

## New Comprehensive Sleep and Diagnostic Studies Center Unveiled



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New center designed to diagnose and treat sleep-related and neurological conditions. **Story on page 3.**



## From the President & CEO Daniel J. Messina, PhD, MPA, FACHE

Another holiday season is upon us and soon the start of brand new year. I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you. This is a time of gratitude, reflection, and hope—and I am

profoundly grateful for the extraordinary accomplishments, compassion, and unwavering commitment you demonstrate each and every day. Your dedication to those we serve lights up our community, even in the most challenging moments, and continues to inspire all who depend on us.

As President and CEO, I want to personally thank you for the remarkable care you deliver and for the strength and spirit you bring to our mission. What you do matters deeply—to me, to our patients, to our families, and to Staten Island. I am honored to stand with each of you.

I also want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the families and friends who support our team. Their encouragement allows you to do the extraordinary work you do, often under difficult and demanding circumstances.

To our medical staff and to our Board of Trustees, thank you for your steadfast leadership and guidance during some of the most complex times in the lifecycle of our industry. Your partnership is invaluable.

May this holiday season bring peace, joy, and well-deserved rest to you and your loved ones. And may the new year ahead be filled with health, happiness, and renewed hope.

### In the words of Charles Dickens:

*"I will honor Christmas in my heart,  
and try to keep it all the year.*

*For Christmas is a time of rest,  
of gratitude, of love made clear."*

My deepest appreciation and warmest wishes for a Blessed Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Joyous Kwanzaa, and a Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

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

## Celebrating Excellence in Residency and Fellowship Program Honoree

Each month, one or more residents and/or fellows are selected for their exemplary service and for embodying RUMC's commitment to fostering a collaborative culture that enhances patient care and professional excellence. Honorees are nominated by their colleagues and selected by the Office of Graduate Medical Education's Wellness Council.

**This month's honoree is Jason Green, MD.** Dr. Green is a PGY-4 in the Department of Psychiatry. He attended medical school at Saint Georges School of Medicine, and his hometown is Murfreesboro, Tenn.



## Congratulations to our Employees of the Month:



**Cara D'Alessandro**  
Assistant Nurse Manager, Telemetry Unit

**Kelly Vassalo**  
Assistant Nurse Manager, Telemetry Unit

## After Three Months in NICU, Frank Jr. Goes Home to Proud Parents

On November 14, Frank Rapacciuolo, Jr. “graduated” from our Wayne Zenna Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, after spending nearly 3 months under the watchful attention of the unit’s medical professionals. Born at just over 2 pounds, Frank went home weighing a healthy 7 pounds. The NICU staff gave Frank and his parents, Jillian and Frank, Sr., a warm “clap out” as he went home just in time for Thanksgiving.



## New Comprehensive Sleep and Diagnostic Studies Center Unveiled



*Dr. Keith Diaz and Felicia Roseto, cutting the ribbon to officially open the new sleep center.*

Richmond University Medical Center opened its new Suite Dreams Center for Sleep & Neurodiagnostic Studies on November 17. A state-of-the-art facility, the center is designed to diagnose and treat sleep-related and neurological conditions in both adults and children.

“The ability to accurately diagnose sleep disorders can transform a patient’s quality of life,” Keith Diaz, MD, Chief of Pulmonary Medicine said. “From sleep apnea to insomnia and other sleep disturbances, our comprehensive testing capabilities allow us to pinpoint the cause and guide

patients toward effective, personalized treatment plans.”

The Suite Dreams Center provides both sleep and diagnostic studies and video electroencephalogram (VEEG) monitoring in a modern, patient-centered environment. VEEG is a specialized test that records brain wave activity on video to help diagnose seizures and other neurological conditions.

The center is located inside the hospital and features four fully equipped outpatient rooms – three dedicated to

sleep studies and one for VEEG testing. The three private sleep study rooms are outfitted with two queen-size beds and one full-size bed, each with a television, nightstand, and monitoring equipment. The VEEG room includes two queen-size beds, separated by a privacy curtain, and individual televisions for patient comfort during extended observation.

“Our goal is to deliver the highest standard of care for patients experiencing sleep or neurological challenges,” Felicia Roseto, Sleep Center Manager, said. “We’ve designed this space to make patients feel at ease while receiving precise, reliable diagnostic evaluations.”



*One of the four sleep center bedrooms, designed to make patients feel at home during their stay.*



## Celebrating Our 2025 Service Award Recipients

Each year, Richmond University Medical Center celebrates individuals for their years of service to our hospital and community. This year's honorees are:

### Five Year Employees

Faisal Abdelkarim  
Ria Ajibade  
Juliet Babas  
Andrew Barone  
Nico Baylosis  
Gerardo Bernad  
Niya Bolden  
Nefertaria Brent  
Jude Bright  
Anna Bryk Nemeth  
Maudi Bulgin  
Theresa Burzo  
Michael Cabbad  
Michael Catalano  
Heather Chappell  
Khadija Collymore  
Janet Colon  
Michael Combs  
Kyle Crespo  
Hymina Daniels  
Denise Danton-Nizzare  
Bianca Davis  
Michael DeFilippo  
Tara DeMarco  
Jared DeSalvo  
Taylor Decicco  
Ashley Devaney  
Nicole Dipasquale  
Cicely Edwards  
Heba Elbery  
Sahar Elshenawy  
Michelle Escalante  
Bibian Ezeani  
Anthony Ferrante  
Gina Ferreri  
Kim Fitzpatrick  
Nicole Fitzpatrick  
Jeanmarie Forde  
Yuliya Garunova  
Kristen Gatto  
Dana Gillespie  
Desara Gjediku  
Barbara Gonzalez  
Ashley Guarnaccia  
Katie Guastavino

Maria Guerrero  
Shaquana Harper  
Kelli Harrer  
Maureen Harrington  
Nilanthi Hemale  
Gloriane Improta  
Michael Jennings  
Alexa John  
Ana Juarez  
Angela Kerr  
Ishita Kharode  
Andrey Kolesnikov  
Jon Kravitz  
Lia Levine  
Charlotte Lewis  
Christopher Link  
James LoDolce  
Dominique Maggi  
Jamie Mangold  
Marek Mazur  
Julie McCullough  
Hossam Mohamed  
Cassandra Montgomery  
Paula Morrison  
Michael Nanry  
Nicole Napoli  
Joyetta Nuahn  
Andy Nunez  
Gbenga Odunaike  
Christina Olsen  
Zaniah Oquendo  
Grace Osagie  
Gregory Palladino  
Elvira Pasana  
Jakey Patwari  
Vishally Persaud  
Michelle Petrowski  
Michael T Porter  
Amber Ramos  
Marianela Reinoso  
Leah Riley  
Julissa Salazar  
Sarai Santiago-Vidal  
Jaleesa Sapp  
Amanda Schettini  
Ann Marie Schiff

Michelle Setaro  
Mervat Shaybout  
Joseph Spitalieri  
John Spivey  
Linda Stolpinski-Messo  
Loosi Tadros  
Irina Tanskaya  
Wilma Thomson  
Jacqueline Titus  
Etleva Trepca  
Kieran Willard  
Melissa Windfield  
Stephanie Wolf  
Kristy Corey  
Yong Wu  
Mark Yefymenko  
Zeke Young  
Olga Zvezdina  
Aretha Adobor-Akotia  
Ashley Brown  
Mary Cain  
Magda Daoud  
Margaret Goolic  
Haroon Khan  
Daniele Kouroupos  
Christopher Lisi  
Kimberly Mazurek  
Chrystina Mecca  
Lori Miller  
Jennifer Monaco  
Sundee Naing  
Alyssa O'Connell  
Ashley Parsons  
Mark Sheynshteyn  
Floriana Stelmach  
Nicole Sutler  
Tanya Vignapiano  
Agnieszka Zapora  
**Ten Year Employees**  
Gracierose Dibiasi  
Sierra Allen  
Charisse Allen-Luck  
Lovie Marie D Amolo  
Mary D Apuzzo  
Joel I Aranzado  
Jonathan K Auyeung

William H Beale  
Brittany Brown  
Phyllis Brown  
Alma E Claudio  
Jonathan M Costello  
Evelyn Cruz  
Brittany M Delmastro  
Karla Demartini  
Desiree Finley  
Philice Fioriglio  
Maribel Frias  
Natalya Gnatenko  
Berlyn Gonzalez  
Melissa Grageda  
Francesca A Granato  
Cynthia B Grandeza  
Angela Grigos  
Alket Hoxha  
Ebony Jack  
Korto E Jensen  
Alfred Jones  
Ineesha Jones  
Petrice Leben-Martin  
Lina Leykina  
Peter Matfiak  
Bernadette Melgar  
Jeanine Meola  
Jolene Meskovic  
Daniel Messina  
Patricia Meyer  
Cesar Moreno  
Jennifer Morris  
Tiffany A Pacheco  
Elisabeta Palaj  
Nieves Pavia  
Michael Piccarelli  
Helen Pratt  
Susan A Proce  
Nolvia Ramirez  
Laylo Rasulova  
Melissa Raymond  
Pierreleene Prudent - Rene  
Brenda Reyes  
Milagros Reyes  
Francesco Rotatori  
Valerie A Rrakulli

All names are listed by years served by the end of 2025

## 2025 Service Award Recipients *Continued:*

Pablo Saldana Jr

Roxanne Stewart

Priscilla R Suarez

Arta Topalli

Reddiah Vasser

Eileen Watford

Crystal Willacy

Simone Wilson

Emmanuel Yancy

Saybeh Yancy

Shannon Alnwick

Tara Farahvash

### Fifteen Year Employees

Sheena Rogers

Alla Adler

Luz Anderson

Tamara Ania

Joyce Armstrong

Denise Aruta

Myesha Bailey

Michele A. Bauman

Maria Bilek

Jonathon Borah

Patricia Mary Brennan

Amanda Brooks

Diane Byrne-McDevitt

Angela Caliph

Enza Camporeale

Tonisha Castellano

Samantha Clavel

Ashley Colon

Rowena Contreras

Vera Dimarco

Joseph Familia

Angelo Fischetti

Lora Fleysher

Jacqueline Geller

Yelena Golshteyn-Orodovskaya

Diane M. Gonzalez

Stefanie Greenberg

Narvi Hernandez

Janssen Huayamave

Salim Hussain

Caroline Impellizzeri

Marina Jackman

Maria Beatriz Jalandoni

Robert Johnson

Arkady Khaykin

Laura Easop

Debra Mangold

Theresa Mineo

James Moore

Maria Morejon

Farbah Nyagua

Stanislawa Osiecka

Annette Padilla

Lucas Ralston

Joanne Rizzuti

Rosalie Roccanova

Frederick Sabido

Rachel Saccenti

Sharon Samuel

Christina Lema

Christon Sylvester

Nicholina Velez-Ginsburg

Nathaniel Williams

Mirosława Kudej

### Twenty Year Employees

Raisa Abramovich

Jose Ambroise

Gracelyn Andrew

Trientina Campbell

Toni Marie Concillo

Miguel Crespo

Alison Curtis

Yongzhen Feng

Sunny Hadi

Kseniya Khaskin

Josephine Krenek

Stephen Larson

Erlinda Lim-Estimada

Linda Loennecker

Miguel Luna

Jennifer Munoz

Ethel O'Connor-Damitz

Kimberly O'Driscoll

Olatunji Odusanwo

Jennifer Paletto

Jinabelle Saphlot

Manju Susan Thomas

Kimberly Wagner

Michelle Washington

Maria Gladichi Whelan

### Twenty Five Year Employees

Helen Carvainis

Francois Coq

Danielle Crespo

Cara D'Alessandro

Leonard Donegan

John Dunlap

Sylvia Lowther-Evans

Gladys Gonzalez

Nicole Guerriero

Karen Henderson

Kernilde Jean-Jerome

Amira Khadr

Noel Ladia

Jennifer Marano

Nancy Marudo

Diane Minett

Robert Morrison

Patricia Perlmutter

Eileen Richard

Loretta Richardson

Valentina Roginskaya

Janet Scenna

Biju Thomas

Jack Tirone

Danielle Wood

### Thirty Year Employees

Elida Amaro

Paul M Barone

Delfin Bosa

Sean Dennis

Dawn Fersko

Lauren Garcia

Linda Gottlieb

Leslie Henderson

Zoni Jose

Lisa M Marcinak

Karen May

Joel Moses

Farzana Naqvi

Michael Scapp

### Thirty Five Year Employees

Frecylinda Alcaide

Rickey Anderson

Rosamma Chacko

Donna M D'Apolito

Jennifer Dominguez

Danielle M Dudek

James P Eick

Karen E Fischer

Joann Giaccio

Kathleen Gibbons

Supriya Gudla

Marcia Harvey

Wilma C Lavides

Sandra Maresca

Suzanne F Mazzuki

Lucy Peedikayil

Christine Venice

Laurie J Zambito

Malgorzata Zurawska-Szczepaniak

### Fouty Year Employees

Richard Di Canio

Margaret A Finley-Mangiero

Sandra Fiorello

Sudath Gunaratna

Diane Johnstone

Mary E Mahne

Toni A Molloy

Kathleen Muldoon

Linda Panyu

Derick W Rias

Michele Roberts

Paulette Wolny

### Fourty Five Year Employees

Dawn M Barry

Emilio Cirillo

Richard Grodman

Patricia A Laspina

Barbara Lombardi-Warner

Joanne Mortimer-O'Connor

Jeanette Posner

Beth Schwartz

### Fifty Year Employees

Denise Goldstein

Louise Steward

*All names are listed by years served by the end of 2025*

## RUMC Auxiliary News



*The pumpkin lottery wreath winner was Analia Feliciano from the Endocrinology Department.*



*The Auxiliary held a successful bake sale on Oct. 30 inside the RUMC Cafeteria.*

## SIEDC Honors RUMC Heroes at Annual Expo



*Dr. Keith Diaz and his wife, Danielle.*

On November 21, the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation held its annual Health & Wellness Expo, co-sponsored by Richmond University Medical Center. At the expo, in addition to providing free health screenings and information to the public the SIEDC presented its Health Care Hero and

Unsung Community Hero awards. For his dedication and commitment to ensuring the health of the community, Keith Diaz, Chief of Pulmonary Medicine, was presented with the Unsung Community Health Hero award.

Since 2011, Dr. Diaz has worked as an intensivist and consulting pulmonologist at RUMC, and he serves as director of the hospital's Lung Screening Program. 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, now RUMC. 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. In addition to his roles at RUMC, Dr. Diaz is also a medical specialist for the Fire Department of the City of New York, helping firefighters recover from 9/11-related illnesses.

Selected as recipients of the Unsung Community Health Hero award were Arlene Egan and Davy Jones, a Therapy Animal Team who have been providing comfort to patients and staff at Richmond University Medical Center since 2023. Egan, a lifelong rescue dog owner, has said her dream has always been to be part of a Therapy Animal Team. In fact, Arlene and Davy are the first ever Therapy Animal Team to care for patients at Richmond University Medical Center.



*Arlene Egan and Davy Jones surrounded by members of the RUMC Family.*

## New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

Olufunmilola Aduku — *Nursing Assistant*

Ereny Agib — *Medical Assistant*

Desiree Barcklow — *Registrar*

Toni Bennett — *Nursing Assistant*

Ingrid Berihuete — *License Mental Health Counselor*

Adriana Cruz — *Medical Assistant*

Alexa D'Angelo — *RN Practitioner*

Sharlene Dilone — *Receptionist*

Donna Fagone — *Breast Care Manager*

Sali Fazlija — *Desktop Analyst*

Angela Ferraro — *Receptionist*

Michael Galloway — *EMT*

Oladipo Johnson — *EMT*

Tejaswi Konduru — *BH Coordinator*

Emanuel Lopez — *Receptionist*

Madison Marcinak — *Registrar*

Monique Morris — *Director, Internal Audit*

Kristy Moser — *Billing Coordinator*

Ann O'Neil — *Administrative Director of Nursing*

Dylan Pipitone — *EMT*

Ryan Quach — *Paramedic*

Jessica Simmons — *Staten Island Mental Health Society*

David Skolnick — *Paramedic*

Deborah Vivas — *Receptionist*

## Richmond University Medical Center Physicians Honored for Impact in Their Fields



*Suven Cooper, MD*

Two Richmond University Medical Center providers were recently selected for honors in recognition of their dedication to patients and their colleagues.

The New York Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) selects outstanding and dedicated individuals who work in emergency medicine as Unsung Heroes. Those selected embody the mission of emergency medicine and are committed



*Joe George, MD*

to their patients and colleagues. Included in ACEP-New York's 2025 class of Unsung Heroes is Suven Cooper, MD.

Dr. Cooper earned his medical degree from the Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont in 2019 and went on to complete his residency training at the University of Rochester Medical Center. In 2022, Dr. Cooper joined the medical staff at Richmond University Medical Center where he is currently an attending physician and an

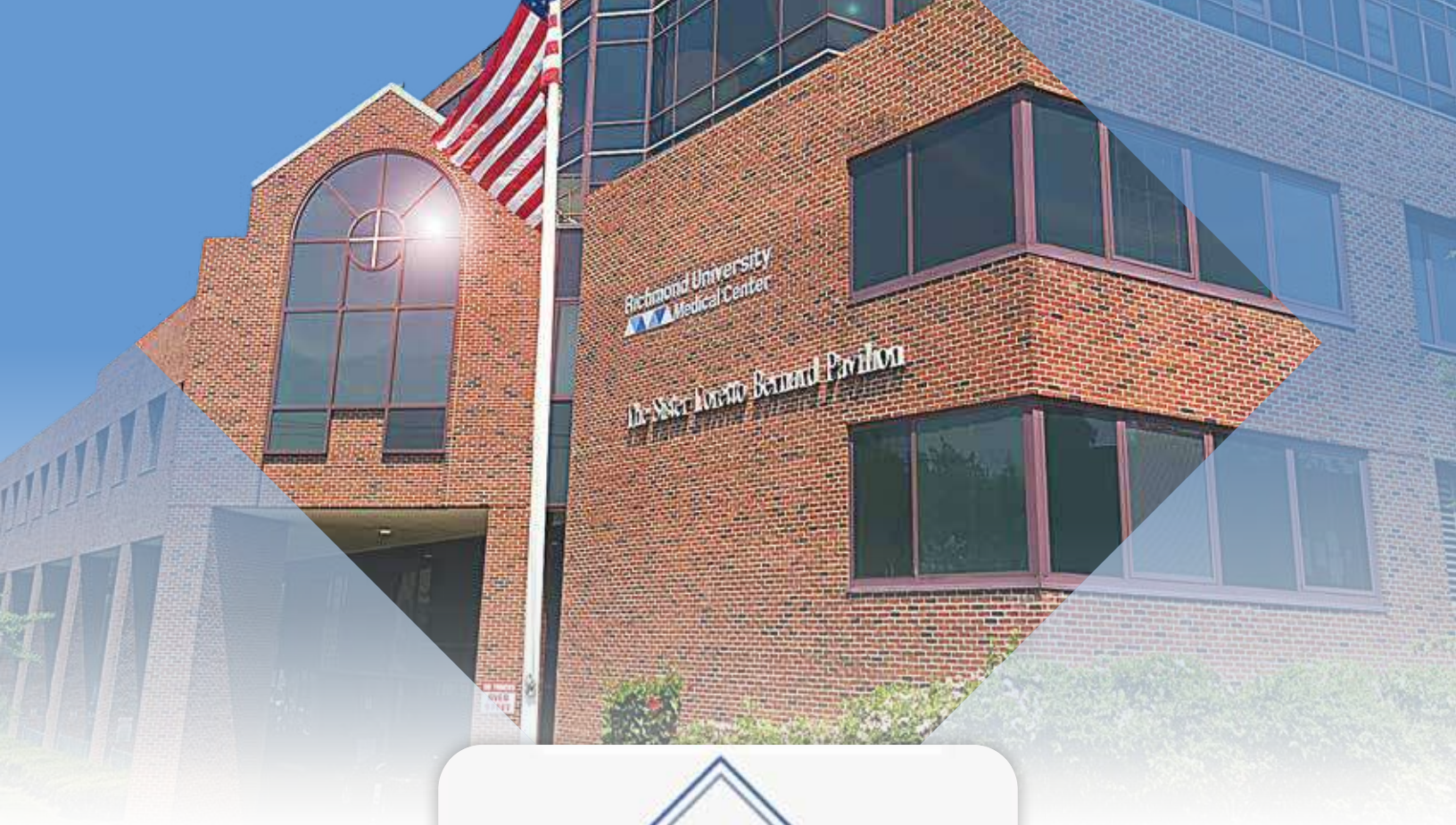
assistant professor of emergency medicine.

"I am thrilled that Dr. Cooper received this recognition," Chair of Emergency Medicine, Johnathon LeBaron, DO, MBA, FACEP, said. "Dr. Cooper is the type of physician you aspire to be, both in terms of clinical acumen and bedside manner. The honor is well deserved, and we are proud he was acknowledged."

Also honored was neurologist Joe George, MD. Dr. George was named to the Radiology Business Forty Under 40, an annual recognition given to individuals throughout the field of radiology who have made impactful contributions.

Vice President of Clinical Operations, Kathryn Giovinazzo, MBA, FACHE, said, "Dr. George is a highly skilled neuroradiologist whose steady leadership, collaborative style, and commitment to patient-centered care makes a meaningful difference every day. He is respected by his colleagues and consistently elevates the quality of our radiology services."





We are grateful and honored to be a recipient  
of the Staten Island Foundation's  
**Diamond Matching Grant program.**

The Staten Island Foundation's Diamond Matching Grant program award "celebrates a milestone for a nonprofit champion and founding Staten Island Foundation Board member, Mrs. Alice B. Diamond."

Through this program your gift may be eligible for a match on a \$2 to \$1 basis. Eligibility includes gifts from new donors, increased giving from existing donors, and funds raised through new events and strategies.

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 **Medical Center**