Our Promise...
Know me, care for me, ease my way.

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The Advanced Care Center (ACC) Initiative

Providence Little Company of Mary has long been recognized for providing the highest-quality health services with extraordinary compassion for patients and their loved ones. A whole-person approach is a hallmark of our care. Thanks to the dedication of our community of supporters, the medical center’s new $90-million Advanced Care Center is continuing that tradition with a personalized, high-quality experience offered now within a stunning new state-of-the-art health care facility specifically for outpatient services.

Providence St. Joseph Health made a historic investment of $80 million to construct this haven of 21st century medicine, and asked Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation and its community of supporters to raise the remaining $10 million. Our community responded with great enthusiasm and generosity, meeting the
$10 million goal even sooner than anticipated. We are incredibly grateful to all who took part, helping us realize this exciting achievement.

The Advanced Care Center allows patients to easily obtain exceptional outpatient care while remaining in their community, close to their personal physicians and support systems. The ACC has been outfitted with the latest advances in technology and treatment modalities. Procedures that used to require hospital admission and an overnight stay can now be completed with safer and less invasive techniques, often allowing patients to return home in a matter of hours.

Among the ACC's many exciting features and services are:

**Outpatient Imaging**
Eight advanced diagnostic and treatment modalities including CT scanners, CT simulation, Digital X-ray, Fluoroscopy, MRI and PET scanners, and a Stereotactic Linear Accelerator, provide a full array of the most sophisticated imaging services in the region.

**Coastal Ortho**
Coastal Ortho (formerly Torrance Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Group), has made its new home in the ACC.

Their board-certified physicians are highly skilled, prestigiously trained, and dedicated to using only the most leading-edge technology and orthopedic techniques. Their on-site facilities include an MRI and a pool for aquatic (immersive) therapy.

**Pacific Neuroscience Institute (PNI)**
PNI physicians provide neurosurgery, interventional neuro-radiology and neuro-oncology inpatient care and emergency stroke center services. From their new office suite in the ACC, PNI physicians offer convenient access to their South Bay patients who may also benefit from participating in clinical trials to advance research and innovations in patient care.

**City of Hope Multi-Disciplinary Cancer Center**
Includes leading-edge medical, surgical and radiation oncology care for a wide variety of cancers. Our partnership with City of Hope ensures residents of the South Bay have access to the most highly regarded pioneers in oncology care and groundbreaking clinical trials without having to leave the area.

Future plans for the ACC include an Outpatient Surgical Center with surgical suites specially designed to facilitate same-day admission, surgery and a return home, offering
an unparalleled experience for patients and the family
and friends who accompany them.

These plans speak to an undeniable truth: the state of
health care is changing. Thanks to advances in medical
technology and acumen, many procedures that used to
be done as inpatient can now be accomplished more
quickly and safely on an outpatient basis. This is the
future of health care, and the ACC puts our ministry on
the leading edge of this dramatic change.

The Advanced Care Center also allows us to launch new
strategic collaborations with nationally renowned
partners. And as our ministry handles more procedures
on an outpatient basis at the ACC, the freed-up space in
our medical centers will allow new strategic partners to
refer to our medical centers any acute patients who
require inpatient treatment. This mutually beneficial
structure further ensures our community receives
high-quality care as swiftly and smoothly as possible,
especially because our ministry can now provide easy
access to the most technologically advanced outpatient
care in one place – right here in the South Bay. In short,
the Advanced Care Center has powerfully expanded the
impact and scope of Providence Little Company of
Mary’s dedicated caregivers, placing a new level of
high-quality care in the heart of our community.
When life dealt Jim and Joanne Hunter two unbearable blows, they decided to help others.

When a person turns a tragedy into a catalyst for helping others, a ripple effect of healing begins. Just ask Jim and Joanne Hunter. The loss of a child is unbearable. Losing two is unthinkable. The Hunters of Manhattan Beach decided long ago to turn that deep pain into a positive force—through generously supporting and expanding medical research and education, while also creating opportunities for California families to have access to better health care and education.

“Our daughter had heart issues and died as a baby. Our son died at the age of 43 from brain cancer. We’ve always volunteered and given back. Nothing, I mean nothing is as important as good health,” shares Joanne, co-founder of both the Margaret M. Bloomfield Foundation (originally created by her mother) and the Uncle Kory Foundation (focused on raising money for cancer research and named in honor of the Hunters’ son Kory).

Jim and Joanne, true philanthropists, have supported Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center Torrance for many years. They recently donated $1 million towards construction of the stunning new Advanced Care Center, and an additional $1 million to help enhance Providence Little Company of Mary’s cardiovascular services.

The Hunters are very serious about their philanthropy and did much research before donating. “We are so impressed with the hospital. The Catholic influence brings so much love and caring. And we are not even Catholic!” says Joanne.

Optimal care is a focus for giving. “Providence Little Company of Mary Torrance has the highest quality of care. From the state-of-the-art cardiology program, to their new venture with City of Hope, to expand access to leading-edge, high-quality cancer care, to the Advanced Care Center that offers the community exceptional care on an outpatient basis—we really have a state-of-the art health care system here in the South Bay. There is absolutely no reason to get on a highway and travel elsewhere. Even the paramedics I’ve spoken with agree that Little Company is their first choice,” adds Jim.

Jim and Joanne’s desire to support the finest medical expertise in the South Bay began through the pain of losing their children. Though extremely generous, they typically shy from public recognition. Providence Little Company of Mary was honored when they allowed the 3rd floor reception area at the Advanced Care Center to be dedicated to the memory of their son Kory Lewis Hunter. With floor-to-ceiling glass walls facing west toward the ocean, it is a stunning space designed to comfort patients and family alike, something of great importance to Joanne and Jim.

The Hunters’ philanthropy does not stop with Providence Little Company of Mary. “Jim and I have both had such good lives and want to give back,” Joanne says. This is evident by how active Jim and Joanne are, from volunteering with women’s charities to supporting Sandpipers (a volunteer organization in the South Bay) to their tireless support of cancer research via the Uncle Kory Foundation (www.unclekory.org).

When not volunteering, the longtime South Bay residents enjoy traveling and spending time with family, including: daughter Mandy, son-in-law Heath Gregory and grandchildren Hunter, Griffin, and Emery of Manhattan Beach; and their daughter-in-law Rory Hunter and grandchildren, Ethan, Dylan and Kailey of Palos Verdes.
The Women & Children’s Health Campaign: Nurture and Heal raised more than $5 million to enhance our medical center’s care of patients at all stages of life.

Delivering high-quality and compassionate care to women, children and newborns is one of the most important ways in which we serve our community. Through the Nurture and Heal Campaign, our ministry has been able to upgrade patient rooms for our labor, delivery, and post-partum patients as well as acquire innovative new tools to enhance our care.

Labor & Delivery suites are at the heart of the birthing process, and so our medical center has focused on
modernizing both the physical surroundings for our patients and their overall experience, while adding new technologies to increase comfort and security. That is why we moved forward with a significant upgrade of rooms in our Hannon and Hunt Towers, creating inpatient spaces that provide a family-centric experience throughout the delivery journey. Our schematics for these rooms have been completed, and construction on the upgraded rooms has already begun.

We have also established a Resource Center for mothers to learn about lactation, skin-to-skin bonding and other post-partum skills that support successful breast feeding and baby care.

Among the other key achievements of the campaign are:

A Bluetooth-Enabled Mobile Fetal Monitoring System
- A simple and complete wireless monitoring solution for up to 25 patients.
- New wireless fetal heart monitors track a baby’s vital signs continuously prior to delivery, while affording expectant mothers freedom of movement in their rooms and across the maternity floor.
- 3-port design allows fetal heart rate, uterine activity and ECG monitoring modes.

State-of-the-Art 3D Tomosynthesis Imaging
- Tomosynthesis uses the same technology (x-ray) as conventional mammography, but provides a much more detailed, three-dimensional picture of the human body.
- This technology detects 41% more invasive cancers than conventional scans and can reduce false positives by up to 40%.
- Delivers more accurate breast cancer screening results and offers a significant increase in Positive Predictive Value for recalls (49%) and biopsy (21%) compared with 2D mammography.
- Reduces patient exam times compared with other x-ray biopsy procedures.

An Upgraded Infant Security System
- Provides an enhanced level of safety and security for our newborns.

New Bili Blankets
- This cutting-edge phototherapy technology generates a healing blue light as the blankets are wrapped around a newborn baby.
- Provide a gentle and highly effective treatment for jaundice, a common infection among newborns, while allowing parents to hold and comfort their infant during phototherapy.

As a whole, the campaign has enabled our caregivers to provide a whole new level of labor, delivery, and postpartum treatments in a state-of-the-art facility that is known for compassion and dedicated, personalized care. For patients, this translates into real improvements in care and, when renovations are completed, genuine enhancements in comfort.
HAPPY TO BE OF SERVICE

Rosalind Farmans Halikis
When Rosalind Farmans Halikis learned that Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center Torrance had embarked on a $5 million campaign to redesign and modernize all aspects of its Women and Children's Health Services, she realized she'd found the perfect way to honor the memory of her late husband. An obstetrician/gynecologist, Dr. Michael Halikis provided skilled and compassionate care to his patients for over three decades.

“He was a great listener,” Roz says about her husband of 51 years. “His patients were crushed when he stopped practicing medicine.”

Roz saw a similar approach to care when Michael himself became a patient. He was hospitalized at Providence Little Company of Mary Torrance for more than three months near the end of his life.

“I was so impressed with the compassion he was shown,” she says. “Although I’m not Catholic, I believe a faith-based hospital offers something extra to patients and families.”

Roz made a key anchor gift to the Women and Children’s Health Campaign, catalyzing the fundraising efforts for the $5 million campaign. The medical center, in turn, honored the couple by dedicating the Rosalind F. and Michael N. Halikis Reception Room.

“I think this manner of supporting women and children’s health is something that would have really pleased Mike,” she says.

Roz is no stranger to the medical field. She earned a medical technology degree from West Virginia University and has worked in the fields of hematology (blood), bacteriology (bacteria) and parasitology (parasites).

Born to immigrants in a West Virginia steel town, Roz grew up among families of many nationalities and faiths. She met Michael after her freshman year of college and married him in 1954.

A Medical Family
The couple lived in Chicago while Michael attended medical school. They moved to Southern California where Michael completed his internship and residency at Harbor UCLA Medical Center. Soon they had three children: Nicholas, Maureen and Georgene. (Nicholas is now an orthopedic surgeon at Providence Little Company of Mary Torrance and a member of Coastal Ortho, located within our new Advanced Care Center.) Roz worked at Harbor UCLA, examining patient specimens to identify infectious organisms. She also actively participated in the PTA at her children’s schools, beginning when they first started kindergarten and continuing until the last graduated high school.

When she realized all three children would be attending USC, she decided to get a job at the university. Since there were no openings for med techs at the campus infirmary, Roz took an entry-level position in the advisement office, but soon moved up the ladder, eventually becoming the Assistant Director of Academic Relations in the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

When she left USC after 11 years, Roz became even more active in her church, St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Redondo Beach. She served a seven-year term as Stewardship Chair and chaired the scholarship committee for 13 years. She is currently Vice President of the St. Katherine Foundation. In recognition of her many efforts, Roz received the Medal of St. Paul from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in 2013. It is the highest award given to a lay steward of the church.

After her husband passed away, Roz said, “I directed myself to service. Nothing gives me more pleasure than being in a position to help those in need.”

Well maybe one thing gives her more pleasure: spending time with her three children, her son-in-law George Mitsanas and her grandchildren, who all live in Southern California. She particularly enjoys traveling and discussing current events with her three adult grandchildren.

Not one to be idle, Roz takes classes at the Palos Verdes Art Center. She paints using oils and acrylics and, while their subject matter may range from people to landscapes, her paintings all feature vivid color.

“My parents and Michael’s both stressed education, faith and service,” she says. Clearly, those values stuck. Roz cannot wait until the pandemic is history and she can see all her friends and family with no worries. She is definitely a people person!
The Heart to Heart Campaign

Cardiovascular excellence close to home is a benefit to which South Bay residents have been accustomed for decades. Since 1972, Providence Little Company of Mary has established standards of excellence in cardiac care in Southern California. In 2004, through the generosity of the Vasek and Anna Maria Polak Charitable Foundation, Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center Torrance launched the most state-of-the-art cardiovascular institute of its time. In 2015, we were named a U.S. Top-50 cardiovascular hospital by Truven Health Analytics – the acknowledged leader in such rankings.

And thanks to your support of our $35 million Heart to Heart Campaign, we have dedicated the impressive Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence in honor of the tireless leadership of Dr. Michele Del Vicario and his wife, Paula. The Del Vicarios have long been champions of our cardiovascular program and treatments. Their
namesake center acknowledges our past while ensuring that our medical center remains a pioneer in superior cardiovascular care.

The Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence offers a broad spectrum of enhancements to benefit our patients, including:

**Electrophysiology Labs**
Used to diagnose and treat patients with irregular heartbeats – these rooms have been renovated and expanded to include multidimensional cardiac mapping systems. One lab is now a hybrid-use room, allowing for advanced cardiac catheterization procedures that may be needed when treating patients with multiple symptoms. We have increased the overall capacity of the labs by 25%, and dramatically upgraded their equipment.

**A New Heart Catheterization Room**
Used for visualizing the heart – these spaces are dedicated to minimally invasive diagnostic imaging procedures that identify and treat abnormalities.

**Advanced Technology**
Used to provide the highest quality and most effective care, the technology within our new Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence incorporates a new generation of equipment that meets today’s needs but can still be upgraded with future capabilities. This includes everything from new GE Carescape Monitors and EKG Machines to a leading-edge new Echocardiogram System.

Among the state-of-the-art technologies that now grace the Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence are:

**The CARTO® 3 System and EnSite Precision Cardiac Mapping System**
These advanced imaging systems utilize electromagnetic systems to create real-time three-dimensional (3D) maps of a patient’s heart. They help electrophysiologists navigate the heart by generating an accurate 3D map of a patient’s entire cardiovascular system, as well as pinpointing the exact location and orientation of catheters in the heart during cardiac procedures.
A Biplane Imaging Suite
Among the most advanced interventional medical imaging technology in the world is biplane imaging, a digital x-ray technology that uses two mounted rotating cameras, one on each side of a patient, to take simultaneous pictures. The two sets of images are brought together on a computer screen to form a 3D portrait of any area of the body. This technology allows doctors to detect blockages or malformations such as aneurysms, and obtain a map of a patient’s vessels in order to determine the best route or means of reaching the target area to provide treatment.

A State-of-the-Art CT Scanner
A computerized tomography (CT) scan combines a series of x-ray images taken from different angles around the body and uses computer processing to create cross-sectional images (slices) of the bones, blood vessels and soft tissues inside a patient. A CT scan has many uses, but it is particularly well-suited to cardiac diagnoses such as detecting heart disease and pinpointing the location of blood clots.

A New Heart-Lung Machine
A key piece of equipment for open-heart surgeries, the heart-lung machine (also called a cardiopulmonary bypass machine) takes over for the heart by replacing the heart’s pumping action and by adding oxygen to the blood. When a patient is connected to the heart-lung machine, it does the same job that their heart and lungs would do for hours at a time, allowing cardiac surgeons to perform intricate and life-saving procedures without a hitch.

The EPIQ 7 Cardiology Ultrasound Machine
The EPIQ 7 Cardiology Ultrasound machine sets a new standard for cardiac imaging and features an uncompromised level of clinical performance. Utilizing Phillips’ patented nSIGHT Imaging, the machine captures an enormous amount of acoustic data and reconstructs optimally focused beams in real time, providing exceptional tissue information at greater depths into the human body.

The OPTIS Integrated System from Abbott Vascular
This portable diagnostic system uses state-of-the-art optical coherence tomography (OCT) to provide physicians with a powerful, minimally-invasive way to carry out percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures for the treatment of vascular disease.

The OPTIS System creates high-resolution 3D views of coronary anatomy while simultaneously mapping their exact location via angiogram. It also measures important vessel characteristics that would otherwise be undetectable. The system’s highly accurate measurements in turn guide physicians in the successful placement of stents and other life-saving coronary procedures.

Among the procedures being performed with the Center’s leading-edge equipment are:
• Complex Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) surgeries.
• Angiograms and higher risk valvuloplasties.
• Cardiothoracic surgical procedures, including valve and graft procedures, under live fluoroscopic imaging versus static x-ray.
• Endovascular thrombectomies for stroke patients.

As a result of all of these enhancements, we have increased our outpatient capacity by 40% (from the already high level of 300 outpatients a month). Increasingly, services that used to require an overnight stay are being completed same-day.

In total, the Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence’s upgraded facilities are providing our patients with state-of-the-art diagnosis, innovative treatment options and life-changing rehabilitation services, every day of the year.

In the hands of some of the nation’s leading physicians, the fruits of the Heart to Heart Campaign are ensuring our continuing leadership in cardiovascular care for generations to come.
Throughout a winding path from the Philippines to Hollywood, and finally to the South Bay, Priscilla Hunt has committed herself to helping others.

“If you have your health, you have everything,” says Hunt. She still goes to work every day at Hunt Enterprises, a real estate company based in Lawndale. She has also made it her life’s work to give back to causes in which she believes. That includes a $20 million gift to Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center Torrance to support its ambitious Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Campaign.

Growing up in the Philippines, Priscilla was the seventh child in a family of 10 and always had her eye on building an empire. She started small, at first selling eggs, then branching out to pineapple, mango and watermelon from a stand in front of her house.

Priscilla’s family wasn’t wealthy, but they were comfortable. “My father always taught us to be humble, kind, generous,” she says. “We were not supposed to eat a piece of candy in front of another child if we didn’t have something to share.” Those lessons stuck deeply as she grew up.

After graduating from the University of the East, she worked as an assistant to the general manager of the Philippine Broadcasting Corporation. In her early 20s, Priscilla moved to the United States and landed in Southern California. She had always been interested in entertainment, and one day, she opened the paper in search of opportunities. “I found an ad looking for someone with an Asian accent to record a version of the song ‘Tequila,’” this time called ‘Hot Sake,’” she explains. “She had to take multiple buses to reach Hollywood, but she booked the job, launching her career as an entertainer.

Her success with “Hot Sake” translated to more opportunities in the music industry (you can still find the records she made with the band The Filipino Rockets on iTunes). She worked as a nightclub singer, heading to work after putting her children to bed and returning late at night.

It was hard work, but she thinks of that difficult time as character-building. “That experience helped me accomplish anything that was put in front of me,” she says. “I am very proud that my children are well-grounded, intelligent—and they are helping in the business.”

Meeting Donald Hunt

Years later, after her first marriage ended in divorce, and her second husband passed away, she picked up a copy of The Daily Breeze and saw a job posting for an executive assistant for Donald Hunt, a local businessman and real estate developer. Upon meeting Donald, who was also widowed with adult children, Priscilla knew immediately that they would work well together. This was 1998, and he had already built Hunt Enterprises into a booming real estate company. But Priscilla thought she could help him do even more.

“He saw something in me,” she says. “He always said, ‘Priscilla is an asset, not a liability,’” she continues, amused by his practicality. The pair married in 2004, and together, they weathered the real estate tsunami of 2008, eventually acquiring more than 4,000 rentals, along with a plethora of shopping centers, industrial and commercial properties. When Donald retired from the business, Priscilla took over.

Over the last few years, Priscilla had turned her attention to caring for Donald, until he passed away on February 8, 2017 at the age of 96. “I still miss my husband a lot, but I really appreciate his trust in me to run the business and his trust in me to carry on his vision,” says Priscilla. “What I am trying to do now is help with hospitals to make sure he has a legacy for helping the community.”

Priscilla directed her gift to support Providence Little Company of Mary’s ambitious Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Campaign. This campaign provided a $35 million investment in new facilities and technology to advance cardiovascular care. The medical center’s Heritage Tower was renamed the Donald & Priscilla Hunt Tower in honor of their landmark donation.

The Important Things in Life

Some of Priscilla’s family and friends question why she doesn’t have more homes or cars. “I have a beautiful house,” she explains. “I’m not into cars. If my car is good, I keep it. To me, a lot of accumulated material things do not make me happy,” she says. “I’m happy giving, and benefiting the community and creating a legacy for my husband.” Priscilla’s eyes well up when she imagines what her beloved Don would think about her recent charitable donations. “I think he’d be very proud that I’m doing this,” she says. “Having the legacy of doing good is the best.” The Hunts also support the Salvation Army and other medical and cultural causes in the South Bay.

Now a great-grandmother (six of her great-grandchildren were born at Providence Little Company of Mary), Priscilla tries to pass on the lessons of generosity—ones she learned from her father—to the next generations. “I take my family to do charitable work so they understand that giving is the real happiness,” she says. “A person will be known for their good deeds,” says Priscilla. “They’ll never be known for what they have. People will know you for the good you have done for others. That’s what it’s all about.”
When Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro launched its $4 million Emergency Department Campaign in 2015, the need could not have been more pressing.

The emergency department (ED) had seen a 32% increase in ED visits over the previous 10 years, seeing a record 41,000+ annual ED visits in recent years, 50% more than it was designed to accommodate.

As our community of patients grew, we were also experiencing a demand for more sophisticated treatments within our ED, particularly for patients who need a combination of physical, behavioral health and social services.
The existing emergency department was never intended to accommodate such a capacity of patients and services. That is why, with the support of our community, our Campaign for Emergency Excellence is creating a new ED whose expanded size and scope of services will soon allow us to dramatically elevate our already outstanding emergency care for decades to come.

To craft the pioneering design of the new Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro emergency department, our leadership incorporated input from a broad representation of professional caregivers, volunteers and community members. A multidisciplinary planning team worked in close concert to envision a leading-edge new emergency department, whose design embodies our community’s priorities.

Thanks to the broad investment of our many generous benefactors, that vision is now becoming a reality. Already under construction, Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro’s new emergency department will include a wide array of upgrades and enhancements for our patients and caregivers, such as:

**Providing Comfort**
State-of-the-art private rooms and improvements to the patient experience.

**Expanding Our Space**
When completed, we will increase from 16 to 28 treatment rooms, while expanding the overall space of the ED from 8,345 square feet to 13,187 square feet.

**Swifter Treatments and Decreased Wait Time**
We will soon treat patients faster with more ED physicians on duty, more efficient registration services, improved triage and a special Fast Track Unit that can more quickly diagnose and treat ED patients with less severe needs.

**Improving Our Behavioral Health Services**
Psychiatric patients will have their own dedicated space (including access to our ground-breaking Outpatient Behavioral Health Unit), receiving care in a safe and private environment with swift connection to a wide array of inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services.
State-of-the-Art Communications
Virtual treatments and access to outside specialists through the Telemed Video Conferencing System; new digital equipment and financial consultations will also be available to all who seek our care.

The design of our new emergency department provides patients with a safe and secure environment that offers smooth flow through three connected areas, or “pods.” All of the pods will allow for the easy movement of patients, supplies and equipment.

In addition, the new ED will incorporate a vertical triage bay, a beautifully redesigned front entrance and a specially designed outside waiting area that reduces the risk of infection for patients’ families and friends.

All of this dovetails perfectly with a host of new technologies and the leading-edge approach to caregiving that we are practicing in our emergency department: integrated, multidisciplinary teams of physicians, nurses and supportive staff who warmly collaborate and coordinate care. The ED’s layout and slate of new medical equipment will support this approach, and allow us to treat patients faster and with better outcomes while providing more privacy and comfort than ever before.

Minutes Matter
When a medical emergency occurs, every minute matters. For a patient who just had a heart attack, or was injured in a car accident, or experienced some other trauma, having the most exceptional, leading-edge emergency care right around the corner can mean the difference between life and death. That truth is in the hearts of our talented and dedicated caregivers every day. It is also at the heart of Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro’s state-of-the-art new emergency department.

Throughout the construction of this new ED, our emergency department remains open. Even in the midst of current construction efforts, our emergency caregivers have been skillfully responding to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with their compassionate, impactful approach to emergency medicine. This is all part of our commitment to ensuring swift, high-quality care to all community members who need it, 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.
The Colich family, which owns and operates Gardena-based engineering construction firm Colich & Sons, is no stranger to building a better future. John and Janine Colich have also turned their attention to building better lives for people in the South Bay.

John Colich has been on Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation’s Board for years and currently serves on its Executive Committee. He says he was grateful for the care his father received at the hospital before he passed away. John was also happy that his first grandchild came into the world at the hospital. “I always appreciate their efforts when working with my family,” Colich says.

The Colichs, along with long-time friend Mark Paullin, will be honored for their leadership and generous philanthropic investment in the San Pedro emergency department, which will bear their names when the renovation and expansion are completed. “We donate where we think it can do the most good,” explains John. The Colich family also worked to build their own foundation—called DAM-Cancer—to help young people struggling with cancer. Janine Colich explains that for people between 18 and 35, survival rates have become pretty stagnant. “Children get cancer and people throw slew of money at it, so survival rates have gone up a lot,” she says. Nonetheless, a great deal of cancer research focuses on developing drugs to help older patients. “Younger people don’t have the same kind of support—both from foundations and from the research community,” Janine says. Younger cancer patients and their families also may not have adequate health insurance and struggle to pay rent when the illness interferes with work.

The Colichs’ foundation helps with all those challenges—transportation, financial and logistical issues. They were inspired by the life of a young man they knew who died from cancer in his 20s. The Colichs worked together with his family to create the foundation. For the last 9 1/2 years, they have helped 450 people with cancer, and now their foundation is working with a clinical trial at USC for young adults with sarcomas. “That’s what we do. We raise money and give it all out,” says Janine.

Running Colich & Sons, one of the largest general engineering contractors in Southern California, is time-consuming. Still, the Colichs find time to travel and visit their four children, who are spread out around the country. Lifelong residents of the South Bay, both John and Janine graduated from USC, where John was a thrower on the track & field team. He mentors USC student athletes from eastern Europe, and John and Janine have become close with several of them. When they’re not cheering at games or traveling to see their children, the Colichs enjoy the view from the porch of their historic Palos Verdes cottage.
Mark Paullin is a strong ally for Providence Little Company of Mary, offering time, talent and treasure to help ensure that the medical center remains a vital resource for care in the South Bay. His many gifts are making an enormous difference.

Paullin sees Providence Little Company of Mary as a friend who has come through for him and his family many times over the years. All four of his children were born at the Torrance campus, and more recently four of his seven grandchildren were born there as well. The family has relied on both Providence Little Company of Mary campuses for various emergency room visits and medical procedures.

“We appreciate having top-notch medical care so close by,” he says. “The mission of the hospital to help the poor and vulnerable reflects a compassion that shows in all their caregiving. Over the years, I’ve consistently seen the genuine sense of compassion and caring among the medical staff, nurses, doctors and medical technicians.”

When Mark considered entities to support financially, Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation was a natural fit. He and his family have given generously to benefit its two hospitals. They contributed to both the Torrance Women and Children’s and the San Pedro Emergency Department campaigns. Mark also served on committees for each campaign.

Regarding the San Pedro emergency department (ED), he says, “I think there’s a great opportunity to help [those in need] and I feel a great affinity for that mission.” Mark’s passion for the San Pedro emergency department expansion inspired John and Janine Colich to join him in making lead gifts. As an acknowledgment of their generosity, medical center leadership decided to name the new San Pedro ED in honor of both families.

At the end of 2019, Mark wrapped up a two-year term as Chair of the Board of Trustees for Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation. During his term, he oversaw the successful completion of all three campaigns highlighted within this Impact Report, as well as the Advanced Care Center fundraising initiative. Mark also expanded and strengthened the Board by recruiting additional volunteer leaders from the community to help advance the Foundation’s priorities.

Mark continues to serve on the Board’s Executive Committee. His professional experience has and will continue to be a great benefit to our hospital’s leaders. For more than three decades, he has served as CEO and owner of Capstan, Inc., the largest privately-held powdered metal company in North America. When he is not tending to his business or lending a hand at the Foundation, Mark stays active surfing, skiing, hiking, golfing and visiting family in California and Utah.
Our Mission

As expressions of God’s healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.