We are continually learning and moving forward—as a health care institution, as a teaching hospital, as a contributor to the advancement of medical science and practice and most importantly, as a resource and ally to the communities we serve in Vermont and northern New York. Philanthropy touches every aspect of our work, connecting people, elevating the care experience and driving innovation toward new understanding and cures.

Philanthropy bolsters our academic partnership with The University of Vermont, including the students, scientists and other faculty at the UVM Larner College of Medicine and the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Together, we are cultivating the next generation of skilled and compassionate caregivers, working across disciplines to improve patient care and carving new pathways to better human health.

Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the well-being of our community. We are proud to work alongside you in this effort.

– John Brumsted, MD & Eileen Whalen, MHA, RN

2018 UVM Medical Center Foundation Board Members

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1 Completed term, December 2018
2 Elected Board Chair, December 2018
3 Completed term, December 2018
4 Elected Vice Chair, December 2018
5 Elected Secretary, December 2018

The UVM Medical Center, including the UVM Children’s Hospital and the UVM Cancer Center, is a not-for-profit hospital that depends on private philanthropic support to achieve its mission.

Thank you!
Of the $58,781,476 million raised for the UVM Medical Center during the Move Mountains campaign, nearly half was raised to support construction of The Robert E. and Holly D. Miller Building. Designed with input from a dedicated team of leaders, physicians, nurses, facility experts, patients and families, the Miller Building delivers an environment that matches the high-caliber people and services already in place at the hospital.

With its patient- and family-centered features and comforts and advanced technology, the Miller Building will improve the care experience, enhance efficiencies and help us meet the increasingly complex needs of our patients.

Contributions at all levels from grateful patients, families, caregivers, staff, community members and local businesses are making this facility a reality for all who live in Vermont and northern New York.

Modern Miller Building Will Enhance Patient Experience

To learn more about the Miller Building, including naming opportunities, please contact Kevin McAteer at (802) 656-4469 or Kevin.McAteer@uvmhealth.org.
Having a safe place to call home improves health outcomes. Patients without stable housing spend more time in the hospital because they have no place to recover. They’re more likely to end up in the emergency room because they don’t receive routine primary care to manage chronic conditions. And patients who are homeless often lack access to nutritious food, one of the foundations of good health.

Recognizing its leadership role in the community, the UVM Medical Center has forged partnerships with multiple organizations to address the challenge of homelessness. TD Bank’s financial support has played a vital role in that effort.

In 2018, TD Bank awarded $30,000 for Beacon Apartments, a supportive housing project of The Community Health Centers of Burlington (CHCB) and the UVM Medical Center, in collaboration with Champlain Housing Trust and Burlington Housing Authority. The grant helps pay for case workers at Beacon Apartments, a former motel converted to housing for 19 chronically homeless individuals, many with complex or chronic health problems.

“We recognize that providing safe and stable shelter for homeless adults with chronic health conditions is vital for improving outcomes,” says TD Bank Market President Phil Daniels. “Programs like this improve the lives of our communities across Vermont, and we are honored to be a part of this effort.”

At Beacon Apartments, residents receive their own furnished units. A CHCB primary care provider does onsite rounds. Case workers help with transportation, access to mental health services, substance use treatment, dental care and job-seeking guidance. A community garden maintained by residents provides fresh vegetables and a sense of camaraderie.

The CHCB collaboration is making a real difference, contributing to a 45 percent drop in homelessness in Chittenden County over three years.

UVM Medical Center Fund Grant Grows Culinary Medicine

Nutrition is vital to good health, but in most cases, physicians treating patients with chronic illnesses such as obesity or diabetes—conditions directly impacted by nutrition—have to refer patients elsewhere for nutrition counseling and education.

Thanks to Diane Imrie, RD, MBA, UVM Medical Center director of Nutrition Services, and Leah Pryor, chef educator, that’s changing.

With a grant from the UVM Medical Center Fund, a fund supported by gifts from community members, patients and employees, Imrie and Pryor are taking their Culinary Medicine initiative to the next level and piloting “shared medical appointments” (SMAs).

In Michael Latreille, MD’s, Internal Medicine practice in Burlington, an initial group of eight patients visits his office for two-hour appointments that include a regular check-up and a group session with a nutritionist.

Another SMA pilot at UVM’s Comprehensive Pain Clinic, which integrates non-pharmacological options into a patient’s treatment plan, now offers Culinary Medicine as a treatment tool.

“SMAs foster collaboration among the patient, the doctor and the nutritionist,” says Pryor, “and remove barriers to improved health.”

Pryor, Imrie and a small team launched Culinary Medicine six years ago without any dedicated time or staff. Today, the grant helps support cooking demonstrations, educational presentations and assistance for employee wellness programs at the medical center and other corporate settings.

Culinary Medicine encourages patients to develop a new relationship with food—one that contributes to better health, Imrie says. “It brings together the joy of cooking and the science of nutrition.”

To learn more about the dollars at work through the grant program, contact Allison Searson at (802) 656-5270 or Allison.Searson@med.uvm.edu.

To learn more about UVM Medical Center’s Population Health initiatives and partnerships, contact Susie Posner-Jones at (802) 656-4334 or Susie.Posner-Jones@uvmhealth.org.
NATIONAL PEDIATRIC EXPERTS, LOCAL CARE | For years, the UVM Children’s Hospital has delivered world-class medical care to infants, children and teens in Vermont and northern New York—no matter how critical or rare their condition, and regardless of their family’s ability to pay. A beacon for patients and caregivers, the children’s hospital has been shaped by independent thinkers who are also leaders in the field of pediatrics. They believe in inventiveness, continual learning and collaborating at every level to deliver the finest health care possible locally, and to then share their discoveries with the nation and world.

Needs among the children of our region are steadily expanding and we are rapidly enhancing services to meet them. With philanthropic support, we are able to touch more children’s lives and strengthen more families than ever before.

An Evening of Wonder and Celebration

On Saturday, September 8, 2018, more than 600 members of our community of patients, families, caregivers, donors and friends came together to help bring life-altering resources to pediatric patients and families. This year, the UVM Medical Center Gala, a premier, bi-annual fundraising event, raised funds specifically to support construction of a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)—a high priority for the UVM Children’s Hospital’s smallest and most vulnerable patients.

From cocktails, dinner and dancing to a Broadway-style performance, including multiple standing ovations for the NICU “grads” and young patients in attendance, the evening captured the incredible spirit of our community and their enduring commitment to the health of our region’s children.

Thank you to all who helped make this memorable evening a success. Special thanks to the Gala’s lead sponsors:

Big Giving for our Tiniest Patients

One of the Gala’s big surprises was an announcement from New England Federal Credit Union (NEFCU) President and CEO John Dwyer of NEFCU’s $1 million gift to support the building of a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

“We’ve come to understand the exceptional work that all of the professionals here perform, which has an impact that lasts the entire lives of these tiny patients,” Dwyer said of the NICU team. “When we heard that they were preparing to renovate their NICU, we wanted to kick off the fundraising for the project in a significant way.”

At the December 11, 2018 press conference publicly announcing NEFCU’s generous gift, Dwyer was joined by UVM Medical Center and UVM Children’s Hospital leadership, providers and staff as well as former NICU patients and families.

Chuck Mercier, MD, division chief of Neonatology, and Michele Bouchard, RN, nurse manager for the NICU, spoke together about what’s motivating the renovation.

“This is about improving the family experience, and it’s a powerful opportunity for us to match the high quality of care we provide to our NICU patients with a truly supportive environment for their families,” Mercier said.

“Currently, there’s no place to simply go, hold your baby and close the door,” Bouchard added.

Gifts of all sizes are helping to make a new Level III NICU a reality for newborns and their families.

To learn more about the new NICU, contact Ruth Henry at (802) 656-3225 or Ruth.Henry@med.uvm.edu.
From car washes and raffles to bake sales and a beloved annual bowl-a-thon, Kinney Drugs in Plattsburgh, NY, has become a regional leader in the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) campaign to benefit the UVM Children’s Hospital. Out of 33 Kinney stores in Vermont and northern New York, the Plattsburgh store on Veterans Lane has been the top fundraising location for the past two years. In 2018, they brought in $11,381 for the cause.

The driving force behind the store’s success: Ron Newell, the designated CMNH Champion for the location. For almost eight years, he has taken charge of the store’s fundraising efforts, carefully planning events that inspire community members to join in as well as soliciting area businesses and organizations for support. At the heart of his message is the importance of the UVM Children’s Hospital to families.

Newell has personal experience: His daughter, who suffers from cerebral palsy, received treatment at the Burlington hospital as a child. Now an adult, she’s doing well and gets involved in fundraising activities herself. Newell recognizes that his family is not alone in their appreciation for the pediatric care available to them.

“So many kids in the community depend on that hospital,” says Newell. “It’s friends, it’s family.”

That gratitude drives him forward and brings others into the fold. Casey Gould, manager of the Plattsburgh location, says Newell brings fresh enthusiasm to the campaign every year. The bowl-a-thon in particular has become a community staple.

“Having someone like Ron, it inspires the team to do more,” he says. “They see what a person is capable of.”

His example has helped other stores to follow suit. Kinney Drugs locations in Vermont and northern New York raised a total of $68,807 in 2018 as a CMNH corporate partner. Newell, for his part, extends credit for his store’s success to the community.

“It’s really all about the businesses and organizations who participate,” he says. “Usually it doesn’t take much encouragement once they know it’s for kids. I couldn’t do it without the community support.”

In 2018, through CMNH corporate partnerships and fundraising events such as Big Change Roundup for Kids, Miracle Network Dance Marathon and Extra Life, more than $1 million was raised to support infants, adolescents and teens at the UVM Children’s Hospital.
In the early 1960s, most women delivered their babies in a hospital, often under anesthesia, attended by an obstetrician who was almost always male. Stowe resident Claire Lintilhac had a different vision for the birthing experience, thanks in part to her training as a nurse midwife in England, and her nearly two decades of work as a travelling nurse in rural China. She wanted to give women the option for a natural childbirth when possible, as well as provide education, counseling, prenatal care, hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support.

In Vermont, she found a strong partner in John Maeck, MD, chair of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at what was then known as the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont. Dr. Maeck saw an opportunity for physicians to partner with nurse midwives to provide holistic, high-quality care options. The pioneering midwifery program they founded recently marked its 50th year, making it the second oldest hospital-based program in the nation. Since 1968, the Midwifery Service at the UVM Medical Center has managed 13,000 births and grown to the point of having certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) attend nearly 20 percent of deliveries, a rate more than double the national average.

Claire Lintilhac’s legacy continues through the Lintilhac Foundation, with Claire’s son, Phil, and his wife, Crea, as trustees. The Foundation has provided constant financial support to the Midwifery Service since 1978. Over its history the service has evolved to include research sabbaticals, a lactation clinic, a professional education program and a perinatal mental health service. On Mother’s Day in 2004, the UVM Medical Center honored Lintilhac’s pioneering work when they dedicated the new birthing center as the Claire M. Lintilhac Birthing Center.

We still preserve the hallmarks of midwifery care: labor support, education, individualized care, teaching about healthy lifestyle choices and time spent developing a relationship with our patients.”

– Marti Churchill, CNM, Director of the Lintilhac Nurse-Midwifery Service
Expanding Opportunities for Nurses

From specialized training in critical care and a support program for new nurses to scholarships for academic degree programs, philanthropy supports UVM Medical Center nurses in many ways.

Thanks to a grant from the UVM Medical Center Auxiliary, recently graduated nursing students benefit from a year-long residency program to help ease the transition into their new role as registered nurse.

Philanthropy also funds nurse-led initiatives that have direct patient and family impact. Safe Sleep Environments, established with funding from the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals and the Fraternal Order of Eagles in South Burlington, was spearheaded by Mother-Baby Unit nurses Sharon Schroeder and Kelly Berch. The program provides families with information and resources that help their newborns thrive.

Patients and families themselves give back to the nurses who provide life-saving care. Parents of a young man fatally injured in a ski accident recently created a fund for specialized critical care training. And scholarships help new nurse-leaders emerge.

"Thanks to many generous donors, I received a nursing scholarship from UVM Medical Center and went back to graduate school," says Islane Louis, RN. "Now I have my master’s degree in nursing with emphasis on Leadership in the Health Care System. I’m using my new knowledge to improve patients’ outcomes and teach the next generation of nurses."

Chief Nursing Officer Kate FitzPatrick, DNP, RN, FAAN with CNHS nursing students.

I like to summarize what the white coat promises in a single word: professionalism. This is my True North. Professionalism can be described as each of us exhibiting and promoting the finest characteristics of a physician. Professionalism is demonstrated by altruism, accountability, fairness, inclusion and treating everyone with kindness, respect and compassion. If you keep these ideals of professionalism throughout your career, you will continue to earn the privilege of wearing the white coat. What’s more, you will experience the great joy of becoming the best doctor you can be."

– Dean Richard L. Page, MD, at the UVM Larner College of Medicine Class of 2022 White Coat Ceremony, October 5, 2018

To learn more about how philanthropy honors and advances nursing, contact Yael Friedman at (802) 656-4306 or Yael.Friedman@uvmhealth.org.

Bunker Scholars Set to Explore Medicine’s Possibilities

The late Robert B. Bunker, MD, a Vermont native who spent four decades in practice as a military physician, made the extraordinary decision to help students at the UVM Larner College of Medicine and the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth graduate debt-free through a scholarship that covers tuition, room and board for the four years of medical school. Keenly aware of the financial commitment to attend medical school, and inspired by the help he himself received, Bunker wanted to give deserving students the opportunity to follow their dream and explore the full range of opportunities for their practice.

Three students in the Larner College’s Class of 2021 were the first to benefit from Bunker’s life-changing generosity, followed by a fourth student in the Class of 2022.

“I’m the daughter of an immigrant and a sister to two brothers with developmental disabilities,” says Bunker Scholar Maha Neha Saleem ’22. “I believe my family’s sacrifices and barriers are blessings that will help shape me into a more compassionate physician and leader. I want to serve the vulnerable, improve our health care system and change the face of medicine. I’m deeply grateful for the Bunker Scholarship that is opening so many doors for me.”

Chief Nursing Officer Kate FitzPatrick, DNP, RN, FAAN with CNHS nursing students.

Kenneth Palanza ’21 with Oscar Onumah, RN

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THIS IS WHERE WE ADVANCE HUMAN HEALTH

Prelock’s Decade of Leadership Guides College’s Robust Evolution

The past ten years have been a time of impressive growth for the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS), with the numbers alone telling a significant story: $4.5 million in philanthropic contributions earmarked for student support; $5.5 million in grants received for health sciences research; and $13.8 million raised during UVM’s Move Mountains campaign, surpassing the College’s $10.3 million goal a year early.

The leader behind this staggering success? Dean Patricia Prelock, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL, who has been enthusiastically championing the College, its students and faculty since taking the helm in 2009.

Prelock’s dynamic approach to philanthropy has helped to catapult CNHS into the top echelon of schools of its kind nationally. New programs and partnerships founded under her leadership include an undergraduate certificate in integrative health, a doctoral program in human functioning and rehabilitation and a master’s degree in physical activity and wellness science. Nursing programs and partnerships have also expanded: In 2014, CNHS established one of the nation’s only primary care practices staffed by university-based nurse practitioners. Prelock has also ushered in three endowed nursing professorships and increased the number of nursing scholarships. Underpinning all of Prelock’s work is a focus on interdisciplinary education and collaboration. In 2011, she helped to found the UVM Clinical Simulation Laboratory, which now serves as a nexus for training health professionals from across disciplines to work in teams in service to the patient. An internationally renowned speaker on topics including autism and integrative health, Prelock’s energy and strategic vision ensures CNHS will continue to thrive.

“Dean Prelock is an incredible leader who continues to advance academic and practice partnerships,” says Kate FitzPatrick, DNP, RN, FAAN, UVM Medical Center chief nursing officer and associate dean for academic-practice integration at CNHS. “She remains a steadfast champion for interprofessional education and leads innovative work to create learning environments that embrace diversity, equity and inclusion.”

To learn more about philanthropy’s impact on CNHS students, faculty and programs, contact Deb Dever at (802) 656-3416 or Deborah.Dever@med.uvm.edu.

CNHS research is advancing health care in areas such as injury prevention, immunology, cognitive function, aging and patient-centered care.

THE MILLERS’ PHILANTHROPY TAKES A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY ADDRESS PRESSING CHALLENGES IN HEALTH CARE—AND THROUGHOUT, ENCOURAGING EVERYONE TO NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATION AND COMPASSION.” — JOHN BRUMSTED, MD

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“Endowed professorships and chairs are incredibly important for recruiting and retaining the best thinkers, the most creative researchers and the most effective teachers.” — UVM President Tom Sullivan

Miller Chair holders Robert Gramling, MD, DSc, Michael LaMantia, MD, MPH and Rosemary Dale, EdD, APRN with Bob and Holly Miller.

The Millers’ philanthropy takes a comprehensive approach to helping our community address pressing challenges in health care—and throughout, encouraging everyone to never lose sight of the importance of communication and compassion.” — John Brumsted, MD

Millers Invest in Long-term Leadership

When Burlington philanthropists Holly and Bob Miller invest in endowed faculty positions at UVM, they ultimately are investing in patient care and improved health for communities across Vermont and beyond.

Endowed faculty positions recognize both exceptional achievement and the potential for future accomplishment. In medicine, they are traditionally awarded to scientists and clinicians who demonstrate extraordinary scholarship in advancing human health.

In 2016, Robert Gramling, MD, DSc, became the inaugural Holly and Bob Miller Chair in Palliative Medicine and chief of the new Division of Palliative Medicine. Last year, the Millers endowed two additional faculty positions at UVM: the Miller Chair in Memory and Aging at the Larner College of Medicine and the Miller Professor in Nursing Leadership at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Michael LaMantia, MD, MPH, and Rosemary Dale, EdD, APRN, are the inaugural holders, respectively.

“Endowed professorships and chairs are incredibly important for recruiting and retaining the best thinkers, the most creative researchers and the most effective teachers.” — UVM President Tom Sullivan said during the investiture ceremony.

The positions, he continued, “signify that the problems they are trying to solve, the teaching they are delivering and the changes they are trying to make in the world are important and are worthy of their effort, the University’s investment, and society’s attention.”

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Patricia A. Prelock, PhD
Tending to the Children of Patients

It’s cancer. The diagnosis is definitive. Your first thought is of your children. This will scare them. Change their lives. How will you even tell them? Child Life Specialist Ali Waltien, MA, CCLS, knows—not because she’s a child whisperer (although she might be) but because her sole focus at the UVM Medical Center is to support children through the experience of their parent or guardian’s critical illness or traumatic injury.

“When a child comes to me, they’re coming because something really scary has happened in their family,” says Waltien. “While children are often more resilient than adults, resilience doesn’t happen in a vacuum. It happens because the right support was put into place.”

Oftentimes, our adult instinct is to protect children from painful situations. “Though well-meaning,” she says, “this just creates an unintentional disconnect that isolates the child. We want to give children understanding, in a developmentally appropriate way, of what’s going on and help them build coping skills.”

Waltien recognizes the uniqueness of each child. “I never come in with an agenda. I come in with ideas about what might be helpful, but the child is the one who tells me what I need to know—often without words. I observe. I follow the child’s lead,” says Waltien. “Rapport is everything.”

Waltien’s position was created eight years ago through a gift from the Mahana Magic Foundation, a local nonprofit founded by Greg Couture, a stage IV cancer patient at then Fletcher Allen Health Care.

Couture was grateful for the high quality care he was receiving, but recognized a gap in support for his daughters. Wanting to expand services to address that gap for other children, Couture and several close friends established Mahana Magic shortly before his death. “Through Ali’s work and other programs, we have been able to directly impact children’s experiences, help them navigate the cancer diagnosis and develop tools to assist their own healing,” says Monica Marshall, Mahana Magic’s executive director. “We are proud to have contributed to children’s lives in this way.”

Waltien’s position has been co-funded by Mahana Magic and a grant from the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. When asked how to further support these children, Waltien smiled and said, “I wish there were ten more of me.”

We do too.

To learn more about how philanthropy supports pediatric patients and children of adult patients, contact Jackie Woodwell at (802) 656-4393 or Jackie.Woodwell@uvmhealth.org.

UVM Medical Center Mission

Our mission is to improve the health of the people in the communities we serve by integrating patient care, education and research in a caring environment.

Philanthropy connects us, elevates our work, sparks innovation and helps us pay forward for the benefit of future generations. Partnering with you in this effort continues to be a great privilege.”

– Kevin McAteer, chief development officer, Academic Health Sciences Development and Alumni Relations
The Academic Health Sciences Development and Alumni Relations team secures and manages private philanthropic support for the UVM Medical Center, including the UVM Children’s Hospital and the UVM Cancer Center; the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences; and the UVM Larner College of Medicine. Our collaborative work involves close partnerships with leadership, clinicians, faculty and a vast, dedicated community of donors.

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moveMountains
The Campaign for The University of Vermont

UVMHealth.org/MedCenterFoundation