A recent million dollar capital investment in the Anna Jaques Hospital (AJH) Cardiac Catheterization (Cath) Lab and Interventional Radiology (IR) Suite has begun to enrich and expand life-saving services available to our community. Supporting AJH’s capital purchase of the system are contributions from the Rogers Family Foundation, the AJH Aid Association, Strem Chemicals, and Cynthia and David Gompers.

The AJH Cardiac Cath Lab staff performs over 700 procedures annually since the unit opened in 2003, ranging from diagnostic angiograms to pacemaker and port implantation. Heather Mason, radiologic technologist in the lab explains, “For patients with heart or liver disease, or for those needing a port to undergo chemotherapy, this local, convenient service is often an important part of maintaining a vital treatment regimen.”

In June, the new state-of-the art system became operational, bringing significant benefit to our patients, particularly in the area of interventional radiology, where image-guided procedures can be used to diagnose and treat disease in nearly every organ system. This upgrade will specifically help our most critically ill patients, for whom surgery is often not a realistic option. This strategic addition will allow very sick patients to remain here at AJH, in their community.

The C-shaped arm of the unit moves over the patient, allowing safer, less invasive treatment to address unique patient needs. The physician and technologists see high-quality images and are able to access prior images in the patient’s record for screen-to-screen comparison. The procedure times are shorter, and patients generally recover faster from less invasive imaging techniques.

Working closely with the cardiologists and radiologists, the AJH Cardiac Catheterization/IR team of nurses and technologists are prepared to move forward with enhancing our offerings for additional future program development.

**New Technology Benefits Patients**

- Least invasive techniques currently available
- Procedures are less painful and safer than surgery
- Patients experience shorter procedure and recovery times
- Procedures are less expensive and result in higher patient satisfaction than surgical procedures
Dear Friends of Anna Jaques Hospital,

You can’t help but be struck by the strong community feel of our hospital. Anna Jaques is truly a place where neighbors are helping neighbors. At the core of what we accomplish for our patients every day, is not only our dedicated staff, but also a small, devoted army of volunteers, whose impact here at AJH is profound.

Volunteers assist with our governance boards and committees, lending their skills and oversight in areas such as strategic planning, financial management, quality and safety. Others involved with the Foundation engage with the larger community as ambassadors, and provide strong support with events and engagement efforts. Another group of volunteers are spearheading our Stepping Forward Capital Campaign to expand surgical services, and they are being met with enthusiastic support by community members. Yet another astonishing 200+ people contribute their time and enthusiasm to assisting AJH employees and patients every day, in every department of the hospital. We are truly blessed with a community so dedicated to giving back and paying it forward.

In this edition of Giving Well, we celebrate our volunteers. From the mailroom to the board room, AJH volunteers are treasured members of our hospital family who help us deliver compassionate care to our patients. Read their stories and join us in applauding their generous gifts of leadership, expertise, and most importantly – their time. We are so grateful.

Mary Williamson

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

Beth Israel Lahey Health
Anna Jaques
Community Health Foundation

Upcoming Events and Programs

Next Hospital Tour
Thursday, September 19, 2019, 9:30-11:30am
Learn more about AJH and the many services it offers to our community by taking a small group tour.
RSVP 978-463-1176 or email scap@ajh.org

Masquerade Murder Mystery Dinner - Hosted by the Aid Association
Mystery, Intrigue, A Dinner to Die For.
Saturday, September 14, 6:00-10:00pm
Blue Ocean Event Center, Salisbury
Ticket, table & sponsorship details: www.ajh.org/aidassociation

Family Fun Fest - Hosted by the Aid Association
Bring the kids! Crafters, DJ, mini-golf, pumpkins and more
Sunday, October 6, 10:00am-4:00pm
Nunan’s Florist & Greenhouse, Georgetown
Details: www.ajh.org/aidassociation

Celebrating Survival
Brunch and fashion show featuring cancer survivors and their care givers
Sunday, October 20, noon-2:30pm
Blue Ocean Event Center, Salisbury
Ticket, table, sponsorship details: www.ajh.org/CelebratingSurvival
DONOR SUPPORT

Grant Funds to Help Cancer Center Patients

At the Anna Jaques Cancer Center affiliated with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), we know that some patients can experience consequences of their illness that create social and economic hardship. Loss of income due to absence from work, insurance and transportation challenges, and family care pressures while under treatment, can wreak havoc. As a result, some patients are making difficult choices...to pay for their medicine or feed their family.

A $25,000 grant recently received from the Community Cancer Initiative for Underserved and Financially Vulnerable Patients with Cancer will help. The grant helped to create the Anna Jaques Cancer Center Giving Fund, which will be used by the care team to address urgent non-medical expenses once all local avenues for relief have been tapped or evaluated. We are grateful to an anonymous donor and BIDMC for our ability to provide this compassionate service to patients in need.

Institution For Savings Employees Pay it Forward

Patients cared for by three AJH departments received the “pay-it-forward” generosity of the Institution for Savings’ (IFS) “Giving4Good” program. This employee-led charitable venture spreads goodwill and compassion throughout communities served by the Bank.

“Thank you to all! This has been such a great experience. It is gratifying knowing our efforts are making a difference for your patients - a true community connection.” -Rebecca Conary, IFS

Remembering Lindamae... A Daughter’s Labor of Love

Lindamae Lucus received treatment for ovarian cancer at the Anna Jaques Cancer Center affiliated with BIDMC from 2016-2018. Often by her side was her young daughter Anya, who provided a comforting presence to her mom while she quietly worked on school assignments. Anya grew close to Lindamae’s care team and other patients.

As a way to cope after her mother’s passing, Anya, now an eighth grader, recruited her Youth Group at Central Congregational Church for a special project. Together they designed comfortable and fashionable turbans made from tee shirts for cancer patients experiencing hair loss during treatment. Anya enlisted the sewing skills of several self-proclaimed “church ladies” to assist, and together they produced 60 turbans and 40 caps, each bearing the tag, “Remembering Lindamae.” Anya also produced a YouTube video that provides instruction on how to easily place and knot the turban. Team Anya recently presented the turbans and caps to the Center’s staff in June with hopes that they will bring comfort and smiles to others.
Saluting Volunteers at AJH

In June, we gathered to celebrate and appreciate the volunteer contributions of 200 individuals who give their time and energy to make a difference at Anna Jaques Hospital. Together, our diverse volunteer team, ranging in age from 14 to 92, contributed 31,386 hours to help our hospital over the last year. Based on the Estimated National Value of Each Volunteer Hour ($25.43/hr), that equates to a contribution equal to $724,088! Honestly, their dedication and commitment to AJH is PRICELESS!

A recent national survey of 7,000 volunteers found that:
- 83% of survey respondents volunteer to contribute to a cause they care about, and
- 78% of survey respondents say that understanding their impact keeps them engaged.

These stats hold true at AJH. Cheryl Satryb, our dynamic Director of Volunteer Services, thanks every AJH department and staff member who welcome and support our volunteers...“you are providing our volunteers with amazing opportunities to learn, grow and contribute.”

Volunteer Milestones:
Celebrating the Young at Heart

Cheryl Satryb and AJH President Mark Goldstein ushered Geri Buzzota (right) into her surprise 90th birthday celebration attended by fellow volunteers and hospital staff. Geri is a dynamic gift shop volunteer who works twice a week. She has been volunteering at AJH for nearly 11 years, putting in 1,900 hours of service. Geri also serves on the Aid Association Board.

This Guy Really Delivers

Carl Bragg of Newburyport, age 76, began volunteering one day a week in the AJH mailroom almost seven years ago, after he retired as an electrician. The compassionate care he experienced while surviving a near-fatal illness motivated him to “give back.” AJH appreciates the many grateful patients who choose our hospital as a place to volunteer their time and energy. Thank you, Carl.
Remember This Face

A mesbury native Ethan Griffin began volunteering at AJH as a sophomore in high school to explore a budding interest in medicine. Now on the pre-med track at St. Joseph’s College of Maine, he enjoys returning as a summer volunteer, working in patient transport two days a week and in the operating room, one day per week. He LOVES it, and even arrives an hour early to enjoy breakfast in the AJH café.

His transport assignments take him all over the hospital, interacting with every department, assisting staff members and patients. Ethan says AJH feels like home, and his on-the-job experiences here have become the high standard by which he compares all other opportunities. He appreciates how welcoming and supportive the staff is of student volunteers.

Ethan says he will likely enter medical school through the military, but he doesn’t plan to be gone for long. He hopes to come back and work right here at Anna Jaques, perhaps as an Emergency Department doctor or surgeon.

A Treasured Gift From a Treasured Employee with Deep Family Roots

Earlier this year the Foundation received a surprise gift of a sweet alphabetic sampler dated 1810. It is the handiwork of 10-year old Anna Jaques herself, and is characteristic of the needlework young women learned as part of their household duties during that time.

The 10-inch by 10-inch framed sampler was sent to us by former AJH employee, Mrs. Carolyn Bashaw (92), formerly of Newbury, MA and now of Naples, FL. Carolyn worked as the Medical Records Administrator and in management positions for 27 years, retiring in December 1988 as Vice President of Administration.

Carolyn (Kelly) Bashaw is a cousin four generations removed to our hospital's founder. Carolyn is married to Robert Bashaw, a descendant of the owners who provided land for the expansion of the hospital down to Low Street. She is the sister of AJH supporter Pete Kelly, who owns Kelly's True Value in Newburyport, and aunt to Kate Kelly, a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees (pictured left).

We were delighted to share this precious piece of history with the AJH community in honor of Anna Jaques’ birthday, which was celebrated on May 8th.
Memories created by a child’s experience can be powerful. They can shape our values, views, and our choices into adulthood. James (Jim) Lagoulis, who was born at AJH, raised in Newburyport, and enjoyed a 50+ year career as an attorney here, can attest to the pull of a memory that influenced his decision to make an extraordinary gift to our hospital.

As a young child in the 1940’s, Jim became ill and bedridden with a high fever. As was the practice, his mother, Jennie, called Dr. Howard Rogers, a family physician who had an office at his home on High Street, and asked that the doctor make a house call as soon as possible. Dr. Rogers said to expect him after he had seen his patients and performed his rounds at the hospital.

At some time around 7 o’clock in the evening, on that pitch dark, bitterly cold winter night, Dr. Rogers appeared with his black bag, examined Jim and treated him with medication. Jennie, who came here from Greece at age 12 with a fourth grade education, and who worked in the shoe factories, did not have the money to pay him. Dr. Rogers said that was all right, she could pay him when she could. It took her two weeks to gather the five dollars he charged for the visit.

Jim never forgot that episode, and his memory of the doctor’s dedication and professionalism impressed Jim, then and now.

Jim recently retired, but his business interests keep him in the area during the warmer months and he remains active in the community. His commitment to Anna Jaques is strong.

“I think that a community hospital is one of the most valuable assets a community can have. It’s also one of the few assets in a community that provides service to all. If you care about your community, I think that supporting the hospital is one of the best ways to contribute to the health and well-being of all of its citizens.”

Jim recently made known his intention to leave AJH a substantial gift in his will to honor his mother. “I feel very fortunate to be in a position where I can help support the hospital, and I would encourage others to provide whatever support they are able to, large or small.”

A gift to AJH through your will can play a valuable role in strengthening your personal long-term financial goals and can be a simple, affordable way to touch lives and leave a lasting legacy. Donors who make a “planned gift” to AJH are enrolled into our 1884 Legacy Society, allowing the hospital to recognize your generosity during your lifetime. Learn more: ajh.org/giving
House Calls - An Opportunity to Personally Connect with Local Physicians and Practices

The Community Health Foundation presented a House Call on May 16th, featuring Dr. Saira Naseer-Ghiasuddin, FACP and Shayla Shrestha, BS, MSN, NP-C, of North Shore Internal Medicine, Newburyport.

Attendees learned more about these hometown health care providers, who discussed their personal approach to primary care, which blends clinical expertise in diagnosing and treating health conditions with an added emphasis on disease prevention and health management.

The Plum Island home of Kathy and Bob Connors was the setting for a “Ladies Night” House Call on August 22nd, featuring board-certified plastic and reconstructive surgeon Dr. Michele Sasmor and staff members of RiverSong Plastic Surgery. The team relayed how they help patients achieve renewed self-confidence by meeting each person’s unique aesthetic goals.

Celebrating Survivors 2019: Couture for a Cure

For almost a decade, AJH and the Institution for Savings have partnered to raise awareness and promote the prevention of breast cancer in our community. Along the way, we have celebrated the survival of coworkers, neighbors, and friends, and offered cancer patients support on their personal journeys.

Last year, we showcased local breast cancer survivors as featured models in a fashion show luncheon event titled Couture for a Cure. We tapped into something powerful. We witnessed the strength, beauty and determination of survivorship. The community responded and has urged us to accomplish more.

Join us for an inspiring brunch and fashion show on Sunday, October 20th, 12-2:30 pm, at the Blue Ocean Event Center in Salisbury. Honor the cancer survivors and caregivers in your life and in our greater community. Cheer them on as they walk the runway together with strength and purpose. We welcome your participation as a sponsor, attendee, and/or volunteer.

Funds raised through Celebrating Survivors: Couture for a Cure will support the survivorship programs available to the community at the Gerrish Breast Care Center and Anna Jaques Cancer Center affiliated with BIDMC.

Contact Mary Williamson for more information at mwilliamson@ajh.org or 978-463-1211
Stepping Forward
A Campaign to Expand Surgical Services

Just several months since the launch of our new capital campaign, Stepping Forward, we’re thrilled to have crossed the $1,500,000 threshold toward our $2,500,000 goal! A very special thank you to the 65 individuals and businesses who have pledged their early support for Anna Jaques’ plans to expand the hospital’s operating facilities and create a new main entrance, dedicated to long-time community supporters Helen and Byron J. Matthews.

AJH is very grateful to the Gerrish Family Foundation for committing to the lead pledge of support in the amount of $500,000. “Curt and Pat Gerrish, and the entire Gerrish family, have a long history of transformational philanthropy in our community, and at Anna Jaques in particular. Their extraordinary generosity for this project has helped to propel the momentum of our campaign, and it has inspired other community members to participate,” said AJH President Mark Goldstein.

Members of the Foundation’s 10-person Leadership Committee have been busy meeting with community leaders throughout our service area to outline the capital project, which will support AJH’s projected growth in both surgical and inpatient volume. Reactions to the expansion plans have been very positive. At this early stage, we are pleased to report that 100% of the Hospital Board of Trustees have pledged their support, as well as many key community business leaders, individuals and family foundations. We look forward to sharing regular updates as the Stepping Forward campaign progresses.

Expansion of AJH’s facilities will better serve more patients, provide greater access to both primary and specialty care services, and ensure that patients are treated close to home, promoting faster healing. The additional capacity and state-of-the-art facilities will help make Anna Jaques a destination of choice for patients and physicians serving the North Shore and Merrimack Valley.

Learn more/watch video: www.ajh.org/capitalcampaign

Donor Contributions to Date

$1,500,000. Goal

$2,500,000. Goal