

Lourdes Hospital Foundation **news**

Sustaining the vision. Supporting the mission.

In This Issue...

In this edition you will find updates and inspiration from the people and places that have been supported by the Lourdes Hospital Foundation. You will also hear from our Donors. To all those who have made contributions large and small, we extend our sincere gratitude!



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Our Mission...

Rooted in the loving ministry of Jesus as healer, we commit ourselves to serving all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Our Catholic health ministry is dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. We are advocates for a compassionate and just society through our actions and our words.

When you make a gift to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation, you are helping us to help the most vulnerable; the sick, the poor and all those who are suffering and in need. Thank you for your continued generosity!

*If you would like to make a gift or learn more about the Lourdes Hospital Foundation,
please contact us at (607)798-5684 Mon – Fri 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.*

www.lourdes.com/about-us/foundation



Oral Health Update

from the Lourdes Center for Oral Health

The Lourdes Center for Oral Health has been in existence since 2005 caring for the poor and underserved. The mobile dental van has been in operation since 2018 thanks to generous support from the Decker Foundation and the Mee Foundation. Marilyn Mazzei is the Operations Manager of the Lourdes Center for Oral Health, and Jodie Sisson is the Mobile Dental Program Director. Together they have over 60 years of experience in oral and dental health. Both had previously worked in private practice.

When asked about her motivation to care for underserved communities, Marilyn answered that she is inspired to continue her work because she knows firsthand that her work makes an immediate difference in her patients' lives. One of her adult patients broke down in tears of gratitude and thanked her personally. Jodie's motivation comes from the deep bond between she and her staff. They work, share, laugh, and cry together. She says they are as close as family.

The Lourdes Center for Oral Health is located on Front Street in Binghamton. The Lourdes Mobile Dental Van travels to school districts throughout the Southern Tier. The Mobile Dental Van is only one of two in the state that have been allowed to get back into schools since Covid-19 restrictions have been rolled back.

During the Covid-19 shutdown, in accordance with State and CDC guidelines, to reduce the risk of spreading or catching the virus, routine cleanings and check-ups came to a stop. As of March of 2020, access to routine dental care for these children was not available. Thankfully, as of December 2021, the mobile units are back out and serving area school districts. The Front Street facility is up and running, though due to stringent sanitizing protocol, the number of daily patients that can be seen has been reduced.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Mobile Dental Program staff visited and taught their oral health education programs within the schools. Lessons about oral hygiene for overall health and proper brushing and flossing technique were taught in-person. Now, because of social-distancing and other Covid-19 precautions, in-school programming is not possible. Jodie and her team have created videos to help educate students until normal scheduling is resumed.

A link to one of the videos is contained in the QR code on the right. To view the video, hover your smart phone over the QR code and click on the link!



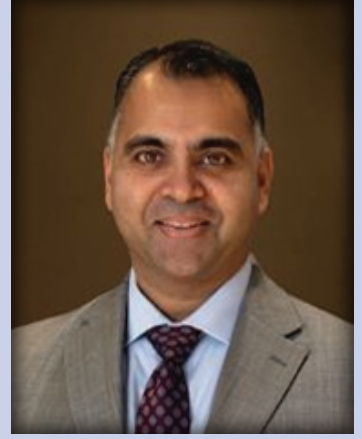
Why Do You Give? Donor testimonies...

☺ A recent gift from the membership of Holy Nativity Lutheran Church in Endicott, NY was given to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation as part of a final distribution of said congregation. Having closed at the end of 2020, this gift was given in order that a part of their 100 year ministry would live on through the work of the Foundation.

☺ When asked why she and her husband regularly give to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation, this grieving

mother responded “the Foundation is dear to our hearts” as her son, Jimmy, lost his battle with brain cancer 5 years ago. The names of nurses, doctors, nuns, and priests involved in Jimmy’s care are still vivid in the minds and hearts of these grieving parents. Resources like Hospice and Mercy House, supported by the Lourdes Hospital Foundation, provided comfort and direction as they helped their beloved son on his final journey. They continue to give in honor of Jimmy’s memory.

Dr. Sanjiv Patel, MD



A conversation with Dr. Patel — Robert O’Connell, President of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation, met with Dr. Sanjiv Patel, MD, Lourdes Foundation Board Member and Lourdes Physician, to discuss his time here at Lourdes as well as his thoughts on his profession and the Lourdes Hospital Foundation.

Dr. Sanjiv Patel was born in San Antonio, TX, where his beloved father, Dr. Arjun Patel was doing his residency. He is married to his wife, Polak, who is a dentist. They have two daughters who are busy with their studies as well as with sports and dance.

Dr. Patel attended local public schools in Vestal and then went on to do his undergraduate studies at SUNY Stonybrook and later to study medicine at St. George’s in Grenada. He also attended University of Buffalo where he trained in Family Medicine. On the 4th of October 1999, he began his career as a primary care physician at Lourdes.

Dr. Arjun Patel, the father of Dr. Sanjiv Patel, was a beloved Pulmonologist in private practice for 50 years, caring for patients in the local Binghamton area and at UHS and Lourdes. Sadly, in 2019, Dr. Arjun Patel passed away after a long illness. It was Dr. Arjun Patel who instilled in his son, Sanjiv, a deep love and respect for his fellow man regardless of their status in life.

As a physician at Lourdes, Dr. Patel finds that the relationships he develops with his patients and their families are both rewarding and inspiring. Dr. Patel says

that his goal is “to work as hard as he can to get his patients well”. During this process, a deep connection is formed between patient and doctor. In Dr. Patel’s words, this relationship can be described with the sentiment: “they become part of my family”.

In 2015, Dr. Patel became a member of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation Board. For him, his years on the board have been fulfilling and insightful. In the words of Dr. Patel, “It is important to support the Lourdes Hospital Foundation so that, in turn, the Foundation can continue to support the mission of Lourdes Hospital”.

The goal of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation is to raise funds in support of Lourdes Hospital. The Foundation has supported multiple building initiatives for the hospital. Raising money for its various funds to assist those in need is ongoing.

Dr. Patel mentioned he is truly amazed and filled with admiration for the efforts and accomplishments of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation in support of patient care and the overall support of the day-to-day operation of the Hospital.

With great appreciation to Dr. Patel for his many years of service as a Lourdes Physician!

☺ Having worked with the I.B.E.W. Local #325 for over 30 years, Mr. Kelvin Herrala has had many contracts in and around Lourdes Hospital. When asked why his union chooses to give regularly to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation Mr. Herrala said, “We appreciate all the good work the Foundation does to support Lourdes Hospital and we are happy to give to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation.” Many thanks to all members of the I.B.E.W Local #325!

☺ The Norwich Boys Soccer Team played in honor and in memory of loved ones who fought, and those who continue to fight, breast cancer. Spectators and players made donations and then gifted the proceeds

to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation for the Mobile Mammography Unit, an important component in the fight against cancer. Thank you, Norwich Boys Soccer!

☺ Mario’s Pizza in Owego gives to honor the memory of very loyal customers who have become like family. Thank you, Mario’s Pizza for helping the Lourdes Hospital Foundation to continue helping those in need!

There are many reasons to give – what’s yours?
Please contact the Foundation Office
(607)798-5684.

Lourdes Childcare Center



The Solemn Blessing and Dedication of the Lourdes Childcare Center took place in January of 2020. The Center had recently moved to its current location, the former St. Thomas Aquinas School on Binghamton's West Side. As part of a \$900,000 project, the Lourdes Hospital Foundation funded the renovation and modernization of the building to transform the former school into a state-of-the-art childcare center. The Center is NYS certified and is a registered Office of Child and Family Services facility.

Just as the right building is important, even more so are the right people. Sheila Fetterman, Director of the Lourdes Childcare Center, is a deeply committed and passionate leader. She understands the importance of making sure that each child in her care receives the very best. Sheila notes that children who take part in early childhood education programs have improved social skills and do better in school. They also learn life skills that will stay with these children forever.

Department Manager, Roberta Brown-O'Connor says current enrollment is at a total of 116 children. There are 19 infants, 32 toddlers, 46 pre-school & pre-Kindergarten children, and 19 school-aged children. The Center can accommodate 208 children. Roberta would love to see more families take advantage of the school and its' educational programs.

The Center is open Monday through Friday 6:30 am until 6:00 pm. They offer Before & After School care as well as Snow Day and Vacation Day care.

With just over 2 years at the Aquinas Circle location, the Lourdes Childcare Center has become an essential provider of early childhood education in the Binghamton area. Thanks to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation, a caring staff, large well-lit classrooms, a commercial kitchen, and a full-sized gymnasium for making the Lourdes Childcare Center an ideal place to learn and grow!



Thank you to all the generous donors who help make dreams come true!

Many thanks to all of our donors

from the year 2021

Throughout the year, the Lourdes Hospital Foundation receives donations. Some of those donations go to support specific programs or campaigns. Others are given to be used where the need is greatest.

Sometimes the donations go to large endeavors that require hundreds of thousands of dollars. And sometimes the donations are used to fund the small things that loom so large for those suffering from illness; gas to get to and from appointments, a gift card that helps put adequate and nutritious food on the table, an emergency alert button to enable those suffering to stay in their home.

The need is great and **thanks to your generosity**, when requests come in, the Lourdes Hospital Foundation can say “Yes! We can help.”

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Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Phone: 607-798-5684
For website, Google “Lourdes Hospital
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RMD's – Required Minimum Distributions

When you reach the age of 72, you are required to withdraw a certain amount of money from your retirement accounts. This amount is calculated by taking the total amount in all of your retirement accounts as of December 31st of the previous year and dividing it by the Life Expectancy Factor (from the IRS Uniform Lifetime Table) that corresponds to your age. This is your RMD.

- Not taking this distribution in a timely fashion can bring on severe penalties of up to 50% of the RMD amount.
- RMD's are taxed by the IRS as ordinary income and may push you into a higher tax bracket.
- Consider making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation to reduce the tax impact of receiving these distributions and to support the health of the community you share.

If you would like more information on donating your RMD's, please feel free to contact the Foundation office at 607-798-5684.