



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center
SUMMER/FALL 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

I hope this finds you having an enjoyable summer!

I'm excited to report that the Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center is in the midst of an important fundraising campaign that will positively impact future Emergency Department patients in our community. We are currently raising \$1 million toward an exciting and much-needed \$6.5 million renovation/expansion of the Emergency Department at Atlantic Health Hackettstown Medical Center.

In 2025, Atlantic Health Hackettstown saw more than 24,000 Emergency Department visits—nearly 4% more than in 2024—and demand is still rising. The new renovations will utilize the existing Emergency Department footprint as well as a portion of currently underutilized space in the Radiology Department, creating a more spacious, private emergency care environment for both patients and staff.

Slated to begin in 2026 and conclude in 2027, the Emergency Department will remain open and accessible during the entire duration of the expansion and renovations.

Some of the highlights of the project will include:

- Increasing the total number of patient treatment spaces in the Emergency Department from 16 to 22
- Adding six dedicated emergency treatment spaces for behavioral health patients
- Expanding the Emergency Department waiting area from 23 to 49 seats
- Adding a dedicated stroke bay with greater access to high-level imaging
- Creating a more private patient registration area

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/hackettstownfoundation.

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**
Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center

SAVE THESE DATES!

Hackettstown Medical Center Auxiliary Tricky Tray

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Independence Township
Fire Department
Great Meadows, NJ

dawn.sullivan@atlantichealth.org

Shining the Light

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Panther Valley Golf & Country Club
Allamuchy, NJ

atlantichealth.org/shiningthelight

Webinars

In conjunction with
OneTeam Financial
Call 908-850-6876 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**

Do you want to stay “in the know” on the latest news and events related to the Hackettstown Medical Center Foundation?

Join our growing email list today!

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

Foundation Board Spotlight **Erik Schneider**

Commitment to Community and Care



When Erik Schneider joined the Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center Board of Trustees in 2022, it marked a natural extension of both his professional life and personal values. Just months earlier, he and his wife, Demaris, purchased Newbaker Funeral Home in Blairstown, adding to an already demanding portfolio that includes managing Codey & Mackey Funeral Home in Boonton and operating Schneider Trade Service, which provides technical support to 25 funeral homes across New Jersey.

Despite the pace, Schneider felt a clear pull toward community involvement, especially in healthcare.

For Schneider, Atlantic Health Hackettstown stood out immediately. Its history resonated.

"Atlantic Health Hackettstown is close to us," he said. "And when I learned how the hospital was built—by the community—I loved hearing that. That's what I'm about."

As his own professional success created opportunities to give back, Schneider knew where to start.

"When I reached a position where I was able to start giving back, my first thought was to get involved with the hospital," he explained.

That decision reflects a deeper alignment between his work and the hospital's mission. Serving families in times of need is central to both.

Since joining the foundation board, Schneider witnessed and takes pride in the hospital's continued growth and momentum.

"I'm very proud of the team at Atlantic Health Hackettstown for earning a Leapfrog 'A,'" he noted, referencing the national recognition for patient safety and quality. "I'm also proud of the strides made by the foundation's capital campaign committee to support the expansion of the Emergency Department."

He also highlights the addition of new outpatient behavioral health services as a significant step forward for the region.

"The new behavioral health space next to the hospital is incredibly important," Schneider said. "Facilities like this can be few and far between. I'm grateful it has come to fruition during my time on the board. It's a great resource, and I hope more people begin to learn about it."

Looking ahead, Schneider is eager to inspire others to get involved, whether through philanthropy, advocacy or community engagement.

"Your donations can go toward areas you care about, and you can make

a real difference in the quality of care available right here at home," he emphasized. "No one wants to go to the hospital, but if you need to, it's reassuring to know that a high-quality facility is close by, offering essential

services and access to a premier health system like Atlantic Health."

For Schneider, that reassurance—and the opportunity to help sustain it—is what makes his involvement as a foundation board member so meaningful.

"Atlantic Health Hackettstown is close to us, and when I learned how the hospital was built—by the community—I loved hearing that. That's what I'm about."

Shining THE Light

Thursday, October 8, 2026
Panther Valley Golf & Country Club
Allamuchy, NJ

For more info, visit
[atlantichealth.org/
shiningthelight](https://atlantichealth.org/shiningthelight)



PHYSICIAN HONOREE

Igor Agaronin MD, MBA, FHM

System Associate Medical Director of Hospitalists, Atlantic Health Hackettstown Medical Center

Medical Director of Hospitalists, Atlantic Health Hackettstown Medical Center



COMMUNITY HONOREE

Laurie Rapisardi

Executive Director of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District



COMMUNITY GROUP HONOREE

The Hackettstown Medical Center Auxiliary

Longtime Fundraisers for Atlantic Health Hackettstown Medical Center

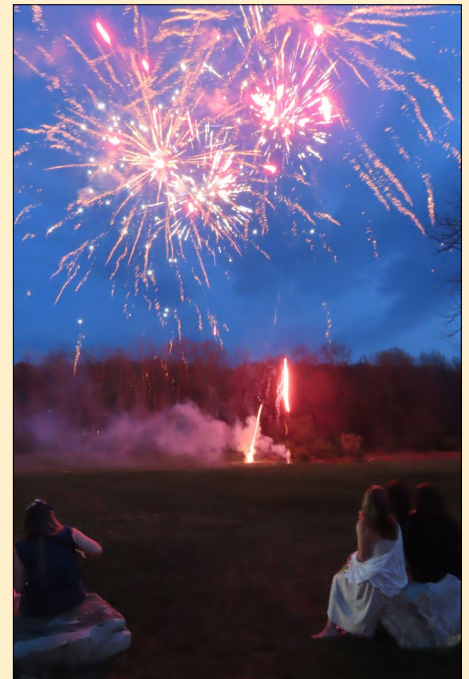
"An Evening of Wine & Roses" Fundraiser Features Patriotic Sights, Sounds and Tastes

What a night of celebration at the Newton Medical Center Foundation and Hackettstown Medical Center Foundation's annual "An Evening of Wine & Roses" at Perona Farms in April!

With a theme of "A Toast to 250 Years! Celebrating America's Milestone and the Spirit of Community Care," patriotism was on full display everywhere with red, white and blue as far as the eye could see.

Teddy Roosevelt, George Washington, Abe Lincoln and Uncle Sam were on hand to entertain the crowd and there were many samplings of fine food, wines and spirits—all capped off by spectacular fireworks!

Over 600 guests were in attendance and the event raised over \$310,000 for Atlantic Health Newton and Hackettstown medical centers.



Our Generous Community

Nothing says "thank you" like homemade cookies!

Members of the Hackettstown Medical Center Auxiliary recently came together to create homemade cookie baskets for our hardworking team members at Atlantic Health Hackettstown, bringing smiles across departments during Hospital Week. This beloved annual tradition is such a thoughtful way to say "thank you," and we're so grateful to the Auxilians for their generosity and time!





The foundation thanks **Subaru of Hackettstown** for their generous donation of cozy fleece blankets, designed to offer comfort to patients at Atlantic Health Hackettstown, helping them feel supported and even more cared for during a vulnerable time.

The Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center's 2025 Impact Report has been mailed!

Discover how your generous support of Atlantic Health Hackettstown is helping advance healthcare and improve lives throughout our community.

Didn't receive your copy but would like one?

Call 908-850-6722 or email lisa.dimiceli@atlanticealth.org to request your report today.

Annual Golf Classic Raises Funds

It was a great day at the Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center's 39th annual Golf Classic at Panther Valley Golf & Country Club.

Thanks to our many sponsors, volunteers and a full course of 144 golfers, over \$135,000 was raised for Atlantic Health Hackettstown!

The outing planning committee was led once again by John Johnson of John Johnson Automotive Group. Special guest, former Jets fullback Tony Richardson, enjoyed mingling with the crowd as top awards were handed out to the foursomes from Newbaker Funeral Home and Envision.



DID YOU KNOW? The work of the Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center 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 Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center Board of Directors:



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