

Richmond University Medical Center

An Affiliate of the Mount Sinai Health Network

CHRONICLE

September 2018

Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Center

Remarkably, Staten Island posted the highest rate of heart disease, per 100,000 people, than any other county in New York State between 1999 and 2014. However, for more than a decade Islanders suffering from cardiopulmonary diseases have been compelled to travel to other boroughs or New Jersey to receive life-saving rehabilitation treatment. Until now. On Aug. 7th, President and CEO of Richmond University Medical Center, Daniel J. Messina, PhD; Chair for the Board of Trustees Kathryn K. Rooney, Esq.; Borough President James Oddo; Hope Baylow, D.A., CCC-SLP, TSHH, BCS-S, Administrative Director, Rehabilitation Medicine, and several elected officials cut the ribbon on the hospital's new cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center, located on the ground floor of the residents' building behind the hospital. This facility promises patients easier access to the programs, equipment, and medical personnel essential to their lasting recovery. What's more, participants will likely cut their all-cause mortality rates by 40% to 45%, experience 30% less hospitalizations in the first year, post marked improvements in their cholesterol and blood pressure profiles, and lose weight, among other health benefits.

We are thrilled to offer cardiopulmonary rehabilitation to our community. Sadly, however, this therapy remains grossly underused across the country, particularly among women and minorities, according to the American Heart Association. These populations also remain more likely to die within five years after a first heart attack than white male cardiac patients. In addition, up to 35% of eligible heart attack survivors and 31% of coronary bypass surgery patients do not participate in cardiopulmonary rehabilitation. But through this program, we are aiming to help turn the tide on Staten Island.

Pictured below is President & CEO Daniel Messina, PhD; Board Chair Kathryn Krause Rooney, Esq.; Staten Island Borough President James Oddo; and Dr. Richard Grodman, Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Center Director.



Message from the President & CEO

Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, LNHA



Dear Friends,

A little over a year ago we announced that Richmond University Medical Center would be opening a new center dedicated to cardiopulmonary rehabilitation.

In early August, the dream became a reality when we officially cut the ribbon on our new state of the art cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center. The center is located on the ground floor of the Residents Building, behind the main hospital. Many of you took the time

to join us for the ceremony joining members of the community and our elected officials.

For far too long residents here were forced to leave Staten Island to find cardiopulmonary rehab treatment, some having no choice but to seek treatment in New Jersey. With funding and support from Staten Island Borough President James Oddo, the days of long trips for people to reach a facility to receive treatment are part of the past.

The treadmills, weights, and bicycles you will find around the center are tools. Tools that will improve the quality of life for hundreds of Staten Islanders and their families. Our mission includes reducing morbidity and disability from cardiac and pulmonary disease through education, prevention, rehabilitation and aggressive disease management. Thanks to the Borough President, our Board of Trustees, and our dedicated staff, this center is the latest step in moving our mission forward.

The opening of the cardiopulmonary rehab center is the latest in a series of community based centers we are opening around Staten Island to better serve our community. In June we opened our Center for Cancer Care on South Avenue and in the coming months we will be opening up centers on bariatrics, breast care, orthopedics, and soon a Student Health Center at Susan Wagner High School.

RUMC is growing and will continue to grow for many years to come. Thank you for being part of our growth.

"Remember, the power of one – you make a difference!"



Patient Satisfaction

A Note of Thanks

I am writing to applaud your Lung Screening Program and especially Nancy Sayegh-Rooney.

I had my second Lung Screening on June 5, 2018 and both times I experienced exceptional patient care. Nancy walked me through the process in 2017 and 2018 with the utmost professionalism and attention. I have found that medical care can be bumpy sometimes, so I write letters of complaint. However, I do feel that it is equally important to report on a level of care that rises above the rest.

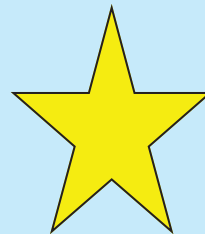
Frank did the actual testing and was wonderful as well. But I must commend Nancy on her efforts to get me to quit smoking and on February 10, 2018 I did just that.

Thank you for this program and employing a staff that performs more like it their calling rather than a job.

Nancy G.

Having a doctor you truly adore makes everything so much better. Thank you Dr. Benson for being spectacular ... Dr. Pavlidis, Shats, and Dr. B truly are a great group of OB's. Thank you to nurse Deanne for being the best L&D nurse on a very busy day. You went over and above for me. It was really a great overall experience for Red, Diana, and I.

Rose B.



Dr. Marianne La Barbera—New President of Medical Staff

Earlier this month, Richmond University Medical Center (RUMC) named Dr. Marianne La Barbera as President of the Medical Staff. Dr. La Barbera becomes the first woman to hold this position in RUMC's 115 year history. Born and raised on Staten Island, Dr. La Barbera has practiced family medicine for the past 29 years.

In her new role, which officially began on July 1st, Dr. La Barbera serves as the direct link to the hospital's senior management for the thousands of physicians, nurses, and medical staff members at RUMC. No stranger to RUMC, Dr. La Barbera completed part of her clinical training from 1983 to 1984 when the hospital was known as St. Vincent's Medical Center. Dr. La Barbera returned to RUMC as part of the medical staff in 1989. Working at RUMC could be considered a family tradition as Dr. La Barbera's mother served as a nurse in the hospital for over 40 years, from 1957 through 1999. She worked alongside her mother beginning in 1975 when she started as a ward clerk.

In her distinguished career, Dr. La Barbera has worked in hospitals around New York City and on Long Island, including six years as team physician for Oyster Bay High School. Today, she continues to care for young people, serving as the student physician at Wagner College's Center for Health and Wellness. She also has had the honor of serving as a national delegate to the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) for 12 years.

Outside of her medical responsibilities, Dr. La Barbera is active in the Staten Island community. She has served on the boards of several non-profit organizations including Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden, and the Staten Island Zoo.



Randazzo Check Presentation

On August 8th, Gaspare and Melissa Randazzo presented our NICU with a check for \$8,484. The Randazzo family held a fundraiser at Liberty Tavern on July 14th to raise the funds donated to the hospital.

In March 2017, their son Gaspare Randazzo, Jr. was born almost three months premature and weighed just three pounds. He spent over a month of his new life in RUMC's NICU. Today Gaspare is doing well and joined his parents and grandparents at the check presentation. Senior Administration and the staff of the NICU were on hand for the presentation along with Dr. Anthony Barone, Director of the NICU, Dr. Brian McMahon, Chief of Pediatrics, and over 20 staff members from across the hospital's various departments.



Welcome Breakfast

On August 13th Richmond University Medical Center held a breakfast to welcome three new doctors to the medical staff. A very warm welcome to Chief of Breast Surgery, Tihesha Wilson, M.D., F.A.C.S. (seated center); Chief of Joint Replacement Surgery James, St. Ville, M.D., MBA, MS; (seated, center right); and Chief of Bariatric Surgery, Alex Barkan, M.D., M.B.A, F.A.C.S, F.A.S.M.B.S (seated, right).



BOURBON STREET
SAVE THE DATE

11 | 3 | 2018

**Hilton Garden Inn
Staten Island, NY**

RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
12th Annual Gala

"A New Orleans Celebration"

**RAFFLE
PRIZES INCLUDE
ROLEX
FUR COAT AND A
TRIP TO DISNEY!
.....
PLUS BOURBON
TASTING!**

Register at: www.rumcsi.org/gala

For any questions contact

Krista Desiderio 718.818.2788 kdesiderio@rumcsi.org

Sharing Positive Patient and Caregiver Feedback

If you or your team receive a tray of cookies, flowers, cards, letters or any other form of patient appreciation we kindly ask that you work with your manager to get a picture and share it. The positive feedback will be shared and then passed along by a member of the management team to the Patient Relations Department so that they can capture the information and appropriately allocate the information for future reports. Please contact Andrew Burt, MBA, CPXP at 718-818-2454 or aburt@rumcsi.org. Congratulations to SLB4 RN's Cara D'Alessandro and Jenna DePasquale.



Dr. Francesco Rotatori

New Associate Chief of Cardiology

Dr. Rotatori assumed his new position in late June, 2018. Dr. Rotatori attended Università degli Studi in Milan, Italy, graduating cum laude with a degree in Medicine and Surgery in 2001. He trained in Internal Medicine at RUMC between 2007 and 2010, and served as Chief Resident from 2009 to 2010. Dr. Rotatori completed Fellowships in Cardiology and Interventional Cardiology at SUNY Downstate from 2010 to 2014, after which he joined the RUMC Medical Staff.



Pediatric Food Pantry

The Richmond University Medical Center monthly food pantry once again delivered for our pediatric patients and their families. Free fruits and vegetables are provided monthly to the families who sign up through our dietician, Nicole Holness, and recipes are provided to guide families on how to prepare the fruits and vegetables. Short cooking demonstrations and sample snacks are featured, with the fruit/vegetables of the month.

Special recognition to the RUMC organizers Fabiola Paul, Child Health Care Coordinator; Vanessa Castro-Diaz, Observer Pediatrics Department; Nicole Holness, Senior Registered Dietitian; Dr. Ana Mendez, Chief of Ambulatory Pediatrics; Boris Molchanskiy, Assistant Vice President of Clinical Informatics and Population Health; and Ashley Dally, Behavioral Health Clinician.



August 2018 New Hires

Diane Marrero, Nursing Assistant
Zuleika Cintron, Medical Assistant
Ashley DiBartolo, RN
Elise Raimondi, RN
Hasly Cediell, Nursing Assistant
Brian Schafranick, RN
Stephanie Mino, RN
ToniAnne Cupo, RN
Michelle Peterson, RN
Sarah Soriano, Nursing Assistant
Eugene Margolis, Central Sterile Tech
Alyssa Marisol, Rehab Aide

Julian Nepola, Anesthesia Tech
Anu Thomas, Nuclear Med Tech
Leonid Juashkovsky, Paramedic
Kehinde Adeogun, Sr Development & Grants Specialist
Perla Hernandez, Building Service Worker
Meaghan Grey, EMT Driver
Alena Zhakava, Dietician
Michael Pearl, Security Officer
Nicolette Lamirata, HR Assistant
GinaMarie Pannone, Clinical Resource Manager
Jeanelle Escalona, Paramedic
Gabriela Velez, MHT



Happenings—In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)

⇒ To mark World Breastfeeding Week, on August 8th, lactation experts provided information in our main lobby about breastfeeding with the goal to provide information on how to help a new mom make informed decisions about her choice of feeding. Pictured is Lactation Educator Anna Moreno, RN and Carol Olsen, RN, BSN, IBCLC.



⇒ Richmond University Medical Center was represented at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Kickoff, held at the Vanderbilt in South Beach on August 2nd. As in years past we here at RUMC are ardent supporters of Making Strides and are again sponsoring events for the Staten Island walk, to be held this year on Sunday, October 21st at Midland Beach. Pictured below is Richmond University Medical Center's Lung Nurse Navigator Nancy Sayegh-Rooney and Lauren Moore of the American Cancer Society.



National Night Out took place August 7th at Midland Beach and Richmond University Medical Center was there, meeting the community and sharing information on the programs we offer. Literature was distributed on smoking cessation and proper prevention and screening for HPV, PSA, Skin Cancers, and Colonoscopies. Our Trauma Team and Tammy the Trauma Ambulance were also present to teach the ABC's of Stop the Bleed.

Pictured - Lung Nurse Navigator Nancy Sayegh-Rooney, RN; Community Outreach Specialist Lorraine Scanni; Trauma Program Manager Chris Ruiz, RN; and Marisa Easop and Dan Scullin, Trauma.



outREACH



Trauma and Tammy the Trauma Ambulance

The Trauma Team started off August with some exciting news - on August 6th the Trauma Team started a 16 week Falls Prevention Program at Esplanade Senior Living. "Matter of Balance" is a CDC approved falls prevention program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. Participants learn to view falls and fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and exercise to increase strength and balance. On August 8th Tami and the Trauma Team participated in the NYPD's Summer Camp at New Dorp High School to provide Stop the Bleed education to approximately 90 campers.



Monthly Employee Photo Contest!

Chinese Scholar's Garden at Snug Harbor

Clarence Henderson, Behavioral Health



Key West Florida

Rich Ortiz, Forensic Nurse Coordinator



Bronx Zoo

Lorraine Scanni, Public Relations



**Are you following us
on Social Media?**



Keep sending us those photos!

These should be photos that reflect the idea to restore, support, and promote active and healthy lifestyles. Going for a run? Snap a photo of the sunrise. A late night stroll? Send us that picture of the sunset. Use your imagination and capture the beauty, whimsy, or nostalgia that surrounds us every day.

Please send photos or any newsworthy materials and photos to Lorraine Scanni at: lscanni@rumcsi.org.

