



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation
SUMMER/FALL 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

I hope this finds you having an enjoyable summer!

I'm excited to share that the Chilton Medical Center Foundation is well underway in our Patient and Family Caregivers Campaign—an important fundraising initiative that will have a meaningful and lasting impact on patients and families throughout our region.

Every day at Atlantic Health Chilton Medical Center, family members and caregivers stand beside their loved ones through illness, procedures and long, uncertain waits. They provide strength, advocacy and comfort—often while carrying their own fear, stress and exhaustion.

Yet today, many caregivers spend hours waiting in a busy hospital lobby, without a quiet or private place to rest, reflect or receive support. We know we can—and must—do better.

Through our \$1.4 million Patient and Family Caregivers Campaign, we are creating a dedicated Patient and Family Caregivers Center—a peaceful, welcoming space designed specifically to support those caring for loved ones during some of life's most challenging moments.

The center will offer:

- Comfortable, private seating and a calming respite environment
- Educational and wellness resources for caregivers
- Access to trained staff or volunteers for guidance and emotional support
- Real-time patient status updates during procedures
- Light refreshments and basic amenities for extended stays

Similar centers across Atlantic Health hospitals have proven to reduce stress, improve satisfaction and create a more compassionate care experience for patients and families.

Our generous community has always provided strong support for the foundation and our mission-driven hospital, and we're excited to share the news of this latest fundraising opportunity. I invite you to consider a donation to the campaign by visiting atlantichealth.org/chiltonfoundation.

No matter the size, every donation matters. This is our time to make a positive impact on the future of healthcare in our communities—please join us!

We hope you enjoy this issue of "Community Connections" and catching up on all that has been happening within the foundation. Wishing you and yours all the best—be well!

— **Megan Sandow, Chief Philanthropy Officer**
Chilton Medical Center Foundation

SAVE THESE DATES!

CHILTON GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, September 28, 2026

Mountain Ridge Country Club
West Caldwell, NJ

atlantichealth.org/golfclassic



Thursday, October 22, 2026

Mountain Ridge Country Club
West Caldwell, NJ

atlantichealth.org/fallforchilton

Webinars

In conjunction with OneTeam Financial

Call 973-831-5165 for more info

Mastering Medicare

Wednesday, October 7, 2026
8:30am

How Your Social Security
Benefits Are Impacted by
the One Big Beautiful Bill

Wednesday, November 18, 2026
8:30am

Enhanced Financial Planning

Presented by
Brian Donnelly, AAMS, CWS
Partner, Apex Consulting

Thursday, October 15, 2026 • 1:00–2:00pm

The Bristol at Wayne
Wayne, NJ 07470

Email russell.miller@atlantichealth.org
for registration info

Foundation Board Spotlight

Doug Schwartz

A Champion for Community Care



More than a decade ago, Doug Schwartz joined the Chilton Medical Center Foundation Board with a simple goal: to make a difference. Encouraged by his longtime friend and former neighbor, Judge John W. Bissell—himself a dedicated Chilton board member—Doug stepped into a role that would quickly grow into a deep and lasting commitment to his community hospital.

A certified public accountant and sole proprietor of Douglas I. Schwartz LLC, Doug brings both financial expertise and thoughtful leadership to the foundation. Today, he serves as board treasurer, leads the Finance and Governance Committee and previously chaired the foundation's signature gala. Most recently, alongside fellow board member Tony Christiano, Doug is co-chairing the Caring for the Caregivers capital campaign—an initiative to create a Patient and Family Caregivers Center at Atlantic Health Chilton.

For Doug, this work is personal. Born and raised in Wayne, he continues to live in the Chilton service area, where community ties run deep. Supporting the hospital wasn't just an opportunity. It felt like a natural extension of who he is.

Atlantic Health Chilton has been a constant presence throughout Doug's life. His connection spans decades and roles—from childhood patient to adult patient, from volunteer to board leader.

"I've been an adult patient at Chilton, I've been a volunteer here and I've even been a five-year-old getting stitches," he said with a smile. "I've seen it from all sides."

That firsthand perspective reinforces his belief in the importance of local, accessible care.

Doug is especially proud of how the foundation's approach to fundraising has evolved during his tenure. Moving beyond traditional formats, the team has embraced more creative, inclusive events designed to engage the broader community.

"I enjoy the fundraising, and I'm proud of how we've gotten more creative," he said. "Events like Fall for Chilton and Wine, Dine & Denim are great examples. They're more casual, more inviting and more fun—we've taken down the façade of a formal gala and created something that really resonates."

The impact of those efforts is tangible. Through foundation support, Atlantic Health Chilton has advanced major initiatives, including the acquisition of a da Vinci surgical robot, renovations to the Atlantic Health Collins Pavilion and expansion of the Emergency Department—complete with a dedicated pediatric care area.

Now, Doug is focused on what he sees as one of the foundation's most meaningful projects yet: the Patient and Family Caregivers Center.

"For families to have a place to go while their loved one is being treated—to relax, regroup and feel supported—that's incredibly important," he said. "When patients know their families are cared for, it improves the entire experience. Comforting, not cold—that's what Chilton is all about."

As he reflects on his years of service, Doug remains grounded in a simple truth: strong hospitals build strong communities.

"I would encourage anyone to support Atlantic Health Chilton and the great work happening here," he said. "One of the best ways to strengthen a community is to have a great hospital—and who wouldn't want that?"

Through his leadership, generosity and unwavering belief in community care, Doug Schwartz continues to help ensure that Atlantic Health Chilton remains exactly that: a trusted, welcoming place for all.

PLEASE JOIN US! Thursday, October 22 | Mountain Ridge Country Club



For more information and to register online, please visit atlantichealth.org/fallforchilton

ANNOUNCING OUR 2026 HONOREES!

Physician Honoree | LIVIU RAPPAPORT, MD

A longtime pulmonologist and internal medicine physician affiliated with Atlantic Health Chilton

Community Honoree | CHRISTIAN HEALTH

A leading nonprofit healthcare organization serving northern New Jersey through an integrated continuum of mental health, senior living, rehabilitation and community-based services for more than 115 years

Clinical Excellence Honoree | Rosemary Cortese, RN

A beloved surgical services nurse whose dedication, compassion and commitment to patient care exemplify the very best of Atlantic Health Chilton



Annual Event Brings Support for Chilton

Over 140 guests enjoyed a beautiful evening at the Chilton Medical Center Foundation's annual Wine, Dine & Denim event, held at Preakness Hills Country Club on Thursday, April 30. The night featured gourmet cuisine, fine wines, premium spirits, craft beers, live music and a silent auction.

In total, \$84,000 was raised, and all proceeds from the event will support the foundation's current fundraising campaign to create a Patient and Family Caregivers Center at Atlantic Health Chilton.

Special thanks to Lincoln Park Fine Wines & Spirits and the many generous sponsors, donors and guests who made this evening so meaningful!



JDT Rehabilitation Care Campus Makes Lead Gift to Support Patient and Family Caregivers

The Chilton Medical Center Foundation is pleased to announce a leadership gift of \$150,000 from the JDT Rehabilitation Care Campus in support of the foundation's campaign to establish a new Patient and Family Caregivers Center at Atlantic Health Chilton.

Founded over 50 years ago, JDT was created to provide a seamless continuum of rehabilitation, skilled nursing, long-term care and outpatient services within one connected campus. Located adjacent to Atlantic Health Chilton, the campus includes JDT Villa, JDT Resort, Lincoln Park Care Center and Renaissance Nursing Home, offering patients coordinated care and support as their needs evolve.

Guided by its motto, "We Care and It Shows," JDT has built a reputation for putting patients and families at the center of the healing process,

making its support of the Patient and Family Caregivers Center a natural extension of its mission.

"When we learned of the plans for a Patient and Family Caregivers Center at Chilton, we immediately recognized how important this resource will be for families navigating a loved one's healthcare journey," said Shlomo Levi, JDT's chief operating officer.

"At JDT, family has always been at the heart of everything we do. We see firsthand how important it is for loved ones to be present, supported and involved in the recovery process. The Patient and Family Caregivers Center reflects those same values, and we're proud to help make it a reality," said Levi.

The Patient and Family Caregivers Center will provide dedicated space and resources to support family caregivers who often shoulder



tremendous responsibilities while caring for loved ones. Through educational programming, support services, wellness initiatives and access to community resources, the center aims to improve the experience and well-being of caregivers throughout the region.

"We are incredibly grateful for JDT's generous leadership gift," said Russell Miller, director of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation. "JDT has long been a trusted community partner, and their commitment to this project demonstrates the powerful impact philanthropy can

continued on page 4

Our Generous Community

Top, right: In recognition of April as National Volunteer Month, Atlantic Health Chilton volunteers were treated to a celebratory luncheon. Atlantic Health Chilton volunteers represent various towns in the Atlantic Health Chilton service area, and we thank them for their many contributions of time and talent—all for the betterment of Atlantic Health Chilton's patients and team of caregivers.



Bottom, right: Fifteen-year-old Edward Kirsch of Kinnelon recently celebrated his Bar Mitzvah and decided to share the joy of the occasion with Atlantic Health Chilton. Edward generously donated a portion of the monetary gifts he received to the Outpatient Infusion Center in the Collins Pavillion at Atlantic Health Chilton. Edward did this in honor of his grandmother, an ovarian cancer survivor, and his father, Jonathan, who has been volunteering weekly for the past 12 years to support Atlantic Health Chilton's oncology patients. Thanks to Edward and the Kirsch family for their generosity and service!



CAREGIVER CAMPAIGN

continued from page 3

have on local families. We hope their generosity inspires others to join us in bringing this much-needed resource to our community.

"The need for caregiver support has never been greater," Miller added. "We are grateful for JDT's leadership and invite other individuals, businesses, foundations and community organizations to follow their example. Together, we can create a lasting resource that will benefit patients, caregivers and families for generations to come."

Those interested in supporting the Patient and Family Caregivers Center are encouraged to contact the Chilton Medical Center Foundation at 973-831-5165 or russell.miller@atlantichealth.org to learn more about the project and giving opportunities.

Do you want to stay "in the know" on the latest news and events related to the Chilton Medical Center Foundation?

Join our growing email list today!

Email chilton.foundation@atlantichealth.org and we'll take care of the rest. You can also unsubscribe via that same address, if you wish.

DID YOU KNOW? The work of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation is supported and enriched by a dedicated group of volunteer board members. Thank you to the following who so generously offer their time and talents as members of the Chilton Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors:



FOUNDATION BOARD

Craig Montanaro, *Chair*
Anthony Christiano, Jr., *Vice Chair I*
Linda Husti, *Vice Chair II*
Douglas Schwartz, CPA, *Treasurer*
John Prol, *Secretary*
Stephanie Schwartz, MHA, FACHE
Interim President, Atlantic Health Chilton

Douglas Cook
Thomas Delleart
Philip Devadan, MD
Brian Donnelly
Mitchell Leibowitz
Margaret Nolan

Daryl Rogers
Frank E. Scangarella, Esq.
Thomas Shara
Kevin Van Schepen
Rob Ward

FOUNDATION STAFF

Megan Sandow
Chief Philanthropy Officer

Russell Miller
Foundation Director

Lisa Dimiceli
Foundation Communications Manager

Dawn Sullivan
Operations & Data Manager

Kimberly Walsh
Foundation Event Manager

Patricia Dunn
Data Analyst

FOUNDATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: Chilton Medical Center Foundation
97 West Parkway, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444

Phone: 973-831-5165 | Fax: 973-831-5409

Email: chilton.foundation@atlantichealth.org

Website: atlantichealth.org/chiltonfoundation