



A HISTORY OF  
THE EAST HAMPTON  
HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

**A HISTORY OF  
THE EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION  
1998 – 2021**

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First Edition  
Printed in the USA  
Book design by Keri Lamparter

Published by The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation  
200 Pantigo Place, Suite M  
East Hampton, NY 11937

[easthamptonhealthcare.org](http://easthamptonhealthcare.org)

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*Working Together to Build a Model Healthcare System for the People of Our Town*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Overview</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Our Philosophy of Healthcare</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Understanding the Need</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Addressing the Need</b>	<b>8</b>
- The East Hampton Healthcare Center	8
- 2002 Opening Celebrations	10
- East Hampton Urgent Care	12
- One Standard of Care	13
- Pharmacy Services and Help with Prescription Drugs	13
- Diagnostic Testing	14
- Benefits Counseling	15
- Coordination with Health Agencies and Organizations	15
- Space for Local Agencies	16
- Town-Wide Automated External Defibrillator Program	16
- Community Health Fairs	18
- Pediatric and Adolescent Mental Health	19
<b>The Heartbeat of the Healthcare Center</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2018 Foundation Dinner</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Educational Symposiums</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>The East Hampton Satellite Emergency Department</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>A Conversation with Henry L. Murray, Chairman</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>2012 Anniversary Celebration</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>In Appreciation: Gerard M. Turino, President</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>A Conversation with Sheila Rogers, Director</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Securing the Future</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Salute to Donors</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>The East Hampton Healthcare Center Physicians and Services</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Epilogue</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Special Acknowledgments</b>	<b>64</b>

## OVERVIEW

### The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation

*The Mission of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation is to improve the quality and availability of healthcare for all citizens of the Town of East Hampton, including the uninsured and underinsured, with one standard of care for all.*

In 1997, a quality of life survey was conducted by the Village Preservation Society of East Hampton which identified the lack of available, quality medical care in East Hampton as one of the most serious issues facing the community.

To address the need for improved healthcare, the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation was formed under the leadership of John R. Kennedy, Chairman, and Jerome J. DeCosse, Jr. MD, Ph.D., President.

In 2002, the baton was passed to Henry L. Murray, Chairman and Gerard M. Turino, M.D., President. The Board of Trustees comprised of local residents governs the EHMF. It receives no government funding, and is funded entirely through generous contributions from the community.

The first phase was to conceptualize and build the 18,000 square foot state-of-the-art East Hampton Healthcare Center at 200 Pantigo Place and to begin physician recruitment, which was completed in February 2002.

The second phase addressed program development. Administration of the Foundation, Center and the programs is under the direction of Sheila Rogers, who has worked with the Trustees since the inception of the Foundation.

The third phase, undertaken in 2007, was to establish East Hampton Urgent Care, now managed and operated by Meeting House Lane Medical Associates, a division of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital.


A fourth phase continues our close collaboration, planning and fundraising with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital and the Town of East Hampton, for the Hospital's new free-standing East Hampton Satellite Emergency Department. 🏡

## OUR PHILOSOPHY OF HEALTHCARE

The purpose of the Foundation is to act as a catalyst for the development of a model healthcare system for East Hampton, benefiting all residents of the Town. One standard of care, the basic principle of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, is at the core of services provided, whether insured, uninsured or under-insured, and regardless of age, gender, race, national origin or financial status. With this philosophy, the first priority was to facilitate the delivery of improved healthcare to all residents by offering a range of physician services, including pediatrics, general internal and specialized adult medicine, paying particular attention to prevention of illness as well as to diagnosis and treatment of disease.

The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation charts a course that proceeds from its own initiative but always in accordance with the guidance and feedback from the community and its leaders in healthcare, understanding that future needs may require changing goals. Those who support the Foundation with their generous contributions recognize that continued help is required to sustain the Foundation's work for the benefit of the entire community.

Donors perceived that the reason for establishing a Healthcare Center and building an endowment was to guarantee sustained improved healthcare and to benefit from medicine's advances in the future. They also helped to provide a safety net for those residents, who because of their income or legal status, may not be entitled to government provided healthcare and cannot afford health insurance on their own.

The challenge of the future is to first prevent illness whenever possible, curtail its development by whatever means are feasible, treat the individual with optimal care, and to make these measures available to everyone. 

## **TIMELINE**

### **1998**

Incorporation of EHHF; Feasibility study is undertaken; Organizational structure is established; Trustees are recruited.

### **1999**

Fundraising begins; Land is purchased; Medical Committee establishes goals and standards; Architectural drawings are developed for the Healthcare Center.

### **2000**

East Hampton building permits are secured; June groundbreaking is held; Peter Jay Sharp Foundation makes \$500K challenge grant; Construction begins.

### **2001**

Physicians are recruited; Public Health Symposium is held; Healthcare needs assessment is conducted; Challenge grant is completed.

### **2002**

Healthcare Center opens in February; Dedication ceremony is held in June; Benefits counseling program begins; Pharmacy, Lab and Radiology Departments open.

### **2003**

Foundation facilitates care for uninsured; Preventive healthcare programs are initiated; Additional physicians are recruited; Volunteer group is expanded; Free Health Fairs begin.

### **2004**

Preventive Healthcare Symposium is held; Unprecedented levels of service to residents are provided at Center.

### **2005**

Funding for new Bonac on Board to Wellness program at East Hampton Middle School; Child and Adolescent Mental Health Symposium is held.

## **2006**

Installation of digital mammography, digital x-ray and bone density equipment at Center linked to Southampton Hospital; Heart Health Symposium is held; Health needs assessment survey is completed.

## **2007**

Pediatric Primary Care program insures timely and quality healthcare for all children in the community regardless of ability to pay; Town-wide free defibrillator program is launched.

## **2008**

East Hampton Urgent Care opens for non-life threatening medical needs, a daytime alternative to Southampton Hospital Emergency Room.

## **2009**

EHHF meets needs for support for medical services and emergency prescriptions due to increased financial stresses brought on by the global recession and economic downturn.

## **2010**

Cardiology Symposium is held; Dr. George Dempsey assumes operations management of East Hampton Urgent Care.

## **2011**

Tick-Borne Illness Symposium is held; Review and update of Town-wide defibrillator program are undertaken.

## **2012**

New program is initiated to enhance access to mental health services for children and adolescents; “Healthcare Creativity” grant initiative is launched; 10-year Anniversary of Healthcare Center Opening is held.

## **2013**

Symposium on Aging is held; Residents are provided with free benefits counseling and enrollment in Affordable Care Act insurance; EHHF collaborates with the Town Emergency Preparedness Task Force and underwrites brochure for Town-wide distribution.



## **2014**

Advances in Cardiology Symposium is held; AED program expands; Meeting House Lane Medical Practice, under Southampton Hospital, assumes operation of East Hampton Urgent Care.

## **2015**

EHHF helps fund pilot program developed by Dr. Gail Schonfeld of East End Pediatrics, providing access to on-going mental health treatment for youngsters and families.

## **2016**

Fundraising support is announced for Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's planned construction of Satellite Emergency Department in East Hampton; Cancer Symposium is held.

## **2017**

Board of Trustees commits to working with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital on the establishment of SBSH's Satellite Emergency Department on property directly adjacent to East Hampton Healthcare Center.

## **2018**

EHHF reaches a 20-year milestone of working to improve community healthcare services; SBSH's newly renovated radiology/laboratory department at the Healthcare Center opens; Future of Healthcare symposium is held.

## **2019**

Plans take shape for Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's new Satellite Emergency Department; EHHF and East End Pediatrics present Partnership in Parenting series at Eleanor Whitmore Early Childhood Center.

## **2020 – 2021**

Planning and fundraising for new East Hampton Satellite Emergency Department continues; EHHF works to keep Healthcare Center patients and staff safe while supporting continuity of medical services throughout Covid-19 pandemic; partners with Town and Hudson River Healthcare to offer Covid testing services and vaccination programs; provides funding for uninsured residents; Gerald H. Cromack, II, is named Chairman Elect; Dr. Peter Odell is named President Elect, effective January 1, 2022, as Chairman Henry Murray and President Dr. Gerard Turino stepped down to Emeritus positions.

## UNDERSTANDING THE NEED



Over the past years the population of East Hampton has risen to more than 20,000 year-round residents and up to as many as 100,000 in the summer. This increase in population stresses an already overburdened medical system.

The core year-round diverse population is composed of fishermen, farmers, local business owners and professionals, realtors, lawyers and accountants, educators, retired seniors, immigrant and transient agricultural, and service industry workers. Some are part-time workers, some receive governmental assistance and many are or were uninsured or under-insured for healthcare. Many residents could not afford medical care after satisfying their basic living needs.

According to Town of East Hampton statistics, in 1998, 28% of its residents were without adequate health insurance (900 were under the age 18). Often, these residents were unaware of the healthcare benefits available from governmental and other sources. As they may have been embarrassed to ask for help, they often turned to the Hospital Emergency Department for routine care; an inappropriate and poor use of the facility.

The summer and weekend populations, although able to afford medical care, were confronted with limited physician availability. In 2000, the established acceptable ratio of physicians to population was one generalist per 2,000 people. When the ratio was applied to just the permanent resident population, the results showed that the community was medically underserved at a rate that was 40% below the national standard. (*Rivo & Kindig; New England Journal of Medicine, 334:892-896, 1996.*)

At the inception of the Foundation's initiative in 1998, the local building that had served for many years for medical offices, x-ray and lab facilities, had been purchased for another use. East Hampton had an inadequate number of primary care physicians, a lack of medical specialists, the absence of modern laboratory and x-ray facilities, and the lack of affordable medical office space. After-hours care was not available and no provision had been made for the care of the uninsured and under-insured.

The medically under-insured had been a national problem which the private sector had largely ignored at the time; therefore, there were virtually no models for the Foundation to follow. Nonetheless, the Foundation felt that it had a moral responsibility to address these difficult issues, and used creative means to develop solutions.

To assist the Foundation in its planning efforts, in January 2001 and again in 2006, prominent healthcare consulting firms were engaged to survey the health needs of the community. 🧡

## ADDRESSING THE NEED

### Establishing the East Hampton Healthcare Center



*“Across the country, healthcare and public health priorities are constructed by community coalitions; these partnerships turn out to work extraordinarily well. When they are community-generated, community-focused, and community-driven, their impacts can be very substantial. The East Hampton Healthcare Center is a superb example of what can be done. It is full of hope for the population and full of promise for the future. The opportunity to build a better model is well under way.”*

— Jeremiah A. Barondess, MD, President Emeritus, New York Academy of Medicine  
Keynote Speaker, East Hampton Healthcare Center Grand Opening Ceremony, June 2002

Construction of the 18,000 square-foot medical center with modern laboratory, x-ray and mammography and free-standing pharmacy was completed in February 2002. In addition to those services, the Center houses full-time medical practices providing adult and pediatric primary care, and part-time medical specialist practices. Every day, hundreds of residents use the services at the East Hampton Healthcare Center.

## **At its inception, The East Hampton Healthcare Center offered:**

- Qualified adult, pediatric physicians and medical specialists in a permanent, modern and state-of-the art setting.
- A convenient medical care center with important links to Southampton Hospital for a coordinated, continuous and comprehensive system of healthcare, encompassing prevention and treatment, including urgent care.
- Affiliation with Southampton Hospital and other organizations to assist in recruiting the doctors needed, to provide professional medical specialists, and ensure the availability of quality, caring and professional medical services in the future.
- Medical practices with a commitment to provide general medical care, and medical services for acutely ill patients, with a single standard of care.
- Day, evening and weekend medical care coverage.
- Handicapped accessible office space and patient rooms for adult care, pediatric physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.
- A modern suite for radiology, mammography and bone densitometry services.
- A medical laboratory for collection of patient specimens for testing.
- An on-site pharmacy to serve the prescribed medication needs of patients served at the Center.
- Benefits counseling and patient advocacy services for residents.
- Space for other health services, such as social service agencies.

**EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE CENTER  
2002 OPENING CELEBRATIONS**



*Jack Kennedy and Dr. Martin Stone*



*William Pickens III and Pat Pickens*



*Claire Odell and Dr. Peter Odell*



*Robert Loughead, James Makrianes, and Henry Murray*



*Sheila DeCosse, James Makrianes, and Dr. Gerard Turino*



*Mary Ella Reutershan and Dr. Dorothy Turino*



*Dr. David Paton and Dr. Jeremiah Baroness*



*Bruce Collins and Andrew Goldstein*



*Dr. Ralph Gibson*



*Ellen and James Marcus*



*Sheila DeCosse and Janet C. Ross*



*Norman Mercer, Barbara Borsack, and Stanley Becker*

## Establishing East Hampton Urgent Care

An important Foundation milestone was achieved with the opening of East Hampton Urgent Care in June of 2008. A Town-wide health needs assessment survey conducted by the Foundation in 2006 found that residents strongly expressed the need for the availability of a local, walk-in medical center. With this directive, the Foundation secured a central location and established a \$1 million facility funded through private philanthropic donations.

The facility features modern patient and waiting rooms, and digital X-ray and laboratory services. Physicians handle a myriad of urgent conditions, including asthma and allergies, back pain, fractures, burns, bites and cuts, coughs and colds, ear and eye infections, sore throats, sprains and strains, sutures, tick bites, and more.

Prior to the opening of East Hampton Urgent Care, many residents and visitors would travel to the Southampton Hospital emergency room to address their urgent medical needs. With the opening of the Center, patients had a local medical alternative that's better suited for providing treatment for urgent, non-life threatening medical needs seven-days a week year round.



*East Hampton Urgent Care is now under the operation of Meeting House Lane Medical Practice, an affiliate of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital.*



## **Promoting One Standard of Care**

In 2002, a one-year program was launched with a grant from New York State in conjunction with Southampton Hospital to provide care for the uninsured and under-insured population.

Since 2003, the Foundation's East Hampton Primary Care Program has offered primary medical care services at the Center for uninsured patients without the ability to pay. This program exists thanks to the efforts of Dr. George Dempsey and his team at East Hampton Family Medicine, and Dr. Gail Schonfeld with her team at East End Pediatrics. No one with an urgent health issue is ever turned away for financial reasons.

The Foundation funds the care of more than 1,500 patient visits annually, in spite of insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act due to a large number of ineligible residents. We expect that many patients who qualify to use the Foundation program will continue to need assistance for medical care, laboratory and other diagnostic studies as well as emergency supplies of prescription medications. The Foundation remains committed to helping under-served people who live in the Town of East Hampton and who cannot afford the growing costs of health insurance and basic medical services.

## **Pharmacy Services and Help with Prescription Drugs**

Park Place Chemists offers quality and prompt service to its customers. The convenience offered to patients in having prescriptions filled at the Healthcare Center without having to drive to another location is an important step in offering improved healthcare services to our residents.

Our emergency prescription program, which began in 2006, provides up to three months of emergency prescriptions to residents who are unable to pay for them. A patient in need of life-saving insulin who was brought to the Healthcare Center led to the development of this program, which exemplifies the ability of the Foundation to respond quickly and effectively to address a need.

Those with serious illnesses such as hypertension, diabetes, and cardiac conditions, are automatically qualified to receive program benefits based on financial need. This is the only privately-funded program of its kind anywhere on the East End of Long Island. We work side by side with local physicians, and organizations such as Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, the Town of East Hampton Human Services Department, and the Family Service League to ensure that no East Hampton resident in need of an emergency supply of prescription medications is ignored.

Working closely with our on-site pharmacy, we are assured of providing quality medications at the lowest cost possible. In addition, many of the Center's physicians also work directly with various pharmaceutical companies to provide generous quantities of free pharmaceutical samples for the very purpose of aiding those in need.

The Emergency Prescription Program illustrates the basic principle of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation of one standard of care, which is at the core of all services provided to Town residents.

## Diagnostic Testing

At Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's Suite A in the Healthcare Center, a full range of physician-prescribed diagnostic tests including blood tests, digital x-rays, 3-D mammograms and bone density examinations are offered and enable quick access for interpretation by board certified radiologists at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital.



*Karen Rodriguez, mammography technician*

## Benefits Counseling

In an effort to assist numerous local residents who qualify for Medicaid, Medicare, Affordable Care Act insurance and other county and state health insurance programs, the Foundation established a Benefits Counseling Office in Suite M of the Healthcare Center. Staffed by bilingual counselors and patient advocates, Alexandra Feely, CSW and Blanca Bishop, the goal is to provide benefits counseling, to assist patients with health program enrollment, and to provide information and assistance in regards to other healthcare and related service needs, to everyone in East Hampton.

Over the years, free counseling, entitlement services, and health insurance enrollment services have been provided to thousands of residents in our community.



*Left to right: Blanca Bishop, Alexandra Feely*

## Coordination with Health Agencies and Organizations

To ensure success in reaching all segments of the resident population and maximizing program success, the Foundation has partnered with various regional organizations: American Heart Association, East End Hospice, East Hampton Middle School, East Hampton Village Ambulance Association, Eleanor Whitmore Early Childhood Center, Family Service League, Hudson River Health Centers, Most Holy Trinity Church, Ross School, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, Town of East Hampton Human Services Department, Suffolk County Department of Health, and YMCA RECenter.

## Space for Local Agencies

The conference room located in the East Hampton Healthcare Center is available to all community health-related organizations in the Town for meetings, presentations, support groups and more, free of charge.



## Town-Wide Automated External Defibrillator Program



*Henry Murray, Joe Kazickas, Supervisor Larry Cantwell, Sheila Rogers, East Hampton Village Ambulance Association Assistant Chief Ann Grabowski, EMT Paul Mangano, and Harbormaster Ed Michels at AED Awareness Month proclamation in Village Hall, October 2014*

In 2007, the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation launched a free Town-wide public Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program, coordinated by the East Hampton Village Ambulance Association. Joe Kazickas approached the Foundation with the concept to create this program that would have a tangible community impact, and to fund it through the Kazickas Family Foundation.

Through EHHF Board member Barbara Borsack, who is an EMT, the Foundation connected with the East Hampton Village Ambulance Association who helped to spec out the necessary equipment. A special government rate for the equipment was obtained, which made the most of the Kazickas Family Foundation’s donation. The EHHF coordinated with the Ambulance Association and its AED committee, now headed by Ann Grabowski, to map out the logistics of the program and select locations throughout the Town to place the AEDs.

Through the program, AEDs have been placed in houses of worship, libraries, museums, restaurants, and other places of public gatherings throughout the Town of East Hampton. Since the program’s beginning, 42 AED units have been distributed, Town-wide. Each location selected receives a free AED, free training on proper usage and CPR, and free maintenance of the equipment.

These defibrillators are in addition to the ones provided by the various East Hampton municipal agencies, including the police departments and are distributed to many places of public assembly throughout the entire Town. AEDs are a crucial first step in improving survival rates from cardiac arrest and the Foundation is pleased to have played an important role in the creation of this life-saving program, for which the American Heart Association has named East Hampton a “Heart Safe Community.”



*East Hampton Village Ambulance Association*

## Community Health Fairs

Through six annual free health fairs, the Foundation facilitates the coordination of health services from existing community resources, for the benefit of the entire community. At these well-attended events, attendees participate in free health screenings, make appointments for no-cost mammogram and pap tests, and meet with health insurance and other assistance program representatives. Co-sponsored with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital and held at the Most Holy Trinity School in East Hampton, thousands in our community—from all walks of life—have benefited from the free healthcare services, information, educational materials, and counseling offered at these events.



*East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's Free Community Health Fairs*

## **Pediatric and Adolescent Mental Health**

Several years ago, Dr. Gail Schonfeld and the staff of East End Pediatrics at the East Hampton Healthcare Center developed a program to identify and treat youngsters and their families before the advent of crises.

This program has been ongoing thanks to the generosity of organizations such as Paddlers for Humanity, and individuals and foundations in our community, including the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation. Located in Suite D at the Healthcare Center several days a week, youngsters and their families are seen by the mental health professionals on staff. 🌊



## THE HEARTBEAT OF THE HEALTHCARE CENTER



*Left to right: Dr. George Dempsey, Dr. Gail Schonfeld, Dr. Ralph Gibson at EHHF's 2018 honorary dinner*

Longstanding physicians at the East Hampton Healthcare Center from the day the doors opened in 2002, Dr. George Dempsey, Dr. Ralph Gibson, and Dr. Gail Schonfeld have been committed to helping the Foundation further its mission, right from the start. Each directs their own medical practice in the Healthcare Center, where they serve as the trusted family and personal physicians for many thousands of residents in our community. We thank all three for their outstanding work to help test and vaccinate so many in our community during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Dempsey's practice, East Hampton Family Medicine, focuses on patient-centered, individualized medical care for all ages with an emphasis on preventive medicine, pediatrics, rehabilitation medicine and house calls. Board certified in Family Medicine, Dr. Dempsey has long been on the cutting edge of advances in patient treatment, including electronic medical record sharing and telemedicine services. In 2011, Dr. Dempsey led an educational community symposium sponsored by the Foundation on the prevention of tick-borne illnesses. With a keen interest in community-based medical research, he also helped develop a pioneering program for a new rapid Lyme disease test and was honored



by the Bay Area Lyme Disease Foundation in 2021 for his work in assisting with their Lyme Disease Biobank. Dr. Dempsey works closely with the Foundation to help identify and address issues regarding local healthcare service disparities and inadequacies.

Dr. Gibson is board certified in Internal Medicine. He has been supportive of the Foundation since inception, initially collaborating in a medical advisory capacity during the period of the Healthcare Center's opening. Prior to settling in East Hampton, he was Medical Director of Montefiore Medical Center's Contract Management Organization in New York, and Medical Director of the Suffolk County Department of Health, managing four primary care health centers on eastern Long Island. Dr. Gibson is Medical Director of a number of East Hampton Town and Village service organizations, and provides free annual physicals for our local EMTs and members of the police force. Dr. Gibson is known as a keenly intelligent and caring physician, and his work collaborating with the Foundation has been invaluable.

Dr. Schonfeld of East End Pediatrics has been a beloved physician on the East End, even before establishing her office in the Healthcare Center. In addition to focusing on pediatric and adolescent medicine, her practice also provides mental health services for youngsters. When she observed the pressing need for mental health services for under-served youth in our community, she led a collaborative drive to bring those services to her practice with the goal of ensuring that each child's physical and mental health are addressed together through a proactive approach. The Foundation has helped to support this initiative with funding, and additional office space in the Center.

In 2018 on the evening prior to the Foundation's fall symposium, a special dinner was held at the Maidstone Tennis House to honor these essential physicians. Joined by the Foundation Trustees, community leaders, and family members, the trio was honored for their longstanding dedication and commitment to the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's goal of providing comprehensive quality healthcare services to all on the East End with the mission of a single standard of care for all. 🌿

**EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION DINNER**  
**SEPTEMBER 7, 2018**  
**SPECIAL HONOREES: GEORGE P. DEMPSEY, MD**  
**RALPH M. GIBSON, MD AND GAIL SCHONFELD, MD**



*Claire Odell, Dr. Ralph Gibson, Dr. Peter Odell, Carol Deane*



*Bob Chaloner, Chief Administrative Officer of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital,  
EHHF Chairman Henry Murray, Dr. George Dempsey*



*EHHF Trustee Barbara Borsack, Director Sheila Rogers, Trustee Dr. David Paton*

## EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUMS



2018 “Future of Healthcare” Symposium at the East Hampton Library

*The trustees of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation have been instrumental in organizing educational programs for healthcare providers as well as community residents on a variety of health topics. Thanks to East Hampton Library, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, Guild Hall, East Hampton Village, and East Hampton Middle School, we have been able to present these important programs to large and interested audiences.*

### **2001: Public Health in the Rural Community**

At this two-day conference, 18 speakers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health presented talks on important subjects, including environmental concerns, epidemics, injury prevention, drug and tobacco addictions, bio-terrorism and other challenges. Presented in collaboration with Southampton Hospital, this symposium was directed to healthcare providers and interested community members.

## **2004: Preventive Healthcare: A Community Collaboration**

For a full day, nine nationally known medical experts addressed adolescent depression, breast cancer, smoking cessation, hypertension, and obesity. This educational program was planned with the realization that effective healthcare stems from an informed public, especially with respect to prevention of the diseases which affect so many of us.

## **2005: Child and Adolescent Mental Health**

Chaired by Dr. Harold Koplewicz, a world renowned child and adolescent psychiatrist, and presented by nine nationally renowned child and adolescent mental health authorities, this well-attended conference addressed all aspects of pediatric and adolescent mental health. Attended by a large group of mental health professionals and parents, this program was the first of its kind in the community.

## **2006: Cardiovascular Prevention, Diagnosis and Disease Management**

In planning this conference, Chair Michael J. Wolk, MD, FACC, past President of the American College of Cardiology, stated: “The ticking time bomb of our aging population and the ‘perfect storm’ of diabetes and obesity will shortly overwhelm physicians’ ability to provide optimal cardiovascular care. This phenomenon dictates the inevitable paradigm shift from intervention to prevention—protecting patients who are still healthy, instead of treating patients while heart disease is rampant.” This was an exceptional opportunity to learn from a large group of outstanding physicians, whose subject matter covered much of the field of cardiology.

## **2010: The Curse of the Aching Heart: A Cardiac Case Study in Three Scenes**

Presented in collaboration with Southampton Hospital and the American Heart Association, this program explored the complex issues surrounding the diagnosis and treatment of coronary artery disease.

Chaired by Dr. Michael J. Wolk and presented by cardiologists from New York Presbyterian Medical Center, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital and Southampton Hospital, the program also addressed cardiovascular care in the Hamptons and a look into the future of cardiovascular treatment.

### **2011: Tick Talk**

This educational forum was presented by Dr. George Dempsey of East Hampton Family Medicine. A panel of speakers presented practical approaches to the prevention of tick-borne illnesses for individuals, pets, and property.

### **2013: Rethink Aging**

This symposium focused on taking a proactive approach to health and wellness issues for seniors on the East End. Keynote Speaker, Eileen H. Callahan, MD, was joined by a panel of physicians including Gerard M. Turino, MD, Pulmonologist and President, East Hampton Healthcare Foundation.

### **2014: Advances in Cardiology**

Keynote speaker and EHHF Trustee Michael J. Wolk, MD, FACC, opened the symposium with an overview of the latest advances in cardiology. Subtitled “What’s New, What Works, What to Avoid,” the program focused on the latest advances in cardiovascular disease, including: prevention, diagnosis, and treatment; the issue of heart disease in women, and essential information for individuals experiencing chest pain. The symposium provided valuable educational information for individuals, caregivers, families and healthcare professionals on the East End.



*Dr. Martin Post, moderator;  
Dr. Michael Wolk, keynote speaker*

## 2016: The Revolution in Cancer Treatment

Subtitled “Modern Cancer Treatment: from Shotgun Therapies to Personal Treatment and Targeted Therapies,” this timely symposium focused on the latest advances in cancer treatment, providing valuable educational information for individuals, caregivers, families and healthcare professionals on the East End. The symposium, chaired by Thomas J. Fahey, Jr. MD (Senior Vice President Emeritus, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center), was co-sponsored by and held at the East Hampton Library. This also served as an opportunity to introduce renowned radiation oncologist Dr. Samuel Ryu to the community. Dr. Ryu heads The Phillips Family Cancer Center in Southampton, a partnership between Stony Brook University Cancer Center and Stony Brook Southampton Hospital.



*2016 Symposium left to right: Dr. Samuel Ryu, Dr. Paul Chapman, Foundation Trustee Dr. Thomas J. Fahey, Jr., Dr. Maura Dickler, Foundation Trustee Linda B. James*

## 2018: The Future of Healthcare

The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation presented the educational symposium “The Future of Healthcare in East Hampton,” in collaboration with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital. The well-attended symposium was held in the Baldwin Family Lecture Room of the East Hampton Library, and was co-sponsored by the Library. Keynote speaker Robert S. Chaloner of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital was joined by a panel of experts presenting a program on the South Fork’s evolving healthcare system, including modern cancer care, cardiac care, and emergency medicine. 🌿

## THE EAST HAMPTON SATELLITE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

*“The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation has a long and successful history of raising funds for improved healthcare services in East Hampton Town. We look forward to continuing our close partnership with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital as we bring our fundraising expertise to the campaign for this essential new facility, the creation of which is central to the Foundation’s ongoing mission of improving healthcare for our community.”*

— Henry L. Murray, Chairman  
East Hampton Healthcare Foundation

Since 1998, when the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation was incorporated, the need for dedicated emergency services in East Hampton was apparent but beyond the scope of work that we could accomplish on our own. Needless to say, we were very encouraged when Bob Chaloner asked us to collaborate to help make it a reality. Over many months we worked together on location, services, and community needs. Data was analyzed to ascertain the number of patients from East Hampton Town who had used the SBSH Emergency Department. With ever increasing traffic, the influx of summer visitors, and a growing full-time population including many seniors, coupled with the plan to build a new hospital west of its current location, the importance of a Satellite Emergency Department was justified.

Designed in keeping with the Town’s aesthetic and environmental concerns, the free-standing Satellite Emergency Department will have the ability to fully treat or stabilize patients for rapid transport and even more advanced care. It will offer a broad range of critical emergency services and capabilities. It will have the most sophisticated diagnostic radiology and imaging department equipped with state-of-the art technology.

This new facility will serve to transform healthcare in our community. It is a bold and ambitious step but is only one part of the expanded care that a partnership with Stony Brook Medicine offers to our residents and visitors. This state-of-the-art facility, equipped with rooftop solar panels, will be on Pantigo Place, directly behind the East Hampton Healthcare Center and close to other medical facilities, and primary and specialty care physician practices. The idea is to expand the healthcare complex in order to offer a continuum of care for our population.



The location will not only vastly improve timely access to high quality care, it will reduce the stress on local ambulance companies and the undue burden on our Emergency Medical Services volunteers.

The first emergency healthcare facility of its kind on the East End depends on the support of everyone in our community. We are hopeful that you will join your neighbors in supporting this endeavor as we believe that it will be one of the most important new projects to be conceived and built in our Town in the next twenty years. 🍷



## A CONVERSATION WITH HENRY L. MURRAY, CHAIRMAN EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES



*Left to right: Robert Chaloner, Chief Administrative Officer, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital; Gerard M. Turino, MD, President, Henry L. Murray, Chairman, David Paton, MD, Vice Chairman – Medicine*

The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's Board Chairman Henry L. Murray has been deeply involved with the Foundation since its inception and has worked tirelessly to serve the Foundation's mission. Through his fundraising committee work, his term as the Foundation's President, and as Chairman, Henry's work on behalf of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation has been an essential component of our success. At the end of 2021 Henry stepped down as Chairman but will continue to serve on the Board as a Trustee and Chairman Emeritus, passing the reins to longstanding Trustee Gerald H. Cromack, II, the Foundation's current Vice Chair of Finance. Now in his third decade of leadership with the Foundation, Henry sat down to discuss the Foundation's early days, signature achievements, and its vision for the future of Healthcare in the Town of East Hampton.

**Reflecting on the early days of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, what was the inspiration behind its creation, the goals that were set forth, and who were the key founders?**

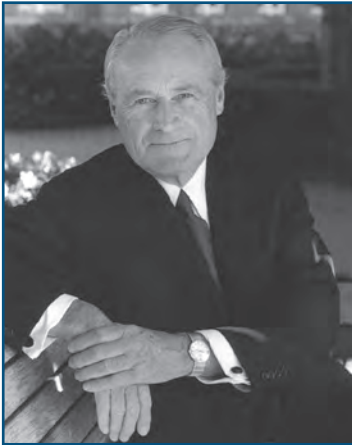
Dr. Jerome J. DeCosse was truly the visionary in this project. He was a renowned surgeon who had served as Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and a Professor of Surgery and Vice Chairman of the Surgery Department at New York Weill Cornell Medical Center. We were members of the Village Preservation Society of East Hampton along with John R. (Jack) Kennedy, Larry Munson, Robert Loughead, and Andrew Goldstein.

In the spring of 1997, the Society conducted a “Quality of Life” survey in East Hampton to assess the community’s level of satisfaction with various issues such as transportation, traffic, recreation, education, and healthcare services. Dr. DeCosse headed up the survey project with an eye towards closely studying the results regarding the lack of adequate healthcare services. At that time in East Hampton, the only medical office building was destined to become a funeral home.

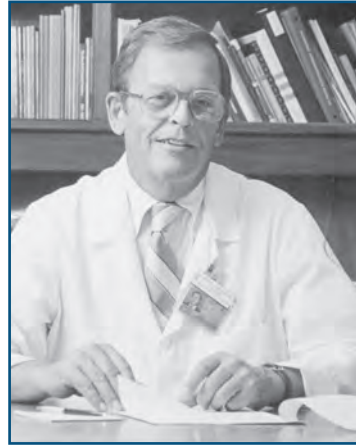
The survey respondents rated the availability and quality of medical services in East Hampton as less than satisfactory, with 40% traveling west for their healthcare needs. That summer we formed a group to study the issues of the lack of proper healthcare and termed the project “the East Hampton Healthcare Initiative.” We determined that our primary mission was to improve the quality, accessibility, and delivery of healthcare in East Hampton.

We didn’t know at first what we were going to do but we decided to organize a group, myself included, as we realized that whatever steps were taken that funds would be needed to solve the inadequacies of the current medical services. I had quite a bit of expertise in fundraising, as the Senior Vice President of the New York City Partnership, founded under the aegis of David Rockefeller, where I was head of development, meaning fundraising and personnel.

Along with Dr. DeCosse, Jack Kennedy, whom I knew from the paper business and the Maidstone Club, served to spearhead our initiative. Active in many civic causes, Jack was a prominent executive and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Georgetown University. Larry Munson, who was a former Director at McKinsey & Company, put together our initial talking points in an outline of what we hoped to achieve.



JOHN R. KENNEDY  
(1930-2010)



JEROME J. DECOSSE, MD, PhD  
(1928-2001)

Weekly meetings were held at the LVIS headquarters and a Board of Trustees, recommended by Dr. DeCosse, Jack Kennedy and Larry Munson were appointed. The Board included real estate developer Stanley Becker; Barbara Borsack, our Secretary and a Deputy Mayor of East Hampton Village; Joan Denny, an LVIS Board member; Tony Duke, the founder of Boys and Girls Harbor; lawyer and Southampton Hospital Board member Stanley Friedman; businessman Bill Heppenheimer, past President of Southampton Hospital; Bob Loughead; Jim Makrianes from Young & Rubicam; Jim Marcus, Chairman of Lenox Hill Hospital; Dr. David Paton, an ophthalmologist and founder of Project Orbis, now named Orbis International, Inc.; and Mary Ella Reutershan, a local environmental activist. In 1998 we were incorporated as the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation. We asked John Shea from the Twomey, Latham, Shea law firm to serve as our attorney, a position he still holds today.

Jack Kennedy and I realized we needed a skilled administrator to help organize and run the project. At that time, I was on the Board of the East Hampton Library where I worked closely with the library's President Tom Twomey. Sheila Rogers had been Development Director of the Library during the 1997 expansion, and it was evident how qualified she was at this type of work; she had all of the needed qualifications and skills. We brought her on board and she became our Executive Director once we were up and running. Sheila has been very important to the Foundation as she expertly manages the day-to-day operations and keeps everything running smoothly; from the facility, the doctors, to the patients, and beyond.



*Left to right: former East Hampton Village Mayor Paul Rickenbach with Henry L. Murray*

In 1999, before the East Hampton Healthcare Center was completed, it was determined that we needed a dedicated office space. Luckily, East Hampton Village Mayor Paul Rickenbach understood the importance of our mission and was able to provide us with temporary office space in the Village Hall.

From the very beginning days of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, we give much credit to the Town of East Hampton and the Village for working with us as they have been very cooperative, helpful, and instrumental along the way.

### **What role did the Board of Trustees play in fundraising?**

In order to raise money, you need a business plan, credibility, and directors and trustees who know people who are willing to give on a wing and a prayer. With this project, we were all fundraisers, and each was expected and had a duty to reach out to help raise the money. Bob Loughead, another founding Trustee, helped tremendously with

fundraising. We hired a firm whose purpose was to help us develop a mission statement and a method to proceed with fundraising. We then identified some top potential donors in the community. In addition to financial commitments from our Trustees, Bill Simon, the former U.S. Treasury Secretary, was among our early contributors. He donated to the project on the basis of his personal friendships with our Board members.



*Janet and Arthur Ross, 2006*

Janet and the late Arthur Ross, a close friend, were our largest contributors. Their early support was tremendously important in influencing other donors.

Bill Heppenheimer, another close friend, and I developed our business plan. The founding Trustees also included many medical professionals, giving us a great deal of credibility. Dr. David Paton; Dr. Martin Stone, a professor and Chairman Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Stony Brook University Medical School; Dr. Gerard Turino, Chairman Emeritus, Department of Medicine at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, Founding Director of the James P. Mara Center for Lung Disease at Mount Sinai Health System; and Dr. Peter Odell, an ophthalmologist and Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medical College. These were our original doctors, who were later joined on our Board by Dr. Michael Wolk, a clinical Professor of Medicine and past President of the American College of Cardiology; and Dr. Thomas J. Fahey, Jr., a Senior Vice President of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Professor of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College; and Dr. Wayne Isom, the renowned cardiothoracic surgeon. Many of the physicians on our Board are city-dwellers, but have second homes here on the East End.

After our initial Board was formed, we recruited other Board members, including private banker Gerald H. Cromack, II, our Vice Chairman for Finance; Bruce Collins, our Vice President and a former East Hampton

Town Supervisor; William Pickens III, a retired executive and president of the Paul Robeson Foundation, whom I knew from my work with the New York City Partnership; Jim Forbes, formerly a Vice President at UBS and now Vice Chairman of Investment Banking at Morgan Stanley; Linda James, a public health professional and former hospital Trustee; Jim Kennedy, Jack Kennedy's son and a management executive; Jack Lasersohn, head of a medical technology venture capital firm; Susan Furlaud, a mental health Nurse Practitioner; Gail Parker, former principal of the East Hampton Middle School; Sheila DeCosse, a writer, children's librarian and active in community affairs; businessman James Edwards; Stuart Epstein, a local real estate firm owner; and Warren Schwerin, an investor and businessman.

It's important to note that all of the Trustees on our Board have always volunteered their time in a pro bono capacity; there's never been any compensation or reimbursement for their participation.

### **What did the planning and construction of the East Hampton Healthcare Center entail?**

With our fundraising efforts well underway, our first order of business was to create a medical office building; a Healthcare Center. At that time, Southampton Hospital owned a vacant parcel on Pantigo Place just east of Town Hall, which was intended to be a site for a future medical center that had not materialized. We were able to purchase the land in 1999, and we were off and running!

With the Foundation well-established and significant funds raised, we next turned to drawing up the architectural plans for the Healthcare Center. We hired architect Frank Hollenbeck and builder Victor Canseco of Sandpebble Builders for the project. Dr. DeCosse was instrumental in planning the layout of the Center; determining what kind of rooms were needed, their size, how many patient rooms should be in each suite and where all of the equipment should be placed.

The plans had been submitted and approved and all the zoning changes had been authorized and were in place. By 2000, we had secured the building permits from the Town and we held a groundbreaking ceremony in June. Construction on the Healthcare Center had begun.



*2000: Groundbreaking ceremony; construction of the East Hampton Healthcare Center begins.*

While construction of the 18,000 square-foot facility was underway in 2001, the Foundation conducted a comprehensive Town-wide general healthcare needs assessment survey that provided important input from our residents. We also held a well-attended symposium, the first of many, on the topic of Public Health with speakers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the process of recruiting physicians began.

Recruiting physicians for the Healthcare Center was a large task. Using their professional medical expertise, our Trustees Dr. Paton and Dr. DeCosse were instrumental in this process. We recruited Dr. George Dempsey, Dr. Ralph Gibson, and Dr. Gail Schonfeld, all of whom joined us early on and are still with us today.

We secured an arrangement with Southampton Hospital because our doctors needed to have admissions privileges. We had to sign individual agreements with the Hospital as all of our doctors are in private practice. So, we drew up an agreement with Southampton Hospital, which has now been in place for 20 years. I was a part of putting this all together; it was essential for us to have this connection.



In our planning, we estimated that it would take three years to completely lease out the Healthcare Center. Bill Heppenheimer and I worked on the leases, with an aim to provide affordable space, and a three-year business plan with revenue based on this occupancy estimate. But when the facility opened, we filled up right away! Within six months we were 95% leased.

*Henry Murray, opening ceremony of the East Hampton Healthcare Center, June 2002*





The doors to the East Hampton Healthcare Center opened in February 2002 and I presided over our official dedication ceremony in June of that year. We were up and running; the doors were open, we had great occupancy, our relationship with the Hospital was established, and we had raised a great deal of money. It cost us about \$4 million to construct the building and we'd already raised about \$6 million entirely through community contributions. We never had to borrow any money and we've never had any debt, whatsoever.

#### **June 2002 Opening Ceremony of the East Hampton Healthcare Center**



*Left to right: Trustee Joan Denny, Dr. Ralph Gibson, former EHV mayor and Trustee Ex-Officio Paul Rickenbach, Trustee Barbara Borsack*

In 2003 we developed a program with Dr. Dempsey to offer walk-in services at his practice in the Healthcare Center. We also started an on-site benefits counseling program at the Center with two counselors to administer the program. The benefits counselors/patient advocates qualify patients who are residents of the Town of East Hampton for medical care based on need that will then be underwritten by the Foundation. For those who do not have health insurance or the wherewithal to pay, who qualify and are approved by our counselors—the Foundation pays for their patient visits along with a modest co-pay from the patient. This program is one of the Foundation's greatest accomplishments.

### **Why was the East Hampton Urgent Care facility created and how was the Foundation involved?**

In 2006 the Foundation conducted a second Town-wide healthcare needs assessment survey. The results of the survey showed how important a dedicated urgent care walk-in facility would be for our community, especially during the summer months. We turned our focus to finding a building to retrofit and furnish, serving as a state-of-the-art Urgent Care Center.



*Left to right: Sheila Rogers, Robert Chaloner, Henry Murray, Dr. Darin Wiggins, during construction of East Hampton Urgent Care, 2007*

After Robert Chaloner, Chief Administrative Officer and Dr. Frederic Weinbaum, Chief Medical Officer came on board at Southampton Hospital, our relationship with the hospital strengthened and thrived. The changes they made in the operation of the Hospital and their relationship with us were dramatic. We now consider Bob and Fred our colleagues as well as friends. We worked closely with Bob and Fred to negotiate a contract with 24/7 Emergency Care, an autonomous group of emergency room doctors from the Hospital,

headed by Dr. Darin Wiggins, to provide the medical services at the Urgent Care Center.

The new Center opened in 2008 to address the non-life-threatening medical needs of walk-in residents and visitors. The numbers of patients cared for at the Urgent Care Center quickly increased. Over a period of three years, we served approximately 8,000 patients each year, with the bulk of those visits occurring in the summertime.

Beginning in 2010, Dr. Dempsey headed the Urgent Care Center for several years and the reins were eventually passed to Meeting House Lane Medical Practice, a practice of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital. Establishing the Urgent Care Center to serve the healthcare needs of East Hampton Town residents and visitors was a great accomplishment, and the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation continues to provide financial support for the Center's operations to this day.



#### **2008 EAST HAMPTON URGENT CARE OPENING CEREMONY**

*Left to right: Dr. Darin Wiggins, EHHF Trustee William Pickens, Chief Administrative Officer of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital Robert Chaloner, EHHF Chairman Henry Murray, NYS Assemblyman Fred Thiele, EHHF President Dr. Gerard Turino, former NYS Senator Kenneth LaValle, EHHF Trustee Bruce Collins, EHHF donor Janet C. Ross*



*Rendering of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's planned Satellite Emergency Department: Perkins Eastman*

**The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation is an essential partner in the East Hampton free-standing Satellite Emergency Department project. Why did the Foundation become involved and why is it important?**

After many years of study, including through our needs-assessment surveys, we determined that there was an acute need to expand access to essential emergency care with a year-round Satellite Emergency Department, located here in the Town of East Hampton. So many of our residents and visitors can't get to the hospital in Southampton in a timely manner, especially in the summer months with bumper-to-bumper traffic in both directions.

Under the auspices of New York State, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, and our local healthcare professionals, it was determined that a free-standing Satellite Emergency Department is critical for handling the current and future load of patients needing emergency care in East Hampton Town. To meet this demand, the Foundation embarked on a collaborative undertaking with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, the Southampton Hospital Association, the Southampton Hospital Foundation, and Stony Brook Medicine.

We worked closely with the Town to select a centrally located site for the facility, which will be built on a parcel adjacent to the Healthcare Center on Pantigo Place. Construction will begin in the fall of 2021.

Along with members of our Board and the entire East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, I've been closely involved with the planning for this long-awaited Emergency Department facility. As a partner in this endeavor, we've played a central role in the process right from the beginning, starting with regular meetings several years back with then-Supervisor Larry Cantwell, other Town officials, and Bob Chaloner.

This location is ideal not only for its proximity to the Healthcare Center and to concentrate many medical needs in one location, but it will also help reduce the growing burden on our Town's emergency services and ambulance companies. It can take up to 1.5 hours for an ambulance from Montauk to drive to the Stony Brook Southampton Hospital Emergency Department, a three-hour round trip for the ambulance volunteers. Additionally, there are municipal government offices nearby, including Town Hall, which will create a central medical/governmental complex that will better serve our community.

We committed to partnering with the Southampton Hospital Foundation to help raise the funds needed to build the new emergency department that will be operated by the hospital as part of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital. Since we've had such a long and successful history of raising funds for improved healthcare services in East Hampton Town, it was natural for us to continue our close partnership with the hospital by bringing our fundraising efforts to this campaign.

I joined the Hospital Foundation's fundraising committee for this new initiative, chaired by EHHF Treasurer Jim Forbes. Jim also serves on the hospital's Board of Directors and was recently elected as Vice Chair. To date, \$38 million has been raised, exceeding the \$35 million goal, which is just fantastic. Our thanks go to Jim, for the outstanding job he has done.

## **What does the future hold for the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation?**

Expanding our East Hampton medical complex to include a free-standing Satellite Emergency Department has been a long-term goal of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation. Bringing these critical services closer to home for our residents and visitors alike is an important and lifesaving undertaking. It has always been our mission to provide improved healthcare, all year-round and at all hours to the entire community. We're proud of the important role the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation has played in making this long-awaited East Hampton-based emergency facility a reality. We believe this is one of the most important projects undertaken in the Town of East Hampton for the foreseeable future.

We've truly delivered what we initially set out to do, which is remarkable. Our mission continues and we continue, as a Foundation, to build and expand on it through our steadfast work on projects like the new East Hampton Emergency Department. As we move forward, our focus will always be on our core goals of improving the quality, accessibility, and delivery of healthcare services to meet the needs of all of the people in our community.



**EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE CENTER  
TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
JUNE 1, 2012  
SPECIAL HONOREE: HENRY L. MURRAY, CHAIRMAN**



*Martha and Henry Murray and family*



*Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Henry Murray*



*Judith Hope, Janet C. Ross, Barbara Scheerer,  
Tom Twomey*



*Pam Dana Hudson, Henry Murray,  
Trace Duryea*



*Billye Hanan, Gail Parker, Lauren Dempsey*

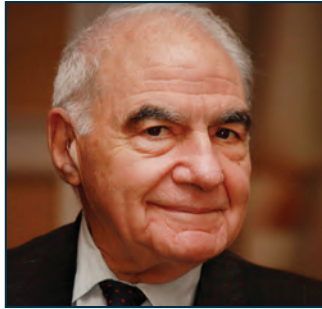


*Tony Duke, Dr. David Paton, Henry Murray*



*Bill & Pat Pickens, Paul Rickenbach*

**IN APPRECIATION: GERARD M. TURINO, MD  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**



A Founding Trustee of The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation, Gerard M. Turino, MD served as President of the Board of Trustees since 2002. A leader in COPD research, advocacy, and education, Dr. Turino is a highly accomplished physician who has dedicated his life to finding better treatments for individuals with COPD.

In 1983 he arrived at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital as the first chairman of the newly merged Department of Medicine, leaving Columbia University where he was a Professor of Medicine in the Medical School and an Attending Physician in the Hospital. After his chairmanship, in 1998 he became the Founding Director of the James P. Mara Center for Lung Disease.

In addition to his work on the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's Board of Trustees, he has served in many professional organizations including as president of the New York Heart Association, and the American Thoracic Society and as founding chairperson of the COPD Foundation.

At the end of 2021 Dr. Turino stepped down as President but will continue to serve on the Board as a Trustee and President Emeritus, passing the reins to longstanding Board member Dr. Peter Odell, the Foundation's current Vice Chair of Medicine. The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation is profoundly grateful to Dr. Turino, for his many years of guidance, leadership, and selfless service. 🌹



## A CONVERSATION WITH SHEILA ROGERS, DIRECTOR EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

The East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's Director Sheila Rogers began her work with the Foundation in 1999, during the project's early phase. She leveraged her deep organizational, technological, administrative and fundraising skills to help move the project forward from an initiative to a fully operational and thriving non-profit Foundation. A proactive and personable manager, Sheila oversees the daily operation and management of the Healthcare Center, manages the Foundation's numerous programs and services, engages with our donors and doctors, and is the Foundation's liaison to numerous medical and governmental agencies to further our mission of delivering improved medical care to the community. In this conversation, Sheila discusses her involvement with the Foundation and the wide range of programs and services she administers.



**You've been an integral part of the Foundation from its very early days. What inspired you to become involved?**

I became a part-time East Hampton resident in 1980 and moved here full-time in 1991. Having come here from New York City, as so many do, I had to initially reckon with the reality of there being very little medical care out here. So, from the early days of my involvement with this project, I was

excited to be a part of it. The fact that this healthcare initiative—as it was called in its early stage—had the support of outstanding Trustees with distinguished medical backgrounds was very impressive. Once physicians were recruited and the Healthcare Center was up and running, I knew that very quickly, the community would have vastly improved access to quality healthcare. The whole concept of having a wide range of medical care in one place was phenomenal and the physicians selected were excellent. I wanted to bring my skills and experience to this initiative to help deliver on this promise and make it a reality.

**Once the healthcare initiative’s mission was defined and the outlines of the organization formed, what were the next steps and what was your role?**

As a business consultant, I had a lot of experience working in the area of fundraising with other local charitable organizations, including the East Hampton Library, whose Treasurer at that time was Henry Murray. In order to get this very worthwhile project moving forward, there was much organizational work that first needed to be done. First, we had to establish the project as an entity that you could actually see, which required having a physical office space, a computer system, phone lines, stationery and marketing materials, trustees, a budget, and a myriad of other administrative requirements. We needed a website, so I built a website. We needed a fundraising brochure, so I designed one.

Beginning in 1999 from our small office in Village Hall, I executed and managed all of these early organization-building tasks. With my fundraising experience, I knew what computer programs and software were needed and how to get the whole system and databases up and running. I then worked with each of our trustees to ascertain and plan their individual fundraising activities and networking opportunities in order to help get the project moving forward. With the structure and administration of the project established, we were ready to move forward.

From the early days, a very important part of the work that I do involves donor relations. I got to truly know people and build strong relationships, so that they know they have someone—a face and name—that they could speak to, ask questions and rely on. That’s still an essential part of what I do today. We also developed deep relationships with the administrators at the Hospital through the work we’ve done together, including Bob Chaloner and Fred Weinbaum, and it has been rewarding for me to have been a part of that.



*Bob Chaloner, Chief Administrative Officer of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, and Sheila Rogers at the Foundation's 2018 healthcare symposium*

When the doors to the East Hampton Healthcare Center opened in 2002, I had moved into the role of Director of the Foundation and had my office in the building, as I still do today. I often stood out front that first year and talked to many of the different people coming through our doors. Some told me that they hadn’t seen a doctor in ten years! It was obvious from the day we opened that the new Healthcare Center was meeting a great need in our community for patients of all ages.

**The Foundation created many programs and services designed to deliver improved healthcare to the community. Please tell us more about these outreach efforts?**

Once the Healthcare Center was successfully up and running, the Foundation next focused on ensuring that our work would continue to benefit the community. Having my office at the Healthcare Center allowed me to regularly engage with our patients, physicians, and a full range of other supportive medical and healthcare organizations and services. As the Foundation's Director, this helped me to be proactive with our roster of programs and services and I was able to help create and administer new initiatives that addressed pressing healthcare needs in our community. All of these services initiated by the Foundation came about organically, because of the needs we were able to observe in real time. Where we saw deficits, we were able to step in and create and coordinate new programs to help.

Our community outreach efforts included developing a series of healthcare symposiums with leading experts focused on timely topics. We were able to secure these esteemed speakers through the relationships of the Foundation's Trustees. We launched monthly health fairs that offered free screenings and preventive care to help the underserved; and we hosted various educational programming and support groups in our community room. We also sponsored a student wellness program at the East Hampton Middle School and launched a healthcare creativity grant contest. All of these efforts served to connect our community with the mission of the Healthcare Foundation. People saw that we were not just a medical building they visited for their doctor appointments.



*Sheila Rogers, Gail Parker (Foundation Trustee and former East Hampton Middle School Principal), Henry Murray and EHMS staff and students*

Besides providing counseling and patient advocacy services, Blanca Bishop and Alexandra Feely also provide translation services for the medical practices in the Healthcare Center. We have a sizable under-served and Spanish-speaking population in the Town of East Hampton. Through this counseling and advocacy office at the Healthcare Center we are able to truly engage with this segment of our population to help address their needs.

### **The on-site pharmacy, lab and radiology suite are essential components of the Healthcare Center. Can you tell us about their services?**

The fact that people can leave a physician's office and walk down the hall to get their prescription filled then be out the door shortly afterwards is incredibly convenient. Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's satellite radiology and laboratory suite at the Healthcare Center is an essential part of our services, as well. The Foundation provided the initial funds for the mammography equipment and lead-lining of the radiology room. When the technological advance of digital imaging came about in 2006, a generous donor funded the purchase of new mammography equipment.



*Park Place Chemists*



*Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's  
Lab and Radiology department*


In 2017, the hospital began a comprehensive updating of the lab and radiology suite and the Foundation provided essential funding for the project. The fully renovated radiology and lab department opened in June 2018 and we were very pleased to play a major role in its transition to a greatly improved patient-centered facility. Having state-of-the-art bone

density, 3-D mammography, digital x-ray equipment, and laboratory services—all staffed by Stony Brook Southampton Hospital—here at the Healthcare Center, has been a tremendous advantage. Offering these services speaks directly to our mission of improving access to a full range of healthcare services.

### **One of the most exciting projects for the Healthcare Foundation is the Satellite Emergency Department coming to East Hampton. How and why is the Foundation involved?**

As Henry Murray said, from the very early days of the Healthcare Foundation, having a full-fledged Emergency Department in East Hampton has been an important part of our focus and mission. The need for expanded emergency care in our community has been well studied and proven, especially in light of the worsening traffic issues during peak summer months.

The Center is pretty much ground zero for healthcare services in our Town. Most of the physicians in East Hampton are located there or close by. Patient access for emergency care as well as blood tests and radiology should be easy access from their doctors' offices. Presently, patients often have to be taken by ambulance from their doctors' offices to the Hospital because their doctor sees the instant need for a CT scan to determine whether the care of a specialist like a cardiologist or neurosurgeon is needed, or they may need an instant blood test to determine whether they're having a heart attack. Having the ED down the street from the doctor's office could eliminate the need for an ambulance and crew, and provide very quick access to emergency care. It could make a difference in the outcome of someone's health, and in some cases, their very survival.

Every second matters in an emergency. We are honored to help bring emergency care closer to home with this vital new medical facility. The new free-standing East Hampton Satellite Emergency Department will truly be a game-changer for the people of East Hampton Town, now and for generations to come. 

## SECURING THE FUTURE



The Foundation Trustees supplied the seed money at the inception of the initiative in 1998 and 100% of the Trustees have donated funds to the Capital Campaign and Program Funds at levels consistent with their ability to give. The funding required to finance the needs assessment, symposia, health fairs, and grants is secured through the generosity of local citizens and foundations interested in promoting public health in our community. To date, the Foundation has raised \$20 million from 900 donors. Annual fundraising forms the basis of program financing along with a modest endowment.

In order for the Foundation to continue its many services and programs, including East Hampton Urgent Care, and care for the less advantaged, it is necessary to rely on continued financial support from the community. Our future goals include support of the free-standing East Hampton Emergency Department, and providing the Town with medical office space to meet the growing demand for local healthcare services. In addition, we are committed to recruiting physicians specializing in all medical sub-specialties.

We were able to respond quickly and with flexibility as we navigated the once-in-a-century pandemic, to serve the public health needs of our community, showing that we are well prepared for whatever comes our way. As we move forward, the Foundation will continue as a catalyst to help meet the challenges we face in making our Town an exemplary recipient of optimal medical and preventive care. 🌿

**IN DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE GENEROSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY,  
WE SALUTE OUR DONORS**

(CUMULATIVE DONATIONS)

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Janet C. & Arthur Ross

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Estate of Susan Seidman

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Frances & Ed Barlow	The McIntosh Foundation
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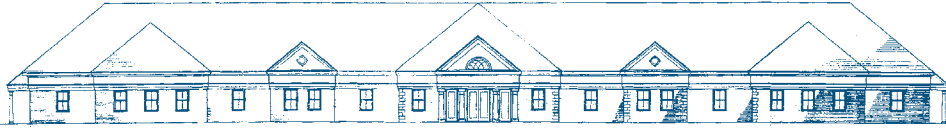
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**The East Hampton Healthcare Center is a Comprehensive Center  
for State-of-the-Art Healthcare**

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Family Medicine  
Gynecology  
Internal Medicine  
Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine  
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**SPECIALTY CARE**

Cardiology  
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Gastroenterology

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**SERVICES**

Pharmacy  
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The East Hampton Healthcare Center is located at  
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## EPILOGUE

At the end of 2021 the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation's Chairman, Henry L. Murray, and President, Dr. Gerard Turino, stepped down from their positions on the Board of Trustees and moved to Emeritus positions on the Board.

Succeeding Henry Murray as Chairman is Gerald H. Cromack, II, the Board's current Vice Chairman for Finance. A longstanding member of the Board of Trustees, he is a Co-Founder and Managing Director of TriArtisan Capital Advisors LLC, with extensive experience in the financial services field. Succeeding Dr. Turino as President is Peter M. Odell, MD, another longstanding member of the Board of Trustees. A distinguished physician, Dr. Odell is a Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, Weill Cornell Medicine, and Attending Ophthalmologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital. Our long-serving Trustees Michael J. Wolk, MD, and Jack W. Lasersohn will move to the positions of Vice Chair for Medicine and Vice Chair for Finance, respectively. Additionally, the Board of Trustees have elected new members Edward Forst, Chairman and Partner at private equity firm Lion Capital; and Aubrey Peterson, a social worker for the East Hampton School District.

In 2022, the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation looks forward to the official groundbreaking for the long-awaited free-standing East Hampton Satellite Emergency Department, adjacent to the East Hampton Healthcare Center. With a planned 2023 opening, the new East Hampton Emergency Department will deliver essential emergency medical care and services to our community, provided by Stony Brook Medicine's world-class clinicians and specialists. One of the most significant developments in delivering improved healthcare services to people of our Town, the Foundation is proud and honored to have worked tirelessly to bring this vital project to fruition. 🌹

## SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Undertaking the challenges faced in developing the Foundation could not have been possible without the participation and assistance of so many people. Their contributions are sincerely appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees and staff of the Foundation, I would like to express our deep appreciation and indebtedness particularly to the following:

Robert Chaloner, Chief Administrative Officer and Fredric Weinbaum, MD, Medical Director, of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, for their friendship and collaborative efforts in understanding the importance of expanding medical care to the entire East End.

Keri Lamparter of Keri Lamparter Communications for her help in increasing our reach into the community through publicity and advertising, and for helping to create this history of our efforts.

Tom Oplinger and Mary Ann Mendel of Sabel & Oplinger, CPA, for making sure that our fiduciary responsibilities are carried out with great care and meet both the expectations of our donors as well as ever growing government rules and regulations.

John Shea, Esq., of Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelley, Dubin and Quartararo, for their legal help in representing us from day one to establish EHHF as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and through all of the efforts that resulted in site plan approval, a Certificate of Occupancy, leases with our tenants, and a myriad of other services for more than 20 years.

Victor Canseco of Sandpebble Builders for the outstanding work of his firm in the construction of the East Hampton Healthcare Center and Urgent Care facilities.

And a special thanks to the key physicians at the East Hampton Healthcare Center: Dr. Louise Collins, Dr. George P. Dempsey, Dr. Steve Georgopolous, Dr. Ralph Gibson, Dr. Kenneth Mark, Dr. Meciko Muharemovic, and Dr. Gail Schonfeld for their unwavering commitment to our efforts in helping to improve healthcare in the Town of East Hampton and for working together to build a model healthcare system for the people of our Town.

— *Henry L. Murray*

## THE EAST HAMPTON HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

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At the center of all programs  
and services offered to the community  
is the Foundation's guiding philosophy:

### **A Single Standard of Care for All**

*“The overall goal of the Foundation is to act as  
a catalyst for the development of a model  
healthcare environment for East Hampton,  
benefitting all residents of the Town.”*

— Henry L. Murray

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