

# COMPASSIONATE COMPASSIONATE Spring 2022





### FOCUSING ON THE NEXT STEP

The past two years have seemed to present countless obstacles as we have all dealt with the COVID pandemic. Our community and world have endured staggering seasons of uncertainty and difficulty, especially within our field of health care. Despite the challenges, there is one word that truly encompasses what I have seen from those within our Good Samaritan family - resilience. I have been reminded time and time again of the resiliency of our team members and physicians on the front lines at Good Samaritan, our Foundation family who has stepped up in tremendous ways to support areas and programs to better the hospital and community, and the resilience of our patients - our neighbors we are serving daily – who are the forefront of our focus.

In this edition of *Compassionate Giving*, you'll catch a glimpse of this resilience happening around Good Samaritan. Through this season of uncertainty, with the partnership and generosity of you – our Foundation Family – we have made strides

to continue serving our Good Samaritan community, as shown by a new, welcoming coffee shop in the Dixmyth Lobby, recognition of our frontline team members through the Grateful Patient Program, and financial support that has encouraged and prepared our recent graduates of the Good Samaritan College of Nursing to launch into the workforce with academic honors ready to serve. You'll also have the opportunity to view the stories of lives being cared for at our Free Health Center through a new video featuring experiences told firsthand by FHC patients, staff, supporters, and volunteers.

In addition to these stories, I'm honored for you to meet and read the story of our 2022 Gala Patient Champion, Laura Broxterman.

I believe that in order to be resilient, you must practice gratitude. Laura shared her incredible story of resilience with us, and we are so inspired by her strength. From dealing with cancer, not once – but twice – to sharing how her experience with cancer has helped shape her into

a better nurse practitioner for her patients, Laura radiates positivity during a very difficult season of her life to overcome cancer once and for all.

Holding onto a positive attitude, Laura focuses on the next step in her journey toward complete health. I think this lesson is one we strive to model in the Foundation. We're remaining resilient, directing our attention on ensuring Good Samaritan can provide compassionate care today, tomorrow, forever. I hope you will join me in focusing on our next step as you delve into this issue of *Compassionate Giving*.

With gratitude,

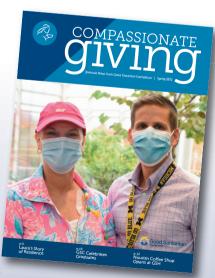
Mary L. Rafferty

President and Chief Executive Officer Good Samaritan Foundation

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This edition of Compassionate Giving as well as previous versions are available digitally at gshfoundation.com/compassionategiving. Should you have feedback, please let us know by calling us at 513 862 3786 or emailing gshfoundation@trihealth.com.



#### On the Cover:

Laura Broxterman shares her story of resiliency and gratitude, battling cancer twice alongside Dr. Saulius Girnius.

### WELCOME NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Dr. John "Clint" Hutson

Dr. John "Clint" Hutson has been appointed as TriHealth's new Associate Chief Medical Officer for the Good Samaritan Region. While still centered on furthering the clinical work of the hospital region, this newly expanded Associate CMO role has grown to include responsibility for system-level clinical and strategic priorities. Dr. Hutson will collaborate with Dr. Helen Koselka, TriHealth System Chief Medical Officer, to help lead critical quality and safety initiatives system-wide and within the region. He will also play an important leadership role on our journey to improved population health as well as in promoting provider wellbeing and engagement. Dr. Hutson is also a friend and a Natural Partner of the Good Samaritan Foundation.



Maria Ashdown, MSN, RN, NE-BC

Maria Ashdown has been appointed the next Chief Nursing Officer for the Good Samaritan Region. Maria Ashdown, MSN, RN, NE-BC, has served as System Director, Emergency Service at TriHealth since 2018, with responsibility for all six emergency departments. She has been a part of TriHealth for over 20 years, starting her career as a staff nurse on the orthopedic/trauma unit at Good Samaritan Hospital in 1991. She served in a number of progressive leadership roles over eight years in the Emergency Department at Bethesda North and has served as chair of the Management Council and co-chair of the Stroke Committee. Before moving to Bethesda North, Maria served in progressive leadership roles at Good Samaritan Hospital in Dayton, where she initiated inter-disciplinary rounding in all units and started the Palliative Care Team. Maria maintains Nurse **Executive Board Certification** 

(NE-BC).



Tori Monson

Tori Monson joined the Foundation in December 2021 as the new Foundation Officer. She will be working closely with other members of the Foundation team to build and maintain relationships with current and prospective donors, internal hospital vendors, and community partners. Tori has worked for TriHealth for two years. She graduated from Western Illinois University in the summer of 2018 with a bachelor's degree in science. Tori brings prior experience to the Foundation from working closely with multiple nonprofit organizations, including Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Starkey Hearing Foundation, and The Painted Turtle Camp. Originally from Chicago, Tori moved to Northern Kentucky in March 2020.



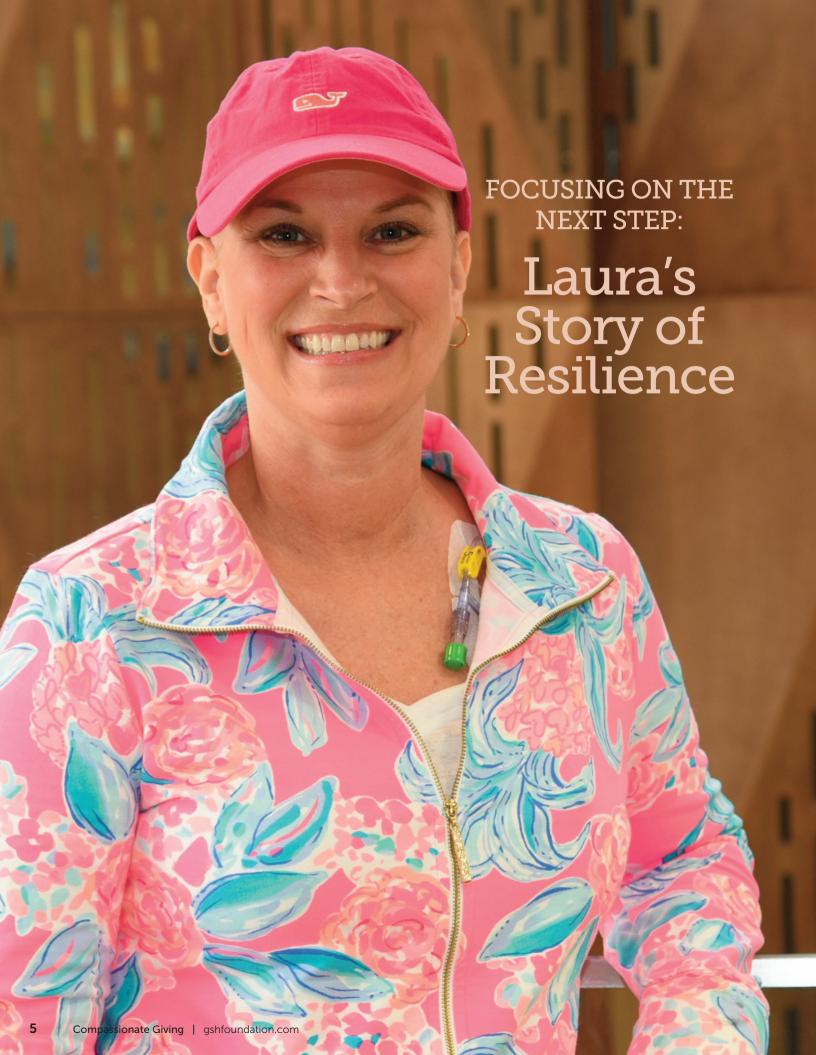
# NATIONAL DOCTORS' DAY

Our Good Samaritan physicians are the key to healing in our community and we want to thank them in a big way. But we need your help!

March 30 was National Doctors' Day and we honored our physicians by a special ask to their patients. Do you want to recognize your amazing doctor? It's not too late!

Visit **gshfoundation.com/doctorsday** to make a donation. Your doctor will receive your tribute and a commemorative pin designating them as a 2022 Doctors' Day honoree.





#### LAURA BROXTERMAN

is Good Samaritan Foundation's 2022 Gala Patient Champion. As a healthy nurse practitioner, Laura received a diagnosis of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma shortly after noticing shortness of breath when she was walking her dog. Under the care of Dr. Saulius Girnius, the 2022 Gala Physician Champion, Laura shares her story of resiliency and gratitude, battling cancer twice alongside Dr. Girnius and his team at TriHealth's Cancer Institute at Good Samaritan.

On a Sunday in October 2019, Laura Broxterman stepped outside of her house in Cincinnati, Ohio to take a walk with her dog - a normal routine for the 46-year-old, healthy nurse practitioner. Beginning her walk, she passed only three houses in her neighborhood before realizing something was off. She was short of breath. Thinking it was strange, she shrugged it off until later that day when she and her husband went for a walk again and the same thing happened.

The following Wednesday, Laura went to have her hair done. As she sat in the salon chair, she noticed she was once again short of breath – a familiar feeling to what had happened the Sunday prior though this time she was sitting still. Things were not right. That afternoon, she had a sharp, stabbing pain in her abdomen and immediately visited the emergency room at Bethesda North. After CAT scans of her chest, abdomen, and pelvis, doctors found an enlarged spleen and enlarged lymph nodes in her chest, abdomen, and pelvis.

"I had noticed five months prior that I had been having GI symptoms and a lot of night sweats," Laura said. "I had seen my gynecologist and primary care doctor and was treated for IBS with diarrhea and perimenopausal hot flashes." Unbeknownst to Laura, something more invasive was brewing under the surface. "I had two enlarged lymph nodes in my neck that I ignored. I work in primary care and come in contact with many sick individuals and thought these enlarged lymph nodes were merely reactionary to coming in contact with a viral illness."

After leaving the ER, she found herself back the next morning with horrible pain. She was admitted for three days, undergoing a lymph node biopsy for an official analysis/diagnosis. A week later, Laura received a diagnosis with the disease affecting nearly 40 percent of our friends and family – cancer. She had stage four follicular Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma that had spread above and below her diaphragm.

"Here I am, 46-years-old," she said. "I never in a million years thought this would happen. I've always been really healthy. I was like, well, okay.... this is what I've got, so what do we do about it? I wanted to jump right in and get going with treatment."

Things began moving quickly at that point. She began treatments of chemo with immunotherapy. Amid the whirlwind that had begun a week prior with shortness of breath, Laura tried to gain an understanding of what was happening.

With a background in health care, Laura brought a certain medical understanding to her healing and treatment journey. Laura was a family practice nurse practitioner at TriHealth's Family Medical Group for five years before following the doctors at the practice to a new healthcare system, where she now works. Despite leaving TriHealth in 2021, Laura continued to receive care at Good Samaritan because of her trust in the care provided by Dr. Saulius Girnius and his team at the Cancer Institute at Good Samaritan.

"The whole entire team was so amazing," she said.
"I cannot say enough good things about Dr. Girnius –
his bedside manner; he's a really good diagnostician;
he's willing to consult with colleagues all over the
country. Lymphoma is his area of interest. We had good
dialogue and two-way communication. He always took
the time to explain every step of the process and PET
scan results. He's just very supportive and I also felt like
he made me feel included in the decisions too."

Under the care of Dr. Girnius and his team, Laura received her last treatment in May 2020 and celebrated being lymphoma free in June. It was only six short months later when a CAT scan showed the cancer had returned.

I went through six rounds of chemo – one round a month, "Laura said. "I relapsed in six months. The type of lymphoma I had turned into a more aggressive form. Since I relapsed, Dr. Girnius recommended doing another form of chemo and immunotherapy and a stem cell transplant following 6 rounds of the chemo, or a newer CAR-T therapy, which is an option for relapsing lymphoma."

In May, the Foundation will host its 37th Annual Gala, with funds raised benefitting the cellular therapy program in the Cancer Institute. This type of treatment will be a likely option for Laura to beat cancer once and for all.

Despite dealing with two incredibly difficult diagnoses, the resiliency and positivity that Laura radiates is unmatched. Claiming she's always been a glass-half-full kind of person, she focuses on her sources of strength.

"My husband, my parents, Dr. Michael Heile, my partner at work, all the physicians and office staff that I work with, friends and family – they have all been so kind, as have my patients. People have gone above and beyond, praying for me and putting me on prayer groups with their church.

During her treatments with Dr. Girnius, Laura can be found wearing a special Lilly Pulitzer top, representing breast cancer awareness, that her team members purchased for her when she was diagnosed with lymphoma. Though breast cancer is not the type of cancer Laura is battling, she loves that the colors in the top are bright and happy and add a little extra joy to her day, helping her get through hard times. She even visited the Lilly Pulitzer store in Kenwood after she received the top from her team members and shared her story with the store's employees. Afterward, she received a fleece blanket in the mail with a note from the Lilly Pulitzer employees, stating the gift was for keeping her warm during her treatments.

"When you put out positivity, you receive it ten-fold. And I hope that I do that for others. I try to do that. I don't know if I'm always successful, but I do try."

As Laura still fights for healing, she remains positive and grateful, thanking those who have played a role in her cancer journey.

"Special thanks to the nursing staff at the Cancer Institute, they're incredible. They're the eyes and ears of everyone. Having been a former nurse that worked inpatient, I think it's so important to express my appreciation for them - they're with me all day long. I'm there for six to eight hours when I receive chemo and immunotherapy. These men and ladies are checking on you, making sure you're comfortable, helping schedule your next visit – they're running the go-between with you and your doctor."

She has also taken the experience as a patient and reflected on how she can use her story to better serve her own patients.



"I'm being more present, a better listener, asking more questions, delving in deeper to what type of symptoms and when they start during my own patient encounters. I think it's also helped me become more empathetic. Having gone through this, it's amazing at the drop of a dime how your health can change. I understand the unknown that patients go through – fearful, anxious, not feeling well. Having that go-to-person, like me with Dr. Girnius, I want to be that for my patients."

Though dealing with her own personal hardships, she focuses her attention on helping others. As an advocate for the cellular therapy program, she believes that it is going to open the door for so many more people to be able to receive treatment.

Think of all those people who need this and can't get it. With Good Samaritan starting their cellular therapy program, it's going to open so many treatment opportunities for people battling cancer."

Today, Laura stays focused on the next steps toward healing. Laura's glass-half-full attitude and resilient outlook on life are evidenced through her radiant demeanor and smile. As she focuses on complete remission, the Foundation family stands beside Dr. Girnius and his team in the Cancer Institute, praying for Laura as she makes strides toward being completely cancer-free.

# TriHealth Cancer Institute Launches Bone Marrow Transplant Program

The TriHealth Cancer Institute (TCI) based at Good Samaritan will launch the system's groundbreaking bone marrow transplant (BMTx) program to serve TriHealth's patients. Over the past decade, TCI has grown to become the region's largest and most comprehensive cancer program, serving more than 40% of all cancer patients across Greater Cincinnati! Until now, patients requiring this advanced procedure needed to go outside the system to receive a bone marrow transplant often resulting in fragmented, uncoordinated care and patient dissatisfaction. Now, thanks to the launch of our BMTx program, TCI has a number of eligible patients who are being readied for world-class TriHealth care.

The launch of a bone marrow transplant program will also make possible the introduction of new and rapidly evolving Cellular Therapies to treat blood malignancies as well as solid tumors using immune effector cell technology and other immunotherapy programming approaches.

## THE 2022 GALA SUPPORTS THE CELLULAR THERAPY PROGRAM IN THE CANCER INSTITUTE AT GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

#### Why Cellular Therapy?

Good Samaritan is building a platform of delivery when it comes to oncology. A dramatic shift towards personalized oncology care is built on cellular-based therapies. These therapies improve the immune system's ability to fight cancer. They can use the patient's own stem cells to replace the immune system. Also, CAR-T therapy allows individualized T-cells of the immune system to fight against a patient's own cancer cells. The platform enables TriHealth to be on the cutting

edge of current and future therapies as oncology care evolves. It allows the Cancer Institute to deliver collaborative, integrated, patient-centered oncology care.

The GSH cellular therapy program is outpatient-driven, allowing the patient to undergo a full course of treatment in an outpatient setting. Patients will make daily visits to the donor-supported GSH Infusion Center for close monitoring and follow-up, seeing their multidisciplinary team each day.



### Your Philanthropy Update

#### Nourish Coffee Shop Opens at Good Samaritan Hospital



Left to right: Adam Miller, CEO of Joseph Beth, Patrick Wright, VP of Hospital Operations at Good Samaritan, Amy Lane, Nourish General Manager, Candy Hart, Good Samaritan Hospital Guild President, Kelly Vance, Good Samaritan Foundation Manager



This past December, a ribbon-cutting took place in the Good Samaritan Hospital Dixmyth lobby for the new Nourish coffee shop. Nourish – Eat Clean, Feel Good, Live Well is operated by Joseph-Beth, in partnership with Good Samaritan Foundation.

The new Nourish shop offers coffee and a range of food choices, including healthier food options for grab and go for team members and visitors to the hospital.



Nourish is the second facility within Good Samaritan Hospital operated by Joseph-Beth. The company already operates the Joseph-Beth gift shop, Nurture, through a highly collaborative partnership with the Foundation through the Good Samaritan Hospital Guild. The Good Samaritan Hospital Guild provides funding for special projects and programs at Good Samaritan Hospital. Since its founding, the Guild has contributed more than \$5 million to fund various projects and equipment throughout the hospital.



#### **Tribute Gifts**

Thank you to all those who made gifts in honor or in memory of someone meaningful in their lives. We are grateful for your tributes that make a difference in the lives we serve. For a full list of tribute gifts, visit gshfoundation.com/tributes.

#### Lifetime Giving

We are happy to celebrate new members of our Lifetime Giving Societies as well as recognize those whose continued investment and generosity has earned a new recognition level. For a full list of Lifetime Giving Partners, visit gshfoundation.com/lifetimegiving.

#### Your Philanthropy Update

# GSC Celebrates Graduates at December Commencement Ceremony



Fourteen GSC 2021-22 Scholarship Recipients Graduated during December Commencement

Good Samaritan College of Nursing & Health Science (GSC) graduated its fourth class since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fifty nurses earned degrees during the December 16, 2021 ceremony at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. There were 14 scholarship recipients for the 2021-22 school year who graduated this past December. The 14 graduates encompassed an incredible \$52,375 in scholarship awards, which was made possible by the generosity of GSC supporters.

Not only did the COVID-19 pandemic place unforeseen circumstances on students, but it altered health care across the community. Now more than ever, there's a need for nurses. Education and training of future nurses is essential. Since its founding by the Sisters of Charity, the College's mission remains to develop healthcare professionals who are engaged in their disciplines, providing compassionate care to patients and service to their community with respect for all, guided by their spiritual heritage. Though evolution is needed for the College to continue to meet the healthcare demands of tomorrow, fulfilling its mission to provide the essential need for the community is still at the forefront.

#### Your Philanthropy Update

"We're proud of these students and are confident in their ability to provide competent and compassionate care during an unprecedented time," said Judy Kronenberger, Ph.D., GSC President.

"For 125 years Good Samaritan College has been teaching others how to take care of people whether there's a pandemic or not," noting this is the second pandemic this college of nursing has witnessed with the first being the pandemic of 1918.



Bailey Christine Hopple



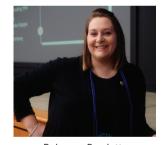
Elizabeth "Lizzie" Moore

Additionally, three students, two of which were scholarship recipients this year, were recognized with awards from the GSC Alumni Association for their commitment to academics, GSC, and the nursing profession. Scholarship recipients recognized by the Alumni Association include:

- Bailey Christine Hopple, Exemplary Service Award
   (2021-22 recipient of the Betty (BJ) Hunt Scholarship)
- Elizabeth "Lizzie" Moore, Outstanding AASN Graduate (2021-22 recipient of the GSC Class of 1961 Scholarship and GSC Alumni Scholarship)

Of those that graduated in December, two 2021-22 scholarship recipients were inducted into the national Alpha Delta Nu (ADN) Society during a ceremony that took place ahead of the College's commencement service.

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Moore, a 2021-22 GSC Class of 1961 Scholarship recipient and GSC Alumni Scholarship recipient, and Rebecca Burdette, a 2021-22 Stephen Jason Morsch 8 Days



Rebecca Burdette

1 Hour Scholarship recipient and Erna Dalton Butler Scholarship recipient, were two of three graduating students to be inducted.

The ADN is the National Honor Society recognized by the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing. GSC's Beta Kappa chapter of ADN is by invitation only, and to be invited Lizzie and Rebecca had to demonstrate the utmost academic and professional excellence. Each student maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, earned at least a "B" in all courses, demonstrated conduct on the campus and in the clinical setting reflecting the integrity and professionalism of GSC, and completed a service project. Both Lizzie and Rebecca have accepted positions at Good Samaritan Hospital and will remain within the TriHealth network.



# In Cincinnati, a person with a lower income will die approximately 12 years before a person with a higher income.

That's why the Good
Samaritan Free Health
Center is here – to provide
care for the people
that fall through the cracks.

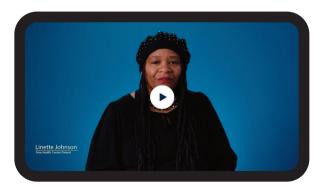
We've been working on a special video for the Good Samaritan Free Health Center, and the final product is here! At the end of December, in observation of Free Clinic Month in Ohio, the newest video including Free Health Center patients, staff, and volunteers was released.

You're invited to view the video to learn more about patients Linette and Maurice and hear from Dr. Eby, Dr. Madden, Linda Smith-Berry, donor Tom Ruthman, and more about why the FHC is so important to our community. View the video here: gshfoundation.com/FHC

In addition to the launch of the new video, this past fall a generous \$1 million was gifted to the FHC by the Ruthman family to ensure that patients continue to receive the utmost care possible. This was highlighted in the fall 2021 edition of *Compassionate Giving*. Support from the Good Samaritan Foundation family is critical to ensuring that patients who seek services from the FHC

are receiving access to the holistic healthcare services offered. The Foundation is grateful to the Ruthmans and all FHC donors for their amazing gifts that make positive impacts on the lives of those who receive care at the center.

The Free Health Center is 100% philanthropically funded through the Good Samaritan Foundation. It operates through the generosity of donors and an extensive volunteer network of more than 130 physicians, nurses, medical assistants, dentists, hygienists, interpreters, pharmacists, psychologists, clerical volunteers, and other providers. Along with volunteers, our core staff provides care through a comprehensive model that puts the needs, goals, and empowerment of patients at the center of their care.





To learn more visit gshfoundation.com/FHC.

# Grateful Patient Honors GSH General Surgery Medical Surgery Unit's Dakota Boeppler



Pictured are members of the General Surgery Medical Surgery Unit along with honoree Dakota Boeppler (left).

In January, team member Dakota Boeppler with Good Samaritan Hospital's General Surgery Medical Surgery Unit was honored through the *Good Samaritan Foundation Grateful Patient Program* for exemplifying TriHealth's values to serve, excel, respect, value, and engage. Along with the gift, the donor wrote this note of thanks:

Aurse Dakota Boeppler took such good care of me when I was at Good Sam recently for some surgery. Dakota was caring, very competent, and made me feel so much better! She is a great nurse! Thank you, Dakota!

- Gary and Emily Machles

#### Two Powerful Words - THANK YOU

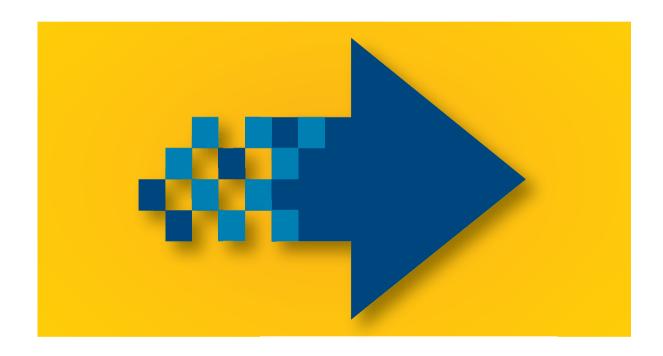
The Grateful Patient Program allows a patient or their family to make a donation in honor of a physician, nurse, or team member who made a difference and share a note of thanks.

Donations provide support for projects and services in the Good Samaritan Region. To learn more about the Good Samaritan Foundation's Grateful Patient Program, call 513 862 3786 or visit www.gshfoundation.com/grateful.



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We have a relentless commitment to the Good Samaritan way of compassionate care.

And we're continuing to think *Forward*. Stay tuned for an announcement coming soon!