



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The E-Newsletter of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation

WINTER 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

It's hard to believe that a new year is already under way! Plans are in place for a busy 2025 at Chilton Medical Center and in the Foundation.

As exciting as it is to look ahead to all the opportunities that a new year and fresh start have to offer, it's also gratifying to look back on the year that was—there are accomplishments to celebrate and experiences to learn from and build upon.

Perhaps one of the most exciting things to report from the Chilton Medical Center Foundation is the recent ribbon cutting that unveiled part of the foundation's oncology expansion campaign—the renovation of the Collins Pavilion's second floor, transforming a once-dated space into a state-of-the-art center that is clean, bright, and modern. It's a serene environment where patients will see their physicians, have lab work performed and receive safe, high-quality care. You can read more about that project and the ribbon cutting in this issue.

While this is great news, there remains a need for significant donor support to help fund programs that will further benefit oncology patients. These programs include:

The Oncology Patient Assistance Fund

This fund provides vital assistance to vulnerable members of the community, offering patients and families some relief from financial hardships that may impede care. Chilton Medical Center hopes to grow the fund to provide meaningful assistance to those who need it most, when they need it most, ultimately reducing delays in care, ensuring accountability, and promoting successful treatment.

Paxman Cold Cap Technology Fund

For cancer patients, hair loss can be one of the most devastating and traumatic effects of chemotherapy treatment. The Paxman system, currently in use at the Collins Pavilion, narrows the blood vessels beneath the skin of the scalp, reducing the amount of chemotherapy medication that reaches the hair follicles. Not all insurers cover the full cost, however, and patients who are uninsured or lack financial resources often cannot access this helpful technology that can help ease their treatment journey. Chilton Medical Center is committed to providing this highly beneficial technology to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

As you see, we have a lot of fundraising to do, but we do so enthusiastically, knowing how much the communities Chilton serves will benefit from these efforts.

Please read on to see the many examples of more news from the Chilton Medical Center Foundation and examples of your gifts and support in action. Thank you for your continued interest in Chilton Medical Center and the Foundation. The Foundation team and I look forward to seeing you in 2025!

— **Megan Sandow, Chief Philanthropy Officer**
Chilton Medical Center Foundation

SAVE THESE DATES!



Wine, Dine & Denim

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Preakness Hills Country Club
Wayne, NJ

atlanticealth.org/winetasting

Golf Classic

Monday, September 29, 2025

Mountain Ridge Country Club
West Caldwell, NJ

atlanticealth.org/golfclassic

Fall for Chilton

Thursday, October 23, 2025

Mountain Ridge Country Club
West Caldwell, NJ

atlanticealth.org/fallforchilton

FOUNDATION FUNDING IN ACTION

The Collins Pavilion Renovations

Atlantic Health System's Chilton Medical Center recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand reopening of the newly renovated, state-of-the-art Collins Pavilion that houses the oncology and infusion center. The gathering included hospital leaders,

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FALL FOR CHILTON HONORS TWO

Our thanks to everyone who joined the Chilton Medical Center Foundation for our annual Fall for Chilton in October! Over 150 guests were on hand for an elegant evening at Mountain Ridge Country Club as we highlighted four seasons of excellence at Chilton Medical Center.

New this year was the celebration of two very deserving honorees: Physician Honoree Christopher Lobaito, MD, of Chilton Medical Center's Emergency Department and Community Honoree Karen Garrera of Provident Bank.

Attendees enjoyed exceptional fine food and drink, a live band, a strolling magician, and a live auction featuring travel experiences.

Thanks to our generous community sponsors and attendees, we raised over \$115,000 to support programs, services, and projects at Chilton Medical Center.



Top row: Christopher Lobaito, MD, Fall for Chilton Physician Honoree

Middle row, left: Tom Shara, Chilton Medical Center Foundation Board member; Karen Garrera, Fall for Chilton Community Honoree; and Megan Sandow, Chief Philanthropy Officer

Middle row, right: Chilton Medical Center team members Jeannette Rodriguez, Denise Quackenbush, Yolanda Scott-Smith, and Jeanette Ramirez

Bottom row, right: Chief Nursing Officer Ginell Walker-Way, Mary Ann Donohue-Ryan, Tania Cutone, Kim Rosales, and Theresa Lombardi



FOUNDATION FUNDING IN ACTION *Continued from page 1*

physicians, team members, donors, and community members.

Chilton Medical Center remains committed to leading the way in health care innovation and excellence, and it's a core belief that each cancer patient should have easy access to the highest quality oncology programs and services, from diagnosis to treatment to survivorship. This project is a significant step forward in fulfilling that promise.

The Chilton Medical Center Foundation has been actively raising funds for this initiative, and is pleased to report that to date, over \$1.2 million has been successfully raised towards the total cost of the project.

Key features of the newly renovated Collins Pavilion project include:

Advanced Treatment Technology Close to Home: Access to a complete array of oncology outpatient services, including radiation and chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and non-cancer-related infusion services just a short distance from home.

Patient-Centered Design: The renovation focuses on creating a calming and healing environment, with enhanced privacy in treatment areas and comfortable seating.

Comprehensive Care: Our multidisciplinary team of oncologists, nurses, and support staff are dedicated to providing personalized care plans tailored to each patient's unique needs.

Updated Infusion Area: The renovated suite will have six more infusion

areas, bringing the total initial patient infusion areas from 12 to 18. This will allow the center to go from an average of 22 daily patients to 40, while improving the comfort, convenience and care for patients undergoing infusion therapy. The newly renovated Collins Pavilion is a testament to the generosity of our donors and their commitment to health care in their community—thank you to the many donors and event sponsors who supported this project!



OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY

The Chilton Medical Center Foundation thanks **Bardi's Bar and Grill** owners Chet and Colleen Barasso, manager Joe Gruzdis and the entire Bardi's team for an October fundraiser they held for Chilton's Breast Center in memory of Chet's sister, Diane Barasso Delane, for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Our thanks also go to Chilton Medical Center team member **Anthony Limone**, who recently completed the Rocky Run in Philadelphia. Anthony ran in honor of his friend, Tammy Moore, and generously donated the funds he raised to Chilton Medical Center's Breast Center.



Creative Abilities of Butler recently hosted free studio events where people could paint a tote bag for a child in Chilton Medical Center. Participants were also encouraged to bring items such as coloring books, crayons, colored pencils and small toys for the bags to keep children busy during their stay. A local Girl Scout troop also donated items. Chilton Medical Center's youngest patients will certainly appreciate these creative donations!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



The Lombardi Family

For area resident Rose Mary Lombardi, donating to Chilton Medical Center has been a way to fulfill her late husband Louis's legacy.

Louis, a banker, was a member of the Chilton Medical Center and Foundation Boards for a total of 40 years. In fact, Louis was chair of the campaign to raise funds for the original construction of the Collins Pavilion.

"Chilton meant the world to him," said Rose Mary.

Unfortunately, in 2018, Louis was diagnosed with cancer, but thanks in large part to his efforts and that of the

generous Chilton community, he was able to have his chemotherapy and radiation treatments close to home at the Collins Pavilion. During his treatment visits, Louis observed his surroundings, and he felt the time was right for renovations. Unfortunately, Louis passed away in 2019, but his hope for renovations became a reality in 2024.

Rose Mary and her family, including daughter Theresa, who is a Chilton Medical Center team member, recently attended the ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Collins Pavilion and were thrilled to see the beautiful new space.

She recalled Louis meeting the Collins family many years prior and learning about their hope that the Collins Pavilion would be a bright, airy oncology treatment facility that was separate from the inside of the hospital, with interesting art on the walls and large windows that looked out onto surrounding greenery.

"Louis would be so pleased—I tell my daughter all the time—he would be thrilled with the direction the cancer treatment services at the Collins Pavilion are heading," said Rose Mary.

For their long-standing commitment to Chilton Medical Center, the Foundation, and the Collins Pavilion, we thank Louis, Rose Mary, and the Lombardi family!

CHILTON'S FOUNDATION GOLF CLASSIC CELEBRATES A MILESTONE

It was a beautiful day in more ways than one at the Chilton Medical Center Foundation's 40th annual Chilton Golf Classic at West Caldwell's Mountain Ridge Country Club in September!

Thanks to our many sponsors, 117 golfers, and a great team of volunteers, over \$145,000 was raised. The proceeds will support the renovation and expansion of Chilton Medical Center's Collins Pavilion, which houses the oncology and infusion center.



DID YOU KNOW? The work of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation is supported and enriched by a dedicated group of volunteer board members. Thank you to the following who so generously offer their time and talents as members of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors:



Atlantic Health System
Chilton Medical Center Foundation

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FOUNDATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: Chilton Medical Center Foundation
97 West Parkway, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
Phone: 973-831-5165 | Fax: 973-831-5409
Email: chilton.foundation@atlantichealth.org
Website: atlantichealth.org/chiltonfoundation