



PASSAVANT HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Impacting the Health and Wellness of the Community

UPMC PASSAVANT

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Passavant Hospital Foundation's mission and impact

Passavant Hospital Foundation's Mission

Passavant Hospital Foundation supports UPMC Passavant, advancing the health and wellness of our community through education, outreach and grant making.

Passavant Hospital Foundation's Impact

Passavant Hospital Foundation advances the health and wellness of our community by:

- ▼ Providing facilities, technology and equipment at our hospital to support excellence in patient care
- ▼ Offering support groups for families affected by a loved one's addiction
- ▼ Presenting free health education seminars for all in the community, to promote personal well-being
- ▼ Forming community partnerships for greater impact on health concerns that affect us all

2022 Financial Highlights

Support to UPMC Passavant	\$	317,512.79
Support to the Passavant Community	\$	274,109.12
Total Mission Support	\$	591,621.91

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In order to successfully fulfill its mission, Passavant Hospital Foundation relies on the dedication and generosity of its volunteers and donors. Below is a small sampling of the many creative ways those throughout the community worked to support the Foundation financially in 2022.



A few of the UPMC Passavant physicians and Foundation personnel who enjoyed an evening of shopping at Kiya Tomlin's Work/Shop in Etna.

A fun-filled evening of shopping

A whole new fundraising event for Passavant Hospital Foundation debuted in the spring of 2022: a shopping spree at Kiya Tomlin's clothing boutique in Etna.

Kiya is a fashion designer and the wife of Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin. Her 5,700-square-foot Work/Shop features a large space for her and her two-member staff to produce her lines of casually elegant fashions; adjacent space is dedicated to retail sales.

The Foundation invited UPMC Passavant physicians for an evening of wine, a fashion show, and shopping.

"None of us had ever shopped like this before," said Nicole Kaib, administrative coordinator at the Foundation. "The store is unique as they design, make, and sell the clothes out of the same space, so customers get a behind-the-scenes look at everything."

Kiya hosted the event and recommended specific outfits for each attendee as live models showed off her clothing line.

"It was a very enjoyable evening," said Joann Kim, MD. A percentage of the sales were donated back to the Foundation, for a total of \$500.

Shred-It event

The Foundation sponsored a Shred-A-Thon event in April 2022, in which two Shred-It trucks came to UPMC Passavant—McCandless. Anyone was permitted to bring up to six boxes filled with papers and watch their unwanted documents get shredded right in front of them. Volunteers from the UPMC Passavant Green Team assisted. Donations were accepted, and nearly \$800 was donated to the Foundation that day, which was used to support the Patient Assistance Fund. This Fund helps qualified patients pay for expenses associated with medications, equipment, groceries, transportation and housing during treatment.



Representatives from The J.M. Smucker Company present a check for \$1,818.54 to Passavant Hospital Foundation President Anthony R. Savannah (right).

The J.M. Smucker Company support

During the second quarter of 2022, The J.M. Smucker Company provided a free Folgers coffee maker to the cafeteria at UPMC Passavant—McCandless as a trial run. The cafeteria staff raised money for Passavant Hospital Foundation's Patient Assistance Fund by charging \$2 per cup of coffee. Overall, this initiative raised \$1,818.54 to support our patients.



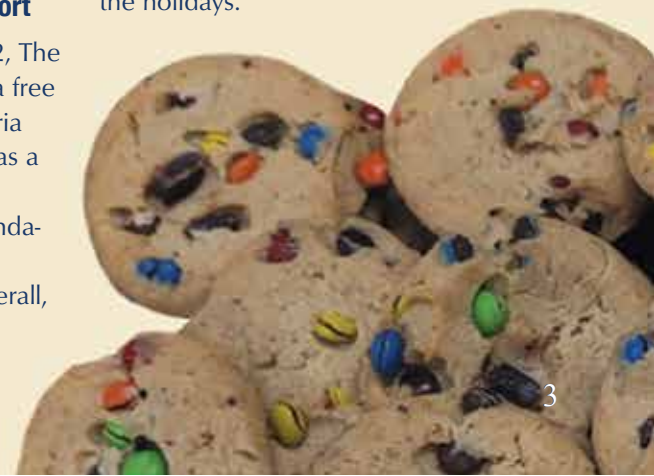
Passavant Hospital Foundation President Anthony R. Savannah (left) receives a donation from Landau Building Company President Thomas Landau (right).

Landau Building Company's annual customer appreciation trap shoot

In 2022, Landau Building Company held its 16th Annual Customer Appreciation Trap Shoot Event that raised \$2,500 to support Passavant Hospital Foundation's mission. Overall, the event has raised more than \$56,000 through the years to support the Foundation.

Annual Cookie Social

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, Passavant Hospital Foundation and Passavant Hospital Auxiliary brought back their popular Holiday Cookie Social for all UPMC Passavant employees. Cookies, cupcakes, and Nothing Bundt Cakes were available for all UPMC Passavant employees to help celebrate the holidays.



HOSPITAL SUPPORT



Thanks to a 2022 grant from Passavant Hospital Foundation, Megan Ellwood was able to receive the necessary training to become a paramedic within UPMC Passavant's service area.

Passavant Hospital Foundation addressed the paramedic shortage

Passavant Hospital Foundation has been a partner to ambulance authorities throughout the community by providing grants for them to acquire state-of-the-art medical equipment, computer and communications upgrades, and devices for safer, easier transport of patients. In 2022, the Foundation awarded a \$35,000 grant to support tuition-associated expenses for paramedic training.

The country is experiencing a paramedic shortage, and, similarly, "our area has a shortage of about 25%," said Betsy Tedesco, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CEN, PHRN, clinical director of Emergency Services at UPMC Passavant.

"The shortage of paramedics is a huge problem and I don't think the public really understands the gravity of it," added Megan Ellwood, an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) with Harmony EMS. "I know of one instance in which

a paramedic was requested to assist with cardiac arrests in two different locations at the same time. He was the closest paramedic to both scenes, yet was 55 minutes away."

Paramedics are trained to deliver more advanced and complex life-saving skills than an EMT or AEMT— such as establishing intravenous catheters, providing endotracheal intubations, and interpreting and monitoring EKGs and other vital equipment.

To combat this problem, Passavant Hospital Foundation awarded a grant to provide five local EMTs with \$7,000 each to offset the costs of paramedic training and certification at the Center for Emergency Medicine. In return, the five recipients committed to provide paramedic services for at least two years in one of the five local ambulance services: Cranberry Township EMS, McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance

Authority, Richland EMS, Quality EMS, or Harmony EMS.

"This grant demonstrates the advanced level of care Passavant Hospital Foundation and UPMC Passavant are committed to providing," Dr. Tedesco said.

Megan Ellwood was one of the grant recipients and began her paramedic training in August 2022. The 44-week-long program consisted of 520 hours of lectures and laboratory classes, 544 hours of clinical education plus additional hours of online coursework and field time on an ambulance and inside a hospital. She continued to work full-time at Harmony EMS throughout her paramedic training.

"Receiving this scholarship was one of the greatest blessings I could have ever imagined. I'm so grateful," she said. "I'm determined to be the best paramedic I can be." ■

Fifteen department grants, totaling \$270,466, were awarded in 2022

In 2022, Passavant Hospital Foundation, in partnership with Passavant Hospital Auxiliary and UPMC Passavant, provided grants to fund 15 projects ranging in cost from \$1,323 to \$78,736 for a total of nearly \$270,500. Every year, the Foundation receives proposals submitted by hospital staff for their departments. Proposals are thoroughly vetted by the Foundation's Mission Support Committee. To be considered, each project must (1) enhance patient diagnosis, treatment, comfort and/or safety, or (2) significantly improve the working environment for staff. This year's grants included:

- **Cycler ergometer to help diagnose a variety of breathing problems**

UPMC Passavant is one of only a few hospitals to offer cardio-pulmonary metabolic exercise stress testing, which enables doctors to diagnose a variety of complex heart and lung conditions, as well as other unexplained breathing difficulties. The cycler ergometer, a specialized stationary bike, helps accommodate patients who are unable to use a treadmill. "Through a generous grant from Passavant Hospital Foundation, we've acquired a new cycler ergometer. It has already been put to good use in diagnosing a variety of patients who are referred to us from all over western PA and even Ohio," said pulmonologist Steven P. Harris, MD.



The cycler ergometer in the Advanced Cardiopulmonary Physiology Lab at UPMC Passavant helps diagnose a variety of breathing problems.



UPMC Passavant's new VascuLab™ tests the quality of blood flow, which can affect the healing of wounds.

- **VascuLab™ machine for the Wound Center**

The VascuLab™, a specialized machine that evaluates the amount and quality of blood flow to the lower legs, helps doctors identify the reason for a patient's wound and determine whether they'd qualify and benefit from a surgical intervention in their healing. By equipping UPMC Wound Healing Services with a VascuLab, patients can be tested during their initial visit, instead of having to schedule an additional appointment for testing in the vascular department. "In 2022, the wound center saw 547 new patients, and 248 of them required vascular testing," said Jodi Boory, BSN, RN, CRRN, ACHRN, CWCA, OMS, manager at UPMC Wound Healing Services at UPMC Passavant. "Thanks to our new VascuLab, we were able to reduce the average number of days to schedule treatment from 33.8 days to 10."

- **LUCAS System to increase positive outcomes for patients in cardiac arrest**

The Paramedic Response Unit, based in Cranberry Township, assists local EMS Services with advanced level care. A \$20,973 grant from Passavant Hospital Foundation enabled the Paramedic Response Unit to purchase a mechanical chest compression

device, called a LUCAS System, which provides consistent, constant and uninterrupted high-quality compressions during CPR. Quality CPR is based on the rate, depth, and consistency of compressions. However, prior to acquiring the LUCAS System, it was difficult for paramedics to perform manual high-quality CPR for prolonged periods of time without suffering fatigue, and it was nearly impossible to perform in a speeding ambulance. ■



Paramedic Drew Maynard with the LUCAS System

Foundation partnership provided meals to UPMC employees

During the pandemic in 2021, doctors from Genesis Medical Associates donated money through the UPMC Medical Staff (and Passavant Hospital Foundation chipped in, too) to provide free meals to the nurses who'd been working long, grueling hours. It was their way of showing appreciation. In 2022, the effort was expanded to serve every department in both the McCandless and Cranberry locations, thanks to a partnership between UPMC Passavant and the Foundation. Overall, more than 2,575 meals were provided. ■

PATIENT SUPPORT



Cancer survivor and Cancer Care Fund recipient Carol Sohn thanked Passavant Hospital Foundation for making her cancer journey a little less stressful.

Cancer Care Fund helped patient meet financial challenges

At the age of 76, Carol Sohn began to feel the jaws of a financial vise tightening all around her. She'd been diagnosed with cancer eight years prior, and when the cancer medications wore her down, she was forced to retire. Her husband had been on Social Security for the past 16 years due to his illness with multiple sclerosis (MS), so funds were scarce.

Then things got even worse.

"I had a heart attack, and the medications caused a bleeding ulcer," Carol said. "On top of that, we were notified that the co-pay for my husband's MS medications were increasing significantly. At home, we were in need of a new refrigerator and stove, as well as a new roof and furnace. Then our hot water heater blew up! It was just one thing after another. How much could one person possibly take?"

Carol feared the worst.

With expenses rapidly increasing and funds continuing to run dangerously low, she wondered what would happen when the money ran out.

"I kept thinking I could lose the house, my car. Then what? Would my husband and I have to stop treatment?"

One day, Carol was sharing her story while receiving treatment at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Passavant when someone on staff overheard her. That person then went directly to Passavant Hospital Foundation to get Carol help for her seemingly dire situation.

"Our Cancer Care Fund was created for people just like Carol, who find themselves in situations just like this one," said Passavant Hospital Foundation President Anthony R. Savannah. "Patients have enough stress dealing with their illness and recovery. They

don't need the added stress of financial hardships on top of everything else. The Foundation is happy to be able to assist patients who need a helping hand. Stories like Carol's inspire us every day to put our mission hard at work to help as many patients as we possibly can," Anthony added.

Created in 2014 and funded by Passavant Hospital Foundation, the Cancer Care Fund has provided assistance to more than 150 cancer patients struggling to afford medication, food, transportation, housing, and more throughout their treatment. This Fund, which has dispersed nearly \$50,000 to date, helped relieve some of the financial stress that Carol was experiencing.

"Passavant Hospital Foundation helped me in a lot of ways," Carol said. "Maybe I'll make it to 80. I don't know. But I'm sure gonna try." ■



Happy to be back in person to celebrate with attendees at 2022's Cancer Survivorship event are volunteers and medical staff, including (from left to right): Michelle Post; Brian McLaughlin, MD; Tracy Sullivan; Alex Chen, MD; Diane Loritts; Beth Berezny; and Rene Frank.

Cancer survivorship celebration resumed in person for first time since pandemic

For oncology patients, the transition from illness to wellness can be difficult. Once treatment is completed, many of these patients are reluctant to break the years-long bond that they have developed with their physicians and other caregivers.

"Research is telling us that this period can be a very stressful time because patients feel more on their own without the regular, ongoing support they'd grown accustomed to," says Kathleen Bryte, MSN, RN, OCN, patient and community nurse educator at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Passavant.

To respond, Kathleen teamed with Passavant Hospital Foundation in 2011 to launch a Cancer Survivorship event. It featured a dinner, entertainment, fellowship with other cancer survivors and their guests, and breakout sessions that addressed various issues affecting cancer survivors at all stages of their journey. Oncology nurses and physicians were on hand to mingle and serve dinner.

That was 11 years ago. Today, it continues to attract upwards of 500 cancer survivors and guests each year (except during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the event

was cancelled in 2020 and scaled back to a drive-thru event in 2021).

Cancer Survivorship programs like this are now widely recognized as an integral part of comprehensive cancer care.

Mary Bates was thrilled to be back in person for 2022's program, which took place at La Roche University's Kerr Fitness Center in June.

Mary had been diagnosed with breast cancer in 2013 when a routine mammogram screening detected a malignancy. "I kept asking myself, 'Why me?' I'd always been so healthy. How could I get cancer? Why did I get cancer? No one could give me answers," she said.

It was a slow, emotional progression to restore her health. She endured six years of chemotherapy, radiation, and oral medication, plus a mastectomy before she was declared cancer-free.

She found much-needed comfort and support at the Cancer Survivorship event. "I went there the first time in 2013. I keep going back because of the people I've met there. Every year, it's like going back home again," she says. ■

UPMC Passavant patients received free rehab tools and prizes

April is National Occupational Therapy Month; October is National Physical Therapy Month. The goal of these two observances is to educate patients and the general public about each type of therapy and increase awareness of the many varied benefits of each.

In 2022, these observances were celebrated at UPMC Passavant with a variety of fun and beneficial games, activities, and prizes for rehab patients, as well as other patients throughout the hospital. As in previous years, Passavant Hospital Foundation supplied the funds to provide giveaways, including shower chairs and tub benches, walker bags, pulse oximeters, ankle/wrist weights, altered utensils, and long-handled shoe horns, sock aids, reachers and back scratchers, according to Gabby Mosso, MOT, OTR/L, CPAM, supervisor of rehab services at UPMC Rehabilitation Institute in McCandless. Most of this adaptive equipment is not covered by insurance, so patients were appreciative for those resources funded by the Foundation.

The Foundation also provided each therapist with a free lunch and commemorative t-shirt.

Throughout the week, therapists donated 110 items to the North Hills Community Food Bank as a way to give back to the community. "We're so thankful to be a part of such a wonderful team and to work with them each and every day here at UPMC Passavant," Gabby said. ■

Cancer Care Fund

46 patients were helped for a total of \$17,050 in 2022



Patient Assistance Fund

24 patients were helped for a total of \$6,302 in 2022

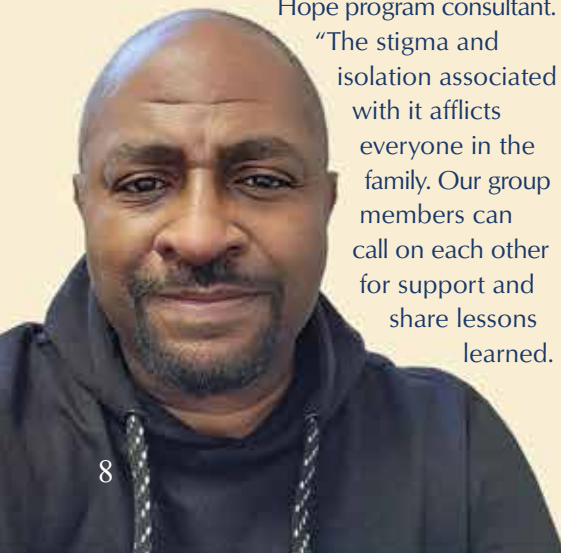
COMMUNITY SUPPORT



New facilitator helps Bridge to Hope support families with loved ones battling substance use disorders

One of the country's most innovative models for a support group is Bridge to Hope, a weekly Passavant Hospital Foundation educational and support program based in McCandless Township. This peer-led group consists of members who have one specific experience in common: each has a loved one struggling with a substance abuse disorder. The group focuses on its members' shared ideas, experiences, hopes, and successes. It is free and open to all adults, and is financially girded by Passavant Hospital Foundation.

"Substance use disorders are a family disease," said Janine Sidoruk, Bridge to Hope program consultant.



"The stigma and isolation associated with it afflicts everyone in the family. Our group members can call on each other for support and share lessons learned."

Some things come up in our meetings that can't be engineered or predicted. Sometimes, a participant will share a situation they're going through with a troubled family member, and somebody else in the group will have already experienced the same thing. They share their story and offer reassurance and realities of what to expect going forward. Our group consists of people with boots on the ground, and they'll tell you exactly how it is."

The group has served more than 5,000 local families since it began in 1999. In May 2022, it welcomed a new facilitator — Ken Johnson of New Castle, Pa.

Ken has 17 years of experience as a substance abuse counselor, therapist, and case worker, including 14 years working for Greenbriar Treatment Center. Currently also employed at Matrix Treatment Center in Beaver County, he works with women struggling with substance abuse and trauma. He earned his undergraduate degree in social work from the University of Kentucky, and is completing a master's degree in social work at Slippery Rock

◀ Bridge to Hope Facilitator Ken Johnson.

University. Part of his master's program includes an internship as a forensic social worker with the Hampton Township Police Department, where he works alongside police officers to help address and de-escalate crisis situations, such as domestic disturbances or people under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

"Social workers often are drawn to areas that are near and dear to their heart. I've had family members struggle with drugs. I enjoy helping people get their lives back on track," Ken said.

Janine appreciates all that Ken can offer.

"He has the demeanor, education, training, and experience to help Bridge to Hope families. He knows what's happening in the field now, understands all the cutting-edge practices, and is bringing that knowledge to our group," she said.

Throughout the pandemic, from 2020 to 2022, Bridge to Hope met virtually each Wednesday at 7 p.m. "By meeting virtually, people from any geographical location were able to access the resources and support we offer," said Janine. "Plus, many found it to be so convenient." ■

Foundation grant provided training equipment to local firehouse

In 2022, Peebles District Volunteer Fire Company received a \$3,850 grant from Passavant Hospital Foundation to add a full set of adult, child and infant CPR manikins, AED trainers, and Bleeding Control trainers and supplies.

"We were not only able to utilize this equipment on internal training sessions to increase the level of medical skills provided to our community, but also were able to train several community groups during fire station tours and community events," said Tyler McCardell, MD — a volunteer firefighter and medical officer at Peebles. The fire station's goal is to train a minimum of 250 community members in CPR and AED use, and train 100 community members in bleeding control through appearances at schools, civic and youth groups, and outreach events. They seek to improve the rate of bystander-initiated CPR on Peebles' calls.

"These outreach events teach lifelong knowledge and skills needed to render first aid in the first crucial minutes of an emergency. We're incredibly thankful for the support provided to us by Passavant Hospital Foundation!"

Peebles District Volunteer Fire Company is among the top rescue operations in the state. In addition to fire and rescue resources, it provides a "Quick Response Service," which sends medically trained responders to the scenes of high-acuity medical emergencies throughout the area. This is what differentiates this fire company from many others in the area.

In 2022, the Peebles' team consisted of 35 active members on the roster, 12 of whom had obtained rescue certifications. These included four paramedics, seven emergency medical technicians, and a pre-hospital EMS physician. ■



Eric Toledo, a Peebles District Volunteer Fire Company firefighter and EMT, delivers positive pressure ventilation while firefighter and paramedic Anna Meyer performs chest compressions during a training session using equipment purchased through a Passavant Hospital Foundation grant.

Northland Public Library, La Roche University's Center for Lifelong Learning received grants for AEDs

With nearly 200 staff members and volunteers, and approximately 200,000 visitors each year, Northland Public Library is committed to providing a safe environment. In 2022, the library was able to update and replace two automated external defibrillators (AEDs) which were nearing their expiration date. The AEDs, acquired through a grant from Passavant



Northland Public Library Executive Director Amy Steele and Passavant Hospital Foundation President Anthony R. Savannah.

Hospital Foundation, are located in highly visible areas on both the upper and lower levels of the library, and clearly marked with bright signage. Staff has been trained on AED usage and CPR techniques. "We're so thankful for the support of Passavant Hospital Foundation to help us keep our visitors and staff safe," said Amy Steele, executive director of the library.

The Foundation also awarded funds to La Roche University's Center for Lifelong Learning for the acquisition of two new AEDs. The center opened in January 2021, offering programs to more than 300 people aged 50 to 93 who want to continue learning and staying engaged, plus another 100 youths involved in athletic and academic camps at the center. Each year since, hundreds of community members have participated in programs there.

"With an increased number of older adults on campus, in spaces like the

swimming pool and Kearns Spirituality Center, it's crucial to ensure we have the proper equipment and training in the event of an emergency," said Jennifer Engel, executive director of the Lifelong Learning Center. "We applied for the grant because we knew of Passavant Hospital Foundation's commitment to the safety and health of the community it serves. We're very appreciative of their support."

North Hills Community Outreach awarded grant for food program

For more than a decade, Passavant Hospital Foundation has supported North Hills Community Outreach's mission to address the needs of people in crisis, hardship and poverty in northern Allegheny County. The Foundation's 2022 grant helped provide fresh fruits and vegetables to hundreds of low-income families and older adults via NHCO's organic garden. ■

EDUCATION SUPPORT

Passavant Hospital Foundation hosted 69 seminars with 3,441 total attendees in 2022

In its mission to promote personal wellness to all in the community, Passavant Hospital Foundation provided a variety of free classes, seminars and workshops, each led by expert physicians and clinicians. These offerings included:

What are Nerve Blocks? And Why Should You Get them?

Attendees learned the pros and cons of regional anesthesia and various nerve blocks from Charles Luke, MD, system director of Acute Interventional Perioperative Pain Services (AIPPS), site director of AIPPS for the UPMC Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, and staff anesthesiologist at UPMC Passavant.

Common Hand Conditions: Diagnosis and Treatment

Trenton Gause, MD, discussed the etiology, common systems, and treatment of osteoarthritis of the hand and wrist, and what people can do to manage their pain to remain active. A question-and-answer session followed. Dr. Gause is an orthopaedic hand and upper extremity surgeon with Tri Rivers Musculoskeletal Centers.

Advances in Breast Imaging

Terri-Ann Gizienski, MD, chief of the Clinical Breast Division at UPMC, introduced attendees to new technologies in breast imaging and discussed current recommendations.



Lyme and Other Problems with Ticks

Tick-borne diseases are becoming more and more common in our community. Tips on recognizing the symptoms of these illnesses and protecting oneself from them were discussed by Libby Ernhart, MPAS PA-C, infectious disease specialist at Romano, Pontzer & Associates. She has practiced in infectious diseases for more than 20 years in western PA. ■



Medical professionals offered first-ever financial seminar

Passavant Hospital Foundation helped facilitate the first-ever UPMC Passavant Medical Staff Personal Finance Seminar in 2022. The event, attended by nearly 40 physicians, nurses, and other medical personnel, was the brainchild of Ryan Ball, MD, MBA, FASE, chief anesthesiologist at UPMC Passavant.

“The goal was to improve the knowledge of personal finance and how it relates to the medical profession, provide strategies for successful personal money management, and speak to the difficulties presented to medical professionals with respect to money management,” said Dr. Ball.

Topics included personal finance, retirement investing, wealth management, tax strategies, and college savings. There was also a panel discussion and Q & A session. ■

Passavant Hospital Foundation offered a seminar on the increase of domestic violence

Social isolation became a norm during the COVID-19 pandemic. Social interactions often were relegated to digital platforms. This resulted in an alarming increase in mental health issues among young adults and youths, as well as a rise in domestic violence.

A domestic violence seminar, sponsored by Passavant Hospital Foundation,



enlightened participants about various media platforms that might be deemed unsafe, and encouraged attendees to communicate with specialists who can provide tools for prevention and knowledge for assistance with any mental health issues or domestic violence situations.

Speakers were: Ryan Klingensmith, licensed professional counselor (LPC) and nationally certified counselor; Elly Sheykhet, an author and certified grief coach who lost her 20-year-old daughter Alina to domestic violence by her boyfriend in 2017; and Eugene Sciuilli, board member for Alina’s Light, a charitable organization raising awareness and promoting domestic violence education.

The free seminar was simultaneously held in person and online, and was attended by 125 participants. ■

UPMC PASSAVANT STAFF PARTNERSHIPS

The UPMC Passavant family – consisting of medical staff, hospital employees, volunteers, and many others – is a vital partner in every patient’s care. It’s also a substantial supporter of the Passavant Hospital Foundation mission, and throughout the year, members of this family participate in collection drives and fundraising events to help advance the health and wellness of our community. Here are a few examples from 2022:

Food drive’s “Cutest Pet” contest

UPMC’s initiative to collect food for local people and pets has yielded 1.29 million units of food over the years, which has been distributed to North Hills Community Outreach and other food pantries, as well as Animal Friends.

To generate extra excitement for the drive in 2022, Passavant Hospital Foundation held a Cutest Pet Contest. “It was a huge hit with the staff,” said Nicole Kaib, administrative coordinator at the Foundation. “We received photo entries for 56 dogs, 14 cats, two horses, one guinea pig, and a snake.” Hospital employees and guests cast more than 500 votes. Shedquarters Self-Serve Pet Wash & Pet Supplies and Asgard Raw Dog & Cat Food, both located in nearby Millvale, donated the prizes.



Holiday gift collections

For years, the staff at UPMC Passavant has generously collected so many toys and personal hygiene items as holiday gifts for the children and youth at MHY Family Services (formerly known as Mars Home for Youth), that it typically requires multiple vehicles and trips to deliver all the donations to MHY Family Services. In 2022, the hospital also collected holiday gifts for a local women’s shelter.

School supply drive

The UPMC Nursing Leadership Council launched a school supply collection in 2022. Individuals from the UPMC Passavant family collected enough notebooks, pencils, pens, glue sticks, backpacks, and other supplies to fill an SUV! The supplies were donated to North Hills Community Outreach for their annual book bag drive.



When donating to the United Way, please choose these Passavant Hospital Foundation United Way codes!

- Cancer Care Fund: #11558913
- Nursing Education Fund: #11558921
- Patient Assistance Fund: #11558723
- Bridge to Hope: #12710802
- Fund for the Future: #419



United Way donation drive pumpkin decorating contest

The United Way campaign is a UPMC system-wide initiative, and several Passavant Hospital Foundation programs have benefitted from it (see United Way graphic below). To increase awareness of the campaign’s fall kick-off, the Foundation sponsored a hospital-wide pumpkin decorating contest. A dozen groups from UPMC Passavant showcased their creativity by entering their pumpkin in the competition. Out of 200 votes cast, Walleye The Miracle Puffer Fish won the contest. The staff on 6 Pavilion used lots and lots of candy corn to decorate the pumpkin. Other pumpkins resembled witches, turkeys, Oscar the Grouch, and more.



LEGACY THROUGH CARING



Left to right: UPMC Passavant physicians Kiran Rajasen, MD; Kevin Garrett, MD, FACS; James Boyle, MD; Kiran Mehta, MD, FACRO, FACR; and Joann Kim, MD, FCCP

Honoring doctors who impact patients' lives inside and outside the hospital

A man suffering from a sudden, severe illness arrived at UPMC Passavant and immediately was admitted for diagnosis and treatment. Adding to the distress of being sick, he also was distraught over the fact that his daughter's wedding was just days away, and it was becoming clear that he'd likely miss the ceremony due to his hospitalization. His daughter considered postponing the wedding, but his doctor, James Boyle, MD, had another idea.

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Dr. Boyle asked the patient's wife if he could have a word with her. They strolled down the hall and to the hospital chapel downstairs. He asked her how she liked this venue for a wedding.

"The whole family was over the moon," Dr. Boyle said. "We arranged for the daughter to get married in the chapel so her father could be present. We were able to get the cafeteria to provide a dinner and wedding cake for a manageable number of guests in less than 24 hours."

The doctors at UPMC never waver in their efforts to treat every patient with compassion, expertise and dedication. Going that extra mile is a hallmark of UPMC Passavant physicians like Dr. Boyle, who has specialized in geriatric and internal medicine for the past 35 years and has served as chief medical officer for the past 15.

"Our doctors are among the nation's best. Add to that the fact that many of them go above and beyond what's

expected," said Anthony R. Savannah, president of Passavant Hospital Foundation. "They work tirelessly to care for the whole patient and their patients' families, as well. Many spend their precious free time volunteering in the community and helping the Foundation bring more health programs and state-of-the-art medical equipment to the North Hills."

For instance, Kevin Garrett, MD, FACS, is a general surgeon, chair of the Division of General Surgery at UPMC Passavant, and a clinical professor of surgery. He supports a variety of charitable organizations, including Light of Life Rescue Mission, which provides housing and food for Pittsburgh's homeless. He contributes to Bidwell Training Center, which provides career training to underprivileged kids, and he's an enthusiastic supporter of Passavant Hospital Foundation's mission. "I'm somewhat of a cheerleader, and whenever a patient I've been involved with passes away, I make a donation to the Foundation in that patient's name," he said.

During the pandemic, Dr. Garrett piloted a program with the Foundation to provide free meals for members of the operating room staff, who were working long, grueling hours. "There were many heroic efforts during Covid," he said.

Joann Kim, MD, FCCP, a pulmonologist and president of the UPMC Passavant medical staff, took Dr. Garrett's idea of providing free meals for the operating department staff and expanded it to include every department in the hospital. "The pandemic has taken its toll on doctors and medical staff everywhere," she said. "Staffing is critically low right now. Nursing staffs are burning out. Doctors are retiring in large numbers. Medical personnel are getting sick. Morale is at an all-time low."

To perk up co-workers, Dr. Kim collected donations from the doctors at UPMC Passavant in order to provide free meals for the nurses, support staff, pharmacy staff, lab personnel and security, all of whom were working extended hours at the hospital under extreme stress and anxiety. She raised \$10,000, which was matched by both the medical staff

treasury and Passavant Hospital Foundation. The free meals, catered by Giant Eagle, were offered on designated days, with plans to continue offering them indefinitely. "We do it to show our appreciation, and we'll continue to do it until the money runs out," Dr. Kim said.

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Our doctors are among the nation's best. Add to that the fact that many of them go above and beyond what's expected.

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— Anthony R. Savannah,
Passavant Hospital Foundation President

While Dr. Kim's typical work day is 15 hours long, she still finds time to serve on the Passavant Hospital Foundation board of directors and volunteer for other causes. Some of her favorite projects involve pre-teenage youth. "A lot of philanthropies are geared toward adults or young kids, but helping teens and tweens means a lot to me because the way they're treated now could affect their lives later on," she said. She sponsors two children at MHY Family Services (formerly known as the Mars Home for Youth) through her church and regularly donates new toys and personal hygiene items to the organization through Passavant Hospital Foundation. She also donates items to the McCandless Police Department's toy drive.

Kiran Mehta, MD, FACRO, FACR, treats between 30 and 45 patients daily as a radiation oncologist at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Passavant. She reaches dozens more people through the free seminars and workshops she presents in partnership with Passavant Hospital Foundation. And, in another partnership with the Foundation, she volunteers at a Celebration of Survivorship event, which is held annually at the hospital and attended by up to 700 cancer patients and their families each year. It consists of dinner, live music,

basket raffles, keynote speakers, break-out sessions and an opportunity for attendees to share their stories, tears, laughter, love and encouragement with one another. "It takes a year to plan the event. The nurses and support staff run it. I get to do the fun stuff — meet and greet, serve food, play games. It means a lot to the patients to see their doctors outside the office. The whole event is very uplifting for them," Dr. Mehta said.

A medical oncologist at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Passavant and chief of the Hematology-Oncology Division, Kiran Rajasen, MD, is humble when it comes to discussing his philanthropic contributions. He and his wife have established multiple scholarships to help alleviate the financial burden for students pursuing careers in health sciences. Dr. Rajasen also spent many holiday seasons poised in front of a Salvation Army kettle, ringing a bell and encouraging people to donate money to support those in need. He frequently participates in Passavant Hospital Foundation fundraisers, as well. In fact, he once opened his home to host a charity poker game for 50 doctors and their spouses as a way to raise money for the Foundation. "We have a freakishly large garage and a nice backyard for hosting such events," he explained. He says he appreciates the Foundation's Patient Assistant Fund and Cancer Care Fund, which help qualified patients pay for basic needs — such as medicine, transportation, housing and food — during treatment. "These funds have really helped my patients, and all I have to do is ask the Foundation for it. That's what makes it so easy for me to support them."

Dr. Rajasen encourages everyone to think about what organizations they support, and consider adding Passavant Hospital Foundation to their list. "The Foundation truly helps the people in our community in so many ways. They help educate people on relevant health issues, they assist cancer survivors, they increase awareness for preventative screenings, they offer support groups and patient assistance in general," he said. "It's a one-stop shop and impacts so many areas." ■

PASSAVANT HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Auxiliary provided more than \$57,500 for five projects in 2022

Comprised solely of volunteers, the Passavant Hospital Auxiliary conducts fundraising events to benefit the patients, families, and staff of UPMC Passavant. Since 1961, the Auxiliary has raised and donated more than \$4 million. Projects funded by the Auxiliary range from free valet parking passes for outpatients to the establishment of two end-of-life care rooms at the hospital.

“The goals for the Passavant Hospital Auxiliary for 2022 were to improve patient care and support hospital staff,” said Jean Eckert, Auxiliary president. “We did this through grants in the amount of nearly \$60,000 to purchase new or replacement equipment for the hospital, support continuous education for the staff, donate monthly contributions to Passavant Hospital Foundation’s Patient Assistance Fund (which helps qualified patients offset the costs of medications, transportation, housing, etc. during their medical treatment), and more.”

One of the Auxiliary’s biggest fundraisers is the Lights of Love Tree, which has been displayed in the hospital lobby for the past 35 holiday seasons. The tree is adorned with lights and dove ornaments, each of which is designated in honor or memory of loved ones. Lights can be designated for \$5 each, doves for \$10. The names of designees are placed in a Book of Honor and displayed alongside the tree. Seventy-eight lights and 92 doves were designated in 2022, raising

\$2,800 for the auxiliary’s mission. The tree-lighting ceremony was held virtually via Facebook Live on Friday, December 2.

Other 2022 fundraisers included a Basket Bash, which featured 20 themed baskets which were raffled. Each basket contained a variety of gift cards, seasonal items, and more. All the winners were announced on August 26. The event helped the auxiliary raise \$8,400 for its mission.

In 2022, departmental grants supported by the Auxiliary included:

- A \$3,940 grant to the Occupational and Physical Therapy Departments for the purchase of a portable oxygen IV holder
- A \$6,740 grant to the Imaging Services – Ultrasound Department for the purchase of OB/GYN stretchers
- A \$5,698 grant for the purchase of Stryker Prime® Transport Chair wheel-chairs for use in the GI Lab
- A partnered grant to support the purchase of multiple Stop The Bleed® kits to improve survival for people with traumatic bleeding
- A partnered grant with Passavant Hospital Foundation for the purchase of VascuLab™ equipment for use in the UPMC Wound Healing Services at UPMC Passavant. The grant was for \$20,000 (see full article on page 5)

The Auxiliary also continued to help fund a “Tea Cart for the Soul,” a mobile food cart which was wheeled to every unit in the hospital, offering free snacks and beverages to nurses, aids and staff. The Auxiliary contributed \$1,000 to help keep the cart well stocked in 2022. ■



The Auxiliary recently installed its new officers for 2022–2023. Pictured from front to back: Jean Eckert, President; Carol Koontz, Vice President; Janese Abbott, Secretary; and Beverly Aufman, Treasurer.

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Passavant Hospital Foundation's 4K/8K Run/Walk raised more than \$7,000 for Foundation's mission

Passavant Hospital Foundation celebrated its 10th Annual Run/Walk on Friday, August 12, 2022, offering both virtual and in-person participation options, alongside the first-ever Kid's Fun Run. For the virtual event, participants had the entire month, from August 1 through August 31, to complete their preferred course. The 10th Annual Run/Walk and Kid's Fun Run raised more than \$7,000 with over 160 participants. The funds raised from this event were directed toward the Foundation's mission of supporting patients, their families, UPMC Passavant staff, and the communities served by UPMC Passavant.

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2022 Legacy of Caring Gala welcomed over 400 attendees and raised over \$135,000

The 7th Annual Legacy of Caring Gala, held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh-Cranberry on September 22, 2022, raised \$135,430 with more than 400 attendees who came together to honor seven remarkable honorees for their Legacy of Caring. The event featured a silent auction, live auction, cocktail reception, dinner, and live entertainment. More than \$12,000 was raised through a special appeal that evening to support the Cancer Care Fund and Patient Assistance Fund, which provide transportation, medication and more to qualified patients.

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Continued on next page

Foundation netted nearly \$19,000 during its third annual Purse and Tool Bash in 2022

Participants virtually browsed through a variety of power tools and designer purses during Passavant Hospital Foundation's Purse and Tool Bash fundraiser on October 22, 2022. Nearly 150 participants purchased 1,800 tickets for a chance to win items like a Kate Spade New York Eva Tote Bag, Coach Kacey Satchel, Ted Baker Long Quinsin Tote Bag, Milwaukee Cordless Reciprocating Sawzall, DEWALT Rotary Hammer Drill, Craftsman Standard and Metric Combination Tool Set, and much more.

The 10 designer purses and 10 power tools — plus a Kate Spade Carson and Staci Cross-body Bundle, along with a DEWALT Tough System Toolbox

Set and DEWALT 20V Max Brushless 4-Tool Combo Kit — were donated by UPMC Passavant physicians, hospital staff and community members. Combined, the items were worth more than \$5,100.

A 50/50 Raffle raised \$2,430. In all, \$18,991 was netted to benefit the Foundation's Cancer Care Fund, which supports patients at the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Passavant by offsetting expenses associated with medications, housing, food, transportation and end-of-life care.



Passavant Hospital Foundation Office Volunteers

Faith Bajema
Jeanmarie Daugherty
Donna Galbraith





Passavant Hospital Foundation's 35th Annual Golf Outing welcomed over 200 participants and netted nearly \$135,000 for Foundation's mission

On June 6, 2022, the Foundation welcomed more than 200 golfers from throughout Western Pennsylvania for its 35th Annual Golf Outing at Treesdale Golf and Country Club in Gibsonsia, PA. Participants enjoyed a beautiful day on the links at the pristine course designed by legendary pro golfer Arnold Palmer and Palmer Course Design Company. The course consisted of rolling fields, apple orchards, lush forest and positively spectacular lakes and wetlands, providing scenic vistas and challenges like strategically placed bunkers and well-placed water hazards.

Participants enjoyed a day filled with fun, laughter, fellowship, friendly competition, and delicious food.

Through the event, the Foundation raised \$134,700 for its mission of advancing the health and wellness of our community through education, outreach and grant making.

.....

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James Cerny
Beth Cheberenchick
George Ehringer

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Continued on next page



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Omni Bedford Springs Resort & Spa
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Over the Bar Bicycle Café
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