Providence Little Company of Mary Board Chair Has Given Her Time, Talent and Treasure for Three Decades
Our Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center family is infused with the giving spirit. From our donors, who give during their lifetimes and leave legacies through their estates, to our caregivers, who are givers by profession, to our volunteer leaders, who serve our community — we are blessed to work together for the greater good.

Thanks to your generosity, we have made considerable progress toward our San Pedro emergency department expansion. We have completed the $4 million fundraising campaign thanks to an outpouring of support from the community. The multimillion-dollar expansion will create an expanded resource for emergency care that will serve the San Pedro area for generations to come.

We are also pleased to announce that Providence honored two of our distinguished Providence Little Company of Mary physicians at the Providence Southern California Philanthropy’s first annual Physician Champion Award Dinner.

During the ceremony, clinical leaders were honored for their significant contributions to building a culture of philanthropy at their medical campuses. We want to congratulate Michele Del Vicario, M.D., and Santosh Kesari, M.D., for their well-deserved recognition.

Together, we remain steadfast in helping bring moments of great hope and inspiration to our community as we care for our patients, their families and neighbors. Thank you, from the entire Providence Little Company of Mary family, for your generosity. We truly could not do this without you — our valued partners.
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A VOLUNTEERING VOCATION

Providence Little Company of Mary board chair has given her time, talent and treasure for three decades

After a successful marketing and research career, Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation board chair Kathie Eckert left the corporate world to focus on raising her kids. Thus began her second career and passionate vocation as a volunteer leader.

“I’ve been doing volunteer work for the last 30 years and its focus evolved over time,” she laughs. “In the early days, I was a Brownie leader and then president of the PTA, and it’s grown from there.”

Kathie, who holds an MBA from Northwestern University’s Kellogg Graduate School of Management, has lent her considerable talent to many causes and organizations in the ensuing years. Today, in addition to her work with Providence Little Company of Mary, she is a member and former chair of the Aquarium of the Pacific Board. She also serves on the Las Floristas Board, among others.

“Volunteering has added value to my life,” she shares. “I’ve gotten much more back from that work than I gave. I would encourage everyone to do it if they can. It’s going to make you a better person, and it’s going to make the community you live in a better place.”

I was inspired by the commitment exhibited by many friends, including Mike and Paula, who had been involved with the Foundation for years,” she says. “Recognizing that people you admire have such passion for a cause makes it an easy decision to join them in service.”

Enthusiastic about rebuilding face-to-face camaraderie among board members after two years of Zoom meetings, Kathie is focused on formalizing the structure for bringing new trustees to the board.

“We’re working on bringing more diversity to reflect different skill sets, experiences and points of view,” she says. “I’m a big believer that more sets of eyes looking at something gives you a better end product. People’s diverse backgrounds inform different perspectives, which leads to better decisions.”

According to Kathie, it’s essential to keep Foundation board members up to date on what’s happening at the hospital.

“We’re ambassadors for the hospital. As we interact with the community, we must be informed so we can make referrals, answer questions, share about advancements and discuss opportunities to meet philanthropic needs.”

Supporting the mission

The importance of access to outstanding medical care in her community drives Kathie’s commitment to her role as board chair.

“It’s really important to have an excellent hospital in our local community,” she says. “I think that aim inspires most board members. Whether giving time, talent or treasure, and it’s usually a mix of all three. I find my colleagues and I share that common goal for our community.”

A generous donor to Providence Little Company of Mary, Kathie feels a special connection to the hospital and its caregivers.

“I believe in the mission,” she says. “I’ve never been exposed to a place where people are so passionate about what they do. They understand the mission and live it every day.”
Twenty-one clinicians across Providence Southern California were recently recognized at the inaugural Physician Champion Award Dinner on May 5 for their significant contributions to building a culture of philanthropy at their medical campuses.

The award acknowledged select Providence Southern California physicians for their commitment to philanthropy and medical care. Each ministry nominated two physicians from their respective organizations to be honored.

“These physicians take their expertise and commitment to health care beyond the bedside. They are true philanthropy ambassadors by communicating the positive impact patients can have on health care in our community,” says Kevin Manemann, chief executive, Providence St. Joseph Health, Southern California.

Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation was proud to recognize Michele Del Vicario, M.D., and Santosh Kesari, M.D., as the first to receive the Physician Champion Award. Their passion for philanthropy inspires the next generation of physician engagement, representing the importance of a strong partnership between Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers and the Foundation.

“Our physician colleagues are among the most essential partners our philanthropy team has,” says Kurt Hinrichsen, chief philanthropy officer. “Every day we are grateful for their clinical expertise, compassion and dedication to our mission. It is because of their passion in caring for others that we have been able to create healthier communities.”

Congratulations Dr. Del Vicario and Dr. Kesari for being honored as Providence Little Company of Mary’s 2022 Physician Champions.
EMERGENCY RESPONSE – SAN PEDRO

At Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center, we have made considerable progress on our emergency department expansion project in San Pedro.

Thanks to the generosity of our philanthropic community, we completed the $4 million fundraising campaign and work is underway on an unprecedented renovation and expansion that will serve the San Pedro community for generations.

The funds for the emergency department expansion will have a tremendous impact on providing care for our community during critical times by adding valuable space for urgent treatments. The expansion will nearly double our capacity by increasing patient beds from our current 16 to 28.

We experienced project delays due to the pandemic, though are delighted to share that construction resumed in 2021. The construction team is currently working on updates to the building facade and relocating staff areas. Work has also begun on the new entry, reorienting the reception to 7th Street and the waiting room area. A triage space and vertical treatment bays, which will expedite care, are being installed.

Our mission here at Providence Little Company of Mary is to support the health and wellness of those we care for from throughout the South Bay. Through the support of donors like yourself, we ensure that everyone in our community can benefit from leading-edge compassionate care.
HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE SISTERS

Maria Aoki leaves a bequest for Providence Little Company of Mary

Maria Aoki's success story is a testament to hard work and determination. She has spent the past 20 years loving her work in the Physical Therapy (PT) department at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center. Today, she is the rehabilitation manager, but the road to her dream job meant starting over.

Physical therapy was her second career after an 11-year stint in banking. She realized it was time for a new, more fulfilling career path, so she went back to school and started volunteering in PT at Providence Little Company of Mary.

"After six weeks, the manager offered me a job as a rehab tech," remembers Maria. "I did that while I finished my undergraduate degree. When I finished PT school, they offered me a PT job!"

Maria was happy to build her career at Providence Little Company of Mary. "We're just like family here," she smiles. "Not just my department, all the other departments we work with. Everybody works so well together."

She also values her patients like family.
"I treat my patients the way I want my family to be treated," she says. "I tell my staff, 'Just picture your grandma or grandpa and treat your patients like you would your family.' It works! Our patients go home feeling taken care of."

An enthusiastic giver

Maria first became aware of the Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation during an employee fundraising campaign, and she knew she wanted to do something to support her department.

"I had the bright idea that we should do a department fundraiser, donate to the Foundation and designate the money to pay for some equipment in our department," she laughs. "We did a magic show, bake sale, all kinds of things. We raised $4,800."

When it came time to do her estate plan, Maria wanted to give back to the hospital she loves. "It's a great place to work and what we do here makes a difference," she says. "I was inspired by the work of the Sisters who came before us and how we are carrying on their legacy through our work. The mission and core values keep us aligned with their goals, to care for the poor and vulnerable."

We are honored to work with donors to help maximize their personal benefits of charitable giving, which also contributes to our mission of providing excellent health care. One creative option is the gift of a personal residence, vacation home or farm through a life estate reserved arrangement (also known as a retained life estate gift).

Reasons to consider a life estate reserved

It is a unique way to make a gift using your property but retain the right to live there. This option provides a creative way to make a major impact on Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center — in many instances, a greater impact than you may have considered before. As part of your estate planning strategy, it offers satisfying personal benefits to you while supporting the hospital:

- Qualifies for a current charitable income tax deduction (subject to IRS qualifications)
- The gift property is removed from your estate
- The right to live at the property for life can be provided to more than one individual (e.g., you and a loved one)

How the gift plan works

Property generally used in a life estate reserved is a personal residence, vacation home or farm. When the gift is made, you enter into an agreement with Providence Little Company of Mary and transfer ownership of the property to the Foundation. However, your right to use the property within your lifetime is specified within the terms. The agreement also addresses the responsibilities for property maintenance and management, including insurance and improvements.

The remainder interest in the property is considered a charitable gift and a value is placed on this interest at the time when the gift is made. Formulas and interest rates provided by the federal government are used to determine the value. It is affected by the age of the donor(s), value of the property and interest rates at the time the gift is made. The value of the remainder interest is the amount you can deduct as a gift. If the amount deducted exceeds the amount you can deduct within the gift year, the excess/unused deduction may be carried over up to an additional five years.

A life estate reserved gift removes the property from your estate, which means it is not subject to estate tax. Also, you relieve heirs or your estate executor of the potential burden of selling the property. It should also be noted that if you own a farm and want to make a life estate reserved gift, you can give a portion of the property rather than all of it.

A strategy that includes lifetime income

Another way a gift of your property could benefit your financial future is to make a life estate reserved gift that includes a charitable gift annuity agreement. With this strategy, Providence Little Company of Mary agrees to pay you and/or someone else (two people maximum) a lifetime income. When a life estate reserved arrangement includes the charitable gift annuity component, you can still benefit from a charitable deduction, although the deduction will be less than an arrangement that did not include the gift annuity component.

We are here to help

Because you and your planning goals are unique, it is important to know how gift planning can be designed to maximize your impact and personal benefits. For more information, please contact Lee McCabe, director of planned giving, at Lee.McCabe@providence.org or 310-303-5340.
An emergency physician for more than 36 years, Miles Shaw, M.D., has spent the past 27 years of his career here at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center, San Pedro.

"With the help of philanthropy, the medical center built the current 16-bed emergency department, which has served us well for many years," he says. "I'm devoted to providing the best medical care possible to the patients in our community, and I understand it takes more than just good doctors and a good hospital. It also takes community support."

Well known for his positive attitude and strong work ethic, Dr. Mistry says that the medical center and the emergency department, in particular, serve as a safety net for the community. "The medical center is like a blanket of medical protection that the community sleeps under," he says. "Adults, children, those with insurance and those without. From Fortune 500 CEOs to the underprivileged and disenfranchised — everyone gets taken care of 24/7. I am so proud and honored to support such an institution."

Miles Shaw, M.D.

Vice Chief of Staff, Sameer Mistry M.D., previously served as department chair and past chief of staff at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center, San Pedro. A South Bay resident since 1995, Dr. Mistry is committed to giving back to the community he loves.

"Not only have we raised our family here, but we have also been fortunate enough to benefit from all that the South Bay offers," he says. "Giving back reinforces our gratitude for the opportunity and community we've enjoyed in the South Bay."

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Today, as the emergency department expands to meet the community’s growing needs, Dr. Shaw is pleased to serve on the Foundation Board. ‘We’re in the midst of a major expansion to double the size and capacity of the emergency department and once again, the Foundation and the community gave us the necessary support to make it happen,’ he says. ‘I am happy to provide any help I can for our Foundation in its incredible and valuable work. It is an essential partner in providing excellent health care for our patients.’

Providence Little Company of Mary 2021 Fantasy Gala

Last Fall, Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation invited guests to participate in the 2021 Fantasy Gala. While we, like many hospitals and other nonprofits in our community, decided to postpone large scale in-person events over the last couple years, we still wanted to bring our friends and supporters together to support the excellent work our caregivers do every day at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers in San Pedro and Torrance.

The community was invited to join us for an extraordinary and memorable NON-event supporting the work done by the Providence Little Company of Mary doctors, nurses and other caregivers. Sponsorship support allows us to continue to provide the highest level of medical care utilizing leading-edge technology and equipment.

We are so grateful to the sponsors of our 2021 Fantasy Gala. Thank you for supporting our caregivers and allowing us to provide excellent and compassionate health care to all in the South Bay.
Please make a donation today

Your donation can provide lifesaving care to our community. Please visit plcmfoundation.org/donate or scan the code at right to make a gift today.

CELEBRATION GALA

Saturday, September 17, 2022
6:00PM-10:00PM
Terranea Resort
100 Terranea Way,
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275