The generous support of donors James and Colette Hipolit has enabled Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health to open the newly named James and Colette Hipolit Clinical Research Unit for Oncology. This new unit will offer local patients more opportunities to participate in groundbreaking cancer research and clinical trials.

The Hipolits’ gift enables the creation of a physical location at the Suburban Pavilion, as well as the hiring of a team of specialized research nurses, data managers and others, and additional critical resources to support the teams’ work.

In 2020, LG Health and Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center jointly created the Clinical Research Unit for Oncology at the LG Health Ann B. Barchinger Cancer Institute (ABBCI). The unit’s goal is to improve cancer treatment and outcomes with safe and effective research that meets the highest standards for safety, compliance and privacy.

“ABBCI is uniquely positioned to enhance local patients’ access to clinical trials, said Randall A. Oyer, M.D., Executive Medical Director, ABBCI. “While the James and Colette Hipolit Clinical Research Unit will continue to work in partnership with the Abramson Cancer Center in Philadelphia, the expansion will minimize the need for local patients to travel outside the community to participate in research.”

Currently 6% of patients at the Cancer Institute are enrolled in clinical trials. “Our goal is to increase that number to 20% by increasing the number of clinical trials we are able to offer here,” added Dr. Oyer. “The Hipolits’ generous investment will provide us with resources to help us reach our goal.”

James Hipolit has served LG Health in a number of capacities for more than 30 years. His service includes 16 years on the LG Health Board of Trustees and eight years on the board of the LG Health Foundation. Mrs. Hipolit has supported the Women’s Giving Circle, the Gingham Gala, and additional LG Health philanthropic efforts for many years.


CEO MESSAGE
JOHN J. HERMAN, MBA, FACHE, CEO, PENN MEDICINE LANCASTER GENERAL HEALTH

We’ve all experienced the uneasy feeling of leaving something familiar and beginning something entirely new. Whether you’re meeting your significant other’s family, moving into your college dorm or starting a new job, it can be scary.

Soon after my future wife Lisa and I started going out, I had the opportunity to meet her family for the first time. Her mom has five brothers and sisters, and they’re a lively bunch. I can be a bit reserved when I first meet people, so I was a little nervous about meeting them.

But in a relatively short period of time, I was able to connect and find common areas of interest with Lisa’s family, like golfing with Uncle Dave or talking about country living with Aunt Judy. It wasn’t long before this big, scary group of new people became a really important part of my life.

Becoming part of a larger organization professionally can be scary too. After 18 months in Lancaster, one of the most common questions I’m still asked is, Why did Lancaster General Health join Penn Medicine?

There are many times in life when doing things together makes more sense, especially when it presents an opportunity to achieve something greater, together. While LG Health has always delivered a wide range of exceptional health care services, our patients previously had to leave town to receive advanced clinical care. Now, because we are part of Penn Medicine, we can deliver more of that advanced care locally.

For example, we are now able to offer CAR-T, an advanced immunotherapy that cures some blood cancers, and proton therapy, a revolutionary form of radiation therapy that limits harm to our patients.

We have recently recruited a nationally renowned infertility physician and an exceptional neuroendovascular surgeon who will enable us to provide more stroke care locally.

Being part of Penn Medicine and our ability to offer advanced medicine services locally set us apart from the other health-care choices in our community. LG Health is the one place patients can get everything they need in a highly coordinated way. That’s why advanced medicine is one of our strategic areas of focus, which we will continue to emphasize in the years ahead, while also ensuring that we have the best access possible to the full continuum of traditional health-care services we have offered for over 129 years.

We will keep bringing a world of possibilities to Lancaster, because Lancaster means the world to us.
Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health hosted a career exploration program, A Day in the Life, for local high school students at Lancaster General Hospital (LGH) on Oct. 6 and Oct. 7. The program provided a hands-on educational day for students as they develop career plans for their future.

A Day in the Life is an educational program where students learn about an occupation by shadowing an experienced professional. LG Health partnered with 15 local public high schools to invite students who have an interest in a medical career to join LG Health representatives to learn more about the health system and to explore possible career options.

Approximately 155 students each day rotated through eight hands-on activities representing Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Physical Medicine, Pharmacy, Surgical Technology, Cardiology, Radiology, and the Laboratory Services. The day also included an opportunity to job shadow in a student-selected area of choice.

A Day in the Life is an educational program where students learn about an occupation by shadowing an experienced professional. LG Health partnered with 15 local public high schools to invite students who have an interest in a medical career to join LG Health representatives to learn more about the health system and to explore possible career options.

Approximately 155 students each day rotated through eight hands-on activities representing Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Physical Medicine, Pharmacy, Surgical Technology, Cardiology, Radiology, and the Laboratory Services. The day also included an opportunity to job shadow in a student-selected area of choice.

The AHA Lancaster Heart Walk promotes living healthier lifestyles by learning how to eat better, move more and take care of our mental well-being.

“I was inspired by the turn-out of our employees to this year’s AHA Lancaster Heart Walk,” said John J. Herman, Chief Executive Officer, Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health. “Not only do our employees save lives while at work, but they come together to support other initiatives that will make our community the healthiest community possible.”

LG Health team "Cass’s Heart Throbs" was the top fundraising team at the Heart Walk, raising about $9,000 for cardiovascular research.

The “Brainstormers” team was comprised of the LGH Stroke team.

Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health individual employees and teams participated in this year’s American Heart Association (AHA) Lancaster Heart Walk on Sept. 24 at Clipper Magazine Stadium in downtown Lancaster. LG Health was the number one participating company, raising over $25,000 to fund life-saving research that will fight cardiovascular disease and stroke, the number one killer and the fifth killer in the United States, respectively.

The AHA Lancaster Heart Walk promotes living healthier lifestyles by learning how to eat better, move more and take care of our mental well-being.

“I was inspired by the turn-out of our employees to this year’s AHA Lancaster Heart Walk,” said John J. Herman, Chief Executive Officer, Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health. “Not only do our employees save lives while at work, but they come together to support other initiatives that will make our community the healthiest community possible.”