



The Miriam Hospital
Lifespan. Delivering health with care.®

Door-to-Door

THE MIRIAM HOSPITAL NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTION • Summer 2020

Dear Neighbors,

I want to take this opportunity to thank our community members who supported our hospital during the COVID 19 surge earlier this year. Our spirits were lifted and our bodies were well fed as the outpouring of support from the community surrounded our frontline workers. From parades and meals to flowers and banners, we feel deep gratitude for the community who cheered us on day and night.

The pandemic has affected our lives in many ways and we want our neighbors to know that despite the crisis, we are still committed to being a good neighbor. The Neighborhood Hotline has been and continues to be a resource for neighbors to use for questions, complaints or concerns regarding the hospital. The hotline number is **(401) 793-4040** and the email is **TMHneighbors@lifespan.org**. We generally respond to our calls or emails within 36–48 hours.

I want you to know about two important happenings at the hospital this summer. The first is our plan to renovate a section of our emergency department starting in August, and the second is to hold a socially safe neighborhood meeting regarding our plan to submit our Institutional Master Plan to the City Planning Commission in October, 2020. You can read more about both in detail inside the newsletter.

Please note two important dates coming up. The first is the date when the ED construction begins. We have hired Pariseault Builders to start working on **August 24, 2020**. I want you to know that Pariseault Builders will work hand in hand with us to ensure that we employ community-sensitive construction processes during the project.

The second date to save is for the Neighborhood Informational Meeting regarding our IMP. Due to COVID restrictions, the meeting will be held online **September 1, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.** If necessary, we will consider holding a second meeting, either in person or online, depending on the community spread of COVID 19 and the DOH restrictions.

Please read on for further details about our plans. Should you have any questions, please contact Monica Anderson using the Neighborhood Hotline.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Sampson
President

The Miriam Hospital
Delivering health with care.



- Community Relations Corner
- Emergency Department Renovations
- Institutional Master Plan
- Fall Food Drive



During my fifteen-year tenure as The Miriam Hospital Neighborhood Liaison, I have never seen anything like the kindness bestowed on our frontline workers from the community, and for your kindness I want to say thank you. My role at Lifespan as Director of Community Relations is uniquely poised to identify the resources of the hospitals and share them with the community. The Miriam Hospital especially has a proud tradition of supporting the community, annually and in times of need. When COVID 19 locked Rhode Island down, I never imagined that I would find myself in a position to pivot, but I am so grateful that I could.

The “kindness calls” from the community began when merchants on Hope Street reached out to me in March to offer support and care to the frontline workers. Jan at Stock Culinary Goods donated delicious chocolates to our Incident Command Staff, who had been on the job literally around the clock. Our next-door neighbor created and hung a banner facing the hospital encouraging us on every day. Later, pizzas, cards, flowers, meals, coffees and every goodie imaginable were donated in small and large amounts to our staff. Messages of support came pouring in and our Manager of Volunteer Services quickly created a gratitude wall to display the many words of encouragement to our employees. Neighbors collected and donated unused masks to help us get through a mask shortage. The donations came not only to The Miriam Hospital, but also to other Lifespan affiliates at Rhode Island Hospital, Newport Hospital, Bradley Hospital and our colleagues at Gateway Behavioral Health Services. So many communities showed their concern and care across Rhode Island, and it was heartwarming and encouraging.

Other gestures of kindness included efforts from Frog and Toad, who launched a scrubs “knock it off” campaign to support our COVID Employee Fund. Several groups organized parades around our hospitals. Most of them called a day or two in advance to see if they could coordinate with us, and some just came by unannounced. I want to thank our neighbors for their patience during those times when unexpected parades occurred and I was unable to get advance notice to you about the event.

Without asking, the community gave and I was the lucky person privileged to find myself pivoting from “hospital sharing to community,” to “community sharing with the hospital.” As the crisis bubbled over, I witnessed a kind and generous community connected to hundreds of heroic frontline health care workers. The outpouring of compassion has been an experience that will stay with me forever. We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity.

Emergency Department Renovations

As discussed at the 2019 Annual Neighborhood Meeting, our original plans for the Emergency Department were to commence construction in the spring of 2020. The pandemic delayed those plans, but not the need for the improvements. As such, we recently received approval to begin the work as planned. We have contracted with Pariseault Builders for the project. The timeline of the project is from August 2020 through the summer of 2021. Pariseault is working within the guidelines of our community-sensitive construction protocols, including but not limited to working Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., notifying neighbors in advance of heavy equipment usage, noise and dust.



The Miriam Hospital Institutional Master Plan

EVERY FIVE YEARS all non-profit organizations in the City of Providence are required to submit their 5-year plan for their buildings and campuses. The Miriam Hospital intends to submit our 5-year plan in October 2020. Please know that our plans remain unchanged in scope and scale since the last three Institutional Master Plan submissions. More than ever, COVID 19 has helped us define our **need to create single patient hospital rooms on the main campus**. Our plan to do that does not change our bed capacity, which remains at 247.

If we are able to secure funding for this project, we remain committed to staying within our allowable buildable envelope as outlined in the City of Providence's Comprehensive Master Plan. Furthermore, we would follow the protocols for community-sensitive construction as part of our commitment to be a good neighbor.

Our plan is to hold a virtual meeting to ensure safe social distancing on **September 1, 2020**, and a second meeting as needed in person for anyone unable to join a virtual meeting due to technological challenges. At the meetings, we will share our plans for the main campus, discuss our parking and traffic study, and provide plenty of time for shared dialogue and questions from our neighbors about the plan.

For information on how to connect to this virtual meeting, **September 1, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.**, please email **Monica Anderson: TMHneighbors@lifespan.org**.

Hospital and Neighborhood Food Drive

September 7-11

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC, the demand for food assistance has increased dramatically, according to the RI Community Food Bank. Lifespan participates in an annual food drive each fall. This year we are holding our annual food drive in tandem with the communities where our hospitals reside.

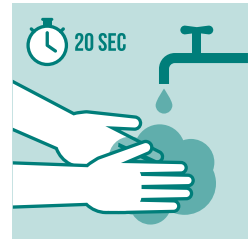


The Miriam Hospital invites neighbors to bring canned food items to one of our entrance locations at Summit Avenue or Seventh Street between **September 7-11**. Please donate non-perishable items from the list of healthy foods below. When purchasing or sharing an item, please **check the expiration date** before donating.

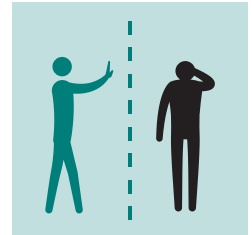
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit in water
- Canned tuna in water
- Peanut butter
- Canned beans

The Mount Hope Community Center, St. Raymond's Food Bank and the Rhode Island Food Bank are the intended recipients of the hospital and neighborhood food drive. Thank you in advance for helping our neighbors in need.

Covid Prevention



WASH HANDS WITH WATER AND SOAP/SANITIZER, AT LEAST 20 SECONDS



AVOID CONTACT WITH SICK PEOPLE



DON'T TOUCH EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS



WEAR A MASK



AVOID CROWDED PLACES