The 2018 Albany Med Annual Report is dedicated to

Morris Massry (1929-2018)

A Friend to Albany Med and Our Entire Community

On October 29, 2018, the Capital Region lost one of its greatest supporters, Morris Massry, but his legacy lives on in his wife of 59 years, Esther, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who carry forward their patriarch’s generosity, foresight, and strong and deliberate commitment to our community. So many in this region have benefited from the Massry family’s goodwill, Albany Med among them. Our patients find solace in the beautiful Massry Family Healing Garden tucked away amidst our Hospital walls. Our medical students learn without worry of heavy debt because of The Morris Massry Endowed Scholarship. And our region’s children who face emergencies are cared for at The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center in a place of their own.

We are so very grateful.
Reflecting on 2018

Dear Friends:

Here at Albany Med, we are always “doing,” continually reaching beyond our walls, thinking about our next step and where it will ultimately lead us. While our administration works to position our Medical Center for a still uncertain health care future, our physicians and nurses are working to continually improve upon our patients’ care, finding new and better ways to relieve their pain or treat their symptoms. Meanwhile, our researchers in the Medical College are striving to discover meaningful breakthroughs, in recent years, doing so by working more closely with their peers on the clinical side to escalate research results from bench to bedside. And, there are our students, who bring such enthusiasm and new ways of thinking to our Medical Center, infusing us with good thoughts for the future of medicine.

This busyness paid off in 2018 with so many accomplishments that you will read about in these pages, including:

• Elevating Care… Albany Med remained a leader in providing the highest level, most complex care to our community, including completing the 1,000th TAVR heart valve procedure for those who could not otherwise have surgery. Our affiliations with Columbia Memorial Health and Saratoga Hospital continued to evolve from agreements on paper to meaningful collaborations in cardiology, stroke care, and office procedures and practices. Thinking and acting as a system have become more and more ingrained with each passing year. Meanwhile, our efforts to improve care by decreasing “length of stay” for hospitalized patients began to pay off, with more patients returning home earlier to continue to heal in familiar surroundings with loved ones by their sides.

• Innovating & Educating… Throughout the year there were important milestones in our education and research missions—the areas that define and differentiate us within the region. Students and faculty gained national recognition, and Albany Medical College received numerous large grants in 2018, including funds for research on flu, metastatic breast cancer, cardiovascular disease and many others. Additionally, the Medical College received full accreditation for the next eight years following a comprehensive survey by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

• Embracing Community… Collaboration and community continued to top our list of priorities because it’s our community that makes us function and our responsibility to give back to it. For instance, our successful multi-year partnership with the American Heart Association continued to ensure that our community is aware of the important steps individuals can take to prevent heart disease and to recognize and treat it if it does occur.

• Raising the Bar… Our people and programs were feted by numerous organizations, shining a bright light on our quality of care, education and research. This included the Sight Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany), which named Albany Med its 2018 Hospital of the Year, noting Albany Med’s outstanding accomplishments and best practices to increase cornea donation, as well as our committed and caring staff.
• **Generating & Stewarding...** Of course, a distinct highlight of 2018 was the opening of The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center, our region’s first and only dedicated pediatric emergency department, which was made possible thanks to our community’s generosity and vision. Its opening launched a new era of care for our community. Thanks to the extraordinary work and focus of so many people in our organization, we now operate a facility unique in this region where children are treated in an environment built and equipped specifically for their needs and conditions.

Of course, the transition to the new pediatric emergency department was meticulously planned and flawlessly executed, and we would expect no less. While the culmination and beginning of any project will experience the unexpected, our colleagues and staff handled every situation with professionalism and skill.

That can-do attitude is the reason we are optimistic whatever the future of health care delivery may bring. Together, we continue to elevate, innovate, educate, embrace, raise the bar and steward our resources. We hope this look back at 2018 will energize you for 2019, 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,

James J. Barba  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

Robert T. Cushing  
Chairman of the Board  
of Directors
$1.9 Million Received from NIH for Studies of Flu Complications

Dennis W. Metzger, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease, received a $1.9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health’s National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to study the role of certain immune system components activated in the lungs during and following the flu. Most flu-related deaths are caused by lung inflammation and secondary infections in the lungs.

Region’s Only Pediatric ED Named

Prior to its opening, in recognition of gifts to Albany Med totaling $5 million, the Pediatric Emergency Department was named The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center. For more, see page 46.

PA Students Begin Studies

Albany Medical College welcomed 41 students to the Physician Assistant Studies Program, one of the oldest physician assistant programs in the country.

Med Students Learn Residency Assignments on Match Day

Albany Medical College students, faculty and staff gathered for Match Day ceremonies as 147 fourth-year medical students learned where they would spend the next several years in medical training.

Albany Med Cuts Ribbon on Ninth EmUrgentCare

Rotterdam town officials and Albany Med leadership cut the ribbon on the Rotterdam EmUrgentCare, the first of three opened in 2018.

Multispecialty Medical Facility Opens in Latham

Local elected officials joined leadership and physicians from Albany Med and The Bone & Joint Center, community partners and representatives from Columbia Development Companies for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of a new medical office building in Latham. It houses the Internal Medicine and Pediatrics and Sports Medicine practices, a lab, EmUrgentCare and a satellite office of The Bone & Joint Center.

Another Successful Radiothon

The Capital Region community pledged its support to help sick and injured children at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med, the local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital, by donating over $247,000 during the 20th annual News Radio 810 & 103.1 WGY and 99.5 the River Cares for Kids Radiothon.

College Commencement Ceremonies Held at SPAC

Albany Medical College awarded 225 degrees during commencement ceremonies at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

Physicians Stress Safety on Hot Holiday Weekend

As the region’s trauma center, Albany Med emergency physicians issued a warning to the public during a record-setting heatwave on the Fourth of July weekend. Michael Dailey, MD, chief of the Division of Prehospital Emergency Medicine and an emergency medicine attending physician, provided tips on avoiding heat exhaustion and heat stroke, as well as on the dangers of privately used fireworks.
Region’s Only Pediatric Emergency Department Opens

Following a celebratory ribbon-cutting ceremony and years of hard work, The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center, the only pediatric emergency department in northeastern New York and western New England, opened on July 31. Pictured at the ceremony, above, is philanthropist Norman Massry, principal of Tri City Rentals, of Albany, with his grandson, Asher Knox. (Please see section on new pediatric ED on page 46.)
Immunotherapy Pioneers Receive America’s Most Distinguished Prize in Medicine

Three visionary scientists came to Albany for ceremonies honoring them as the recipients of the 2018 Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research for their work on immunotherapy. From left, the recipients were James P. Allison, PhD, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Carl June, MD, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; and Steven A. Rosenberg, MD, PhD, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

Promising New Prostate Cancer Treatment Offered

Albany Med began offering a new medication for prostate cancer, apalutamide, brand name Erleada, which was approved by the Food and Drug Administration after a four-year clinical trial found that the median survival of prostate cancer patients taking the drug was more than two years longer than those who took the placebo. The study also found the drug reduced patients’ risk of death as well as the risk of cancer spreading to other parts of their bodies by 72 percent. Albany Med’s Division of Urology and several Capital Region patients participated in the Spartan study; its results were published in The New England Journal of Medicine.

From left, Drs. Ronald Kaufman, Hugh Fisher and Badar Mian.

Partners for the Community and the Arts

Albany Med partnered with the Saratoga Performing Arts Center to present Albany Med Children’s Workshops on the Lawn where children had the opportunity to learn about performance from dancers and musicians. Additionally, Albany Med partnered with Park Playhouse in Washington Park to bring a great summer season to the stage. At a special 30th anniversary party, Park Playhouse honored Albany Med and James J. Barba, president and CEO, for commitment to the Park South neighborhood.

From left, Drs. Ronald Kaufman, Hugh Fisher and Badar Mian.

White Coats for Class of 2022

One-hundred-forty-two medical students entering Albany Medical College donned their white coats for the first time and recited the Hippocratic Oath during the annual White Coat Ceremony.
Glens Falls Hospital, Albany Med Take First Steps Toward Strategic Affiliation

Glens Falls Hospital and Albany Med announced they had begun a process that will lead to better coordination of care for residents of Warren and Washington counties and greater operational efficiency for both organizations. The goal of this strategic alliance is to ensure that the Glens Falls region continues to have access to the highest quality care, as well as expanded access to specialty care services.

The agreement, adopted by the governing boards of both organizations, will help better coordinate and integrate clinical services and identify operational efficiencies between Glens Falls Hospital and Albany Med. The governing boards, medical staffs, employees and fundraising arms from both institutions would remain separate under the envisioned structure.

National Accreditation Given for Cancer Services

Albany Med’s Cancer Care Program received three-year accreditation from the Commission on Cancer, an American College of Surgeons’ program that holds cancer treatment programs to the highest standards of care.

Dr. Daniel Pauzé Appointed Medical Director

Daniel Pauzé, MD, ’04, who served as an associate medical director since 2014, was named vice president of Medical Affairs and medical director of the Hospital.

Robotic Brain Cancer Studies Get Boost

Researchers at Albany Medical College and Worcester Polytechnic Institute announced they will collaborate on a $3.5 million, five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue work on a neurosurgical robotic system that targets brain tumors using high-intensity beams of directed therapeutic ultrasound.

From left: Glenda Kelman, PhD, chair of the Board of Governors, Glens Falls Hospital; Robert T. Cushing, chairman of the Board of Directors, Albany Med; James J. Barba, Albany Med president and CEO; Dianne Shugrue, Glens Fall Hospital president and CEO; Steven Frisch, MD, senior executive vice president for the Integrated Delivery System, Albany Med; and Sean Bain, MD, president of Glens Falls Hospital’s medical staff.

EmUrgentCare Opens in Guilderland

Town officials, Albany Med leadership and members of the Capital Region Chamber cut the ribbon on the 11th Albany Med EmUrgentCare, located in the heart of Guilderland.

Golfers Tee Off for Children’s Hospital

More than 200 golfers participated in the 27th annual Golf Tournament, which raised $134,000 to benefit the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital. BBL Construction Services, LLC, and Columbia Development Group, Inc., were the title co-sponsors of the event, which was held at the Schuyler Meadows Golf Club in Loudonville.

Year in Review

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Vascular Group Joins Albany Med

A longtime partner of Albany Med, The Vascular Group, joined forces with the Medical Center to form Albany Med Vascular Surgery.

“We are thrilled that The Vascular Group has chosen to formally join our physician practice,” said Ferdinand J. Venditti, MD, executive vice president for System Care Delivery and Hospital general director. “We will continue to provide the most advanced vascular care to our patients, now and well into the future.”

Albany Med vascular surgeons are board certified and fully trained in open and endovascular surgery. They employ the most current, state-of-the-art research and technologies to provide comprehensive care for a wide range of vascular conditions.

Choices Refresh

Albany Med’s iconic cafeteria, Choices Café, re-opened in late 2018 after renovations that modernized its look and promoted healthy eating choices to patients, families and staff.

Dancing in the Woods Raises Record Amount

The 35th annual Dancing in the Woods raised a record $518,000 for the Melodies Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders. More than 900 guests attended the gala, and for the 18th consecutive year, CDPHP was the title sponsor.

Melodies of Christmas

The 39th annual Melodies of Christmas at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady raised funds to benefit the Melodies Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders. Sponsors CBS 6, Freihofer’s Baking Company and Price Chopper/Market 32 combined once again to ensure the success of the popular holiday concert series, which features the Empire State Youth Orchestra and Chorale as well as many local entertainers.

Pediatrician Offers Insights on Toy Selection in the Digital Era

Albany Med’s Aleeya Healey, MD, developmental behavioral pediatrician, was co-author of a report issued by the American Academy for Pediatrics—and published in the journal Pediatrics—that provided pediatricians with advice for parents for choosing toys, noting, “There is presently no evidence to suggest that possible benefits of interactive media match those of active, creative, hands-on and pretend play with more traditional toys.”
Elevating Care

Expanded Weekend Cardiac Services

In 2018, the Cardiology team began offering services on weekends to expedite diagnoses as part of the Length of Stay initiative.

To help improve service to patients and their referring physicians, Albany Med’s Cardiology team and affiliates now offer stress tests and echocardiogram readings on weekends.

“This service helps expedite patients’ diagnoses. It also ensures providers receive the information they need to help inform critical decisions as quickly as possible,” said Dennis McKenna, MD, executive vice president, senior associate dean for Clinical Affairs and president of the Faculty Practice group, who spearheaded the initiative with Daniel Pauzé, MD, vice president of Medical Affairs and medical director of the Hospital, and Edward Philbin III, MD, the George E. Pataki Chair of the Division of Cardiology.

Reflecting on 2018

Our region’s only academic medical center, Albany Med continues as a leader in bringing the newest and best practices in medical care to the three million people in our service area. The most high profile and impactful event of 2018 was the opening of The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center, the region’s only dedicated pediatric emergency department (read more on page 46). Now, the approximately 16,000 children and teens who visit the Emergency Department each year are seen in a facility that is separate from our adult ED and is staffed by the area’s only specially trained emergency medicine physicians, nurses and staff.

In addition to the Massry Center, we continue to celebrate our expansions throughout the community, including opening three additional EmUrgentCare facilities. A new multispecialty office in Latham combines care from Albany Med specialists and that of the physicians at The Bone & Joint Center. We also continue to strengthen our affiliations with Saratoga Hospital and Columbia Memorial Health.

And, importantly, the Albany Med Cares initiative has continued to focus on improving the patient experience from start to finish.
Patients undergoing select types of surgeries at Albany Med are experiencing improved recoveries, shorter hospital stays and better pain management with less need for opioids for pain, thanks to a new, multi-disciplinary approach to surgical care adopted at the Hospital in 2018.

Among the measures of the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) initiative is to de-emphasize the use of opioid-based medications to treat pain. Albany Med’s clinicians focus, instead, on patient education, a more targeted approach to anesthetics and frequent visits from members of a patient’s surgical team who monitor progress and encourage movement and helpful exercises during recovery.

The result is that patients are not only able to return home much more quickly but can do so with fewer opioids in hand, an important benefit in the face of the national opioid addiction epidemic.

“ERAS doesn’t prohibit the use of opioid medications altogether,” said Igor Galay, MD, assistant professor of Anesthesiology, who first advocated for Albany Med to adopt the protocol after studies showed positive results in improved patient satisfaction and recovery. “If a patient’s best option is an opioid to treat pain, we will, of course, use it. But opioids can often impede a patient’s recovery, because of their many side effects, which can include delirium and vomiting.”

This is especially true for patients undergoing bowel surgery, said Brian Valerian, MD, associate professor of Surgery and the first surgeon at Albany Med to adopt the ERAS protocol.

“The intestines ‘sleep’ after bowel surgery,” Dr. Valerian explained, “and patients can’t leave the hospital until they begin working again. Opioids not only further slow the intestines, but they can also cause sedation, dizziness, nausea and breathing difficulties.”

Under ERAS, Dr. Valerian said, the stress of surgery on patients is minimized, enabling them to recover faster. “By eliminating
the harmful side effects of these medications, patients are able to eat and drink and begin moving sooner following surgery, which leads to quicker recoveries with fewer complications.” Dr. Valerian also noted that, under ERAS, Albany Med saw a reduced length of stay from four to six days to a new average of one to three.

“We begin by educating the patient upfront that some pain after surgery is inevitable. Therefore, our goal is not to eliminate pain completely, but to make it tolerable so that patients can function after surgery,” said Dr. Galay. “All of this can be accomplished with no or very little opioid medications. By setting realistic expectations and doing targeted pain management, we are able to improve our patients’ experience and expedite their recovery.”

Unlike in traditional surgery, under ERAS, anesthesiologists are now involved in pain management beyond the Operating Room. Nerve blocks are used with local anesthetic to target pain right where it happens, combined with different types of pain killers that work via different mechanisms.

“Everyone experiences pain differently even after the same surgery,” explained Dr. Galay. “We pay close attention to what our patients tell us about their pain and treat it accordingly. Additional nerve blocks or a different type of pain killer. Our goal is to aggressively treat pain so that our patient can move, eat and sleep better.”

Based on the success of ERAS, the Hospital expanded the program to other surgical areas. The Division of Urology now follows opioid-free protocols for all its kidney surgeries, and it recently adapted ERAS for certain pediatric procedures, bariatric surgery, breast reconstruction, minimally invasive spine procedures, bladder surgery and abdominal cancer surgeries.

“We do a lot of kidney surgeries—at times as many as three or four a week—so it’s been helpful to look at how ERAS is impacting patients through the lens of a high-volume procedure,” said urologic surgeon Ronald J. Kaufman, Jr., MD, associate professor of Surgery, who added he has been struck by what he’s observed.

“We see some of our patients getting out of bed and moving around the recovery room, which is pretty unprecedented,” Dr. Kaufman said. “They can do this because their pain is more controlled.”
1,000th Minimally Invasive Valve Replacement at Albany Med

TAVR Speeds Recovery for Higher-Risk Patients

Albany Med, one of the first centers in the nation to perform a highly complex minimally invasive heart procedure, performed its 1,000th transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedure in June 2018.

TAVR is used to treat patients with aortic stenosis (an obstruction of the aortic valve) for whom more conventional open-heart valve replacement surgery would be higher risk. TAVR allows a surgeon to access and replace a faulty valve in a patient’s heart through a catheter inserted in an artery in the groin or through a small incision in the side of the chest. Once TAVR is completed, blood flow from the heart to the aorta is greatly improved.

“We have offered this critically important procedure to our patients since 2011, and our results have been excellent,” said Augustin DeLago, MD, director of Interventional Cardiology. “Patients who undergo this procedure not only experience a shorter hospital stay and a faster recovery, but a vastly improved quality of life.”

Albany Med ranks in the top 10 percent for the number of TAVR procedures performed among US medical institutions. Albany Med’s mortality rate and length of stay following TAVR procedures are below the national average—with approximately 70 percent of TAVR patients discharged the very next day.

“Albany Med continues to be a leader in heart care innovation and reaching this milestone is just another example of that,” said Lewis Britton III, MD, chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

National Recognition for Positive Surgical Outcomes

The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program recognized Albany Med as one of 83 participating hospitals to achieve meritorious outcomes for surgical patient care for the previous year. As a participant in the program, Albany Med tracks the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures and collects data that assesses patient safety. Albany Med achieved the distinction based on an outstanding composite quality score across eight clinical areas that include mortality, unplanned intubation and cardiac incidents.

Affiliation Provides Strengthened Heart Care for Entire Capital Region

Residents throughout the Capital Region continue to have significantly improved access to leading-edge, lifesaving heart care, thanks to Albany Med’s affiliations with Saratoga Hospital and Columbia Memorial Health. Saratoga-area residents continue to gain the benefits of 24/7 emergency cardiac interventions for heart attacks, following the creation of an interventional heart team comprised of Saratoga Hospital and Albany Med cardiologists, nurses and technologists.

Columbia Memorial heart patients’ care is seamlessly coordinated with Albany Med’s cardiologists, after Columbia Memorial’s heart doctors joined the network of Albany Med specialists and subspecialists.
Helping Rehab Patients Safely Stand Tall

The Department of Outpatient Physical Therapy introduced a state-of-the-art gait and safety system with the potential to improve recovery time and enhance the rehabilitative process for patients with gait and balance issues.

The Bioness Vector is a safety harness attached to a ceiling-mounted robotic unit that moves along an overhead rail, allowing the patient beneath it a full range of motion. The supportive properties of the Vector greatly alleviate the risk of falling.

For John Carver, of Albany, the Vector was an essential part of his recovery. After a 2018 car accident necessitated the amputation of his right leg, Carver began an intensive physical therapy regimen. “Sometime before I was fitted with a temporary prosthetic leg, I started using the Vector,” Carver said. “Up to that point, I hadn’t been able to walk, but the Vector allowed me to get vertical again. It was an integral part of my rehabilitation, and I think it saved me a lot of time in my recovery.”

The system is intended for patients recovering from stroke, amputation, spinal cord injury and orthopaedic surgeries from hip replacements to fractured legs to torn ACLs. Patients with neurologic conditions like Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis and balance issues also can benefit from the Vector. “Patient falls are the number one risk during the rehabilitation process,” said Jason Gagnon, PT, DPT, manager of Outpatient Physical Therapy. “The Vector helps eliminate that concern. It gives patients confidence, and it allows us to do our job better.”

Carver is now walking freely with the aid of a cane and has moved on to new goals: going up stairs and walking outside on uneven terrain. But the Vector, he said, helped him get there. “It was such a valuable tool. I felt safe enough, using it, to push myself.”
‘Medicine Man:’
Bringing the Albany Med Pharmacy to New Levels

In 2018, Timothy Lesar, PharmD, director of Clinical Pharmacy Services, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). He was honored for career-long excellence in improving patient outcomes and preventing patient harm related to medication use.

Modest by nature, Dr. Lesar is nonetheless a formidable presence in the field of medication safety. He serves as an advisor to both the ISMP and the US Food and Drug Administration, and his research has had an international reach. But it is here at Albany Med where his influence is most strongly felt.

Dr. Lesar came to Albany Med in 1985. He was one of the first researchers to produce data on medication errors and how to study them, and his influential studies have helped motivate and guide health care organizations and clinicians in their pursuit of safer patient care. Even the rigorous Joint Commission, the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care, has looked to him for input.

“The positive, collaborative atmosphere here at Albany Med has allowed us to transform the way we do things,” Dr. Lesar said. “We are trendsetters when it comes to medication safety.”

The pharmacy dispenses more than 12,000 doses of medication each day—and prepares 1,200 IVs. Intravenous products are made on-site and prepared according to strict national standards in controlled “clean rooms;” a computer-based system is used to optimize accuracy, and each label is photographed for record-keeping and cross-referencing purposes.

During Dr. Lesar’s tenure, Pharmacy Services has seen an enormous influx of new technology—robotics, e-prescribing, bar-code technology, “smart IV pumps” and dispensing machines, to name just a few.

“This is a job that calls for attention to detail, patience and the ability to think about many things simultaneously,” Dr. Lesar said. “The Pharmacy team has all these qualities, and they are incredibly dedicated. They are always looking for new ways to make things safer.”
In 2018, Albany Med wrapped up the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan with a great deal of success in identifying industry trends both nationwide and close to home as well as in assessing our capabilities and challenges. This road map guided Albany Med as we set priorities and took actions needed to best serve our community. The result was continued growth, improved patient access and experience, excellence in academics and research and enhanced value of care for all populations.
## Evidence of Success: 2016-2018 Strategic Plan

### 1. Continue Growth
- Executed partnerships with Columbia Memorial Hospital and Saratoga Hospital
- Further developed the Albany Med system through physician group acquisitions
- Continued identification and exploration of opportunities in strategic regions of service area
- Constructed The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center
- Maintained relationships with hospitals throughout region to further enrich variation in care delivery

### 2. Improve Patient Access & Experience
- Created more portals of entry throughout the Albany Med system
  - More than 100 locations across network
  - Nearly 1.9 million outpatient visits
- As a system, Albany Med was on par with national benchmarks for a balanced and diversified inpatient and outpatient mix
- Increased inpatient capacity without major construction
- Increased outpatient capacity
- Established new venues for care

### 3. Academic + Research Excellence
- Jointly recruited faculty to build on translational research success
- Developed eight formal collaborations through the BACC
- Added CRNA PhD Program
- Established Steering Committee on Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Faculty
- Announced “Early Assurance Pathway Program” for UAlbany undergraduate students from underrepresented demographic sectors
- Continued application of patient simulation training and inter-professional education to clinical education programs

### 4. Enhance Value of Care for All Populations
- Embarked on several strategic initiatives related to population health
- Continued build-out of analytics capabilities, clinical standardization and improved outcomes
- Formed new relationships with partners that promote health and well-being
- Reduced length of stay across the system

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The Albany Med System

UPDATE

Together, with Saratoga Hospital and Columbia Memorial Health, Albany Med created our region’s most expansive health care system: a regionally integrated, locally governed network providing high quality and comprehensive health care. Our network of more than 100 off-site centers brings high-quality patient care closer to home. Patients entering any of Albany Med’s affiliates or off-site locations can expect to receive the same quality of care as if they walked into the main facilities in Albany.

As health care rapidly changes throughout the nation, our partnerships and affiliations are helping to ensure that residents of our region and our communities have access to modern health care and vital services right in their backyard.

3 HOSPITALS WORKING TOGETHER FOR INTEGRATED CARE

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<th>Statistic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nearly</td>
<td>Outpatient and off-site visits to Albany Med system</td>
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<td>Over</td>
<td>Emergency Department visits to Albany Med system</td>
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<td>Albany Med system full-time physicians</td>
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850

2 million

140,000

14,200
### Reflecting on 2018

Albany Medical College continues to thrive as our region’s only medical school and premier biomedical research institution. In 2018, 218 students graduated from the College with degrees in medicine (MD), biomedical sciences (MS and PhD), nurse anesthesiology, bioethics and Physician Assistant Studies. In July, 142 new medical students in the Class of 2022 donned their white coats for the first time. Drawn from more than 9,000 applicants, the Class of 2022 comes from 24 states, including 36 students from New York.

Two new high-profile department chairs were named: Barbara Ostrov, MD, to head the Department of Pediatrics and the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital, and Denis Pauzé, MD, to lead the Department of Emergency Medicine, including the new Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center.

As Albany Med continues expansion throughout the region, affiliations are offering more opportunities for residents and students to spend time with physicians and patients in varying geographic and cultural settings.

On the research side, efforts continued to produce more translational research by engaging physicians to work alongside biomedical scientists. Research grants totaled 71 in 2018 for studies in fields as diverse as breast cancer research to a neurosurgical robotic system. Several faculty members contributed to work published in major publications, including *Pediatrics* and *The New England Journal of Medicine*. Additionally, eight companies are now housed in the Biomedical Accelerator and Commercialization Center (BACC), with ongoing work on novel treatments for rosacea and breast cancer, and a new digital platform for storing health information.

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### Innovating and Educating

#### Virtual Eye Exams Latest Tool at Patient Safety Center

A new innovative teaching tool at the Patient Safety and Clinical Competency Center is giving Albany Medical College students a better-than-ever introduction to eye and vision care. Students use the Eyesi Direct Ophthalmoscope to practice retinal exams. By looking through the system’s ophthalmoscope, they can examine virtual patients of varying age, ethnicity and retinal profile. Data is collected, stored and immediately available to educators, who can give feedback in real time—a leg-up on the more rudimentary simulators that were once used at the College.

“We are now able to see exactly what the students are looking at,” said center director Mara McErlean, MD, who also praised the virtual patients’ lifelike quality. “They blink. Their eyes move and react to light. We feel they will help students feel more confident and better prepared when they examine their first patient.”

Since 2011, the PSCCC, which houses a large collection of simulation and clinical training resources, has been a critical educational component for medical students as well as staff by allowing them to practice hands-on medicine in a realistic setting before treating patients.
Enriching the Educational Experience

The annual Albany Medical College Community Partner Gratitude Luncheon was hosted by the Division of Community Outreach and Medical Education in collaboration with the Department of Family and Community Medicine. The event thanks the numerous community organizations that host medical students as part of the College’s Service Learning program or that partner with the Medical College in other ways to enrich the educational experience. Several medical students spoke about their service learning experiences, including Chris Mayer, ’20, and Angie He, ’20 (Successful Aging in Place), Elena Insley, ’20, Kathleen Tedesco, ’20 (NICU Cuddlers) and Yufan Lin, ’20 (Care from the Start). The Service Learning curriculum exposes students to health challenges, particularly in underserved communities, to instill compassion and encourage a commitment to improving the health of the community.

Physicians, Scientists Partner to Study Treatment for Incurable Brain Cancer

A collaborative research effort at Albany Med begun in 2018 has the potential to transform treatment and expand lifespans for patients with glioblastoma (GBM).

The current treatment for this aggressive brain tumor includes surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. However, because the cancer cells rapidly disperse to healthy parts of the brain and quickly develop resistance to chemotherapy, treatment options are limited, and the average life expectancy is 15 months.

Led by Alexander Mongin, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience and Experimental Therapeutics (DNET), a multidisciplinary team of Albany Med scientists and clinicians focused on LRRC8A, a protein believed to facilitate the rapid growth of GBM cells.

The team found that when LRRC8A was blocked, cancer cells didn’t grow as fast. Importantly, when they combined targeting LRRC8A with chemotherapy, treatment was three times more effective than chemotherapy alone, indicating a potential new way to treat GBM.

The results of the study were published in the journal *Frontiers in Oncology.*

“GBM is so resistant to all current treatments that any agent that increases life expectancy would be a big deal,” said Dr. Mongin, who noted that there is still a long road between initial discovery and viable treatment.

“Our goal is to make this deadly disease a chronic one that can be lived with,” added Sebastian Rubino, MD, a resident in the Department of Neurosurgery, who participated in the research.

Drs. Mongin and Rubino credit Julie Pilitsis, MD, PhD, chair of DNET and professor of Neurosurgery, and Alan Boulos, MD, chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, for making the joint study possible.

“Drs. Pilitsis and Boulos recognized that by fostering collaborations between clinicians and basic scientists, we can accelerate the development of new cures for brain disorders,” said Dr. Mongin.

Dr. Rubino, who has seen firsthand the course of this disease in his patients, said that the ideal is to eradicate diseases like GBM, and at the least, to make them better tolerated. “Partnerships like this between physician-scientists and basic science researchers are paramount in making those advances,” he said.
Albany Med and UC Davis Partner on Asthma Research

In 2018, researchers at Albany Medical College and the UC Davis School of Medicine showed that the protein vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGFA) plays a major role in the inflammation and airway obstruction associated with asthma.

While VEGFA, an immune system molecule, is best known for its activity in cancer and growing blood vessels to help feed hungry tumors, this research outlines its entirely different role in asthma. The teams found that when VEGFA was blocked, immune response and inflammation both declined, essentially eliminating asthma symptoms.

The study, in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, was led by Albany Med’s Qi Yang, MD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Immunology and Disease, and Angela Haczku, MD, PhD, professor of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at UC Davis.

Ultimately, Drs. Yang and Haczku hope that their research will help lead to asthma treatments that target very specific molecules—like VEGFA—rather than knocking out the entire immune system.

Denis Pauzé, MD, was appointed chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine and professor of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Pauzé oversaw the opening of The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center.

Barbara Ostrov, MD, joined Albany Med from Penn State Children’s Hospital as the chair of the Department of Pediatrics and the director of the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital.
Students Awarded Degrees at 181st Commencement

Albany Medical College awarded 225 degrees at its May 2018 commencement ceremonies at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Graduates received medical degrees (MD), Master of Science degrees in Nurse Anesthesiology and Physician Assistant Studies, and master’s and doctoral degrees in the biomedical sciences and bioethics.

Feng Zhang, PhD, an investigator at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, delivered the keynote address. Dr. Zhang was part of a small team of scientists whose pioneering work on the genome editing tool CRISPR has been called the “discovery of the century.” He was one of the recipients of the 2017 Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research.

In a new twist on the traditional ceremony, members of the Class of 2018 who wished to be acknowledged for their first-generation status (meaning their parents or guardians did not attend college) wore satin cords.

Vincent Verdile, MD, ’84, The Lynne and Mark Groban, MD, ’67, Distinguished Dean of Albany Medical College and senior executive vice president for System Care Delivery, was one of the day’s speakers. He quoted the author and surgeon Atul Gawande, saying, “We think our job is to ensure health and survival. But really it is larger than that. It is to enable well-being. And well-being is about the reasons one wishes to be alive.”

“How can we ‘enable well-being’?” Dr. Verdile asked. “This is a core question that can guide all of us in all of our pursuits. Graduates, go to it.”
Partnership with American Heart Association Continues in Second Year

Albany Med’s partnership with the American Heart Association continued strong in the second year of its groundbreaking collaboration.

The “Life is Why” campaign is aimed at improving the heart health of the Capital Region. Its efforts are part of a national American Heart Association initiative designed to help people at risk of heart disease make small changes in their lifestyle that will result in healthier, happier, longer lives. The local effort brings together the expertise of the Heart Association with the clinical expertise of Albany Med’s cardiac services and research scientists studying cardiovascular disease.

Through the collaboration, Albany Med serves as the premier sponsor for American Heart Association signature events, including the Capital Region Heart Ball, the Go Red For Women Luncheon and the Capital Region Heart Walk & Run. Albany Med and the American Heart Association continued to provide Hands-Only CPR education and training in area high schools, as well as other activities.

Embracing Community

Reflecting on 2018

Our relationship with our surrounding community is mutually beneficial. As a medical center, we cannot move forward without a connection to our community. It’s our community that makes us function and it’s our responsibility to give back to it.

Our commitment to community continued in 2018 through more than 100 partnerships with health-related organizations, schools, neighbors, economic development initiatives and groups dedicated to improving the quality of life in our region. This is a 10-fold increase from 2010, when we redoubled our community relations efforts. On the College side, Service Learning remains vital in training future doctors. Part of our curriculum for first- and second-year students, Service Learning exposes future physicians to the health challenges in underserved communities. It’s important that medical students understand that the health of individuals depends on more than just writing a prescription. It is our privilege to work with stellar community, business and government leaders, with whom we collaborate to improve life in our region for everyone.

Movies and Medicine
Albany Med and the American Heart Association teamed up to teach Albany kids Hands-Only CPR at the Palace Theatre’s Summer in the City free family movie series, sponsored by Albany Med.

Cycling for Good Health and Awareness
The American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association, with support from Albany Med, put a new spin on raising stroke awareness with the Capital Region’s first CycleNation at Brown’s Revolution Hall in Troy. The event featured 50 stationary bikes with teams of four to eight spinning, relay-style, to upbeat music as well as activities designed to raise awareness about stroke. Additionally, several stroke survivors were on hand to share their stories.
Albany Med’s STEP Graduates Celebrated for Big Strides in Scientific Learning

Six seniors from area high schools were recognized as graduates of Albany Medical College’s Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP), which provides students from underrepresented backgrounds with learning opportunities in the STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Under the guidance of Medical College staff from the Division of Community Outreach and Medical Education, STEP students are nurtured, encouraged and supported as they explore these disciplines, as well as receive an immersive look into health science, thanks to the faculty and resources at Albany Medical College.

“We will miss these students, but we’re excited about their future scholastic journeys,” said Marva Richards, MPH, director of Community Outreach and Service Learning, who added that an additional benefit of the STEP program is getting to know the students’ parents.

Baby Institute Partnership Strong

Albany Med continued its support for an early learning initiative that is helping prepare children for school.

The Baby Institute, for underserved children and their parents in Albany, aims to increase children’s literary and language skills by helping parents understand how to ready them for pre-k and kindergarten.

The program was founded in 2010 by social worker Noelene Smith, MSW, who serves as its executive director. In 2016, Albany Med announced that it would partner with the grassroots organization to aid and support its mission, creating a structure for the Baby Institute’s Board, starting an Advisory Council of community and business leaders, and, consistent with Albany Med’s community outreach program, providing significant financial support to its programs and operations.

“When you work in health care, you spend a lot of time talking about the social determinants of health,” President and CEO James J. Barba said. “It’s an ongoing discussion. Exercise is good. Too much alcohol is bad. There are a lot of opinions. But the one thing everyone agrees on is that poverty predicts bad health outcomes. It’s just that simple.

“This is a moral dilemma for all of us,” he said. “We are all called to try to bring some change. And that is what the Medical Center is doing.”
Pink Ribbon Garden Breaks Ground

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, physicians (Breast Surgeon Lynn Choi, MD, third from left, and Radiologist Beth Whiteside, MD, fourth from left, medical director of the Breast Center) and staff joined singer-songwriter Melissa Etheridge, third from right, at a groundbreaking for the nation’s second—and New York State’s first—Pink Ribbon Garden in Altamont. Etheridge, a breast cancer survivor, co-founded the Pink Ribbon Garden Project, which aims to create gardens around the nation that will provide fresh produce to breast cancer survivors and their families.
Daisy Awards are given monthly at Albany Med for exemplary nursing.
2018 Employee of the Year

Latisha Chambers, an Emergency Department social worker, was named Albany Med’s 2018 Employee of the Year. She was praised by colleagues for her compassion and her exceptional skill in solving problems for those handling emergency medical situations.
2018 Awards

For the fourth year in a row, Albany Med was voted “Best Hospital in the Capital Region” by area residents in the Times Union’s “Best Of” survey.

Joan Bishop, executive director of the Oley Foundation, an Albany Med-based nonprofit that serves patients who rely on intravenous nutrition and tube feeding, was recognized by the Association for Vascular Access for her lifetime dedication to patient advocacy.

Oluwaseun (Seun) Adetayo, MD, section chief of Pediatric Plastic Surgery and director of The Cleft-Craniofacial Center, was chosen as one of the Albany Business Review’s “40 Under 40.” This honor recognizes Capital Region professionals age 40 and under who demonstrate leadership and community involvement.

Jennifer Pearce, MD, Ray Walsh, MD, Martha Lepow, MD, and Joanne Porter, MD, were honored by the Double H Ranch for their service to the camp for the past 25 years. The Double H Ranch is a camp in the Adirondacks for children with life-threatening illnesses.

Edward Philbin III, MD, the George E. Pataki Chair of the Division of Cardiology, and Michael Dailey, MD, chief of the Division of Prehospital Emergency Medicine and medical director of the Regional Emergency Management Organization, were recipients of the Donald Led Duke Heart Hero Award from the American Heart Association. (Pictured with cardiologist Suzie Mookherjee, MD)
Joanne Porter, MD, director of the Journeys Pediatric Palliative Care Program, was the inaugural recipient of Make-A-Wish Northeast New York’s “Wish Champion Award.”

Betty R. Vohr, MD ’66, director of Women & Infants Hospital’s Neonatal Follow-up Program in Providence, RI, was the recipient of the Albany Medical College Alumni Association 2018 Distinguished Alumna Award for her pioneering work dedicated to improving the lives of high-risk premature infants. Pictured with Dr. Vohr is Kevin Roberts, MD, president of the Alumni Association and chair of the Department of Anesthesiology.

Medical students Gurleen Kaur, ’21, and Wasila Mansouri, ’21, were recognized at the Eastern Atlantic Student Research Forum with awards for the best basic science posters.

Six Albany Med nurses received Albany Med’s prestigious Pillars of Nursing Award for 2018 during National Nurses Week in May. The recipients were: Abby Carkner, RN, Emergency Department, pictured top, receiving her award while on assignment with the US Air Force Reserve, and pictured above from left, Deborah Guptill, RN, Vascular Surgery, Cecilia Woodka, RN, Orthopaedics/Spine, Teresa Caringi, RN, Neurosurgery, Maria Lacson, RN, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Tess Carstensen, RN, Emergency Department. KeyBank, which has generously supported Albany Med’s Grow Our Own nurse training program since its inception, was also honored.
The Sight Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany) named Albany Med its 2018 Hospital of the Year for outstanding accomplishments and best practices to increase cornea donation as well as for its committed and caring staff.

Four Albany Med nurses were honored for nursing excellence in a Times Union readers’ poll. Herma Lee, RN, of the Apheresis Unit, was chosen as a “2018 Nurse of the Year.” “2018 Nurse of the Year Finalists” were Nancy Jones, RN, Pediatric Oncology and Medicine, Cindy Conley, RN, Hematology and Oncology, Post-Partum Nurse Kathleen Buono, RN, was recognized for her work as an assistant professor of Nursing at Russell Sage College.

Donna Pietrocola, MD, ’75, associate professor of Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynecology, received one of Albany Med’s highest honors, the Pillars Award, in June. The award is given annually to individuals who epitomize the spirit of Albany Med and whose outstanding work and contributions reflect the community-based nature of its mission.

Albany Med received The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Heart-Check mark for Advanced Certification for Comprehensive Stroke Centers as well as the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award.
Albany Med’s WIC Program received the gold-level Loving Support Award of Excellence from the Food and Nutrition Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. The award recognizes local WIC agencies that provide exemplary breastfeeding programs and support services.

Kaylin Dawson, BSN, RN, sexual assault nurse coordinator in the Department of Emergency Medicine, received a Teal Dot Award from the Albany County Sexual Assault Resource Team for her outstanding service to victims of sexual assault.

In recognition of her many accomplishments over a nearly four-decade career in technology, Amy Johnson, director/entrepreneur in residence of the Biomedical Acceleration and Commercialization Center (BACC), received the Jeffrey A. Lawrence Lifetime Contributor Award from the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). iSimulate, founded by Bobby Syed and Anthony Lewis in 2012, received CEG’s Lift-Off Award. iSimulate is housed in the BACC.

Albany Medical College received the 2018 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. The award honors colleges and universities that encourage and assist students from underrepresented groups to enter science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.
2018 Awards

Nurse Manager Lisa Welter, RN, was honored with a Patriotic Employer Award from the U.S. Department of Defense for her support of orthopedic surgery unit nurse Megan Rees, RN, a member of the military reserve serving in Iraq.

At the Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) Foundation’s 2018 Gala, Albany Med President and CEO James J. Barba was honored for his support of HVCC’s health sciences program and for the impact of his leadership on higher education and health care at large in the Capital Region.

Labor and Delivery Nurse Mary Keira Ruetz, RN, was honored with the 2018 Healthy Mom Strong Babies Nurse Award by the March of Dimes.

Albany Med’s Supply Chain received the 2018 Healthcare Supply Chain Achievement Award from the ECRI Institute, a nonprofit that researches approaches to improving patient care. Albany Med was honored for excellence in balancing cost, quality and outcomes.
The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) recognized Albany Med as one of 83 ACS NSQIP participating hospitals that have achieved meritorious outcomes for surgical patient care in 2017.

For the fifth year in a row, Albany Med was named one of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) HealthCare’s “Most Wired” hospitals in the nation based on survey results measuring how well hospitals adopt new technology and apply it strategically to achieve great outcomes.

Barry Kogan, MD, chief of the Division of Urology, received the You Make a Difference Award from the Spina Bifida Association of Northeastern New York. Dr. Kogan, a pediatric urologist, was honored for providing high-quality care to patients with spina bifida.

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Frances Spreer Albert, center, was named the 2018 CFO of the Year by the Albany Business Review as part of its annual Achievers Awards, one of the most prestigious award programs in the region.
GENERATING & STEWARDING
Once again, Albany Med is posting our list of individual donors on our website (www.amc.edu/report2019), rather than in the printed Annual Report. In keeping with Albany Med’s environmental goals and following the lead of numerous other institutions and organizations across the United States, we are making a greater effort to “go green.” However, if you would like a hard copy of the list of individual donors, we will gladly mail one to you. Please contact the Albany Med Foundation at (518) 262-3322.
Couple Places Trust in Albany Med

Dennis Sullivan, a lifelong New York City resident, first learned about the work being done at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med in 2009 while visiting a friend whose young daughter was recovering from surgery. He saw firsthand not only the expertise of the hospital’s doctors and nurses, but also their kindness and compassion.

Sullivan would soon call the Capital Region home. An outdoor enthusiast, he was drawn to the upstate area to hike, bike and enjoy nature. When he retired, Sullivan decided the Albany area was the best match for him.

Once here he met and married his wife, Margaret Lamb Sullivan, who shares his love of nature and his charitable vision. The Sullivans believe that being part of a community means giving back to improve the lives of others. When it was time to seek out a place to leave their hard-earned legacy, the Sullivans decided to support the Journeys Pediatric Palliative Care Program.

“There is an entrepreneurial nature to Pediatric Palliative Care at Albany Med that really appeals to me. Dr. Joanne Porter and her team are truly dedicated to their patients and the vital role of their work,” said Dennis Sullivan.

Dennis Sullivan, a CPA, was the chief accounting officer for Prudential Financial before retiring; Margaret Sullivan is the director of Saratoga Springs City School District’s school lunch program.

They soon expanded their support, with significant commitment to the children’s hospital and The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center.

“It’s a given that advanced, leading-edge medical technology comes with a big price tag. But perhaps more importantly, beyond technical knowledge, the common thread that we’ve observed at Albany Med is passion and a sense of urgency in the mission.”
Albany Med thanks those who have created a lasting legacy using their wills, life income gifts or retirement plans.

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and Anne McGhugh
Madeline* and Richard Mead
Thomas Metzger
Cor* and William* Meyer, Jr.,
MD '55

*deceased
Passion for Albany Medical College Fosters Gifts

The healing arts is “the greatest profession in the world!” And David Beck, MD, FACP, ’54, is grateful to Albany Medical College for that gift every day. In anticipation of his 65th reunion, Dr. Beck reflected on what his education has meant to his career.

“As a medical student, I felt a deep kinship with Albany that lasts to this day,” he said. “I would describe our medical college as ‘homey’ with a small student-to-faculty ratio. The professors truly cared about us and making us good doctors. Everything I became I owe to Albany Medical College.”

What Dr. Beck became was a beloved internist based in Westport, Conn., who over many years has touched the lives of his community through his practice and as an attending physician at Norwalk Hospital. His passion, he said, is taking care of sick people.

To give back for “four of the best years of my life,” Dr. Beck has been a loyal donor to Albany Medical College, supporting the Alumni Annual Fund, the Dean’s Discretionary Fund, the Patient Safety and Clinical Competency Center, classroom renovations, endowment and scholarship. “The reason I give is because of my love for this place,” he said.
Family Fund Promotes Kidney Research at Albany Med

For Menands resident Liz Roach, donating to Albany Med is one small way to express her gratitude for having an academic medical center like Albany Med in the region.

In collaboration with the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, she oversees the John Faunce and Alicia Tracy Roach Fund, named for her late husband’s parents.


After her husband’s transplant, advancing kidney research became an important cause to the family.

Since 2011, the fund has given $250,000 to Albany Med, supporting kidney disease and kidney transplant research of Loay Salman, MD, and David Conti, MD.

According to Liz Roach, their research actualizes the family’s wishes “perfectly.” “They are talented and dedicated scientists and also caring professionals,” she said. “It’s been our ultimate privilege to help these devoted doctors and researchers. How lucky we are to have them here.”

Community Events

#Trending4Fashion
Amazing Gracie
Big Fez and the Surfocrats
Brave Will Events
Diamonds and Denim (Kelsey’s Promise)
Emery Moser’s Birthday
Glennpeter Jewelers Jewelry Sale
Kenna’s Birthday Bash
Kiernan Wolpert’s Birthday
Laps for Little Heroes
Miranda Real Estate Golf Tournament
Miss Shen Strike Out Cancer
MuddyKids Kitchens
Shelstron’s Spirits of Strength
Spirit Halloween
Students Care for Kids
The Event 518
Vintage House

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- Salon 255, Ltd.
- Schenectady Hardware & Electric Company, Inc.
- The Shellstrong Foundation, Inc.
- Star Improvements, Inc.
- UAlbany Dance Marathon
- USACS Management Group, Ltd.
- The Yulman Foundation

**LEADERSHIP CIRCLE ($5,000 to $9,999)**
- Albany Society for the Advancement of Philanthropy
- Amazing Gracie’s Gift Foundation
- AngloDynamics, Inc.
- Aramark Healthcare
- Ashley Brown, LLC
- The E.A. Barvoets Fund
- Bette & Cring, LLP
- BlueShield of Northeastern New York
- Brown & Weinraub, PLLC
- Cerner Corporation
- Clancy Real Estate

**Walmart and Sam’s Club Mark Fundraising Milestone**

In 2018, local Walmart and Sam’s Club stores surpassed the $4 million fundraising mark after 30 years of support of the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital. As part of a nationwide campaign, donations poured in from August to October, as Walmart and Sam’s Club associates at 23 area locations held in-store fundraising activities and asked customers and members for their support at the register. “Walmart and Sam’s Club have been one of Albany Med’s longest standing corporate partners, and their support greatly helps us enhance the expert and compassionate care our staff delivers to our patients and their families,” said Vincent P. Verdile, MD, ’84, The Lynne and Mark Groban, MD, ’67, Distinguished Dean of Albany Medical College and senior executive vice president for System Care Delivery.”
A Decade of Giving

2018 saw the 10-year anniversary of The Nick’s Fight to Be Healed Foundation, which during that time has donated nearly $500,000 to the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital. The foundation was created in honor of Nick Cammarata, of Clifton Park, who, at age 13 in 2008, lost his battle with leukemia. The foundation has made a great impact by supporting pediatric and young adult patients fighting cancer by supporting child life, entertainment and technology for hospitalized patients and programs to ease the stress of a cancer diagnosis and treatment.
On the evening of July 31, 2018, a new era began for the region's children and families when Albany Med opened the doors to northeastern New York's only pediatric emergency department. The Massry Family Children's Emergency Center has since cared for an average of 58 patients per day.

“This wonderful new facility stands as a visible symbol to the public of our strong and ongoing commitment to future generations,” said Albany Med President James J. Barba.

The Massry Center is staffed by physicians and other caregivers with specialized training in emergency medicine.

“We understand that children are not just small adults,” said Denis Pauzé, MD, chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine, who is also fellowship-trained in pediatric emergency medicine. “If a child breaks a bone, for instance, we look at that case differently from an adult who breaks a bone. We know that blood loss in children who are trauma victims can initially be difficult to detect. There are many conditions and illnesses that require a deep understanding of pediatric medicine, which we possess here at Albany Med.”

The Massry Center is also the front door of care for the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med, the region’s only children’s hospital.
Community Support Fuels Massry Center

The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center opened amidst strong and enthusiastic philanthropic support from local donors.

“When we approached our community, we heard loud and clear that they were behind us—they cared about the health of children, the well-being of our legacy,” said Albany Med President and CEO James J. Barba at a ribbon-cutting attended by donors and leaders from business, government, the community and the Medical Center.

In recognition of gifts to Albany Med totaling $5 million, in January 2018, the Pediatric Emergency Department was named The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center.

“I have found once you come to Albany Med, for any reason—to be treated, to visit a loved one—you learn more about the institution and its people. And the more you learn, the more you want to become involved with an organization that touches thousands of people every year,” said philanthropist Norman Massry, principal of Tri City Rentals of Albany. “Albany Med is a place that is known for its compassionate care and exceptional expertise, and its ability to look beyond the horizon.”

In addition to the Massry family, other significant support came from:

Albany Med Auxiliary
Ayco, a Goldman Sachs Company
Bank of America
James J. and Rose A. Barba
Capital Region Orthopaedic Associates
Nancy Carey Cassidy and Thomas Cassidy, Jr.
CDPHP
Curtis Lumber Company, Inc.
The DeCrescente Family
Daniel Fitzpatrick, Jr.
Pamela and Doug Hamlin
Hannaford Charitable Foundation
The Michael M. Hayes Family
Christine and George R. Hearst III
The Moser Family
MVP Health Care
New York State Assembly
Jessica and Joe Nicolla
John J. Nigro
Carrie and John O’Connor
Janice and Angelo Pastizzo
Jennifer and Dan Pickett III and the Pickett Family Foundation
Richard F. Prince
Patricia and Kenneth Raymond, Jr.
Leslie J. Newman and Mark J. Rosen
SEFCU
The Standish Family
Stewart’s Shops/The Dake Family
Margaret and Dennis Sullivan
The Swyer Family
The Touhey Family
Trustco Bank
The Charles R. Wood Foundation

Hundreds of other community residents and businesses as well as Albany Med employees contributed financially to the project. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) partnered with Albany Med on this project with involvement in construction and permanent financing, and Bank of America financed the facility’s equipment.
Life can take some unexpected turns, especially when a rambunctious boy is involved. Melissa and Michael Dingmon, of Gloversville, learned this lesson when a relaxing Saturday afternoon led to an unplanned trip to Albany Med that culminated in late-night emergency surgery.

After their then 3-year-old son, Ryan, fell off the back of a couch, his parents were alarmed to see that Ryan’s left arm appeared broken and oddly displaced at the elbow. With no pediatric orthopedic surgeon on staff at a local hospital—and concerns about circulatory and nerve damage—doctors transferred Ryan by ambulance to Albany Med.

Upon arriving, his mother recalled being promptly greeted by ED staff. Within minutes, she said, Ryan was being examined. Soon after, a surgeon met with the Dingmons to explain the need for surgery. Three pins were inserted to stabilize Ryan’s arm and he was discharged the next day.

Today, Ryan is fully recovered. Melissa Dingmon hopes their days of medical emergencies are behind them, but she was grateful to learn about the opening of The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center and was delighted to have the opportunity to share the family’s story at the opening ceremony for the new facility.
The Roy family, of Orwell, Vt., has seen their fair share of hospital emergency departments. Passionate about motocross racing, Amy and Chris Roy, and their 16-year-old son, Furi, had experienced plenty of track mishaps requiring medical attention.

Still, the Roys agreed they’d never encountered a place quite like The Massry Family Children’s Emergency Center. In early August, following a crash in Greenwich, New York, it was clear Furi needed medical attention. Unfamiliar with the area, Amy Roy said the track owner urged the family to go to Albany Med.

During the ambulance ride, the crew advised them that Furi could be treated at the new facility.

“At that moment, all the stress faded away,” Amy Roy said. “I heard the words ‘pediatric emergency center,’ and I knew the situation we would walk into would be expert care for him.”

Upon arriving, she was impressed to see a medical team of “13 to 15 people, ready, gowned and waiting for my child.”

Furi suffered a broken wrist, a broken rib, a concussion, a separated shoulder and air bubbles in his lungs. Doctors kept him overnight at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital for observation.

“All the people were very nice,” said Furi, who spent nearly six weeks recovering and was back on his bike within days after having his cast removed.

“Albany Med was absolutely amazing,” Amy Roy said. “It was just such a good experience in a bad situation.”
## Albany Med

### 2018 Annual Report Statistics & Financials

**Albany Medical Center Hospital / Patient Care**
- Licensed beds (includes SCC): 734
- Licensed bassinets: 20
- Patient admissions (includes SCC): 42,125
- Patient days (includes SCC): 229,571
- Observation cases: 3,228
- Observation days: 4,803
- Outpatient visits (includes SCC): 1,089,880
- Average length of stay: 5.45 days
- Percent occupancy: 83.4%
- Average daily census: 629
- Surgical cases (includes SCC): 31,939
- Emergency Department visits: 80,806

**Employees (Full-Time Equivalents)**: 8,292

### Faculty
- Full-time physicians: 500
- Voluntary physicians: 400
- Residents: 481
- Basic science faculty: 105
  - Full-time: 74
  - Part-time: 2
  - Volunteer: 20
  - Emeritus: 9

**Unrestricted Revenues ($ Millions)**
- Patient/Service: $1,236.0 (89%)
- Gifts/Grants: $31.5 (2%)
- Tuition and Fees: $41.6 (3%)
- Other Revenue: $78.3 (6%)
- **Total Revenue**: $1,387.4 (100%)

**Unrestricted Expenses ($ Millions)**
- Salaries and Benefits: $767.7 (56%)
- Supplies/Purchased Services: $478.2 (35%)
- Depreciation and Interest: $111.1 (8%)
- Other Expense: $22.2 (2%)
- **Total Expenses**: $1,379.2 (100%)

**Graduate Studies**
- Graduate students (total enrollment): 250

**Albany Medical College**
- Medical students (total enrollment): 578
- Freshmen: 142
- Average GPA (of incoming freshmen): 3.71
- Medical school applications: 10,201

**Research Funding**
- Total sponsored research: $18.2 M
- Basic science: $12.5 M
- Clinical science: $5.7 M
- Active awards: 253
- Peer-reviewed publications: 550

*(equals 101% due to rounding)*