On Dec. 13, 1943, Suburban Hospital opened its doors as a 130-bed hospital constructed to accommodate the expanding World War II military population in rural Montgomery County, Maryland. In its first full year, the small facility, consisting of several one-story cottages, admitted 3,000 patients and had an operating budget of $13,000.

Since our inception, our hospital has taken great pride in our dedicated and compassionate staff who assure the highest quality care and continuously rise to the challenge to provide the very best for our community.

Today, Suburban Hospital is distinguished as a proud member of Johns Hopkins Medicine, having joined the health system in 2009, and the only trauma center serving Montgomery County and the surrounding region. We also have a designated stroke center and expertise in complex cardiovascular care, including cardiac surgery and interventional structural heart services. Other specialties include neurosurgery, orthopedics and spine surgery, behavioral health, and much more.

Thanks to our nurses’ commitment to excellence in professional practice, we are one of only 10% of hospitals worldwide to receive Magnet Recognition and the only hospital in Montgomery County to receive this honorable distinction twice from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

Suburban Hospital’s recent 300,000 sq. ft. facility expansion has allowed for growth in several clinical program areas and assures flexibility to respond to the needs of our patients, our community, and our staff. Over the last year, our volumes throughout the hospital, especially in the Emergency Department, continued to trend much higher than expected, and with increased demand for surgical procedures, patients benefitted from upgrades of capital equipment and technology in the operating rooms.

Thanks to the generosity of so many donors, we have been able to advance staff resiliency, enable workforce development, support addiction treatment services, promote quality and safety, and embrace our vision for expanded emergency services.

To mark the 80th anniversary of the hospital, the Suburban Hospital Foundation hosted an anniversary celebration on December 7 for donors, prospects, grateful patients, current and former board members, and hospital leadership. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments and how Suburban Hospital has grown to be our community’s premier health care facility.

PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT REFLECTION
CINDY MERZ, VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

In December 2023, Suburban Hospital marked eight decades of providing exceptional care to all those in need throughout our region. The hospital also celebrated 20 years since the opening of Suburban’s pediatric emergency department and several other key milestones, which together help define the undeniable impact this hospital has on our community. As I reflect on my own 25+ years as a member of the Suburban Hospital team, I am honored to have personally experienced and contributed to a culture of excellence that never wavers in the face of a shifting and more complex health care environment and relentlessly rises to the challenge. During 2023, that challenge continued to include intense financial pressures, global conflicts, workforce changes, and ever-increasing patient volumes, especially in our Emergency & Trauma Center. Fortunately, our rich history is also bolstered by strong philanthropic support. We take great pride in our many donors and friends who continue to stop up to help inspire our work today and ensure our strength for tomorrow. As we look forward to advancing care in key clinical programs such as cardiac and behavioral health, modernizing our ED, and supporting nursing and workforce development, we thank you for helping us remain #SuburbanStrong!
STOP THE BLEED®
KNOWING WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY CAN SAVE A LIFE

STOP THE BLEED® is the result of a collaborative effort led by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS COT) to bring knowledge of bleeding control to the public.

Sponsored by the Wolpoff Family Foundation, the team at Suburban Hospital, led by trauma surgeon Dr. Dany Westerband and ED nurses, offers the STOP THE BLEED® program to employees and community members to improve victim survival rates by empowering bystander response.

In 2023, Suburban Hospital's STOP THE BLEED® team educated more than 300 people and taught the course to the security team at Marriott Headquarters. They also held a STOP THE BLEED® marathon on May 25th, 2023, and educated approximately 70 Suburban Hospital staff. The Bleeding Control Basic (B-Con) course is a two-hour session specifically designed for non-medical personnel such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, security personnel, teachers, and the general public.

Recently, Dr. Alexandra Roginsky, Department of Surgery Trauma and Acute Care Surgery at Suburban Hospital, took this training to her Army Reserve unit in Richmond.

Soldiers participated in hands-on training with models and were thrilled to take literature and tourniquets home with them. “Several medics voiced to me that they were so glad to be able to carry the official CAT tourniquets in their civilian vehicles, as the Army issues the tourniquets for military and combat use only. In the current times, most of the enlisted soldiers and noncommissioned officers are on tight budgets and would not be able to purchase tourniquets at retail cost.” Dr. Roginsky said.

BOARD AMBASSADORS DEMONSTRATE THE POWER OF ENGAGEMENT

WENDI SAGER, FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR

As a member of the Suburban Hospital Foundation Board for several years, I always recognized the importance of participating as an ambassador on behalf of the hospital. Still, it wasn’t until I took on the role of Foundation Board Chair in July 2023 that I truly understood the philanthropic impact of a highly engaged Board. And, I am thrilled to report that is exactly what we have! During 2023, our 24 volunteer Board members, well-connected throughout the community, stepped up repeatedly to help advance the mission of Suburban Hospital. By opening doors to new opportunities, introducing donor prospects, hosting or coordinating parlor events or third-party fundraising activities, or committing to individual major gifts, their efforts had a powerful impact on our ability to raise more than $6.8M. Our Board committees, focusing on corporate donors, young professionals, legacy leaders, and our overall pipeline, grew in their level of activity and commitment by introducing a range of initiatives (many detailed in this report) that helped to develop broader and stronger relationships and increased support for the hospital.

PILLARS OF PHILANTHROPY
KEY PARTNERS PROVIDE FUNDAMENTAL SUPPORT TO ADVANCE CLINICAL CARE

The Suburban Hospital Foundation is so grateful for the incredible partnership and generosity of our donors. Their support has not only enabled advancements within Suburban Hospital but also ensures the continuation of transformative initiatives that are shaping the future health of the community.

Special thanks to our lead donors during 2023:

A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation | Quality/Safety
Jared and Irene Drescher | Behavioral Health
Nancy Gewirz | Physician Lounge Renovation
Kenneth Grunley | ED/Trauma Expansion
Emily and Neil Kishter | ED/Trauma Expansion
Katie Jaggers-Ludwick | Oncology Patient Navigator Program
McCutchen Foundation | Employee Workforce Development
Ronald and Joy Paul Family Foundation | ED Specialty Care Behavioral Health Unit Expansion
Jacqueline Rams
Nursing Excellence
Diana Davis Spencer Foundation
Nursing Excellence
Eleanor Theresa Smith Trust
Cardiac Rehab Renovation
20 YEARS OF PEDIATRIC CARE
SERVING OUR YOUNGEST PATIENTS

A significant milestone was achieved in 2023 as the Shaw Family Pediatric Emergency Center celebrated its 20th anniversary. For more than two decades, we’ve been able to provide dedicated service and compassionate care to more than 64,000 children, thanks to the generous contributions of individuals dedicated to improving pediatric health care. The center is designed to ease a child’s anxiety during treatment and exudes a cheerful and comforting atmosphere. Staffed by a team of board-certified pediatricians and specially trained pediatric nurses, our state-of-the-art facility, tailored for children, aims to alleviate any fears associated with health care visits.

In 2012, the Suburban Hospital Foundation received a generous $1 million donation from the William J. Shaw Family Foundation to bolster pediatric services and emergency care. This impactful contribution enhanced clinical care and resulted in naming our pediatric emergency/inpatient facility in honor of the Shaw family.

Support from our donors has not only sustained this department but has also propelled us to new heights in medical advancements, enabling us to create a nurturing environment for our young patients. As we celebrate this anniversary, we express our gratitude for the efforts that continue to shape the future of pediatric medicine.

Mr. Shaw, an emeritus Suburban Hospital Board of Trustees member, and his wife Diane hope that their philanthropic gesture will inspire others to continue to support Suburban’s critical programs and services.

NAVIGATING THROUGH A CANCER DIAGNOSIS
FACILITATING INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

Suburban Hospital’s Oncology Patient Navigator Program is an ongoing initiative originally established in 2003. The program provides complimentary resources to newly diagnosed cancer patients and their families. In honor of his late wife, Marshall “Mickey” Greenblatt is championing this important program through the Marian Greenblatt Fund. Through his generous gift, nearly 300 patients a year are helped by this program.

The oncology patient navigators are registered nurses with oncology-specific clinical knowledge who provide individualized assistance to patients, families, and caregivers to help ease the complexity of the diagnosis. Utilizing the nursing process, our oncology navigators provide education and resources to facilitate informed decision-making and timely access to quality health and psychosocial care throughout all phases of the cancer continuum.

Most patients are overwhelmed by the amount of new information they must absorb, the number of decisions to make concerning treatment and care, and the multiple options for assistance. With the help of experienced and professionally trained oncology patient navigators, patients can more easily deal with the many questions, decisions, and challenges that accompany a cancer diagnosis.

The Bender Foundation, Inc. is thrilled to support the pilot of the recovery transition guide at Suburban Hospital’s Outpatient Addiction Treatment Center. Recognizing the intersection of mental and physical health in combating addiction, the foundation sees this collaboration as a solution within our community.”

STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED
BENDER FOUNDATION’S GIFT ELEVATES BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

A generous contribution from The Bender Foundation is making a significant impact at Suburban Hospital’s Outpatient Addiction Treatment Center (ATC) in Montgomery County, Maryland.

This vital funding ensures a dedicated Recovery Transition Guide is available to collaborate closely with Suburban Hospital patients providing support and navigation during the early stages of their recovery. The transition guide regularly contacts patients and their treatment providers to assess clinical progress and coordinate further treatment plans.
BUILDING BLOCKS FOR THE FUTURE
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE THROUGH ESTATE PLANNING

The goal of charitable estate planning is to fulfill your philanthropic wishes in coordination with your overall financial and estate plan. Whether you remember Suburban Hospital in your will or retirement account, establish a gift that provides income to you like a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA), or give appreciated stock, you ensure your legacy while helping Suburban Hospital remain a leader in patient care for generations to come.

In 2023, Suburban received donations totaling nearly $425,000 from both realized and bequest intentions combined. Suburban Hospital Foundation board member, Katie Jaggers Ludwick, committed a bequest intention (future gift) through her estate to support Suburban Hospital’s Oncology Patient Navigator Program. “The Patient Navigator program is extremely meaningful to me as I am a breast cancer survivor and utilized the wonderful nurse through my cancer journey. I want to make sure this program is here for the long term.”

A gift from the estate of Eleanor T. Smith recognized years of exceptional care to the Smith family and is being used to support cardiac rehab as an enabler to our longer-term plan to modernize the hospital’s emergency and trauma services.

We recognize our legacy donors through the Heritage Society by honoring those individuals who secure the financial future of Suburban by making a life-income gift or gift through their estate. Because a legacy gift represents a lifetime commitment, the Suburban Heritage Society comprises donors of any age and gift amount.

NURSING EXCELLENCE
PHILANTHROPY SHAPING OUR TOMORROW

At Suburban Hospital, assuring nursing excellence is not just a commitment but a testament to the profound impact of philanthropy on health care. Our nurses have elevated patient care to unparalleled levels, bolstered by generous contributions, creating a culture of compassion, innovation, and resilience.

Thanks to the unwavering support of our philanthropic partners, Suburban Hospital has been able to invest in ongoing education, training, and professional development for our nursing staff. This support enables our nurses to stay at the forefront of medical advancements, ensuring they deliver the highest level of quality care to our community.

In 2023, our nursing staff celebrated their second Magnet designation, an accolade from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), earned by only a select few hospitals worldwide. This prestigious acknowledgment is a tribute to our nursing staff’s outstanding professionalism and dedication, supported and nurtured by the philanthropic contributions that fuel their continuous growth.

Philanthropy has played a crucial role in cultivating a culture of excellence where our nurses go above and beyond, not just meeting but exceeding quality safety, and patient care expectations. As we celebrate the achievements made possible through the generosity of our donors, we acknowledge the indispensable role of philanthropy in fostering a health care environment where nursing excellence thrives, making a lasting impact on the well-being of our community.

EVOLUTION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
#SUBURBAN STRONG

Staff training has always been key to the success of our employees. To fulfill our mission of improving health with skill and compassion, we must grow with the evolving needs of our patients and community. To meet the needs of our committed staff members and the demand for a highly skilled employee base, Suburban Hospital launched a comprehensive Workforce Development Program in 2023. This program allows employees to advance to higher-skilled and higher-paid careers through career coaching, dedicated training, and education activities.

A generous contribution from the McCutchen Foundation is helping to support this initiative. The Workforce Development Program is a comprehensive effort targeted toward non-nursing employees who comprise two-thirds of the hospital’s employment base. The program allows staff to take advantage of coaching and advancement opportunities they may not have been able to pursue due to cost barriers.

In addition to meeting the continuing education needs of our employees and opening up new career pathways, the Workforce Development Program helps to address the critical objective of employee retention.
YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK
2023

Every gift to the Suburban Hospital Foundation is put to work to make our great hospital even more extraordinary. Whether it is a one-time gift or ongoing annual support, philanthropic impact is hard at work everywhere at Suburban Hospital.

$5.9M FUNDED

We thank you for your continued generosity in our efforts to further the health of our community.

485 NEW DONORS
1,616 RENEWED DONORS
77% DONOR RETENTION RATE
2,101 TOTAL DONORS

SUBURBAN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
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