

20 | Annual 20 | Report



**Richmond University
Medical Center**

Message From the Board of Trustees Chair



Dear Friends of the Hospital,

It's been quite a year.

Few could have imagined the challenges that 2020 would bring. The COVID-19 pandemic has devastated our city and community — and Richmond University Medical Center has been at the frontlines of the fight, ever since our first COVID-19 patient was admitted in the spring. Every day since, our doctors and nurses have been absolutely extraordinary — compassionate, dedicated, courageous, innovative, and willing to do whatever it takes to care for our patients and their families. And that goes for our entire hospital staff as well, from our lab techs to our orderlies to our administrators to our volunteers. Everyone in the RUMC community has had their daily lives turned upside down by COVID-19. Everyone pulled together right from the start to go above and beyond during an unprecedented crisis. It's been truly remarkable to witness. I couldn't be prouder of this hospital or more honored to be a part of it.

This pandemic has been a harrowing ordeal, to say the least—and it's not over yet. But the RUMC community will continue to rise to the occasion, because that's what we've done from the beginning. We will keep providing the world-class care for all our patients. We will continue to be there for their families during this scary and painful time. And I sincerely believe our hospital will come through this stronger in the end. We already have.

Throughout 2020, while dealing with the daily reality of COVID-19, we at RUMC continued to make investments

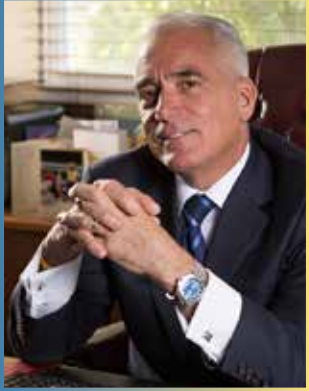
in our hospital, to expand key programs as well as existing lines of service. We've continued to explore new opportunities and ventures to improve the overall health of the communities we serve. We have a responsibility to do all we can to increase access to quality health care on Staten Island, so all Staten Islanders, no matter their zip code, can get the care they need and lead healthier, more fulfilling lives. We take that mission very seriously. Staten Island is a big place and part of an even bigger city, but it's also a hometown where people look out for each other and lean on each other. We've felt that deeply throughout 2020, and our commitment to this borough has grown even deeper this year, too.

That's why I want to end 2020 with a simple message: thank you. Thank you for being part of the Richmond University Medical Center family. Thank you for cheering us on and having our backs during one of the toughest years we've ever endured. Thank you for your hard work, your sacrifices, your nights away from your families, your willingness to go above and beyond for our patients and team. Years like this one teach us how important community is, and we've got a great one. On behalf of my fellow trustees and everyone in the senior administration: we couldn't be more grateful. And we wish you and your families a happy and healthy 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rooney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kathryn K. Rooney
Chair, Board of Trustees

Message From the President & Chief Executive Officer



Consider my brief message a prelude to a journey over the past year told through this annual report. It is a journey filled with remarkable healthcare advancements and incredible organizational milestones, all of which position Richmond University Medical Center at the forefront of improving the overall health of our community.

Despite the proud accomplishments throughout this report, I must pause to express my continued admiration and profound respect for our RUMC family, who confronted the COVID-19 pandemic head on. There was no challenge insurmountable, and no inch of the battlefield yielded in the defense of those in our care. The Herculean effort undertaken by so many in our hospital is testament to the courage and commitment of everyone, supported by the passion of our board of trustees to our front line physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, lab techs, housekeeping, and so many more.

Against the backdrop of the pandemic, our reputation for providing advanced, quality emergent, acute, primary, and behavioral health services continued to expand. We earned national accreditation for our comprehensive service lines, including advanced stroke care, and for state-of-the-art radiologic technology at our Center for Cancer Care. Our oncology department also entered its 83rd consecutive year of accreditation by the American College of Surgeons, further solidifying RUMC as Staten Island's longest nationally accredited cancer care program. Recognizing the tremendous talent within our ranks, we advanced several of our medical staff to leadership

positions, including, but not limited to, our new Vice Chair of Surgery, Alex Barkan, MD; new Chief of Pulmonary Medicine, Keith Diaz, MD; new Chair of Medicine, Philip Otterbeck, MD; and our new Chair of Cardiology, Francesco Rotatori, MD. Seeking out the most skilled medical minds from outside our institution, we also recruited top talent in emergency medicine, ophthalmology, and pediatric hematology/oncology, to name just a few, through the additions of Johnathon LeBaron, MD; David Mustafavi, MD; and Mario Petchiev, MD. This talent enhances our ability to continue meeting the healthcare needs of our community.

As we enter a new year, we have so much to be optimistic about. Vaccinations for COVID-19 are underway, turning the tide even more against the virus. We also continue to make the necessary investments to further secure our role as the community's premier choice for quality healthcare services. This includes our upcoming expansion projects, most notably our new Emergency Department, upgraded surgical ICU rooms, and modernized, private mother-baby maternity rooms, just to name a few. We have been here for our community for over 115 years and will continue to do so for generations to come!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Messina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer

Appreciation from our Grateful Patients

Dear Dr. Messina,

On Saturday, November 16, I was brought to the emergency room by ambulance after a rather concerning fall. Through it all, please know that each and every one of your staff, including physicians, nurses, accounting staff, transport, and technicians did everything possible to extend to me their care, courtesy, patience, and expertise. I recognize the challenges that the staff and hospital may face in extending critical care to everyone, especially under trying circumstances. I commend and thank each and every staff member for continuing to extend the necessary care that is so important to providing quality and compassionate healthcare. Again many thanks.

Sincerely, Helene S.

Thank you to all the Labor and Delivery nurses for all the help on the birth of our daughter. You are all amazing!!

Sincerely, The DiGiorgio Family



Dear Respected Hospital Staff,

On the evening of November 14, after playing for the school soccer team to win the last match of this season, my son felt a serious pain in the stomach and vomited about four or five times. He was sent to the hospital early the next morning. At first, he was diagnosed with appendicitis and told that only an easy and short surgery operation was needed. It seemed that the problem he was facing was not so severe. But more surprising news came: the originally planned operation was canceled; he needed to be in the hospital for more days; he wasn't allowed to eat or drink anything. Being so worried about him, I took the earliest flight from China and found he was very weak when I arrived at his bedside. Eight days passed, things didn't get any better and we started to feel panic and desperation. All the doctors and nurses were trying their best to help. They offered everything they could think of to make us feel even a little bit comfortable—clean sheets, encouraging words, warm hugs. I will never forget Bella, Amanda, Cristin, Susan, John, Peter and many others.

The one who I want to thank most is Dr Gilchrist. Literally, Dr Gilchrist saved my son's life by a timely and successful operation and by helping

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him avoid another operation caused by a bowel obstruction he had after the surgery. Dr Gilchrist is an expert not only in curing patients physically, but also in healing others mentally. He treated my son just like his own. After the operation, he came to visit us as often as he could. He observed the development of the disease closely and gave us the confidence to fight bravely. Thinking of the language barrier, he invited a Chinese doctor friend to provide translation to make sure of clear communications. As a foreigner, feeling alone and helpless at the beginning, I was later deeply touched by Dr Gilchrist's professionalism and kindness. Once a nurse told my son, "You are the apple in Doctor Gilchrist's eyes." What they said is what Dr Gilchrist did indeed. No words can fully express our gratitude to him.

I am lucky to have my son back home again. He is now getting close to full recovery. Life will move on, but our feeling of gratitude will never fade.

— *Shimin Z.*



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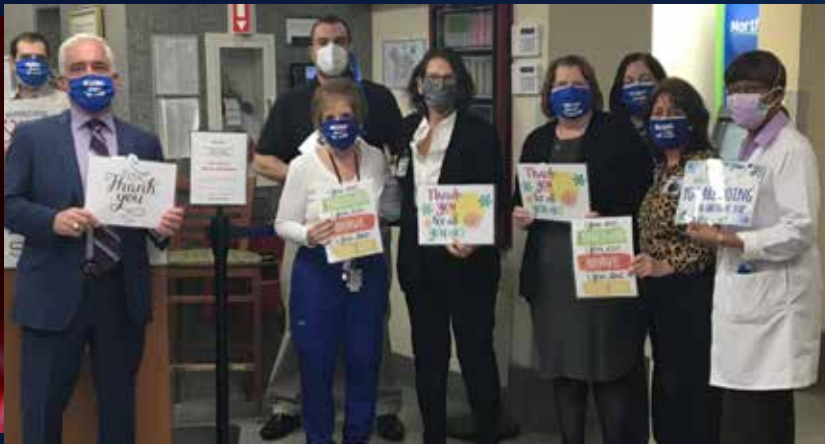
Reflections on Our COVID-19 Pandemic Response

The COVID-19 pandemic left a permanent mark on Staten Island, including Richmond University Medical Center. Yet despite the weeks of hardship, stress, fatigue, and loss, inspirational stories and experiences arose from the darkest days, serving as a reminder that there is always a rainbow after every storm. Many of the lessons learned from the response to COVID-19 have changed the delivery of healthcare for the foreseeable future.

As cases of COVID-19 began to spread across the United States, eventually hitting New York State in early March, Richmond University Medical Center was already preparing for an anticipated

triage patients faster through the emergency department and ensure isolation from non-COVID-19 patients, a temporary tent, secured by former Congressman Max Rose and Staten Island Borough President James Oddo, was erected outside the ambulance entrance to the ED.

The first COVID-19 patient was admitted to RUMC on March 14. Three weeks later over 140 COVID-19 positive individuals were being cared for as inpatients with many more being monitored by RUMC physicians as they quarantined at home. On April 8, RUMC would reach its peak inpatient volume with 210 COVID-19 patients admitted, over 50 in the ICU. Medical staff kept up on the latest scientific



patient surge of epic proportions. Working closely with the New York State Department of Health, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and local elected officials, RUMC quickly acquired the necessary equipment including beds, ventilators, and PPE. Well before the governor's mandate that all hospitals needed to increase their patient capacity by 50 percent, RUMC had already successfully increased its med-surge beds from 128 beds to 239 and nearly tripled its Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds from 26 to 71 beds. To

developments and medically proven courses of treatment, including the use of convalescent plasma and "proning," a technique where the patient is placed on their stomach, which was found to ease breathing difficulties. Throughout the hospital compassion, determination, and motivation were found as medical staff from all specialty care areas assumed roles in the emergency department and ICU as well as on the floors caring for COVID-19 patients.

As April progressed, hope sprung anew as COVID-19 inpatient volume dropped and staff took part in warm sendoffs as patients returned home after days or weeks of care. Staff who recovered from their own bouts with COVID-19 returned to work, eager to join their colleagues in turning the tide on the virus. The community and elected officials showed their support daily through donations of food and PPE, and by standing outside weekday evenings to applaud the thousands of essential workers inside the hospital. By the end of April, fewer than 100 COVID-19 patients were still in-house and on May 1, RUMC discharged its largest single day total of COVID-19 patients as 16 people went home to their families.



In the months that followed, COVID-19 volume continued to decline and by June many of the hospital's elective surgeries and procedures resumed. Full services returned to the Richmond Health Network offices and outpatient sites such as the Center for Cancer Care and Breast and Women's Center. To better assist patients with their long-term and short-term recovery from COVID-19, RUMC opened its comprehensive Post COVID-19 Care Center. In addition to helping

patients, the center serves as a critical research site, allowing medical staff to gather information that will better prepare RUMC for future outbreaks and help direct clinical areas to grow and expand based on the needs of patients in their recovery.

Until the vaccine is more widely distributed, the brave heroes of Richmond University Medical Center will continue to be there on the front line battling COVID-19, saving lives with a dedication and commitment to their patients that knows no bounds!



In Memoriam

Richmond University Medical Center sends its deepest condolences to all the families of those lost during the pandemic, especially our beloved colleagues.

William Langley

Dietary Cook
45 years of service

Margaret Venditti

Birth Registrar
19 years of service

Mary Ellen Porter

Nurse Manager
29 years of service

We will keep you in our hearts. You will never be forgotten.



Richmond University Medical Center wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to those who generously supported our COVID-19 Relief Fund. Through this special fund, we received donations totaling over \$258,000. We also received over 27,600 meals, and 115,000 pieces of PPE from community businesses, organizations, and individuals. Our morale was continuously boosted by the numerous food truck visits, snacks, toiletries, and clothing donations, just to name a few of the items sent in support of our frontline workers. Thank you for your generosity, support, and kind messages! You have made a difference in our lives!







JANUARY

1) First Baby of the New Decade Born at Richmond University Medical Center

At the stroke of midnight, Anthony Saraceno, Jr., became the first baby born in the new decade at Richmond University Medical and tied for one of the first babies born in New York City. Anthony weighed in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and is the first child born to proud parents Anthony Sr. and Michelle Saraceno of Eltingville. On average, over 3,000 babies are welcomed into the world each year at Richmond University Medical Center. There are also approximately 600 annual admissions to the hospital's highly acclaimed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), which has one of the highest survival rates in the country, 997 out of every 1,000 births.

2) Local Non-Profit Donates Handmade Pillows for Breast Cancer Patients

Richmond University Medical Center welcomed Cancer Tamer founder Dr. Charley Ferrer and supporters of her organization to the hospital's Breast and Women's Center, where they donated 50 handmade lymphedema pillows for distribution to breast cancer patients. Cancer Tamer Foundation is a local Staten Island-based non-profit launched to help women and men with breast cancer. Lymphedema pillows are used by patients who have undergone breast surgery and lymph node removal. These special pillows help alleviate pain and provide comfort. The pillows were distributed to patients undergoing treatment at RUMC's Breast and Women's Center, the Center for Cancer Care, and the main hospital.

3) Center for Cancer Care Earns American College of Radiology Accreditation

Richmond University Medical Center's Center for Cancer Care was awarded three-year accreditation in Positron Emission Tomography (PET) by the American College of Radiology (ACR). The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR practice parameters and technical standards after a peer-review evaluation by board certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Radiologists assess PET imaging to locate cancers, determine if a cancer has spread, evaluate if a cancer-related treatment is effective, and to see if there is a re-occurrence of cancer in a patient.



FEBRUARY

1) Enlightening the Minds of Future Healthcare Providers

Christopher Lisi, MD, chief, division of ENT (Otolaryngology), Head & Neck Surgery, spoke to the medical technology students at Tottenville High School, sharing the latest advancements in the field of ear, nose, and throat treatments. He also shared his background, experiences, and provided advice as the students consider careers in medicine.

2) RUMC Promotes Cancer Awareness at Black History Month Celebration

On February 8, staff from Richmond University Medical Center's oncology department discussed the importance of cancer screenings and risk factors for several types of cancer at the annual Black History Month celebration at St. Philip's Church in Port Richmond. Over 70 people attending the event were provided with information on the prevalence of cancer, particularly on the north shore of Staten Island, and in minority populations.

3) NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Deputy Commissioner Visits RUMC

On February 11, Dr. Demetre Daskalakis provided an update on the city's efforts to address HIV/AIDS. As deputy commissioner, Dr. Daskalakis is the head of HIV/AIDS prevention and all infectious disease programs for New York City. He has been a career-long physician activist in the area of HIV treatment and prevention, with a focus on the LGBTQ communities.

4) Community and Healthcare Leaders Begin COVID-19 Preparations

On February 28, over 30 healthcare and community leaders met at Richmond University Medical Center to discuss coronavirus preparation on Staten Island and needed resources. The meeting included former Congressman Max Rose, Staten Island Borough President James Oddo, and RUMC President and CEO Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE. They were joined by physicians from RUMC and Northwell-SIUH, representatives from HHC, Gov. Andrew Cuomo, and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.



1) Philip Otterbeck, MD, Named New Chair of Medicine

Philip Otterbeck, MD, was promoted to chair of medicine for Richmond University Medical Center. Dr. Otterbeck has been on staff since 2012. As chair of medicine, Dr. Otterbeck focuses on medical education, research, recruitment, quality, and communication with community physicians. He also continues to serve as chief of endocrinology.

2) Elected Officials Secure Triage Tent for COVID-19 Patient Surge

Former Congressman Max Rose and Staten Island Borough President James Oddo secured two military-style triage tents to assist RUMC in its preparation for the COVID-19 patient surge as the number of cases continued to rise throughout the borough and New York City. The tents provided isolation of suspected COVID-19 patients from other patients seeking care at the hospital's emergency department for non-coronavirus related conditions.

3) Richmond University Medical Center Sets Up Hotline for COVID-19 Anxiety

As cases of COVID-19 began to increase on Staten Island and across New York City, Richmond University Medical Center set up a 24-hour hotline to support people feeling stressed or full of anxiety. Callers were connected directly to clinical staff from the hospital's department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. Over 100 people accessed the hotline in the first 30 days.

4) Local Business Designs Face Shields for Richmond University Medical Center

To protect healthcare workers working directly with COVID-19 patients, Staten Island-based Solvelight Robotics designed and donated face shields to Richmond University Medical Center on March 27. Solvelight Robotics printed the face shields for the hospital using its 3D printers and a combination of in-stock materials and protective plastic.



APRIL

1) Warm Send-Off for COVID-19 Patient

On April 10, physicians, nurses, and staff gave a thunderous sendoff full of applause and cheers to Edwina Cain, a Staten Island resident treated and released after testing positive for COVID-19 and spending five days on a ventilator. Cain, 38, was transported to RUMC by EMS on April 3 and immediately placed on a ventilator. Over the next few days, Cain fought off the virus with the help of her doctors and nurses, and was finally removed from her ventilator on April 7. Eight days later, she was discharged to the care of her family. To express her gratitude to the staff, Cain returned to the hospital on April 24 to deliver food from Shake Shack, where she worked.

2) Easter Treats and PPE Donated to Staff

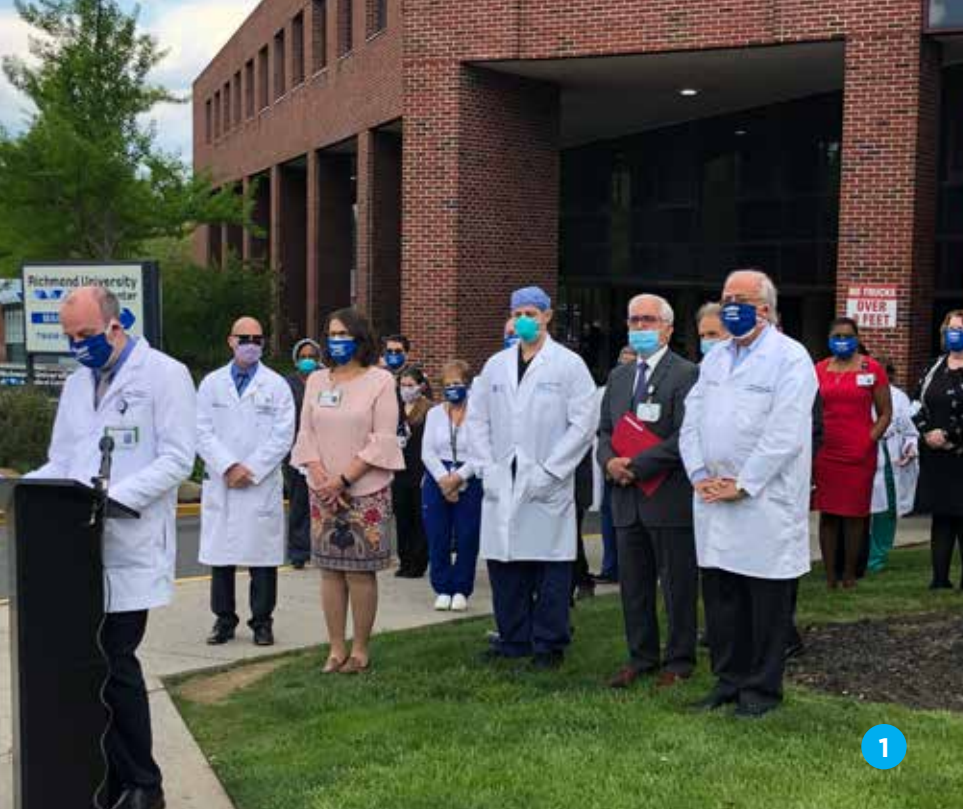
On April 13, to show appreciation for staff during the COVID-19 outbreak and to ensure that staff working at the hospital were able to celebrate Easter, several companies played the role of the Easter Bunny, donating candy and chocolate along with masks and surgical gowns. Hundreds of candy-filled eggs, baskets, gift bags, and wrapped bunnies were placed throughout the hospital lobby for staff. The companies who donated the Easter extravaganza were Neiman Marcus, Joann Stores, SAP, CVS, and Gifted Staten Island.

3) Pediatric COVID-19 Patient Discharged

On April 14, one of the youngest patients treated for COVID-19 was sent home to the loving arms of his family after a joyous sendoff from hospital staff. The patient was treated by Melissa Grageda, MD, and many of the nurses and staff in the hospital's pediatrics department.

4) Mayor de Blasio Visits RUMC, Delivers PPE

On April 20, Mayor Bill de Blasio visited Richmond University Medical Center to personally deliver PPE including masks, gloves, gowns, and face shields. The mayor thanked the staff for their heroic efforts during the pandemic and pledged the continued support of the city for any resources needed by the hospital to protect staff and help in the treatment of patients.



1) Separate Emergency Departments Created for COVID-19 Care and General Emergency Services

On May 1, Richmond University Medical Center announced it re-configured and split its Level-1 Adult Trauma and Level-II Pediatric Trauma Emergency Department into two completely separate care units: one for COVID-19 patients only and one for all other general emergency services. The separation was critical to optimize patient safety and address fears among the general public about contracting the COVID-19 virus if they entered a hospital. Despite continuously dropping COVID-19 cases citywide, this fear led many individuals to delay seeking emergency care for acute, life-threatening conditions, including heart attacks and strokes.

2) Dr. Francesco Rotatori, MD, FACC, Promoted to Chief of Cardiology

Francesco Rotatori, MD, FACC, was promoted to the position of chief of cardiology. Dr. Rotatori is board certified in internal medicine, nuclear cardiology, echocardiography, cardiovascular disease, and interventional cardiology. He is also a fellow of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Rotatori had been serving as the hospital's associate chief of cardiology. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Rotatori and his team directly cared for many patients, most of them in the hospital's intensive care units. Dr. Rotatori completed medical school in 2001 at the Università degli Studi in Milan.

3) Pediatric Patient Discharged After Battle with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

On May 27, Richmond University Medical Center gave a warm sendoff to a 16-year-old patient from Staten Island after his battle with multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C). The patient was diagnosed with COVID-19 in early May and admitted to RUMC when he developed symptoms of MIS-C. Following treatment by a team of physicians, nurses, and clinical professionals led by Melissa Grageda, MD, the patient was discharged to his family.

4) Local Students Come Together to Donate Children's Masks for RUMC Clinic

Two Staten Island Technical High School alums, Dr. Sonya Bakshi, psychiatry resident at NYU Langone Medical Center, and Winnie Huang, strategy advisor with the New York City Department of Education, joined forces with their families to donate handmade masks to children being cared for at Richmond University Medical Center's pediatric ambulatory clinic, located at 800 Castleton Avenue in West Brighton. Within one week, Masks for Minors designed, fabricated, and delivered 100 masks to the clinic.



JUNE

1) Comprehensive Post COVID-19 Care Center Opens

In early June, Richmond University Medical Center opened its Post COVID-19 Care Center. To help individuals in their immediate recovery and long-term care, the center features experts in pulmonary care, cardiology, infectious disease, psychiatry, behavioral health, physiatry, and additional areas of healthcare.

2) New York State Approves RUMC to Resume Elective Outpatient Surgeries and Non-Urgent Procedures

On June 5, the New York State Department of Health approved Richmond University Medical Center to resume scheduling of non-essential elective outpatient surgeries and non-urgent procedures at the hospital and throughout all of its outpatient facilities. The NYS DOH confirmed that Richmond University Medical Center met its criteria and requirements for healthcare facilities to resume elective outpatient surgeries and procedures including appropriate staffing, and adequate supplies of PPE for all staff and patients.

3) COVID-19 Patient Discharged After Over 40 Days on Ventilator

On June 17, 51-year-old Brian Volpini was discharged from Richmond University Medical Center after recovering from COVID-19. Admitted on April 20, Volpini spent over 40 days on a ventilator to help him breathe while his body fought against the virus. Volpini was admitted by ambulance to RUMC and placed almost immediately on a ventilator to assist his breathing. From the time he was admitted to his discharge, Volpini spent his entire stay in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

4) Thank You to Out-of-State Nurses Who Came to Battle COVID-19

When Staten Island needed them most, they came. Nurses from all across the country, trained in all different specialties. They came in March and April at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic here in New York City. On June 26, RUMC expressed its thanks and unending gratitude to almost 80 of these nurses as they began making plans to return home. The hospital held a "grab and go" breakfast early that morning as the nurses arrived for their shift or left after completing their overnight duties. The nurses were assigned to RUMC by New York City to provide support during the height of the pandemic.



1



American Heart Association.

2020
GET WITH THE
GUIDELINES.

GOLD PLUS

TARGET: STROKE HONOR ROLL ELITE

STROKE

2

1) Warm Send-Off to 60-Year-Old COVID-19 Survivor

On July 7, hospital staff said good-bye to Silvestre Flores, 60, who recovered from COVID-19 after a 90 day battle, over 60 of them spent sedated and on a ventilator. Flores was admitted on April 5. He arrived by ambulance and was placed on a ventilator. After 46 days, he became well enough to be removed. However, the virus, still in his body, forced him to be placed back on a ventilator for more than two weeks. Thanks to his strong will power and his team of medical professionals, Flores made a full recovery and returned to his family.

2) Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award Presented to RUMC

Richmond University Medical Center received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award. RUMC earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients. These measures included evaluation of the proper use of medications and other stroke treatments aligned with the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines designed to speed recovery and reduce death and disability for stroke patients. The hospital also received the Association's Target: Stroke Elite Honor Roll award. To qualify for this recognition, RUMC met quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke.



AUGUST

1) RUMC Launches Benefit Program for Military Members

As a thank you to members of the United States Armed Forces, RUMC introduced its Military VIP program, offering discounts and exclusive benefits for veterans seeking care at the hospital or its primary care sites across the borough. Active, retired, or reserve members of the United States military can enroll in the program at no cost. Benefits of the program include same-day scheduling at RUMC's Immediate Care/Primary Care/Walk In Centers; free parking; free patient room television and/or telephone service when admitted; and discounts at the hospital gift shop. A special 24/7 behavioral health hotline has also been set up to assist veterans who may need support for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or any behavioral health issue.

2) Rita Shats, MD, FACOG, Becomes First Physician on Staten Island to Achieve Board Certification in Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology

Rita Shats, MD, FACOG, achieved board certification in pediatric and adolescent gynecology, making her the first OB/GYN on Staten Island to achieve this specialized certification. Dr. Shats is a leading provider of gynecology services for young women's reproductive and sexual health issues, including irregular or heavy menstruation cycles, delayed puberty, ovarian cysts, endometriosis, vaginal infections, and sexually transmitted diseases. The certification was her third; she is also board certified in obstetrics and gynecology as well as cosmetic gynecology. Dr. Shats is RUMC's associate director of gynecology and director of the hospital's family planning clinic.

3) David Mostafavi, MD, Named New Chair of Ophthalmology

A board certified member of the American Board of Ophthalmology, American Academy of Ophthalmology, and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, David Mostafavi, MD, was appointed as the hospital's new chair of ophthalmology. Dr. Mostafavi received his medical degree from New Jersey Medical School (Rutgers) and subsequently completed his ophthalmology residency at SUNY Downstate. In his new role, Dr. Mostafavi will oversee RUMC's Advanced Eye and Vision Care Center, which provides a full range of ophthalmology services including routine vision exams, diabetic eye exams, glaucoma screenings, pediatric exams, and diagnosis of ocular disorders and diseases.



SEPTEMBER

1) Richmond University Medical Center Remembers September 11, 2001

Through a sea of masks, Richmond University Medical Center paid tribute to the victims of the attacks on September 11, 2001, with a ceremony in front of the hospital's 9/11 memorial on Bard Avenue. Hospital staff, residents, veterans, and community leaders participated in the ceremony, which included tributes, a moment of silence, and reflections from first responders who participated in the rescue operations in Lower Manhattan 19 years ago.

2) Executive Club of Staten Island Donates \$5,000 for New Emergency Department

As a show of appreciation for the hospital's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and for its continuing efforts to improve the quality of healthcare on Staten Island, the Executive Club of Staten Island, Inc., presented a \$5,000 donation to assist with construction of the hospital's new state-of-the-art emergency department, which will be completed in spring 2022.

3) Free At-Home Colorectal Cancer Screening Kits Provided by Oncology Department

To promote the importance of early screening for colorectal cancer, Richmond University Medical Center distributed free at-home test kits to over 80 individuals, 45 years or older. Completed kits returned to the hospital were assessed by the oncology department and individuals were contacted within 48 hours about their results. The distribution to the public was decided following the sudden death of actor Chadwick Boseman at the age of 43 from colon cancer.

4) Richmond Quality ACO Earns High Quality Marks, Saves Medicare Money

Richmond Quality ACO, an affiliate of Richmond University Medical Center and Richmond Health Network, improved care for over 9,000 Medicare beneficiaries on Staten Island and saved Medicare over \$7.2 million by meeting quality and cost goals in 2019. The Richmond Quality ACO earned a quality score of 96 percent on performance measures, including preventing avoidable hospitalizations. The \$7.2 million gross savings to Medicare resulted in a shared savings payment of over \$3.46 million to Richmond Quality ACO, which will be used to continue the work of improving population health in Staten Island.



OCTOBER

1) Richmond University Medical Center Marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Hospital staff, breast cancer survivors, and community leaders marked Breast Cancer Awareness Month with a ceremony honoring those lost to the disease, to celebrate the courage of survivors, and to support those currently battling breast cancer. During the ceremony, a pink flag was raised to the top of the hospital's flagpole by breast cancer survivors and pink ribbon lawn markers with the names of survivors or those lost to breast cancer were planted in front of the hospital as part of a Garden of Hope.

2) Beam Signing Ceremony Held for New Emergency Department

Local dignitaries, donors, and the medical staff celebrated the next phase of construction on the hospital's new advanced, state-of-the-art emergency department with a beam signing ceremony on October 27. Over 50 people attended the event. The white beam will be the first beam installed as the steel structure of the new emergency department begins to take shape.

3) Alex Barkan, MD, Named New Vice Chair for Department of Surgery

Alex Barkan, MD, MBA, FACS, FASMBS, was appointed the new vice chair for the department of surgery. Dr. Barkan has been a leading surgeon at the hospital since 2018. Dr. Barkan received his medical degree from St. George's School of Medicine in Grenada, and did his surgical training at both Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia, and Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn. He completed his bariatric and minimally invasive surgery fellowships in Princeton, NJ, and at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

4) RUMC Honored For Its Assistance to the Community

In recognition of the hospital's continuous efforts to assist the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Staten Island Long Term Recovery Organization (SI LTRO) presented President and CEO Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, and Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nurse Officer Rosemarie Stazzone, RN, MS, CNE, with its Hero Award. The award was presented on October 29 during the SI LTRO's candlelight vigil to commemorate the 8th anniversary of Superstorm Sandy's landfall in New York City.



NOVEMBER

1) New Employee Parking Lot Opens

Richmond University Medical Center officially opened its new employee parking lot, which marks the first in a series of major improvement projects to reach completion over the next few years. The new parking lot has over 200 new parking spaces for employees, providing easier access to the hospital and removing vehicles from nearby residential streets. The new parking lot also features lighting, new trees, shrubs and landscaping along the surrounding perimeter, as well as the “Blue Light” emergency security system.

2) Virtual Gala Held to Support New ED Construction

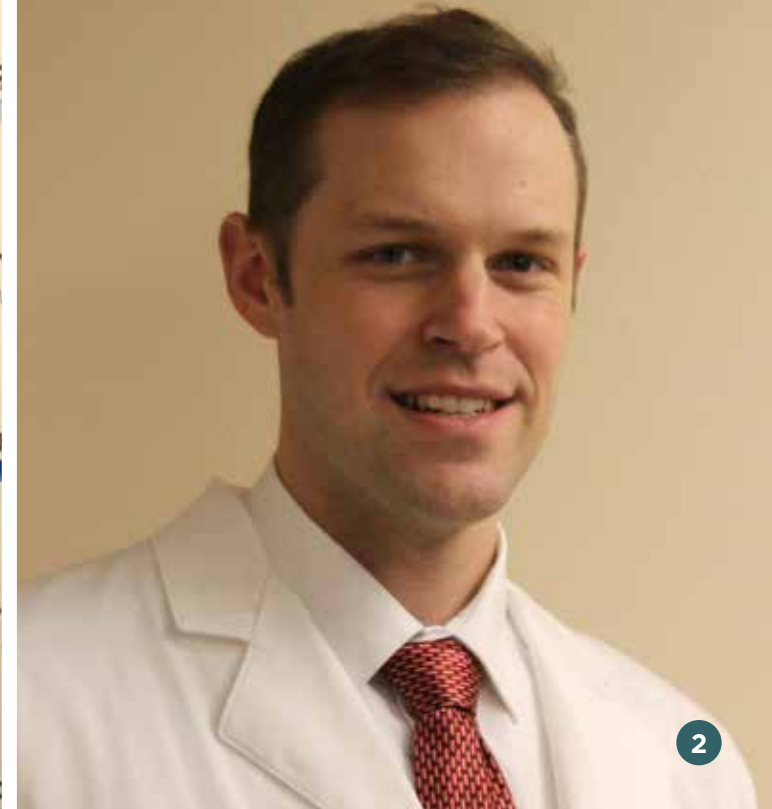
Even the COVID-19 pandemic could not slow the show of support for Richmond University Medical Center, which has served Staten Island for over 115 years. The hospital held its annual gala, virtually, on the evening of November 19. The two-hour event raised more than \$250,000 for the construction of the hospital’s new emergency department. The event was held live on location following all COVID-19 safety protocols and featured a series of taped segments highlighting this year’s honorees: the entire medical staff of RUMC.

3) New Director of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Appointed

Mario Peichev, MD, has been appointed director of pediatric hematology and oncology. Dr. Peichev has over 20 years of experience specializing in the areas of pediatric blood disorders, oncology, leukemia, anemias, and hemophilia. Dr. Peichev is a native of Bulgaria who completed his residency at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and his fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan.

4) New Vice President of Information Technology and Support Services Announced

Tom Pagano was named the new vice president of information technology and support services. Pagano comes to RUMC with over two decades of successful IT experience and a proven record of successfully transforming technology operations in healthcare, educational, and government institutions. Prior to RUMC, Pagano was the vice president and chief information officer of Johnson County Community College. Pagano has a master of science degree in public administration/information systems from Carnegie Mellon University, and a bachelor of administration degree in economics/computer science from the University of Pittsburgh.



DECEMBER

1) First COVID-19 Vaccinations Administered

Front line healthcare workers who have been treating COVID-19 patients since the spring received the first inoculations of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on December 15. Following guidance from the New York State Department of Health, vaccinations were provided to the medical staff so they can protect themselves, patients, and their families. Among the first to receive the new vaccine was Jay Nfonoyim, MD, vice chair of Medicine, program director of Internal Medicine, and chief of Critical Care.

2) New Chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine Takes the Helm

Johnathon LeBaron, DO, FACEP, was appointed the new chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine. Prior to RUMC, Dr. LeBaron served as the medical director of the Adult Emergency Department at New York Presbyterian-Queens, located in Flushing. Under his direction, the emergency department treated over 100,000 patients annually. Dr. LeBaron has a bachelor of science degree in physio-neuro biology and molecular cellular biology from the University of Connecticut. He attended medical school at UMNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine, and completed his residency in emergency medicine at New York Presbyterian-Queens.

3) Keith Diaz, MD, Appointed Chief of the Division of Pulmonary Medicine

Keith Diaz, MD, was appointed chief of the Division of Pulmonary Medicine. Since 2011, Dr. Diaz has worked as an intensivist and consulting pulmonologist at RUMC. He also serves as director of the hospital's lung screening program and is part of the medical leadership team overseeing multiple clinical specialists treating patients in their long-term and short-term recovery from COVID-19 at RUMC's Post COVID-19 Care Center. A graduate of Ross University School of Medicine and lifelong Staten Island resident, Dr. Diaz completed his residency in internal medicine on Staten Island at then-St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center. He then completed additional training in surgical critical care medicine at Mount Sinai, followed by a pulmonary/critical care fellowship at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

4) New Chief Financial Officer Announced

David Murray, MBA, FHFMA, was announced as the new senior vice president and chief financial officer. Murray brings over 25 years of healthcare finance expertise to RUMC. Prior to joining RUMC, Murray was vice president of finance for the Inspira Health Network, which services patients in five counties of New Jersey. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Rider University and an MBA from Eastern University. He is also a New Jersey certified public accountant and a fellow in the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

KEY STATS

EMPLOYEES

2,077

LICENSED BEDS

473

BIRTHS

2,974

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS
(TREATED AND RELEASED)

65,000

PHYSICIANS ON STAFF

610

RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER'S AWARD-WINNING QUALITY CARE

Accreditations

- American Association of Blood Banks (AABB)
- American College of Radiology
- American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer
- College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC)
- New York State Dept of Health (NYSDOH)
- The Joint Commission (TJC)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

- Primary Stroke
- Trauma
- WHO & Unicef Designated "Baby-Friendly Hospital"

Certifications

- The Joint Commission — Gold Seal
- The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Certification:
 - Advanced Primary Stroke

Verifications

- American College of Surgeons: Trauma Services — Adult Level I & Pediatric Level II

Awards

- American Heart Association — Mission Lifeline 2019 Quality Achievement award:
 - STEMI - Bronze
- American Heart Association Get with the Guidelines Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus Gold Plus

Designations

- NYS Department of Health:
 - Level I Adult Trauma
 - Level II Pediatric Trauma

Recognition

- International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) Excellence in Lactation Care
- National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) NYS Patient Centered Medical Home
- Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Program Center of Excellence
- CDC Recognized National Diabetes Prevention Program

Resident Education

- Sponsoring Institution for Graduate Medical Education by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
- ACGME Accredited Fellowship in Hematology /Oncology
- Continued Accreditation in Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Radiology programs by the ACGME
- Fully Accredited Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) Podiatry Program
- Accreditation of Advanced GI Minimally Invasive Fellowship
- Island Peer Review Organization (IPRO) successful on-site visit regarding duty hours and supervision



"BABY-FRIENDLY HOSPITAL" DESIGNATION



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THROUGH A FULL SPECTRUM OF EMERGENT, ACUTE, PRIMARY,
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IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES THE HIGHEST SATISFACTION
AMONG PATIENTS, FAMILIES, PHYSICIANS, AND STAFF.



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