

Your Opinion is Valuable

The Mountainside Health Foundation would like your feedback to determine the most pressing health needs and challenges facing our community today.

Please take a few moments to complete our online health survey!

www.mshfoundation.org

Golf For A Cause: Combating Childhood Obesity

SAVE THE DATE

for the

Mountainside Health Foundation's

Annual Golf Tournament

Monday May 19, 2008

Green Brook Country Club • North Caldwell, NJ

Net proceeds from the tournament will benefit

TEAM HEALTH

A lifestyle initiative designed to combat childhood obesity, funded by the Mountainside Health Foundation, in partnership with area public schools.

To learn more about Golf Tournament sponsorship opportunities, or to request an invitation to the event, visit us at www.mshfoundation.org.

Premier Sponsor: **MOUNTAINSIDE
HOSPITAL**

The mission of the Mountainside Health Foundation is to strengthen health and wellness in communities traditionally served by Mountainside Hospital.

www.mshfoundation.org

1 Bay Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07042

Mountainside Health
FOUNDATION
CREATING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES



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FoundationMatters

News and information about the Mountainside Health Foundation ■ Fall 2007

CREATING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES




This edition of *Foundation Matters* provides important updates about the changes within the Mountainside Hospital Foundation as a result of the sale of Mountainside Hospital from Atlantic Health to Merit Health Systems on June 1, 2007.

Now named the Mountainside Health Foundation, we will operate going forward as an independent, self-governing public charity. The long-term vision for the Foundation will be to create healthier communities, by serving as a catalyst for positive change. As a public charity, we will continue to raise money in addition to making grants.

This fall, we will file a Cy Pres application, seeking Court approval to use those funds currently held by the Foundation to the betterment of health within our communities, consistent with our new mission. Pending the outcome of the Cy Pres process, the Foundation's assets will total approximately \$30 million. Investment income, combined with new dollars we plan to raise, will be the source of our grant-making funds in 2008 and beyond.

You should also know that the final negotiations between Atlantic, Merit and the Foundation included a provision to give the Foundation the Right of First Refusal for the purchase of the Hospital, should it ever be offered for sale as other than an acute care, medical facility. While we hope that such an eventuality will never materialize, this Right of First Refusal assures that the Foundation will have a place at the table for any negotiations regarding the future of Mountainside Hospital.

And while the future of our Foundation is very much in its formative stages, we are working hard to ensure that the resources we hold will be used to find innovative ways to address the area's most pressing health needs. We encourage you to share your thoughts by completing our "health needs" survey at www.mshfoundation.org.

We thank all of our donors for your past support, and for your continued interest in creating healthier communities! 



Our Mission

To strengthen health and wellness in communities traditionally served by Mountainside Hospital.

Our Vision


To create healthier communities by supporting and advancing good health, wellness education, and disease prevention and treatment.

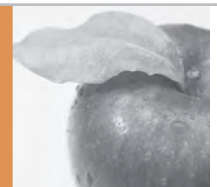
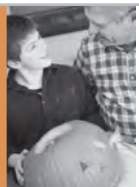
We Will

- *Serve as a catalyst and innovator for new initiatives*
- *Partner with other area foundations whose interests align with ours*
- *Undertake funding only for projects where we can make a difference*

Trustees Welcome Merit

At its June meeting, the Mountainside Health Foundation Board passed a resolution stating:

On behalf of the communities we represent and serve, the Trustees of the Mountainside Health Foundation do hereby officially welcome Merit Health Systems to Mountainside Hospital. The Board wishes Merit the utmost success in its endeavors to successfully operate the Hospital as a premier acute care facility. 



Mountainside Health Foundation Board of Trustees*

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*As of October 16, 2007



Photo by Sal Benedetto

Members of the Board's Executive Committee join Pam Scott, Chief Foundation Officer (center). Trustees pictured (from left) are: A. Duncan Kidd, Treasurer; Marilyn Hatzenbuhler, Secretary; M. Ann Johnson, Chair; and Paul Lisovicz, Development Committee Chair. Vice Chair Izumi Hara (not pictured) is also a member of the Executive Committee.

Prioritizing Local Health Needs

During the months of June and July, the Mountainside Health Foundation conducted meetings with representatives from the community and local social service agencies to gather input on their observations concerning the area's most pressing health needs. The meetings were lively and participants showed keen interest in several important topics.

As a result of these meetings as well as in depth research, the Trustees identified four priority local health needs:

- *Improving Access to Health*
- *Mental Health*
- *Obesity/Nutrition/Healthy Lifestyles*
- *Seniors/Aging in the Community*

Task forces comprised of Trustees, health experts and community members will be working to identify proactive ways that the Foundation can have significant impact in these four priority areas. Funding for projects that positively impact these issues will be the Foundation's focus, though the Trustees will also consider proposals for grant requests that address other important health and wellness issues.

The Foundation is eager to support collaborative projects involving more than one agency, pilot programs, and innovative solutions to health problems. For example, we are consulting with local ambulance units to explore initiatives to resolve the financial difficulties they face caused by diminishing numbers of volunteers and the necessity of replacing them with paid personnel.

Community members are invited to participate in a health needs survey, and to share thoughts about how to impact the health of our region, by visiting our website at www.mshfoundation.org. **EM**

As part of the asset sale of Mountainside Hospital to Merit on June 1, and with the approval of the Superior Court of New Jersey in the CHAPA proceeding, the Foundation agreed to transfer \$4 million to Atlantic Health to be used to purchase agreed upon medical equipment specifically and solely for Mountainside. The state-of-the-art medical equipment purchased for Mountainside with Foundation funds will improve services in numerous departments including: Radiology, the Operating Room, Hemodialysis and Echocardiography. The Hospital will also acquire a second Digital Mammography unit and a Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy system.



An Interview with Board Chair, M. Ann Johnson

Q: How did the Board determine the new direction for the Foundation?

A: The process to transition the Foundation to its new mission was deliberate and thoughtful. The Board was always mindful of its responsibilities, and its desire to ensure that it finds the most effective ways to make a long-lasting, meaningful impact. We are committed to helping the communities traditionally served by Mountainside Hospital, and want to emphasize that the Foundation is a community-oriented endeavor. We encourage residents to get involved in our efforts, and to give us feedback through our Web site. Together, we can all make a difference.

Q: What do you see as the Foundation's role in the community?

A: As a public charity that both raises funds and makes grants, the Foundation has an opportunity to bring together representative social service agencies, other foundations, and interested donors to discuss issues and to assist in trying to improve health and wellness. We want to be a resource, where innovative approaches to solve problems can be explored. The Foundation may also consider requests for funding for creative and unique programs, if they are well developed and demonstrate the possibility of positive impact on the provision of local health services.

Q: When will the Foundation be accepting grant proposals?

A: Funding guidelines, and our grant application, are being developed and

will be posted on our Web site by the end of 2007. The Foundation anticipates making its first grants to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations in the first quarter of 2008.

Q: How will the Foundation conduct its grant making?

A: In addition to accepting proposals, the Foundation will occasionally issue Requests for Proposals, or RFP's, on topics of particular interest to the Board. We will announce the RFP in local newspapers and on our Web site to ensure that any charitable organization that wants to apply, will be able to do so.

Q: Will the Foundation continue to support Mountainside Hospital?

A: Because the hospital is now owned by Merit Health Systems, a for-profit entity, the Foundation is limited to supporting only those hospital-related programs that are charitable in nature that provide a direct benefit to the community, and only incidental benefit to Merit Mountainside Hospital. The Foundation has also broadened the eligibility criteria for grants that were previously given exclusively to the hospital, in order to address the health needs of the targeted communities. The Foundation can no longer purchase medical equipment, or provide funding to build new facilities at Merit Mountainside Hospital.

Q: Can you give examples of how the Foundation would reach its objectives, over and above grant making?

A: At some point in the future, although probably not in its first year or two, the Foundation may take a

more hands-on approach to the resolution of community health issues. The Board may also choose to convene a health issues forum at which one, two or all of our funding priority areas can be examined by a broad range of stakeholders. We would expect to attract recognized experts to participate and possibly a publication to result from the meeting. RM



Mountainside Health
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CREATING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

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