritan's financial recovery plan in 2021 was crucial to ensure the healthcare system could cover large-scale staff wage increases in 2022 while meeting anticipated rises in supply expenses and the costs of hiring additional traveling nurses. The positive financial outcome of a \$5.57 million profit puts Samaritan in a solid position for the coming year, with the goal to reach higher volumes to fund investments in team, equipment and facility needs.



### Surgical and Outpatient Procedure Cases



### Outpatient Clinic Visits



By encouraging patients to have a primary care provider, seek specialty care when needed and utilize the appropriate level of care, we have incurred an expected decline in inpatient and emergency department visits.

### 2021 Care Counts

	2020	2021
Births	1,545	1,521
Acute Rehabilitation Days	3,183	3,150
Surgical Cases	4,658	7,657
Discharges	9,616	9,652
Emergency Department Visits	35,768	38,876
Imaging	108,262	129,561
Outpatient Clinic Visits	184,529	191,609
Laboratory	874,878	954,523
Resident Days	194,414	180,752
Samaritan Home Health Visits	15,763	18,281
Skilled Nursing Facility Occupancy	95%	90%
Assisted Living Occupancy	93%	94%

### Post-Acute and Long Term Care

Samaritan Keep Home/Samaritan Summit Village/Samaritan Home Health

#### Revenue



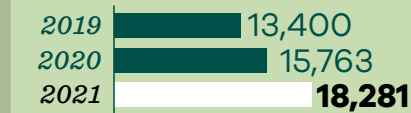
#### Occupancy Skilled Nursing



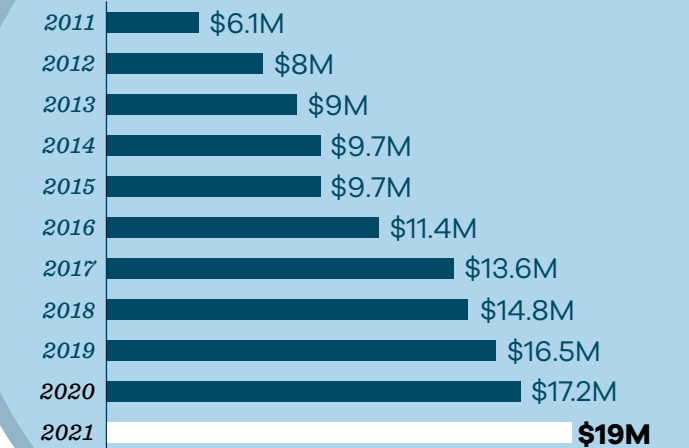
#### Occupancy Assisted Living



#### Visits Home Care



### Asset Growth SMC Foundation



# Serving Community Need

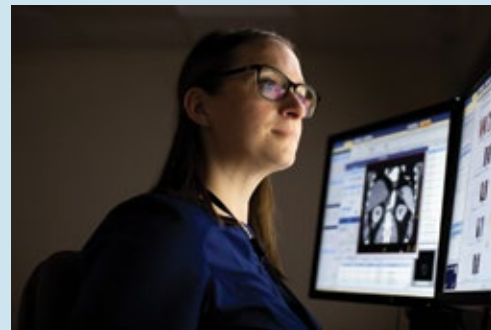


## We See Your Care Clearly

Samaritan has always taken pride in its high-caliber and accessible suite of Imaging Services, and 2021 gave us even more to be proud of. In June 2021, we cut the ribbon on a new community-based imaging facility inside the Samaritan Health & Wellness Plaza at 1575 Washington St. in Watertown. This office, called the Plaza Imaging & Lab Center, provides comprehensive imaging services, complete with MRI, PET, and CT scans, ultrasound, X-ray, mammography, stereotactic breast biopsies, and more. The new center opening was the culmination of an agreement between Samaritan and the former Northern Radiology Imaging, which closed after selling all of its assets to Samaritan in spring 2021. This was a strategic decision for growth.

Samaritan's new center has streamlined patient access and continuity of care for diagnostic imaging services, allowing local patients to access advanced imaging technology without entering the hospital.

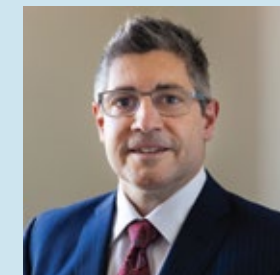
Samaritan offers imaging services, including MRI, CT scan, ultrasound, X-ray, and more at its medical center, plus X-ray and ultrasound services at various community-based sites. These sites provide access to walk-in and appointment-based imaging and lab services. All locations are listed on the back of this report.



## Samaritan Orthopedics

At the start of 2021, we were proud to introduce our latest specialty practice, Samaritan Orthopedics, in the Washington Summit complex at 22567 Summit Drive, Building II, in Watertown. This was a strategic expansion in our specialty services, made in response to a community need for more orthopedic care.

Early on, orthopedic surgeons Scott Mollison, MD, and David Newman, MD, shared their expertise with the local community. Eventually, we grew to three orthopedic surgeons and one physician assistant with the additions of Maurice Tom-Pack, MD, and Lisa Schott, PA-C.



*Dr. Brian Zafonte, a fellowship-trained hand surgeon, joined the team as Medical Director in January 2022.*

## Ophthalmology Services

Samaritan was proud to partner with Costello Eye Physicians & Surgeons in 2021, bringing expanded ophthalmology services to local patients. Three of Costello's physicians joined our medical staff, increasing the number of eye surgeries performed as we work with the group to recruit a full-time ophthalmologist to Watertown, which will happen in 2022.



John J. Costello Jr., DO



Patrick A. Costello, MD



Ganga R. Nair, MD



Stryker's Mako SmartRobotics™ System was introduced in June and has afforded our patients high-tech robotic-assisted joint replacement for total knee, partial knee, and total hip procedures. Samaritan is the only local hospital to offer this innovative surgical tool to patients. After just one year of using the Mako System, we have seen a one-day decrease in postoperative length of stay and improved recovery times.





## Next Level of Cancer Care

*Partnership brings new hope to patients*

As treatments and research evolve, our care for cancer patients must also change. Throughout the years, Samaritan's cancer services have modernized and will continue to do so as new technology and treatments are made available, new physicians are recruited, and seasoned physicians retire.

When the Walker Center for Cancer Care was constructed in 2018, it brought together medical and radiation oncology services in a new, state-of-the-art facility. This offering was a significant shift for the community, affording patients timely cancer care options, right here in the North Country.

In 2019, when administrators from the renowned Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo reached out to Samaritan, a new relationship was cultivated. Roswell could see our potential, and Samaritan knew a partnership would be a natural progression for our rural-based cancer care center. In October 2021, Samaritan officially affiliated with Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, linking medical oncology services provided at the Walker Center for Cancer Care with the Roswell Park Care Network.

Samaritan's existing medical oncologists, Florence P. Arnold, MD, and Ihsan U. Haq, MD, became Roswell Park Care Network employees but continue to provide care at the Walker Center location. Patients now have access to enhanced capabilities and resources offered by the Roswell Park Care Network, the most expansive community cancer, supportive and specialized care affiliation across New York State.

The level of engagement from the Roswell team, their wisdom shared, and the benefits to our patients from coordinated care have surpassed all expectations. We look forward to new developments and patient care integration as we move forward with Roswell and continue to work toward accreditation.

Radiation oncology continues to be an essential service at the Walker Center, although not directly affiliated with the Roswell Park Care Network. In 2021, Dr. Justin Budnik and his team completed 7,073 patient appointments — a major increase over 2019 and 2020 visits, by 13% and 24% respectively. New patient quality services, such as SpaceOAR therapy for prostate cancer patients, were added. Patient volumes continue to increase in 2022, hence the plans to reopen a back-up linear accelerator machine that will provide more availability for patients needing radiation oncology care.



MEDICAL ONCOLOGY



*Samaritan Medical Center President & CEO Thomas H. Carman and Thomas Schwaab, MD, PhD, Roswell Park's Chief of Strategy, Business Development and Outreach*



*Roswell Park Care Network CEO Candace S. Johnson, PhD, and Thomas H. Carman*



*Thomas H. Carman with Medical Oncologists Dr. Florence P. Arnold and Dr. Ihsan U. Haq and Roswell Park's Chief of Strategy, Business Development and Outreach Thomas Schwaab, MD, PhD*

## Care That's As *Exceptional* As You

At Samaritan, we believe our community deserves health services that are as exceptional as its people. Care that's comprehensive and compassionate. Services that are cutting-edge and coordinated with skilled doctors, nurses, and caregivers who understand your needs and are dedicated to serving them. This was the premise behind the 2021 marketing campaign to remind the local community and our Samaritan Caregivers about our mission. The campaign carried the tagline "Care that's as exceptional as you" and featured several exceptional members of the Samaritan Family and local community.



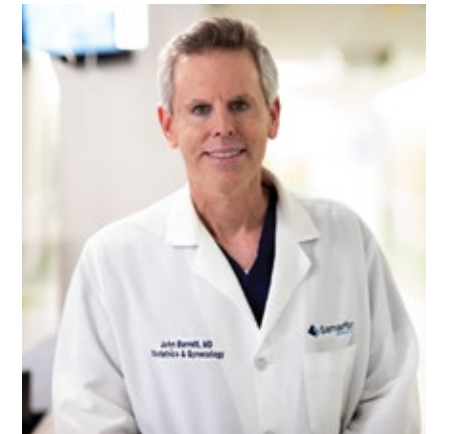
**Erin Wiley**  
Science Teacher,  
South Jefferson

**We featured four community members and eight Samaritan Caregivers with incredible stories and passion. For our community members, we featured: Erin Wiley, a beloved science teacher at South Jefferson Middle and High School, and her therapy dog, Buddy; Will Kalin, Chief of the Town of Rutland Fire Department; Betty Boulter, an Assisted Living resident at Samaritan Summit Village; and Shawna Cutuli, Watertown native and Watertown Family YMCA employee.**

Samaritan Caregivers featured were: Sandy Baril, who provides exceptional care to residents of Summit Village. She is passionate about her relationships with residents and proud of her team. Dr. John Barrett is an OB/GYN at Samaritan Medical Center who helps provide exceptional care to our patients. Dr. Barrett is proud of the outcomes our maternity service delivers to patients in the local area, including military patients from Fort Drum. Rachel Moore, LPN, is an 18-year employee of Samaritan Medical Center. She provides exceptional care to our patients at Samaritan Dermatology. Kelly Murtha, a caregiver at Samaritan Medical Center, has worked in the Food Service Department for the better part of a decade. She takes pride in the services she provides patients. Nicole Simmons, a 30-year veteran employee at Samaritan Medical Center. Nicole currently works in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), caring for our hospital's tiniest patients.

Also featured: Laura Ross, an exceptional Patient Care Assistant in the Emergency Department. She has worked for Samaritan since 2006. Raymond Hirst is a Training Analyst in the Registration Department of Samaritan Medical Center. He enjoys being one of the first faces that patients see as they enter the hospital and helps guide them through their appointments. Rose Busler is a 20-year veteran caregiver at Samaritan Keep Home. Rose is the Director of Recreation Therapy, and she loves bringing a smile to her residents' faces. She treats all residents with dignity, respect, and compassion and strives to make them feel at home.

Learn more about this project and the full stories and videos behind these exceptional people at: [www.samaritanhealth.com/care](http://www.samaritanhealth.com/care)



# Long Term Care

**2021 proved another challenging year for Samaritan Long Term Care, with COVID-19 continuing to impact our two nursing homes' operations, admissions, staffing, and financial performance. Despite all the challenges, our Long Term Care team continues to progress, invest in quality and safety initiatives for residents and staff, improve staffing efforts, and welcome new leadership to the team.**

Our facilities underwent multiple New York State Department of Health surveys, including their annual and multiple infection control surveys due to COVID-19 outbreaks. There were no major findings, and staff members were complimented on how well we operated, especially concerning our COVID response and protocols. This speaks volumes about the dedicated team and infection prevention protocols in place.

PointClickCare was a new electronic health record system implemented in Long Term Care in 2021. PointClickCare,

a significant and much-needed upgrade for our system, required more than 1,000 staff hours for information transfer. Our Information Technology and Long Term Care teams did an amazing job making this transition smooth and productive. Not only does this new system improve resident care coordination, it also helps track quality issues, educates staff on relevant topics of resident care, integrates billing functionality and more.

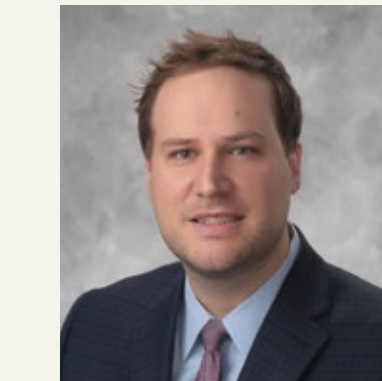
Staffing has been a critical issue in Long Term Care. Admitting new residents to the Keep Home and Summit Village is difficult if there are not enough caregivers to provide services. Samaritan continues to grow its pipeline for Certified Nursing Assistants, a role that is vital to resident care. We are proud to report the Nursing Assistant Training Program graduated 161 students in 2021, and our Human Resources team actively recruited for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) with larger sign-on bonuses to help fill these needed roles. Throughout the staffing challenge, the entire team worked together

and filled roles as needed to ensure residents received the care and attention they deserve.

Physician leadership is important in Long Term Care, and we have been fortunate to have several physicians highly involved in the quality medical care of residents. In 2021, Dr. Collins F. Kellogg, medical director at Samaritan Keep Home and Samaritan Summit Village, was credentialed as a Certified Medical Director in Post-Acute and Long Term Care Medicine. This certification comes from the American Board of Post Acute



Dr. Collins F. Kellogg



Patrick W. Calli

and Long Term Care Medicine (ABPLM). According to the ABPLM, Dr. Kellogg is one of more than 4,000 physicians nationwide who have received this designation since the program's inception in 1991.

Long Term Care administration is a dynamic of upholding policy and regulations and connecting with residents and their families. In early January 2022, Barbara Morrow retired as Samaritan's Vice President for Long Term Care (read more on page 29) and we welcomed Patrick Calli in February 2022.

## Long Term Care Employee of the Month

Selected by peers. Recipients were shared across the Samaritan Health System.

### Samaritan Keep Home

Alicia Soluri, LPN

Paul Vandermill  
Social Worker

Heather Chartrand  
Dietary

Mariah Cavallario  
Speech Therapist

Ann Rogers  
Environmental Services

Marilyn Eddy  
Business Office

### Samaritan Summit Village

Sandy Hazen  
Administrative Assistant

Alyssa Parker  
Dietary

Cheryl Wilson  
Unit Clerk, Assisted Living

Deb Lashway, LPN  
Skilled Nursing

Amanda Trumble, LPN  
Assisted Living

Lorraine Kinneer, LPN

Hasan Tuareg, CNA

Natalie Ettinger, CNA

Lisa Morrow  
Unit Clerk

Justyne Mynch  
Nurse Aide Training Program

Sandra Baril  
Director of Activities, Skilled Nursing

Danielle Peck  
Home Health Aide, Assisted Living

Nicole Jorge  
Assistant Director of Nursing,  
Skilled Nursing

# Home Health

Samaritan Home Health enjoyed another consecutive year of growth in 2021, reaching more patients and harnessing new technology to improve quality and accessibility of care.

Our Home Health providers performed 18,281 visits in 2021, up from 15,763 visits in 2020 and 13,400 visits in 2019. That's a 36% increase in just two years! Daily census of patients also grew in 2021, and Home Health set a new daily census record, reaching over 200 patients in a single day.

Home monitoring services were enhanced in 2021, as the Home Health team began using pulse oximeters to provide remote care to patients with COVID-19 and congestive heart failure. These devices, which monitor oxygen saturation levels, are given to patients after they are discharged from the Emergency Department with either of these diagnoses. Patients are monitored in the comfort of their home, obviating the need for hospital admission. They also have access to a robust Home Health team of nurses and therapists. This program has been highly successful so far, treating 158 COVID-positive patients—with only four readmitted to the hospital—and four congestive heart failure patients, of whom none were readmitted.

To cap off these achievements, Samaritan Home Health received a 5-star patient satisfaction survey rating in 2021. This is the highest rating possible.



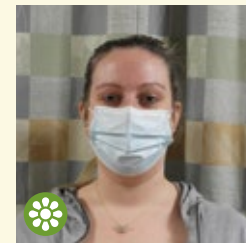
# DAISY and BEE Awards

Since 2020, Samaritan Medical Center has proudly honored its exceptional caregivers with monthly DAISY and BEE Awards. The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses® can be given to a nurse at Samaritan Medical Center or any outpatient clinic, and the BEE Award can be given to any staff member who supports patient care. In 2020, we celebrated four DAISY awardees and four BEE awardees. In 2021, we had the opportunity to celebrate 12 of each.

**Congratulations to our 2021 DAISY and BEE Award Winners!**



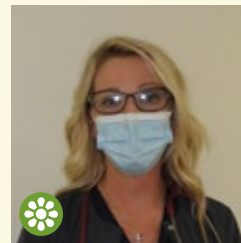
Jill Rice, RN  
January 2021



Kodie Anderson, RN  
February 2021



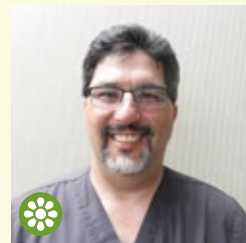
Alison Nugent, RN  
March 2021



Ami Mitteer, RN  
April 2021



Val Hasner, RN  
May 2021



Pablo Otero, RN  
June 2021



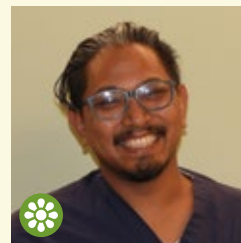
Alissa Waite, RN  
July 2021



Jackie Queen, RN  
August 2021



Sharon Gamble, LPN  
September 2021



Matthew Them, RN  
October 2021



Michelle Watson, RN  
November 2021



Kelly Harrienger, RN  
December 2021

## Samaritan Employees Recognized for Service

Samaritan holds an Employee Service Awards dinner each year to recognize employees who have reached milestone work anniversaries. In 2021, more than 70 employees were celebrated for their 20-, 25-, 30-, 35-, 40-, or 45-year anniversaries with Samaritan. Employees who have shared their talents with our team for 40 years or more received notable accolades and are pictured below. *Not pictured: Laura Houppert, 40 years.*



Debra L. Lashway  
45 years



Debra M. Farmer  
40 years



Gale Y. Freeman  
40 years



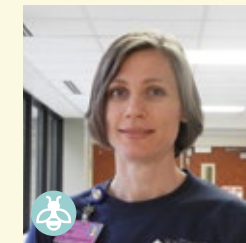
Mary K. Gregory  
40 years



Kelly R. Scee  
40 years



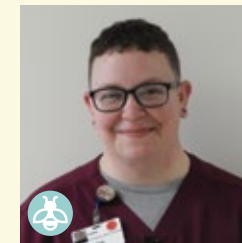
Diane Lynn Tibbles  
40 years



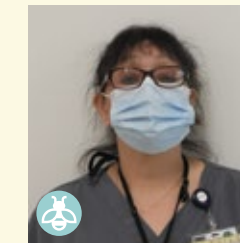
Crystal Dewitt  
January 2021



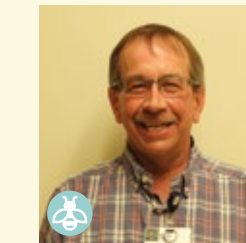
Gabrielle Rickett  
February 2021



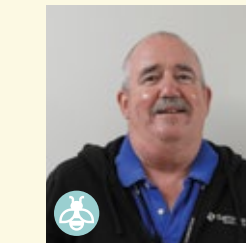
Laura Ross  
March 2021



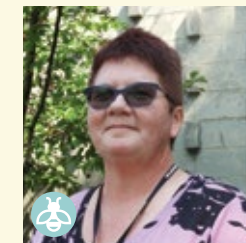
Sally Carrese  
April 2021



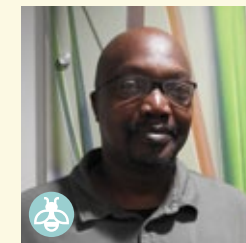
Charlie Quinn  
May 2021



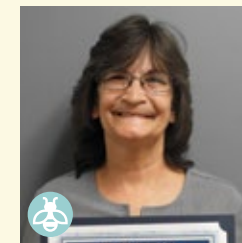
Mark Cloonan  
June 2021



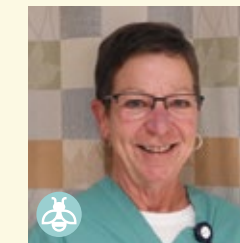
Bobbie Jo Babcock  
July 2021



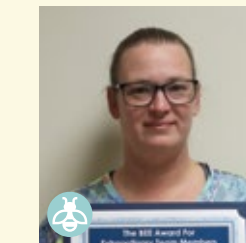
Aaron Abraham  
August 2021



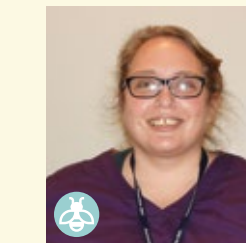
Rhonda VanOrnam  
September 2021



Heather Delaney  
October 2021



Candice Matthews  
November 2021



Suzanne Haight  
December 2021

# Quality and Safety

On our journey to become a highly reliable organization with zero patient harm, our quality improvement team, care providers and leadership are continuously making enhancements for our patients and residents. In 2021, Samaritan continued to lead through a pandemic while still celebrating many quality improvement accomplishments.

## 2021 Quality Improvement Highlights:

- Samaritan Medical Center achieved a perfect score (100 out of a possible 100 points) on the 2021 quality goals established by Excellus Health Plan's Hospital Incentive Program (HPIP).
- Samaritan Medical Center continued as a Blue Distinction Center+ for Knee and Hip Replacement by Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, as part of its Blue Distinction Specialty Care program. Blue Distinction Knee and Hip Centers demonstrate expertise in total knee and total hip replacement surgeries, resulting in fewer patient complications and hospital readmissions. Additionally, hospitals designated as Blue Distinction Centers+ are on average 20% more cost-efficient in an episode of care compared to other hospitals.
- The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) recognized the Car-Freshner Center for Women and Children at Samaritan for its noteworthy dedication to patient safety by adhering to established policy to administer the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine to newborns prior to hospital discharge. Samaritan Medical Center is on the IAC Hepatitis B Birth Dose "Honor Roll."
- Samaritan Medical Center was proud to continue a five-year streak as one of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield's Blue Distinction® Centers+ for Maternity Care.



## Four-Star Rating Awarded by CMS



Samaritan Medical Center achieved a four-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in their Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings. Despite the unprecedented challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the hospital outperformed its previous year's rating of three out of five stars, which represents the national average. Out of the 4,586 hospitals compared nationwide, fewer than 25% received a four- or five-star rating. Notably, in New York State, only 11% of hospitals received a four- or five-star rating.

The Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating encompasses more than 50 inpatient and outpatient measures across five areas of quality into a single star rating (between one and five) for each hospital. The five areas include mortality, safety of care, readmission, patient experience, and timely and effective care. The rating corresponds with data submitted to CMS by Samaritan in October 2020.

## Samaritan Home Health Pulse Oximeter Grant

The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation received \$5,000 from Excellus BlueCross BlueShield's 2021 Community Health Award to expand the hospital's home health monitoring program.

Funds were used to purchase up to 40 medical-grade pulse oximeters — small devices that measure patients' oxygen saturation levels. These instruments are issued to outpatients whose oxygenation-related symptoms are not severe enough to require hospitalization so that their conditions can be monitored at home.

In addition to being sent home with a pulse oximeter, a patient is issued instructions on device usage and a phone number to call should their oxygen saturation levels drop. A care team assigned to each patient provides ongoing follow-up care, including regular home and/or telemedicine visits during the patient's treatment and recovery periods.

This Excellus BCBS Community Health Award significantly expands Samaritan's ability to provide timely, expert medical care that enables patients to recover in the comfort of their homes and avoid costly hospitalization. This helps ensure hospital beds and resources are available to severely ill patients, easing pressure on hospital bed capacity.

Improving access to quality, affordable healthcare services for our community is a continued goal of both Samaritan Medical Center and Excellus BlueCross BlueShield in their mutual mission to strengthen the region's overall healthcare system.



## Joint Commission Survey

Samaritan Medical Center has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals by demonstrating continuous compliance with its patient safety standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a healthcare organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

Samaritan Medical Center and its clinics underwent a rigorous, unannounced on-site review from June 15 through June 18, 2021. During the visit, the team of Joint Commission surveyors evaluated compliance with all 18 chapters of the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals. These include multiple standards and elements of performance. Some of these chapters include emergency management, information management, infection prevention and control, provision of care, treatment and services, medication management, life safety, and environment of care.

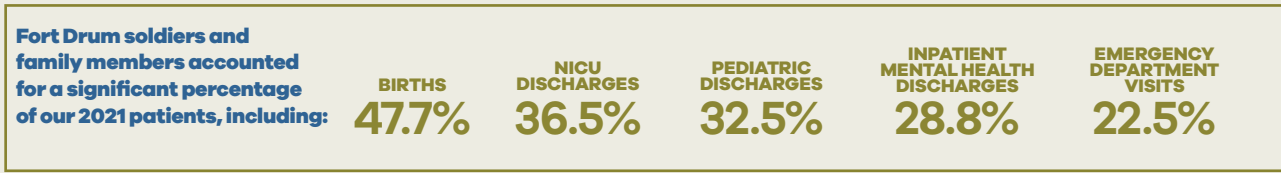
Additionally, our organization met all standards related to sterile medication compounding, high-level disinfection, and dialysis care, which were high-focus areas for The Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission's standards are developed in consultation with healthcare experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. They are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus to help healthcare organizations measure, assess, and improve performance. The surveyors also conducted on-site observations and interviews.



An independent, nonprofit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. For more information, visit [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

# Fort Drum



For more than 30 years, the 10th Mountain Division military families at Fort Drum have been served by Samaritan Medical Center. The military post is the only active-duty Army division installation without a hospital on site. Although many outpatient services are available on and off the military installation, Samaritan has been the major provider of inpatient and specialty care for soldiers and their families.

An estimated 30,000 active-duty soldiers, retirees, civilian employees, and family members receive care through this unique healthcare delivery model. During 2021, Fort Drum soldiers and their family members accounted for a significant percentage of patients at Samaritan Medical Center.

The largest share was reflected in the number of babies born to military families at Samaritan, a total of 725. This number represented nearly 48 percent of births at the hospital in 2021. Samaritan also is a partner in the Fort Drum New Parent Support Program offered by the Soldier and Family Readiness Division, which provides parenting skills education for military families with newborns and young children.

Fort Drum soldiers and their family members also represented 36.5% of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) discharges in 2021, as well as 32.5% of Pediatric Unit discharges, 28.8% of discharges from the Inpatient Mental Health Unit and 22.5% of Emergency Department visits.

## Pandemic Response

As the challenges of COVID-19 lingered in 2021, Samaritan leadership continued to work closely with military officials in meeting the vital healthcare needs of the Fort Drum community.

Maj. Gen. Milford H. Beagle Jr., a familiar face to Samaritan leaders, returned to the North Country in July as the senior commander of Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division. He quickly reestablished a partnership with Samaritan officials, who recognized his remarkable commitment to the region and his engagement and collaboration with the community. Col. Matthew Mapes, Fort Drum U.S. Army Medical Department Activity (MEDDAC) Commander, also was welcomed by Samaritan.

Throughout the year, Samaritan intensified its coordination with military leadership, and Fort Drum officials facilitated frequent meetings with Samaritan and other local healthcare partners to ensure consistent communication between the military post and the community. Samaritan commended Fort Drum officials for their proactive COVID-19 precautions, including reinstating mandatory masking at the installation, implementing the COVID-19 vaccine mandate, and providing testing for soldiers and family members.

## Community Partners

Samaritan has a long-standing tradition of providing financial support to military troops and families by partnering with the Fort Drum United Service Organizations (USO) and the Fort Drum Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) program. As a partner, Samaritan has participated in annual events such as the “Baby Palooza” for expectant mothers, the Halloween “Trunk or Treat” for young children, and the large-scale “Mountainfest” concert event held each year on the installation.



Samaritan staff members handed out candy and other treats to thousands of children at Fort Drum's 2021 “Trunk or Treat” Halloween celebration for military families.



2021 was another year of progress for Clifton-Fine Hospital, not only in navigating the COVID pandemic, but also in improving patient care, access and satisfaction.

To keep its patients, staff and community safe, the hospital established and maintained a single point of entry with COVID screening and adjusted visitation according to state and local infection rates. Clifton-Fine's COVID Response Team held 12 vaccination clinics, administering more than 950 doses, and its laboratory staff processed nearly 1,700 COVID tests. Throughout the year, the hospital kept up with daily and weekly reports to local and state authorities on COVID testing and PPE supply.

Clifton-Fine improved local access to care with three new outpatient service lines—lung screening, ultrasound imaging and outpatient occupational therapy. Through its affiliation with Samaritan Medical Center, it added the shared services of Pharmacy and Bio-Medical Equipment Management. And finally, by harnessing telemedicine, Clifton-Fine now offers pain management care. For the smallest hospital in New York State, that's a lot of growth in one year!

All of this growth did not come at the expense of patient satisfaction. On the contrary, Clifton-Fine met all of its inpatient and outpatient satisfaction survey goals in 2021. “Overall hospital satisfaction” rates improved from 70 percent to 100 percent; primary care overall provider ratings increased from 92 percent to 94.2 percent; Emergency Department “excellent” ratings improved from 92 percent to 93.6 percent, and “willingness to recommend” scores jumped from 80 percent to 100 percent. Furthermore, Clifton-Fine significantly increased its average daily inpatient census while decreasing its inpatient fall rates from 6.7 percent to 4.9 percent — well below the benchmark of 7.2 percent.

The continued growth and evolution of Clifton-Fine Hospital strengthens the North Country's ability to provide high-quality, patient-centered care to all, even in more remote communities. More big improvements lie ahead for Clifton-Fine, where ground will be broken on a new Emergency Department in 2022.



## Samaritan Welcomes New Physicians

Samaritan welcomed 21 physicians to its medical staff and community in 2021.

Serving our military patients and their family members is a privilege that we take very seriously at Samaritan. Please join us in welcoming the following physicians, who will be serving the Fort Drum community.

Weston Goring, DPM  
Podiatry

Bradley J. Piekielek, DO  
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Robert C. Turner, MD  
Orthopedic Surgery



See our full physician listing at:  
[samaritanhealth.com/find-a-physician](https://samaritanhealth.com/find-a-physician)



Ganga R. Nair, MD  
Ophthalmology



David J. Newman, MD  
Orthopedics



Trevor Scudamore, MD  
Psychiatry



Maurice Tom-Pack, MD  
Orthopedics



James A. Turecki, MD  
Urology



Macy VanArnam, MD  
OB/GYN



Daniel J. Williamson, MD  
Psychiatry



Hamzah J. Akram, MD  
Hospitalist



Mark C. Bristol, MD  
Emergency Medicine



Marco A. Campitelli, MD  
Pulmonology/  
Critical Care



Ahmad Chatila, MD  
Pediatrics



John J. Costello Jr., DO  
Ophthalmology



Patrick A. Costello, MD  
Ophthalmology



David C. Gordon, MD  
Otolaryngology-ENT



Christopher A. Kellogg, DO  
Internal Medicine



Elizabeth Mathew, MD  
Rheumatology



Adam McSherry, DO  
Hospitalist

## Senior Leader Retirements



**Christopher Bastien**, Assistant Vice President of Support Services, retired in December 2021. Chris joined Samaritan in 2011 as Manager of Education and was promoted to Assistant Vice President of Support Services in 2013. In this role, Chris oversaw Phase IV Facility Master Plan construction that impacted the Car-Freshner Center for Women & Children, Inpatient Mental Health Unit, Pharmacy, Support Services, and more. Chris' leadership and diligence were instrumental during the transformation of the Samaritan Health and Wellness Plaza for the opening of the Women's Wellness and Breast Care space, and for the most recent addition of a community-based imaging center. Following Chris' retirement, his position became Administrative Director of Support Services and Risk Management. In March 2022, we welcomed Shawn Thornton, our current Director of Risk Management, into this role.



**Barbara Morrow**, Vice President of Long Term Care and Chief Compliance Officer, retired in 2022. Barb served Samaritan since 2002, and in her most recent role, she oversaw all Long Term Care operations and resident care, plus compliance oversight for the entire health system. These are major roles, and Barb held them through critical times. She was a major part of Samaritan's growth through the years and fought through a pandemic to keep residents and staff safe, all while preparing and training our staff on how to keep personal health information safeguarded, no matter what. Samaritan welcomed Patrick Calli as its new Vice President of Long Term Care in January 2022.



**Kimberly Thibert**, RN, MSN, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, retired in June 2021. Kim began her career at Samaritan in 1983 as a Maternity/Obstetrical nurse and held positions of increasing responsibility over the years, from Nurse Manager of Pediatrics and Director of Nursing to the senior leadership role from which she retired. She was instrumental in many initiatives to enhance overall patient satisfaction and the culture of nursing, always demonstrating a patient-first philosophy. Kim successfully built relationships, worked diligently to ratify several nursing union contracts, was involved in the creation of the DAISY/BEE Award program, and helped create the plan and vision for the Car-Freshner Center for Women & Children. In July 2021, Samaritan welcomed Jacqueline Dawe as its new Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer.

Photo not available: Amy Nagai, DDS, Pediatric Dentistry

## Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program

Samaritan's Graduate Medical Education (GME) program continued to succeed amid the pandemic. In 2021, a formal agreement was established with our affiliate medical school, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), to be a site for medical student education, while the program overall holds the highest level of accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

The GME program graduated four residents in 2021: Family Medicine residents Alec Bernard, DO, and Adam McSherry, DO, and Internal Medicine residents Melissa Beshay, MD, and Matt Springer, DO. We are pleased to report that Dr. Adam McSherry chose to stay local and joined Apogee Physicians. He is now a member of the hospitalist team at Samaritan. The program also welcomed four

new residents from medical schools around the country.

Resident physicians took charge of over 3,100 patient visits at the Samaritan Medical Academic Residency Training (SMART) Outpatient Clinic in 2021, and spent approximately 800 hours training in the Emergency Department. GME residents and students had 14 publications in medical literature on various topics, including "Predictors for Inpatient Mortality Among Hospitalizations with Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia" and "Paradox in Outcomes of Patients Admitted for Acute Respiratory Failure With and Without Concurrent OSA: A Retrospective National Database Study," among others.



Adam McSherry, DO, Melissa Beshay, MD, Matt Springer, DO, Alec Bernard, DO



# Samaritan Auxiliary Celebrates 125 Years

In 2021, Samaritan Auxiliary proudly celebrated a milestone 125th anniversary. Founded in 1896, after the House of the Good Samaritan opened in 1881, the Auxiliary began as a group of women invited to support the hospital's Board of Trustees, with Mrs. E.S. Goodale serving as the first Auxiliary President. In 1899, a new hospital was built on Washington Street at a cost of \$48,500, and by 1900 the Auxiliary had 213 members and a treasury of \$2,485.

Throughout its 125 years, the Auxiliary has consistently dedicated its efforts to serving the needs of The House of the Good Samaritan / Samaritan Health as a major contributor of volunteer time and financial resources. Here are just some of the Auxiliary's highlights and contributions over the course of 125 years:

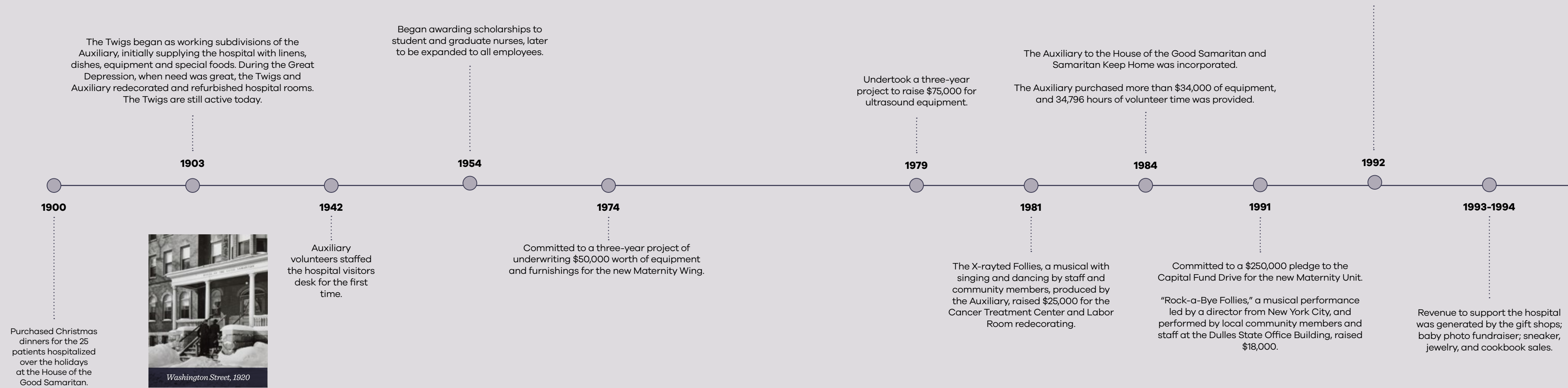


Auxilians

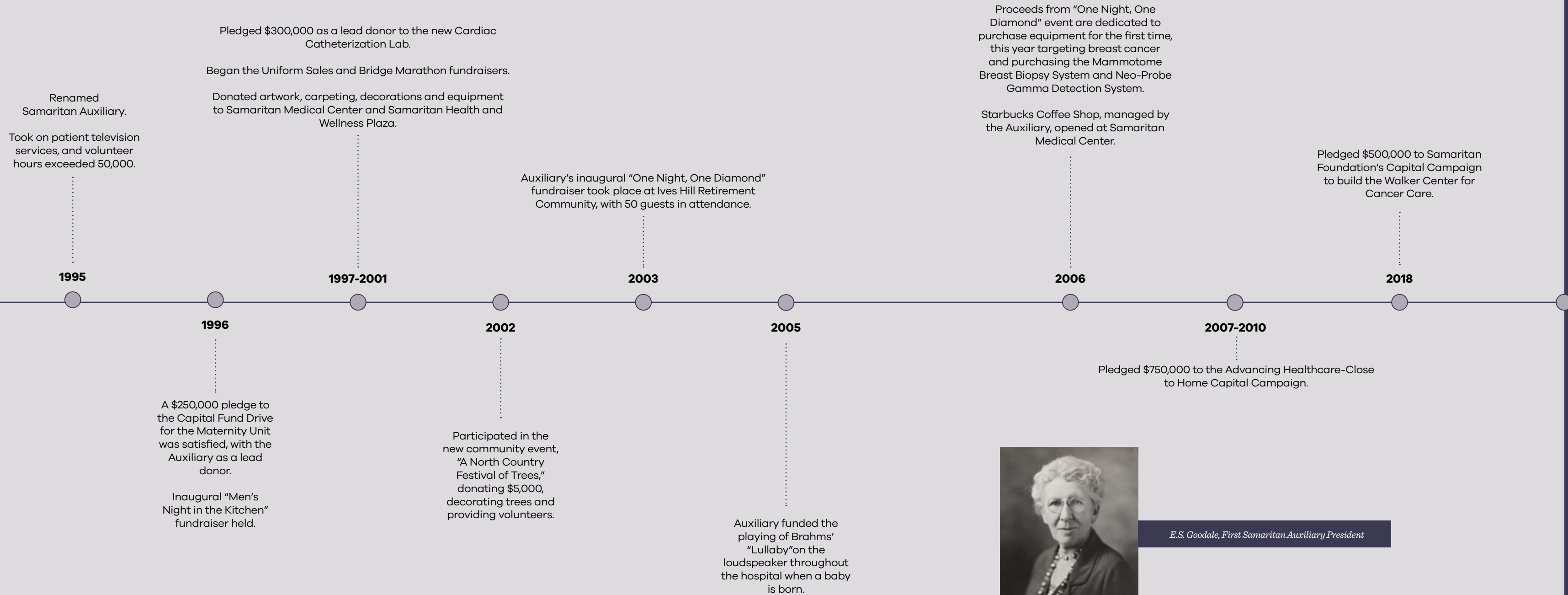
Auxiliary Gift Shop moved to a new location in the hospital and, along with the Keep Home gift shop, had profits of \$50,000.

The four-year "Twig Challenge" was accepted by 12 active Twig groups to raise \$500 each toward the Capital Fund Pledge.

Auxiliary provided \$10,000 toward renovations to the Samaritan Keep Home's dining room.



Washington Street, 1920



*E.S. Goodale, First Samaritan Auxiliary President*

## 2021

"One Night, One Diamond" event proceeds have purchased nearly \$1 million of capital equipment for Samaritan, focusing on cancer patients, pediatrics, newborns, Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit, Dermatology, UV lights for disinfection, and PPE for all staff.

### Carrying on after the COVID-19 Outbreak

After a temporary closure in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, two of the Auxiliary Gift Shops and the Starbucks Coffee Shop reopened slowly in 2021. Longtime Samaritan employee Jane Schmitt retired as Volunteer Director in 2020, and in 2021, Amanda Bradbury was hired to continue managing the volunteer program. She has worked diligently to replace the talent we lost during the pandemic closure.

#### 2021 Samaritan Auxiliary Accomplishments:

- Supported five Uniform, Shoe, and Accessory sales for Samaritan staff, raising \$20,346.
- Continued sponsorship of "A North Country Festival of Trees" through board members' personal donations.

## 19th Annual

# One Night, One Diamond

One Night, One Diamond—Samaritan Auxiliary's only community fundraiser—went virtual in 2021 to honor all the Samaritan caregivers and staff as "Our Healthcare Heroes."

The event featured Emergency Department Physician Dr. Maja Lundborg-Gray, Ami Mitteer, a Registered Nurse on the COVID unit, and Dani McLean, Activities Coordinator at the Samaritan Summit Village Assisted Living Facility. They spoke of the professional and personal challenges of COVID, from the incredible teamwork and compassion of all the staff to personal anecdotes, such as removing their work clothes in the garage and showering before interacting with family, missing the hugs from their children, and postponing their family's Christmas celebration for a month while staying in a hotel nearer to the residents they cared for.

The Samaritan staff had made, and continues to make, sacrifices to care for those who come to Samaritan for healing, which is why we wanted to celebrate and recognize these heroes. The donated diamond from Cook's Jewelers, a weekend getaway to The Mirror Lake Inn in Lake Placid, overnight accommodations and breakfast at the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel, and a \$250 gift certificate to The Scrub Hub, all of which had always been won by donors/attendees of the event, were won by Samaritan Health staff through a virtual drawing.

The event successfully raised a total of \$83,675.86 through sponsorships and donations. Samaritan Auxiliary presented a check to Tom Carman, Samaritan President & CEO, for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE). It was a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together virtually in support, as PPE is essential to the safety of our healthcare workers, patients and community, but also to recognize all the Samaritan staff during these challenging times. This was made possible through the unwavering generosity of our sponsors and donors, who maintained their incredible commitment and support even without an in-person event to attend.

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# Samaritan Medical Center Foundation 2021

## Dear Friends,

I would like to say thank you to our healthcare team, as 2021 found our health system managing through yet another year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our incredible team continued to provide top-quality care again under the most challenging circumstances.

I would also like to say thank you to our community. We are truly grateful for the outpouring of support, which came in the form of meals, treats and gifts to boost staff morale, cards and gifts for our Long Term Care residents, and financial gifts of support over the course of a most difficult year.

The Samaritan Foundation exists to financially support the Samaritan Health System. Our community, long-term donors and new friends, coupled with our own Samaritan staff and physicians, help us do so generously. Your continued engagement and dollars of support help provide updated technology, equipment, and new programs and services in the North Country, keeping health care comprehensive, current and on-trend in our region.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Foundation staff, thank you to our donors, financial partners and supporters for joining us in our efforts to help Samaritan remain the best place to receive and provide quality health care in Northern New York.

With Gratitude,

KI LaClair  
Chair, Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern New York

## Susan K. Peters Nursing Scholarship

The 2021 Susan Peters Nursing Scholarship recipients were Desiree Fuller, RN, and Teresa Bednar, RN. Both recipients work in Samaritan's Emergency Department. Ms. Fuller, a 10-year Samaritan employee, is pursuing her M.S. in Family Nurse Practitioner from Utica College, and Ms. Bednar, a 12-year employee, is earning her Nurse Practitioner degree from SUNY Upstate Medical University.

The Susan Peters Nursing Scholarship was established in 2018 to assist with education costs for an RN who is continuing their education, specifically to pursue a Nurse Practitioner degree. Two scholarships of \$2,000 are awarded each year.

Mrs. Peters, who sadly passed away in March 2020, set up this scholarship because she wanted to impact the future of nursing in our community while promoting the Nurse Practitioner profession. She was a 1965 graduate of the House of the Good Samaritan Nursing School and spent more than 20 years as a Nurse Manager in various areas, including Medical/Surgical and Orthopedics. She retired in 1999 as a Radiation Oncology Nurse.



From left: Beth Fipps, Samaritan's Vice President of Foundation and Community Services, presents Teresa Bednar, RN, and Desiree Fuller, RN, checks from the Susan Peters Nursing Scholarship with the help of Marie Hess, member of the Susan Peters Scholarship Committee and Samaritan Medical Center Board of Trustees.

## Power of Grants

The Samaritan Foundation uses many techniques to raise funds, relying on donors, community partners and businesses while strategically reviewing and applying for grant opportunities. 2021 proved a successful year of grant funding, which benefited the entire health system.

### Here are some highlights:

- The First Niagara Foundation supported Samaritan Keep Home with a remaining payment of \$50,000 on a \$100,000 grant earmarked for the Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program.
- The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation received a \$50,000 grant from the Saint Agatha Foundation for its Circle of Hope Program. This program empowers uninsured and under-insured breast cancer patients to focus on their treatment rather than their bills.
- Samaritan was awarded a STOP Violence Against Women grant in January 2021. This federal fund, administered through the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, supplies \$50,000 annually for five years to support the development of a sexual assault forensic examiner program, community partner engagement, and Samaritan’s designation as a NYS SAFE Hospital.
- The North Country Initiative’s 2021 Promising Practices Fund awarded \$74,600 to Samaritan for intensive outpatient management for congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and pneumonia patients at high risk of hospital readmission.
- The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation’s COVID-19 Round III grant allocated \$27,253.68 to Samaritan for the purchase of personal protective equipment, supplies and equipment for vaccine administration, and employee training and education programs.
- Samaritan was awarded an Office of Mental Health Workforce/Federal Block Grant for \$40,000, to be used for recruitment and retention incentives, educational expenses, and/or career development and training.
- The NYS Association for Rural Health granted Samaritan \$27,037, which will be used to carry out activities consistent with the scope of work outlined in New York State’s Rural Health Care Access Development Program.

## Memorials *and* Honorariums

Memorial and honorary gifts to the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation create a lasting tribute to family members, friends, and those who held a meaningful place in your life, while also providing valuable financial support to Samaritan. Fifty-seven donations totaling \$10,001 were given in 2021.

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### In Memoriam:

## Samaritan Society Donor



John Durand

We were saddened by the loss of friend and Samaritan Society member John Durand in December 2021. John lived in Goose Bay near Alexandria Bay and was a true outdoorsman in every sense of the word. He was an avid waterfowler, fisherman, and deer hunter. He truly loved being on the St. Lawrence River every moment he could. We thank John for his longtime loyal support of Samaritan Health.

Learn more about the Samaritan Society on page 40.

## Tom's Story

When Tom Camarda learned his diagnosis of stage one lung cancer, he and his wife, Michelle, began the desperate search for peace of mind.

"Typical bronchoscopies (endoscopic technique of seeing inside the airways) were not successful in getting appropriate tissue," said Mrs. Camarda.

The couple learned of Dr. Rory Sears' positive reputation, and the new technology available at Samaritan Pulmonology, and immediately sought an appointment.

"Diagnosis of cancer early makes all the difference," said Dr. Sears. "With our new technology, a bronchoscopy of this small lesion, we were able to make the diagnosis for Tom."

"We are grateful to have [Dr. Sears] here in the North Country and through Samaritan Medical," Mrs. Camarda stated. "I could not ask for anything more... Always going the extra mile for us."

"I can cut the grass and do a bit of hunting," Mr. Camarda said. "It's very precious to me because I love my hunting. I'm very pleased with the treatment that I've been getting, and I'm very lucky."



Samaritan caregivers feel so strongly about the needs of our Cancer Services patients that they raise funds for Circle of Hope grants. Circle of Hope grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis as determined by our committee. In 2021, the committee selected eight recipients with funds totaling \$4,000.

## Foundation for the Future

Samaritan Medical Center Foundation produced two "Foundation for the Future" newsletters in 2021. The spring edition highlighted the need to help support quality care through estate and planned giving at Samaritan Medical Center along with our Long Term Care facilities, Samaritan Summit Village and Samaritan Keep Home. It also honored the dedication of Mabel Walker to quality healthcare in the North Country.

The fall edition featured Samaritan supporters Lisa and Joe Weber. Early in Lisa's tenure as the Vice Chair of the Foundation Board, she participated in a capital campaign called "Advancing Health Care Close to Home." The campaign had lofty goals for Samaritan's growth, both in physical size and footprint, and helped establish an endowment fund to sustain Samaritan for the long term.

The 19th annual North Country Festival of Trees kicked off the 2021 holiday season, inviting the community to get "Merry and Bright" in support of healthcare services at Samaritan and children's programming at the Watertown Family YMCA. The event netted a record-breaking \$96,277 for both organizations!

With 81 beautifully decorated trees on display for nine days, our new location at the former Bon-Ton Store in the Salmon Run Mall was transformed into a winter wonderland. Trees were auctioned off throughout the event, to be kept by the winning bidder or donated to a local nonprofit or family in need.

Once again, we hosted an online auction featuring a one-hour live television showcase in partnership with WWNY 7News/WNYF FOX28. While we were unable to host our annual Gala and Sugarplum Ball, many of our attendees joined us for the very successful live event.

This special event would not be possible without the creativity and generosity of our community. Thank you to our sponsors, donors, decorators, and volunteers who helped create a magical event for the entire family, and for supporting healthcare services and programs at Samaritan and the YMCA.



Tree decorated by Lisa L'Huilier Ruggiero and Nancy Storino of Watertown.



### Festival of Trees Committee:

Eli Anderson, Dawn Atwood, T.J. Babcock, Charlie and Maureen Caprara, Mary Corriveau, Shawna Cutuli, Jen Doldo, Jeff Ellsworth, Bonnie Eppolito, Beth Fipps, Judy Gentner, Tammy Jones, Sonja Jordan, KI LaClair, Michelle Leo, Maureen Lundy-Way, Sue Mahoney, Nancy Martel, Erica Mushtare, Amy O'Brien, Lisa O'Driscoll, Barbara Webber, April Young, and Tillie Youngs.

## The 19th Annual North Country Festival of Trees

### 2021 Festival of Trees Sponsors

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# The Samaritan Society

The Samaritan Society was founded by the Special Friends Committee in 1997 to recognize its most generous benefactors. These compassionate individuals united by this honorary distinction share a profound commitment to supporting Samaritan and its tradition of quality health care. With a commitment of \$15,000, Samaritan Society members assist Samaritan in providing high-quality, comprehensive, safe, and compassionate health care services to meet the needs of our civilian and military community. New members in 2021 included Joel and Tanya Benware, and Jacqueline Dawe and Robert Fix. Thank you for being so committed to Samaritan!

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## The 24th Annual Thousand Islands Golf Tournament

**Our 2021 Thousand Islands Golf Classic included an online auction, as we were unable to hold our usual dinner and live auction. We netted a record \$109,944 to support Samaritan Medical Center, an 18 percent increase over the 2019 event.**

We could not have asked for better weather for the golf tournament, which was hosted August 9 at the Thousand Islands Country Club on Wellesley Island. Forty-seven teams, consisting of our corporate friends and individual donors, enjoyed the sunshine while golfing for a good cause.

Half of the funds raised from this year's event have been designated to support our healthcare heroes at Samaritan. Thank you to everyone who made the fundraising event a great success!



### 2021 Thousand Islands Golf Classic Sponsors

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### 2021 Thousand Islands Golf Classic Committee:

Co-Chairs Corry Lawler and Lisa Weber, Dave Adsit, Dawn Atwood, Robert Crowe, Beth Fipps, Brian Fraser, Kimberly LaForty, Amy O'Brien, Peter Pike, Samantha Robbins, Andy Short, Patricia Tague, Dr. David VanEenenaam, Joe Weber, and Michael Yonkovig.

## Honor Roll of Giving

The following is a list of generous donors who contributed \$150 or more to the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation and Children's Miracle Network in support of quality health care.

We are grateful for your support!

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 Bruce Dano  
 Ellen Darabaner  
 Ms. Jacqueline Dawe  
 Brooke Delles  
 Anthony Demiceli  
 Les & Marsha Deming\*  
 David & Donna Dermady  
 Denise Devoe  
 Kristina Dine  
 Jacqueline M. Dobransky  
 Mark A. Dobransky Jr.  
 Dr. Walter & Mrs. Berline Dodard  
 Deborah Doe  
 Matthew & Mary Doheny  
 Robert & Mary Nell Dolan  
 Todd & Jennifer Doldo  
 Gerald Donahue & Mary Wardwell-Donahue  
 Carly Draper  
 Carole Dunbar  
 Bonnie Durham  
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 Bonnie S. Eppolito  
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 Barbara & Robert Fargo  
 Farney's, Inc.  
 Laurie Fegley  
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 AJ Fussalva  
 Fust Charles Chambers LLP  
 Edward Gallant  
 Gamestop - Evans Mills  
 Gamestop - Fort Drum  
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 Andrew Garza  
 Ashley Garza  
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 Gerharz Equipment, Inc.  
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 Ronald Goodman  
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 Dr. Daniel S. Gray & Dr. Maja Lundborg-Gray  
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 Timothy Hall  
 Hancock & Estabrook, LLP  
 Harris Beach PLLC  
 Elizabeth Hartzell  
 Cheryl A. Hayes  
 Tony Heaney  
 The Heather A. Freeman Foundation  
 Kevin & Jane Heffron

Troy Heise  
 Melissa Hepfer  
 Hershey's  
 Marie A. Hess RPA  
 Marcus Hetzner DVM  
 Amy Hicks  
 Katie M. Hill  
 Ms. Lynn Hilligas  
 Hilton Garden Inn Watertown/Thousand Islands  
 Susan Howland  
 Todd & Jeannie Howland  
 HP Hood  
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 Thomas & Susan Hunt  
 Kathleen Hunter and Family  
 Andrew & Joanne Iloff  
 Ives Hill Country Club, Inc.  
 Doug Jacobs  
 Jade Stone Engineering  
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 Lynn Jenkins  
 Michael and Alice Jennings  
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Karen Jorden  
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 Dana Keefer  
 Taylor Keegan  
 Dr. Collins & Mrs. Monica Kellogg  
 KeyBank USA, N.A.  
 Kevin A. Kieff  
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 Robert Kimball, MD & Beth A. Linderman  
 King + King Architects  
 Kinney Drugs - Adams Bay  
 Kinney Drugs - Canton  
 Kinney Drugs - Carthage

Kinney Drugs - Clayton  
 Kinney Drugs - Gouverneur (E. Main)  
 Kinney Drugs - Lowville  
 Kinney Drugs - Massena  
 Kinney Drugs - Ogdensburg  
 Kinney Drugs - Potsdam (Market St.)  
 Kinney Drugs - Watertown (Coffeen St.)  
 Kinney Drugs - Watertown (Route 11)  
 Kinney Drugs - Watertown (State St.)  
 Kinney Drugs Watertown (Washington St.)  
 Kinney Drugs Foundation, Inc.  
 Kinney Drugs, Inc.

Mark & Madonna Knowles  
 Shane Knowles  
 Wayne Knowles  
 Heather Knowlton  
 Knowlton Technologies  
 Ronald & Susan Knox  
 Kathryn A. Kolton ANP  
 Karl Komar, MD  
 Paul & Eileen Kraeger  
 Don Labarge  
 Mitchell J. LaBarge  
 Dr. & Mrs. Scott LaClair  
 William & Diane Lajoie  
 Lamon Knowles Company, LLC  
 Deborah L. Lamora  
 Mackenzie M. LaMorta  
 Chyme Lane & Torre Parker-Lane

*“Dr. Sears is a very well-known pulmonologist, we’re very grateful to have her in the North Country. I have the utmost respect for her. Having a loved one under her care, I could not ask for anything more besides sympathy, empathy and always going the extra mile for us.”*

**Michelle Camarda**



Kay Larabee  
 Kayla Larkin  
 Steven and Patricia Lasky  
 Mark & Joanne Lavarney  
 David and Marjorie Lavere  
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 Ms. Kimberly Lawrence  
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 Gerald B. Lees  
 Daniel & Peggy LeKander  
 Darren and Mackenzie Lemorta  
 Ms. Lisa Lent  
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 Ms. Linda Levine  
 Nicholas Leween  
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 Zachary Lotito  
 Melissa Lyndaker  
 M & T Charitable Foundation  
 Francis MacDonald  
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 Hillary Mamis  
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 Barbara March  
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 Arthur and Hope Marston

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 Amanda Mason  
 Shawn and Meghan Massey  
 MassMutual Insurance  
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 Paula E. Mayo  
 Michael McElheran PA-C  
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. McLaughlin  
 Paul McLean  
 Heather E. McManaman  
 Shawn McManaman  
 Meade Optical Inc.  
 Medical Gas Technologies, Inc.  
 Medical Staff of Samaritan Medical Center  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meeks  
 Ms. Meghan Metheney  
 Rich Miles  
 Millennium Development, LLC  
 Mr. Eric Milsap  
 Miss America Organization  
 MLMIC Insurance Company

Dr. Charles Moehs & Sarah Boss  
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 Carol A. Moore  
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 Cyril Mouaikel & Marlene Hajal Mouaikel, MD  
 Young Murray  
 Mr. and Mrs. John P. Murtha  
 MVP Health Care  
 Ms. Kelly Myers  
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 The New York Community Trust  
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 North Country Emergency Medical Consultants, PC  
 North Country Family Health Center  
 North Country Insurance Company  
 Northern Credit Union  
 Northern New York Community Foundation  
 Northern Nurse Practitioners  
 Northern Radiology Associates, P.C.

Northwestern Mutual Investment Services LLC  
 John Nuber & Margaret Hummel  
 Nurses Alumnae Association House of Good Samaritan  
 O.D. Greene Lumber and Hardware-Adams  
 O.D. Greene Lumber and Hardware-Sackets Harbor  
 Ms. Tracy O'Brien  
 Mike O'Connor  
 Kristie H. O'Connor  
 John O'Connor  
 John & Lisa O'Driscoll  
 Ollie's Bargain Outlet - Watertown  
 Barry and Betsy Ormsby  
 Michelle and Jarod Ormsby  
 Maria Otero  
 Ryan Paddock  
 The Paddock Club  
 Craig & Julianne Painter  
 Ms. Lucie Pal  
 Mr. Jeffrey Pawlowski  
 Gilbert and Kathleen Pearsall  
 Pepsi Bottling Group, LLC  
 Jeff & Mary Perrine  
 Stephen Perry

Michele Perry  
 Susan & Charles Peters\*  
 Shannon Peterson  
 Michelle & E. David Pfaff  
 Steve & Cindy Pierce  
 Carl Pignone  
 Peter & Laurel Pike  
 Marcia Pistner  
 Ernest Pitcher  
 Pivot  
 Dr. John & Mrs. Gina Poggi  
 Pride & Glory Tattoo  
 Ian and Laura Primmer  
 Lucy S. Priolo  
 Purcell Construction Corporation  
 William & Catherine Quencer  
 Bridget Quinn  
 RBC Wealth Management  
 Brian Reape  
 Red Bull  
 Tim Reitzel  
 Kevin and Jill Renshaw  
 Renzi Foodservice Charitable Foundation  
 Renzi Foodservice, Inc.  
 DJ Reynolds  
 Edward Reynolds  
 Rhonda's Footeworks Dance Studio

Amanda Ridsdale  
 Rite Aid - Massena  
 Jessica & Brian Robbins  
 David Robinson  
 Dr. Fritz Roc  
 David Rogers  
 Dianne Rogers  
 Mariesa Rossi  
 Harold\* & Gloria Rothschild  
 Stephen N. Rowell Jr.  
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 Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin D. Rudd  
 Margie Ruiz  
 Ms. Sarah Rumschlag  
 Drs. Jack and Laurie Rush  
 Brenda Russell  
 Saint Agatha Foundation  
 Samaritan Auxiliary  
 Samaritan Medical Center - Support Services  
 Sam's Club  
 Dr. Douglas\* & Mrs. Mary Sanford  
 Sanico  
 Mr. Joseph\* & Dr. Kellie Sanzone  
 Deanne L. Scanlon  
 Brett Scanlon  
 Victoria Schermerhorn

Stuart & Melissa Schmitt  
 Schwerzmann & Wise, P.C.  
 Tori Scott  
 Ms. Roseanne Scrimale  
 SeaComm Federal Credit Union  
 Ruth E. Seaman  
 Dr. Rory A. Sears & Mr. David Sears  
 Betty Shattuck  
 Betty Shelmidine  
 Eric Sherbino  
 Hannah Sherrill  
 M. Andrew Short & Carrie Lewandowski  
 Sharon Sinclair  
 Dr. & Mrs. Khalid P. Sindhu  
 Brenda & Paul Sipher  
 Sirius Computer  
 Slack Chemical Company  
 Small Town Supply Ace Hardware  
 Jeremy T. Smith  
 Martha Smith  
 Patricia & David Snyder  
 Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Soluri III  
 Anthony Soluri  
 Emily Sortevik  
 Silverio and Ann Spaziani  
 Evelyn Speary

Speedway  
 April Spencer  
 State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA)  
 Steele's Ace Home Center  
 Kyle Stevenson  
 Stewart's Shops  
 Lisa A. Storey  
 Jamie Strader  
 Stryker New England  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Sturtz  
 Nicholas Surdo  
 Swan Bay Developers, LLC  
 Tammy Tanner  
 Jaime Tapke  
 Anthony V. & Tana\* Tarzia  
 Joseph & Beth Thesier  
 Marcel & Kim Thibert  
 Thousand Islands Golf Classic  
 Timeless Frames & Decor  
 Tops Friendly Markets  
 Briania Tourant  
 Donald & Jessica Towles  
 Town of Watertown Fire Department  
 Harold Townsend  
 Holli Townsend  
 Transamerica Retirement Advisors, Inc.

Michelle Treadwell  
 Joan Treadwell-Woods  
 Tammy Trowbridge  
 Eric Tupper  
 Dr. Jan K. Turcotte  
 Alice Tyler  
 United Professional Advisors  
 Valvoline Instant Oil Change  
 Dr\*. & Mrs. LaVerne R. VanDeWall  
 Dr. David & Mrs. Elena\* VanEenaam  
 John VanKirk  
 Amber Vantassel  
 Addison F. Vars III & Barbara R. Vars  
 Maverick Venum  
 James Venum  
 Michele A. & Mario F. Victoria, MD  
 Daniel & Nancy Villa  
 Jacob Vincent  
 Christina Vollmer  
 Dr. Shikhar and Mrs. Vidhya Vyas  
 Anne Marie & Edward Walldroff  
 Jada Walldroff  
 Benjamin Walldroff  
 WalMart Stores, Inc.

Jessica Ward  
 Kaitlin Warneck  
 Dr. John & Mrs. Roberta Wasenko  
 Washington Summit Associates, LLC  
 Watertown Internists, PC  
 Watertown Local Development Corporation  
 Watertown Pediatric Dentistry  
 Watertown Police Benevolent Assoc.  
 Watertown Savings Bank  
 Watertown Urgent Care  
 Joseph W. Welch  
 Georgia Weller  
 Jennifer Wells  
 Westelcom Family of Companies  
 Dr. Joseph F. & Mrs. Regina Wetterhahn  
 John & JoAnn Wheeler  
 Reese K. Wheeler  
 Kristi Whitfield  
 Wilcox Wealth Management Services/ Northwestern Mutual  
 Chris Williams  
 Richard C. Williams  
 Linda S. Willmart  
 Marlene & Duane Winters

Wireless Zone Foundation for Giving  
 Rachel Wood  
 Jason Wood  
 Ms. Joanne Woodard  
 Woodcock & Armani  
 Diana & Donald Woodhouse  
 Martin & Linda\* Yenawine  
 Michael & Mary Yonkovig & Brownell Abstract Corp.  
 Alicia Young  
 Dawn Young  
 Denise and Daniel Young  
 Stephanie H. Young DVM  
 Mrs. Tillie Youngs  
 Josephine Zehr  
 Kimberly Zubrucky

\* Deceased

*“We have been to three different NICUs but my partner and I agree, Samaritan has been the best by far. We had an amazing team of nurses and can't forget Dr. Komar.”*

**Erin Fennessy**

Amanda Ridsdale  
 Rite Aid - Massena  
 Jessica & Brian Robbins  
 David Robinson  
 Dr. Fritz Roc  
 David Rogers  
 Dianne Rogers  
 Mariesa Rossi  
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 Ruth E. Seaman  
 Dr. Rory A. Sears & Mr. David Sears  
 Betty Shattuck  
 Betty Shelmidine  
 Eric Sherbino  
 Hannah Sherrill  
 M. Andrew Short & Carrie Lewandowski  
 Sharon Sinclair  
 Dr. & Mrs. Khalid P. Sindhu  
 Brenda & Paul Sipher  
 Sirius Computer  
 Slack Chemical Company  
 Small Town Supply Ace Hardware  
 Jeremy T. Smith  
 Martha Smith  
 Patricia & David Snyder  
 Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Soluri III  
 Anthony Soluri  
 Emily Sortevik  
 Silverio and Ann Spaziani  
 Evelyn Speary

Speedway  
 April Spencer  
 State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA)  
 Steele's Ace Home Center  
 Kyle Stevenson  
 Stewart's Shops  
 Lisa A. Storey  
 Jamie Strader  
 Stryker New England  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Sturtz  
 Nicholas Surdo  
 Swan Bay Developers, LLC  
 Tammy Tanner  
 Jaime Tapke  
 Anthony V. & Tana\* Tarzia  
 Joseph & Beth Thesier  
 Marcel & Kim Thibert  
 Thousand Islands Golf Classic  
 Timeless Frames & Decor  
 Tops Friendly Markets  
 Briania Tourant  
 Donald & Jessica Towles  
 Town of Watertown Fire Department  
 Harold Townsend  
 Holli Townsend  
 Transamerica Retirement Advisors, Inc.

Michelle Treadwell  
 Joan Treadwell-Woods  
 Tammy Trowbridge  
 Eric Tupper  
 Dr. Jan K. Turcotte  
 Alice Tyler  
 United Professional Advisors  
 Valvoline Instant Oil Change  
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 John VanKirk  
 Amber Vantassel  
 Addison F. Vars III & Barbara R. Vars  
 Maverick Venum  
 James Venum  
 Michele A. & Mario F. Victoria, MD  
 Daniel & Nancy Villa  
 Jacob Vincent  
 Christina Vollmer  
 Dr. Shikhar and Mrs. Vidhya Vyas  
 Anne Marie & Edward Walldroff  
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Jessica Ward  
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 Watertown Local Development Corporation  
 Watertown Pediatric Dentistry  
 Watertown Police Benevolent Assoc.  
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 Joseph W. Welch  
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 Dr. Joseph F. & Mrs. Regina Wetterhahn  
 John & JoAnn Wheeler  
 Reese K. Wheeler  
 Kristi Whitfield  
 Wilcox Wealth Management Services/ Northwestern Mutual  
 Chris Williams  
 Richard C. Williams  
 Linda S. Willmart  
 Marlene & Duane Winters

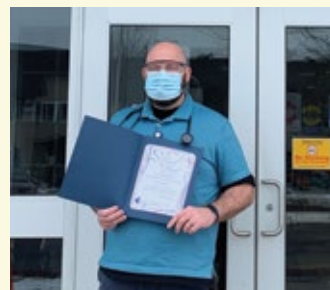
Wireless Zone Foundation for Giving  
 Rachel Wood  
 Jason Wood  
 Ms. Joanne Woodard  
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 Michael & Mary Yonkovig & Brownell Abstract Corp.  
 Alicia Young  
 Dawn Young  
 Denise and Daniel Young  
 Stephanie H. Young DVM  
 Mrs. Tillie Youngs  
 Josephine Zehr  
 Kimberly Zubrucky

\* Deceased



## Grateful Patient Program

In 2021, twelve Samaritan Caregivers and departments were recognized by 10 donations from grateful patients, residents, families, and friends through Samaritan's "Heart to Heart" grateful patient program.



DONOR	HONOREE	DEPARTMENT
Jessica LaCelle Castor	Car-Freshner Center for Women and Children	Car-Freshner Center for Women and Children
Linda M. Gates	Samaritan Caregivers	Samaritan Medical Center
Rosemary Leone	Samaritan Caregivers	Pediatrics
Ruby Martin	Sheryl Abbott	Emergency Department
Neil McCoy	Samaritan Caregivers	4 Pavilion
Angelo & Marilyn Soluri	Dr. Ingrid Hall	Rheumatology
	Jason Matice, RN	Emergency Department
John VanKirk	Dr. David Flint	Emergency Department
	Maternity & Nurses: Jenifer Anderson, Kristy Traylor, Karen Axenfeld	Car-Freshner Center for Women and Children
Martin A. Yenawine	Brett Bunker	Family Health Center at Clayton

## Community Donations

### Medi Teddy® IV Bag Covers

The Samaritan Medical Center Foundation received a donation of 100 Medi Teddy® IV bag covers from former Watertown resident Sue Washburn. Sue held a fundraiser for her birthday and purchased the bears with the funds raised. The Medi Teddys were donated for use in child-centered areas of the hospital, including the Emergency Department, Pediatrics Unit, and Surgical Services. This is the second year that Sue has provided needed items to the hospital.

Medi Teddy® hides a bag of IV fluid, medication, or blood hanging from an IV pole, which can be scary for the child receiving it. Instead, it provides a fun and friendly face for the child to see.

### Books

In April, Morgan Knapp donated a variety of 300 children's books. The books went to the Emergency Department, Pediatrics, and Surgical Services for pediatric patients.

Morgan is the mom of a little boy who has been in and out of the hospital. The Knapps had an extended stay at Samaritan in 2021, and Morgan was so happy with her son's care that she raised money to buy the books. The day she dropped the books off, she had a doctor's appointment for her son, and they got a clean bill of health.

**KIND Foundation's** Frontline Impact Platform donated 2,800 KIND Bars to our Samaritan Caregivers.

**Panda Express** donated meals for all our physicians on National Doctors Day.



Dawn Atwood, Samaritan Foundation's Community Relations Coordinator, Morgan Knapp, and Beth Fipps, Samaritan's Vice President of the Foundation and Community Services.



Samaritan Medical Center nurses pose with Medi Teddys® donated by former Watertown resident Sue Washburn

# The Stevens Legacy Society

Membership in the Stevens Legacy Society is extended to those who have established gifts to the Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern New York through their estate plans, life insurance, retirement account, or other similar deferred gifts. In 2021, we welcomed Michael and Diane Ferrucci, Grant Mitchell, Gene Donahue and Mary Wardwell-Donahue. Thank you all for your extraordinarily thoughtful gifts to the healthcare system.

Walter S. Atkinson Trust Fund\*

Kathleen E. Baker\*

Josephine M. Bingham Estate\*

Leola M. Blossie\*

Vivian Bray\*

Tom & Irene Carman

James H. Cox\*

Patrick Currier

Les & Marsha Deming\*

Gerald Donahue & Mary Wardwell-Donahue

Thomas L. Dunbar\*

Mrs. Richard Ennis\*

Noni M. Farmer\*

Dorothy A. Farrell\*

Diane & Michael Ferrucci

Beth & Randy Fipps

Violet G. Fuller\*

Dr. David G. Gregor\*

Shirley P. Griggs Trust Fund\*

William Hartman\*

Fred H. Jennings\*

Walcott B. Jones\*

Dana Keefer

Earle J. Kelsey\*

David C. Knowlton\*

Kathryn Ann Kolton

Irene G. Kolton\*

Dr. Karl J. Komar

Virginia M. LaPlante\*

Blanche Livermore\*

Richard & Mary Macsherry\*

Dr. & Mrs. Ralph J. Marilley

John F. Marsellus\*

Verna Martiney Trust in Memory of Bertha Martiney\*

Joseph W. Martiney\*

Mary & Ted Mascott

Carol A. McGowan

Andrew F. McNally III\*

Anthony M. Menkel, Jr.\*

Michael C. Miller\*

Grant Mitchell

Dean & Barbara Morrow

Dr. Ronald & Mrs. Celia Perciaccante

Charles & Susan\* Peters (65)

Harriet L. Pruyn Trust Fund

Emily Queior

Charlotte Smith\*

Dr. LaVerne VanDeWall\*

Mr. & Mrs. Addison F. Vars III

T. Urling & Mabel\* Walker

Joe & Lisa Weber

Loretta E. Wright\*

Martin & Linda\* Yenawine

\* Deceased



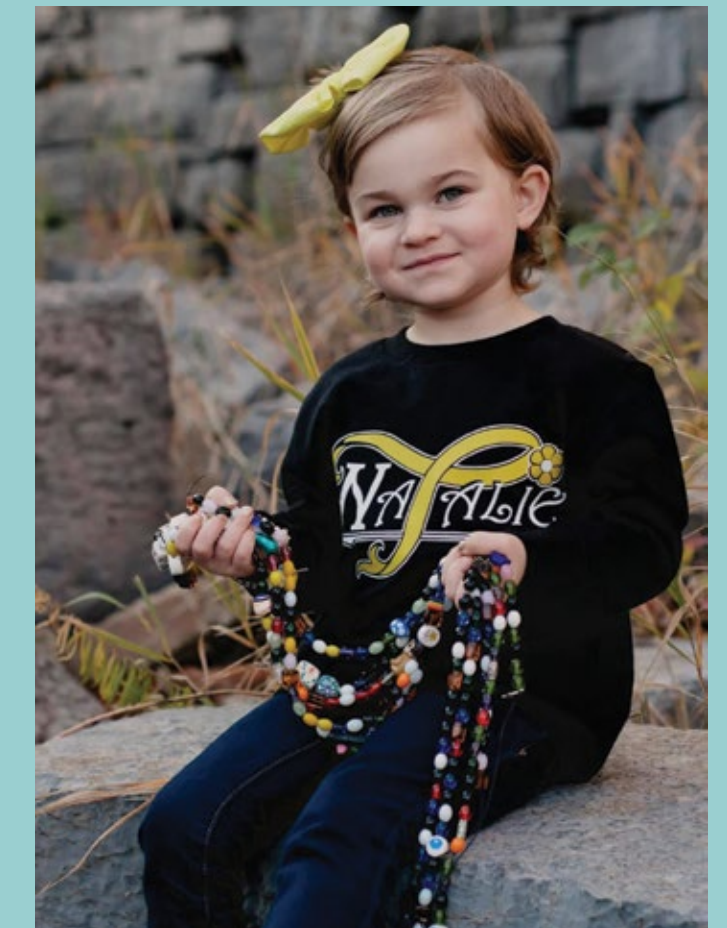
## Meet Our 2021 Local Champion

Natalie Gondek, 3, Clayton

Children's Miracle Network of Northern New York at Samaritan was proud to celebrate Natalie Gondek as its 2021 Local Champion! Natalie is the daughter of Marci and Matthew Gondek, of Clayton. Her role was to serve as ambassador of the Children's Miracle Network program and the face for children in Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Lewis counties. As Champion, Natalie's story was shared throughout the tri-county area in marketing campaigns and at community events, when possible.

A few days before her 2nd birthday, Natalie was diagnosed with high-risk B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. After spending an entire month in the hospital, Natalie could not walk, lost 20 percent of her body weight, and lost all of her hair before she was discharged to go home. At three years old, she experienced intense head and neck pain and was additionally diagnosed with a condition called Pseudotumor Cerebri, which increases the production of cerebrospinal fluid and causes pressure around her brain.

Children's Miracle Network of NNY helps kids like Natalie through the Direct Family Assistance Program, which provides reimbursement for travel and medical expenses incurred for appointments with specialists and hospitalizations. It also assists with needed specialized medical devices and equipment.



## Change Kids' Health Change the Future

Without philanthropy, many hospitals face shortfalls in the short and long term, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has brought many changes. Samaritan Medical Center is grateful for the many corporations and individuals who support the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) program so that we can support and care for our smallest patients. The CMN program funds are used to pay for critical equipment needs in child-centered areas of the hospital and also to directly support families with children facing medical crises.



Kinney Drugs has been a CMN corporate partner for almost 30 years! In 2021, they again raised an amazing amount to be donated to the program at Samaritan — \$51,736! Each year, local Kinney Drugs customers, store managers, associates and corporate team members come together to give back. This year, Kinney locations sold their traditional miracle balloons for \$1, \$3, and \$5 in addition to holding fun in-store events like garage sales and raffles! Also, BINGO week for employees was back and bigger than ever in 2021! Employees were encouraged to fill out BINGO cards with stamps. Their BINGO cards had spots that had assorted fundraising amounts on them.

**Thank you, Kinney Drugs! Your support helps kids live better lives!**

More than 10 million kids enter a Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospital every year. Samaritan Medical Center is proud to be part of a network that provides the best care for kids throughout the North Country.

**In 2021, our Children's Miracle Network Hospital of Northern New York raised**

**\$365,826**

**with help from our generous partner campaigns and donors.**

**How does your dollar help patients at Samaritan Medical Center?**

**Purchase of Critical Pediatric Equipment**

**\$262,483**



**Direct Family Assistance Program**

**\$35,026**



### Extra Life

Extra Life is a national program that unites thousands of gamers around the world to play games of all kinds in support of their local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Typically video games are played, but board games, yard games, and organized sports games like basketball are played as well. Gamers seek pledges for each hour they play to raise funds for their local CMN program. In 2021, the Extra Life program raised over \$7,000 for the CMN program at Samaritan! Individuals, corporate partners, and even local colleges entered their teams to raise funds. We are excited to recognize a special participant, Infinite Lives, which just completed its 10th year of participating! Infinite Lives is an independent video game store in Watertown. Mitch, from Infinite Lives, again raised an incredible amount for the program — \$2,603!

## Radiothon

The 21st annual Children's Miracle Network Radiothon took place November 3-5, 2021, and raised an impressive \$140,563! Community Broadcasters DJs Johnny Spezzano from the Border 106.7 and Lance Hale from 94 Rock were live on air for three days, asking for the North Country's financial support. Once again, our community showed its compassion and generosity. An important part of the Radiothon tradition is "Storm's Angels" — created in memory of Storm Wood, a longtime member of the Children's Miracle Network family and friend to DJ Johnny Spezzano. In 2018, one year before he passed away, Storm donated \$1,000 to the Radiothon. In his honor, all donors who give a gift of \$1,000 or more become a Storm's Angel and have their names added to a plaque that proudly hangs in The Border 106.7 studio. Thank you to the following donors who became Storm's Angels in 2021:

### Storm's Angels

- Merrica Baldwin
- Jennifer Bleakley
- Jennifer Brett
- Natasha Bura
- Rebecca Bushaw
- Jeremy Campbell
- Jason Christman
- Michael Cummings
- Suzanne Davis
- Cynthia Demo
- Carly Draper
- Michael, Karen and Jolese Doe
- Beth, Randy and Maggie Fipps
- Melissa Gardner
- Trisha Howell
- Dr. Karl Komar
- Bruce Kraeger
- Pride and Glory Tattoo, James Kroeger
- Scott and KI LaClair
- Lloyd Lavancha
- James Leven and Staff of Community Broadcasters
- Lisa Lobdell
- Catherine O'Brien
- Shannon Peterson
- Timothy Reitzel
- Scott Shean
- Eric Soluri
- Jamie Taylor
- Amber Vantassel
- Priscilla Welch
- Chris Williams
- Scott Wormwood



# Samaritan Locations Listing

samaritanhealth.com

## **Samaritan Medical Center**

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

## **Samaritan Medical Center Foundation of Northern NY**

830 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-785-4584

## **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

## **Samaritan Home Health**

104 Paddock Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-782-0415

## **Clifton-Fine Hospital**

1014 Oswegatchie Trail Road  
Star Lake, NY 13690  
315-848-3351

## **Addiction Services**

1575 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-779-5074

## **Car-Freshner Center for Women and Children**

830 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-785-4050

## **Dermatology**

826 Washington Street  
Suite 100  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-755-3670

## **Ear, Nose and Throat**

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

## **Family Health Center at Adams\*\***

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

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

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

\* Lab services available by  
appointment

## **Family Health Center at Clayton\*\***

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

## **Family Health Center at LeRay**

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

## **Family Health Center at Watertown**

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

## **Gastroenterology**

26908 Independence Way  
1st Floor  
Evans Mills, NY 13637  
315-782-6900

## **General & Vascular Surgery**

826 Washington Street  
Suite 106  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-782-1505

\*\* Lab and X-ray services  
available

## **Imaging & Lab Center at Coffeen Street\*\***

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

## **Imaging & Lab Center at Samaritan Health & Wellness Plaza\*\***

1575 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-788-1204

## **Orthopedics**

22567 Summit Drive  
Building II  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-779-6784

## **Outpatient Behavioral Health**

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

## **Outpatient Therapy Services**

830 Washington Street  
1st Floor Pratt Building  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-785-4088

## **Pain Management Center**

826 Washington Street  
3rd Floor  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-785-4313

## **Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery**

629 Washington Street  
1st Floor  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-755-3650

## **Pulmonology & Thoracic Surgery**

19320 US Route 11  
Building 3  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-786-0254

## **Rheumatology**

629 Washington Street  
2nd Floor  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-755-3450

## **Sleep Disorders Center of NNY**

830 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-786-4930

## **SMART (Graduate Medical Education) Clinic**

1575 Washington Street  
Door H (Rear of Building)  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-786-7300

## **Urology**

22567 Summit Drive  
Building II, Suite A  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-782-7230

## **Walker Center for Cancer Care**

830 Washington St  
Watertown, NY 13601  
315-785-HOPE (4673)

## **Women's Wellness and Breast Care**

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

## **Wound Care Center**

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

