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## Harry & Edith Klinghoffer Pediatric Care Center



## Anonymous Donors are the Final Puzzle Piece to Launching Shore's Sensory Friendly Pediatric Program

A trip to the ER can be scary for any child, but for children with autism or sensory processing disorders it can be overwhelming, and even make it hard for them to receive the care they need. With support from the Atlantic County Special Services School District and a generous gift from an anonymous family, Shore launched a much-needed Sensory Friendly program at its Harry and Edith Klinghoffer Pediatric Care Center on April 2, World Autism Awareness Day.

Shore opened its hybrid pediatric ER and inpatient unit in 2011. It is separate from the main ER and provides a more calming, child-friendly atmosphere

and pediatric specialists. However, in the summer of 2019 after the Pediatric Care Center team had an especially difficult time providing care to a child with autism, Shore ER Nurse Manager Sherri Richmond knew it was time to make some improvements to better support children with autism and their families.

*Cover photo: On April 2, World Autism Awareness Day, Shore Medical Center officially launched its new Sensory Friendly Pediatric Program, made possible through support from the Atlantic County Special Services School District (ACSSSD) and a generous local family. Pictured left to right is Jen Cruickshank, Ed.S., ACSSSD Supervisor of GST, Related Services, & Itinerant Services; Anne Finley, ACSSSD Vocational Transition Supervisor; Daniel Wachenheim, RN, Shore ER nurse and father of two children with sensory needs; Leigh Finley, RN, Shore Pediatric Nurse; and Sherri Richmond, MSN, RN, ER/Pediatric Care Center Nurse Manager*

(continued inside)

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*A Cause to Celebrate*  
BENEFITING SHORE CANCER CENTER

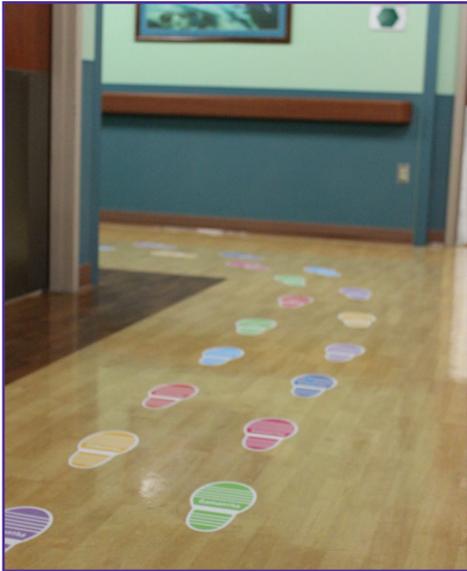
 SHORE MEDICAL CENTER  
Healthcare At Its Best

[www.GivetoShore.org](http://www.GivetoShore.org)



**Your Legacy can live on with a Planned Gift to Shore Medical Center**  
 Would you like to help preserve and enhance the current and future healthcare needs of our entire community? Then consider joining our DiOrio Society by making a planned gift to Shore Medical Center. Learn more at [www.GivetoShore.org](http://www.GivetoShore.org) or call Mary McGuckin at **609-653-4657**.

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*A series of footprint decals lead from the entrance of the Pediatric Care Center to the sensory room. The decals are designed to help children focus on getting to their treatment room and were created from the actual footprints of the anonymous donor family's grandchildren, whose names are also imprinted on the decals.*

“We are experts in caring for the medical needs of children, but we are not experts in autism,” Richmond said. “So we reached out to Atlantic County Special Services School District (ACSSSD) to help us improve care for this population of children. The school has been a wonderful partner. They have been by our side from day one.”

### **A Sensory-Friendly Experience from Door to Discharge**

ACSSSD's pediatric occupational and speech therapists along with Jen Cruickshank, Ed.S., Supervisor of Child Study Team, Related Services, & Itinerant Services, and Anne Finley, Vocational Transition Supervisor, went above and beyond to help Shore develop this program. The Sensory Friendly program includes a special sensory friendly treatment room with a variety of installations and tools to help calm children during their visit so they can safely get the care they need.

In the winter of 2020, before the COVID pandemic reached our area, the ACSSSD team provided in-depth training to Shore staff on autism, communication disorders, sensory processing disorders and more, which are also made available online for ongoing training. They also advised on the best sensory toys and installations.

Program highlights include a series of footprint decals that lead from the Pediatric Care Center entrance to the sensory room. The colorful decals are similar to those they use at the school to help a child focus on getting from point A to point B. The sensory room features a remote control bubble wall installation that changes colors and bubble speeds, a soothing visual located across from the patient's bed. A large crocodile tactile activity board right outside the room lets children explore sound, color, texture and movement – another great distraction from what might be happening during their visit to the ER.

The school's therapists also consulted on other changes to the space, including the installation of a frosted window covering to prevent distractions from outside; the relocation of the sharps needle box out of the child's view to reduce fear; the pale blue paint color and ocean life decals on the walls; and a special corner nook and rocking chair where a child can go to calm down if they're feeling anxious.

Mary McGuckin, manager of Shore's Lightkeeper's Society, helped facilitate the generous donation that helped make all of this possible.

“Donors like this generous family enable us to take immediate action when needs arise,” McGuckin said. “There are significant start-up expenses to a program like the Sensory Friendly Pediatric Program, but also expenses that will need to be sustained over time.

For example, their donation not only helped us create the sensory room, but it also helped us stock our supply cabinet full of a wide variety of tools that a child can use while they're here and then take home with them. These can be expensive, like weighted blankets, noise-canceling headphones, and weighted tactile toys. Eventually, these items will need to be replenished. We are grateful to have these funds available to sustain the program and fund ongoing education.”

The family who made the donation was very eager to be a part of something so special.

“The footprint decals on the floor that help lead a child to the sensory room are actually the real footprints of four of the grandchildren in this family, and the names inscribed on each footprint are also theirs. The children also created original artwork that will be hung in the Pediatric Care Center outside of the sensory-friendly room. It was really important for this family to include their children and grandchildren so they had a good understanding of the importance of philanthropy and the difference it can make,” McGuckin said. 



*The sensory room features a remote-control bubble wall, which helps create a calming atmosphere in the room. It is one of many features of the Sensory Friendly Pediatric Program that will help children on the autism spectrum or those with sensory needs have the best possible care when they come to Shore.*

# LIGHTKEEPER'S SOCIETY MEMBERS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following members of Shore Medical Center's Lightkeeper's Society, which recognizes donors who annually contribute \$5,000 or more to Shore Medical Center to help further advance the care of our patients. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) are also members of the DiOrio Society, which recognizes those who have made a planned gift to Shore Medical Center. We thank these individuals and families for their investment in future generations.

Anonymous	Raymond and Ellen Goldberg Foundation	Christopher & Andrea Monihan
1st Bank of Sea Isle City - Larry Schmidt	Leon & Elizabeth Grisbaum	Terrence Much in honor & memory of son Mark Much*
Adams-Perfect Funeral Homes, Inc.	Ronald Gross	Mr. & Mrs. Karl Multhaup*
Kathy & Michael Azeez	Michael & Susan Gross*	Mrs. Anne Petrella*
Karen & Alan Beatty	Ed Gurwicz	Mr. & Mrs. David M. Phillips Sr. and family
Peter & Debbie Beck*	Joe & Kathy Gurwicz	K. Ronald & Eileen Pitel*
Greate Bay Country Club	Mitchell Gurwicz	Caroline & Richard Pitman*
Lee & Catherine Bergen*	Mr. & Mrs. Albert L. Gutierrez	Dr. Constance Jenkins Pritchard
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Brady	Mr. & Mrs. R. Scott Halliday	Jane Rakestraw
The Family of Joseph V. Curcio	Patrick Halliday*	David & Sandra Reif
David & Sandra Beyel	Mrs. Helen Hamilton*	Michael & Barbara Ridge
Charles & Susan Bisciegli*	Karen & Scott Holloway	Thomas & Lisa Ritter
Brian Broadley & Family	Mr. & Mrs. David R. Hughes	Linda S. Rothermel
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Marlene & Bob Buckley	The Jack M. Soble Family	Laura Sampson
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Anthony & Virginia Cannata*	Ron Johnson	Drs. Raymond & Nancy Schreyer
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Brian & Kerri Coggins	Robin Keyack	Joseph Sheppard & Team
Tripp & Arleen Coggins	Jean & Bill Kirchhoff	Mr. Jonathan Shiekman
Mr. & Mrs. David Cohen	Mr. James Klinghoffer*	The Shields Family and Betty Halpern's Friends
Palma & Michael Crooks	Dr. & Mrs. Edmund J. Koenke	The Sidewater Family Foundation
John & Dian Dabek	Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kohler	George & Patti Siganos
Dr. & Mrs. Fernando Delasotta	Di & Dallas Krapf	Dr. Angelo & JoAnne Sparagna
The Desiderio Family	Ed & Linda Kuehnle	Mrs. Rosemarie Speitel*
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Mrs. John Giemza - Circle Liquor Store	The Messner Foundation	<i>*DiOrio Society - Planned Gift</i>
Mrs. Anne-Marie Glenn	Milton Schamach Foundation, Inc.	
Glenn Insurance, Inc.		

*We would also like to thank our generous donors who have requested to remain anonymous. Their contributions, along with those from our donors listed above, have had a tremendous impact on our hospital and our patients*

# 2021 STAINTON SOCIETY MEMBERS

We are deeply grateful for the generous support of our current Stainton Society members listed below, who gave between \$500 and \$4,999 this year. Donations made to Shore Medical Center through the Stainton Society ensure the ever-changing healthcare needs of our community are met with the region's most advanced medical services and clinical expertise. We are always eager to welcome new members! To join the Stainton Society, please visit [www.GivetoShore.org](http://www.GivetoShore.org) or contact Jessica Giles at (609) 653-3986.

1st Bank of Sea Isle City - Larry Schmidt	Bob & Mary Garrett	Maggie Hoffman	Michael & Barbara Ridge
Mr. Robert Allen	Judy Genova	Scott Marcus	Mr. Robert Robertson
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William & Virginia Brown	Robert Gordon	Jennifer Donovan Meyer and Brendan Meyer~ In loving memory of Charles P. Donovan, Jr.	Dr. Edward H. Salmon
Nancy M. Copple	John Gosner	Mary M. Millar	Dr. Kenneth Schwab
Nancy & Charles Cristella	Marlene Greenbaum	Ms. Cynthia Miller	Mrs. Nancy Seidel ~ In memory of Henry E. Seidel, MD
William & Alice Crockford	Albert Halliday	Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Miller	Ms. Marlene Sheppard
Patricia B. Crowley	Timothy Hanlon	Fred Miller	Lilia Sollish
Mr. & Mrs. Albert DeJoseph	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hohmann	Ms. Denise Minus	South Jersey Jazz Society
F. Joseph & Stacey H. DiOrio	Ms. Courtney Humphrey	Michael & Holly Monihan	Mr. & Mrs. John B. Stull
Mr. Dennis DiOrio	Lynn Hyde	Mr. & Mrs. John B. Morello	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Taccarino
F. Joseph & Stacey H. DiOrio	Mrs. Carole Hyman in memory of Dr. Jack Hyman	Debbie Nickerson	Melinda Tharpe
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Mr. & Mrs. William B. Duffy	Dr. & Mrs. John Keating, III	Virginia Peter	Mr. & Mrs. Allen Townsend
Kathleen Everett	Mr. & Mrs. John Kehoe	Eileen A. Pitel	Mr. & Mrs. Richard L. Traa
R. Glen Fenstermacher	Constance Kelly	Caroline & Richard Pitman	Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Uretsky
Doreen Fitzpatrick	Eleanor Kennedy	Victor G. Plumbo	Dante & Mary Ann Mazza Vergulti
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Fontana	Heidi A. King, RN	Dr. & Mrs. James M. Pond	Ms. Calla Waldron-Buck
The Fox Foundation	Mrs. Marie Knight	John W. Ponton, Jr.	Adam Williamson
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Foxman	Ms. Christina Kozmor	Dr. Constance Jenkins Pritchard	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wood
Dr. & Mrs. Scott Foxman	Ann Lahr	Bruce & Pat Rambo	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore V. Wood
Theodore Franchetti	Mr. Francis Lamb	Diane Ramftl	Karin Wren
Tony & Janet Galante	Marion MacKinnon	Howard Reed	Dr. & Mrs. Patrick F. Zazzaro
	Tom & Donna Major		

## Every One of Them is a Guardian Angel

### Shore's Entire Emergency Department Honored by Longtime Donor

When James Klinghoffer received a request asking him to make a donation in honor of a Shore provider for Doctors' Day, it certainly grabbed his attention. Klinghoffer, whose name appears on the exterior of Shore's Emergency Department, is a long-time supporter of Shore Medical Center. The Pediatric Emergency Department at Shore is named in honor of his parents, Harry and Edith Klinghoffer. As a result, Klinghoffer takes every request from Shore to heart.

"I called my friend at Shore, Lightkeeper's Society Manager Mary McGuckin, who knows how special the emergency and pediatric departments are to me. I told her I would like to honor the doctors at Shore, but the more I thought about it, I could not limit my gratitude to just the doctors," Klinghoffer said.

The Doctors' Day request said that any donation of \$50 or more would also earn the honoree a coveted Guardian Angel award and invitation to Shore's Guardian Angel Pinning Ceremony in December. Since the program's inception, one Guardian Angel has been selected as Guardian Angel of the Month, but in May 2021, all members of the Emergency and Pediatric departments were recognized as Guardian Angels of the Month. This was made possible through a generous \$5,300 donation by Klinghoffer.

"I wanted to honor every single person who works in the emergency department. Every one of them is a guardian angel; they are special people who have a special calling," continued Klinghoffer. "So I was happy to recognize all 106



*Members of Shore Medical Center's Emergency Department staff pose with an oversized card they signed for James Klinghoffer, who donated \$5,300 so that every member of their staff would receive a Guardian Angel recognition this year. "They all deserve it especially after all they have been through this past year, and every year."*

members of the Emergency Department staff with a Guardian Angel honor. They all deserve it especially after all they have been through this past year, and every year."

Reflecting on his support of Shore Medical Center, Klinghoffer said, "Years ago, I was told that Shore's Emergency Department needed help. I think anyone can donate money. But I wanted to create something to truly help people, and Shore's Emergency Department certainly does that. I wanted to honor my parents, and what better way to do that than having their names adorn the walls of Shore's Pediatric Emergency Department which takes care of so many children in a separate environment from the adults. Klinghoffer continued, "I recently spoke with one of the physicians at Shore and

he said to me 'I can't thank you enough for the Pediatric Center. Children are scared enough when they come to the ED. Having a designated emergency care center for children has helped so many people in their time of need.'"



### Doctors' Day Success

Special thanks to everyone who contributed to our 2021 Doctors' Day appeal. Together, you helped raise \$17,000 to support patient care at Shore Medical Center, while letting our providers know how much they mean to you.



**Donate today!** There are many ways to make an impact. Visit [www.givetoshore.org](http://www.givetoshore.org) or call **609-653-3800** to learn more.



**LEIGH FINLEY, RN**  
PEDIATRIC CARE CENTER/ER

“What I’ll remember most about this past year was the loneliness that our patients felt – not being able to have their loved ones at the bedside. I’ll also remember showering in our outdoor shower after working, even in the winter, so I didn’t bring the virus into the house.”



**LESLIE LYNCH, MT**  
LABORATORY

“What I’ll remember most is the kindness of the community in contributing and donating sandwich trays and pizza in large quantities. That was so extremely kind and thoughtful. I’ll also remember the signs on the front doors of our lobby encouraging the employees.



**EARL HUGO, PHARM D**  
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

“What I’ll remember most about the past year was the effort by scientists to develop a vaccine to help us combat this epidemic and save lives, and beginning my career as an emergency medicine pharmacist.”



**MARILIAN LOPEZ**  
HOUSEKEEPER - ICU

“What got me through this past year was the support of my family and co-workers. What I’ll remember most is the service that we all provide to the public.”



**GUY LOUIS, RN**  
MED SURG COVID-19 UNIT

“I’ll remember most how everyone came together to help one another even though we were afraid of Covid, which at the time we did not know much about. That did not stop us, as we nurses wake up every day to do our best to save a life.”

**ERIN MITCHELL, RNC**  
5 STANTON

“What got me through this past year was the love and support of family, friends, and co-workers. What I’ll remember most was the first hug from my grandchildren after not seeing them for several months.”



## Receive Income for Life and Leave a Legacy at Shore Medical Center

With a charitable gift annuity, your donation to Shore pays you back, for life.

A charitable gift annuity enables your gift to Shore Medical Center, of cash or marketable investments, to pay you a fixed income for life. Your donation to Shore of “post-tax dollars” establishes an annuity, for which you receive a partial deduction in the year of the gift as well as a partially tax-free stream of income. Payments are made to you quarterly, and the annual percentage rate is calculated based on your age, whether the payment is for single life or joint, and the amount/structure of your original donation.

There are also options for you to donate “pre-tax” dollars to Shore if you have a required minimum distribution that may have income tax benefits for you. Please contact Mary McGuckin at 609.653.4657 or [mmcguckin@shoremedicalcenter.org](mailto:mmcguckin@shoremedicalcenter.org) for more information.

