

Samaritan Compassion *in Action*



Greetings!

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

As the end of the year stretches before us, August gives us the perfect time to reflect on all that we have achieved during 2023 and all that we have set out to achieve in the years ahead. For the Samaritan team, 2023 has been a year of growth, excitement, and a focus on the delivery of compassionate, expert care across the continuum of our healthcare services.

If you have seen any of our advertising lately, you have heard us say that **Samaritan is More Than Hospice**. Yes, we are. A leader in the delivery of expert, compassionate hospice care for over 40 years, we are also a leader in everything from home-based primary care, to palliative medicine, to social connections, to grief support.

Let us not forget that Samaritan is also a great place to work! Why? Because each of us proudly breathes life into what we call **The Samaritan Difference**. Our mission of service sets us apart from everyone else in the region. Our not-for-profit delivery of care continually seeks to go above and beyond the expected, as does every single member of our team.

As you read this issue of our *Compassion in Action*, take a moment to celebrate our featured employees. Cheer our recent success at our annual golf tournament. Soak in the words of a grateful daughter. Applaud the official launch of The Boccolini Institute at Samaritan. Mark your calendars for our upcoming events. Learn how we help every patient and family we serve live their best life every day and at every stage.

Thank you for being part of The Samaritan Difference!

With gratitude and appreciation,

Phillip W. Heath, President & CEO

A Family's Love – Elia's Story



Rita's beloved mother, Elia, had perfect lab work and vitals at 101 years young. Her family made sure she had the care and the loving company she needed every day. Then her primary care physician stopped making house calls, and Elia's nurse practitioner noticed leg swelling. When Elia became lethargic and began coughing, her family was unable to reach her care team.

A family friend—a nurse—recommended they call Samaritan.

"From the first phone call to the last," Rita says, "everyone was wonderful."

Rita spoke with Michelle four times the day she called—a Sunday—to determine whether her mother needed palliative or hospice care, and from the moment Desiree arrived to evaluate Elia's needs, everything flowed smoothly. "We couldn't have asked for better people or a better company," Rita says.

The Samaritan team included Courtney, who provided compassionate care and gifted Elia with a plant on her 102nd birthday; Lisa, who provided emotional support to Rita and her sister, Anna; Betty, who ensured Elia had holy water, a cross, and rosary beads she held around the clock; Atiya, who provided care each weekend; and Sara, who spent quiet, caring moments with the entire family.

"I wish I had known about Samaritan earlier," Rita says. "Everyone went out of their way for my mom, and for us, not because they had to, but because it was from their hearts."

All of us at Samaritan thank Rita and Anna for allowing us the privilege of caring for their mother, Elia.

"Sometimes," Rita adds, "it's just that gentle touch that people need to feel safe."

“Putting more
Love in the world
through **Compassion in Action.**”



The Mary Ann Boccolini Institute for Education, Research & Innovation

This September, Samaritan will officially launch the Boccolini Institute to advance Samaritan's thought leadership and strategic direction while honoring Mary Ann Boccolini's purpose of putting more love in the world through compassion in action.

The Institute for Education, Research & Innovation was named in honor of Mary Ann Boccolini in 2022 on the occasion of her retirement to recognize her outstanding leadership over 25 years of

service. Since then, Samaritan's Trustees have established an endowment to support the Boccolini Institute with ongoing opportunities for donors to provide philanthropic support.

The Boccolini Institute will lead the advancement of Samaritan's person-centered care through various education, research, and innovative programming in alignment with Samaritan's mission, vision, and strategic goals.

Advancing Samaritan's expertise and thought leadership:

- Fellowships in hospice & palliative medicine
- Nursing scholarships for those pursuing education in the fields of hospice and palliative care
- Research to support evidence-based, best practices in home-based care, social connections, and other social determinants of health
- Accredited professional education
- Partnerships with medical, nursing, and other academic institutions to provide student learning experiences
- Community speakers bureau

September 7 & 8
**Day
of Giving**

Please join us to support Samaritan's annual Day of Giving to help raise funds to further the programs and leadership of the Boccolini Institute at Samaritan. **Thank you!**

For more information please visit
SamaritanNJ.org/DayofGiving



Left to right: Phillip W. Heath, Samaritan President/CEO, Greg Button, Samaritan Board Chair, Shirley and Jim Richardson of The Richardson Family Dealerships, and Roy Fazio and Cliff Mancine, Golf Committee Co-Chairs

Samaritan's 2023 Golf Tournament was a huge success!

A total of 188 golfers participated in this year's event at Little Mill Country Club, raising over \$205,000 to support Samaritan's comprehensive family of services for patients and families right here in South Jersey. Samaritan extends sincere thanks to all of our sponsors, donors, golfers, volunteers, and staff.

We appreciate your generosity and willingness to help so many of our patients and their loved ones throughout the region.

Thank you to all of our sponsors!

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Always a Good Sign



The Samaritan Difference

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

Thank you for your extraordinary compassion!



Marci Raymond DeCosmo

Marci DeCosmo is passionate – passionate about palliative care, social work, and Samaritan. She feels essential as part of the palliative medical team able to help patients manage chronic illness symptoms. In addition

to helping to manage social and emotional experiences of patients, Samaritan's palliative medical team provides support to families and caregivers.

The best part, Marci says? "The connections that I get to make

every day when I meet new people. I learn something from every interaction." Marci is also a big fan of meeting her families' dogs and cats.



Sara Miller

Sara Miller has been a dedicated hospice social worker with Samaritan for 19 years. "I feel useful and helpful in this role," Sara says. Her devotion and impact are confirmed by her actions, and by the patients, families, and team members who work alongside her. Sara cites the strength of her Samaritan team as one of the keys to her longevity. For her team

members, who respect and trust Sara not just as a colleague, but also as a person, the feeling is mutual.

As a social worker, Sara meets patients and families at an emotional time in their lives, helping to navigate difficult conversations and bring comfort. With years of knowledge about

resources and what will best fit patient and family needs, Sara recently created Fingerprints on the Heart. The program enables families to work with their social worker to imprint their loved one's fingerprint as a permanent keepsake. Each fingerprint provides a sweet reminder that will stay with families forever.

Samaritan is here to help every step of the way.
You don't have to grieve alone.

"I don't know how I would have survived the past six months without Samaritan."
— Suzanne H.

"Counseling made all the difference! It helped me through my initial grief and prepared me for what was to come."
— Krista J.

For more information on Samaritan's Grief Support programs, please reach out at:
856.596.8550 or
CFGcounseling@SamaritanNJ.org

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FREE Will & Estate Planning Workshop

**September 19, 2023
5:30 pm**

SamaritanNJ.org/WillWorkshop

Tree of Life
2023 SEASON OF LIGHT

**December 5, 2023
7:00 pm**

3906 Church Road, Mount Laurel

Celebration of Life Gala

**February 10, 2024
6:00 pm**

SamaritanNJ.org/Gala

Arts in Healing

Samaritan has proudly partnered with Perkins Center for the Arts to curate the art installation at The Samaritan Center at Voorhees. Perkins, a regional, community-based arts organization since 1977, is committed to creating experiences that use the arts to benefit mental and physical health.

Perkins Center for the Arts understands that Samaritan patients at any stage of care benefit from the emotional support the arts provide. Caregivers and families are also in need of the same support and may utilize the tools of art in their healing process, making The Samaritan Center the perfect location for the Arts in Healing exhibit.

Pictured: Kahra Buss, Executive Director (left), and Sharon Kiefer, Curator of Exhibitions, Perkins Center for the Arts



THANK
YOU



PERKINS
CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS



Older Adults Resource Connections

Launched in late 2022, Older Adults Resource Connections (OARC) has proven to be invaluable to older adults throughout the communities we serve. Developed in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey and Aleph Home Care, OARC brings together the resources of the three organizations to connect older adults in our community with the services they need.

While accessing assistance with health, socialization, or basic daily tasks may often be overwhelming, OARC allows any older adult in the community to place one phone call to ask for help.

"In offering an array of services, we are enabling them to age with dignity while navigating resources so they receive what they need," says Robyn Kaplan, Executive Director of Older Adults, Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey. "Let us do the hard work so that families can spend quality time together."

The OARC program allows older adults and their families to have all their questions about services and programs answered by a concierge coordinator. If you need assistance, please call 856.751.4788 or email OlderARC@jfedsnj.org.

 aleph Home Care | Adult Day Center

Samaritan
LIFE-ENHANCING CARE

 Jewish Federation
of Southern New Jersey
& OUR FAMILY OF AGENCIES



Social Connections

At Samaritan, connections matter.

Did you realize that 1 in 4 adults aged 65 and older are socially isolated? We understand isolation and loneliness negatively affect the health of those we love. That's why we've made a commitment to Social Connections, Samaritan's newest service, starting

with our Friendly Caller program and looking ahead to our Friendly Visitor program later this year.

"Everyday moments of connection matter," says Sally Cezo, Samaritan's Director of Social Isolation Impact. "They allow us to feel happier and less alone. That's why we're connecting people one

phone call and one visit at a time."

Look for more information coming soon — connecting people, generations, and hearts through meaningful moments.

To learn more, follow us on social media @SamaritanNJ or register for our email newsletter by visiting SamaritanNJ.org.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer to support our Social Connections programs?
Please email: SocialConnections@SamaritanNJ.org or call: **856.552.3235**.



Samaritan's Circle of Care

HOSPICE CARE

Helpful services provide comfort, support, and dignity for patients and their families

PALLIATIVE MEDICAL PARTNERS

Addressing the pain, symptoms, and stress of serious illness at any stage

CENTER FOR GRIEF SUPPORT

Counseling and support groups for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one

SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Meaningful connections to address isolation and loneliness

HOMEVISIT PHYSICIANS

Procuring the full range of primary care services in the comfort of home

BOCCOLINI INSTITUTE

The Mary Ann Boccolini Institute for Education, Research, and Innovation leads the advancement of person-centered care along the healthcare continuum

Join Team Samaritan

Become part of the Samaritan team and enjoy competitive salaries, excellent benefits, comprehensive training, professional development and more! We are looking for qualified candidates to join our growing team.

Apply today:
SamaritanNJ.org/Careers

Become a Samaritan VOLUNTEER!

We offer a variety of in-person or at-home volunteer opportunities, complete with training!

For more information, call Sharon Wenner at **856.552.3238** or visit SamaritanNJ.org/Volunteer



1. Samaritan's Sherri DeVita and Daura Jones; **2.** Samaritan Nurses Chantay McKinley, Maria Wilson-Damiani; **3.** Team Samaritan at Gloucester County NAACP: Madison Savage, Abigail Ayitiah, Jacinth Ellis; **4.** Voorhees Mayor Michael R. Mignogna with Samaritan's Amy Maricondi and Phillip W. Heath; **5.** Samaritan Board leaders Dr. Carman Ciervo, Sue Lehrman, and Chair Greg Button; **6.** Food Bank of South Jersey: CEO Fred C. Wasiak and Phillip W. Heath; **7.** Samaritan's Mark Biancaniello and Beth Clement with Diane Rugala, of PFLAG, and Edward Miller, of William Way Community Center; **8.** Gloucester County Election Outreach Officer Tiffany Winters-Walker and Samaritan's Curtis M. Caldwell; **9.** Samaritan Volunteers: Gwen Knight, Maryann Hallowell, Marsha Richman; **10.** Samaritan CEO Phillip W. Heath, former Merck CEO Ken Frazier, and Rutgers School of Business Dean Dr. Monica Adya; **11.** Samaritan's Susan Lasker Hertz and Carensa Cimino; **12.** SamariTeens Aiden Emory, Isabella Breining, Isabella Emory, Cody Habek, Tyler Staats.

Samaritan

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Christmas IN JULY

Samaritan's care team created a Christmas memory for patients to melt away the July heat. Read the full story on SamaritanNJ.org/Blog

Pictured:
Andrea Dean, Professional Relations Specialist,
Julia D'Amico, Samaritan Music Therapist

