Lourdes Health System provides outstanding cardiac care, and was firmly acknowledged as extraordinary in 2014. Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center was recognized by Healthgrades as one of America’s 50 Best Hospitals for Cardiac Surgery and is the recipient of the Cardiac Care and General Surgery Excellence Awards. Being named one of the top 50 hospitals in the nation, up from the top 100 in 2014, is an indication that the highest-quality, most-advanced care is right here, close to home. Our Cardiac Care and General Surgery Excellence Awards place Lourdes in the top 10 percent in the nation for those services. This is the first time we have received the surgery award and is a reflection of our continued efforts and dedication toward clinical excellence.

Healthgrades was not the only organization that noted our commitment to excellence. Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center also was recognized by Truven Health Analytics as one of the nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals. The Joint Commission, the nation’s leading hospital accreditation organization, recognized Our Lady of Lourdes and Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County as 2013 Top Performers on Key Quality Measures for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care.

We are so pleased to be your health system of choice. We applaud both our outstanding clinical teams and our donors who have allowed Lourdes to provide clinical excellence in state-of-the-art surroundings.
Making the Dream of a Nursing Career Come True

Our Lady of Lourdes School of Nursing is building its scholarship program so that many more students will have the means to achieve their dreams; the Gail Hairston Scholarship Fund is part of this initiative. Gail Hairston was well on her way to achieving her life’s dream of becoming a nurse at Our Lady of Lourdes School of Nursing when her life was cut short by cancer. In honor of Gail, her daughter, Jenell Breitenbach, established a yearly scholarship to be awarded in her memory. We are honored to have known Gail and to work with Jenell to remember her and help others achieve their dreams.

Additional support provided a new SimMan, an educational patient simulator for the School of Nursing. The life-like simulator allows students to learn in a safe environment, critically analyze their own actions, reflect on their abilities and critique the clinical decisions of their peers. Students are also allowed to make and learn from mistakes in a simulated scenario, whereas in the clinical situation, the instructor may need to intervene for patient safety.

Pastoral Care

One aspect that sets Lourdes apart from other healthcare providers is our deep commitment to caring for our patients in mind, body and spirit. Lourdes chaplains serve all patients, regardless of faith tradition and spiritual experience. Special gifts to our chapels enhance these sacred spaces and ensure a peaceful retreat for all in need, reminding us of the Biblical verse, “Come to me, all ye that labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you…” (Matthew 11:30).

Fr. Joseph Monahan, Director of Pastoral Care, with the new Presider’s Chair at Our Lady of Lourdes Camden made possible by donations in memory of Helen Holfelner

A new Chalice and Bowl Paten pictured here, were recently purchased for the Chapel at Lourdes Burlington thanks to support from Phyllis Stern

Jenell Breitenbach presents a scholarship to nursing student Samantha Brant with Dean Lisa Easterby
Upgraded and Renovated

“The newly redone ICU Waiting Area offers a warm feeling for families at a difficult time when their loved ones are ill.”
– Phyllis Bowers, RN, BSN, Manager ICU/CCU
Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County

Thanks to the Auxiliaries of Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center and Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County, key areas have been upgraded to improve the patient and visitor experience. The Burlington Auxiliary funded renovations and furnishings for the Intensive Care Unit Waiting Area, while the Camden Auxiliary funded the renovation and furnishing of four Patient Solariums. In addition, the Burlington Auxiliary completed renovations to the Thrift Depot, their thrift store in Riverside. An integral part of Lourdes Health System, these two Auxiliary groups are energetic organizations of women and men dedicated to supporting patient care initiatives.

The Bridge — Empowerment for Teens

Thanks to generous donor support, Camden-area teens have a safe space to grow and explore. For 34 years, The Bridge Youth Empowerment Sessions have offered a refuge in a city that regularly ranks among the worst in the nation for crime and poverty. Program Director Maria Pinardo says the weekly sessions and the informal support system that participants establish help young people gain the confidence and skills needed to reach their potential. Most of The Bridge’s annual budget is funded by grants and donations from generous donors like United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey and the Melinda Holman/Frank Beideman Fund.
Support for our children continues as they grow. ARI Fleet, and its parent company Holman Automotive Group, collaborated with United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey to paint a very large countryside mural in the outpatient pediatric department of Lourdes’ Osborn Family Health Center. The mural is designed to update and infuse the space with soothing colors and a picturesque atmosphere to help reduce a child’s anxiety while at the doctor’s office.

The Osborn Center was further blessed by the Carz N’ Toyz Foundation, which brightened the waiting room with flat screen televisions, a mobile library of books to encourage reading and donated car seats. They also provided 200 children with a new backpack to start the school year off right. An additional 200 backpacks and school supplies were donated by Source4Teachers.

Reacting to the mural, patient Lillie Deleon said, “I noticed the new picture on the wall right away. I like the children playing the most and the big butterfly.”

The Beane Family presents their annual donation to Dr. Margaret Fernandes, Medical Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
Generosity and caring for children extends beyond the walls of our hospitals. As just one example, a young couple whose first baby was born prematurely and stayed in the Intensive Care Nursery for two months, suffered a house fire just one week after the baby was discharged. Staff from Women’s and Children’s Services rallied to donate the clothing and baby supplies that were lost, along with gift cards donated by the Beane Family Foundation. The Beane Family Foundation donated enough gift cards to assist 10 additional families during 2014 and provided funds for equipment and other needs of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Lourdes’ Child Development Services Program serves more than 800 ethnically and culturally diverse families with children in and around Camden City who have a variety of diagnoses, from developmental delays to cerebral palsy and autism. The program provides services based on need, not the ability to pay, and is reliant on generous donors who contribute such essentials as baby supplies, furniture, clothing, toys and therapeutic supplies. Generous funding also is provided by the Diocese of Camden and many individual donors.
Serving Those Who Have Served for Us

LourdesCare at New Hanover, our newest outpatient center, was christened last summer and helps fill a need in an area with few nearby healthcare resources. The facility is a substantial resource for the military base's 87th Medical Group, which cares for more than 17,000 TRICARE Prime enrollees and 42,000 Department of Defense beneficiaries in central New Jersey. This new facility is just one example of our longtime commitment to those who serve. According to Robert Sposato, Assistant Director of Military Affairs, “LourdesCare New Hanover has dramatically shortened the drive time and wait times for our service members and other residents by offering care closer to the Joint Base.”

Living Springs at Lourdes (Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County), a unique, voluntary inpatient program designed to treat the behavioral health needs of military service members, veterans and their dependents, is in close proximity to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The program accepted its first patients in 2013 and has since served over 280 servicemen and women. The space was further enhanced thanks to the generosity of the Knights of Columbus, NJ State Council who recently dedicated the multipurpose room at Living Springs in honor of U.S. Army Brigadier General and Deputy Chief of Chaplins, Bishop Charles McDonnell.

A Short Cut to PromptCare

Construction of a connector hallway between the Emergency Department (ED) and the new PromptCare Unit at Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County was completed in 2014 thanks in part of the generosity of the Medical Staff and other donors. The PromptCare Unit expanded the ED’s capacity with eight additional treatment rooms. This unit gives patients quicker access to care for non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries, but the walk or wheelchair ride to get there was too long, almost a football field in length. The new connector hallway reduced the distance to 30 feet and further improved timely access to care and patient satisfaction.

Our Lady of Lourdes Health Foundation
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