

A Message from Interim CEO, Rick Gregg

Bringing a unique perspective to CHP



CHP's Interim CEO, Rick Gregg, with his new grandson, Boden.

When I was asked in June to become the interim CEO of Community Health Programs, I believed I might bring a unique perspective to overseeing the CHP health care networks and family services.

As a patient of Lee Family Practice for more than 25 years, I've benefitted from excellent care provided by the clinical team there. I served on the CHP Board of Directors for six years, and I've been a professor of healthcare administration for 15 years.

But nothing prepared me for what I have witnessed in these past three months: the impact of the extraordinary people who work at CHP caring for our patients and clients. Across CHP's medical, dental, behavioral health, pediatric, OB-GYN practices, and Family Services, I am humbled and impressed. Individually and in teams, our employees are dedicated to improving the health, wellness and quality of life for thousands of Berkshire County residents.

From our reception and facilities staff to our administrators, all are attuned to CHP's mission: "to improve the health of people throughout the Berkshires by de-

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Mission Moment

"Families like ours"

by Rania Markham

When my kids were 18 months and 3 months old, our family signed up for CHP ParentChild+, a home mentoring program for families with young children soon heading to pre-school or kindergarten.

Each week, a family mentor came to our home to spend time with me and my children. We played, we talked about parenting and the stages of child development. We played with numbers, colors, shapes, music, and books. My daughter Abigail loved our weekly visits with Olympia, who became an important part of our family's life, progress and support system. We know that Abigail's preschool transition was successful because of the support we had from ParentChild+.

With my son Zachary, things were different. At 18 months, he was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Olympia embraced this

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ADMINISTRATION

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Interim Chief Executive Officer

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Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer

Andrew Beckwith, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Karen Johnson
Chief Human Resources &
Compliance Officer

Michelle Derr
Senior Vice President,
Family Services

Carrie Barth
Senior Director of Grants
& Development

Ellen Lahr
Senior Director of Communications

Paula Ciotti
Senior Director of Compliance
& Risk Management

Jennifer Wilkinson
Senior Director of Infrastructure
& Emergency Preparedness

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Donor Spotlight: Matt and Missy Scarafoni

Helping to level the playing field in our community's health care



CHP Donors, Missy and Matt Scarafoni

When Matt and Missy Scarafoni consider their community giving, they ask, "What organizations make a wide impact on our Berkshire community? Who is leveling the playing field between those who have more and those who have less?"

CHP is on their "A list."

"A lot of people who choose CHP have great insurance, and their care is well covered, but this is not so for everyone," says Matt. "CHP

serves people with lots of choices and those with fewer choices, but they all have access to high-quality CHP care and family support."

The Scarafonis believe the Berkshire region is extremely fortunate to have a federally qualified health center in the community. Their gifts make a big impact on CHP Family Services. Many of CHP's programs are not fully funded, yet families of all income levels rely on parent support/education, WIC, emergency assistance, and much more. CHP donations also support patients who may have no or limited insurance coverage.

"CHP steps up and owns this effort to equalize excellent health care for all, and if our dollars can make this community's health better, we want to be a part of that," says Missy.

CHP thanks the Scarafonis for their generosity of spirit and partnership with our work!



*From left to right:
Lauren Young, FNP,
Jennifer Rubino, DNP,
FNP-BC, and Molly
Rivest, DNP, FNP of
CHP's new Family
Nurse Practitioner
residency program.*

Mission Moment

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Rania Markham and family.

unexpected news and went above and beyond to connect with Zachary. She also supported me, a mom facing a new parenting challenge.

ParentChild+ supports families of all shapes, sizes, backgrounds and experiences. The program is especially helpful for bilingual children and children in lower-income families. It's widely understood that children with early learning support adjust better to school and are more likely to graduate from high school.

When I decided to pursue a master's degree in social work and chose CHP Family Services for my internship. CHP has supported my efforts to create new CHP services for families like mine: we now offer playgroups and events and a weekly online support group for families like mine.

And "IEP 101" is a new online workshop to help parents understand the Individual Education Plan, the public-school program for children with disabilities.

Personally, and professionally, I will be forever grateful for the PC+ experience, and to CHP for supporting my efforts to help families like mine.

Gifts, Grants, and Awards

CHP is honored to have received the following...

\$71,500 UMass/Health Resources and Services Administration, for our new Family Nurse Practitioner residency program

\$102,049 Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, for a refrigerated van for nutrition and food security programs

\$35,000 Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, for the ParentChild+ family mentoring program

\$21,500 Elizabeth Freeman Center, for domestic violence/sexual assault response

A Message from the CEO

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living exceptional, compassionate health care and family services." Everyone plays a part. Everyone makes a difference, as they have since 1975.

CHP's patients are from all walks of life, across the spans of age, income, insurance types, heritage, immigration, and gender status. For some, CHP is an assurance of health care if they have limited means or insurance. For others who can be choosy about their health care, CHP is the choice.

And recently, I also witnessed CHP's impact on a new generation of my family. My son Harrison and his wife Caitlin returned to the Berkshires in late 2021, ready to start a family. They chose CHP Barrington OB/GYN for care.

They received top-notch prenatal care from the CHP team of certified nurse-midwives, a nurse practitioner and physicians. On September 1, Dr. Antoine El-Khoury delivered my grandson, Boden, at Fairview Hospital, to the joy of his parents and my entire family. Mother and baby have been doing fine, and Caitlin has joined "Beyond Delivery," a weekly post-partum support group for new moms.

I am grateful to have so many perspectives on CHP: as a patient, board member, administrator, parent, grandparent, and community member. One thing is certain: I will continue to discover more examples of CHP's commitment to our patients in delivering excellent care. I look forward to sharing my discoveries with our friends, donors, community partners and health care colleagues.

Rick

Rick Gregg, *Interim CEO*



Making a Difference: Care Coordinator Kornelia Krzyzanowska



*Kornelia Krzyzanowska, RN BSN,
Care Coordinator*

At CHP, sometimes our work isn't done when the exam is over. Some patients need extra support to achieve better health and wellness.

As Care Coordinator at CHP Great Barrington Health Center, Kornelia Krzyzanowska, RN, BSN, is focused on making sure children in particular (and their parents) have this follow-up support.

As a member of the South Berkshire Collaborative Care Team, Kornelia is wired into a network of specialists, community resources, schools and medical care professionals focused on children's well-being—especially their mental health.

“Kornelia has been a treasured team member, forging a path of care we have not yet had for children,” said Dr. Lara Setti, CHP Great Barrington's clinical site lead. “Her work has improved outcomes for these children and families. She has been relentless in her pursuit of identifying and implementing ideal medical and community support services for our families through compassionate holistic care and creative problem solving.”

CHP is grateful to Kornelia for her tireless work supporting the health and wellness of children and families in our community.

Kornelia has been a treasured team member...she has been relentless in her pursuit of ideal outcomes for children, and creative problem solving.

~ Dr. Lara Setti, Clinical Site Lead, Great Barrington Health Center

