

Published by Calvary Hospital, the nation's only acute care specialty hospital devoted exclusively to the palliative care of adult patients in the advanced stages of cancer and other life-limiting illnesses.

**CALVARY  
HOSPITAL**

*Where Life Continues*

# CROSSROADS

SUMMER

2020



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STAY IN TOUCH WITH CALVARY

 718-518-2000

 calvaryhospital

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 calvarycare

# WE NEVER LET FEAR DIVERT US FROM OUR PURPOSE

## Historic Challenge, Heroic Response



*“Our Hospice teams are compassionately and courageously going out into the community, and into that great unknown, are providing care for patients in the spirit of the mission of Calvary. I believe this may well be Calvary Hospice’s finest moments.”*

– Nancy S. D’Agostino, RN, MSN

Vice President for Community Patient Services

Calvary faced the challenge of a lifetime when the pandemic hit. Pulling together from every department, in our hospital and in the field, our entire Calvary community responded with fortitude, tenacity and compassion in equal measure.

We are proud of our heroic staff that still cares for upwards of 600 patients and families a day, an increase of nearly 40% since the global health crisis erupted.

### **Vital to our response was our preparedness.**

Weeks before the surge, our Bronx and Brooklyn Campus capacity was expanded by 50%, bringing our bed count to over 400. We increased our nursing teams and reassigned staff so that there was no interruption in patient care or the support we provided grieving families.

When the Department of Health directed hospitals to curtail visitors, our nurses, Family Care staff, chaplains, bereavement counselors and Calvary Care Technicians worked 24/7 to fill the void so that no patient was ever abandoned.

*continued on page 4*



## Historic Challenge, Heroic Response

*continued from page 3*

*“Coming to work gives me  
a sense of purpose during  
this time of uncertainty.”*

– Lisa Plaza, RN, BSN, MPH



We helped families stay in touch with loved ones via cell phones and iPads. Our Spiritual Care staff escorted visitors to critical patients with love and moral support. And all our bereavement groups were available online for those in need.

Our infection control experts implemented extensive safety protocols. We were one of the first hospitals to initiate temperature screening for everyone who entered the facility. At the Bronx campus, COVID-19 patients received special care in an isolated unit, thereby protecting the health and well-being of our other patients and staff. We cohorted or isolated patients suspected of having COVID-19 to protect our fragile patient population.

Calvary@Home cared for most of our COVID-19 patients. In fact, they were one of the first hospice providers in the region to admit patients with the novel coronavirus.

Our hospice teams never wavered. Dressed in disposable PPE – which they changed after every visit – they put personal concerns aside to bring CalvaryCare® to dying patients in private homes and nursing homes all over metro New York.

### There are so many heroic examples....

- One hospice social worker rode her bike four miles to comfort an elderly woman who was all alone when her husband passed.
- Another social worker spent six hours calling 30 funeral homes to find one willing to take our patient.
- A Calvary nurse spent her day off with her nursing home hospice patients to help them celebrate Mother’s Day.

*“This is our calling. This is  
what it means to be a nurse.  
No matter what the risks are,  
we care for the sick and dying.”*

– Marisa Viggiano, RN



## Historic Challenge, Heroic Response

*continued from page 4*

### Our leadership teams worked shoulder to shoulder to provide support.

To keep our staff safe, Calvary consistently exceeded CDC guidelines for PPE. Our innovative inventory management system insured that we had ample N95 masks, facial shields and gowns for everyone who needed them.

As the pandemic took its toll on our heroic staff, we responded with bereavement support, spiritual care, PTSD counseling, and free meals.

Through July 5,  
we provided more  
than 42,660 meals  
to our staff!



Calvary salutes the many individuals, companies and community groups who rallied to support us through this crisis. From nourishing meals, refurbished iPads, and urgently needed PPE to heartfelt thank-you notes and financial donations, **WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL.**

This outpouring has buoyed our team through long, stressful shifts over many weeks, and for some, heartbreaking losses suffered in their personal and professional lives.

## MATTHEW O'BRIEN



Matthew O'Brien is a former police officer who is now a firefighter. He is very involved in the nearby Throggs Neck community where he lives with his family.

Once we were in the midst of the pandemic, Matthew reached out to local catering hall, **Marina Del Rey**, about how they could support frontline healthcare workers.

Fortunately for us, Matthew volunteers regularly at Calvary's Bronx campus and is very familiar with the quality care we provide.

Thanks to head chef Danny Savino, Marina Del Rey has donated more than 1,500 meals to our staff. Some of the meals they have enjoyed include shrimp scampi, fried chicken and pasta with marinara sauce. Whatever the menu includes, the staff has loved every mouthful!



*“Becoming a registered nurse  
taught me how to care  
for my patients’ bodies.  
As a CPE-trained chaplain,  
I can care for the mind  
and spirit as well.”*



**Nancy Schoener, RN, NP**

Director of Infection Control

Director of Employee Health

Deacon, Chaplain for Calvary Hospital

## SPOTLIGHT ON NURSES

Calvary has always known what a terrific nursing department we have.

This year, we have profiled 14 nurses to date, including Nancy Schoener, RN, NP. As Director of Infection Control, Ms. Schoener has played a critical role in leading our response to the pandemic.

### How long did it take to prepare for the crisis?

Patient and staff safety drives everything we do at the hospital. We already had a disaster plan and a comprehensive infection control policy in place when COVID-19 hit. We constantly tweaked our plan and policy as things changed daily.

### How much time did you spend handling this crisis?

Since March 6, I have worked from 9 am to 9 pm every day, sometimes until 11 pm. I really love what I do. It's more than a job for me.

### How do you practice self-care?

I start every day with a prayer.  
That is what helps me get through the day.

**TO READ NANCY'S FULL-LENGTH Q&A, VISIT:**

[www.calvaryhospital.org/nancy](http://www.calvaryhospital.org/nancy)



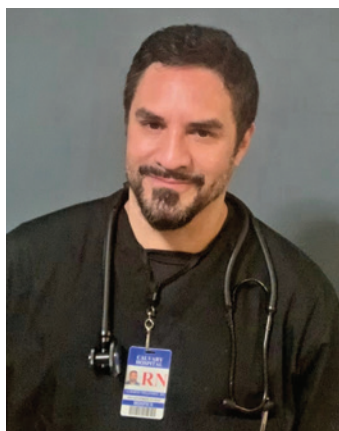
## CALVARY HOSPITAL HONORS ALL OF OUR NURSES AND FRONTLINE WORKERS

Our nurses have always been the backbone of our care program. This year, our nurses and entire Calvary Hospital staff have been in the trenches fighting the war against COVID-19 with commitment, grace and compassion.



*“Becoming a nurse has allowed me to showcase what is imperative in the field. I have inspired so many colleagues and family alike.”*

**Latisha Bangari, RN, CCC**



*“My original career aspiration was to work for the NYPD as a police officer. I chose nursing because I wanted to help people and make a difference.”*

**Alberto Melendez, RN**



*“The goal of enhancing quality of life is the priority for the nursing community during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.”*

**Angela Chen, RN**

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING NURSES:

[www.calvaryhospital.org/nurses](http://www.calvaryhospital.org/nurses)

## THANKS TO PEPSI-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY OF NEW YORK, INC. FOR 225 CASES OF PEPSICO BEVERAGES!



At the end of April 2020, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc. donated 225 cases of PepsiCo beverages (2,700 units) and 24 cases of Frito Lay chips to Calvary Hospital in response to COVID-19. PepsiCo has served as a generous donor to Calvary Hospital for more than 10 years.

The Northern Bottling Company has been serving communities in New York since 1951. Their primary goal is to help the organizations, events, and happenings in the surrounding areas be even more successful.

## THANK YOU TO OUR FOUNDATION DONORS

In homes or hospital settings, Calvary's holistic approach is taking on heightened relevance right now, enveloping the needs of the body, mind and spirit. Calvary is a blanket of comfort for our community thanks to the support of the foundations that support Calvary's mission.

Many foundations choose to support a particular program of care, such as bereavement support for adults, children and adolescents; palliative care education; or Calvary@Home. Behind every foundation are Trustees who have had a personal experience with *CalvaryCare*®, or who understand the importance of our care.



If there is an error or omission in the donor listings, we are truly sorry. Please contact Calvary Fund at 718-518-2077 so we may correct the error.

The following foundations have made grants of \$1,000 or more, which were received between January 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020.

Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation  
The Ambrose Monell Foundation  
Anne Claire Lester Foundation, Inc.  
Arts and Letters Foundation  
Barbara Epstein Foundation  
The C.F. Roe Slade Foundation  
Catholic Institute of the Food Industry  
The David Berg Foundation, Inc.  
Della Calce Private Foundation, Inc.  
The G.L. Connolly Foundation  
The John & Michelle S. Bradbury Medical Foundation  
Koch Foundation, Inc.  
Kwitman Family Foundation  
Laurie Kayden Foundation  
The Maggie and Waggie Foundation  
Moses L. Parshelsky Foundation  
Newman's Own Foundation  
The Pat Cairo Family Foundation, Inc.  
The Rogosin Institute, Inc.  
Russell Oberlin Charitable Foundation  
Sarah I. Schieffelin Residuary Trust A/C  
Sherlock Charitable Foundation  
The Sindee R. Sommer Foundation  
The Y.C. Ho/Helen and Michael Chiang Foundation



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 STORRS SOCIETY MEMBERS (\$1,000+)

Your contributions support Calvary Hospital's special mission of providing care, comfort and compassion to over 6,000 patients and families. As a generous donor, your contribution is a meaningful tribute to the brave nurses and essential staff dedicated to carrying forth Calvary's mission to patients and families in need, in the hospital and in the field. Thank you to the families and friends that contributed to support Calvary in memory of their loved ones. [Listed below are Storrs Society Members as of May 31, 2020.](#)

### INDIVIDUALS

Richard H. Addy	Alice R. Buedden	Philomena R. and Thomas G. Ferrara
Debo P. Adegbile	Jean L. and Stephen A. Burke	Mary Helen and Robert Finnerty
Angela Aguiar	Marijane Camilleri	Cecilia C. Bennett and John J. Fiore
Barbara and Todd Albert	RoseMarie Campbell	Tracey G. and Jeffrey Flanagan
Constance Alimaras	Jeanne K. and Paul M. Carroll	Charles A. Forma
Elaine and Manfred Altstadt	Marco A. and Marlena Castaldi	Mary Louise Formato, MD
Janet Anderson	Dorando F. Cavallacci II	Richard D. Freedman, MBA, Ph.D.
Elisa Andreassi	Margaret M. Cavanaugh	Barbara and Daniel Gallo
Julia C. Apotheker	Deirdre Cherry	Mitchell Glazer
Lori A. and Charles J. Arduini	Leslie A. Chorun, M.D.	Patricia Golden
Christopher Ayson	Rosemary Circosta	Evelyn M. Gorman
Frank Baio	Kenneth S. Clemons	Barbara Gottlieb
Thomas Baldwin	Joseph W. Cooney	Arlene A. Graci
Catherine E. Bambrick	Anne Alexis Coté Taylor	Dorian Hansen
Susan C. and Timothy P. Barr	George Culliney, Jr.	Virginia and James Harden
Theresa Barracca	Ronald R. De Rubeis	Anne L. Hart
Sandra Atlas Bass	Trudi DeDonato	Joy C. and William S. Howe
Kathryn Berkowitz	Kathy and Frank DiMango	Jeffrey W. Hunter
Theodore Blumenthal	Laura C. and Bernard F. Egan	Harry Hutzler
Lois and Roy Boelstler	Patricia and Neil T. Eigen	Elinor L. Josenhans
Dennis Bricker	Catherine Fabiitti	Janet Kalish
Cathie C. and Leslie P. Brodsky	Steven Fabrikant	Nora M. and Paul F. Kardan
Allyson M. and Arthur M. Brown	Ann Fanizzi	Norah Kearney
	Linda Feinberg	Mary F. and Francis Kelty





## THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 STORRS SOCIETY MEMBERS (\$1,000+)

Glen P. Kennedy  
 Steve Kornacki  
 Robert L. Kreppel  
 Mary M. Kresky  
 Joan Lange  
 Joan and Stephen Lasala  
 Michael Loobman  
 Claire M. Ludwig  
 Ann MacMurray  
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 Helen Mangano Dunbar  
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 Kathe A. McBride  
 James McCabe  
 Nancy Stein and  
 Edward F. McDermott  
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 Finian McNamara  
 Elizabeth G. McPartland  
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 Domenick M. Muro  
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 Salvatore Ragonese, Jr.

Richard Regan  
 Monique M. Regard  
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 Anthony G. Richards  
 Ann Marie and Charles Robertson  
 Yale Rosen, MD  
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 Kenneth F. Scharfenberg  
 Charles Scheidt  
 Alexa Jane Scott McCrorie  
 Barbara A. and William R. Serpe  
 Robert B. Shea  
 Dan Siegel  
 Ann E. and Richard J. Sims  
 Jeffrey J. Sirkman  
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 Stephen J. Whelan  
 Kathleen A. Whitley  
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 Jeanne Zunich, Esq. and  
 Richard J. Bowler, Esq.

### ORGANIZATIONS

ArchCare  
 Vivian Chiu & Edwin Lin  
 Charitable Fund  
 Knights of Columbus –  
 New York Chapter  
 C.E. Nelson Charitable Fund  
 Oresky & Associates, PLLC  
 Protiviti Consulting, Inc.  
 P.S.I.D.A.M.A.N.A.  
 Rockefeller Group  
 Rotary International District 7230  
 Sacks & Sacks LLP /  
 Counselors at Law  
 Schuyler Hill Funeral Home  
 Sunshine Sachs and Associates

**Storrs Society** members are passionate about their continuous commitment and generosity to the Calvary Fund. Become a member by making annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. For more information, please contact **Chris Ayson**, Patron Program Manager, at **718-518-2680** or via email at [cayson@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:cayson@calvaryhospital.org).

## DID YOU KNOW

**A Charitable Gift Annuity provides fixed payments to you for life in exchange for your gift of cash or securities.**

Payment options are flexible and can be keyed to the date the funds are transferred for Immediate gift annuities or set for a date in the future (one year or more from the date of funding) for Deferred gift annuities. Gift annuities are easy to set up and are a popular planned gift.

### **A charitable gift annuity could be right for you if:**

- You are 65 years old.
- You want to increase your income.
- You want the security of fixed, dependable payments for life.
- You want to save income taxes or capital gains taxes (when funding is appreciated stock).
- You are considering a gift amount of \$20,000 or more.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Elizabeth Edds Kougasian, Esq.  
Director of Major and Planned Gifts  
718-518-2080  
email: [ekougasian@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:ekougasian@calvaryhospital.org)



## INSPIRE AND INFLUENCE

### SHARE *your story* WITH US

Calvary Hospital provides care, compassion and comfort to thousands of patients and families every year.

We receive emails, kind notes and handwritten letters from friends of Calvary sharing their experiences with our care and thanking us for the care and compassion we provide.

Please share your story and help us build our inspiring collection of stories.

### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.**

#### **EMAIL:**

Tricia Reyes  
Director of Development  
[treyes@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:treyes@calvaryhospital.org)

#### **OR SEND TO:**

Tricia Reyes  
Director of Development  
Calvary Fund  
1740 Eastchester Road  
Bronx, NY 10461



*"It's my honor to support Calvary. You made a difference in our lives, and my mom's passing was peaceful, serene, and with all her family around her, gathered in faith. She deserved that. Calvary was a Godsend."*

Marijane Camilleri



## THANK YOU TO OUR CALVARY HOSPITAL MONTHLY DONORS

The Calvary Hospital monthly donors help sustain programs for our patients and families year-round. Their commitment is a tribute to the brave nurses and essential staff dedicated to carrying forth Calvary's mission to patients and families in need, in the hospital and in the field.

Joan Alagna	Christopher DiCostanzo	Clara Mitchell
Marjorie D. Bass	Lawrence Doyle	Raymond O'Connor
Rosa Brown	Michael B. Hannan	Claire F. Petronis
Kathleen S. Burns	Hatcher FLP	Margaret Schwartz
Ralph Caban	Katherine Hatgis	Than Soe
Arnold Campa	Umadas Maitra	Marilyn Swatuck
Larry Carbone	Katherine M. Marra	Anita Troise
Marianne M. Casey	Rosanne McAward	Louis A. Vegliante
Madeline T. Couton	Richard M. McIntosh	Susan B. Waltzman
Anne M. Curran	Eugene F. Meenagh	Kirk D. Watson
Socorro De Jesus-Foxworthy	William L. Meli	

Calvary Hospital monthly donors help sustain programs for our patients and families through their commitment to Calvary Hospital. Become a donor today. For more information, please contact **Shawana Bethea**, at **718-518-2079** or via email at [sbethea@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:sbethea@calvaryhospital.org).



## THANK YOU TO OUR CALVARY HOSPITAL TREE OF LIFE & BROOKLYN DONOR WALL DONORS

Our families that contribute in memory of their loved one for our Tree of Life or Brooklyn Donor Wall ensure that a loved one's name will exist in perpetuity with the lifetime of the Hospital. Thank you to the families and friends that contributed to support Calvary in memory of their loved ones. Listed below are gifts from January 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020.

John P. Noto Trucking Inc.	John McKerlie	Laura R. Umana
Patricia M. Channon	Steven Murphy	Alfred C. Versacci
Thomas DiMaio	Natalie P. Rogers	Tony Vidal

This is the most loving way of memorializing someone special to you or saying thank you because your gift of love helps patients today and tomorrow by remembering yesterday. If you would like more information on the Tree of Life or Brooklyn Donor Wall, please contact **Sandrina Fernandez** Prospect Research Management and Donor Relations Coordinator at **718-518-2039** or via email at [sfernandez@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:sfernandez@calvaryhospital.org).





## OVER 230 iPADS DONATED TO CALVARY HOSPITAL!

Thanks to **iPads to Hospitals** for donating 230 iPads to Calvary Hospital in May 2020 to be used for video chatting. Our patients will be able to connect with their loved ones at any time. **iPads to Hospitals** organizers created this not-for-profit organization at the beginning of the COVID-19 virus outbreak in New York since hospitals had to restrict visitors. The founders of this organization are comprised of three College of Medicine Students at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and filmmaker/producer Ian Kaplan.

Their mission is to bridge the communication gap between ill patients and their loved ones through the donation of iPads to hospitals.

“It’s heartbreaking to hear stories of patients who are not able to have contact with their family or loved ones,” said Shenara Musthaq, SUNY Downstate College of Medicine Class of 2021.

“Even though I can’t care for patients at the bedside, this is something I can do that will make a real difference for patients with COVID-19.”

For more information visit [iPadstoHospitals.org](https://www.ipadstohospitals.org).

## WENDY DACKSON Remembering Her Sister



*Kim*

For seven weeks from late 2018 to February 2019, Wendy’s beloved sister, Kim, was one of our patients. “You not only cared for Kim, you cared for me as well.”

Wendy met Banjo, our facility dog, just a few days before Kim died. Wendy credits Banjo for helping her deal with her sister’s death.

When the pandemic hit, Wendy wanted to support our staff. An expert sewer and crocheter since age four, Wendy has made 450 mask “extenders” to date so that our staff can wear surgical masks comfortably all day.



Wendy has sent us 450 extenders to date – and more are on their way!



## WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO GIVE TO CALVARY?

### Joseph A. Tarantino

Member of the Calvary Hospital Board

Member of the Professional Advisors Council



#### What inspires you?

I am inspired by the scope of service Calvary provides to so many people in need. Calvary is a unique institution in that it gives vital assistance and care to patients as well as their families in times of severe stress and pain. The staff at Calvary are incredible in their ongoing support and ability to make the patients and their families comfortable during their stay.

#### What brought you to Calvary?

Over 20 years ago, I was introduced to the CEO, Frank Calamari, by a friend who was, at the time, the Head of Infrastructure at Calvary. I was introduced because there was a need for Board members with financial acumen. Once I became aware of Calvary's mission statement and their importance to the communities they served, I knew it was an organization I wanted to join to support and help grow over time.

#### What motivates you to continue supporting the Calvary mission?

I am proud that Calvary was one of the first large institutions in the country to offer hospice and palliative care. Today, Calvary remains the only hospital entirely dedicated to the palliative care of its patients.

I believe there continues to be a great and growing need for an organization like Calvary that provides end-of-life care in a professional and distinguished manner while unburdening families of the stress related to the cost and planning of this specialized care.

Being able to provide these sought-after services in a manner that is aligned with both the hospital and Archdiocese, making sure those in need and their families are not abandoned during the toughest of times, drives my ongoing support of their service and mission.

LET US  
PRAY  
FOR YOU

We would consider it an honor to pray for you and those you love.

If you would like us to pray for someone special in memory or for a loved one, email us the names of your loved ones with your prayer request to [calvaryfund@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:calvaryfund@calvaryhospital.org) or visit our website at

[www.calvaryhospital.org/prayer](http://www.calvaryhospital.org/prayer)



Calvary is so very grateful for the generous donations we have received during this pandemic.

*Donations included Personal Protective Equipment, Electronics (iPads, phone chargers, Zoom licenses), food, beverages, and snacks.*

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
CACCC (Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care)  
Wendy Dackson  
Empire Blue Cross  
FORD  
Home Depot  
The Imagine Society & Marina Franklin  
Jen French-Glick  
KPMG  
Milli Knudsen  
Maria Lief, MD  
Lowe's  
MedSupplyDrive  
Notre Dame University Center for Innovation  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn  
Rye Rotary Club

### FOOD & BEVERAGES

Eve Marusevich Addeo  
ADP  
Area23  
Bronx Sole  
The Pat Cairo Family Foundation  
Coffee to the Frontlines  
Crosby Pizza Shop  
Nancy Ann & Stephen DiNardo  
Dubrovnik Restaurant  
FDNY Engine 97  
Marina Franklin  
Girl Scout Troop 1874  
Gravesend Kiwanis Club  
Rogelio King  
Leche & Miele Restaurant  
Rosemary Lewis  
Marina Del Rey  
Barbara Nitzberg  
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company Of New York, Inc.

Project Barkada

Tricia Reyes

Rockwell's Restaurant

Skaggs-Walsh

The Ursuline School

Vigilante Coffee Company

### ELECTRONICS

Anne Coté Taylor  
Theresa Cinnante  
iPads to Hospitals  
Sullivan Papain Block McGrath Coffinas & Cannavo P.C.  
T-Mobile  
Wilma Rosa

### OTHER

Elizabeth Cespedas (Mary Kay)  
Valerie Kirk (Lularoe)





♥ MAKE A DONATION ONLINE AT: [fund.calvaryhospital.org](https://fund.calvaryhospital.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**32<sup>nd</sup>** ANNUAL  
**GOLF**  
CLASSIC

**August 24**

**September** 2nd Annual Grief Awareness Month

**November 5** Annual Awards Gala – Virtual Event



## THE SOCIETY OF 1899

Calvary Hospital was founded in 1899 by dedicated volunteers with supporting gifts and bequests dating back to the turn of the century. The Society of 1899 honors their legacy of compassionate care for those most in need. For more information on becoming a member or other planned giving opportunities, please contact **Elizabeth Edds Kougasian, Esq.**, Director of Major and Planned Gifts at **718-518-2080** or via email at [ekougasian@calvaryhospital.org](mailto:ekougasian@calvaryhospital.org).

### CROSSROADS

is published by the Office of Public Affairs and Community Relations. Please direct inquiries to the Public Affairs Office at 718-518-2289.

**Thomas J. Fahey, Jr., MD**  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Calvary Hospital

**Carlos M. Hernandez**  
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Calvary Fund

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