

Samaritan Compassion *in Action*



Greetings!

Welcome to the latest edition of Samaritan's Compassion in Action.

Since 1980, South Jersey has trusted Samaritan's caring hospice experts during life's most tender moments. As we approach our 45th anniversary year, we thank you for the privilege of caring for families just like yours and remind you that we are here for you, not only when you or a loved one chooses the helping expertise of hospice care, but at every stage of your healthcare journey.

We are honored to provide advanced clinical expertise and extraordinary compassion to help more people in more ways through home-based primary care, palliative medicine, hospice care, and supportive services.

We know you have a choice in healthcare and understand that accessing programs and services may sometimes be confusing. We encourage you to call us, speak to a nurse coordinator, and allow us to guide you to the care that's right for you. Person-centered care is at the heart of all we do, and we are here to help.

Thank you also to the donors, volunteers, and community partners who ensure that Samaritan continues to provide life-enhancing care for the most vulnerable right here in South Jersey.

Together, we are The Samaritan Difference.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Phillip W. Heath
President & CEO

One Family's Legacy of Love



Fifteen years ago, the Russo family's lives were changed forever.

Louis Russo Jr, beloved father and husband, was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. It was in the last few years of Louis's life, with his illness progressing, that the family came to know Samaritan. They brought Samaritan into their home to provide medical care for Louis and to assist Joanne Russo, his wife and primary caregiver. Joanne was amazed by how quickly Samaritan organized the medical equipment Louis needed to be comfortable at home and a team to come in to help. Reflecting on Samaritan's care, Joanne emphasized, "It was the most loving thing I could do for my husband and even for myself."

Caring For Patient and Caregiver

Although Louis's dementia, a symptom of his disease, was advancing, he still recognized his team and greeted them with a "big smile on his face." Samaritan coordinates care plans around what each patient and caregiver needs, and Louis's Samaritan care team included - among other experts - massage therapists, music therapists, and aides.

Joanne felt joyful seeing her husband well cared for and smiling. She remarked, "Samaritan came into my home in a loving, caring, and professional way. They taught me so much, and they gave me peace of mind." Samaritan's team gives caregivers tips and tools that help to ease the day-to-day care of their loved ones. This holistic approach recognizes that caregivers play an important part in providing quality care for patients and includes caregivers in the care plan.

Giving Back to Samaritan

Son, Lou Russo III's advice to caregivers? "Never be too proud to ask for help." He continues, "It was only after the fact that we realized the toll of caregiving." Lou experienced both the long-term care Samaritan provided for his father and then the shorter-term hospice care provided for Marcia Phillips, his mother-in-law. During a visit to Marcia at The

(continued page 2)

Congratulations new Medical Director, Hospice Services



Elizabeth Reimet, MD

Dr. Elizabeth Reimet joined Samaritan in 2023 as a Hospice and Palliative Care Physician with more than a decade of experience in the specialty. In her new role, she will collaborate with Samaritan's Operational Leadership and Hospice Management teams to ensure the delivery of expert clinical care to our hospice patients. Congratulations, Dr. Reimet!



The Samaritan Center at Mount Holly Refresh

During June, the staff of The Samaritan Center at Mount Holly proudly debuted fully refreshed accommodations, designed to provide care and comfort in a peaceful home-like setting that encourages our patients and their loved ones to cherish every moment together.

The Samaritan Difference

Highlighting the wonderful staff of Samaritan and the care they provide!



Asia Green: Certified Home Health Aide

Asia has been part of our Samaritan family for five years and is noted by her colleagues for being genuine and caring. Asia never hesitates to step up for her patients and Samaritan. She always goes the extra mile whether it is seeing extra patients or helping other teams

with the care they need. All her patients and families speak highly of her care, but just as importantly, they speak highly of her character and her reliability. She truly embodies The Samaritan Difference, and we are honored to have her here with us.

Colleen Lason: Certified Home Health Aide / Preceptor & Care Coach

Colleen has been a valued member of the Samaritan family for four years. She has a passion for helping and caring for others, and it shows in how she cares for her patients.

Not only does she go above and beyond for our patients, but she is also a Preceptor/Care Coach for her colleagues. Colleen trains the new Home Health Aides and staff, ensuring that all aides can provide the same high-quality care that she and Samaritan are known for. Colleen is the definition of leading from the front.

*Thank you for your
extraordinary compassion!*

A Wedding to Remember



When Marianna Spencer-Dasher reconnected with her mom, Bobbi Stilo, she gained a new best friend. A cancer diagnosis was an unwelcome heartbreak. As her wedding approached, Marianna worried about her mom missing the day. The Samaritan Care team came together to plan a special ceremony just for Bobbi. Read the full story at SamaritanNJ.org/Blog.

One Family's Legacy of Love (cont'd from cover)

Samaritan Center Voorhees he recognized a few of the nurses who had cared for his father. Seeing them reminded him of how they had treated his dad like family, caring for him with warmth and love. The experience inspired the family to help other caregivers access the resources Samaritan provides. The 12th Putt for Parkinson's tournament, a sold-out success, will help them do just that.

In the years following Louis Russo Jr.'s diagnosis – motivated by love – the family had organized the Putt for Parkinson's golf tournament. Their goal had been to raise funds to support Parkinson's research and cures through the Michael J. Fox Foundation. After experiencing the wonderful care Samaritan provided, the Russos knew they wanted to help others local families experience the same excellent care they had received. In July 2024, for the first time in the tournament's history, Putt for Parkinson's added a second beneficiary – Samaritan.

All of us at Samaritan thank the Russo family for the privilege of caring for their beloved Louis and Marcia, and for their heartfelt generosity!

Record-Breaking Year for Samaritan's 2024 Drive FORE! A Good Cause Golf Tournament!

The 34th annual golf tournament, held at Little Mill Country Club in Marlton, and presented by The Richardson Family Dealerships, raised a record-breaking \$229,000+ to support Samaritan's continuum of life-enhancing services.

Thank you to our sponsors, donors, golfers, volunteers, and staff.

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Samaritan IN THE COMMUNITY



1. Samaritan's Curtis Caldwell (2nd from left) on Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey's DEIB Panel ;
2. Family and Samaritan team celebrating Alice's 96th birthday ;
3. Linda DeLamar & Chrissi Vergoglini volunteer at Camden Clean Up ;
4. Samaritan's Chris Rollins and Susi Levy with the donated work of late husband and sculptor, Stephen Robin ;
5. Samaritan's Lisa DiCerto with the Phandemic Krew volunteers at The Samaritan Center Voorhees ;
6. Friendly Caller Fran Marziano at Samaritan's Social Isolation, Loneliness & Connection Collaborative

Samaritan

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PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Tree of Life

SEASON OF LIGHT

December 3, 2024 | 7:00pm
3906 Church Road, Mount Laurel
SamaritanNJ.org/Tree

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Gala

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Holman Enterprises

February 8, 2025 | 6:00pm
SamaritanNJ.org/Gala

at **Live!**
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PHILADELPHIA

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to be recognized
as one of the
Top Workplaces
in New Jersey!**

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Visit **SamaritanNJ.org/Careers**



Become a Samaritan VOLUNTEER!

We offer a variety of in-person or at-home volunteer opportunities, with in-person and online training available.

For more information, call Lisa at **856.761.7502**
or visit **SamaritanNJ.org/Volunteer**