

Dr. Kristen Johnson named Citizen of the Year



Kristen Johnson, MD

Congratulations to Dr. Kristen Johnson of Core Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine who was recently recognized by the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce as Citizen of the Year. She has tirelessly worked to support her patients and community throughout the COVID-19 crisis. In addition to her work as a pediatrician, Dr. Johnson has served as the consulting physician to SAU 16. In this role, she has counseled the school district on student learning conditions, return to school plans, and helped the SAU safely orchestrate an in-person graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020. Recognizing the important role telemedicine has played in reducing barriers and increasing access to healthcare, Dr. Johnson also advocated on a state level to pass legislation requiring insurance companies to cover this type of care.



Exeter Hospital recently achieved **Acute Stroke Ready certification** through DNV GL Healthcare, recognizing excellence in the evaluation and initial treatment of stroke patients when rapid action and proper medications can save lives and limit long-term disabling effects. Exeter Hospital has also been providing telestroke care in partnership with **Massachusetts General Hospital** since 2007; the ability to conference in specialists from Mass General ensures the highest level of care possible right in Exeter.

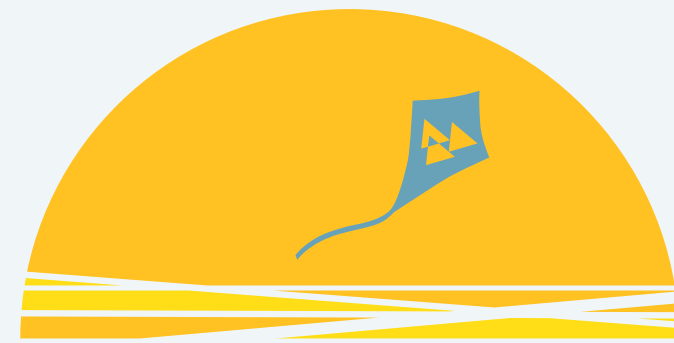
“Why I Got the Shot”

“My name is Leah Van Ryen and I am an Infusion RN in Medical Oncology at Exeter Hospital. Getting the COVID vaccine was a no brainer for me. My top priority has been keeping my patients and family as safe and healthy as possible during this pandemic. My cancer patients are extremely high risk for infection. One of the hardest things during this time as nurses has been not being able to hug our patients and I very much look forward to giving more hugs and holding more hands as we move forward. And the masks my daughter and I are wearing in this photo were made by one of my patients – full circle, they take care of us and we take care of them.”

COVID-19 vaccinations are now open in New Hampshire for anyone age 16 and up. **Sign up at vaccines.nh.gov or call 211.**



Leah and her daughter wear masks made by one of Exeter Hospital's cancer patients.



Kites Against Cancer Season

Throughout May and June, we invite our community to purchase or sponsor a kite for a \$10 donation, and fly it in memory or honor of someone affected by cancer. For more information, visit unitedinwellness.org. All proceeds from Kites Against Cancer Season benefit The Beyond the Rainbow Fund, helping Exeter Hospital's cancer patients in need.

Cancer Survivors' Day 2021 Celebration

Sunday, June 13
12:00 - 3:00 pm
Stratham Hill Park

Join us to celebrate with an afternoon of outdoor fun, including local food trucks, live music & entertainment.

This event is free and open to the public.
Masks are required.

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Pearla Phillips, chair, United in Wellness Leadership Advisory Board; Panos Fidas, MD, medical director for medical oncology, Center for Cancer Care; Kevin Callahan, President and CEO, Exeter Health Resources; Donna McKinney, VP acute care/cancer services, Exeter Hospital; and Davis Farmer, chair, Together We Can Capital Campaign

Center for Cancer Care Breaks Ground for Much-Needed Expansion Together We Can Capital Campaign

Exeter Hospital held a ground breaking ceremony on Thursday, March 25th for a new renovation and expansion project at its Center for Cancer Care. There is a growing need for cancer care in our community, and as our comprehensive and innovative oncology services have expanded, the Center has outgrown its existing space. Currently, the radiation oncology and medical oncology services are physically separated, and the addition of 7,000 new square feet will create a more cohesive space to join them together with a joint reception area. The renovations will increase the number of infusion bays while enhancing the patient experience, providing larger, more modern and comfortable treatment areas with views to outdoor gardens. Patient exam rooms and employee work spaces will also be enlarged to meet patient comfort and care needs.

Additional space is being created for the Center's renowned Multidisciplinary Clinics. The Clinics streamline the evaluation and planning process when

a patient is diagnosed with cancer by pulling together a team of experts specialized in a specific cancer type to meet with the patient and their family in one day.

The expansion will create a larger space for Multidisciplinary Clinics to be held for breast, thoracic/lung, gastrointestinal, head and neck, and prostate/genitourinary cancers.

“This renovation and expansion will align our physical site with the excellent quality of the care we have been providing for decades,” said Eileen McDonald, director of the Center for Cancer Care. “Our relationship with the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center brings oncologists and nurse practitioners to work here onsite along with our outstanding team of nurses, staff and specialists throughout Exeter Hospital and Core Physicians. We are thrilled to begin this project which will offer a larger, more comfortable and efficient space for our patients.”

For more information and updates, visit unitedinwellness.org.

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Wrapped in Warmth and Kindness

Karen Robinson has been making and donating shawls to Rockingham Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) & Hospice for our hospice patients for more than 10 years. We are so appreciative of her generosity and support for patients.

Would you consider a donation to support Rockingham VNA & Hospice? What better time than during **NH Gives, on June 8-9!** Keep an eye on Exeter Hospital's Facebook page to see how.



Together We Can The Comprehensive Campaign for Exeter Hospital

Together We Can, the Campaign for Exeter Hospital is a \$4 million initiative that builds on the best of what we do and creates the best vision of what Exeter Hospital can be for the New Hampshire Seacoast. This comprehensive campaign will drive our continued clinical leadership, innovative spirit and transformative potential.

Together We Can:

Build a new home for our Center for Cancer Care.
\$3 million campaign goal

Raise the bar for community-based inpatient pediatric care.
\$500,000 campaign goal

Increase access to mental health care services.
\$250,000 campaign goal

Support the Susan Burns-Tisdale Excellence Award.
\$250,000 campaign goal

A Commitment to World-class Pediatric Care

Last year Exeter Hospital brought world-class care to our community's children with the introduction of the MassGeneral for Children at Exeter Hospital Pediatric Hospitalist Program. Exeter Hospital now has a MassGeneral for Children pediatrician onsite 24/7 to assess and treat children in the Emergency Department (ED), newborns in the Family Center, and patients in the inpatient pediatric unit. The \$500,000 fundraising goal for pediatric care will help us sustain this critical program, purchase innovative medical technology, update exam room equipment and support the infrastructure for this new uniquely integrated model of pediatric care.



Derek Trapasso, MD

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Supporting Increased Mental Health Care Needs in the Community

Demand for mental health and addiction treatment services has increased significantly, even before the onset of the current pandemic. We have invested in 24/7 emergency mental health services in our Emergency Department (ED) in partnership with Seacoast Mental Health Center. Our \$250,000 goal for mental health services will help underwrite the resources needed to treat behavioral health issues in a timely, effective and compassionate way, as well as further partnerships between primary medical care practices, mental health care specialists and important community allies.

Susan Burns-Tisdale Patient Care Excellence Award

Philanthropists Bill and Mary Schleyer recently established an annual financial award, which will be presented to Exeter Hospital employees who best exemplify qualities of empathy, integrity, professionalism and teamwork while providing care and services to patients. Bill Schleyer has served on the Board of Trustees of Exeter Hospital for many years, and is past chair. Our fundraising goal of \$250,000 will help grow and sustain this meaningful recognition award.

The award is named after **Susan Burns-Tisdale, MPH, RN** a dedicated nurse leader at Exeter Hospital who passed away on July 25, 2020. Susan served as Senior Vice President for Clinical Operations at Exeter Health Resources and Chief Nursing Officer at Exeter Hospital, leading the hospital in 2013 to achieve Magnet® designation, the highest nursing honor awarded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center followed by re-designation in 2018. Susan's career was characterized by an unwavering dedication to patient care and an extraordinary commitment to the inclusion of diverse perspectives.



Susan Burns-Tisdale

The 2020 Annual Report for Exeter Health Resources is now available electronically.
Visit exeterhospital.com

Center for Cancer Care Breaks Ground for Much-Needed Expansion

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Paul Bamford with his late son Chris.

Honoring local community members for their gifts

Paul Bamford's leadership with the Oyster River High School's Golf Team has raised money year after year for the Center for Cancer Care. This year, the grand total is expected to exceed \$100,000. In recognition of this donation, the Gastrointestinal Multidisciplinary Clinic will be named in memory of his son Chris, who passed away after a courageous battle with colon cancer.

The philanthropic involvement of community members has the transformative potential to help elevate the quality of our care spaces and technology, and provide patients and families with a healing environment for years to come. To see other naming opportunities available at the Center, visit unitedinwellness.org.

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Paving the Way

Each of the two gardens that will line the new main entrance to the Center for Cancer Care will offer a limited number of commemorative paver bricks at \$2,500 per brick to honor or memorialize loved ones in a meaningful and memorable way. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, visit unitedinwellness.org.



Rendering of future infusion bay area

David Donsker, MD, former pathologist at Exeter Hospital, member of the Exeter Health Resources Board of Trustees and campaign donor, shared his thoughts on why the renovation of the Center for Cancer Care is so important:

"There's little question that Exeter Hospital provides some of the finest community cancer care that you could hope for. You've got truly outstanding medical oncologists, extremely caring and knowledgeable oncology nurses, a terrific pharmacy ... but a key part of cancer care is, you've got to have an environment that allows them to do their best work."

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MAINTAINING WELLNESS OVER TREATING ILLNESS.

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Together We Can Golf Tournament



Join us at this event, hosted by Mike Moore, to support the **Together We Can Capital Campaign** for the Center for Cancer Care

June 14, 2021
Breakfast Hill Country Club
339 Breakfast Hill Road
Greenland, NH

Learn more and register at <https://birdease.com/ExeterHospital> or contact Mike Moore: mike@moorestaffing.com or 603-715-7300