

# Gift of Health

Our Philanthropy Magazine

SPRING 2022

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Trinity Health

For Donors of  
Trinity Health Michigan



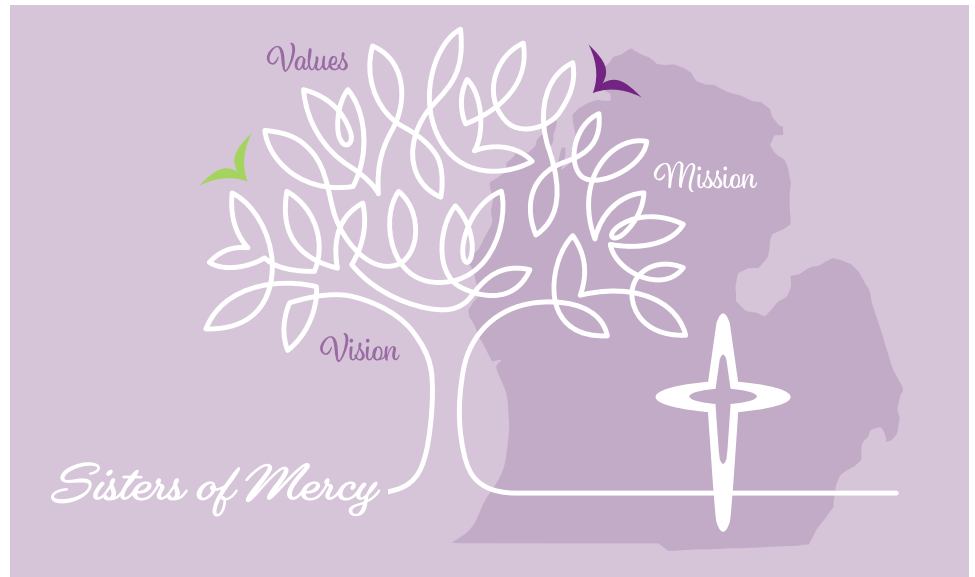
Honoring  
our Heritage  
and Embracing  
our Future.

Learn more about our unified brand  
identity within Trinity Health on

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WE  
ARE  
TRINITY  
HEALTH



Led by the founding spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, the Felician Sisters and the dedication of all who came before us... our roots run deep – both in our heritage and our communities... and we honor where we've been.

The years have brought with them many changes. There is power when we serve together: connection, innovation, resources, expertise...

We are stronger as one and we have a collective story to tell.

## A Courageous Future Together

The story of our founders now carries us into a new, exciting era... uniting as one Michigan health care system.

Coming together in a coordinated way so those we serve will know who we are and the extensive services we offer.

Officially adopting the name of our sponsor company for the past 22 years...

We will walk into the next era as...



Cover photo: Rosalie Tocco-Bradley MD, PhD, MHSA, Chief Clinical Officer of Trinity Health Michigan

Dear Friends,

We are honored to have you join us as we embrace a new brand identity within Trinity Health while continuing to recognize our local hospitals that you have supported through philanthropic giving. As our supporter, you know our hospitals and doctors of Trinity Health Michigan – including St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, Livingston and Oakland; St. Mary Mercy Livonia; and Chelsea Hospital – have been caring for our communities for over a century. Expert minds and compassionate caregivers across the state work together to provide you and our communities with the very best medicine and personalized care close to home.

With our unification under the Trinity Health brand, we are still honoring our heritage while embarking on our future as a unified health system working together to care for patients in every stage of life. Through this change, we want you to know:

**Your giving will continue to directly benefit our hospitals and health programs that mean the most to you and that you choose.**

As members of Trinity Health for more than 20 years, our new brand identity combines the national name recognition of Trinity Health with over 125 years of patient care, teaching, research and community services in Michigan including through our sister hospitals in Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

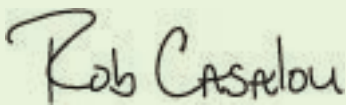
Before this spring, we had 22 names and logos representing the Trinity Health-owned entities across the state. Our new, unified brand identity will help people understand how everything fits together. It will help patients to know where they can go for consistent, trusted, Trinity Health care.

We carry forward our shared mission, values and promise to those we serve – the same promise that has been held by our hospitals for the past two decades as members of Trinity Health.

**We also carry forward your legacy of support and invite you to continue investing in clinical excellence, a remarkable patient experience and improved community health and wellness.**

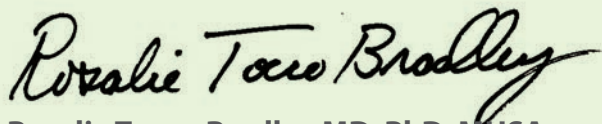
We remain grateful to our community of supporters who sustain our mission and make an impact on those we serve.

Sincerely,



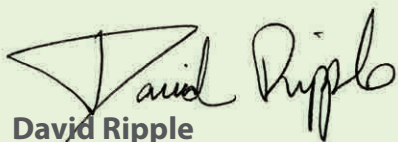
**Rob Casalou**

President & CEO of Trinity Health Michigan & Southeast Regions



**Rosalie Tocco-Bradley MD, PhD, MHSA**

Chief Clinical Officer of Trinity Health Michigan



**David Ripple**

Vice President for Development of Trinity Health Michigan Southeast

# Upholding our Mission and Commitment to the Community

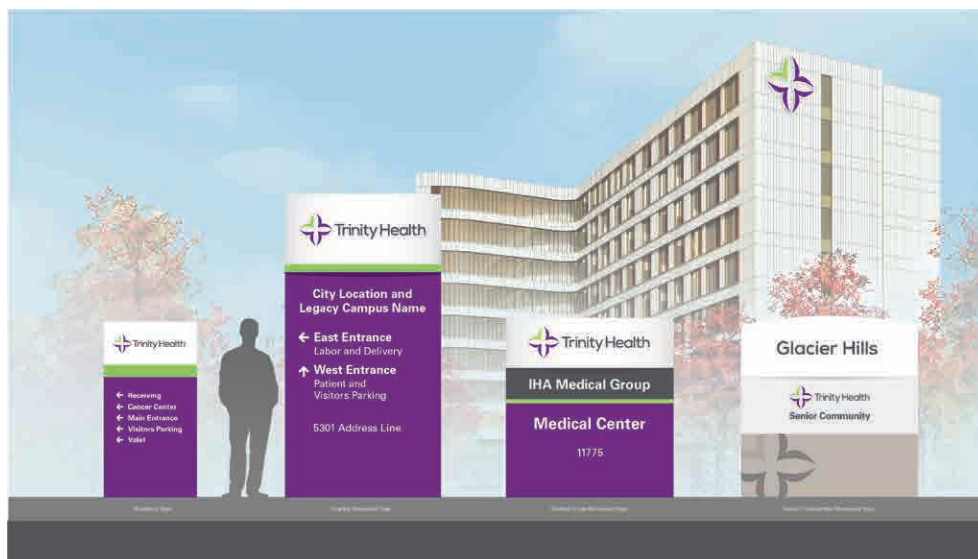
As Trinity Health, we’re making it easy for people to access our health services wherever they are. They will easily recognize the full scope of services available to them throughout their lives, both within the state of Michigan and throughout the country.

As a not-for-profit health system, we rely on philanthropic giving to build on excellence and go beyond the standards in care and heal body, mind and spirit.

## What You Can Expect to See

Many of our existing hospital names will remain for a period of time to allow patients and communities to become familiar with our new system name and identity. Eventually, those names will transition to Trinity Health [Location] Hospital. with the exception of Chelsea, which will move directly to Chelsea Hospital. Its brand will feature the logos of its joint venture owners – Trinity Health and University of Michigan Health.

Current Name	2022-23 Transitional (Launch) Names	2023 Future Name (Campus & Hospital)
St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor	Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor	Trinity Health Ann Arbor Hospital
St. Joseph Mercy Livingston	Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston	Trinity Health Livingston Hospital
St. Joseph Mercy Oakland	Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland	Trinity Health Oakland Hospital
St. Mary Mercy Livonia	Trinity Health St. Mary Mercy Livonia	Trinity Health Livonia Hospital
St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea	Chelsea Hospital	Chelsea Hospital



# Meaning and Symbolism

## Trinity Health Cross



As we adopt our new logo, we share its deep meaning and the ways this aligns with the culture, commitment, care, and healing environment you've experienced at our hospitals.

- The cross reflects our Catholic identity, heritage and Mission.
- Purple is a symbol of leadership, wisdom and creativity.
- Green represents growth, renewal and environmental stewardship. The wings of doves that form the cross are symbols of love, peace and caring.
- Three Purple doves reflect the Holy Trinity.
- The Green dove is a symbol of our openness to new partners and new ideas.

## Mission, Core Values, Promise

Above all, our shared mission, core values, and promise remain those we have followed as part of Trinity Health for more than two decades that have upheld your pride and trust in us and are the foundation for our future, together.

### MISSION

We, Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

### CORE VALUES

**Reverence**  
**Commitment to Those Who are Poor**  
**Safety**  
**Justice**  
**Stewardship**

**Trinity Health Michigan's Promise**

Trinity Health Michigan is a **mission-driven, faith-based health organization** serving the needs of all people—our patients, our team and our communities. We will provide the most **accessible and convenient** experience across our coordinated continuum of care.

Trinity Health Michigan and our partners will care for all in body, mind and spirit, demonstrating that:

We Listen  
 We Partner in Achieving Health Goals  
 We Make It Easy

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# Sharing Good Fortune

Trinity Health  
St. Joseph Mercy  
Oakland

**A commitment from Dr. Sandra Lyness will make a life-changing difference for patients**

Dedicating her life to the health of others is not just a career for Dr. Sandra Lyness, it is a calling and, as she describes it, a stroke of luck. Building on her invaluable contributions to the community as a clinical psychologist and professor, and in recognition of the compassionate expertise at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Dr. Lyness chose to make a generous philanthropic gift for our hospital's ER project. More specifically, her support will help to create one of the only Behavioral Health ERs in the state within the new ER to provide specialized emergency care for patients experiencing a mental health crisis. In addition, Dr. Lyness made a significant legacy gift commitment to the hospital as part of her estate planning to help serve future generations.

Dr. Lyness, who started her career as a speech pathologist within the schools, saw that her students often faced complex issues that made an impact on their sense of wellbeing. This led Dr. Lyness to pursue a PhD in psychology and to her roles as a professor and director of the Learning Abilities Laboratory clinic at Wayne State University, as a consultant for television news, and as a partner in a comprehensive psychological clinic in Bloomfield Hills. She shared she feels lucky to have had great mentorship; curiosity to learn; the drive to care, teach and advocate; and energy, all of which continue to inspire her life's work.

"My greatest satisfaction is that I have established what I would call a generational practice. I am seeing children of children that I saw several decades ago. Life circumstances change as we get older and the need for psychological direction is ongoing," shared Dr. Lyness. "I loved the television show, *Marcus Welby, M.D.*, and was inspired by the idea of providing a lifetime of care. I feel lucky to have had the opportunity make patients feel heard and important, and to have some success in their healing so that they know they can count on me for future needs or for their families."

When Dr. Lyness was invited to learn about St. Joseph Mercy Oakland's ER project and plans to include a designated Behavioral Health ER, she thought back to patients who she had assisted through the ER experience. She was inspired to give when she thought of the dignity, compassion, respect and expertise she had seen provided to her patients by the hospital team.

Through her work, Dr. Lyness has gained insight, and she shared some of the challenges people face that can lead to the need for ER care, "In our world, anxiety is the most prevalent emotional dysfunction. Feeling unprotected and not trusting the people who should be knowledgeable leads to anxiety, anger, depression, and loneliness. Loneliness has become especially prevalent since COVID. People need people. In today's world, most of us go from crisis to crisis, from fear to fear, and we keep evading resilience because bad things keep happening. However, the goal in mental health must be to instill, model and foster resilience, as resilience is survival."

Additionally, the Behavioral Health ER will serve patients facing a health crisis related to suicidal thoughts or self-harming behavior; substance use; delusions or hallucinations; and psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia. Capabilities will focus on addressing the physical, psychological and social aspects of well-being and meeting the specific and complex needs of patients and their families.

As an expert in her field, Dr. Lyness is also able to provide knowledge and experience that adds value to plans for addressing mental health crises. She shares that the Behavioral Health ER needs to include, “A high-level of training for staff; a team who understands the multiple issues a patient is facing; a team who takes time to hear the patient and their loved ones because medical history is important; and a focus on upholding privacy and dignity for patients.”

Dr. Lyness attributes her giving to years of experience with the hospital and the trusting relationships she has built, including with hospital leadership and with her own personal physicians, Michele DeGregorio, MD, FACC, and Imad Mansoor, MD. “I feel confident sending my patients to a hospital I use for my own care and that their mission includes a community commitment,” said Dr. Lyness. “I am impressed with the cooperative morale of the staff. They treat patients with understanding and compassion, as well as competency. My experience has been, as a patient or a psychologist referring to the hospital, that all aspects of the hospital operate with a spirit of partnership and respect.”

As the hospital prepares to begin renovations to create the new ER, giving such as Dr. Lyness’s will be the foundation for this work and for medical excellence, a remarkable patient experience and community health and wellness.

“Sandy shared she feels lucky, but it is our community and St. Joe’s that are fortunate to have such a dedicated and generous person providing support through her expertise and her giving,” shared Craig Peiser, Director of Major Gifts. “Her giving builds on her decades of service. Her gift reflects how deeply she cares about others and it will ultimately touch thousands of lives.”

**“The excellence in care that our hospital offers is a reflection of our community and leaders like Sandy who invest in quality, compassionate, personalized care and ongoing improvement. She has dedicated her career to learning, teaching, and healing. We are so grateful for her dedication and generous giving,”** shared Shannon D. Striebich, President, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and Senior Vice President of Operations, Trinity Health Michigan. **“It has been an honor getting to know Sandy and to have her join in our vision for the future of ER care for our community. Her giving and contributions on every level have and will continue to make a difference in people’s lives on a daily basis.”**



## **\$36-million ER Project at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland to Build on State-of-the-Art Services with Expanded Emergency Care**

People, families and businesses in Southeast Michigan rely on Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland for 24-hour emergency care, rapid triage and diagnosis, and expert treatment for serious, traumatic and life-threatening illnesses and injuries.

We are the Emergency Department (ER) of choice for more than 60,000 patients each year, a number and need that far exceeds our current facilities, which were designed for 40,000 patient visits and updated last in 2002. This number will continue to grow, and we anticipate 65,000 patients annually by 2030.

Your giving for the ER will support this redesign and expansion project to create a 46,000 square-foot optimal, healing environment for our patients and teams; enhanced trauma and stroke capabilities; added technologies that complement our state-of-the-art medical, surgical and inpatient services; a new designated Behavioral Health ER with short-stay amenities; and outcomes that demonstrate our commitment to equitable care and community health.

Construction is slated to begin in by early fall 2022.

### **The Future of Emergency Care - ER Project**

- **Features a new state-of-the-art ER to meet a growing need, which has increased from 40,000 annual patient visits to 60,000.**
- **Improves access and health equity with an increase from 42 to 69 modern treatment rooms and streamlined, fast-track triage.**
- **Builds on excellence including our certified Primary Stroke Center, verified Level II Trauma Center and award-winning Patient Tower.**
- **Features our new Behavioral Health ER for specialized care with dignity.**
- **Focuses on a remarkable patient experience with a commitment to listening, partnering and serving with compassion.**
- **Expands our space from 19,000 to 46,000 square feet with a state-of-the-art design.**

**“Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland is launching our ER project, a \$36-million investment in our hospital. With funding through our health system and philanthropic support, we have become a leader in health care and continue to build on our mission. Together, in support of this project, we will enhance our emergency care that is an essential resource and vital to our entire community,”** stated Shannon D. Striebich, President, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and Senior Vice President of Operations, Trinity Health Michigan.



## ER Project Focus

### Clinical Excellence, a Remarkable Patient Experience, and Community Health and Well-being

**ER Treatment Rooms**– Access, timeliness, and capabilities will be improved with an increase from 42 to 69 treatment rooms – each with a bigger footprint to accommodate the patient and their loved ones as well as our clinical teams and the high-tech equipment they need to safely and efficiently provide treatment. Our universally designed rooms will ensure the right care at the right time. The new ER will also have flexibility to partition a number of the treatment rooms to contain highly transmissible diseases like we faced with COVID-19. Our patient-focused design will ensure expert treatment within a private, healing environment.

**Clinical Excellence** – Trauma / Stroke / Senior ER – The new ER reflects our focus on patient outcomes with the flexibility to expand from 2 to 5 trauma bays to meet individual needs including catastrophic accidents, stroke, and other life-threatening illness and injury as well as large-scale needs such as mass casualty incidents. Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland is a verified Level II Trauma Center and a certified Primary Stroke Center. The hospital was named the nation’s first Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center and our health system opened the state’s first Senior ERs.

**Behavioral Health ER** – The ER currently sees approximately 24 patients daily in need of specialized behavioral health care. Embedded within the new ER, our designated Behavioral Health ER will offer patients care provided by highly trained physicians and staff; 10 private bays designed for exams as well as the flexibility to serve as short-stay rooms for patients securing placement in longer term care; a lounge area, showers and other amenities; and a focus on dignity, compassion, comfort and safety.

**State-of-the-Art Design** – Patient safety and care will be enhanced through a racetrack design that places the ER treatment rooms on the perimeter around central workstations to also create an optimal workflow, sightlines and state-of-the-art environment for our expert ER team.

**Patient Experience** – From a new drive-up entrance, to a state-of-the-art triage center and fast-track system for assessing the level of medical distress, and from comfortable patient/family spaces and amenities, to streamlined work areas and designated spaces for teams to recharge, the new ER will be designed to provide a healing environment for all.

**Community Health and Well Being and Health Equity** – The new ER will support our hospital’s commitment to health equity and the vibrancy of our community. The majority of patients originate from the city of Pontiac, which is designated as Medically Underserved. This is in large part due to the area’s high poverty and elderly population. The city is also 50.7% African American. According to Healthline, African American patients used the emergency department 54% of the time as their preferred method of healthcare. Improving our ED will help us to ensure equitable care.

**“In our ER, our physicians and clinical teams meet patients in their most dire need, and we provide them with the emergency care that focuses on compassion, dignity and excellent outcomes,”** stated, **Rahul Mehta MD, Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland.**

### To learn how your giving can help contact:

Craig Peiser, Director of Major Gifts, 248-858-6142, [craig.peiser@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:craig.peiser@stjoeshealth.org); Melissa Sheppard, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, 734-712-4079, [melissa.sheppard@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:melissa.sheppard@stjoeshealth.org); or Jill Schubiner, Gift Officer, 248-858-6146, [jill.schubiner@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:jill.schubiner@stjoeshealth.org)

To make a gift online today, visit: [stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth](https://stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth)

# SRSLY Coalition and Chelsea Community \$25,600 Raised to Support Youth Mental Health

Annual fundraising effort most successful in SRSLY history, including matching gift from generous donors and long-time supporters

In a holiday fundraising effort spanning only 68 days from Thanksgiving to the end of January, individuals and families from across Chelsea contributed record-breaking support. Gifts reached nearly \$25,600, for the SRSLY coalition and included a matching gift and bonus gift from Michael and Suzi Coghlan, SRSLY founding members and long-time advocates. Since 2008, the SRSLY coalition with support from the Drug Free Communities Support Program, Chelsea Hospital, and the Coghlan Family Foundation, has empowered youth to live healthy, substance-free lives and supported families in addressing mental health through a connected community.

“The goal was \$10,000,” said Kate Yocum, SRSLY Chelsea Coalition Director. “We really hoped we could make it there, and when we did, we were so excited. But then watching the donations exceed that goal was an entirely different level of support. We’re just ecstatic and so grateful!”

COVID-19 has exacerbated social isolation, stress, loneliness, and peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol. In response, SRSLY has broadened its focus to help students and their families navigate different mental health conditions and eliminate the stigma associated with mental health services and treatment. This past holiday season, the Chelsea community rallied to fund this work in an unprecedented way. The community’s generosity was inspired and amplified by a generous commitment from Michael and Suzi Coghlan to match all contributions up to \$10,000 with an additional \$5,000 when the goal was met.



*“We are so grateful for Michael and Suzi Coghlan’s extraordinary commitment and vision for the SRSLY program over many years,” stated Jennifer Maisch, Director of Major Gifts, Chelsea Hospital. “The Coghlan’s have been a driving force in helping area teens live healthy, substance-free lives. As we emerge from the pandemic, the Coghlan’s efforts to inspire others to join them in this initiative could not have come at a more critical time. Their leadership will accelerate SRSLY’s efforts to promote social-emotional wellness and strong mental health for families and young people in Chelsea and beyond.”*



**20% of youth ages 13-18 live with a mental health condition.**

With the Coghlan's backing and the community's generosity, funding will help to support the SRSly mission and the expanded programming that will impact youth and families. Reiley Curran, Manager of Community Health and SRSly Coalition at Chelsea Hospital, echoed the gratitude, "I am so overwhelmed by our community's generosity and support of SRSly's work, and incredibly thankful to the Coghlan Family Foundation for offering the matching challenge."

*Longtime supporter Michael Coghlan expressed his personal enthusiasm for SRSly and the response from the community and explained why he and his wife were inspired to help. "We were here at the start of SRSly back in 2008 and we're so excited to see its impact and growth through the years in Chelsea and now in the surrounding communities. SRSly's mission expansion to include mental health addresses a long-underserved need. We want to make sure this progress continues."*

"These funds mean our youth can put their ideas into action, and that is everything," Yocum added. "While the match may have ended on January 31st, there is still work to be done." Yocum wants community members to know that philanthropy will always be key to advancing SRSly's mission and that community members' contributions of time and talent are equally important. "This year's giving campaign was two-fold. We were in need of financial support to continue our work and were looking for an opportunity to engage with community members to better explain our organization and our mission. We're action planning, and we need all hands on deck."

**To learn more about how giving makes a difference at Chelsea Hospital and the programs we support, contact Jennifer Maisch, Director of Major Gifts, at 734-593-5373 or [Jennifer.Maisch@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:Jennifer.Maisch@stjoeshealth.org), or Melissa Sheppard, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at 734-712-4079 or [Melissa.Sheppard@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:Melissa.Sheppard@stjoeshealth.org). Or visit: [stjoeshealth.org/giving](https://stjoeshealth.org/giving)**

*\*The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation and to improve the lives of individuals living with mental and substance use disorders, and their families. In particular the MHAT grant program prepares and trains community members and first responders on how to appropriately and safely respond to individuals with mental disorders.*

## Your Giving Led to a Significant Grant

Thank you to all our supporters for SRSly. Your giving has spanned more than a decade and allowed the program to grow immensely, including serving more communities and adding programs. You have given SRSly the ability to focus on our core mission as well as immediate needs such as mental health resources for youth.

As a result of the community's commitment to establishing and building SRSly, the coalition has demonstrated a great deal of success, attracting additional philanthropic support. Chelsea Hospital as part of Trinity Health Michigan recently received a \$625,000 Mental Health Awareness and Training (MHAT) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.\* The grant will provide mental health training to more than 2,500 members of the community over the next five years.

Our Chelsea Hospital Community Health Improvement Team and SRSly Coalitions will utilize the MHAT grant to develop and implement evidence-based mental health awareness training, including:

- **Question Persuade Refer (QPR)** for youth and adults
- **Teen Mental Health First Aid:** a peer program designed for teens
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid:** a program for adults who work with youth
- **Mental Health First Aid:** a program for adults to recognize mental health concerns in other adults

The trainings will be available to adults and teens who work with youth, parents, grandparents and caregivers and teens. The grant will also identify resources available for mental health support and establish a referral mechanism to link youth to mental health services.

**To learn more about training programs and mental health resources contact Sarah J. Wilczynski at [sarah.schmidt@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:sarah.schmidt@stjoeshealth.org)**

**Gifts totaling \$540,000 make it possible to care for new moms and newborns who are underserved**

## **The Lavone A. “Shorty” Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center**

In February 2022, Trinity Health Michigan St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor opened The Lavone A. “Shorty” Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center with the support of philanthropy, including a legacy gift of \$250,000 from the estate of Dr. Nina I. McClelland. During her lifetime, Dr. McClelland had been a steadfast supporter as well as a member and Chair of the Hospital Board. She was inspired by the vision for the project and designated her significant gift to renovate an existing space and name the Center for her dear friend.

An additional \$250,000 gift, made by a longtime donor who wishes to remain anonymous, established the Perinatal Wellness Support Fund to expand programming and hire staff. This generous giving was essential to starting the programs that will be offered in the new space and adding staff such as a Nurse Practitioner specializing in perinatal health and a designated social worker.

The Center aligns with our mission and focus on health equity, and it addresses the need for perinatal health care (12 weeks following birth), which was identified as one of three priorities among community members and partners in our 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment.

“Giving for the new Lavone A. “Shorty” Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center is helping to ensure comprehensive, patient-centered and equitable care,” shared Alonzo T. Lewis, MHSA, President, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston Hospitals. “By investing in this center for our patients who are underserved, a center that has a healing space and coordinated program unlike those found at most hospitals, our donors are helping families to get care at a critical time and establish a lifetime of good health.”

Additionally, \$40,000 in funding from the endowment established by the former SJMH Medical Auxiliary was designated toward the renovations, reflecting decades of support.

## **Honoring a life and career with the naming of The Lavone A. “Shorty” Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center**

Ms. Witting spent most of her life in Ann Arbor and Toledo and her professional life as a Registered Nurse with a focus on mothers, infants, and children. As a Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Division of Maternal and Child Health, Ms. Witting, known to all as “Shorty,” devoted more than 33 years to serving patients and families in the City of Toledo’s Pediatric Clinic.

Ms. Witting was known for her insightful approach to providing essential and quality care with empathy, understanding, and encouragement. Throughout her career she helped countless families in need of treatment, health education, resources, and hope. Upon her retirement, Shorty received a proclamation from the Board of Health of the City of Toledo, commemorating the impact she had made on the lives of patients and colleagues.

The hospital is grateful to Dr. McClelland, who before her passing, chose to make a meaningful legacy gift through her estate to honor her friend as well as make an ongoing difference in our community.





# The Future of Perinatal Care

There are nearly 4,000 babies born at our hospital each year. Giving mothers and babies a healthy start requires specialized care in the prenatal phase, throughout pregnancy and childbirth and during postpartum. The Lavone A. “Shorty” Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center is a key part of this continuum of care.

The New American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) guidelines recommend that postpartum care be “an ongoing process.” The guidelines say the 12 weeks after delivery should be considered a “fourth trimester.” Yet up to 40 percent of women do not attend any postpartum visits.\*

Additionally, according to a report by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, “recent data for Michigan shows disparities in Black and White infant mortality rates for 2017 (MDHHS), with a rate of 14.6 per 1,000 live births for Black infants and 4.8 per 1,000 live births for White infants.” The same report cited, “a recent CDC report (Peterson et al., 2019) that showed disparities in maternal mortality rates for Black and Native American women is a national issue, with Black women having a rate of 42.8 per 100,000 and American Indian/Alaska Native women having a rate of 32.5 per 100,000, compared to the mortality rate of 13.0 per 100,000 for White women.”\*\*

With donor support, we have launched the new Perinatal Wellness Center, which aligns with our focus on health equity and will serve as an extension of our Academic OB/GYN Clinic at the hospital. The Center will make accessible fourth trimester care an integrated part of services for our patients who currently rely on us for 8,000 visits annually. Through the Center, we will start with supporting patients through a healthy pregnancy including group prenatal care, support groups and education and help to establish perinatal care plans for the 12 weeks following birth.

As a leading teaching hospital, the new Center will help us to provide our OB/GYN medical residents and clinical students with a full educational experience including learning innovative skills in perinatal care under the guidance of an expert team, while also helping us improve access to care.

This is a crucial time in the health and development of an infant – expert assessment, early detection and treatment can help to reduce effects of delays, disabilities and illness and help children to thrive, making a lifelong impact. At the same time, new mothers face sleep deprivation, hormonal fluctuations as well as potential challenges related to infant feeding, mood changes, and exacerbated preexisting conditions that impact their health. Additionally, more common among our new mothers who are in underserved populations, stressors include lack of insurance and financial stability; cost of essentials like food, housing and diapers; managing lack of maternity leave, return to work, inflexible work schedules, and lack of childcare; as well as lack of transportation and social supports. *Continued on page 22*





Mark A. Jonker, MD, General Surgeon; Eric Davies, MD, FACS FASMBS, Medical Director of Robotic Surgery at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston; and Anthony Bozaan, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Vice Chief of Staff and Department Chair for Surgery

## Philanthropic Giving: the Foundation for High-Tech Care

### Livingston Robotic Surgery Program Adds Latest Bariatric Procedure

The Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston surgical team continues to advance care for local patients using da Vinci® surgical technology. In 2021, the Hospital upgraded to the da Vinci Xi robot, the most advanced model for performing complex procedures that improve the experience and outcomes for patients.

The da Vinci system is ideal for heart surgery, treating oral cancer, lung and thoracic surgery, hernia repair, removing cancerous tumors from the colon, a range of gynecological treatments, urological and weight loss procedures and extremely difficult gall bladder surgeries.

Eric Davies, MD, FACS, FASMBS, Medical Director of Robotic Surgery at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital shared that he and fellow surgeon Mark Jonker, MD, have mastered the most advanced robotic bariatric surgery procedure called the single anastomosis duodeno-ileostomy (SADI). Dr. Davies explained, “This procedure is an excellent weight loss option for patients with higher BMI (over 45) and also for patients with prior sleeve gastrectomy in need of a revisional surgery option.”

“We have done now over 60 of these procedures, making us the highest volume robotic SADI center in Michigan,” shared Dr. Davies. “We are in the process of also becoming a robotic observation epicenter, so surgeons from across Michigan and surrounding states can come to our hospital to observe cases, and learn how to optimize their own efficiency and robotic surgery process. We have had three site visits from outside surgeons already, and have more planned for late April and May,” Dr. Davies stated.

“Robotic-assisted procedures have been life-changing for so many of our patients. We are able to provide options for patients who are suffering from far greater complexities of disease and medical history because the minimally invasive options often pose less risk and provide easier recovery,” shared Dr. Davies.

“Providing advanced, minimally invasive options locally allows our patients to return back to their lives and families quicker. It allows us to serve as a leader in surgical care that our patients rely on and trust.”

Robotic surgery offers a compelling alternative to both traditional open surgery and conventional laparoscopy, putting a surgeon’s hands at the controls of a state-of-the-art robotic platform. The surgeons of our Trinity Health Michigan hospitals not only perform more of these procedures; they’re sought after to train other surgeons throughout the country. Several of them were the first in Michigan to perform complex procedures with the robotic surgery system.

### **Patient Benefits of Robotic Surgery:**

- Decreased complications
- Smaller incisions
- Less need for pain medication
- Shorter healing time
- Back to families sooner
- Superior outcomes

### **The Vision for the Future**

“As a not-for-profit hospital, we rely on philanthropic giving to build on excellence. We have significant and exciting plans to invest in Livingston County that will also integrate with our focus on expanding local options for robotic surgery,” stated John O’Malley, MSA, MBA, FACHE, President, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston.

**“We are committed to elevating the level of expertise, compassion and innovation we provide to those who live and work in Livingston County. We are so grateful to be in a community of supporters who help sustain our mission; are committed to helping provide world class care close to home; and are proud and excited to share in our vision for the future of local health care,” added O’Malley.**

For more information about how you can invest in the future of Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston and local health care, contact:

- Lindsay N. Debolski, Gift Officer, at 517-545-5151 or [lindsay.debolski@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:lindsay.debolski@stjoeshealth.org)
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**To make a gift online today visit, [stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth](https://stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth)**

## **Thank You to our Donors**

Thank you to all those who continue to invest in technologically advanced care to benefit patients who live and work in the Livingston County community. Philanthropy made it possible to launch our health system’s robotic surgery program, which has remained among the most robust in the nation for volume and training. And your giving helped to expand it to Livingston County.

We are committed to building on your ongoing investments in us and the robotic surgery program at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston.

### **Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Robotic Surgery Program Milestones**

#### **2017**

Our donors invested in our hospital and helped expand our health system’s robotic surgery program to Livingston County.

#### **2020**

Our team celebrated performing more than 1,000 robotic surgeries.

#### **2021**

Upgraded to our da Vinci Xi robot

#### **2022**

On Valentine’s Day, we celebrated the milestone of 2,000 robotic-assisted surgeries for our Livingston County area patients and the impact it has had on patients and their loved ones.

#### **Today**

Performed more than 2,075 robotic surgeries and reached the highest volume of single anastomosis duodeno-ileostomy (SADI) bariatric procedures in the state

#### **Next**

Future focus on developing two divisions for robotic surgery – inpatient and outpatient, to increase options, improve coordination of care and make it easy for patients

# A Lifetime of Investment and Caring

A generous gift of \$100,000 establishes GI Fellowship Endowment Fund at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor Hospital

As a longtime leader in digestive health care and a champion for our GI Fellowship program, Dr. Stanley Strasius (1943-2021) with his wife, Dalia, made a generous and meaningful gift of \$100,000 to establish The Huron Gastro GI Fellowship Endowment Fund at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor. The endowment will be used to provide adjunct funding to support fellows with educational materials and opportunities such as conferences, seminars, travel and research.



"Dr. Strasius was a renowned physician and admired leader known for pioneering innovative advancements in the treatment of digestive disease, leading teams of respected clinical and research professionals; serving as a mentor and teacher; and providing compassionate, personalized care to every patient. His commitment to the fellowship speaks to his passion for educating the next generation of experts to follow in his footsteps and is part of his lasting legacy," shared Alonzo T. Lewis, MHSA, President, Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston Hospitals.

Excellence and innovation in the field of digestive health would not be possible without leading experts and the education of future medical teams. The newly accredited GI Fellowship program will identify and train physicians who possess the skills

and commitment to provide specialized treatment and attract the best and brightest physicians to serve our community.

Dr. Strasius who was a partner in the physician practice, Gracie, Fall, Strasius P.C.; a founder of Huron Gastroenterology Associates, where he served as practice President for many years before retiring in 2013; and who served as Associate Head of Education in the Department of Internal Medicine as well as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan, knew the value of the GI Fellowship. He made this philanthropic investment with his wife, Dalia, to help elevate the impact the fellowship could make.

"We are humbled to build on the expertise, leadership and service that Dr. Strasius exemplified and to carry out his and Mrs. Strasius's wishes to make an ongoing impact on the lives of our physicians, fellows, clinical teams and patients." shared Jana McNair, Director of Major Gifts.

Through the endowment, the Fellowship and Graduate Medical Education program directors in collaboration with key physician and hospital leaders will designate the interest earned each year. This support will elevate the hospital's culture of learning, mentorship, and innovative care. Educational experiences like the GI Fellowship have led St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor Hospital to be among the nations leading teaching hospitals, named #1 in 2020 and #3 in 2021 by Fortune/IBM Watson Health.



## The Goals of The GI Fellowship Program at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor

The newly ACGME\* accredited Gastroenterology Fellowship is a clinically focused three-year training program and offers two Fellowship positions per year. The overall goal is to develop outstanding gastroenterologists who excel at their profession while maintaining compassion and service excellence in the care of patients.

### Core Curriculum and Mastery

The Fellowship provides a core curriculum and clinical program that will lead to the mastery of routine and advanced gastroenterology, hepatology, and endoscopic procedures. Instruction in our program is based on a core curriculum and multi-disciplinary approach with hands-on training.

The training is provided through three of our Trinity Health Michigan hospitals.

#### Trinity Health Michigan hospitals:

- St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor
- St. Joseph Mercy Livingston
- Chelsea Hospital (a Joint Venture with Michigan Health)

*Continued on page 22...*

## The Fellowship Experience

“My Fellowship training has been wonderful so far. I came from the Cleveland Clinic where I heard great things about St. Joe’s from some of my fellow physicians and staff. St. Joe’s has definitely lived up to its reputation for having a culture that supports education and a premier healing environment for patients. The team is warm and welcoming; the attending physicians are known experts and they really care about our education and about us as people; and all the departments work together so efficiently to provide life-saving surgery and comprehensive, compassionate care. I am so passionate about this field of medicine and so I feel extremely committed to this program, and grateful that Dr. Strasius and his wife established this fund to help cover costs of conferences, online tools, research projects and other educational offerings that will make this experience even more beneficial and that will support me in the work of caring for patients,”

**shared Wael Al-Yaman, MD, GI Fellow**



# Leading the Way

## Improving the Health and Well-Being of the Communities We Serve

An Interview with  
David Spivey, MBA, MHSA



Dave Spivey has been leading health and wellness in our community for more than 20 years through his roles as President & CEO for Trinity Health St. Mary Mercy Livonia and Vice President of Community Health & Well-Being for Trinity Health Michigan. In this article, Dave shares Trinity Health Michigan’s vision for the future of integrating wellness programming into clinical care; being the voice of advocacy for health equity; and leveraging resources through scalable best practices, as well as, local partnerships to provide more wholistic care within the communities we serve.

### Why is it important for Trinity Health Michigan to lead in Community Health and Well-Being initiatives?

As a faith-based, not-for-profit health system, Trinity Health has a fundamental responsibility to respond to the needs of the communities we serve.

To do this, we strive to recognize disparities in care, understand the social influences on health, and work together to make improvements.

At Trinity Health, our promise is to listen, to partner with our communities and patients, and to make it easier for them to achieve their health goals.

### What tools do we use to determine priorities in community health?

Every three years, Trinity Health Michigan hospitals conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) working with individuals, coalitions and local health departments. Through these CHNAs, our five Southeastern Michigan hospitals analyze data from multiple sources, hold community focus groups, and convene stakeholder discussions to identify the health status, needs, and issues that impact people’s daily lives.

We look at each hospital’s findings and those common across multiple sites to guide our priorities for our statewide health system and within each community over the coming three years.

For example, through the CHNA, people identified food insecurity and obesity-related illnesses as top priorities in most of our service areas and mental health as a top priority in all five of our service areas. We also found that each of these three priorities have been increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The CHNA helps us to hear directly from our communities about the health issues they are facing so we can put together systems and local actions that will focus on what is most important and really move the needle on progress.

## A Three-Pronged Approach to Community Health

### Investing in Communities

Proactive community investing through collaborations

### Advancing Social Care

Addressing social and clinical needs

### Impacting Social Influencers of Health

Making impact through advocacy, policy, and structural change



## How does philanthropic giving support our focus on community health and wellness?

As a not-for-profit, our health system invests in community-based programming and care for the underserved.

Philanthropic funding for Community Health and Well-Being and related programs allows us to build on our commitment and to leverage partnerships.

The additional funding philanthropy provides supports programming through our hospitals as well as partner organizations that share our values and wholistic approach to care.

A great example is the philanthropic support we have received for Healthy Livonia and the impact that coalition has made in a short time.

*(Healthy Livonia is a coalition that includes our Trinity Health St. Mary Mercy Livonia hospital; the City of Livonia; Livonia Public Schools, Chamber of Commerce, and Parks and Recreation; Schoolcraft College; Madonna University; and Clarenceville School District).*

## What will ongoing philanthropy make possible?

Our Community Health and Well-Being approach is at the intersection of clinical care and community partnerships. Philanthropic support not only helps to provide innovative, life-changing services, it helps leverage dollars and create a scenario where 1 + 1 is greater than 2.

A recent example is a six-figure grant supporting SRSLY in Chelsea. That program was established with philanthropic support in 2008 to help reduce teen substance use. Giving has helped it expand to three more communities. And, the ongoing funding and commitment have continually inspired more support.

Today, funding is making it possible for SRSLY to add mental health programming in response to a growing number of kids experiencing anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts, which have exacerbated under the isolation and uncertainties caused by the pandemic. (See page 10).

The Farm at St. Joe's in Ann Arbor is another great example of how philanthropy helps us to meet community health needs.

Funding helps expand our farm-led hospital programs and our partnerships with local farmers, neighborhood medical clinics, social service organizations, schools, universities, and community volunteers.



## Healthy Livonia

Since 2016, philanthropic funding has helped people to gain health resources where they live and work – some examples include:

- Universally accessible playground and park offerings
- Scholarships for rec center and park programs
- Chamber events on mental health and the opioid epidemic
- Community 5K Runs
- In-school nutrition programs
- The CARROT walking program

The CARROT program includes an app that rewards participants for walking. Healthy Livonia has enrolled over 3,000 active participants over the past two years with 50% making their daily step goal every day.



Through giving to The Farm, supporters have helped address many of the priorities identified in our CHNA. Funding has helped provide food assistance; offer hands-on gardening and cooking education that promotes outdoor activity and healthy eating; open a clinical hoop house that is wheelchair accessible; promote sustainable farming; and bring our community together.

Giving has also allowed us to expand with our latest hospital-based farm at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and is the catalyst for consideration of a third in southeast Michigan in Livingston County.

Without philanthropic funding, we would not be able to sustain and build on The Farm program.

## How do Clinical Care and Community Health and Well-Being intersect?

While we think naturally about clinical care, we have to also think about the social influences on health such as lack of housing, nutrition, transportation and financial stability. These are all stressors that have a negative effect on a person's health, ability to seek care at the right place and right time, manage illness before it becomes life-threatening or chronic, and recover and lead a vibrant life.

We have added screening tools to our clinical settings to help identify patients whose needs go beyond exams, diagnosis and treatments.

From there we are able to connect patients to essential services through our hospitals and community-based partners. This is key to making sure people have access to not only affordable and accessible medical care, but also social service resources to support housing, employment and education.

Another area of emphasis moving forward is eliminating disparities in care across racial lines. We are increasingly looking at health through the lens of equity with a focus on creating equitable experiences, satisfaction and outcomes for our patients.



### At the Intersection of Clinical Care and Community Health and Well-Being

- Diabetes Prevention Program
- Dental Clinics
- Safety Net Medical Clinics
- Community-based Behavioral Health programming and education, including addressing substance use
- Assistance gaining insurance and prescriptions

# Making an Impact through Community Health and Well-Being

Thank you for your ongoing giving to help us provide vital support such as:

- **Care for the Underserved** – Primary care and specialty care for the underinsured; transportation assistance; shelter and sustainable housing
- **Food Security and Nutrition** – In-school food programs; Farm-led food assistance; Prescription for Health (produce for patients in need)
- **Child Health and Safety** – Access to neonatal and perinatal care; car seats and bike helmets; youth programming and suicide prevention
- **Healthy Weight** – Fitness programs like ShapeDown for youths and families; community activities and runs; investment in parks and walking paths
- **Senior Health** – transportation and prescription assistance; specialized fitness and education classes; programs to reduce social isolation
- **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Prevention** – Outpatient navigators; Primary Care and ER-based screening and programs; activities that promote awareness

## How do we reduce barriers to good health?

Overcoming the systemic challenges for individuals and families is critical. We are committed to public policy and advocacy around health matters to foster system change.

We want to make sure policy and legislation that impact health are on the side of those needing and receiving care. Our health system leaders provide expertise, and act as a resource to local, state and national officials in their work writing, interpreting and implementing laws.

## What is Trinity Health Michigan's vision for Community Health and Well-Being?

Over the next three years, we are emphasizing the priority health needs and action steps identified in our CHNA for our five hospitals in the southeast Michigan communities we serve.

Continued giving, our community partnerships, and our ongoing investment in community health and wellness will help to provide a wholistic approach to care that leads to better health.

## Thank you!

"We are grateful to those who have invested their philanthropic giving in Community Health and Well-Being and related programs," shared Spivey. "This is work we have and can continue to do together to give people the tools and resources they need to lead healthier, happier lives."

*To learn more contact: Karen Campbell, Gift Officer 734-655-2876 | [karen.campbell@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:karen.campbell@stjoeshealth.org); or Melissa Sheppard, Director of Corporations and Foundations Relations, 734-712-4079 | [melissa.sheppard@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:melissa.sheppard@stjoeshealth.org)*

**To make a gift online today visit, [stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth](https://stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth)**



### ***Continued from page 13... Perinatal Wellness Center***

Through the vision of our expert team and generous giving, patients at The Lavone A. "Shorty" Witting, RN, Perinatal Wellness Center will benefit from a full suite of perinatal care from services for breast-feeding and perinatal mood disorders, to social support and counseling, to in-depth clinical care plans, all in one healing space.

"Patients put their trust in us and we are committed to their health and their future. As we gain a deeper understanding of the impact of perinatal care, we must broaden and specialize our offerings and train our future physicians and clinical teams to ensure improved patient experiences and outcomes," stated Bryan Popp, MD, Department Chair for Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/Gyn) at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston Hospitals. "We are honored by this generous philanthropic support to make an impact on the health and vibrancy of our community."

*\*acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2018/05/optimizing-postpartum-care*

*\*\*ABEST\_Literature\_Review\_709934\_7.pdf (michigan.gov)*

Additional funding will help to launch all phases of programming and expand offerings. To learn more, contact: Jana McNair, Director of Major Gifts, 734-712-3919 [jana.mcnair@stjoeshealth.org](mailto:jana.mcnair@stjoeshealth.org) or

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To make a gift online for this initiative, please visit: [stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth](http://stjoeshealth.org/giftofhealth)

### ***Continued from page 17... Fellowship Endowment Fund***

#### **Direct Care and Outpatient Experience**

Fellows will gain outpatient experience, including a weekly gastroenterology continuity clinic as well as exposure to specialty clinics. Fellows are invited to participate in our GI pathology, radiology, nutrition, and palliative care rotations as well as two months on the University of Michigan's Liver Transplant service.

#### **Full Educational Experience – Research / Lecture Series / Mentorship / Tumor Board**

Our fellows will benefit from a mentor-guided research project where they develop a fuller understanding and appreciation of clinical and outcomes-based research. They will be supported in publishing and presenting their research. A weekly lecture series will cover a comprehensive review of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. The Fellowship will provide routine journal clubs, conferences, and a weekly multidisciplinary GI tumor board.

"The Gastroenterology Fellowship at St. Joe's will shape the future of digestive health. Fellowship training allows physicians to gain the in-depth knowledge and understanding needed to find solutions to complex health issues, develop new protocols, provide specialized care, and make a life-changing impact on patients," stated Andrew Catanzaro, MD, Fellowship Program Director, and physician with Huron Gastro.

**"We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from the Strasius family. This meaningful gift that demonstrates their shared commitment to our hospital and community and how deeply Dr. Strasius cared about the lives of his patients," shared Melissa Sheppard, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations. "Support such as this reflects the caliber of physicians at our hospital and the heritage of our mission and will touch the lives of future generations."**



## New President for Chelsea Hospital



Join us in welcoming Benjamin S. Miles, who was named the new President of Chelsea Hospital, succeeding Nancy Graebner-Sundling, who began her retirement in March. Miles' first day on the job is planned for April 18.

Miles joins a strong and established leadership team led by Chief Medical Officer, Alon Weizer, MD; Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Clinical Services, Cheryl Taylor, RN; Chief Human Resources Officer, Tonia Schemer; and Executive Director of Finance, Shannon Scott.

"Ben has a proven reputation as a results-oriented health care leader, bringing expertise in strategy, operations, process improvement, project management and finance," said Shannon Striebich, Senior Vice President of Operations at Trinity Health Michigan. "He is an articulate, effective communicator able to clearly translate complex concepts, which will help to strengthen understanding and alignment throughout our Chelsea hospital. We are grateful to Nancy for her dynamic, caring leadership over the past 10 years and we wish Ben great success in his new role."

Over his career, Miles has developed strong relationships across teams to achieve business growth while helping improve the quality and range of health care services. Most recently, he served as the President – Health Plan Services & Chief Advocacy Officer at Parkview Health in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he significantly expanded the system's market share while building loyalty to the hospital among patients and their families. Miles leveraged his communication and relationship-building skills to connect with national and state legislators to align leaders in the creation of effective health care policies.

"We are excited to be working with a talented, innovative leader such as Ben as we continue to grow and expand health care offerings in Chelsea," said Jeff Desmond, M.D., Chairman of Chelsea Hospital's Joint Venture Board. "While we look forward to the future, we are deeply grateful for the strong foundation provided by Nancy and the continued dedication of the entire St. Joe's Chelsea team."

Miles earned his Master of Business Administration from Walsh College and his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Wayne State University. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and American Society for Quality (ASQ), along with numerous community groups to help improve health care and support diversity and inclusion efforts.



To learn more about how your giving makes an impact, contact the Office of Development for Trinity Health Michigan:

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Please contact us at 1-855-257-1719 if you wish to have your name removed from lists used to send fund-raising requests supporting Trinity Health Michigan Southeast

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## FastFacts

- We recently announced the launch of a new Urgent Care at our Chelsea Hospital, conveniently located inside the hospital's Emergency Department.
- This past winter, highlighting nationally recognized achievements in patient safety and quality, two of our Trinity Health Michigan Hospitals – St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and our Chelsea Hospital that is a joint venture with University of Michigan Health – were each named a Top Teaching Hospital nationally by The Leapfrog Group.
- Our Trinity Health Michigan hospitals – St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and St. Joseph Mercy Livingston each received an "A" Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade for fall 2021. This national distinction recognizes achievement in protecting patients from harm and error within each respective hospital.



Scan this special QR code using the camera on your smartphone to visit our [Ways to Give](#) page, learn more about how your giving makes an impact on our mission, and make your gift online today.