25 Years of Advancing Cancer Care at Stamford Health

2016-17 Bennett Cancer Center Annual Report Highlights
For 25 years, the Carl & Dorothy Bennett Cancer Center has offered a superior level of clinical care with access to world-class physicians, outstanding oncology nurses, a team of skilled professionals and the latest in treatment options and supportive services. All of this, with the convenience and comfort of being treated close to home.

We are proud to share some of the major highlights from the past year, and to be on the front lines of advancing cancer care for residents of Fairfield and Westchester counties.

### Quality Initiatives

Across the organization, we are committed to ensuring patient safety and quality care. What follows are a few highlights of quality initiatives relating to the cancer program.

- **Hematology Oncology Associates** received QOPI® recertification from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.
- The cancer program was surveyed by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer in 2016 and received three-year accreditation with commendation.
- The Breast Center was surveyed by the American College of Surgeons' National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) in 2017 and received three-year accreditation. The surveyor commented: “This is an excellent program which set the standards as to what a quality breast center should look like and this Center continues to lead the field.”
- Medical Oncology participates in the OCM (Oncology Care Model) and MIPS (2017 Merit-based Incentive Payment System). For CY 2017 the practice successfully reported all required data across all MIPS/OCM categories for a full year to maximize opportunity for payment adjustment to be realized in 2019.

### Clinical Trials

In 2017, the Bennett Cancer Center had 68 active clinical trials, 29 of which were open to accrual. This was the highest number of trials open to enrollment in the history of the cancer program. The Clinical Trials program had 203 active participants overall with 80 patients enrolled. Additional highlights for the program are included below.

- The Bennett Cancer Center surpassed ACoS CoC, NAPBC and ECOG-ACRIN accrual requirements.
- The Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Care Collaborative opened its first study with the Bennett Cancer Center in 2017: Randomized Phase II Study of Palbociclib With Letrozole vs. Letrozole Alone for Invasive Lobular Carcinoma and Invasive Ductal Carcinoma (PELOPS).
- ispECipm, the first biospecimen collection study at the Bennett Cancer Center, opened in September: Plasma Collection from Late Stage III or Stage IV Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (Adenocarcinoma) Donors Confirmed as Negative for the EGFR Mutation.
A full-time Research Pharmacist position was established. In addition to this position, the Oncology Research Team now includes: Bennett Cancer Center Medical Research Director; 18 Investigators; Stamford Hospital Director of Research; Clinical Trials Manager; three Research Nurses; Clinical Research Coordinator; Regulatory Specialist and Regulatory Assistant; Data Specialist; and Financial Analyst.

New Physicians/Staff
Over the last year we added a number of new physicians and staff members to enhance our program and the expertise available to treat our patients.

- Csaba Gajdos, MD, surgical oncologist
- Jamie Stratton, MD, medical oncologist, Hematology Oncology, PC
- Lindsay Naughton, APRN, Hematology Oncology, PC
- Colleen Hayes, RN-BC, MBA, Quality Manager, Cancer Services
- Holly Kostuk, RN, OCN, and Hopeton Kongal, CA, Medical Oncology and Hematology
- Eileen Fredriksen, LPN, Medical Oncology and Hematology, Patient Intake Coordinator
- Eileen Krueger, LMSW, Cancer Support Services team
- Vanessa Boral, MSN, RN, ANP-C, GI Oncology Nurse Navigator
- The oncology nurse navigator program was expanded to include Betsy Rice, MSN, RN-BC, CBCN, Women’s Health Oncology Nurse Navigator.

- Linda Solon was hired and reinstituted the Art Therapy Program at the Bennett Cancer Center.
- The first outpatient Graduate Engaged, Mastering & Succeeding (GEMS) nurse, Katherine Macabaug, RN, was hired to work in the Bennett Cancer Center.

Additional Achievements
This past year, we celebrated two significant milestones – the 25th anniversary of the Bennett Cancer Center and the 50th anniversary of Hematology Oncology, PC. In addition, there were a number of other notable accomplishments.

- The Bennett Cancer Center revealed its Wall of Honor recognizing the generous contributions from donors.
- The Bennett Cancer Center celebrated the first anniversary of its membership in the Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Care Collaborative.
- The Bennett Cancer Center started the implementation process for a new oncology-specific EMR.
- The Bennett Cancer Center initiated the “Making A Difference Program” to recognize physicians, nurses and staff who go out of their way to brighten the lives of both patients and fellow staff members.
- The Bennett Cancer Center renovated its main lobby and started additional renovation and expansion projects in the outpatient area.
- The Bennett Cancer Center developed a coordinated and comprehensive program to diagnose and treat melanoma.
- The Bennett Cancer Center presented two survivorship symposiums that were both well-attended and well-received. Dr. Ann Partridge, from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, was the keynote speaker at Moving Through and Beyond Cancer: What You Need to Know about Survivorship. Rachel Becker, LMSW, from Cancer & Careers, headlined the symposium on Balancing Work & Cancer.
- The Bennett Cancer Center’s Annual Cancer Symposium in April highlighted Advances in Clinical Oncology-Oncology and Palliative Care: Working Together for Comprehensive Cancer Care. Speakers included: Dr. Douglas Brandoff, Director, Opioid Safety and Compliance, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Robin Kanarek, RN, BSN, President of the Kanarek Family Foundation.

Jamie Stratton, MD
Robin Kanarek, RN, BSN
The Stamford Health Carl & Dorothy Bennett Cancer Center was the first facility in Connecticut selected to join the Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Care Collaborative, underscoring our proven leadership and commitment to excellence in cancer care. Membership in this collaborative led by such renowned leaders further expands our expertise and solidifies our vision to provide the best cancer care for our community today, while ensuring access to the latest in treatments and research for the future.