Progress through philanthropy

Built using donations of funds and a bequeathed acre of land at the top of Mill Hill, Bridgeport Hospital has relied on philanthropy as a cornerstone of its work since the late 1800s.

In the more recent past, two prominent groups became official fundraisers for the facility, the Bridgeport Hospital Auxiliary in 1959 and the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation in 1988.

Keeping high-quality patient care at the forefront, the hospital has made tremendous progress over the years, adding dozens of new services and facilities. Many of these added features are supported at least in part by philanthropy.

Due to challenges created by increased taxes on hospitals and reduced funding, philanthropy plays an even bigger part in serving those in our community who need it the most. Programs like the Geriatric Injury Institute and the Transportation Access Fund are direct results of the generosity of our donors.

Recent innovations such as the Elizabeth M. Pfriem Hybrid Operating Room and the Allison Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit simply would not be possible without our donor community.

From its humble beginnings in a bucolic 19th-century pasture, Bridgeport Hospital, built for about $120,000, has grown into a $500 million regional healthcare organization, serving more than 21,000 inpatients and over 300,000 outpatients a year.

We are truly grateful that our community provides unprecedented investment and confidence in the work of Bridgeport Hospital through philanthropy that supports a wide range of initiatives.
Dear Friends,

This was a year of challenge and steady progress driven by Yale New Haven Health’s commitment to innovation and excellence in patient care, teaching, research and service to its communities. A highlight of the past year was a long-term strategic plan, developed in alignment with Yale New Haven Health, to help guide Bridgeport Hospital’s future growth and prepare for upcoming changes in the healthcare environment.

Financial pressures continued to challenge the state and its hospitals, but inpatient and outpatient volume remained strong at Bridgeport Hospital. The hospital’s strong performance in 2017 featured three exciting additions: the new Elizabeth M. Pfriem Hybrid Operating Room which opened for advanced cardiac and vascular procedures; the completion of phase one of the $7 million Allison Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit modernization; and growth of services at Park Avenue Medical Center, which celebrated its first anniversary.

But the high point of the year at the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation remains the generosity of donors.

The advances we have made this past year would not have been possible without philanthropy. Your charitable giving strengthens Bridgeport Hospital and the many services we deliver.

In this 2017 annual report, we share the stories of four donors:

- Simin Allison and her sons, Andrew and John, naming gift donors of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit;
- Ulla Atweh, Bonnie Molloy and Linda Antignani, leadership of the Bridgeport Hospital Auxiliary;
- Bill and Donna Waltrip, contributors to the Hybrid Operating Room; and
- Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation’s Karen Iannella and Frank Pomer, philanthropic partners of the Norma Pfriem Breast Center.

Thanks to benefactors like you, Bridgeport Hospital Foundation is able to impact the lives of thousands of patients, family members and the community. On behalf of our staff and board of trustees, thank you for caring and giving.

With warmest regards,

William M. Jennings
President and Chief Executive Officer
Bridgeport Hospital and
Executive Vice President, Yale New Haven Health

Stephen M. Jakab, CFRE
President
Bridgeport Hospital Foundation
Continued investments in patient care safety and quality, infrastructure, physician and employee engagement and community health and outreach brought added value to patients, staff and the community.

Quality and Regulatory Recognition
Bridgeport Hospital underwent a highly successful triennial accreditation survey by the Joint Commission. The hospital’s cancer services, the Norma Pfriem Breast Center, the Stroke Center, the Yale Bariatric and Minimally Invasive Surgery Program, the Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine and the Bridgeport Hospital Laboratory all received full reaccreditations.

Clinical Redesign
Clinical redesign initiatives continued to improve quality and service while reducing costs. The Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS) program expanded from joint replacement to Ob/Gyn and Urology, decreasing complications and shortening recovery time. The Hospitalist service expanded direct admission and implemented medication reconciliation for 80 percent of its patients to ensure that medication information was accurate. An early detection of encephalopathy and confusion project was implemented to screen and treat patients for delirium.

Psychiatry and Behavioral Health
Behavioral Health became a system-wide service line this year, implementing centralized admissions at Yale New Haven Hospital and Bridgeport Hospital. The REACH outpatient behavioral health program moved from Stratford to a larger space in Bridgeport.

New ED Observation Unit
The ED opened a new observation unit on Podium 3, doubling its capacity. It will provide more rapid turnaround time for patients discharged home or admitted to an inpatient unit.

Neonatal ICU
The modernization of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit was completed and opened in late February 2018. The $7 million modernization project, made possible entirely through philanthropy, was led by a $3 million naming gift from the Allison Family of Westport.

Engagement
Employee Engagement Nearly 87 percent of eligible staff took the 2017 Employee Engagement Survey this spring, and scores placed Bridgeport Hospital in the 91st percentile nationally for employee engagement. The YNHHS Diversity
and Inclusion Council expanded its activities and Bridgeport Hospital held its first Diversity and Inclusion “Race Talk” workshop, with more than 150 hospital leaders attending.

Medical Staff Engagement The physician engagement survey showed a substantial increase in physician satisfaction over the previous survey, improving results from the 81st percentile to the 92nd percentile. Over 90 physicians on the Bridgeport Hospital medical staff were chosen by colleagues for Connecticut Magazine’s 2017 Top Docs list.

Community Bridgeport Hospital provided $82.7 million in total uncompensated care to the community, including $16.6 million in free and charity care and $7.1 million in uncollectible debt. Bridgeport Hospital received a $25,000 grant from Newman’s Own Foundation to support the hospital’s ambulatory services transportation initiative to improve access for underserved residents. The hospital continued to play a leading role in Get Healthy CT by promoting healthy lifestyles and removing barriers to healthy eating and physical activity. The hospital provided free Know Your Numbers health screenings, head and neck cancer screenings and memory screenings this year, as well as an African-American Men’s Health Symposium and toy and school supply drives.

Patient Experience With the adoption of new system-wide Standards of Professional Behavior, the culture of excellence at Bridgeport Hospital moved up overall in patient satisfaction from the 36th to the 64th percentile this year; the Emergency Department moved from the 63rd to the 81st percentile; and Park Avenue Medical Center ended the year at the 96th percentile.

Foundation Highlights In fiscal year 2017, total giving to the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation surpassed $6.7 million.

Rose of Hope Luncheon Christie Brinkley was the celebrity speaker at the 2017 Rose of Hope Luncheon at the Fairfield County Hunt Club in Westport in June. More than 500 people attended and the event raised $550,000 for the Norma Pfriem Breast Center. Merrill Lynch Wealth Management received the Rose of Hope Award for its philanthropic support of the Breast Center.

Pink Pledge Campaign The third annual Pink Pledge campaign was held in October 2017 to raise awareness and funds for the Norma Pfriem Breast Center. This year’s events raised over $160,000.

Kaulbach Memorial Golf Classic The 37th annual event on September 14 at Brooklawn Country Club raised $132,000 after expenses to support cancer services in the Bridgeport Hospital delivery network, including Park Avenue Medical Center in Trumbull.

Auxiliary Gala Nearly 150 people attended the Auxiliary spring gala at Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield and raised over $80,000 to support the Allison Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Dr. Tom Kennedy Toy Closet, Ahlbin Rehabilitation Centers and other grants and programs to benefit patients.

Survivor Safari More than 650 people, including 150 cancer survivors, 400 family and friends and 100 staff members, attended the hospital’s Survivor Safari at Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo, sponsored by the Kaulbach Golf Classic and the Norma Pfriem Cancer Institute.

Honor Your Caregiver The Bridgeport Hospital Foundation created the “Honor Your Caregiver” program for former patients and their family members to express gratitude for the care they received. Donors may recognize any physician, staff member or group. Brochures were made available throughout the hospital and at all outpatient sites, including many physician offices. Over the past six years, 652 patients have contributed more than $390,000 in recognition of staff members who have made a difference in their care.
A Westport family was inspired to give back and help others.

Being socially conscious was a lesson that Simin and her late husband, Herbert Allison Jr., instilled in their sons, John and Andrew, since they were young.

“Our mother was always volunteering when we were growing up, supporting different causes and helping people,” said her eldest son, John. “Our parents taught us that life is for service, and that as members of a community, we have a duty to others.”

In 1998, the Allisons started a family foundation as a way to give back to organizations in which the family was interested. Each family member supports charities individually, but the causes chosen for the Allison Family Foundation are usually larger projects that require more resources and attention.

Enter Bridgeport Hospital.

Simin was at lunch with a friend who explained that her husband recently passed away at Bridgeport Hospital. While the treatment was great, recalled her friend, the hospice, or end-of-life suites, were in need of an update.

Simin and her friend met with Steve Jakab, president of the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation, and decided to fund a hospice suite remodeling.

While at her local gym, Simin realized the effects of her gift firsthand. Upon arrival, she was embraced by a young man who worked at the gym. He explained that his grandfather had passed away and his family gathered in the very same hospice suites that Simin and the Allison Family Foundation had worked to refurbish.

“It was such a moving story,” said Simin. “It was a small project but it was very special.”

Inspired, the Allison Family Foundation looked further into the needs of Bridgeport Hospital. Andrew, the younger Allison son, accompanied his mother on a hospital tour with Jakab. One area stuck out.

“When we saw how passionate our mother was about Bridgeport Hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), we instantly knew that this was something we wanted to be involved with,” described Andrew.

“We were very impressed with the plan, the NICU nurses, Dr. [Robert] Herzlinger and the donors who came before us,” explained Simin. So in early 2016, the Allison family decided to contribute to the project.

The new Allison Family NICU cares for 500 infants a year. The new unit has larger, more private patient areas, lower lighting in treatment areas, a consultation room for family support and a central nurses’ station with comprehensive monitoring. The new unit opened in early 2018.

Simin knows that her late husband would be proud of the project. “You don’t have to have a cause in order to help,” said Simin. “Whatever you can do, big or small, can affect others.”

Ripple effect of kindness

Simin Allison
A force in fundraising

The Bridgeport Hospital Auxiliary supports the hospital, one project at a time.

The all-volunteer Bridgeport Hospital Auxiliary partners with Bridgeport Hospital and its Foundation to raise funds for specific projects. Since its inception almost 60 years ago, the Auxiliary has contributed over $4.5 million to Bridgeport Hospital.

“We have a chance to look at what is needed both inside and outside of the hospital,” explained Bonnie Molloy, current Auxiliary president. “We raise money for both large and small projects.”

The Auxiliary’s work is evident throughout the hospital — from the cascading water wall in the Grant Street lobby atrium, to the gift shop and the expansion of the Emergency Department. Since Molloy became president in 2014, the group raised $450,000 for the Outpatient Surgery Center at Park Avenue Medical Center in Trumbull. Currently, they are raising funds to support the new Allison Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The Auxiliary fundraises through community outreach, sponsorships and events such as a major spring gala and a smaller event in the fall. In 2017, proceeds from the “Dancing with the Hospital Stars” Gala benefited the NICU renovations, Dr. Tom Kennedy Toy Closet and the Ahlbin Rehabilitation Centers, along with other hospital initiatives. Director of Trauma Services and Emergency Preparedness Paul Possenti won the dance contest. The date is already set for “Dancing with the Hospital Stars #3” to take place on April 27, 2018.

“Dancing with the Hospital Stars is really a fun event,” said Linda Antignani, future Auxiliary president. “We have an auction and great community sponsors. It’s an exciting format for a fundraiser.”

“We work to get the community involved in our events,” said Molloy. “We are lucky to team up with great companies as our sponsors, and we’ve received enthusiastic support from the hospital staff.”

Ulla Atweh, Auxiliary president from 2012–2014, currently oversees the hospital’s gift shop. The water wall inside the grand entrance to the hospital was one of the projects completed during her presidency.

“The hospital leadership are all so approachable,” said Atweh. “It’s inspiring to be a part of this hospital and this community.”

Antignani joined the Auxiliary to give back to the hospital in a big way. “This hospital has meant so much to me. I was born there, my children and grandchildren were born there and my husband still works there,” she explained.

Currently, the Auxiliary has 239 total members but is looking to increase their base. “If you would like to do some great work in support of Bridgeport Hospital, you are invited to join us,” said Antignani.

For more information on the Auxiliary’s support of Bridgeport Hospital, visit bridgeporthospital.org/about/community/auxiliary.aspx.
Grateful hearts

A cardiac patient and his family donate to the new Hybrid OR.

Southport residents Bill and Donna Waltrip crisscrossed the country during his years as an executive in the airline industry, living in Denver; Washington, DC; Miami; and New York City. Originally from Tulsa, OK, the couple were childhood playmates. They met in a treehouse.

"Bill belonged to the neighborhood treehouse club," explained Donna. "Although there were only boys in the club, he urged the other boys to let me join. So I did."

Shortly after, Donna’s family moved across town but the duo reunited in high school, when they started dating. Bill started college but left for a stint in the Marine Corps Reserves in 1957. Following his service, they were married, had their eldest daughter and were whisked off to New York City for Bill’s job.

Other than the birth of their two daughters, both Donna and Bill were fortunate enough to avoid major hospital stays throughout their cross-country travels.

But at age 59, Bill had his first cardiac procedure — triple coronary artery bypass surgery — at Bridgeport Hospital. In the 21 years since that surgery, Bill has had numerous stents implanted and a procedure to remove the plaque from his carotid artery.

In 2015, Bill’s health took a turn for the worse but the cardiac team at Bridgeport Hospital would not stop fighting for him. At one point, while Bill was in the Intensive Care Unit after emergency surgery, cardiologists Mitchell Driesman, MD, and Edward Tuohy, MD, alternated sleeping at the hospital to monitor his tenuous condition.

“We both have had a lot of operations, and in different hospitals, but everyone our age usually has. The knees, the hips and all that stuff,” said Donna.

The Waltrips were so delighted with the care Bill received at Bridgeport Hospital, they didn’t hesitate when asked for a donation to help fund a new Hybrid Operating Room. Bill wishes that Bridgeport had the specialty OR back in 2015.

The Hybrid OR, which opened in May 2017, features an angiography suite and traditional operating room with a built-in imaging unit for high quality, low-dose X-rays. Physicians can perform minimally invasive advanced cardiac and vascular procedures with real-time imaging, which gives detailed views to improve accuracy and outcomes, including a shorter hospital stay and quicker recovery.

“All of the nurses and doctors could not have been better, more attentive or kinder,” said Donna.

Bill, now 80, feels great and is back to playing the golf course adjacent to his home. He and Donna are appreciative of every minute together.

“We have been married almost 60 years, so there is a lot of history and a lot of almost losing him,” said Donna. “I wish we had millions to donate because we just believe so much in Bridgeport Hospital.”
The Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation teams with the Norma Pfriem Breast Center to increase healthcare access.

Access to care. This principle started the partnership between the Norma Pfriem Breast Center and the Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation (BI Cares), nearly 10 years ago. BI Cares is the independent nonprofit arm of pharmaceutical leader Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., based in Ridgefield, CT. Its mission is to provide “more health” to patients, families and communities. For example, BI Cares has a Patient Assistance Program which makes select BI medicines available for free to eligible patients, including senior citizens and families living on limited incomes.

In 2008, BI Cares Vice President Frank Pomer brought the work of the Norma Pfriem Breast Center to the attention of his colleagues. “I knew Donna [Twist] and her work with the Breast Center so we invited her in to speak to Foundation leadership,” said Pomer. “At that point, we knew we wanted to support their mission. We started very small and continue to support the partnership year after year.”

The BI Cares Foundation made its first donation to the Norma Pfriem Breast Center in 2008, and over the past 10 years has donated $300,000 to the Breast Center as part of its medically underserved initiative.

In addition to the monetary donation, BI Cares Foundation team members volunteered at Bridgeport area food pantries and handed out educational materials about screenings and the work of the Breast Center. Both organizations share their work and support with one another. Pomer spoke at the Breast Center’s largest fundraiser, the Rose of Hope Luncheon, to discuss the organizations’ common goals and purpose. Likewise, a Breast Center patient shared her experience at a BI Cares Foundation steering committee meeting and made a lasting impression on the leadership team.

“Our partnership with the Norma Pfriem Breast Center is a perfect alignment of goals of both organizations,” said Karen Iannella, president of BI Cares. “We are proud to support the Breast Center and their amazing work attending to the underserved in the community.”

“Our goal is to improve someone’s health and life, one patient at a time,” said Pomer. “And with this great partnership, we are able to achieve just that.”

Both Pomer and Iannella are excited to expand this partnership in the future. “Right now, our focus is on access to healthcare because we know that early detection is important,” said Iannella. “Looking forward, we are open to additional avenues of support for the Breast Center. Our partnership is a great fit.”

To learn more about the Norma Pfriem Breast Center, visit bridgeporthospital.org/services/breast-cancer.aspx.

Karen Iannella and Frank Pomer

Pomer spoke at the 12th annual Rose of Hope Luncheon.
**Hospital Inpatient Discharges by Service Line**

- Psychiatry: 1,492
- Heart Institute: 1,652
- Surgery and Anesthesia: 3,870
- Medicine: 9,049
- Women’s and Maternity: 5,034
- Total Discharges: 21,097

**Net Patient Service Revenue by Source**

- Medicare Managed Care: 11.4%
- Commercial, Self-Pay and Other: 3.1%
- Anthem/Blue Cross: 15.1%
- Managed Care: 24.1%
- Medicare: 26.7%
- Medicaid: 19.6%
Outpatient Services

- Laboratory: 47,860
- Ambulatory Surgery and Medical: 15,339
- Hospital Clinics: 31,862
- Observation: 8,916
- Emergency Room: 74,375
- Cardiac: 19,594
- Rehab: 14,402
- Other: 12,895
- Radiation Therapy Satellite Diagnostic Imaging: 60,985
- Gastrointestinal Procedures: 4,326
- Antenatal Testing Unit and Electronic Fetal Monitoring: 10,562

Total Outpatient Visits: 301,116

Expenses by Major Category

- Interest and Depreciation: 8.7%
- Purchased Services: 17.5%
- Professional Fees: 3.6%
- Physician Fees: 11.7%
- Supplies and Other Expenses: 18.3%
- Salaries and Benefits: 40.2%
Bridgeport Hospital and the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation, Inc., gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the following donors for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2017, and ending December 31, 2017. Each gift assists the hospital in providing the finest healthcare services to all those in need regardless of their ability to pay.

Please note that only monetary gifts of $250 and above are listed. Although donations made through special event programs such as live and silent auctions and raffles are most appreciated, those gifts are not included.

A list of donors to the Norma Pfriem Breast Center begins on page 19.

We apologize for any omissions or inaccuracies. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation office at 203-384-3522.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Susan Hubbell Society

Honoring those who have made planned gifts to Bridgeport Hospital

The Susan Hubbell Society recognizes members who have made a commitment in their estate plan to provide enduring support for Bridgeport Hospital. In the 1870s, Susan Hubbell bequeathed $13,500 and a lot of one acre of land for the construction of Bridgeport Hospital.

Your membership in the Susan Hubbell Society offers you a wonderful opportunity to leave a lasting legacy and also allows you to help define the future of Bridgeport Hospital.
Bridgeport Hospital Foundation staff, front row: Elaine White, Anna Lecardo, Donna Twist, Lyla Steenbergen; back row: Susan Chudwick, Sharon Gosha, Melissa Silver, Karen Charleston, Steve Jakab.
Ms. Kristy Hoffman
Ms. Patricia Ibsken
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Keane
Mr. David H. Kiley
Mrs. Esther B. Kmetzo
Steven H. Kunkes, MD & Claudette H. Kunkes, PhD
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Dr. Shams Tabrez
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Coca-Cola Refreshments
EPIC
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Global Pediatrics LLC
The Michael Ness Golf Tournament
New Life Assembly of God
PMT Group, Inc.
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Police and Firemen’s Insurance Association

Robert Herzlinger, MD, (center) with members of the Tiny Miracles Foundation (l-r) Jill Hooper, Gwen Noto, Sela Esposito and Karen Green.

Donna Milne, 1948 School of Nursing graduate Dorothy Edgerton and Steve Jakab attend the closing celebration of the School of Nursing.
Sandy Hook Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co. Inc.
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United Way of Coastal Fairfield County, Inc.
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$1,000 – $2,499
- Ayco Charitable Foundation
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- Fairfield Rotary Club Foundation, Inc.

**Sponsors**

$500 – $999
- David E. Block Foundation
- Connecticut Burns Care Foundation, Inc.

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Bridgeport Hospital Cardiology Nurses
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Bridgeport Hospital Emergency Department Staff
Bridgeport Hospital Intensive Care Unit Nurses
Bridgeport Hospital Labor & Delivery Room Staff
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Bridgeport Hospital North East 7 Staff
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Cardiac Specialists, PC
Lisa Carrano, RN
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Sue Garrison (center) and her team on North East 7 celebrate receiving an Honor Your Caregiver award from a former patient.

Emergency Department physicians Richard Greiner, MD, and Michele Irving, MD, receive Honor Your Caregiver awards from Steve Jakab and Bill Jennings.
Norma Pfriem Breast Center

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Judith, David and Paul Nessel pose with 2017 Rose of Hope Luncheon benefactor Anna Somma and guest speaker Christie Brinkley (center).
Rose of Hope Luncheon guest speaker Christie Brinkley (center) with Bill Tommins and Katie Flaherty of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, a Bank of America company and 2017 Rose of Hope Luncheon’s lead corporate event sponsor.

Bridgeport Hospital physicians, nurses and leadership join donors Bill and Donna Waltrip and Emil and Toby Meshberg to cut the ribbon for the opening of the Elizabeth M. Priem Hybrid Operating Room.
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Golfers Bill Dober, Austin Felis, Gia Watkins and Paul Kelly at the 37th annual Kaulbach Golf Classic benefiting oncology services at Bridgeport Hospital and Park Avenue Medical Center.

Janet Pucci, Matthew Ness, Kaitlin O’Brien and Elizabeth Ness-Wobschall present a check to the Burn Center team for $18,500 from the fourth annual Michael Ness Pay It Forward Golf Tournament.

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Janet Pucci, Matthew Ness, Kaitlin O’Brien and Elizabeth Ness-Wobschall present a check to the Burn Center team for $18,500 from the fourth annual Michael Ness Pay It Forward Golf Tournament.
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Pictured above (left) Nabil Atweh, MD, Donna Twist and Ulla Atweh; (center) Robert Stanton, MD; Ryan O’Connell, MD; Daniel Rudolph, MD, and Michael Ivy, MD; (right) Arlene Battistelli and Mary Beth Grasso pose at the annual Donor Appreciation Reception.
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VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

VISION
Yale New Haven Health enhances the lives of the people we serve by providing access to high-value, patient-centered care in collaboration with those who share our values.

MISSION
Yale New Haven Health is committed to innovation and excellence in patient care, teaching, research and service to our communities.

VALUES
PATIENT-CENTERED – Putting patients and families first
RESPECT – Valuing all people
COMPASSION – Being empathetic
INTEGRITY – Doing the right thing
ACCOUNTABILITY – Being responsible and taking action