

Giving Smart:

Your Year-End Tips for Meaningful Impact

As the year ends, it's a great time to consider how your charitable gifts can have the greatest impact. One powerful option is a Qualified Charitable Distribution, which allows individuals age 70½ or older to make tax-efficient gifts directly from their IRAs, reducing taxable income while supporting Griffin Hospital's vital programs.

Other year-end giving options include cash gifts, donating appreciated stocks or mutual funds, or recommending grants from donor-advised funds. Don't forget to check if your employer offers a matching gift program to potentially double your contribution. For those thinking long term, legacy giving through bequests or trusts can create a lasting impact.

Whatever your choice, your generosity transforms lives, and we're here to help you find the giving option that's right for you. Please feel free to contact Kristy Jelenik for more information at kjelenik@griffinhealth.org and 203-750-7539.



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130 Division St, Derby, CT 06418
kjelenik@griffinhealth.org
203-732-7539

Experience the Holiday Magic of Valley Soul—December 9

Join Us for a Night of Community Connection and Joyful Music

Griffin Health invites its family of caregivers, friends and supporters to its Annual Holiday Concert featuring the Valley Soul Gospel Choir on December 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Seymour. This cherished community tradition brings voices together from all walks of life, backgrounds, personal circumstances and life experiences in a collaboration that builds understanding, trust, mutual respect and beautiful music to bring joy to the holiday season.

Join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating the spirit of our Valley community and our shared commitment to health and well-being. This is a free event and no registration is required. Donations to TEAM, Inc., the Valley community action agency, are appreciated at the event. Mark your calendar. We can't wait to enjoy the moving holiday music with you!



GRATITUDE

INSPIRING HOPE THROUGH YOUR ACTS OF KINDNESS

FALL 2025



Griffin Hospital
Development Fund, Inc.

Honoring Your Impact During This Season of Thanks

Dear Friends,

As Thanksgiving approaches, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for you. Your generosity continues to make a profound difference in the lives of our patients, their families, and our entire Griffin community.

Together, we have created meaningful change over the past year, reimagining care for individuals in psychiatric health crisis, empowering community members to pursue fulfilling careers in health care, expanding uplifting patient and family support programs at our Center for Cancer Care while providing free critical diagnostic tests for those unable to afford them, and so much more. Your compassion ensures that every person who seeks acute, rehabilitation and preventive care at Griffin is met with dignity, compassion, and exceptional care. Thank you.

Please enjoy the updates in this newsletter and the ways you can stay involved. Wishing you and your family a joyful, peaceful Thanksgiving season!

In gratitude,



Patrick Charmel
President & CEO
Griffin Health



Kristy Jelenik
Executive Director
Griffin Hospital
Development Fund

Griffin Health Mission

- To provide personalized, humanistic, consumer-driven healthcare in a healing environment.
- To empower individuals to be actively involved in decisions affecting their care and well-being through access to information and education.
- To provide leadership to improve the health of the community served.

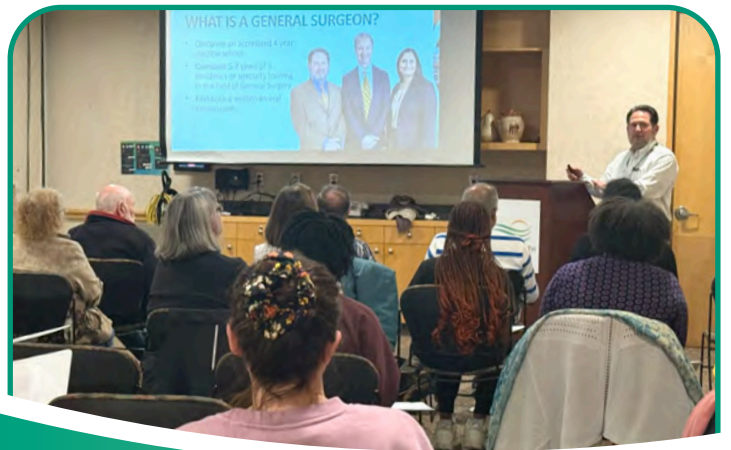
Your partnership and support means the world to us, and as a nonprofit community hospital, we are resolute in our commitment to exceptional and compassionate care for you.

It's Back! Mini Med School Inspires Our Community This Fall

Griffin is thrilled to have brought back its Mini Med School this fall, offering any interested community member a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of health and medicine. Over 11 weeks, more than 30 participants explored how the human body works, common health disorders, and disease prevention - guided by expert physicians from Griffin Hospital and Griffin Faculty Physicians.

Attendees engaged in a wide range of topics, from cardiology and neurology to dermatology and emergency medicine, through informative presentations and interactive Q&A sessions. The course concluded with a warm and joyous graduation ceremony, celebrating the curiosity and commitment of all participants.

We're looking forward to continuing this enriching program in the years ahead and invite those interested to stay tuned for sign up information for the 2026 Mini Med School.



"The class made us realize how miraculous the human body is!" Helen Finateri

"The physicians took time to make certain that our questions were answered thoroughly and understandably. The Mini Med School program left me with the impression that the community served by Griffin Health is in kind capable and caring hands." Wayne McAllister

Your Support Helps Make Griffin a National Leader in Social Responsibility and Patient Safety

CLINICAL OUTCOMES

#1

CONNECTICUT

2025-26

LOWN INSTITUTE HOSPITALS INDEX

Griffin Hospital was among only 5% of hospitals nationwide to earn Honor Roll status in the Lown Institute's 2024-25 Hospitals Index for Social Responsibility, ranking Griffin #1 in the state for clinical outcomes.

Additionally, Griffin received a Fall 2025 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade of "A," reaffirming our dedication to the highest standards of patient safety and quality. The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit, evaluates patient safety in hospitals across the country to help individuals make informed decisions about their care.

A

2025

LEAPFROG HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADE

Griffin Hospital Celebrates the Opening of the EmPATH Unit

Your Support Made This Milestone in Mental Health Care Possible

On October 8, Griffin Hospital proudly opened Connecticut's first Emergency Psychiatric Assessment, Treatment & Healing (EmPATH) Unit - an innovative, donor-supported step forward in compassionate psychiatric emergency care. The EmPATH model reimagines crisis response through rapid assessment, personalized treatment, and a calming environment designed to stabilize patients, often within 24 hours, while reducing the need for hospitalization.

Thanks to your generosity, over \$2 million was raised to bring this 4,300 square-foot therapeutic space to life. With open common areas, sensory rooms, private consultation spaces and nourishment stations, the EmPATH Unit prioritizes dignity, safety, and healing. Staffed by expert mental health caregivers, it offers a new path to care - and hope - for those in crisis. **Your support helped make Griffin a transformational leader in psychiatric care, creating a brighter future for individuals and families in our community. THANK YOU!**



Left to right- Chair of Griffin's Psychiatry Department Dr. Maria Dawe, Hewitt Foundation Board members Pat Carey and Laura Donahue, Griffin Health President and CEO Patrick Charmel, Hewitt Foundation Board members Harry DiAdamo and Gil Apicella, and EmPATH Unit Director Kelly Puglia



Griffin Health Board President Phil White and wife Fran, with Patrick Charmel in middle, and Board member Laura Pinciario with husband Bill Platt



Community Physicians Drs. Sudipta and Bindu Dey, Griffin Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Fred Browne and Griffin Faculty Physicians Pulmonologist Dr. Roman Spivak



Valley Community Foundation President Sharon Closius with Patrick Charmel, and Board member of the Griffin Hospital Development Fund and Friend A. Russ Fund Maureen Coffey

Scan here to view more photos and learn more about the EmPATH Unit.

