

# Office of Development The Magazine

2024



HEALTH CARE AND COMMUNITY

YaleNewHaven**Health**  
Lawrence + Memorial Hospital

YaleNewHaven**Health**  
Westerly Hospital

## BETTER TOGETHER

Both Lawrence + Memorial Hospital and Westerly Hospital have much to offer. We provide comprehensive, family-focused services in more than 100 specialties. Each year, tens of thousands of people are admitted, and hundreds of thousands seek healthcare treatment as outpatients. Clearly, we are making a difference in our communities.

Our affiliation with the Yale New Haven Health System and Yale School of Medicine puts us at the forefront of the emerging era of health care, with extraordinary medical talent and timeless compassion. We are grateful to the generous and visionary donors who fuel our limitless potential.

This magazine is our shared story. By highlighting the impact and reach of transformative giving from local families, we show that our work creates many connections for those who live here. Its power is seen in our talented staff, cutting-edge equipment and technology, and upgraded infrastructure and systems. It is also seen in the lives we change by offering a range of services, including maternity and NICU care, pediatrics, stroke treatment, knee replacements, and so much more.

Supporting priority clinical areas equips us to respond to rising needs, such as treating more cases of heart disease or adopting new technology to better detect cancerous growths. We grow so that we can offer more treatments, provide better outcomes and reduce recovery time, and make sure that this world-class care is available close to home.

Read on, as we highlight the bond between philanthropy and healthcare excellence.



Richard Lisitano

President, L+M Hospital and Westerly Hospital,  
and Executive Vice President, Yale New Haven Hospital



Noël Appel

Senior Vice President and  
Chief Development Officer

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# Impact

## THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

The Fishers Island Campaign for Lawrence + Memorial's Emergency Department (ED) reached a remarkable milestone in 2023. Inspired by the Peter O. Crisp family's \$2 million matching gift, fundraising far more than doubled, thanks to contributions from more than 200 Fishers Island community members.

The Fishers Island fundraising committee, the island community and friends in greater New London raised more than \$5.9 million for a multiyear project to renovate the hospital's Emergency Department.

This initiative is impactful. Peter Crisp (*photo at right*) noted, "People of Fishers Island and the New London area sent a clear message: We want our hospital to be equipped with the latest technology, the best talent, and the most modern infrastructure to provide healthcare excellence. Lawrence + Memorial Hospital is built to last, and achieving \$5.9 million in our fundraising mission shows that it has earned the enduring support of its community."

The ED entrance is now accessible via a semicircle driveway that is protected by an overhang. Once inside, highlights include a treatment space to serve multiple walk-in patients simultaneously, expansion of triage rooms to allow for concurrent patient triage, a calming waiting room and refurbished electrical infrastructure needed for advanced imaging capabilities and lower risk of electrical failure due to power grid disruptions.

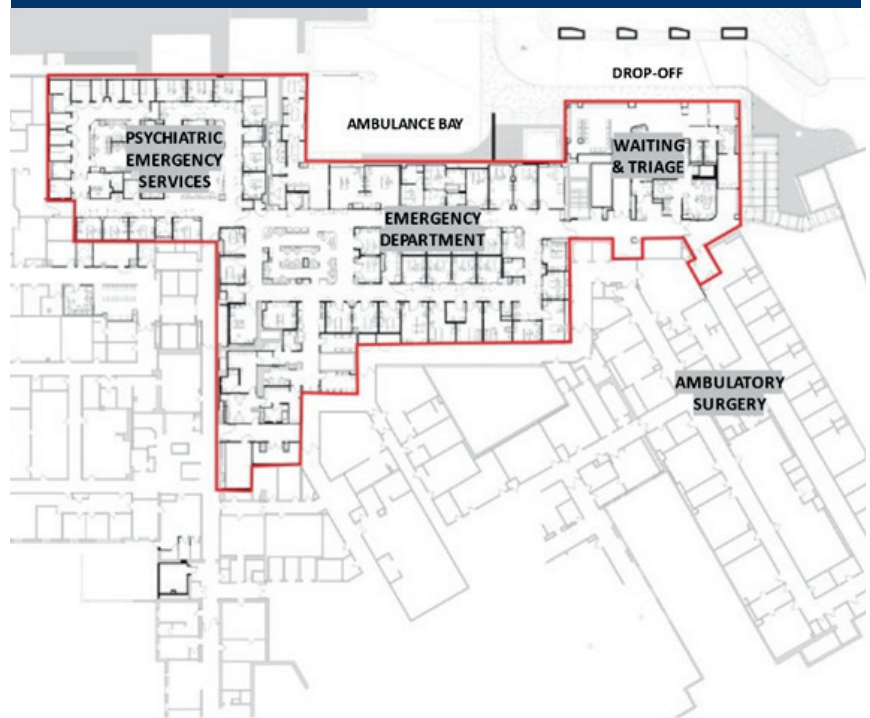
The next stage will renovate and expand the number of beds in the ED while maintaining uninterrupted operations. The renovations, targeted for 2026, will result in 57 private treatment rooms, an addition of 20 beds, and include an 8-bed

Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) unit. Following the success of the Fishers Island Campaign, the Emergency Department Endowment Fund was established for new gifts. These additional funds will be used to address the long-term needs of the ED. A plaque recognizing the generous support of the community has been installed in the waiting room.

"Lawrence + Memorial Hospital is proud to provide an essential service to our community," says Richard Lisitano, president, "and we are grateful for our community's steadfast support. We rely on it."



### FLOOR PLAN OF THE NEW L+M EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



# Growth Areas

## OVERVIEW OF ADVANCES IN CLINICAL LINES

Progress at Lawrence + Memorial and Westerly Hospitals is fueled by the affiliation with Yale New Haven Health System (YNHHS) and Yale Medicine (YM) providers, as well as the support of local donors. Investments from YNHHS and the community make program development, equipment acquisition and recruitment of prominent medical leaders possible. We are empowered to provide access to leading-edge medical care across a spectrum of specialties, including those highlighted here.



EMERGENCY MEDICINE	HEART AND VASCULAR
<p>Both Lawrence + Memorial and Westerly Hospitals collaborate with YNHHS and YM and have board-certified emergency medicine physicians, nurse practitioners and PAs trained in emergency medicine.</p>	<p>Both Lawrence + Memorial and Westerly Hospitals collaborate with YNHHS and YM and have access to medical specialists from Northeast Medical Group (NEMG).</p>
<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> Its emergency angioplasty program for heart attacks is the only one in eastern Connecticut; award-winning Stroke Center, extensive diagnostic imaging capabilities (such as CT and MRI), separate and secure area for behavioral health patients. L+M, with the only Pediatric Emergency Service in southeastern Connecticut, has a family-friendly treatment area for children with fellowship-trained providers in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and access to advanced pediatric medical equipment. Pequot Health Center has a full-service ED.</p>	<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> L+M is the only community hospital in the state of Connecticut to offer elective coronary artery stenting. The hospital also offers specialty cardiac clinics that focus on women's heart health, in addition to a clinic focused on treating Congestive Heart Failure. Electrophysiology for common conditions, such as atrial fibrillation, is also available.</p>
<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Telestroke program that provides 24/7 communication with stroke-trained neurologists; emergency medicine physicians trained to assess the elderly; staff specially trained through the Improving Pediatric Acute Care Through Simulation (ImPACTS) Collaborative; care coordination with Yale New Haven Children's Hospital for patients needing a higher level of care.</p>	<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Board-certified, community-based cardiologists and other clinical experts provide comprehensive care that includes advanced diagnostic tests and emergency medicine, inpatient and outpatient evaluations, consultations and treatment; a multispecialty program for managing patients with non-healing lower extremity wounds, including patients with critical limb ischemia, peripheral arterial disease, diabetic foot and ankle complications, and other cardiovascular disease.</p>



<b>NEUROSURGERY</b>	<b>ONCOLOGY</b>	<b>SURGERY</b>	<b>UROLOGY</b>
<p>L+M and Westerly Hospitals collaborate with YM and offer advanced diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of neurological diseases and disorders.</p>	<p>Smilow Cancer Hospital and YM provide local access to expert care; multidisciplinary clinics and clinical trials; tumor boards; advanced diagnostic imaging; counseling, social work, support groups and more.</p>	<p>In collaboration with YM, L+M and Westerly Hospitals offer care for surgical specialties and conditions treated with robot-assisted or minimally invasive techniques.</p>	<p>With YM and Smilow Cancer Hospital, the hospitals offer cutting-edge digital imaging and minimally invasive cancer treatment, prostate enlargement and kidney-stone management, and access to clinical trials.</p>
<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> Advanced diagnosis and minimally invasive spine surgeries including cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spinal surgery diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of neurological diseases and disorders. Interventional pain and spinal procedures to manage chronic pain or impairment due to spinal instability, unstable fractures, deformities of the spine or spondylolisthesis. Back and neck surgery, cervical discectomy and fusion, lumbar discectomy, lumbar laminectomy and lumbar fusion.</p>	<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> Chemotherapy and infusion; radiation, including image-guided radiation therapy, intensity-modulated radiation therapy, cone beam computed topography, prone breast positioning, Calypso, Rapid Arc and Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT); treatment for reproductive system, including ovarian, uterine, endometrial and cervical cancers; treatment and surgery for colon, rectum and anus; treatment for noncancerous disorders affecting the blood, lymph nodes and bone marrow.</p>	<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> Advanced surgical capabilities for bariatrics, gastroesophageal reflux disease, gynecology, gynecologic oncology, hernias, male infertility, ophthalmology, podiatry and sleep apnea. Employing advanced robot-assisted or minimally invasive techniques for endoscopic spine surgery. L+M is the only hospital in the System using the LINX procedure for GERD.</p>	<p><b>LAWRENCE + MEMORIAL:</b> Cutting-edge digital imaging and minimally invasive treatment for urologic cancers, prostate enlargement and kidney stone management; access to clinical trials and multidisciplinary care teams. Advanced treatment for Benign Prostate disease including a full spectrum of therapies for benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) or enlarged prostate with lower urinary tract issues.</p>
<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Advanced, minimally invasive spine surgery including cervical, thoracic and lumbar spinal surgery. Spinal fusion surgery to manage chronic pain or impairment due to spinal instability, unstable fractures, deformities of the spine or spondylolisthesis. Back and neck surgery, cervical discectomy and fusion, lumbar discectomy, lumbar laminectomy and lumbar fusion.</p>	<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Care includes chemotherapy and infusion; diagnostic imaging services include Bone Density Scan, Breast MRI, Digital Mammography, Gamma Imaging, MRI, PET/CT Scan and X-ray; Automated Whole Breast Ultrasound screenings that can detect even extremely small cancers in dense breast tissue; lung cancer screening using low-dose CT scanner; onsite lab and pathology services for prompt and accurate results; rehabilitative and supportive care services.</p>	<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Cutting-edge, robot-assisted minimally invasive procedures. A wide variety of ENT procedures are provided, including the new Aspire device for sleep apnea. Total joint replacement and emergent fracture repair by orthopedic specialists. Advanced ophthalmologic procedures. An array of vascular procedures, including minimally invasive peripheral vascular and carotid artery care. Gynecologic procedures. Advanced podiatric procedures.</p>	<p><b>WESTERLY:</b> Cutting-edge digital imaging and minimally invasive treatment for urologic cancers, prostate enlargement and kidney stone management; access to clinical trials and multidisciplinary care teams. Advanced treatment for Benign Prostate disease including a full spectrum of therapies for benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) or enlarged prostate with lower urinary tract issues.</p>

# Q&A

## INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD LISITANO

Richard Lisitano was named president of Lawrence + Memorial Healthcare (Lawrence + Memorial Hospital, Westerly Hospital and VNA of Southeastern Connecticut) and executive vice president of Yale New Haven Health System (YNHHS) in July 2023. Here, he shares insights about his new leadership role.

**Q: What has been the focal point in your first six months as president?**

“My first 100 days were devoted to listening, observing and gathering data. We’re looking at where we can organize, align and redesign our work, so we work smarter and more efficiently.”

**Q: How do the locations of L+M Hospital and Westerly Hospital inform your work?**

“A key insight I’ve gained is the remarkable sense of community in both Westerly and New London, where residents support one another in good times and in times of need. A community leader once told me that these places truly embody the spirit of a front-porch community, where residents and civic, business and nonprofit leaders have strong connections, shared values and mutual interests in supporting the overall well-being of their community.

“Whether attending meetings and events in New London, Westerly, or throughout New London county and Washington county, the focus is always on how Lawrence + Memorial Hospital and Westerly Hospital can continue to contribute to creating healthier, stronger and more vibrant communities while improving access to critical care. It’s clear that these hospitals are vital pillars for the overall health and well-being of the residents and the communities they serve. The commitment to supporting



the growth and vitality of these communities is essential, and I leave every meeting and interaction with the confidence that both hospitals enhance community well-being.”

**Q: What is the greatest need now?**

“Access to care. We are achieving this by expanding our medical staffs with Yale Medicine-affiliated providers, along with providers from Northeast Medical Group who are filling important roles in our community facilities. At L+M, YNHHS has opened a retail pharmacy designed to meet the needs of patients being discharged from the hospital, as well as to serve as the pharmacy of choice in our neighborhood. We are also growing our Emergency Department so we can treat more patients, especially children and those in crisis, in private rooms. At Westerly and in Warwick,

we continue to grow our urology services with more providers with great capabilities. We’re also able to offer more care for our cancer patients at the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Westerly. And this past year, we added neurology care to provide advanced diagnosis and treatment of a range of diseases and disorders. The need for these services will continue to grow.”

**Q: What does the affiliation with YNHHS mean for L+M and Westerly Hospitals?**

“Our hospitals have experienced tremendous growth over the past six years, including new service lines and new or expanded programs. I am committed to continuing that growth. We are fortunate to have two world-class hospitals in the towns where our patients live, work and play. We also have the resources of Yale New Haven Health and Yale Medicine at the ready for complex needs.”

**Q: What have you learned about healthcare philanthropy here?**

“Both hospitals exist because of the generosity of community members. We are fortunate to have a strong and growing network of supporters. Philanthropy has always been the lifeblood of these institutions, enabling these hospitals to evolve into a modern health system. We are grateful for the commitment of many dedicated donors.”

# Events

## ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the year, we are pleased to host events to mix and mingle and appreciate locations around our communities. Each event helps raise needed funds and brings us closer to one another. Below are just a few highlights from golf outings with hospital leadership, donors and new acquaintances.



### L+M HOSPITAL GOLF CLASSIC

For 23 years, the Annual Lawrence + Memorial Hospital Golf Classic, in support of the hospital's priority needs, has been held on Fishers Island, New York. This outing offers an opportunity to enjoy one of the most beautiful areas and golf courses. Save the Date: The event returns to Fishers Island on June 11, 2024.



### WESTERLY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION GOLF OUTING

In 2023, the Westery Hospital Foundation Golf Outing recorded another success for this annual tradition, which started in the 1980s. The day of golf, in support of the hospital, was held at The Misquamicut Club in Watch Hill, Rhode Island. Save the Date: The event takes place at The Misquamicut Club on September 18, 2024.

## YaleNewHavenHealth Lawrence + Memorial Hospital

L+M, through its partnership with Yale New Haven Health System and Yale School of Medicine, is an integral part of the region's premier academic health system. It is a not-for-profit, 308-bed, acute-care hospital with more than 2,400 employees and 700 physicians. It offers access to hundreds of specialty programs, such as advanced cardiac care, neurosurgery expertise, minimally invasive and robot-assisted surgery, and comprehensive urology care. It has the area's only neonatal intensive care unit and is in a major two-phase expansion of its ED, which will have a dedicated 8-bed unit for urgent behavioral health services. The hospital provides \$98.5 million in uncompensated care and \$8.4 million in charity care annually.

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# Invest In Us

## MOVING HEALTH CARE FORWARD

We are prepared to treat urgent cases, such as a senior with a stroke or a teen with an urgent behavioral health crisis. We also provide outpatient care and support classes, and access to clinical research.

Gifts from donors reach patients throughout both hospitals, with skilled healthcare staff, advanced medical equipment and modern surroundings.

Supporting Legacy Giving, The Annual Fund and Restricted Gifts all further our mission. Please review areas of greatest need (*at right*); these, and other funds not specifically mentioned, all contribute to clinical advancements. We look forward to discussing your interests and how best you might join us.





## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Training in crisis prevention ensures that our environment is safe, even as needs grow. It addresses identification, communication, crisis management and clinical excellence.

## EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

It is essential to give the staff every advantage possible. Advances in program development, equipment, facilities and training enable us to keep pace with the needs in the community.

## EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

The Equipment & Technology Fund allows us to buy medical equipment and technology for all of our clinical areas, including heart and vascular, neurology and surgery, and respond quickly to needs identified by the staff.

## ONCOLOGY

Patient support includes access to the latest oncology equipment, programmatic support, program enhancement, clinical trials and support groups.

## UROLOGY

Investing in new equipment and technology helps us provide the latest treatments for kidney-stone management, prostate enlargement, reproductive-health conditions, urologic cancers and more.

## YaleNewHavenHealth Westerly Hospital

Westerly Hospital, also part of YNNHS and YSM, is a not-for-profit, 125-bed hospital with more than 700 employees and 300 physicians. It cares for residents of southern Rhode Island and southeastern Connecticut with a full range of inpatient and outpatient services. It provides specialty care in heart and vascular, neurology, pain management, surgical care, urology and wound care; has an inpatient, 18-bed geriatric care unit for behavioral health services; and provides comprehensive cancer care through the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Westerly. Westerly Hospital provides nearly \$28.3 million in uncompensated care and approximately \$2.8 million in charity care annually.

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# Annual Fund

The Annual Fund helps both L+M Hospital and Westerly Hospital do what they do best: serve their communities.

It provides the unique ability to impact multiple areas of need with an immediate response to necessities identified by the clinical staff. Each donor walks with us in advancing our mission and is invited to join our Annual Fund Societies and Membership Circles for donors. Each gift is a pledge of support.



“I have had the great fortune and privilege to live and practice medicine in our community for nearly 25 years. Many years ago, I watched a TV report that stressed the importance of donating to entities that you understand or have personal involvement with. What better way for me to give back than to donate to Lawrence + Memorial Hospital’s Annual Giving Fund, understanding that our missions are aligned and that the money will be used in the best way to advance health care in our region.”

**Todd Blue, MD**

Chair, Diagnostic Imaging,  
L+M Hospital Chair,  
L+M Hospital Development Committee

MORE INFORMATION: To discuss The Annual Fund, contact  
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## JOIN US!

Go to the website for Westerly Hospital or L+M Hospital to read more about what we do to help the communities. You'll find out how you can join other locals who are making a difference.

[WesterlyHospital.org/Donors](http://WesterlyHospital.org/Donors)

[LMHospital.org/Donors](http://LMHospital.org/Donors)

"We have understood since settling in Westerly in 1982 that it is a community effort that has enabled Westerly Hospital to grow and change to meet the needs of patients and families. We raised our family here and practiced as a physician and as a nurse at Westerly Hospital for a combined 69 years. We have experienced all of what the hospital means to practically everyone who lives here for all or for part of each year. That's why we have supported the Westerly Hospital Annual Fund for 35 years. It is fundamental to the continued success of a vital institution upon which all of us can rely with confidence and gratitude."

**Bob and Judy Serra**

Retired physician and nurse,  
Westerly Hospital



# Impact

## THE ESSENTIAL CONNECTION IN ACTION

Our hospitals are committed to bringing healthcare and wellness expertise to the people who live and work in the communities we serve. From hands-on workshops to preventative screenings, our programs are another way we fulfill our mission of caring for people.

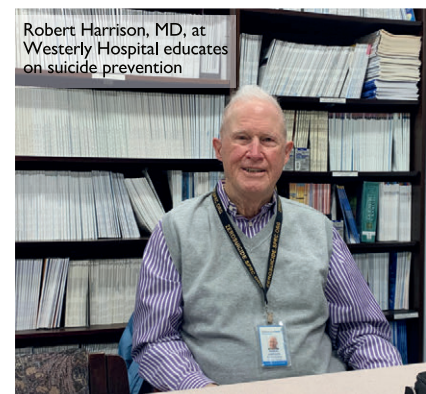


campaign to current patients meeting identified demographics, a patient postcard mailer and social media posts, as well as hospital-based digital communication platforms.

### WESTERLY HOSPITAL CONNECTS PEOPLE IN CRISIS WITH THE RIGHT CARE

From 2018 to 2023, Westerly Hospital participated in the Washington County Zero Suicide initiative, which screened more than 250,000 patients at seven medical facilities for depression and suicidal ideation. Many were referred for follow-up evaluation and care. More than 140 people were connected with peer recovery specialists.

Death by suicide is the 14th leading cause of death in Rhode Island, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. In 2022, it was the third leading cause of death in people ages 10-24 in the state.



### SCREENINGS I.D. PATIENTS IN NEED OF HERNIA CARE

In 2023, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital (L+M) relaunched community wellness events, including hernia screenings that attracted more than 80 patients.

The hospital conducted a hernia screening event at the main hospital campus in New London and at the hospital's Pequot Health Center in Groton. At L+M, 31 patients were screened, with 18 referred for surgery. More than 50 patients participated in the screening at Pequot Health Center, with 32 patients referred for surgery.

An estimated 1.6 million hernias are diagnosed and 500,000 are surgically repaired annually in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Some 27 percent of men

and 3 percent of women are expected to have a groin hernia – the most common type – during their lifetimes. Approximately one million abdominal-wall hernia repairs are performed each year in the United States.

Hernias can occur with childbirth, excessive weight, lifting or straining, persistent, heavy cough or prior surgery. The danger of an untreated hernia is that healthy tissue can become “strangulated,” which can lead to the loss of blood supply to the tissue. There is also risk of potentially life-threatening infections, including sepsis.

The hernia screening events were marketed through print advertising in community newspapers, an email

As part of that Zero Suicide initiative, which was funded by a five-year federal grant, Westerly Hospital trained almost 500 hospital employees in an emergency mental health intervention program. QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) aims to reduce suicidal behaviors and save lives by providing innovative, practical and proven suicide-prevention training to help identify and interrupt a mental-health crisis and direct the person to the right care.

In addition, the training was extended to the community, with police, fire and emergency medical responders participating in the training throughout Washington County.

The 90-minute training continues to this day, and Yale New Haven Health has expanded the program across all of its facilities; most recently, an additional 125 staff have been trained through a generous donor gift.

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### **L+M HOSPITAL PROMOTES HEALTHY LIVING THROUGH HEALTHY EATING**

Lawrence + Memorial Hospital (L+M) identified connecting food-insecure diabetic patients and prediabetic people with healthy food and education as a way to help improve their health.

In addition to providing diabetes self-management education, home visits and connections to community resources, L+M's Community Health Worker Wanda Santiago, a bilingual diabetes



L+M's Community Health Worker Wanda Santiago

educator, also provides healthy cooking classes for her clients in New London and Groton.

Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S. and the main cause of kidney failure, lower-limb amputations and adult blindness. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 11 percent of the U.S. population has diabetes and more than 23 percent are undiagnosed.

To help clients understand the importance of selecting healthy, plant-based foods, supplies are obtained from F.R.E.S.H. New London, a food justice organization in New London that is also supported by the hospital. The nonprofit organization grows food in community gardens throughout the city and operates a mutual-aid-style food pantry.

Recipes that are shared with clients can easily, and inexpensively, be recreated at home. The classes run between 90 minutes to two hours, and up to 15 clients attend each program. Through the classes, clients become more aware of the processed food and unhealthy sweets that are part of their diets.

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### **SMILOW CANCER HOSPITAL AT WESTERLY TARGETS REDUCTION IN LUNG CANCER**

A 2022 "State of Lung Cancer" report by the American Lung Association reveals that Rhode Island ranks 43rd in the nation for rate of new lung cancer cases and first in the nation for the 5-year survival rate.

Through its Lung Cancer Screening Program, the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Westerly aims to impact the number of new cases. The program includes a comprehensive multidisciplinary team of internationally recognized pulmonologists, chest radiologists, thoracic surgeons, thoracic oncologists, tobacco treatment specialists and nurse practitioners. The goal is to provide



A lung cancer screening at Westerly Hospital

exemplary lung cancer screening to individuals at risk for lung cancer and to offer individualized, state-of-the-art evaluation to patients with lung nodules.

In the past year, more than 600 patients were screened through the program at Westerly Hospital, and many registered for the hospital's free tobacco treatment program. The program provides strategies for quitting smoking and tobacco use and includes a one-hour consultation followed by four 30-minute consultations with a certified tobacco treatment specialist.

The increase in the number of screenings performed is thanks to expanded tracking capabilities that allow the hospital to identify patients who have had a diagnosis or are at risk and follow up with appointments on a regular basis for screenings. The screening itself is simple and takes as little as five minutes.

Annual lung cancer screenings are recommended for men and women between the ages of 50 and 80 who currently smoke or formerly smoked, with a 20-pack-year history. A pack-year is equal to smoking one pack, or about 20 cigarettes, per day for a year.

However, not just current and former smokers should be screened. While quitting lowers the risk of lung cancer over time compared with continued smoking, the risk is still higher than it is among people who have never smoked.

# The List

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The Fishers Island Campaign for Lawrence + Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department Renovation Project

Given by the Friends and Families of Fishers Island and the Peter O. Crisp Family

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### *Lois Vars*



Lois Vars has lived in Westerly and has been contributing to regional healthcare advancements most of her life. In 1962, she was awarded her Pharmacy degree from the University of Rhode Island (URI) and, alongside her father and her brother, operated the family business, Vars Brothers Pharmacy. In 1974, she joined URI as Assistant Dean of Pharmacy and retired, impressively, two decades later. In 1976, Lois became a member of the Westerly Hospital Board of Trustees, serving as Chair of the Hospital Board during 1990-91. Her life story is integral to that of the hospital. When she is asked why she has chosen to include Westerly Hospital in her estate planning, Lois's answer is characteristically direct, "Why would I not?"

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## Shirley Folbrecht

Throughout her years in both Chesterfield and Groton, Connecticut, Shirley Folbrecht was known for spreading kindness wherever she went. Her love of family, friends and community remained at the center of her full and vibrant life. Shirley volunteered in the Lawrence + Memorial Emergency Department for many years, and even continued after her husband, Albert, died in 1994. Shirley beat cancer several times throughout her life, and so, with a deep understanding of illness and loss, she leaves a legacy of compassion and seemingly limitless ability to help others. Shirley was a seamstress, crafter, painter and a great cook. She was adored by her many friends in The Red Hat Society, Chesterfield Firehouse Women's Auxiliary and L+M Auxiliary.



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The Joseph Lawrence Free Public Hospital, with 30 beds, a maternity ward and a nursery, was made possible thanks to a \$500,000 gift from Sebastian Lawrence, who established the hospital in memory of his parents, Joseph and Nancy Lawrence. Sebastian inherited his father's businesses and civic-mindedness, supporting the Sailors and Soldiers Monument, Firemen's Monument and Riverside Park. His most well-known donation, though, remains our founding, now Lawrence + Memorial Hospital, and, with Westerly Hospital, part of the Yale New Haven Health System.



**THEN & NOW:** A portion of a postcard showing Lawrence + Memorial at the start of its service to the community and the hospital today, providing access to cutting-edge medical care.