“One of the hardest days is the day that you’re discharged from the hospital, but have to leave your baby behind,” says Katelyn Farrell. “I cried the whole way home.”

Katelyn has taken that long ride twice – temporarily leaving a piece of her heart with a baby in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Baystate Children’s Hospital in 2016 and again this year. Her now-two-year-old daughter, Mackenzie, was born at 28 weeks’ gestation and spent 61 days in the NICU. Her son, Landon, born this spring at 31 weeks, spent 39 days in the unit. Having a clinical background doesn’t make it easier, says Katelyn, who is a nurse in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) at Baystate Medical Center – but it does deliver appreciation for what’s at stake.

“Even when you’re on the inside of things, it seems like an eternity – and every day is a rollercoaster,” says Katelyn. “He’s not supposed to be out in the world yet, not supposed to have to breathe or eat on his own yet or regulate his own body temperature. Things can change from hour to hour as the staff monitors every system and every function.” (continued on page 3)

Rocking white hi-top sneakers, custom-bedazzled at her request by a friend, Denise Jordan illuminated her 50th birthday party with the special sparkle her family and friends know and love. Here’s what many of her guests didn’t know: Denise’s infusion port had been removed that very morning – marking the conclusion of her course of treatment for breast cancer.

“Faith and confidence “When I was diagnosed, I had two questions: When can I get it done? And how long will I be out of work?” remembers Denise, who served as chief of staff to Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno and was recently appointed executive director of the Springfield Housing Authority. (continued on page 4)

Pictured (left): Juliana Thompson, featured in our Pink in the Rink campaign, joins Denise Jordan in waving to the crowd during Pink in the Rink, a Thunderbirds fundraiser to benefit Rays of Hope.

Baystate Health Foundation
Together, you help us deliver a higher state of caring

Saving babies’ sight
Baystate Health Foundation, in partnership with Max Golf Classic, funds state-of-the-art imaging technology to detect retinopathy in premature babies

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“No matter how long your baby is in the NICU, it seems like an eternity – and every day is a rollercoaster,” says Katelyn. “He’s not supposed to be out in the world yet, not supposed to have to breathe or eat on his own yet or regulate his own body temperature. Things can change from hour to hour as the staff monitors every system and every function.” (continued on page 3)

Denise Jordan Named Chair of 25th Annual Rays of Hope Walk & Run
Cancer survivor brings positive energy and passion for community to annual event

Rocking white hi-top sneakers, custom-bedazzled at her request by a friend, Denise Jordan illuminated her 50th birthday party with the special sparkle her family and friends know and love. Here’s what many of her guests didn’t know: Denise’s infusion port had been removed that very morning – marking the conclusion of her course of treatment for breast cancer.

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inside:
- Honoring a child’s legacy of compassion
- Helping people cope with the challenges of aging
- Celebrating new patient care facilities
- Community comes together for Baystate Health
- Mark your calendar!
Our Mission

The mission of Baystate Health Foundation is to inspire a culture of philanthropy and encourage philanthropic relationships that will support the mission of Baystate Health.

Thank you

Jean Deliso
Chair, Baystate Health Foundation

We are inspired every day by people who channel compassion, gratitude, and sometimes grief, into impactful expressions of generosity. Their gifts – like yours – are changing lives in our community.

Here are a few examples of the generosity you’ll find in this issue of Impact.

- A woman faces cancer with grace and generosity – and, restored to health, inspires us to walk beside her to help other patients.
- A child is lost – leaving a legacy of courage that mobilizes a community to help other kids with cancer.
- A clinical team surrounds premature babies with love and state-of-the-art care – including new technology, funded by philanthropy, that helps detect a potentially blinding eye condition.
- A lifelong nurse ensures that her compassion has no end – by making a generous bequest to support our patients and the people who take care of them.

These are just a few of the many stories of Baystate Health and its charitable foundation.

Thank you so much for making our story part of your story.

Anticipation is building as Baystate Wing’s new Emergency Department nears completion.

The new Emergency Department at Baystate Wing Hospital is set to open this fall – thanks to the generosity of everyone who has come together to raise more than $2.9 million to date. There’s still time to support this vital new project! Please give online at baystatehealth.org/give-now or contact Teresa Grove at 413-370-5798 or teresa.grove@baystatehealth.org.

Thanks to generous people like you, Baystate Health is nationally recognized for its excellence and innovation.
Saving babies’ sight (continued from page 1)

Sight-preserving baby pictures
Among other concerns, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team keeps a close eye on the developing vision of the babies in its care.

“Extremely premature infants are at risk for retinopathy of prematurity, a very serious condition caused by abnormal growth of blood vessels in the eye,” explains Jeffrey Shenberger, MD, chief of Newborn Medicine at Baystate Children’s Hospital. “The worst-case scenario is the imminent risk of a detached retina, for which a baby would need immediate injection therapy or surgery. It’s critical to monitor for aberrant growth of blood vessels, on a weekly or biweekly basis, until the retina matures at about two months of age.”

Since mid-April, the ICON Retinal Imaging Platform has been used to screen babies in Baystate’s NICU for this potentially blinding condition. Purchase of the state-of-the-art technology was fully funded by proceeds from the Max Classic Golf Tournament for Baystate Children’s Hospital.

“Historically, pediatric ophthalmologists have viewed babies’ retinas by shining a light into their dilated eyes – as you might experience in a standard eye exam,” says Shenberger. “The results are obtained only during direct observation and – while chart notes are as complete and descriptive as possible – this approach yields no recorded images to provide a visual record of blood vessel growth over time.”

“The ICON camera records high-resolution images that can be viewed in progression, allowing us to see what’s changed between scans,” he continues. “It also allows us to take a closer look at specific areas of the eye, and in particular offers excellent views of the edge of the retina, which is the last to mature.”

In addition to delivering new levels of diagnostic precision, the images can be transmitted digitally to consulting physicians from outside of the area and can be included in a child’s medical record if a family relocates. And, says Shenberger, the ICON technology seems to enhance quality of life for infants in the NICU, who are coping with the transition from the tranquility of life in utero to a high-tech clinical environment.

“The ICON test takes a fraction longer,” he says, “but it seems a little less stressful for most babies.”

Everyday miracles
For the Farrell family, the stress of NICU life is behind them. Now that Landon is home, they are adjusting to life as a family of four.

Katelyn and her husband, Ethan, are grateful for the support of their family and friends – and their very first support team at Baystate Children’s Hospital.

“Every baby in the NICU represents nothing short of a miracle,” says Katelyn. “They’re so small and helpless, and while you spend as much time as possible with them in the unit, you can’t be there every minute – especially if you have a toddler at home, as we did. The only thing that makes the experience a little easier is knowing that your baby is in such good hands. It’s hard to put into words how much everyone on the NICU team has meant to our family.”

To learn more about how you can support state-of-the-art care at Baystate Children’s Hospital, please contact Kathleen Bronner at 413-794-7798 or kathleen.bronner@baystatehealth.org.

Baystate Noble Hospital welcomes patients and visitors with new front entrance and lobby. Members of the Baystate Noble Hospital and Baystate Health leadership teams joined community leaders and members of the Baystate Noble Ball planning committee in June to celebrate the opening of the hospital’s redesigned front entrance and lobby, made possible with proceeds from multiple years of the Ball. Pictured (left to right) are: Kate Phelon, director, Westfield Chamber of Commerce; Emily Swanson, aide to Rep. John Velis; Drew Renfro, aide to Sen. Donald Humason, Jr.; Nancy Shendell-Falik, president, Baystate Medical Center, and senior vice president, hospital operations, Baystate Health; Mark Keroack, MD, president and CEO, Baystate Health; Brian Sullivan, Mayor of Westfield; Dena Hall, vice chair, Baystate Health Foundation Board of Trustees; Ron Bryant, president, Baystate Noble Hospital and Baystate Franklin Medical Center; Scott Berg, vice president of philanthropy, Baystate Health, and executive director, Baystate Health Foundation; and Andrew Surprise and Brent Bean, members of the Westfield City Council.

Save the date for the 2018 Baystate Noble Ball: November 3, 2018.

Baystate Noble Hospital and Baystate Health’s newborns benefit from a high-tech clinical environment. The ICON Retinal Imaging Platform has been used to screen babies in Baystate’s NICU for this potentially blinding condition. Purchase of the state-of-the-art technology was fully funded by proceeds from the Max Classic Golf Tournament for Baystate Children’s Hospital.

Baystate Children’s Hospital opens new Pediatric Procedure Unit with relocated Sadowsky Center for Children. On hand in May to cut the ribbon, officially opening the state-of-the-art facilities, were members of the Sadowsky and Levsky families, including (left to right): Jace Sadowsky, Drew Sadowsky (holding Adelyn Sadowsky), Ashley Sadowsky, Ronald Sadowsky, Brenna Sadowsky, Barbara Sadowsky, Virginia Levsky, Jim Sadowsky, and Scott Sadowsky.
Moving forward together

Mark A. Keroack, MD, MPH
President & CEO, Baystate Health

In today’s world, access to healthcare is crucial to a thriving community, whether it’s for a child in the NICU or for elder care that’s specifically curated for that population. In addition to access, that healthcare needs to be provided in a compassionate manner.

As a team, we’re striving to move forward in the people-centered areas of organizational performance. When we develop personal connections with our patients, it’s a better experience for everyone involved. Our care providers feel more fulfilled, our patients feel heard, and the experiences you will have at any of the Baystate Health entities will be improved.

This spring, I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for our Pediatric Procedure Unit and Sadowsky Center for Children. This facet of Baystate Children’s Hospital is an excellent example of how we’re working together for the greater good of some of our youngest patients. This new space provides access to treatments such as infusion therapies, testing, and minor surgical procedures all in one area. While the environment is warm and welcoming, it’s the smiling faces of the clinical team members who treat our young patients that make all the difference as they work together daily to ensure the most positive experiences come out of some of life’s most challenging moments.

Every person who walks through the doors of our hospitals or physicians’ offices, or interacts with any of our programs, becomes part of our family. We strive, each day, to provide compassionate care that keeps our community well, to move forward with purpose and humility, and to continue to learn, grow, and work together.

I thank you for your continued support of what we’re working to accomplish and look forward to what we can do together.  

Thank you.

Denise Jordan (continued from page 1)

Denise crafted her own answer – reporting for chemotherapy or radiation at Baystate Regional Cancer Program’s D’Amour Center for Cancer Care each morning and heading to her City Hall office in the afternoon. Remarkably, she was able to keep her diagnosis one of Springfield’s best-kept secrets. “I didn’t want it to become a distraction from the administration’s work,” she explains.

“I willed myself to be positive,” she remembers that her journey was eased by her spiritual faith and her confidence in Baystate Health.

“I was comforted by the fact that I was in the care of Dr. Grace Makari-Judson and the Baystate team. They were so calming and nurturing. I already knew them through my experience with people served by Rays of Hope – little imagining that I would be a recipient of their care.”

Friends and family

Denise has long been a tireless volunteer for the Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer, which brings together more than 20,000 people every October for an event that raises funds for breast cancer care, research, and support services. (See sidebar) This year, she is serving as event chair.

“I’ve always been honored to be part of this amazing event, and I’m doubly honored to chair the 25th annual Rays of Hope Walk & Run,” says Denise. “Unlike funds we give to national organizations, the funds we raise through Rays of Hope stay right here in our community. Everyone knows someone who has been affected by cancer. By giving to Rays of Hope, we’re helping to treat friends and family.”

“It’s a magical day,” she adds. “Seeing all those people come together in support of individuals with breast cancer – and seeing so many people that you didn’t even know were affected by it – is an amazing thing. I hope everyone who can join us will do so. Your presence, and your gift, will make a real difference in so many lives.”

Celebrating 25 years of Rays of Hope

Lucy Giuggio Carvalho was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer in 1993. In gratitude for the care she received at Baystate Medical Center, she formed Rays of Hope to help support breast cancer patients throughout their cancer journey and into survivorship.

Since its inception in 1994, the Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer has grown from 500 participants to more than 20,000 – and has raised over $14 million, all of which has been distributed locally throughout western Massachusetts.

Awarded in partnership with the Baystate Health Breast Network and Baystate Health Foundation, Rays of Hope funds research at the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research and supports breast cancer programs and services, outreach and education, and many community-based programs and organizations.

Please join us for the 25th Annual Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer on October 21! Give today by texting HOPE to 413-344-2306 or visiting baystatehealth.org/raysofhope.

Thank you.
‘ACEing’ the aging experience with philanthropic support

Pioneer Valley Credit Union supports ACE Unit at Baystate Medical Center

The Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Unit at Baystate Medical Center softly pulses with the soundtracks of patients’ lives – the Big Band sound, doo-wop, Motown, and ’70s pop – along with occasional notes of jazz and opera. Except between the hours of 10 pm and 6 am – when anything that might disrupt sleep is forbidden.

Destination: home

Baystate Health’s ACE Unit is a life-changing care environment designed especially for people coping with the challenges of aging. Patients are at the center of an interdisciplinary system of care provided by nurses, therapists, and other professionals – including geriatricians, on-site pharmacists and other specialists.

Most patients are up and about – practicing everyday tasks, walking with staff members who work as designated “mobility associates” and even dancing to their favorite tunes. These activities are core elements of patients’ care plans, designed to help them live safely and independently in the community.

“Our ultimate goal is to discharge patients – to their own homes, whenever possible – in optimal states of physical and mental health,” explains Andrew Artenstein, MD, Baystate Health’s chief physician executive and chief academic officer. “That means preserving and restoring cognitive and ambulatory function – and addressing any other factors that might leave them vulnerable to falls or threaten their health or independence in other ways – while treating the specific condition or conditions that led to their hospitalization.”

Support on life’s journey

“Older adults often decline while they’re in the hospital,” notes Maura Brennan, MD, chief of the Geriatrics and Post-Acute Medicine Division. “This care model is designed to prevent that decline.”

Delirium is surprisingly common among hospitalized older patients – even among people who are not coping with dementia, notes geriatrician Erin Leahy, MD. “Many factors, including disrupted sleep, minor infections, combinations of certain medicines, relocation and other major life changes – and, after admission, even just the unfamiliar surroundings of the hospital – can quickly lead to disorientation and delirium,” she explains. “That’s why we protect the overnight hours – refraining from blood draws and other interruptions unless absolutely necessary – and why we evaluate and sometimes recalibrate our patients’ medications during their time on the unit.”

For people approaching the end of life, adds Brennan, the ACE team emphasizes spiritual support, effective pain management, and helping patients and families understand what’s ahead and choose the post-acute care options that are best for them.

Sharing the ACE model through philanthropy

The ACE model of care is in place in leading hospitals nationwide, and a growing body of research is revealing its efficacy. Lengths of stay in the hospital are shorter. And more people are going home, rather than to a skilled nursing facility, after discharge.

Baystate Medical Center’s ACE Unit is one of only a handful currently operating in Massachusetts. Our vision is to advance its holistic care model – throughout the hospitals and clinical programs.

Philanthropy will play a key role in making that possible, says Artenstein. “Establishing an ACE Unit requires a significant investment, including intensified investment in clinical talent,” Artenstein explains. “The only way to accelerate development of these dedicated patient care units, staffed by specialized, interdisciplinary teams, is through charitable donations.”

Pioneer Valley Credit Union supports ACE care

Earlier this year, Pioneer Valley Credit Union (PVCU) joined many individual donors in supporting Baystate’s ACE Unit.

“Baystate Health has established a nationally recognized geriatric care model to support our aging community, and we are happy to support this high-quality, compassionate care,” said President and CEO Anabela Grenier. “Many PVCU members are elderly, and we’re proud to provide programs that empower them to be financially stable in their senior years. Through its ACE Unit, Baystate Medical Center also empowers our elderly community to stay healthy and as independent as possible.”

The needs and experiences of the ACE Unit’s patients are universal, notes Artenstein. “Our society is aging, and we all know someone who needs – or will need – this kind of care. Many of us will need it ourselves someday. And many of us have taken care of our aging parents. We welcome the opportunity to partner with our community to bring these services to as many people as possible throughout Baystate Health.”

Pictured (above): ACE patients enjoy socializing – while sustaining their mobility – during walks around the unit with clinical team members.

To learn more about Baystate Medical Center’s ACE Unit – and find out how you can help expand the model to other Baystate Health hospitals – please contact Kathleen Bronner at (413) 794-7798 or kathleen.bronner@baystatehealth.org.
If I have not yet had the pleasure to meet you, please allow me to tell you a bit about my journey to Baystate Health Foundation. Living and working in Greater Springfield since 1994, my wife, Lori, and I have raised four children – three of whom were born at Baystate Medical Center. Over the years, I have held leadership roles at the YMCA of Greater Springfield, Springfield College, and Western New England University. This community is one of which I’m proud to be a part.

In November 2017, I was honored to join Baystate Health Foundation – and to have an opportunity to serve our community in a new way. By funding our health system’s greatest needs, we give our care providers the tools to provide the very best medical treatment to everyone in the communities served by Baystate Health. Thank you for being part of our Baystate Health family and please know how much we appreciate your support. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of our patients, every day. I hope to meet you soon at a Baystate Health Foundation event! In the meantime, I extend our very best wishes for a happy, healthy summer.

Scott Berg
Vice President of Philanthropy, Baystate Health
Executive Director, Baystate Health Foundation

Your gifts matter

Thank you for reading this issue of Impact. With the support of amazing people – people like you and like those who appear in these stories – we are proud to help support a healthier community for all.

Winter/Spring Events in Support of Patient Care

Our community came together throughout winter and spring, at events all over western Massachusetts, to raise funds that will make a tangible difference in patients’ lives. Thank you!

17th Annual 94.7 WMAS Radiothon for Baystate Children’s Hospital
A total of $245,367.15 was raised to support Baystate Children’s Hospital during the 94.7 WMAS Radiothon on March 6-7, 2018! Those who tuned in heard stories of courage and hope from patients, families, and staff at Baystate Children’s Hospital. To everyone who gave, thank you for making Baystate Health Foundation your charity of choice.

12th Annual Children’s Miracle Network for the Kids UDance
After 12 hours of dancing, University of Massachusetts-Amherst students and their guests raised $212,134.97 for Baystate Children’s Hospital (BCH) on April 21, 2018 – surpassing their $200,000 goal and setting a new record for the event. After all the donations were in, they had raised $222,875.81. Thank you to everyone who put on your dancing shoes for BCH!

13th Annual Walk of Champions for Cancer Care & Services at Baystate Mary Lane
A little rain didn’t stop Baystate Mary Lane’s champions from coming out in full force on May 6, 2018. Under the leadership of our event chair, Darlene Sojka, the group of intrepid walkers who were convened at Goodnough Dike at Quabbin Reservoir in Ware were all smiles as they stepped off for this year’s Walk of Champions in support of the Regional Cancer Care Program at Baystate Mary Lane. Pictured are our fearless champions!

27th Annual Baystate Children’s Hospital Golf Tournament
Golfers (including Dr. Andrew Artenstein, Dennis Lopata, Aram Vartanian, and Mark Tolosky) hit the links at Longmeadow Country Club and The Ranch Golf Club on May 21, 2018, for a beautiful day of golf for a great cause, raising funds for Baystate Children’s Hospital.
Katelynn’s Ride Crosses Final Finish Line

Event raised more than $2 million over 17 years to fund care coordination for children with cancer at Baystate Children’s Hospital

There was a moment, a few years ago – about 25 miles into Katelynn’s Ride – when Matt Richardson, MD, felt his energy ebb. “It was early June, and we were riding through the farm fields of Hadley,” he remembers. “The wind was blowing. The rain was hitting us sideways. It was cold.”

He kept going – for the same reason he always keeps going. “My thoughts went to a patient I’d just seen in the hospital, a young girl whose cancer had relapsed. She was about to start another round of treatment. And I thought, if we’re asking her to do that, I can do this.”

Care that only philanthropy can deliver

Every day, as chief of hematology and oncology at Baystate Children’s Hospital, Richardson witnesses the impact of dollars raised by participants in the event affectionately known as “K-Ride,” which was held for 17 years in memory of another brave young girl who battled cancer. (See sidebar.)

Katelynn’s Ride – organized by the same core group of volunteers for 17 years – concluded in June 2017, raising more than $2 million over the course of the event.

For several years, Richardson and other pediatric oncology team members joined the K-Ride team – raising funds and, just as importantly, expressing their gratitude. “The care of a child with cancer is incredibly complex, with so many interdisciplinary services to coordinate – from radiology to surgery to chemotherapy and pharmacy resources,” Richardson explains. “K-Ride funds allowed us to add a nurse practitioner to our team – an experienced clinician whose mission is to tie it all together for families and be their go-to person for questions.”

Tying it all together for families

“If we’re asking her to do that, I can do this.”

Gifts of Gratitude

Baystate Health Foundation’s Gifts of Gratitude program offers a deeply impactful way to honor a physician, nurse, technician, or any member of the Baystate Health family who has contributed to a positive care experience for you or your family – while at the same time benefiting other patients in our care. The team member you wish to recognize will receive your message of thanks, as well as a special commemorative pin that will always remind him or her of your thoughtfulness. And your gift will help to fund the programs, technology, and facilities that support care for patients.

To learn more about Gifts of Gratitude, please contact Kathy Tobin at 413-794-5996 or kathy.tobin@baystatehealth.org.
Thanks for the love, Mary!

Baystate School of Nursing alum leaves a lasting legacy for Baystate Health

In addition to many nursing positions, Mary Dvarecka (pictured in uniform) worked as a flight attendant for American Airlines.

In 1943, Mary Dvarecka graduated from what was then the Springfield Hospital School of Nursing. Fifty-five years later, she made what would be her most powerful charitable gift.

Throughout her life, Mary generously supported patient care at Baystate Health through annual gifts to Baystate Health Foundation. By the time she passed away in January 2015, she had ensured that her legacy of compassion will live on forever. In 1998, Mary had established a charitable trust to support the mission of the Foundation.

Gifts from Mary’s trust will provide a permanent source of income for areas of care that were close to Mary’s heart: scholarship funds for nursing students who are following in her professional footsteps, medical research, and access to medical services for people in need.

Mary’s gift celebrates both her love for patients and the love of her life, Colonel Alterio “Terry” Gallerani, an Air Force veteran and her devoted husband for more than 40 years. Her generosity honors the legacy of their life together and will support high-quality care in our community for generations to come.

To learn more about how you can leave a lasting impact and honor a loved one, contact Kylie Johnson at 413-794-7789 or kylie.johnson@baystatehealth.org.

save the date:

Looking to have some fun while supporting a great cause? We’d love to see you at a Baystate Health Foundation event!

15th Annual Max Golf Classic for Baystate Children’s Hospital
July 30, 2018
Springfield Country Club
West Springfield, MA

13th Annual Baystate Wing Golf Tournament
October 1, 2018
Wilbraham Country Club
Wilbraham, MA

25th Annual Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer
October 21, 2018
Temple Beth El
Springfield, MA
baystatehealth.org/raysofhope

54th Annual Baystate Noble Ball
November 3, 2018
MassMutual Center
Springfield, MA
baystatehealth.org/nobleball

11th Annual Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals Extra Life Gaming Marathon for Baystate Children’s Hospital
November 2018
extra-life.org

Robert Charles Photography
Holiday Portrait Promotion for Baystate Children’s Hospital
December 2018
robertcharlesphoto.com

To learn more about our events at baystatehealth.org/giving/our-events.