Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr: Day of Service

Thanks to the more than 100 Jefferson staff members and students who honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 16 by engaging in service to others. Some prepared sandwiches donated to local organizations that feed the homeless or families in need. Some donated blood. Others painted, cleaned, recycled and organized at the John Welsh and Southwark Elementary Schools and at a residential center for women, My Sister’s Place (part of Jefferson’s Maternal Addiction Treatment Education & Research program). Our dedication to community service is a year-round effort, and we are proud to say that in FY16 Jefferson’s community benefit contributions exceeded $126 million.

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Finding Innovative Therapies That Go Beyond

Patients see life-changing results from treatments at Jefferson’s Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine and Marcus Institute of Integrative Health. They will find further help through the important research of The Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp.

A Patient Speaks

See Diane Gottschalk, a bladder cancer survivor, share her feelings about her integrative treatments at Jefferson, he believes that integrative medicine can help harness the body’s healing power to support medical treatment. Visit Jefferson.edu/MarcusInstitute.

Marcus Institute of Integrative Health

For more than a decade, the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Jefferson has built a unique model of integrative health care that embraces modern medicine, lifestyle modification, preventive medicine, and proven therapies that complement one another in improving overall health. Jefferson’s integrative specialists provide comprehensive plans unique to each patient’s total body, mind and spirit wellness. And now, Jefferson has established the Marcus Institute of Integrative Health in Villanova, which will greatly expand the research, education and clinical care profile of our integrative medicine program.

Adding to the innovative care is the Institute’s new Associate Director, Anthony J. Bazzan, MD, FACN, ABIHM. Dr. Bazzan has been a key member of integrative medicine at Jefferson for more than a decade, but on a part-time basis. In his new full-time role, Dr. Bazzan offers Jefferson patients access to his breadth of renowned integrative medicine skills, including targeted nutrient therapies, bioidentical hormone replacement and more.

Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp

The Institute of Emerging Health Professions here at Thomas Jefferson University recently received a $3 million gift from Australian philanthropists, Barry and Joy Lambert, to support our Center for Medical Cannabis Education and Research. Inspired by the success of medical cannabis in treating their granddaughter’s seizures, the Lamberts believe that more study will offer greater hope for others. Our mission at the newly renamed Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp is to advance the scientific basis, research efforts, educational opportunities, positive social impact opportunities, and patient experience associated with the clinical use of cannabis-derived therapies. See more information on the Center — please visit Jefferson.edu/CMCE.

As an infant, Barry and Joy Lambert’s granddaughter, Katelyn (pictured with Barry), was diagnosed with Dravet’s syndrome, a rare genetic abnormality that affects the brain’s electric signaling system and causes severe and repetitive seizures. Medical cannabis has been shown to be one of the few therapies that mitigates the seizures caused by the condition, and cannabis derived from hemp indeed gave Katelyn substantial relief.

A Patient Speaks

See Diane Gottschalk, a bladder cancer survivor, share her feelings about her integrative treatments at Jefferson, he believes that integrative medicine can help harness the body’s healing power to support medical treatment. Visit Jefferson.edu/MarcusInstitute.
New Kidney Transplant Center Made Possible by $2.5 Million from Robert V. Nicoletti Family Trust

Jefferson celebrates the opening of the Nicoletti Kidney Transplant Center, which brings together kidney transplant research, education and clinical care in one space. The lead benefactors of the Center, members of the Nicoletti family, know firsthand about the emotions behind living donation. In 2006, businessman and philanthropist Robert (Bob) V. Nicoletti required a kidney transplant at Jefferson. Seven members of his family immediately volunteered to donate a kidney. Ultimately, one was deemed compatible: Bob’s youngest daughter, Lori Nicoletti Peruto, Esq. (right). Also pictured in front of the Center honoring Bob are Mark Nicoletti, Lara Goldstein of the Jefferson Office of Institutional Advancement, and Donna Nicoletti Ferrier. Learn more about our Kidney Transplant Program.

Palm Scanners Enhance Safety and Efficiency of Patient Registration at Abington – Jefferson Health

Three patient-registration locations at Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health are now utilizing a palm-scanning system to streamline the registration process and provide accurate identification of patients. This new biometric technology helps staff to identify patients quickly and securely and allows for faster access to their unique medical records. The areas that have been piloting the system include: Central Registration (Widener Building), Ambulatory Services Unit, and the Dental Clinic. Additional locations will soon have the palm scanners, until all Abington – Jefferson Health patient-registration areas are utilizing the technology.

Back to Health, Thanks to Abington, Jane and Leonard Korman Lung Center and Magee

Diagnosed with the rare and deadly Group A streptococcus at the Abington – Jefferson Health ER, John Donovan’s lungs were failing. His care team called in colleagues at Jefferson’s Jane and Leonard Korman Lung Center who performed Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO). Stabilized by the machine, John was airlifted to Jefferson in Center City. Slowly, John began to recover. A month after that harrowing night, he woke up for Father’s Day to see his kids in person. Now, after reconditioning at Jefferson partner Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, he’s on the soccer field, coaching. He’s building his strength back for 5ks and, hopefully, the Broad Street Run this year. Read the full story at Jefferson.edu/OIA.

Abington + Aria Combine Home Care and Hospice Resources, Offering Expanded Care to Our Patients

The home health organizations of Aria – Jefferson Health and Abington – Jefferson Health have combined into one department, to be even better together. The newly formed group known as Jefferson Health Home Care and Hospice now includes 330 staff members serving patients in Montgomery, Bucks and Philadelphia counties. For more information, please call 215-481-5919 or visit Jefferson.edu/HomeCare.

Awards & Recognition

- Healthgrades recently ranked Jefferson Hospitals among the Top 5 Percent in the US with best clinical outcomes. Jefferson has also received 2017 Healthgrades awards in the individual categories of Neuroscience Excellence, Pulmonary Care, General Surgery, Gastrointestinal Care, Cranial Neurosurgery, Stroke Care, Prostate Surgery, Joint Replacement and Coronary Intervention. Thanks to all of our dedicated staff members for your outstanding work and helping Jefferson achieve this recognition.
- An interdisciplinary team at Jefferson earned Modern Healthcare magazine’s Team Achievement Award in Nursing for the team’s Rapid Redesign of the Inpatient Care Model.
- The Leapfrog Group recognized Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Methodist Hospital and Abington – Lansdale Hospital with an “A”, ranking us among the safest hospitals in the United States.
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital placed second for the Health Care Improvement Foundation’s Delaware Valley Patient Safety and Quality Award, recognized for the algorithm our staff created to better treat neonatal abstinence syndrome.
- The Jefferson Weinberg ALS Center received a $125K gift from Family Strong 4 ALS Foundation — a grassroots organization created by a patient and his family — to support ALS research at Jefferson.
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Abington – Jefferson Health and Aria – Jefferson Health earned top recognitions in the Pennsylvania Donate Life Hospital Challenge. The Challenge encourages Pennsylvania hospitals to increase organ donation awareness and designations within their hospitals and communities.
- Jefferson’s Bone Marrow Transplant Unit and Surgery residency program are winners of the 2016 i Am Patient Safety award from the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority.
- Abington – Jefferson Health’s Pharmacy Department is the recipient of Comprehensive Pharmacy Services (CPS) Best Practice Award, for the third consecutive year.
- Jefferson Health has been named a recipient of IDG’s Digital Edge 50 award for use of analytics strategies, dashboard and app technology to enhance patient safety, engagement and experience.

Philadelphia University and TJU Students Collaborate to Develop Hospital of the Future

As we move closer to combining our two institutions in what we expect will be summer 2017, our staff and students from Thomas Jefferson University and Philadelphia University are continuing to find ways to collaborate and innovate. Coming soon, Philadelphia University architecture students and TJU students will work together to rethink the hospital of the future. The final project will focus on redesigning the building exteriors of existing Jefferson Hospital buildings to improve their environmental, energy and health-related performance. Look for more info on the PhilaU.edu website.
“Baby Girl Tirpak” Reunites with Her Neurosurgeon

Just three days after the arrival of “Baby Girl Tirpak,” her family was told their newborn would need emergency brain surgery, as Lexi was born with abnormal blood vessels in her brain. Luckily, the man and the team for the job were located right in Lexi’s backyard here at Jefferson. Ten years later, she is a smiling little girl who is living a healthy life. In December, Lexi (center) got to meet the man who performed the surgery: Robert Rosenwasser, MD, Ostroff Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery, and President, Vickie and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience at Jefferson. Also pictured: Stephanie Stahl of CBS3.

Vanguard Founder John Bogle Visits Jefferson on 21st Anniversary of Heart Transplant

On February 21, Jefferson hosted investment icon John C. “Jack” Bogle for “Finger on the Pulse,” a discussion about health care and finance. That day marked the 21st anniversary of Jack’s heart transplant, performed by surgeons Rohinton Morris, MD, and Louis Samuels, MD, who are now at Jefferson. “Everyone knows that Jack’s index fund has beaten the average mutual fund, but he’s also beaten the odds when it comes to his heart,” said Dr. Morris, who led the recent re-launch of Jefferson’s Heart Transplant Program, poising it for growth. Just prior to the event, Jack was also featured on CNBC in a commentary about the state of the stock market (pictured). Also in the photo are Drs. Samuels and Morris, Jefferson trustee Ira Brind, and Steve Klasiko, MD, MBA, President and CEO, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health.

Jefferson at the Forefront of Brain Cancer Research

Philadelphia Coalition for a Cure (PC4C), a newly launched cooperative clinical diagnostics and research initiative that includes neurosurgeon David Andrews, MD of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson as a member, announced that it will collaborate in a study together with Children’s Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) focused on the investigation and diagnosis of adult and pediatric brain tumors.

Other members of the PC4C include experts from the Division of Neurosurgery and Center for Data Driven Discovery at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP); Hyundai Cancer Institute at CHOC; and the neurosurgical departments of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, the Drexel University College of Medicine, and Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

Developments

• Researchers at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson conducted a study demonstrating that the diabetes drug metformin changes head-and-neck tumor biology so that cancer is likely easier to kill. The pilot clinical trial results were published in the journal The Laryngoscope.

• In a study published by The British Medical Journal, Jefferson researchers reported that a single course of steroids may be useful in reducing lung complications in babies at high risk for preterm birth at 34-37 weeks, or for women undergoing planned C-sections at or after 37 weeks.

• Doylestown Health has joined the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Network (SKCN), which now includes 35 hospitals and member organizations. Doylestown Health now has enhanced access to research studies, medical education, cancer screenings and administrative resources at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center. In collaboration with their Doylestown Health physicians, patients also have access to programs unique to SKCN, including telehealth, the Senior Adult Oncology Program and Precision Medicine, which includes advanced genetic analysis used in determining treatment courses.

• Occupational therapist researchers at the Jefferson College of Health Professions developed a first-of-its-kind tool to close the gap between clinical assessments of patients with dementia and a caregiver’s perceptions of a person with dementia’s abilities and published their findings in OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health.

• Jefferson is the only hospital in Pennsylvania selected as one of 19 transplant hospitals across the US to participate in the initial pilot phase of the Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Network (COIIN), a three-year project intended to increase kidney utilization and study new methods of quality monitoring. Another key aim of the COIIN project is testing potential improvements to the program performance review process.

• A recent Thomas Jefferson University study in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area showed that specially trained community outreach workers were successful in increasing their Asian American clients’ follow-through on vaccination against hepatitis B virus (HBV), a virus that can cause liver cancer.

For more news and research breakthroughs, please visit Jefferson.edu/news.
Abington Hospital’s Mother-Baby Unit Donates Thousands of Diapers to Children in Need

In December, the Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health Mother-Baby Unit held a diaper drive to benefit Cradles to Crayons. In all, 3,057 diapers were donated by the unit’s staff. Cradles to Crayons is a nonprofit organization that provides living essentials to the 317,000+ homeless and low-income children living in Southeastern Pennsylvania and Camden, NJ.

Urgent Care Where You Need It: New Locations Open in Northern Liberties and Willow Grove

Jefferson Health has opened two new urgent care centers in the neighborhoods of Northern Liberties and Willow Grove. Pictured are Aria – Jefferson Health staff members at the Northern Liberties location. When your condition can’t wait – like a bad cough or a sprained knee – Jefferson Health Urgent Care is your best option. Our Urgent Care centers are conveniently located in Philadelphia, Montgomery and Bucks counties. Learn more at Jefferson.edu/UrgentCare.

SAVE THE DATE
— MAY 17 —
10 – 11 a.m.
Dorrance H. Hamilton Building
1001 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19107

Discussion on the Opioid Crisis
Sponsored by the Jefferson College of Population Health Grandon Society
(following a Modern Healthcare breakfast event)
More Info: Jefferson.edu/PopulationHealth

People
Jefferson congratulates Christine Arenson, MD, who has been appointed as Chair of Family and Community Medicine at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College (SKMC) of Thomas Jefferson University (TJU). A Jefferson graduate, Dr. Arenson has been a Jefferson faculty member since 1995.

Jefferson’s InterProfessional Education Center (JCIPE) has named two co-directors. Lauren Collins, MD, is an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine and Geriatrics in Sidney Kimmel Medical College. Elena Umland, PharmD, is Professor and Associate Dean in the Jefferson College of Pharmacy.

Neil Gomes, MBA, MEd, CSM, CSP, has been appointed Senior Vice President for Technology Innovation and Consumer Experience and Chief Digital Officer. Neil will drive digital innovation in health care, consumer experience and engagement, training and education.

The National Academy of Inventors selection committee has elected D. Craig Hooper, PhD, and Mathew Thakur, PhD, of TJU to Fellow status, recognizing our researchers’ prolific spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development and the welfare of society.

Bernard L. Lopez, MD, MS, Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Engagement, SKMC has been appointed Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion at Thomas Jefferson University. He will help develop strategies to advance diversity and inclusion efforts for Jefferson’s academic pillar.

Jefferson Health is now welcoming patients for heart transplant evaluations after recently reactivating its program with the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). Our program is led by surgeon Howard Todd Massey, MD, Surgical Director of Cardiac Transplant, and cardiologist Andrew Boyle, MD, Medical Director of Advanced Heart Failure. Physicians can refer patients by calling 215-760-2468 or 215-955-2050. Patients can call 1-800-JEFF-NOW to make an appointment.

Steven McMahon, PhD, has been named Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, at SKMC. He is also a professor in the department.

Jefferson College of Nursing has appointed Ann Phalen, PhD, CRNP, NNP-BC, as Interim Dean. Dr. Phalen is recognized as an excellent educator and the recipient of the 2016 Dean’s Faculty Achievement Award.

Matthias Schnell, PhD, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at SKMC. He is also a professor in the department.

JoAnn Silcox, RN, MSN, has been appointed to the newly created position of Vice President for Nursing Oncology in the Department of Nursing.

Steve Williams, MD, has joined Jefferson as the Chair of Rehabilitation Medicine. He was previously at the University of Seattle, Washington and the University of Washington Medical Center. Dr. Williams is board certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, with a subspecialty in Spinal Cord medicine.