



## Winter 2024 Newsletter

### A Message From The CEO

**Jill VanKuren**  
President and CEO  
Saratoga Hospital



It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Kelly Armer as Executive Director of the Saratoga Hospital Foundation, effective January 8.

Kelly brings more than 35 years of experience in non-profit leadership and fundraising in our community. She dedicated many years to leadership roles with the Saratoga Regional YMCA, ranging from childcare director to chief operations officer. One of her key accomplishments at the YMCA was leading a capital campaign for the Saratoga Springs Branch, raising more than \$7.5 million by cultivating meaningful relationships with community donors. Following her time with the YMCA, Kelly also served as the Development Director for Saratoga Bridges. She earned a Master's Degree in Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from Springfield College in Springfield, MA.

Kelly is providing oversight to the Foundation, while preparing to lead our next capital campaign. I am confident that her familiarity with our donor population and community will serve her well as she embarks on her new role here at Saratoga Hospital.

Please join me in welcoming Kelly to our team.

I hope that you enjoy reading about some of the highlights from the past few months and we look forward to sharing these issues with you quarterly.

Sincerely,

Jill VanKuren

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### Foundation Update: A New Location and a Bright Future



I am happy to share my first update with you since joining the Saratoga Hospital Family one month ago!

First and foremost, we would like to extend a big thank you to Darlene Alvarado, Director of Marketing and Communications, for her exceptional leadership of the Foundation team during the past few months. Thanks to her guidance, the Foundation staff and board have been able to maintain operational momentum until the new Executive Director was hired. We are happy to announce that the Foundation has now moved to a new location on the second floor of 59D Myrtle Avenue, across the street from the Hospital, where the marketing and communications team has been living.

Sharing the space with the marketing and communications team has opened up new opportunities for collaboration and innovation, which will help us better promote our initiatives and raise more funds for the hospital. This move has enabled the Foundation to provide even greater support to the staff, patients, and the hospital as a whole.

We are excited about the future and our ability to continue serving our community to improve the health and well-being of all - together. We look forward to sharing more with you as the year progresses!

**Kelly Armer**

If you'd like to connect with Kelly, feel free to reach out to her at [tkarmer@saratogahospital.org](mailto:tkarmer@saratogahospital.org).

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# Join Us in Transforming Lives with the Saratoga Hospital Wheelchair Campaign



**#WheelsOfChange**

## **Wheels of Change**

We are closely listening to our dedicated frontline staff, who have highlighted a crucial need for wheelchairs. This February, we are committed to a cause that is dear to our hearts - promoting safety, comfort, and dignity for our patients. Our goal is to secure **\$50,000** in funding needed to purchase wheelchairs crucial in providing guided assistance, and transportation for our patients, elevating the healthcare experience for our community.

## **How You Can Make a Difference:**

Join Bob and Debbie Jaffe, the inaugural donors to this campaign. Your contribution will make a significant impact by helping us purchase top-of-the-line wheelchairs that are both durable and accessible. It costs \$1,500 to purchase one wheelchair. Every dollar counts and will bring us closer to achieving our mission. Please consider helping us with a donation today!



[Donate Today!](#)

## **Spread the Love**

Share our campaign with your friends, family, and colleagues. Encourage them to join this meaningful cause and help us reach our target by sharing our campaign on social media and through word of mouth.  
**#WheelsOfChange #SaratogaHospital #SpreadtheLove**

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## **We Moved!**

The **Saratoga Hospital Foundation** team has moved! You can now find their offices at 59D Myrtle St. on the second floor with

the Marketing and Communications team.

**For billing and mailing purposes -  
please continue to use the following  
address:**

Saratoga Hospital Foundation  
211 Church Street  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



Marketing & Foundation Teams

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## SARATOGA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

We had our ribbon cutting for the opening of the Saratoga Backstretch Clinic, underwritten by John Hendrickson, in honor of Mrs. Marylou Whitney.



Millennium Medical Imaging committed \$337,500, bringing their philanthropic contributions to over \$1M!



The Volunteer Guild made a \$700,000 commitment toward's the hospital's two new CT scanners. This is the Volunteer Guild's largest single gift in their 75-year history!



The 41st Annual Gala had a record-breaking 1,000 participants and raised \$307,000 in support of Saratoga Community Health Center.  
**Save The Date:**  
**July 31, 2024**

The 2023 holiday ornament, the twenty-eighth in a collectible series, honored Mrs. Marylou Whitney and the Saratoga Backstretch Clinic and raised \$12,000.



The Golf Invitational garnered \$184,000 to provide scholarships for nursing staff.

**Save The Date:**  
**September 11, 2024**



Our generous board members sprinkled our team members with random acts of kindness throughout the month of December.



The 15th Annual Cantina Kids Fun Run raised \$72,000 in support of children's healthcare.

**Save The Date:**  
**June 2, 2024**

We welcomed our first Family Medicine Residency Program class in large support of Frank and Colleen Messa and Dr. Kevin and Mrs. Judy Dooley.



Saratoga Honda sponsored this year's Employee Annual Campaign and gave all Saratoga Hospital employees a car wash coupon. Together, employees raised \$68,460!



## Random Acts of Kindness - Employee Appreciation





Thanks to the generosity of our community, our employees enjoyed several "Random Acts of Kindness" from board members and local organizations this past winter. From holiday flowers, chocolates and donuts, to lottery tickets and mittens, our team felt the love!

Special thanks to The Flower and Fruit Mission, Fenimore Asset Management, Bobrow Distributing, The Carroll Family, Saratoga Hospital Volunteer Guild, Josh Nemer and Nemer of Saratoga, Saratoga Honda, Barb Ferraro, Dominick Marchesiello, Bobbi Jo Lucas, Lisa Higgins, Jeremy Annese, and Steph Collins for making a difference in the lives of our staff.

## Staff Appreciation Day

We are excited to announce our staff appreciation picnic for all employees and a guest! This event will take place on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at Great Escape Six Flags!



If you are interested in supporting this initiative, contact Lauren Balogun at [lbalogun@saratogahospital.org](mailto:lbalogun@saratogahospital.org).

## Community Impact





# 100 Years of Maternity Services!

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate 100 years of Maternity Services in December!

Our heartfelt gratitude extends to each person who has woven their story into ours—whether born here, worked here, welcomed a little one here, or cherished a special moment under our care. Your presence and support highlight the significance of maternity services in our community's tapestry.

Our celebration wouldn't have been possible without the incredible dedication of partners like **Dr. Jennifer Lefner** - Saratoga Hospital, Chair of Pediatrics, Chief of Newborn Medicine, **Dr. Amy Knoeller**, **Sarah Bunzey** and the **maternity services team**, **The Flower and Fruit Mission of Saratoga Hospital**, **Bella Baby Photography**, and the **Saratoga Hospital Volunteer Guild**.

During our centennial celebration, our staff and community generously donated over **1,500 diapers**. We delivered this collection to support the wonderful work of Wellspring.



Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 8 PM  
Phone: 518-580-2840.

## Community Pharmacy

Did you know our Community Pharmacy is open? A convenient, full-service pharmacy for our patients, employees, and our community.

Our pharmacy team is ready to assist with transferring prescriptions, communicating with providers, and navigating insurance-related questions or concerns.

The Community Pharmacy at Saratoga Hospital is proud to serve:

- Patients discharged after a procedure or from the Emergency Department.
- Patients from the hospital's primary care and specialty practices.
- Employees of Saratoga Hospital.

## Foundation Board Updates



**Shannan Carroll** has been part of the Saratoga community for the past 20 years, originally from Lake George. Shannan enjoys



**Dominick Marchesiello** is the Director of Sales & Lead Listing Specialist at The Marchesiello Team at Keller Williams Realty. In his previous professional life, Dominick worked for Saratoga Hospital for over 10 years where he was a physical therapist, clinical supervisor and business

being active in the community, volunteering on various boards and committees. She currently resides in Wilton with her husband Dave and four children.

development team leader at the Wilton Medical Arts site. He has a Doctorate degree in Physical Therapy as well as a Masters in Healthcare Administration.

## New and Noteworthy



### Frank and Colleen Messa Honor Dr. Rachid Daoui at Dialysis Ribbon Cutting

We celebrated the opening of the **Dr. Rachid Daoui Dialysis Unit** on D1 last month, given in appreciation of Colleen and Frank Messa, Hospital Board Treasurer and former Foundation Board Chair. This new unit will allow nurses to have an improved flow, with additional bays available to improve efficiencies and increase our ability to see patients on a regular basis. The new layout increases patient visibility and dialysis accesses which is imperative to providing safe treatments. We were excited to share the event with Dr. Daoui and his family, the Dialysis team, hospital leaders and staff, and members of the community.

## 2024 Signature Events



**Cantina**  
**June 2**  
Congress Park



**Gala**  
**July 31**  
Saratoga Casino Hotel



**Golf Invitational**  
**September 11**  
Saratoga National  
Golf Club

Registration  
Opens 2/25

### New Mailing Address?

We don't want you to miss out on any of our latest news or upcoming events.  
Send new address to: [foundation@saratogahospital.org](mailto:foundation@saratogahospital.org)

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Giving online is easier now than ever. Visit our **website** for more information.



Stay up to date on Foundation news and events by following us on social media.

MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE



Saratoga Hospital | 211 Church Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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