Supporting Our Community: Jefferson Health’s 2017 Economic Impact Tops $6 Billion in SE PA

Last year, Jefferson Health hospitals in Pennsylvania contributed more than $6 billion to the region’s economy, according to information released by the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP). Jefferson Health also supported more than 29,000 jobs in the southeast Pennsylvania region, including 14,000 directly employed by Jefferson. (See the infographic on this page.)

“Health is far more than what happens in a hospital or doctor’s office. It is significantly affected by everything that happens in your neighborhood,” said Bruce Meyer, MD, MBA, President of Jefferson Health and Senior Executive Vice President, Thomas Jefferson University. “By supporting the local economy with more than 29,000 jobs and more than $6 billion of impact, Jefferson Health helps create the foundation for a healthy community.”

In addition to serving as major employers and key economic anchors, hospitals are delivering value that numbers simply cannot quantify,” said Andy Carter, HAP President and CEO. “They are working to meet their communities’ most pressing needs, through addressing socioeconomic challenges, facilitating overdose prevention and opioid use disorder recovery programs, and coordinating emergency preparedness services.”

In 2016, according to data from the New Jersey Hospital Association, Jefferson Health hospitals in New Jersey infused the local economy with an additional $500 million in spending, bringing our health system’s total economic impact to more than $6.5 billion.

As Jefferson continues its mission — to improve lives — and its vision — to reimagine health, education and discovery to create unparalleled value — it is poised to continue making major contributions to the regional economy in the years to come.

Philanthropists Vickie and Jack Farber Give $5 Million for Vision Research

With the generous gift, Wills Eye Hospital has created the Vickie and Jack Farber Vision Research Center at Wills Eye. The gift will support development of new research initiatives in data mining and analytics, tele-ophthalmology, expanded community-based research, and the creation of a new clinical trials unit. The support of Vickie and Jack Farber reflects the growing collaboration of Wills Eye and the Vickie and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience at Thomas Jefferson University. (Pictured: Jack and Vickie Farber.)

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Expanding Our Global Presence: Jefferson Israel Center Now Open

Jefferson continues to expand our global presence — and our possibilities — with the opening of the Jefferson Israel Center in hopes of driving research and innovation, creating unparalleled academic experiences for students and strengthening global relationships. Pictured above are Mark Tykocinski, MD, Provost, Thomas Jefferson University and Anthony F. and Gertrude M. DePalma Dean, Sidney Kimmel Medical College; Dr. Ami Appelbaum, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Israel Innovation Authority; and Zvi Grunwald, MD, who will lead the Jefferson Israel Center as Executive Director. Learn more about the Center at Jefferson.edu/news.

Ceremonial Chime Ringing At New Asplundh Cancer Pavilion

The ribbon-cutting in June at the Asplundh Cancer Pavilion in Willow Grove celebrated more than one accomplishment for Abington's cancer program. That date was also one year and six days since Meredith Tarditi was diagnosed with cancer. After undergoing intense treatment at Abington – Jefferson Health, she became the first person to ring the new chimes at the Asplundh Cancer Pavilion’s opening events, which included more than 2,000 attendees. The chime ringing marked her milestone of being cancer-free, and we look forward to many more patients ringing the chimes, signifying survivorship or milestones achieved during a patient’s course of cancer care.

You can access a virtual tour of the beautiful new Asplundh Cancer Pavilion at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLtBmNxr84s&feature=youtu.be

Patient Meredith Tarditi (left) rang the new chimes at the Asplundh Cancer Pavilion, with the help of Stephen K. Klasko, MD, MBA, CEO of Jefferson Health, and Steven Cohen, MD, Medical Director, Asplundh Cancer Pavilion and Chief, Medical Oncology and Hematology Division at Abington – Jefferson Health.

Magee Rehab Hosts Graduation for Patient

On June 21, Magee Rehabilitation – Jefferson Health hosted a graduation in the hospital’s Creative Therapy Center and Healing Gardens for 17-year-old Kareem Rutledge, who is recovering from a traumatic brain injury. Kareem could not attend his school’s commencement, so classmates from Kingsway Regional High School in South Jersey and loved ones brought commencement to him at Magee. Congratulations Kareem!

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Nation’s First University-Based Graduate Diversity Certificate Program Starts in October

In response to the growing demand to increase cultural competence, understand the social determinants of health and explain the business impact of diversity strategies, Jefferson is now accepting applications for the nation’s only university-based graduate healthcare leadership diversity certificate program.

The Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Diversity Leadership is one of several new certificate programs from Jefferson’s Institute of Emerging Health Professions, which aims to provide innovative and unique education and training to fill future career, training and certification gaps in healthcare practice and delivery.

Eligible students must have a Bachelor’s degree and be currently employed with a healthcare organization or serving in the community with a regular interface with healthcare organizations, such as social services or governmental agencies.

For more information or to apply, please visit Jefferson.edu/Diversity.
A new class of cancer drugs – called CDK4/6 inhibitors – recently approved to treat breast cancer, can stunt the cancer’s growth and replication. Unfortunately, patients often develop resistance to the therapy. Researchers at Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Jefferson Health (SKCC) identified a molecular inhibitor that could help fight the disease when resistance develops.

Among the side effects of radiation therapy, lung cancer patients are at risk for one that may not show up for weeks or months after treatment ends: inflammation of the lungs. While diagnosis and treatment is primarily dependent on patients reporting symptoms, SKCC researchers have begun a clinical trial on a wearable device that collects symptom-related data for early detection and treatment of the condition.

After an injury, cells at the border of a wound begin to rebuild new tissue and sometimes scar. New Jefferson research reveals how cells switch from repair to scarring processes, providing new insight into the healing process.

Jefferson researchers have found that as the brain grows and develops, a single molecule makes the connection between nerve cells in order to function properly. The new research could have implications for our understanding of synapse-related diseases such as autism, Down syndrome, addiction or epilepsy.

Researchers at SKCC show that a type of immunotherapy called CAR-T cell therapy, successfully kills colorectal cancer tumors and prevents metastases in pre-clinical trials.

A case study on a grassroots effort by Philadelphia emergency medicine physicians to mitigate the escalating opioid crisis – co-authored by Priya Mammen, MD, MPH – has been published by the New England Journal of Medicine.

When we learn, the connections between neurons strengthen. Addiction or other neurological diseases are linked to abnormally strong connections. Using super-resolution live-cell microscopy, researchers at Thomas Jefferson University zoomed into the connections between neurons that strengthen to discover structural changes that had never been seen before. This may provide insights into why breaking addiction is so difficult.

Jefferson researchers have developed a new tool for studying the causes of intervertebral disc degeneration, helping them learn about the causes and mechanisms driving lower back pain linked to invertebrate disc disease.
Marina Kauffman: Going Through Spine Surgery “Made Me a Better Person”

Marina Kauffman’s life revolves around her daughter, Lucy. But her life changed when, one day, she bent over to pick up her daughter and heard a loud pop in her back followed by excruciating pain. Kauffman soon found that she was no longer able to be the active mom she once was.

“Before the injury we would always go to the zoo and walk a lot, or go to the soccer field with the dog and walk. We would even be silly and dance around at home sometimes,” Marina recalled. “Once I got hurt I couldn’t do any of that because my sciatica was so bad, it hurt to stand up and to walk. I just had no quality of life with her; I couldn’t pick her up anymore. I couldn’t be a fun parent.”

After a visit to a local hospital, Marina learned that she had spondylolisthesis, displacement of a vertebra that causes back pain and numbness or weakness in the legs. For the next year and a half, she, “went from orthopedists to neurologists to chiropractors,” receiving epidurals and other treatments to block the pain. She knew that ultimately, she would need surgery to fix the problem but the doctors who were treating her at the time considered surgery as a last resort.

Then Marina was referred to Jefferson’s Richard H. Rothman Professor and Chair of Orthopedic Surgery, Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD, PhD, MBA.

“When I went to Dr. Vaccaro, he was the only doctor who said I’m not going to do any more procedures; your only option is to get surgery. And he was 100 percent right,” said Marina. “I felt confident to go to him, even on the day of surgery he took all of my worries away.”

Dr. Vaccaro performed spinal decompression and spinal fusion surgery on Marina and she says that she felt “great” less than three weeks after the surgery and “immediately went back to exercising, back to work, back to doing Pilates and exercising five days a week.”

Marina’s is the perfect example of the kind of outcome Dr. Vaccaro and his team of orthopedic surgeons aims to achieve with every patient they treat.

“We want to improve the quality of people’s lives, which is quality of motion and mobility,” said Dr. Vaccaro. “We’re orthopedic surgeons, so if you’re paralyzed, we help you walk; if you have pain in your limbs, we take that pain away, that’s our goal.”

Now, more than two years after the procedures, Marina says she’s feeling like her normal, jovial self again, now with an even greater appreciation for her health.

“Whenever we go somewhere I take full advantage of everything now; I don’t take anything for granted,” said Marina. “I felt like I’d been reborn, and my daughter feels it too. She’s so happy. She’s six now, so that three-year period really impacted her life and my life,” she said.

“Going through this process with Dr. Vaccaro made me a better person and it really taught me a lot about not taking things for granted, especially your health and your body.”

See this and other stories about our patients on Giving.Jefferson.edu.

From July 25 – 27, experts from Jefferson Health and Rothman Orthopaedic Institute joined with approximately 700 attendees from nearly 100 countries for the second International Consensus Meeting on Musculoskeletal Infection. Hundreds of specialists from around the world gathered to develop a consensus document that will be used internationally to improve the care of patients afflicted with challenging infections. Learn more at https://icmphilly.com.
Cannabis Science Graduate Certificate Programs to Launch at Jefferson

The Lambert Center for the Study of Medicinal Cannabis and Hemp at Thomas Jefferson University has created the nation’s first — and only — university-based, graduate-level certificate programs in cannabis education for healthcare and industry professionals. These programs will address the need for credible, evidence-based education on the health benefits and risks of cannabis in appropriate clinical settings.

This fall, the Center launched graduate certificate programs in Cannabis Medicine and Cannabinoid Pharmacology. In 2019, the Cannabinoid Chemistry and Toxicology graduate certificate program will launch. Learn more about these certificate programs at Jefferson.edu/LambertCenter.

Celebrating Year One: The New Jefferson Continues to Evolve to Deliver Value and High-Impact Education

One year after the official combination of Philadelphia University and Thomas Jefferson University to create a new national preeminent professional university, Jefferson continues to evolve to deliver high-impact education and value for students in Architecture, Business, Design, Engineering, Fashion and Textiles, Health, Medicine, Science, and Social Science.

Effective July 1, Jefferson launched a new College of Rehabilitation Sciences and a College of Humanities and Sciences. In addition, the College of Health Professions expanded to add new programs, and the College of Biomedical Sciences was renamed the College of Life Sciences to better reflect its new portfolio of undergraduate and graduate programs. These changes represent a building upon legacy departments and programs, in order to optimize the academic experience for our students. Learn more at Jefferson.edu.

First Private Sector–Supported Academic Chair in Population Health Established

Thomas Jefferson University’s College of Population Health and Navvis have announced the country’s first private-sector-supported academic chair in population health — The Navvis Professorship of Population Health at Thomas Jefferson University. The endowment of $2 million, funded by Navvis, will focus on identifying methods and best practices to create systemic, effective and scalable improvements in health. Navvis delivers seamless, high-performing and aligned provider networks, care coordination, and value-based care models. Pictured are Elizabeth Dale, EdD, EVP and Chief Advancement Officer, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health; Mike Farris, Chairman and CEO, Navvis; David Nash, MD, Dean of the College of Population Health; and Steven Klassko, MD, MBA, President, Thomas Jefferson University.

TheBestSchools.org has named Jefferson the No. 7 online degree program in Pennsylvania. The organization based the rankings on program quality, types of courses and degrees offered, faculty strengths, as well as school awards, rankings and reputation.

Adding to its global recognitions, Jefferson continues to climb the rankings in the latest list of Best Fashion Schools in the World by CEOWORLD Magazine. The publication ranked Jefferson #24 internationally and #6 in the United States.

Our University’s Disaster Medicine and Management master’s program has been named the #2 online master’s in emergency management degree program in the nation by TheBestSchools.org.

Jefferson textile design students swept the top awards in the International Textile Alliance’s Virginia Jackson Design Competition. For the Jacquard category, MS in Textile Design student A. Zarina Nuri won first place and the $1,000 prize; MS in Textile Design student Emily Olsen earned second place and $500; and BS in Textile Design student Nina Nickerson received honorable mention and $250. Nuri also won first place and $1,000 in the Print category. In the Dobby Woven category, MS in Textile Design student Jiyong Park earned first place and $1,000 and MS in Textile Design student Emily Reppert received second place and $500.

• Tamara Bonzanto has been nominated to serve in a key White House position as Assistant Secretary of the VA for the Office of Accountability and Whistler Protection. Tamara is an alum of the Jefferson College of Nursing, having completed her BSN in 2010 and her MSN in 2017. She completed her DNP in August 2018, with a project that examined registered nurses' capacity to deliver culturally competent care to military veterans and their families.

• Kimberlee Douglas, Director of the University’s Landscape Architecture program, earned first place at the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia’s Excellence in GSI Awards on May 17. Her architectural firm, Studio Gaea, was part of the planning/design team that won in the public projects category for Linwood Park.

• Sergio Jimenez, MD, is recipient of the Scleroderma Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. He is Director, Jefferson Scleroderma Center, and Co-Director, Jefferson Institute of Molecular Medicine.

• Stephen K. Klassko, MD, MBA, President of Thomas Jefferson University, and CEO, Jefferson Health, has been named by Fast Company as one of the 100 Most Creative People in Business. Fast Company is one of the world’s leading and most highly respected business publications, focused on creativity, innovation, social impact, leadership and design. Dr. Klassko was also recently ranked #2 on Modern Healthcare’s list of Most Influential People in Healthcare.

• Karen E. Knudsen, PhD, Director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Jefferson Health and, Chair, Cancer Biology, was named Vice President/President-Elect of the Association of American Cancer Institutes’ board of directors. Her two-year presidency will start in 2020.

• Ana Maria López, MD, MPH, joins the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Jefferson Health as the Vice Chair of Medical Oncology and Chief of Cancer Services at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Washington Township. Dr. López joins Jefferson Health from the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City, where she was Director of Cancer Health Equality, in addition to Associate VP for Health Equity and Inclusion at the University of Utah (UU) Health; Associate Director of Collaboration and Engagement Services at the Utah Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences; and Professor of Medicine at UU School of Medicine.

**Thomas Jefferson University Hospital is ranked:**
- In the national top five Best Hospitals for two specialties: Ophthalmology (Wills Eye Hospital at #2) and Orthopedics (Rothman Institute at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and the Philadelphia Hand to Shoulder Center at #4)
- Nationally ranked in another eight specialties: Cancer (Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Jefferson Health at #26); Cardiology and Heart Surgery (39); Ear, Nose and Throat (15); Neurology and Neurosurgery (Vickie and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience – Jefferson Health at #19); Gastroenterology and GI Surgery (32); Geriatrics (40); Nephrology (43); and Urology (43)
- High performing in an additional three specialties: Diabetes & Endocrinology; Pulmonology; and Rehabilitation
- High performing in seven (out of nine) conditions/procedures: Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair; COPD; Colon Cancer Surgery; Congestive Heart Failure; Hip Replacement; Knee Replacement; and Lung Cancer Surgery

**Jefferson Health – Northeast**
- High performing in Congestive Heart Failure and COPD

**Jefferson Health – New Jersey**
- High performing in Congestive Heart Failure and COPD

**Magee Rehabilitation Hospital**
- Ranked 13th in the nation in Rehabilitation

**Jefferson Washington Township Hospital Breaks Ground on $205 Million Expansion**

Jefferson Health leaders and supporters gathered on May 9 to celebrate the groundbreaking of a $205 million expansion of Jefferson Washington Township Hospital.

**Phase one** (approximate completion, spring 2019) will feature an eight-level enclosed parking facility with more than 800 parking spaces. **Phase two** (approximate completion, spring 2021) will feature a seven-floor patient tower and other visitor amenities.

**AWARDS & ACCREDITATIONS**
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital has been named on the first-ever BlackDoctor.org 2018 Top Hospitals for Diversity list. We were recognized for our commitment to diversity demonstrated by the establishing of our Enterprise Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement and creating the Jefferson University Inclusion, Community Engagement and Diversity Subcommittee.
- Jefferson Health hospitals recently received widespread recognition in the form of American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Get With The Guidelines® awards in the following categories:
  - Target: StrokeSM Elite Award: TJUH and Abington-Lansdale Hospital
- These recognitions identify the hospitals’ commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment.
- Jefferson Health – New Jersey has been named a Philly.com Top Workplace for five years in a row.

**PEOPLE**
- Jefferson Health – New Jersey President Joseph Devine was featured on the cover of South Jersey Biz magazine’s “Who’s Who in Health Care” issue as one of the 20 Leading Medical Minds in the region. He was also featured in the magazine’s “Power 50” issue’s list of top business leaders.
- Congratulations to our three finalists for the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania: Ellie Fitzpatrick MSN, RN, AG-CNS, ACNP, CCRN, CCCTM, CNS, SICU; Mary Ann Mc Ginley, PhD, RN; and Cathy Levonian, PhD, MPH, RN-BC.
- Pennsylvania Medical Society included several Jefferson physicians on its “Top Physicians Under 40” list:
  - Michael Gaspar, MD
  - John Kulesza, MD
  - Charles J. Yeo, MD, FACS

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Former Magee Rehab Patients Set Sail on “Impossible Dream”

On July 5, former patients of Magee Rehabilitation – Jefferson Health set sail from Penn’s Landing on the Impossible Dream – a 60-foot universally designed, wheelchair-accessible catamaran that offers sailing tours to people with disabilities at no charge. Because of the great reception, the crew hopes to return to Philadelphia next year and stay for longer, in order to open this great experience to more people.

Jefferson Partners with Cheyney University on Institute for the Contemporary African American Experience

Jefferson and Cheyney University have formed a partnership to create the Institute for the Contemporary African American Experience (ICAAE). This unique affiliation was announced on July 31 on the campus of Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, where Jefferson leaders, executives from Epcot Crenshaw Corp. (also partnering with Cheyney), and Gov. Tom Wolf gathered.

Jefferson and Epcot Crenshaw are among the initial partners with Cheyney to form the ICAAE, which is intended to leverage Cheyney’s legacy as the nation’s oldest historically black college, to study contemporary issues related to race, ethnicity, access and diversity in American society.

Together we will partner on a research project to analyze health disparities among diverse communities in the Philadelphia region and will explore opportunities to develop agreements that offer Cheyney University students options to pursue graduate degrees at Jefferson in a variety of health-related fields.

Leading in Opioid Addiction Education, Research and Treatment

Jefferson Health – New Jersey was honored by state and local officials for its addiction awareness work. In June, Camden County Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr., and Congressman Donald Norcross, visited Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital to recognize those involved.

From hosting events on Jefferson’s campuses (such as our annual substance use disorder symposia), to offering treatment to patients (including addicted mothers – through the MATER program), to providing leadership on multidisciplinary task forces, Jefferson is proud of its long history (dating back to the 1970s) in addressing drug addiction.

Jefferson Health – Northeast Holds School Supplies Drive

Jefferson Health – Northeast held its annual School Supplies Drive in July and August at all three Jefferson Health – Northeast hospitals as part of its Nurse Outreach Program. Team members and visitors contributed donations of school supplies in collections bins for local students. The supplies were placed into backpacks and delivered to The Lutheran Settlement House at the end of the campaign.
Abington Hospital Brings Innovative Telehealth Technology Into the OR

Using a high-definition webcam and videoconferencing software, Abington – Jefferson Health heart surgeons are connecting with other surgeons across Jefferson Health during surgery and communicating with patients’ family members soon after an operation is over. This technology cuts the time it takes the family to hear results from the surgeon by up to an hour but does not eliminate the face-to-face conversation between the surgeon and the family members.

New Outdoor Recreation Space Unveiled at Jefferson Health Behavioral Health Services in Washington Township, NJ

A spacious outdoor recreation space featuring a new basketball court is officially “open for business” at Jefferson Health Behavioral Health Services in Washington Township, NJ. Patients at the facility — which serves both adolescents and adults struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse — will benefit from this new recreation space, which provides an array of physical and recreational activities as part of treatment, including small group activities. The new, multi-purpose outdoor space was made possible by a $60,000 donation raised through key supporters, including the Jet Start, Jefferson Health, Investors Bank and Sumner Station foundations. Pictured are Donna Bennett of the Jet Start Foundation, whose late son, John E. Tindall Jr., is memorialized at the recreation space with permanent signage; Joseph W. Devine, President, Jefferson Health – New Jersey; Russ Micoli, Vice President of Ambulatory Services, Jefferson Health – New Jersey; Michelle Gollapalli, Vice President of Development & Executive Director of the Kennedy Health Care Foundation; and Jefferson Washington Township Hospital Emergency Department physician Dr. James Baird, a regional leading advocate for opioid addiction prevention.

Third Annual Bike Ride for Peace at Jefferson Frankford Hospital

Jefferson Frankford Hospital hosted the 3rd Annual Bike Ride for Peace in collaboration with the 15th Police District and the Town Watch Services of Philadelphia. The event included a 10-mile bike ride with various stops throughout the route for participants to talk with neighbors, helping them to build relationships and encourage community members to come together to foster peace on their streets.

High Honors for Nursing

Magnet® Exemplars for TJUH

In addition to receiving a third straight Magnet recognition, Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals also received three exemplars. The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) defines Exemplar as “a concept, practice, or program worthy of imitation.” Exemplars were identified during our nursing interactions with ANCC appraisers during their recent Magnet site visit.

Our three exemplars included:

- Clinical nurse involvement in community healthcare outreach through the Jefferson Neuroscience Network
- Nurse involvement in interprofessional collaborative practice, ensuring care coordination and continuity of patient care through the Communication Catalyst Program/Care Coordination and Transition Management (CCTM) and the Interprofessional Committees (Falls, HAPI, CAUTI, CLABSI, C Diff, Pain, Hand Hygiene)
- Protecting our ambulatory/specialty practice/diagnostic area patients from injuries associated with falls

Magnet® Status for Our NJ and Abington Hospitals

This summer, the ANCC also announced that Jefferson Health – New Jersey hospitals (Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital, Jefferson Stratford Hospital, and Jefferson Washington Township Hospital) achieved Magnet recognition for the first time ever. Abington Hospital – Jefferson Health recently achieved Magnet recognition for the fourth year in a row.

The ANCC’s Magnet Recognition Program® identifies superior quality in nursing care by evaluating performance outcomes. Magnet recognition is the highest national honor for nursing practice.