As everyone at Anna Jaques Hospital mobilized to care for the safety and health of our patients and the community during the COVID-19 crisis, our community, in return, responded in a myriad of ways to lift us up with support. To the hundreds of individuals, families, businesses, schools, community organizations, churches and friend circles who have provided in-kind and financial donations and countless acts of encouragement during this extraordinary time, we send our heartfelt thanks!

These pages provide just a glimpse into the many creative ways that our community continues to buoy and sustain our caring staff as they remain dedicated to serving you, your family, friends and neighbors. Please continue all the great things you are doing to slow the spread of the virus and to keep yourselves, your family and our staff safe, and be assured that everyone at AJH remains deeply committed to providing the very best healthcare to the communities we serve.
Dear Friends of Anna Jaques Hospital,

COVID-19 has been a powerful reminder to all that hospitals and health systems serve as the ultimate safety net for saving lives in our communities.

In March, AJH and our partners across Beth Israel Lahey Health worked with state and local officials to anticipate the evolving impact of the pandemic, and quickly organized our staff and infrastructure to create a comprehensive emergency response plan. Years of preparation, training and experiences with natural disasters provided a dependable response framework, but there is universal agreement that the novel coronavirus put us into uncharted territory.

The Anna Jaques Community Health Foundation pressed pause on events and traditional fundraising. Our work shifted entirely to address the hospital's most urgent needs. This meant engaging with our communities safely and effectively, while being very sensitive to the uncertainty and hardship that everyone is going through.

You made your desire to help very clear and we worked through the details to provide opportunities...from PPE and hand-sewn masks, coffee, nourishment and special treats, to encouraging signs and posters, charitable donations and a number of independent gift card drives. I assure you that every gift, including your caring emails, phone calls, and prayers really mattered. We are so appreciative of your trust, confidence, and support.

Over the last few months, we have worked together as a community to participate in something immediately impactful and bonding - and never in my lifetime has the relevance, value, and importance of our community hospital been so clear.

Hundreds of individuals, businesses and groups have contributed to AJH in profound ways over the last two months. For a comprehensive list, please visit ajh.org/support. Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the important work AJH is doing in this moment and beyond. We are truly grateful. Stay strong.

Mary Williamson
Executive Director
Vice President for Development
mwilliamson@ajh.org | 978-463-1211

Beth Israel Lahey Health
Anna Jaques
Community Health Foundation

Words of encouragement and appreciation from the #NEFCares Campaign, Immaculate Conception School, Merrimac Heights Academy - and many others - fill the walls of the hospital and lift our spirits.
Thank you to all the community members and businesses who answered the call when we asked for donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) to safeguard the wellbeing of our staff.

Interlocks owner and Anna Jaques Board of Trustees Member Ginny Erano, supported by the community, provided generous gift cards to AJH nurses in celebration of Nurses Week.

Lawn signs, created by Foundation board member Pat Cannon, popped up all over the AJH service area and have been a source of encouragement to the staff.

MK Productions designed an amazing light show that illuminated the façade of the entrance.

Tito’s Vodka and Michael’s Harborside partnered to provide hearty boxed lunches for staff.

Medline sales representative, Tom Smith of Newburyport, personally delivered a shipment of isolation gowns.

Longtime AJH supporter, Jacalyn Bennett, generously donated 2,000 beautifully sewn masks, each packaged with notes of encouragement.
Strength and Encouragement to Us

Restaurateur, Nancy Batista-Caswell of Celia and Brine, and the community, provided numerous meals at shift-change.

The community sponsored complimentary coffee for our caregivers for two months. The Health Information Management team thanking Jack and Alma Grady, a HIM employee, for their donation.

#TheThankYouMovement, created by Turtle Transit, The Hype! Agency & 36creative dropped by AJH with a variety of healthy snacks for our employees.

Proceeds from sales of masked mini-whoopie pies from Chococoa Baking Company benefited the Healthcare Heroes Fund.

The Newburyport Book Club - and 8-year-old Sawyer - cheered on staff at shift change.

Jeremy Jenkins and Andrew Swanson, of The Poynt and Brick and Ash, partnered with the Elks Club and the community to provide nearly 1,400 grab ‘n go meals to AJH staff as they exited at 14 different shift changes. They were one team of many local restaurants who offered grab ‘n go meals for our staff.

Emergency Department employees enjoying pizza donated by Flatbread Company in Amesbury.
NAID Foundation Provides $100K Gift

The Newburyport Area Industrial Development (NAID) Foundation, propelled by the effects that our COVID-19 response would have on AJH operations, including the unprecedented expense for personal protection equipment for our workforce, made an extraordinary gift in the amount $100,000 to AJH in April. The donation allows our leadership to direct the funds to a range of priorities presented by the public health crisis as they arise.

“Over the last two decades the leaders of NAID have stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Anna Jaques, supporting every major initiative, operations and capital improvement. They have always been there for us in our hours of need. Their latest gift of support, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrates our strong partnership and their exemplary community leadership.”

- Mark L. Goldstein, AJH President

Not All Heroes Wear Capes

Most hospital caregivers see their work as a duty or calling. Despite the risks associated with the virus, they return to their jobs day after day for those who need our care. They have our respect and support.

Thank you to the 150+ donors so far who have contributed over $90,000 to the AJH Healthcare Heroes Fund, including a $50,000 gift from the Mary Alice Arakelian Foundation. Your gift provides AJH care teams with the resources and emotional resilience to take care of our community.

Give online at ajh.org/support.

National Volunteer Week Honors Very Incredible People

That’s an understatement! In mid-March, the arrival of the novel coronavirus forced the suspension of the AJH 200-person strong volunteer program. Volunteers are the lifeblood of Anna Jaques and their absence has been felt by every department throughout the hospital.

In April, in honor of National Volunteer Week, we showed our VIP’s just how much they are missed. We sent notes, photos, and cards, and offered virtual salutes to those who help by making all the work we do more meaningful.

“I miss your friendly smiles, conversations, friendships and jokes too! Rest assured, I’ll be the first to let you know when it’s safe to have you back! Stay safe and well.”

-Caryl Satryb, Director of Volunteer Services at AJH
A Donation That Saves Lives…Needed Now More Than Ever

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented challenges to the U.S. blood supply. Donor centers have experienced a dramatic reduction in donations due to the implementation of social distancing and the cancellation of blood drives.

Maintaining an adequate blood supply is vital to public health and to our community. Your blood and platelet donation help patients of all ages - accident and burn victims, surgical patients, and those battling cancer and other life-threatening conditions.

Locally, Anna Jaques Hospital transfuses 1,800 units of red blood cells per year, quite a large number for a small community hospital. When you give blood at Anna Jaques, you directly support someone in your community, but all collection sites can use your help.

Schedule an appointment to donate blood at AJH today:
Call 978-463-1098 or Email: blooddonor@ajh.org