

CARING



News For Donors & Supporters

SOUTH SHORE HEALTH
GALA
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Benefiting Emergency Care Services

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Issue 57 Summer 2025

VP, Chief Medical Officer Jason Tracy, MD, (second from left) with some of South Shore Health's emergency medicine team. From left: Julie Shapiro, MD; Kelly McDonough, DO; Will Tollefsen, MD; Eugene Duffy, NR-P; and Allison Demma, MD.

Generating support for South Shore Health, a charitable provider of health services to the more than one million residents of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Caring

A publication of
South Shore Health Foundation

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Letter From the Chair of the Board

Thank you for browsing this digital summer edition of Caring. As the health system continues to scale resources to meet high demand and lay the groundwork for a future capital campaign, we found it necessary to

move to a more cost-effective online newsletter format for the time being. We hope you continue to follow along with all the amazing work that is happening, and soon to emerge, because of your recent generous support.

Right now, the Foundation Events team is immersed in planning a fall gala for the record books—one that benefits emergency care at South Shore Health. With a fundraising goal of \$1 million—our highest ever for a single event—the health system is signaling a commitment to invest in the most sophisticated technology, spaces, and talent in order to continuously deliver the highest-quality healthcare to our community. More details on the *South Shore Health Gala* can be found on page 5.

The grateful patient story on page 4, and so many others like it, demonstrate the quality of care South Shore Health is known for—and hint at where we might be without it. With demand for emergency care growing and the number of emergency departments in our region shrinking, South Shore Health's role in our community is more important than ever. Championing innovative programs and life-saving services while retaining a talented workforce is how we can best serve the families who call the South Shore home.

I look forward to being a part of this next chapter of progress for our health system alongside so many of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Russell".

Rick Russell

Chair of the Board, South Shore Health Foundation

Health System News

West Unit Expansion Progress

South Shore Hospital's short stay observation unit expansion project is on schedule and expected to be complete this fall. Made possible by a \$5.3 million gift from Alan McKim in 2024, the unit will help to ease flow in South Shore Hospital's very busy Emergency Department.

Supply Chain Manager Paulo Silva; Supply Chain Systems & Support Manager Pete Umile; Supervisor, Supply Chain Procurement Bob Medina; Materials Associate Gianna daRosa; Environmental Health & Safety Manager Michelle Hunt; Senior Facilities Project Manager Wally Byrne.



Living Legends Award

This spring, the Massachusetts chapter of the American Nurses Association presented South Shore Health's own Timothy Quigley, Senior Vice

President, Special Projects with the Living Legends in Massachusetts Nursing award. This award recognizes extraordinary contributions to the nursing profession and a dogged commitment to healthcare excellence.

Tim joined the health system in 2004 as Chief Nursing Officer and over the last 21 years has been instrumental in leading South Shore Health to multiple Magnet designations from the American Nurses Credentialing Center – one of the highest honors in healthcare.



Amy Parker speaks to attendees at the South Shore Health Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

Three Cheers for Our Volunteers!

In May, South Shore Health hosted a luncheon at Granite Links to thank the volunteers who play an instrumental role in our daily operations.

More than 170 volunteers at South Shore Health, ranging in age from 16-90, devote their time and talents to various roles throughout the health system including lobby greeter, clerical assistant, dog therapy handler, Eucharistic minister, patient escort, and more.

Volunteers make a measurable impression on our patients and staff every day. If you, or someone you know, would like to volunteer, call **781-624-8241** for more information.



Thank You Presidents' Circle

Presidents' Circle members are local businesses that give to South Shore Health. Their generous investment in close-to-home healthcare demonstrates an ongoing commitment to their customers, employees, and the neighborhoods they serve. Learn more about our corporate giving program [here](#).

LIFETIME MEMBERS | \$1,000,000+



PLATINUM MEMBERS | \$500,000+



SAPPHIRE MEMBERS | \$250,000+



GOLD MEMBERS | \$100,000+

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PRESIDENTS' CIRCLE SOCIETY | \$30,000+

- | | | | |
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| | | Skinner Overlook Landscape & Design/Tomasi Nurseries LLC | |

The following individuals also pledge their support under Presidents' Circle:
Lara Brait, Ralph Fagnoli, The Finnegan Family, Brian and Maureen Magner

Grateful Patient Profile: Jay Moran



In March of 2022, just a few days after returning home from a restful vacation in St. Barths, Jay Moran woke up with chest pain. Fearing the onset of a heart attack, his partner, Joanne, took him to South Shore Hospital's Emergency Department.

Following a thorough 30-minute exam, emergency physicians at South Shore Hospital ruled out a cardiac event. He remained in the hospital where staff continued to assess his condition, obtaining CT scans of various organs, checking his gall bladder, kidneys, and appendix. Everything looked normal, but his pain had become so excruciating that even morphine was doing little to ease his pain and suffering. That evening, Jay was checked into a room in the ICU.

The health system's Chief of Infectious Disease, Dr. Todd Ellerin, was called in. After careful evaluation, he diagnosed Jay with sepsis, triggered by a bacterial infection. Sepsis is a dangerous condition where the immune system goes into overdrive, leading to widespread inflammation in the body. He was started on continuous intravenous antibiotics and fluids.

The pain persisted.

After several days, it was discovered that the bacteria in Jay's body had resulted in osteomyelitis, a rare bone infection in the thoracic spine just behind the heart which was causing immense pain that seemed to get worse with each passing day.

For two more agonizing weeks, Jay existed in the hospital, his care team doing everything they could to manage his pain and treat his infection with antibiotics and supportive care.

Jay became extremely sensitive to light and noise. Some of the nurses put yellow caution tape and a note in his doorway, urging anyone entering his room to keep the lights low and their voices soft. "My temper was sometimes short due to the overwhelming pain," Jay remarked. "I apologized to one nurse after she reminded me that she was there to help. She was very understanding."

Follow-up imaging showed the osteomyelitis was now associated with an abscess: a collection of toxic pus. Dr. Ellerin along with thoracic surgeon Dr. Christopher Ducko came in to his room one evening and laid out their plan. They mapped out a surgical route for drainage of the abscess requiring four incisions between his ribs on the right side. It would be invasive, but absolutely necessary.

They had to get to it before it continued to fester and release toxins into his blood stream. The next morning, after several hours in surgery, Dr. Ducko successfully drained the abscess.

One week later, Jay was released home. "I couldn't lie flat on a bed, so I slept in a chair for a month," he shared. "It took me another month just to get outside and walk down the driveway."

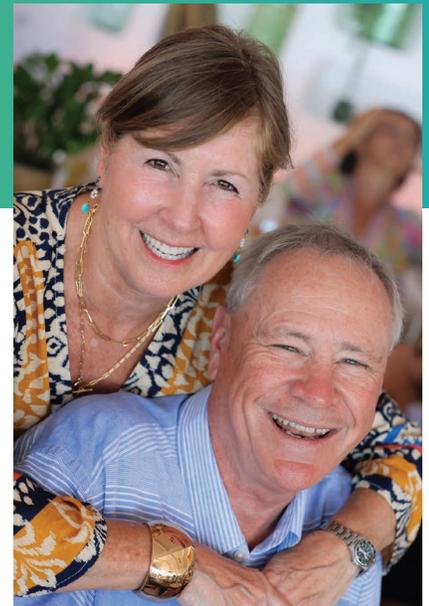
In all, Jay's recovery took three months.

Dr. Ellerin explained, "The bacteria was an aggressive Staph infection that spread into his chest cavity near vital structures. So, it took deft choreography between multiple disciplines including thoracic surgery, anesthesia, infectious disease, endocrinology, hospitalist medicine, and physical therapy to save his life and get him on the road to recovery."

"I'm so grateful to South Shore Health and Drs. Ellerin and Ducko for their expertise," acknowledged Jay. "It was not a cut and dry case and I'm not sure there are many doctors out there who could have gotten to the bottom of this so quickly."

Jay subsequently expressed his gratitude with a generous donation in honor of these two physicians and ICU nursing staff.

For more information on South Shore Health's Honor Your Caregiver program, click [here](#).



Joanne Conway and Jay Moran.

2025 FOUNDATION EVENTS

Support Our New Gala

The 2025 *South Shore Health Gala* will be held on Friday, October 17 at the Marriott Boston Quincy. Join us and emcee Ayla Brown, host of "The Flyover Podcast" and country music recording artist, for a night of music, dancing, and historic fundraising! There will be an excellent collection of silent and live auction items, a playful wine pull, and an energizing raise the paddle segment. This year's event has a high-reaching goal: \$1 million. Funds raised will once again benefit emergency care at South Shore Health and be invested in technologies, equipment, and staffing that saves lives.

SOUTH SHORE HEALTH
GALA
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ONE NIGHT
ONE MILLION
POSSIBILITIES



Please visit our website to:

[Purchase sponsorships/tickets](#)

[Donate an auction item](#)

[Make a donation to emergency services](#)

SouthShoreHealth.org/Gala.

Coming Up...



Cyclists Prep for the Pan-Mass Challenge

Team South Shore Health is getting ready to roll on August 2 and 3! Our team is made up of cancer survivors, community advocates, and South Shore Health colleagues who pool their powerful collective energy to wipe out cancer. They appreciate your support! Help them reach their fundraising goals.

SouthShoreHealth.org/PMC.



South Shore Health's 2025 PMC team.

Boston Marathon

Congratulations to Team South Shore Health's 2025 runners! This mighty team of ten raised more than \$120,000 for cancer care and behavioral health programs at South Shore Health. Their efforts were made possible through a partnership with the 2025 Bank of America Boston Marathon Official Charity Program.

SouthShoreHealth.org/BostonMarathon.



Above: Six members of South Shore Health's Boston Marathon team. From left: Lauren Previte, Matthew Petit, Paula Robinson, Kelly McDonough, DO, Bella Calvani, and Jennifer Ryan.



Right: Maura Dacey at the finish line in Copley Square.

Having Fun and Raising Funds for Patient Care

Golf Classic

On Monday, May 19, The Foundation hosted 226 golfers for the *Golf Classic* at Pinehills Golf Club in Plymouth. Across two courses, players teed off to support behavioral health and substance use disorder initiatives at the Grayken Center for Treatment at South Shore Health. Special guest Kevin Stevens, three-time NHL All-Star, U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame inductee, and Pembroke native, spoke to the crowd at the post-tournament reception about his battle with many substances over more than two decades. Along with his sister, Kelli, he now runs Power Forward, a local charity that supports prevention and recovery in our region.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and guests who helped raise \$278,000.

SouthShoreHealth.org/Golf.



Above: Kevin Morris, BaneCare President and Golf Classic Committee Co-Chair (second from left) and his foursomes.



Right: Speaker Kevin Stevens (center) with Mark Bradley, Syntegra Services; Stephen DiPrete, South Shore Bank; Kelli Wilson, Power Forward; and Geoff Wilkinson Jr., The Wilkinson Companies



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Platinum



Jim & Rosemary Phalen



Gold



 South Shore Health Foundation

Have questions about our events? Interested in learning about sponsorship opportunities? Please contact Kristine Poirier, Director of Development, Special Events at KPoirier2@southshorehealth.org or 781-624-8142.

The Friends of South Shore Health



Since the 1940s, The Friends of South Shore Health has been working to improve patient care, boost colleague morale, and engage the community in a wide spectrum of social and philanthropic opportunities. It began with 187 members and today they are close to 1,300! The Friends sponsor annual fundraising events, monthly trips, and special educational programs on a wide variety of topics ranging from personal well-being to organizational skills. They lovingly decorate the Hospital during holidays and organize scholarships for nursing and other staff to further their training and careers.

The Friends also run the gift shop inside the Hospital lobby and, of course, all proceeds benefit care happening within South Shore Health. They have raised \$8.2 million since the group was founded!

Become a member by calling The Friends office at **781-624-8520**.

Events

Kickin' Up Country



Held on June 7, this annual boot stompin' fundraiser raised \$32,500 for South Shore Health's Home Care division! Thank you to our sponsors and attendees for their generosity and support of community healthcare.



Set the Pace Road Race



More than 100 participants came out to DCR Wompatuck State Park in Hingham on a cold, rainy April morning for our *Set the Pace Road Race* for Cardiovascular Health. They raised \$8,345 to fund equipment needs for the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program at South Shore Health.





HONOR — YOUR — CAREGIVER

Dedicated to Care Excellence

Every day, grateful patients and their loved ones send handwritten notes and thoughtful emails detailing the superb care they received from South Shore Health caregivers and support staff. But don't just take our word for it.

"I want to start by saying that from the very beginning, I have felt nothing but exceptional care throughout my pregnancy. My birth experience was nothing short of amazing and my husband and I were truly blown away by the care we received while at South Shore Health."

*—Maternity, Birthing Unit,
and Postpartum patient*

"Every single person who works there is an excellent employee. Even walking down the hall, they will greet you. I've been going there for 40 years and am always treated with respect, caring, and excellent medical attention."

-South Shore Medical Center patient

"On behalf of [my entire family], I want to express our deepest gratitude for the extraordinary care, compassion, and dignity you provided to our father/grandfather during his final days."

Words cannot fully convey how much your support, guidance, and understanding meant to our family during such a difficult and emotional time. You were more than caregivers—you were a source of comfort, peace, and strength for both our dad and for all of us who stood by his side."

Your gentle words, attentive presence, and tireless dedication gave us the reassurance that we were never alone, and that every moment was met with kindness and dignity. The respect you showed us and the sensitivity with which you guided us through those final steps are things we will never forget."

- Family of South Shore Hospital patient

Exceptional and compassionate care can take many forms: a courteous welcome from reception, attentive guidance from a social worker, a helping hand from a volunteer, or a friendly ride from a patient transporter. Whoever had a positive impact on your patient experience, we invite you to express your gratitude at GratefulPatient@southshorehealth.org.

If you would like to honor the great care you received with a philanthropic gift to the South Shore Health Fund, please call the Foundation office at **781-624-8600** or visit SouthShoreHealth.org/Give. These meaningful gestures epitomize community-based care, heartening our caregivers with the resources they need to provide the care you expect.



Thank you!

Local PPE Company Donates Infant Hospital Gowns to the Messina Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

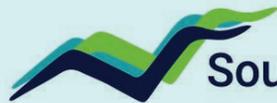
In 2018, while her infant daughter was hospitalized following a heart attack and subsequent heart transplant, Duxbury resident and children's clothing designer, Kate Bowen, recognized the need for functional, yet humanizing, pediatric hospital gowns. The Georgie was born, named after Kate's youngest child, Georgia Claire. The gowns, first-of-its-kind in pediatric hospital wear, are comfortable for baby while allowing medical professionals unhindered access to the various tubes and monitoring devices that are connected to their tiny patients.

In 2024, GCB Medical Supply and the Georgia Claire Bowen Foundation donated a supply of Georgies to the neonatal intensive care unit at South Shore Hospital. This summer, Kate and members of her team visited the NICU to see the gowns in circulation. Read more about their visit [here](#).



Left: Baby Marlowe wears a Georgie during her stay in South Shore Hospital's NICU.

Below: Georgia Claire and NICU nurse manager Beth Brooks, RN.



**South Shore
Health Foundation**

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Your Health. Our Passion. One Community.

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