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Exceptional Births, Made Possible by You!

Every delivery on Shore's maternity unit is special, but in 2019, our maternity nurses received an extra special delivery of their own - 12 brand new fetal monitors, made possible with your generous support! Since then, the new monitors have transformed the birth experience for patients and nurses alike and helped our team bring more than 2,000 precious babies safely into the world.

Fetal monitors provide critical information to the obstetrics team about the baby's and mom's health and whether intervention might be needed. The new fetal monitors include several wireless versions and are more sensitive, especially important for high-risk pregnancies.

Shore Labor & Delivery Nurse Ella Rapoport is grateful for the new monitors because it helps her patients have the best experience and delivery outcome possible.

"The new wireless monitors allow moms to get out of bed and move around freely in their room, the bathroom and the halls, without sacrificing fetal monitoring quality. Movement can help the baby descend and rotate, allowing for a safer delivery," Rapoport said. "Many moms will come in assuming they have to stay in bed during labor. Now I can tell them the sky's the limit with what they can do. It's wonderful!"

Shore purchased the new monitors with funds raised from its 2018 Campaign for Exceptional Births. Shore reached its \$100,000 campaign goal thanks to donors like you. But Mary McGuckin, manager of Shore's major gifts program, says one particular anonymous donor catapulted Shore to its goal.

"The donor asked me what projects needed support, and when I shared our fetal monitor project goal with him, he

committed to donating the \$68k we still needed. Every hospital department has a wish list for technology and equipment upgrades that could improve patient care, but we cannot meet all of those needs without the generous support of our community," McGuckin said.

Would you like to learn more about major projects at Shore Medical Center, and how you can help? Please turn to page 4 to learn about one exciting new project at our Cancer Center, or contact Mary McGuckin at 609-653-4657 or mmcguckin@shoremedicalcenter.org for other ways you can support Shore Medical Center and make a significant impact on patient care! 📄

Photo: With your generous support, Shore purchased 12 new fetal monitors with wireless monitoring technology, transforming the experience for laboring women. Pictured (L to R): Maternal Child Health Nurse Manager Nicole DeCicco with Labor & Delivery nurses Ella Rapoport and Brittany Eberson, who are holding wireless fetal monitors.



Otto was fascinated by the sensory room's tactile wall, which helped relax him so he could get care.

Local Mom Discovers Life-Changing Care for Son with Autism

Ciara Trump of Woodbine has taken her 5-year-old son Otto to doctors and emergency departments more times than she can count. Unfortunately, many of those experiences have been traumatic. Otto has autism and sensory processing issues and is non-verbal, so he can get very overwhelmed by the sights, sounds and actions around him – especially in medical facilities. When Otto developed a limp after a recent afternoon of jumping on the trampoline, Ciara naturally worried about what to do.

“I had to weigh the pros and cons of taking Otto in for an X-ray and waited for 24-hours to see if his limp would resolve on its own. It didn’t, so I decided

to take him to Shore Medical Center’s pediatric ER the next day,” Ciara said.

What happened next simply blew her away

“From the moment we walked in, the staff knew right away what to do for us. The registrar noticed that Otto had autism and sent someone out immediately to walk us back. They explained that Shore has an autism room and asked what they could do for Otto to keep him more comfortable. I couldn’t believe it!”

Their experience only got better from there

Ciara brought Otto to the room in his wagon. As he looked around and saw the colorful crocodile tactile toy on the wall outside the sensory room, he actually seemed excited to be there.

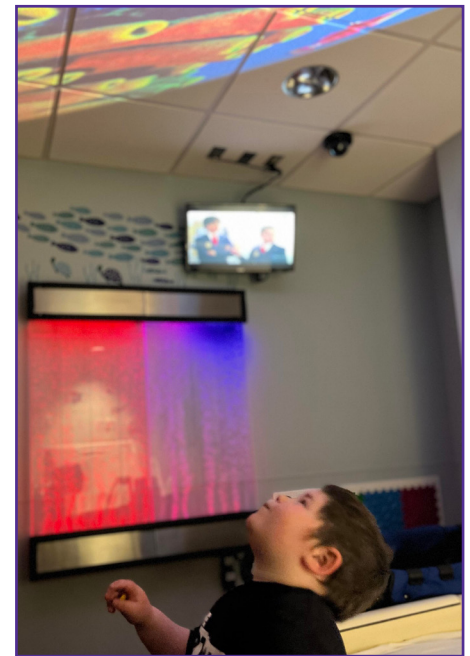
“They kept the lights off as they brought him into the room and turned on the bubble wall. He immediately wanted to climb out of his wagon and explore the room - he wanted to touch everything!”

When it was time for the X-ray, Ciara was amazed that they could just bring the machine right to his room. At this point, Otto was on the floor, and instead of making him get in the bed, the technician simply performed the X-ray from the floor while Otto watched the underwater scene projected onto the ceiling.

Now that Ciara knows Shore’s Pediatric Emergency Care Center has a sensory-friendly program, she feels a tremendous sense of relief.

“Many parents just like me delay medical care because of past traumatic experiences. But at Shore, everyone I encountered understood exactly how to meet Otto’s needs. They knew when he needed a break and gave him the time, space and sensory support he needed. As a parent of a child with autism, it is so reassuring to know that if something happens, I can trust Shore to take good care of him.”

Photos provided



Otto looks at the projector images on the ceiling, while staff perform his X-ray from the floor.

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 or call Mary McGuckin at 609-653-4657.

Renee Parker Monihan Memorial Fund Makes “Ouchless” Pediatric Program Possible

If you’ve ever taken a child for shots or blood work, you know how stressful it can be. While you may have mastered the art of ice cream bribes or YouTube distractions so they cooperate, a trip to the emergency department may require more challenging and painful procedures such as IV fluids or stitches. Through Shore’s new Ouchless Pediatric Program, we can better minimize the pain and trauma a child might experience during a hospital visit.

The Ouchless Pediatric Program is the first of several initiatives Shore will roll out in its Pediatric Emergency Care Center over the next year, all thanks to the thoughtful generosity of Chris and Andrea Monihan and everyone who contributed to the Renee Parker Monihan Memorial Fund established at Shore in memory of their young daughter.

Some of the tools we’ll use in our Ouchless program to minimize pain and trauma include:

- **Buzzy the Bee:** Buzzy is a bumblebee-shaped vibration device with ice-pack wings that can trick the nerves, blocking sharp pain and distracting children during injections or other medical procedures
- **Accuvein Vein Finder:** Accuvein is a hand-held device that visualizes a map of the veins beneath a child’s skin to help make it easier to insert an IV on the first try. Because children get to essentially see inside their bodies, it can also be an interesting distraction during a procedure.



Arianna Henkel, 4, of Northfield, tries out Buzzy the Bee, a vibrating ice pack. It's one of many new tools our Pediatric Emergency Care Center team now has available to reduce pain and fear in children during a hospital visit. Shore's Ouchless Pediatric Program is made possible thanks to the Renee Parker Monihan Memorial Fund.


- **Shot blockers:** These simple plastic devices have many small, dull contact points that can be pressed around the injection site during a needle procedure to saturate the sensory nerves, distracting the child from the pain of the needle.
- **Wound closing:** When possible, we will use non-invasive adhesive glue or zip seals instead of stitches and topical pain control medications instead of injections.

In addition to these tools, Shore’s pediatric team has been trained by a Child Life Specialist on age-appropriate ways to reduce stress and anxiety, including:

- **Comfort holds:** During treatment, the child can sit on a parent’s lap and

be held by someone they know and trust. This comforts the child and prevents the need for additional physical restraint.

- **One Voice method:** One person – either family or staff – is designated to speak soothing words and help explain what is happening throughout the visit. The child can then focus on one trusted voice rather than being confused or overwhelmed by many.

Shore’s Ouchless Pediatric Program officially debuted Memorial Day Weekend, just in time for our emergency department’s busiest time of the year – summer. We are grateful for the Monihan family for the honor of helping so many children and families in our community, in Renee’s memory. 

Bringing the Best in Radiation Therapy to Shore

Support Shore Cancer Center's \$1 Million CT Simulator Fund

Radiation therapy is a necessary treatment in the cancer-fighting toolbox for about half of all patients with cancer. Patients often will need to come in for radiation five days a week, for weeks in a row. Radiation therapy can significantly increase a patient's longevity or quality of life, and in many cases, it can help eradicate a patient's cancer altogether.

A Worthy Investment

Over the past year, Shore has invested nearly \$5 million in radiation oncology upgrades, including a new \$3.5 million Varian TrueBeam linear accelerator installed this spring. TrueBeam uses cutting-edge arc therapy to administer radiation with greater speed and precision.

These upgrades give our community local access to the most advanced radiation treatment. Much of these improvements in our program were made possible with community support.

The Importance of Careful Planning

As we revamp our radiation oncology program, one final and crucial upgrade is necessary - **a new 4D CT Simulator for radiation planning.**

Most patients prescribed radiation will have an initial CT simulation appointment that helps Shore Radiation Oncologist Dr. John Wilson and his team develop a radiation treatment plan that will maximize cancer cell destruction while minimizing damage to surrounding organs and tissue.

Because Shore Cancer Center is a mem-



Shore Cancer Center's Radiation Oncology team with the new Varian TrueBeam linear accelerator for radiation treatment. Pictured, left to right: Physicist Jonathan Law, DABR; Dosimetrist Jennifer Le, CMD; Lead Radiation Therapist Robin Royer, RT; Radiation Therapist Jennifer Popa, RT; Nurse Patricia Lynn, OCN; Radiation Oncologist John Wilson, MD; Radiation Oncology Manager Kimberly Kaczmarek, MBA; and Physicist Harshad Sakhalkar, DABR.

ber of the Penn Cancer Network, each radiation treatment plan is then presented to a review board at Penn Medicine in Philadelphia. Their radiation oncology experts ensure the plan meets Penn's protocols and makes any adjustments.

More than Just Convenient

Today, all radiation simulations occur in the main hospital across the street from the Cancer Center on a CT scanner used for patients with and without cancer. Each time, the CT scanner must be modified for radiation simulation. Dr. Wilson says having a dedicated 4D CT simulator at the cancer center is not just about making things more convenient for patients and staff - although that is a big plus - it is the gold standard in radiation oncology.

"The dedicated 4D CT scanner will allow us to pinpoint tumors even more precisely during the planning CT while a patient is breathing. This is especially helpful for lung and upper abdomen tumors that move more during breathing. The new CT scanner would also have a wider bore, enabling us to better scan our larger patients and those in

certain positions, such as when we treat them with their arms up. In a normal size CT, it can be difficult to include all of their anatomies."

Philanthropy Makes it Possible

Dr. Wilson is deeply impressed by the care and compassion of the Cancer Center team and people like you who generously support the mission. In fact, Dr. Wilson has already contributed \$13,000 toward the CT simulation project, and is eager to help Shore reach its \$1 million CT Simulator fundraising goal by December 2023.

"When patients have access to high-quality radiation oncology care close to home, it can make a big difference in their experience and outcomes," said Dr. Wilson. "The changes we've made in radiation oncology so far would not have been possible without the generous support of our community. I hope we can continue to count on our friends for their support of the CT simulator, the final major upgrade in our radiation oncology program. Together, we can bring all the best in radiation treatment to Shore Cancer Center."

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.

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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



Donate today! There are many ways to make an impact.
Visit www.givetoshore.org or call **609-653-3800** to learn more.

2022 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 in 2021. 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 or contact Jessica Giles at (609) 653-3986.

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