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on the cover:
Carmen Carrasquillo-Traviasano, RN, a patient care assistant on Bliss 11E, uses art to help her patients heal and express themselves.
A Look to the Year Ahead

As we start the new fiscal year, I am privileged to be back at Hartford Hospital in a new role as president. We've seen so many achievements over the last year – from the launch of our CareConnect platform, to the opening of the Bone & Joint Institute, to the exponential growth of our Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation. I am excited to join our staff on this meaningful journey as we continue to build upon our accomplishments in fiscal year 2018.

Hartford Hospital plays a vital role as a premier healthcare provider in the state of Connecticut. While we are a community hospital to those who live in our neighborhood, we are a quaternary care hospital to the remainder of the state. What makes us even stronger is our partnership with Hartford HealthCare Medical Group, our independent physicians, hospital-based physicians and advanced practitioners.

The strength of our healthcare system cannot be understated. Together our hospitals, home health services, nursing homes, behavioral health network, rehabilitation network, and urgent care and ambulatory care centers allow us to deliver a level of comprehensive care that is unmatched by anyone else.

Yet beyond the services we provide, there is something else that sets our organization apart from the rest: the unconditional service of all our staff. That is what makes us truly exceptional. As we prepare our organization for the coming year, I am confident we will make our future even brighter. After all, we belong to an organization that started in 1854.

With great humility and a sense of responsibility, I am here to serve our patients, our staff and our greater community. With your help, we will carry out the mission of our organization.

Our top priorities this year are customer satisfaction, staff engagement, physician relations, institute growth and community engagement. These are possible when we hold ourselves accountable and strive for operational excellence. I am committed to joining arms with you and making Hartford Hospital proud.

Bimal Patel
President, Hartford Hospital & Hartford HealthCare’s Hartford Region
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare
Every Moment Defines Us

What defines Hartford Hospital? Our 163-year reputation as an outstanding healthcare provider is a good start.

Hartford Hospital is the only adult Level 1 Trauma Center in the region. We operate the state’s first and largest air ambulance system, LIFE STAR. We are the area’s largest tertiary care and academic medical center, offering the most innovative treatments to the communities we serve. And as an anchor institution of Hartford HealthCare, we offer our patients seamless access to Connecticut’s most comprehensive health network. That’s why patients turn to us when they need advanced care and treatment options beyond what many hospitals are able to provide.

We are proud to be home to many centers of excellence spanning Hartford HealthCare. These institutes offer cutting-edge care in orthopedics, cardiology, oncology, neuroscience, behavioral health and more. Access to these institutes offers our patients peace of mind that they can get the very best care close to home.

These defining features illuminate why we think Hartford Hospital is a destination for advanced and complex care. But we’re not alone in that opinion. Hartford Hospital has long been recognized for excellence by U.S. News & World Report, and we were recently ranked first in the region once again.

More than anything else, though, we are defined by our talented team of dedicated, caring healthcare professionals. This team is comprised of exceptional individuals – from employed staff to affiliated providers and everyone in between – whose contributions and compassion make a difference in the lives of those who come to us in times of need. They don’t just apply their knowledge and experience to their jobs; they pour their hearts into their work and create special moments for patients and their loved ones each and every day.

People may choose Hartford Hospital because they value our clinical expertise, but they remember us because of our team’s devotion to making them feel safe, secure and supported. That’s why our institution is not just defined by accolades and superlatives. We believe every moment defines us, and that mindset will remain the foundation of our success for many years to come.

Stuart K. Markowitz, MD
President, Hartford Hospital & Hartford HealthCare’s Hartford Region*
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare

*Term ending Sept. 30, 2017
Executive Leadership Team

Douglas Elliot
Chair
Board of Directors

Cheryl Ficara, RN, MS
Regional Vice President
Patient Care Services

Stuart Markowitz, MD
President
Hartford Hospital & Hartford Region*  
“Term ending Sept. 30, 2017”  
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare

Jack Greene, MD
Regional Vice President
Medical Affairs
Ranked Among the Best by U.S. News & World Report

Hartford Hospital has once again been ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the nation’s best hospitals. Ranked first in the Hartford metro area and among the best in Connecticut for 2017-2018, the hospital is rated “high-performing” in diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology and GI surgery, geriatrics, nephrology, orthopedics and pulmonology. Additionally, Hartford Hospital was ranked “high-performing” in the following procedures: abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, aortic valve surgery, heart bypass surgery, heart failure, colon cancer surgery, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, hip and knee replacement and lung cancer surgery. To be among the best regionally, a hospital must provide communities with high-quality care across the broad spectrum of consumer health needs.

Transplant Program Recognized for Quality

Hartford Hospital’s Transplant Program, which includes heart, kidney and liver transplantation, achieved several milestones this year. The heart and kidney transplant programs were approved as Centers of Medical Excellence by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, a designation given only to hospitals that have demonstrated excellent quality in clinical care and treatment processes and that have established comprehensive patient-management plans. In December 2016, the transplant staff performed their 99th transplant for the year and surpassed a total of 500 liver transplants. The transplant team also recently became the first in the nation to perform bloodless heart and kidney transplants in a single patient, a remarkable accomplishment. By saving and re-infusing the patient’s own blood, bloodless surgery avoids using donated blood to replace any blood the patient loses. Hartford Hospital has been performing transplants since 1971.

Milestone Achievement in Stroke Care

This year Hartford Hospital received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award with a Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus designation. While Hartford Hospital attained a Gold Plus status for many years, this is the first time the hospital earned an Elite Plus award – the highest award available. The award recognizes Hartford Hospital’s commitment to providing the most appropriate stroke treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines. To qualify for the Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient’s arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster drug known as tPA.
Bariatric Program Re-accredited
Hartford Hospital was re-accredited as a Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP) Comprehensive Center by the American College of Surgeons and The American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery through March of 2020. The program was noted for quality improvement, ongoing monitoring and intervention and presenting results so other centers can benefit from Hartford’s “best in practice” approach.

2016 Best of Business Award Winner
Hartford Hospital was named a 2016 Best of Business Award winner in the Hospital/Medical category by the Hartford Business Journal (HBJ). In an online poll, almost 1,000 HBJ readers selected the cream of the crop in 79 business categories. The winners stand out for their professionalism and commitment to customer service.

Top Honors for the Center for Education, Simulation & Innovation (CESI)
Hartford HealthCare’s Center for Education, Simulation & Innovation (CESI) earned two top honors this year. CESI was reaccredited as a Comprehensive Accredited Education Institute (AEI) by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). An ACS-AEI addresses the educational needs of a broad spectrum of learners and advances the science of simulation-based surgical education. Additionally, CESI was recognized by Becker’s Hospital Review as being among the 50 Great Innovation Programs in the United States. The organizations on this list are celebrated for demonstrating a commitment to healthcare by tackling the biggest challenges facing patient care and care delivery.

Exterior of the newly expanded CESI
Dr. Andrew Wakefield performing a Mazor X surgical procedure at Hartford Hospital
Hartford Hospital and Hartford HealthCare’s Bone & Joint Institute introduced new technology for robotic spine surgery this year. The new Mazor X is a sophisticated surgical guidance system that brings unprecedented precision to surgeons and their patients who need back surgery. Hartford HealthCare is the first healthcare system in the Northeast to use the technology.

Patients who have broken vertebrae, spinal instability, spinal deformities, chronic back pain or any other condition that requires back surgery with instrumentation are a candidate for this technology. It’s an incredible tool that helps spine surgeons perform these procedures better and more safely.

The Mazor X technology is currently being used for spinal-fusion procedures. Doctors will later expand its use to treat cervical spine issues as well as movement disorders including deep brain stimulation.

During spinal-fusion surgery, bone tissue, screws and plates are placed in the problem area of the spine, and the body’s natural bone growth gradually fuses the vertebrae. The procedure requires precise placement of surgical screws and implants. That’s where Mazor X comes in.

Using the Mazor X, the surgeon can develop a detailed, digital surgical plan well before the operation. Seeing the patient’s complete spine in three dimensions prior to surgery increases the efficiency of the operation because the surgeon won’t encounter anything unexpected once the procedure is underway. The robotic arm will get into perfect position, so when surgeons insert the screws, they know each one is going exactly where they planned for it to go.

Mazor X also makes spine surgery less invasive. With this technology, surgeons can access the spine through smaller incisions. Smaller incisions mean patients may have an easier recovery and shorter hospital stay.
Hartford HealthCare Celebrates the Opening of New Bone & Joint Institute

The $200-million Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital showcased the future of orthopedic care when the facility opened its doors to patients in January 2017. The region’s first and only dedicated orthopedic hospital, the Bone & Joint Institute includes everything patients need from preventive care to the latest treatments, rehabilitation, education and much more – all in one convenient and modern location.

“The Bone & Joint Institute is dedicated to improving quality of life and returning people to the joys of living,” said Elliot Joseph, Hartford HealthCare chief executive officer, who added that the project has proven to be an economic driver, creating more than 1,100 jobs during the construction phase and helping to highlight healthcare’s ongoing role in revitalizing Hartford and the entire state.

The institute was designed with patients’ diverse needs in mind – from those who need emergency or complex orthopedic surgeries that can’t be performed elsewhere to baby boomers seeking quality of life, to seasoned athletes looking for an added advantage and weekend warriors wanting relief from nagging injuries.

The facility, with orthopedic design themes inside and out, has two distinct parts. The 130,000-square-foot hospital features an inpatient building with 48 private inpatient rooms, with capacity to expand to 60; eight operating rooms, with capacity to expand to ten; outpatient rehabilitation and wellness areas; and easy access to diagnostic and other services.

The main hospital is connected to a 75,000-square-foot outpatient surgery center and medical facility via a skywalk. The outpatient building boasts three outpatient surgery rooms, with capacity to expand to five; offices for orthopedics, rheumatology and musculoskeletal specialty care; and an auditorium for conferences that can double as a classroom with live surgical procedures and learning opportunities for staff.

Besides providing traditional, emergency and complex surgeries, the institute offers osteoporosis screenings, a fracture prevention clinic, healthy cooking demonstrations and integrative medicine services such as reiki and massage that help decrease anxiety, reduce pain and accelerate healing.

The center has highly specialized equipment rarely found in one facility, aimed at detecting issues, preventing injuries and speeding recovery. This includes a zero-gravity treadmill allowing patients to begin rehab sooner, even when they cannot bear weight on joints; and a sophisticated motion analysis lab allowing specialists to detect even the smallest of irregularities with movement, preventing problems from worsening. The lab also uses computer-guided analytics to provide balance assessment; and, for athletes, analyses of golf swings, running gait and efficiency, basketball jumping ability or baseball pitching mechanics.
Main lobby of the Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital
Interior of the newly expanded CESI
World-Class Training Center Grows

Hartford HealthCare’s Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI) is recognized as a regional, national and international destination for leading-edge medical training. Now its capabilities are greater than ever, thanks to a major expansion this year.

CESI’s most recent expansion takes it to a new level, turning it into what Program Director Stephen Donahue, RRT, calls “an educational powerhouse.” Last year, about 11,000 people trained at CESI. This spring, CESI will unveil an expanded facility allowing it to accommodate more learners and offer more programs. The center’s space on Jefferson Street has been renovated, and a three-story addition has been constructed adjacent to it.

The project increased CESI’s space from 10,000 to 35,000 square feet. It added more simulation space, including five high-fidelity training rooms, for a total of 10, and four classrooms. In the new four-patient simulated medical/surgical suite, clinicians can practice triaging and caring for multiple patients simultaneously. A simulated intensive care unit also provides practice in caring for critically ill patients. A cadaveric lab will help clinicians master performing procedures on human tissue. The center will have a rooftop helipad and an out-of-service helicopter for use in training air ambulance crews.

These new features, combined with the existing biolab and robotic, cardiac, endovascular and endoscopic simulation technology, will make CESI one of the most comprehensive training centers in the world. In keeping with the center’s focus on innovation, the CESI team is exploring the use of virtual reality for training purposes.

Funding for CESI’s expansion has come from the hospital and several other sources. In 2012, recognizing CESI’s potential to enhance the state’s bioscience sector, Gov. Dannel Malloy announced the awarding of a $15 million state grant. Several individuals, foundations and corporations have supported CESI’s expansion.

Most of those trained at CESI are from Hartford Hospital or other Hartford HealthCare partners. But organizations near and far rely on CESI to gain and hone advanced skills. The U.S. Navy sends doctors and corpsmen to be trained at CESI. CESI also has a contract with the U.S. Air National Guard. Local, state and federal police officers come to CESI for active-shooter simulations, learning to care for victims until paramedics arrive. CESI also works with companies to support research and development of medical devices. Word of CESI’s capabilities has stretched around the globe. Professionals have come from Europe, Asia, South America and other locations to take advantage of its unique learning opportunities.

Donahue says that CESI will continue to evolve to meet professionals’ educational needs. “There are always new technologies coming out, and doctors have to know how to use them in the real world,” Donahue says.
A Milestone in Treating Aortic Valve Disease

Hartford Hospital’s structural heart team completed its 500th Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) in March 2017. TAVR is designed to treat aortic valve disease, a common condition that develops as people get older.

With aortic valve disease, the heart is essentially pumping blood through a pinhole, putting significant strain on the heart muscle. When a patient in poor health has this condition and needs an aortic valve replacement, they may need to avoid open-heart surgery because the risk of complications is too high. The TAVR procedure was developed to help these higher-risk patients by inserting a stent that pushes the old valve out of the way and puts a new valve in its place.

The popularity of TAVR is growing because patients often tolerate TAVR better than open-heart surgery and face a faster recovery. With more than a million people in the U.S. suffering from aortic stenosis, many patients have looked for treatment alternatives with fewer risks that can improve their quality of life.

The number of TAVR procedures completed at Hartford Hospital has tripled in the last three years and is expected to quadruple in the next five years.

Hartford Hospital Doctors

Implant World’s Smallest Pacemaker

Doctors at Hartford Hospital implanted the world’s smallest pacemaker at Hartford Hospital this year. Known as the Micra transcatheter pacing system, the device is designed for patients who need a single-chamber pacemaker.

The Micra transcatheter pacemaker is implanted through a vein in the upper leg. A catheter is placed into the femoral vein and a delivery system is placed up into the heart. The Micra pacemaker is then introduced into the lower right pumping chamber of the heart, the right ventricle. The device has tines on it that keep it secured to the heart muscle.

Unlike the more traditional pacemaker, the Micra device has no leads or wires. It is completely self-contained. Once the Micra is in a suitable location, the tether that secures it to the delivery system is cut and the delivery system and catheter are removed from the body. The procedure takes about 45 minutes to perform.

Since the Micra pacing system has no leads like a traditional pacemaker, complications such as dislodgment or fracture of these wires are eliminated. There is also a lower risk of infection and there is no visible scar, like we see with traditional pacemakers. The Micra pacemaker is MRI compatible, as are many of the newer traditional pacemakers, and has a battery longevity of about 12 years. The Micra also has the ability to increase a patient’s heart rate for them when their heart is unable to.
Institute of Living Introduces
Forensic Psychiatry Program

Hartford Hospital’s Institute of Living (IOL) launched a forensic psychiatry program, offering expertise in a variety of civil, criminal and legislative areas.

The Forensic Consultation Service provides competency-to-stand-trial evaluations, disability assessments, fitness-for-duty evaluations, criminal state-of-mind evaluations, assessments of sex offenders, determination of testamentary capacities, immigration and asylum evaluations and independent evaluations of Habeas Corpus petitions.

Civil claims cases will make up the bulk of the new service’s workload, but services will eventually expand to include more work in criminal cases, offering psychiatric expertise and other services to law enforcement or prosecutors conducting investigations.

Leading Treatment for Gastrointestinal Disorders
Now at Hartford Hospital

Hartford Hospital gastroenterologist Dr. Michael Karasik, is performing sophisticated endoscopic micro-surgical procedures that are available at only a few dozen centers in the country. Karasik pioneered them in Connecticut.

In the past, only small, noncancerous lesions in the mucosa could be removed endoscopically. Patients with larger, cancerous tumors or tumors in the submucosa had to have open surgery. That meant an incision, removal of part of the organ (and reconnection of the two ends), a lengthy hospital stay, a long recovery and a substantial risk of complications.

The breakthrough in endoscopic surgery, Karasik says, is that gastroenterologists can now work in any layer of the G.I. tract. As long as a cancer is found early, even large tumors can be removed in a single piece without removing a section of the organ. The same innovations enable him to treat muscular abnormalities of the esophagus. Using the endoscope and tiny instruments, Karasik removes the tumor from the layers where it’s located and seals the area closed. Even if the tumor is in the outer layer of the organ’s wall, it can be removed endoscopically, thanks to advances in endoscopic suturing. Only a small, full-thickness wedge of the organ is removed, rather than a whole section.

Although endoscopic surgery is only for early cancers and not more advanced tumors, complications are markedly reduced with this pioneering procedure. Most patients go home the next day and outcomes are equivalent to open surgery.

Endoscopic surgery also can be used to treat disorders such as achalasia, in which food can’t move through the muscular valve between the esophagus and stomach. The physician performs a POEM (peroral endoscopic myotomy) procedure. Once within the lumen, the doctor makes an incision into the submucosal layer and tunnels along it to cut the circular muscle, relaxing the sphincter and eliminating symptoms.

Thanks to these leading-edge techniques, many patients can have curative surgery, without pain, with far fewer complications and without any life-altering anatomical changes.

John Bonetti, DO, from the Institute of Living
First Cryoballoon Ablations Performed

In May 2017, Dr. Eric Crespo used the Medtronic Arctic Front Advance system to perform Hartford Hospital’s first two cryoballoon ablations for atrial fibrillation.

This system, which utilizes extreme cold to ablate tissue, has been shown to be as effective as traditional atrial fibrillation ablation techniques, but has the benefit of offering patients a shorter, more consistent, and potentially safer procedure.

Hartford Hospital is the only institution in the Hartford area to offer this technology.
New Cancer Treatment May Offer Hope to Patients

A new treatment that enables the body’s own immune system to kill cancer may soon be coming to HHC. The therapy involves removing immune cells from the patient’s bloodstream, genetically re-engineering them to recognize and kill cancer and infusing them back into the patient. An FDA advisory committee recently recommended approval of the treatment for patients with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia that have relapsed or not responded to standard treatments.

“This is an exciting advance that has – and will – save lives,” says Peter Yu, MD, physician-in-chief of the HHC Cancer Institute. “It is part of the growing story of immunotherapy and cancer - we have learned the immune system has so many weapons at its disposal.”

Yu expects the FDA will approve limited use of the immunotherapy, which would then make it available to HHC patients through our partnership with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

“It’s wonderful to have more options for patients who need these type of therapies,” said Hartford Hospital oncologist Mark Dailey, MD. “I expect that this will improve outcomes with a variety of cancers in the years ahead.”

Researchers are also looking at whether this treatment might offer hope to certain patients with “solid tumors.” Yu says scientists want to learn if immunotherapy with re-engineered T-cells will be as effective if it has to leave the bloodstream and locate targets in other parts of the body. But, he adds, the treatment may hold promise for use against glioblastoma, the type of brain cancer afflicting Sen. John McCain. The brain has typically been a challenge for standard cancer treatments such as chemotherapy, but immune cells may be better able to enter than brain and attack cancer cells, he explains.

New Team Coordinates Care for Patients with Pulmonary Hypertension

Hartford Hospital has added the Pulmonary Vascular Disease Program for patients with pulmonary hypertension. The multidisciplinary program team assists primary care physicians, cardiologists, pulmonologists, gastroenterologists, and rheumatologists with patients who have this complex condition.

As an existing Heart Failure Center, Hartford Hospital can identify patients who require advanced heart failure therapies, including mechanical circulatory support/ventricular assist devices and transplant.

The Pulmonary Vascular Disease Program team is led by a heart failure cardiologist with imaging expertise and a pulmonologist, both trained in pulmonary hypertension.

With this comprehensive cardiology and pulmonary program, Hartford Hospital is offering care beyond what most other pulmonary hypertension centers offer.
Pioneering Technology
in Knee Replacements

The state-of-the-art Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute (BJI) at Hartford Hospital this year pioneered a new, advanced technology to improve outcomes for total knee replacement.

The BJI was the first in Connecticut and one of the first hospitals in the nation to offer patients a total knee replacement using a new tool known as Mako™ Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery. Hartford Hospital has used the Mako system since 2015 for partial knee resurfacing and hip replacement surgery.

The robotic arm enables more precise alignment and placement of implants and features a patient-specific visualization system and robotic arm technology that is integrated with surgical instruments. This advanced technology can reduce patients’ recovery time, enabling them to return to normal activities sooner.
Transformational Gifts Advance Care in 2017

Philanthropy propelled significant advancements at Hartford Hospital in 2017. With donor support of the lead phase of the Campaign for Hartford Hospital, two major building projects came to fruition and the foundation was laid for innovative neuroscience care that will benefit the community for decades to come.

Under the leadership of George Estes, campaign chair, and through the work of its Steering Committee, the Campaign for Hartford Hospital has raised nearly $64 million so far to advance the mission of strengthening the hospital’s facilities and transforming care.

A cornerstone of the capital campaign, the Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital, welcomed its first patients on Retreat Avenue in January.

Another campaign cornerstone, the Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation (CESI), celebrated the completion of a 25,000-square-foot addition with a ribbon cutting in June. Among CESI’s generous supporters are the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary, Stanley Black & Decker, and the state of Connecticut.

In addition, transformational gifts were announced in January at the 26th annual Black & Red, which benefited Hartford HealthCare’s neuroscience program. We were honored to name the Hartford HealthCare Ayer Neuroscience Institute and the David and Rhoda Chase Family Movement Disorders Center in grateful recognition for multimillion-dollar gifts from the Chase family and Ramani and Louise Ayer.

New Technique to Repair Complex Aortic Aneurysms

Hartford Hospital delivered another first in the state of Connecticut in May 2017 when a team of vascular surgeons, cardiac surgeons, and cardiovascular anesthesiologists successfully repaired a complex thoracic aortic aneurysm using a novel Thoracic Branched Endograft as part of an exclusive research trial.

The operating team was led by Dr. Thomas Divinagracia, Chief of Vascular Surgery at Hartford Hospital and Institutional Principal Investigator for this trial. Hartford Hospital is one of only three institutions in New England that have been accepted into the Thoracic Branched Endograft Trial.

This is the first device that allows surgeons to repair life-threatening aortic aneurysms in the upper chest using a 100% minimally-invasive approach.
Hybrid Operating Room Offers New Space for Cutting-Edge Surgery

The new 2,000 square-foot hybrid operating room at Hartford Hospital is equipped with cutting-edge medical imaging equipment that expands our capacity to perform surgeries like angiography, transcatheter aortic valve replacement, endovascular aortic repair, carotid artery stenting and more.

What does that mean for patients? The superb imaging technology helps surgeons view structures not easily seen by other systems, and cuts down on radiation caused by X-rays.

The new space is specifically designed for hybrid use, which allows providers to perform combined procedures that might otherwise require an entire open surgery, even when one or more components could be done in a less invasive way.

In all, these advances lead to fewer incisions, lower risks, better outcomes and shorter recovery times. That means more people have access to advanced, minimally-invasive cardiac procedures that get them back to their lives faster.
Expanded Electrophysiology Lab Opens

The Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute opened its expanded Cardiac Electrophysiology Lab at Hartford Hospital in July 2017, offering state-of-the-art technology and a dedicated, eight-patient suite for pre- and post-procedure care.

In addition to adding a third electrophysiology lab, the new area offered a complete redesign of the workspace that will make care seamless for patients and doctors. Patients who need treatment for heart-rhythm disorders can now get it more quickly and efficiently than ever before, supporting the Heart & Vascular Institute’s vision to offer access to world-class clinical experts in the field of cardiovascular medicine.

One important change with the new space brings patients closer to their families. Instead of patients having their pre-op and recovery on one floor while family members wait for them on another floor, a new holding area keeps everyone together.

The expansion makes the entire process easier and more efficient for patients, their families and caregivers by keeping the pre-procedure, procedure, and post-procedure areas close together. The areas are staffed by healthcare workers with specialized areas of expertise, making the peri-procedural process safer and more streamlined.

The expansion became necessary because of a growing demand for these procedures. As the population ages, there are many more people who need pacemakers, defibrillators and treatment for atrial fibrillation. The patient volume is also increasing as more hospitals and physicians across the state refer their heart-rhythm patients to Hartford Hospital. In 2016, the lab performed over 1,300 procedures for more than 800 patients.

In addition, Hartford Hospital welcomed Dr. Mark Marieh, system director of Electrophysiology Labs for the Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute, one of the region’s preeminent physicians specializing in diagnosing heart rhythm disorders and employing the latest electrophysiologic therapies. He works with Dr. Eric Crespo, director of Hartford Hospital’s interventional EP lab, and Dr. Steven Zweibel, director of Hartford Hospital’s cardiac electrophysiology program.

The hospital is now better prepared to offer these patients better access and a quick return to their normal lives.
Newly expanded electrophysiology lab
New Melanoma and Skin Care Center

Focuses on Prevention and Treatment

There are more new cases of skin cancer in this country each year than breast, prostate, lung and colon cancer combined. At particular risk are people with pale skin or who have a family history of skin cancer, a history of severe sunburns, numerous or unusually shaped moles, or people getting excessive or unprotected exposure to the sun’s ultraviolet rays.

The new Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute Melanoma and Skin Care Center was designed to focus on prevention and treatment of this serious condition, and it is the only facility of its kind in the region.

The team includes a dermatologist, surgical oncologist, dermatopathologist and, in early 2018, a surgeon specializing in treating ocular melanoma, the most common form of eye cancer.

The center features technology like total body photography to address patients’ concerns quickly and avoid unnecessary biopsies and anxiety. Pathology reports are read onsite and cases are reviewed by tumor boards through Hartford HealthCare’s membership in the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Alliance.

Omar Eton, MD
Medical Director, Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute
Melanoma & Skin Care Center
Relieving Prostate Symptoms Without Surgery

Two advanced therapies offered at Hartford Hospital are giving men new non-surgical options for relief from enlarged prostate. The new UroLift System is an outpatient procedure in which four to six implants are put into place to hold the prostate lobes apart so they can’t press on the urethra. The procedure takes 20 minutes.

“UroLift offers a novel, minimally invasive treatment for BPH that’s different from all earlier ones,” says Dr. Richard Kershen, a urologist at Hartford Hospital. Patients rarely require catheters, bleeding is minimal and symptoms improve quickly.

Another technique for obstruction blood flow, known as embolization, is also being used to alleviate enlarged prostate symptoms. Hartford Hospital is one of few centers in the country providing this treatment.

In prostatic artery embolization, or PAE, an interventional radiologist guides a catheter into the blood vessel in the patient’s groin, locates the blood vessels supplying the prostate and inserts tiny, sterile particles to reduce the blood flow. The procedure is done on an outpatient basis, and patients go home right away. The prostate shrinks over time, restoring urine flow.

Interventional radiologists Michael Hallisey, MD, and Steven Sussman, MD, have been performing PAE since late 2015.

“For patients considering surgery, this is a less invasive option,” says Hallisey. “While it is likely to have a slightly lower success rate than surgery, it also has a lower risk of impotence and other complications.”

Center for Healthy Aging Opens

The new Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging at Hartford Hospital is designed to serve the complex needs of elderly patients and help seniors age safely at home.

The center provides in-home, in-office or telephonic assessments that make it easy for seniors, along with their loved ones and caregivers, to access information and services that optimize quality of life.

The center offers a menu of comprehensive services, including one-on-one consultations with geriatric specialists, resource coordinators and Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease specialists.

Experts from the center also specialize in education, home safety assessments, caregiver referrals, medication support, living options, adult day care programs and geriatric care management.

These resources will help older adults, loved ones and caregivers overcome the many challenges they face throughout the aging process.
Good Works for Hartford Hospital

When the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary was founded in 1921, its members made bandages needed by the hospital. Today, the Auxiliary donates hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to Hartford Hospital with one goal in mind: to make a difference in the community by supporting the values of Caring, Safety, Excellence and Integrity.

A few of the funded projects for 2017 included:
- **$35,000** for Emergency Department Sonosite Ultrasound, which improves the safety and success of diagnosis and difficult procedures
- **$28,694** to the Hartford HealthCare Headache Center for Site Rite 8 Ultrasound and Accuvein Vein Illuminator to enable infusion therapy for patients with severe headaches
- **$8,177** for Young Adult Services at the Institute of Living to equip a safe exercise room where young adults experiencing their first episode of psychosis can begin an exercise program
- **$18,000** to Women’s Health Services/Injury Prevention Center for baby boxes that reduce infant mortality and SIDS
- **$35,000** for birthing lights on North 6 Labor and Delivery
- **$16,102** to the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit for a LUCAS 3.0 Chest Compression System
- **$30,000** to fund genomics tests for children who can’t afford costs of finding medication compatibility
- **$10,553** for a Coulter Counter prep of donor cell compatibility for transplant recipients
- **$34,000** to Radiation Oncology for BreathHOLD device

While the Auxiliary has evolved since its founding 95 years ago, it remains a critical partner for the hospital in improving the health of its community. A simple way to support these efforts is to shop at the Auxiliary Store or eat at the Au Bon Pain café. Each purchase directly benefits the Auxiliary’s revenue, to be donated back to Hartford Hospital.

Employee of the Year

Presented May 2017

Karl is a radiation therapist at Hartford Hospital in the Department of Radiation Oncology. He is known for taking the time to get to know each one of his patients. He values building lifelong relationships with them, and it shows. When not providing hands-on treatment, you can find him visiting his patients on the hospital floor or even attending outside fundraisers and special events to show his support. His commitment to caring extends far beyond the walls of the hospital.

In his free time he works with at-risk youths in the Greater Hartford area. Karl makes a remarkable difference in the lives of people in and outside of Hartford Hospital.
Teams of the Year

Awards were presented at the annual Celebrating Achievements and Team of the Year Awards in November 2016.

VTE Action Team
Hartford Hospital’s Clinical Team of the Year
Venous thromboembolism (VTE), more commonly known as a blood clot, is an often under-recognized condition affecting as many as 900,000 patients in the country every year. At Hartford Hospital, a multi-disciplinary VTE Action Team works with all caregivers to reduce the incidence of blood clots among patients. The team consists of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, administrators, physical therapist and even information technology professionals. Last year the team’s hard work, collaboration and leadership resulted in a 40% reduction in Hartford Hospital’s VTE rate compared to the previous year. This amazing accomplishment is a testament to the team’s commitment to quality and patient safety.

Bed Management and Transfer Center Team
Hartford Hospital’s Clinical Support Team of the Year
The Bed Management and Transfer Center Team is staffed 24 hours a day by registered nurses and administrative support specializing in critical care experience. Their role is to facilitate emergency and non-emergent patient transfers to Hartford Hospital from other facilities and manage beds for the entire hospital. Since the team’s inception in 2008, the Transfer Center has experienced exponential growth and saw a record-breaking 6,130 transfers last year. The team also focused on improving the patient experience. By enhancing education to patients and their family members and providing needed psychosocial support, patient satisfaction scores among transfer patients increased dramatically.
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*Term ending Sept. 30, 2017

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Regional Vice President, Behavioral Health
Psychiatrist-in-Chief, Institute of Living

Peru Venkatesh
Chief Academic Officer

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Pharmacy

Darren Bonneau
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Amato DeRosa
Biomedical Engineering

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Leo Garrison
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Laboratory Services

Alison Rapose
Human Resources

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Hartford HealthCare Heart & Vascular Institute

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Co-Physician-in-Chief
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Mariane Carna
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Physician-in-Chief
Hartford HealthCare Ayer Neuroscience Institute

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Courtland Lewis, MD
Physician-in-Chief
Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital

David Santoro
Director of Operations
Hartford HealthCare Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital

Patricia Rehmer
President
Hartford HealthCare Behavioral Health Network

Steven Shichman, MD
Medical Director
Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute

Jan Ruderman
Vice President
Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute
Community Benefit  For period from 10/1/2015 through 9/30/2016

Total Community Benefit

$150,828,453

- Health professions education: $46,281,960
- Subsidized health services: $2,522,409
- Research: $1,739,975
- Cash and in-kind contributions to community: $12,084,144
- Charity care at cost: $7,724,359
- Unreimbursed Medicaid: $78,364,493
- Community health improvement services and community benefit operations: $2,111,113
**Statistical Highlights**

- **Total Surgeries**: 45,091 (2017) vs. 43,974 (2016)
- **Outpatient Visits**: 86,522 (2017) vs. 77,792 (2016)
- **Transitions from Inpatient Care**: 234,653 (2017) vs. 233,354 (2016)
- **Births**: 3,720 (2017) vs. 3,864 (2016)

*Includes Inpatient, Outpatient, Glastonbury and Hartford Surgery Centers
As of press time, financials were in the process of being audited.
Medical Officers

Stacy R. Nerenstone, MD  
President of Staff

Matthew L. Saidel, MD  
Vice President of Staff

Beth Brady, MD  
Secretary of Staff*  
*From October 2016 to January 2017

Michael O’Loughlin, MD  
Secretary of Staff*  
*As of February 2017

William V. Sardella, MD  
Treasurer of Staff

Medical Staff

Our medical staff includes some of the nation's most-respected physicians and advanced practitioners. They are talented, compassionate and committed to providing patients with the best possible care.

A complete list of our medical staff can be viewed on our Hartford Hospital website:  
www.hartfordhospital.org/findaphysician
Clinical Chiefs

Mark J. Alberts, MD
Neurology

Witold M. Waberski, MD
Anesthesiology

Gregory S. Bonaiuto, MD
Otorhinolaryngology

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Radiation Oncology

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Srinivas Mandavilli, MD
Pathology/Lab Medicine

Jerry Neuwirth, MD
Ophthalmology

Peter Pasciucco, DDS
Dentistry/General Dentistry

Kenneth Robinson, MD
Emergency Medicine

Harold I. Schwartz, MD
Psychiatry

Patricia A. Sheiner, MD
Surgery/Transplantation

Steven J. Shichman, MD
Urology

Paul Thompson, MD
Cardiology
Nursing Clinical Services Leadership

Danette Alexander, RN, DNP, NEA-BC
Emergency Services/LIFE STAR

Mary Babcock, RN, MSN, NE-BC
Ayer Neuroscience Institute

Ellen W. Blair, DNP, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, NEA-BC
Psychiatry

Michael Davis, RN, BSN, MBA, NEA-BC
Medicine/IV Therapy/Oncology/Respiratory Services

Karen Habig, RN, MS
Cardiology/Cardiac Surgery

Kim Hayes, RN, MS, BSN, CNOR
Orthopedics

Michele Kolios, RN, BSN, MS
Critical Care

Beth Lawlor, RN, BSN, MS, CCM, CPHM, NEA-BC
Care Coordination

Gail Nelson, RN, MS, NEA-BC
Regulatory Readiness & Nursing Operations

Gwen Richardson, RN, MSN, CNOR
Periop Professional Practice

Amy Schroder, RN, MSN, CNML
Women’s Health & Ambulatory Care Services

Maria Tackett, RN, EdD, CCRN, CEN
Professional Practice

Susanne Yeakel, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, CNML
Surgery Services/Wound Care/Ostomy Program
Stephanie Wills, RN (left center) discusses patient care with Ilana Klein Prenovitz, DO (left), Lindsey Orr, MD (right center), and Alyssa Austria (right) at a mobile workstation on Bliss 101.
Corporators as of 9.30.2017

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Samuel Gray
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Arnold C. Greenberg
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Edward Guay

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Natalie Chambers Fund
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Kathryn Richards Chandler Fund
Mary Robinson Cheney Fund
Cheney Brothers’ Free Bed Fund
Children’s Fund
Citizens Endowment Fund
Julie J. Gilman Clark Fund for Assistance
Mabel H.P. Clark Social Service Fund
Robert J. Clark Endowment Fund
Susan S. Clark Free Bed Fund
Cohen Family Endowed Fund for Oncology
Fred Cohen Endowment Fund
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C. Wellington Crosby Fund
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Francis Crosby Fund
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Ruth Brainard Cutler Fund
Julia W. Ensign Darling Fund
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Pierpont Davis Fund
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Austin Cornelius Dunham Laboratory Fund
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Sarah R. Dunham Fund

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Mary Elizabeth Lincoln Goodwin Endowment Fund
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Harriet Hall Fund
Joseph T. Hall Fund
Margaret J. Hall Free Bed Fund
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Ferdinand Austin Hart Free Bed Fund
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Hartford Archdeaconry, Children’s Cot Fund

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Emma May Hart Fund
Ferdinand Austin Hart Free Bed Fund
Harold and Ethel Hart Endowment Fund
Hartford Archdeaconry, Children’s Cot Fund
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Norman Hendensted Fund
Edward P. Hickmott Free Bed Fund
Elisha E. Hilliard Fund
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Hills Fund u/w/o Carrie E. Hills Knight
Frederick W. Hills Fund
J. Coolidge Hills, Ellery Hills and Nancy H. Hills Fund
Drayton Hillyer Fund
Mrs. Henry P. Hitchcock Free Bed Fund
Harold G. Holcombe Fund
Jane Holton Memorial Fund
Edward Williams Hooker Free Bed Fund
Hospital Social Service Fund
Edmund G. Howe, William J. Wood and Frances Howe Wood Fund
Charles L. Hubbard Fund
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Newman Hungerford Free Bed Fund No.2
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Lyman B. Jewell Fund
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Mary J. Keney Fund
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George W. Klett Fund
Robert C. and Leonice M. Knox Fund
Henry Kohn Free Bed Fund
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Hereman P. Kopplemann Fund
Dr. John C. Leonard Fund
Hyman Levine Fund
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Augusta M. Manning Free Bed Fund
Edith Oakley Martin Fund
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William B. McCray Fund
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Ella F. Miller Free Bed Fund
Maria L. Moody and Bertram E. Moody Fund for Palliative Care
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Junius S. Morgan Fund
William D. Morgan Fund
Grace Root Morris Fund
Arnold Henry Moses Fund
John C. Nihlack Trauma Support Endowment Fund
Frederick L. Nichols Endocrine Fund
Charles N. Northam Fund
May Rockwell Page Fund
Donato Palermino, M.D. Endowment Fund
Emma L. Parsons Fund
Emily M.W. Peabody Free Bed Fund
Julia Ripley Pembert Free Bed Fund
u/w/o Chauncey Pembert
Mrs. George C. Perkins Free Bed Fund
Gertrude S. Perkins Free Bed Fund
Lucy Adams Perkins Fund
Permanent Fund
Charles and Elsie Sykes Phelps Free Bed Fund
Guy R. Phelps Fund
Clara Piester Fund
u/w/o Everett Piester
Ralph and Lula Pinney Fund
The Charles Polivy, MD, Surgical Education Fund
Charles F. Pond Free Bed Fund
Caroline E. Porter Free Bed Fund
Eliza Storrs Porter Free Bed Fund
John Porter and Caroline E. Porter Fund
Camilla Jillon Potter Free Bed Fund
Samuel O. Prentice Free Bed Fund
William H. Putnam Research Fund
Ludwig J. Pyrtek, MD Chair Fund
Barbara Coles Ralston Endowment Fund
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The Ned C. and Janet C. Rice Fund for Excellence
Edith Kerr Richards Memorial Fund
Herrick C. Ridlon, MD Fund
Charles C. and Emily Cheney Riley Fund
Sophia S. Risley Fund No.1
Sophia S. Risley Fund No. 2
Elvira Evans Roberts Free Bed Fund
Edward K. Root Fund
Edward King Root Maintenance Fund
Judson H. Root Free Bed Fund
Lewis P. Roraback Fund
G. Gardiner Russell Fund
Ada Gilbert Russell Fund
Mary I. B. Russell Fund
Mary Thomson Russell Cancer Research Fund
William C. Russell Social Welfare Fund
William C. Russell and Ada G. Russell Free Bed Fund
William A. Sanborn Free Bed Fund
Joseph D. Sargent Cancer Research Fund
School of Nursing Endowment Fund
Schizophrenia Treatment Fund
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Lois and Howard Siegal Endowed Fund for Nursing Excellence
Clayton H. Smart Fund for Diabetes
Ellen T. Smith Free Bed Fund
Ocott and Lucy Smith Research Fund
Dr. Oliver C. Smith Fund No. 1
Dr. Oliver C. Smith Fund No. 2
Dr. Oliver C. Smith Fund No. 3
W. Leslie Smith, MD Fund
Joseph S. and Margaret A. Stackpole Fund
Staff Memorial Fund
Hannah Marcy Starr Free Bed Fund
Melanchton Storrs Fund
u/w/o Gertrude S. Perkins
Edward A. and Etta W. Suisman Fund
Mary Mulready Sullivan Symposium Endowment Fund
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Alice Taitnor Free Bed Fund
Tallwood Urology and Kidney Institute Endowment Fund
The Taylor Fund
Madeline Murphy Taylor Fund
Isham Terry Fund
Oliver Grant Terry and Amelia Smith Terry Fund
u/w/o Mary A. Terry
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Hartwell C. Thompson Fund
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continued on next page
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u/w/o Sarah Tuttle and
u/w/o William F. Tuttle
Jane Tuttle Free Bed Fund for Nurses, etc.
Miles A. Tuttle Free Bed Fund
Sarah Tuttle Free Bed Fund
u/w/o Jane Tuttle
William F. Tuttle Free Bed Fund
u/codicil to Will of Jane Tuttle
William F. Tuttle Free Bed Fund
u/w/o Jane Tuttle
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H. Whitney Tyler Fund
Bernadette Warren Fund
Nathan M. Waterman Free Bed Fund*
Ellen M. Watkins Fund*
Arne Welhaven Memorial Library Fund
Cassius Welles and
Susie Russell Welles Fund
u/w/o William C. Russell
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Frank L. Wilcox Free Bed Fund*
Wildwood Sanatorium Investment Fund
Elizabeth W. Williams Free Bed Fund*
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Josephine Williams Trust Fund
Hattie Johnson Wilson Free Bed Fund*
Robert J. Winkler Endowment Fund
Solomon and Katie Wohl Free Bed Fund*
Bertha B. Woodford Fund
Charles G. Woodward Fund
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The Zachs Endowment Research Fund

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Sarah Pardee Trust
Lewis P. Roraback Trust
E. Terry Smith Trust
Winchell Smith Trust
Louise Terry Trust
Joseph P. Trumbull Trust
Frank W. Weston Trust
Anna C.F. Butler Trust
George J. Capewell Foundation
u/w/o Garafelia Capewell
u/w/o George J. Capewell, Jr.
u/w/o Mary A. Capewell
u/w/o Ida G. Capewell
I. Kent Fulton Trust
William L. Montague
Ethel Wood Thomas Trust
Aaron W.C. Williams Trust
Charles G. Woodward Trust
Grace Holcomb Humphrey Trust

Trust Funds not held by the Treasurer of the Hartford Hospital. From Bank of America as trustee:
Grace Edith Bliss Trust
Grace Edith Bliss Trust
u/w/o Frederick S. Bliss
David Crary, Jr., Trust
Rene H. Hills Trust
Sara Pardee Trust
Joseph P. Trumbull Trust
Frank W. Weston Trust
Mary Botsford Trust
George J. Capewell Foundation
u/w/o Garafelia Capewell
u/w/o George J. Capewell, Jr.
u/w/o Mary A. Capewell
u/w/o Ida G. Capewell
William R. Morgan Trust
Aaron W. C. Williams Trust
Charles G. Woodward Trust
Julia S. Reynolds Trust

Trust Funds held by the Treasurer of the Hartford Hospital Jefferson House:
Elizabeth C. Bacon
William T. Bacon
John F. Baker Fund
Alice M. Bartholomew
Mary Jane Blackman Fund
Brooks-Woodford Memorial Fund
F. A. Brown Fund
Martha W. Brown Fund

Wickliffe S. Buckley Fund
Louise S. Bunce Fund
Harriet Turner Burnham Fund
Silas Chapman, Jr., Fund
Mabel H.P. Clark Fund
Susan S. Clark
Caroline L. Cooley
Josephine H. Davis Fund
Charles E. Fox Fund
u/w/o Frederick K. Fox
Bernadine D. Gale Fund
Charles S. Goodwin Fund
u/w/o Charles L. Goodwin
Jessie I. Herriman Fund
Elise M.S. Hills Fund
Stephen Hills Fund
Mrs. Henry P. Hitchcock
Charles L. Hubbard Fund
Keney Fund
George Rice Lester Fund
George S. Lewis
u/w/o Cornelia B. Hinsdale
Emma Brown Lyman
Mary P. Mansfield Fund
Eliza F. Mix
John Porter and Caroline E. Porter Fund
Edward V. Preston and
Clara M. Preston Fund
Judson H. Root Fund
W. C. Russell Fund
Ellen T. Smith
William L. Sugden Fund
Catherine Tuttle Fund
u/w/o Sarah Tuttle
William Tuttle
u/w/o Sarah Tuttle
Bertha B. Woodford Fund
Charles G. Woodward Fund
Mary S. Woodward Fund
P. Henry Woodward Fund

Those starred are “Free Bed” funds which have been given to enable the hospital to provide care to any and all, based on financial need on application.
Defining Moments

Designers:
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Affiliations

Primary affiliate of:
The University of Connecticut School of Medicine, for both undergraduate and graduate medical education. Hartford Hospital has four residencies and 14 integrated residencies in conjunction with the Capital Area Health Consortium. The hospital also sponsors one affiliated Rushford Center fellowship, 13 Hartford Hospital fellowships and 12 fellowships in conjunction with the Capital Area Health Consortium.

Affiliate and partner of:
Dartmouth Medical School for undergraduate medical education.

Nursing affiliations:

**Associate degree**
- Capital Community College

**Baccalaureate degree**
- Central Connecticut State University
- Quinnipiac University
- University of St. Joseph
- Southern Connecticut State University
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford

**Master’s degree**
- Fairfield University
- Sacred Heart University
- University of St. Joseph
- State University of New York
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford

Clinical Internships

- American International College
- Bay Path University
- Boston University
- CT Technical High School
- Drexel University
- Duquesne University
- Eastern CT State University
- Fordham University
- Franklin Pierce University
- Goodwin College
- Laboure College
- Manchester Community College
- MCPHS University
- Misericordia University
- Sacred Heart University
- Smith College
- Southern CT State University
- Springfield College
- Springfield Technical College
- Springfield Technical Community
- Temple University
- Trinity College
- University of Bridgeport
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford
- University of New England
- University of New Hampshire
- University of Rhode Island
- University of St. Joseph

MSN programs

- Fairfield University
- Quinnipiac University
- Sacred Heart University
- University of St. Joseph
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford
Dr. Padmanabhan Premkumar, Julie Michaelson, RN and Kathleen Race, RN during their daily huddle meetings