

2024 ANNUAL REPORT EDITION

 **Health Network**

LEADINGEDGE

WINTER 2025



A CENTURY OF CARING
THE LEGACY CONTINUES

*Celebrating 100 years of
caring for our community*

1924 – 2024

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Healthcare*



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CHH Achieves Birthing-
Friendly Designation*



*A Century of Caring, a Year
of Celebrations*



Health Network

celebrates

ONE YEAR OF EXCELLENCE

As we mark our first anniversary, we're proud to reflect on a year of growth, collaboration, and success that has built a strong foundation for the future of healthcare in our region.

With four hospitals, Marshall Health, and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, we're part of a dynamic healthcare system dedicated to serving our communities. Together, we offer care across 69 facilities/locations and 187 service access points, provide access to 116 specialty services, and support nearly 10,000 compassionate and skilled team members who are committed to making a difference every day.

HERE'S TO A YEAR OF MILESTONES—AND MANY MORE TO COME!



Message from
Kevin Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP
Marshall Health Network CEO

2024 marks a significant milestone for us at Marshall Health Network, as we celebrate one full year of serving our communities under a unified mission and vision. From the start, our mission has been clear: *Advancing Health. Inspiring Hope. Serving You.* These words reflect not only our daily commitment to quality care but also our dedication to the long-term health and well-being of the community we serve.

Over the past year, Marshall Health Network has expanded to more than 69 locations across 14 counties in West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio. With a dedicated team of over 1,100 physicians and advanced practitioners, 300 residents and fellows and 10,000 talented staff members, we are equipped to meet the diverse needs of our growing community.

Our mission of **Advancing Health** has led to innovative expansions throughout the network. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used to bring faster, more accurate diagnoses, along with customized treatments. The Robert and Lena Shell Outpatient Medical Pavilion at Cabell Huntington Hospital has expanded, Rivers Health Wound Center has opened and construction is underway on a newly revitalized emergency department. St. Mary's Medical Center proudly celebrated a century of healing, honoring the ongoing mission set forth by the founding Pallottine Sisters, with year-long community events.

In all that we do, we are committed to **Inspiring Hope** and recognizing the dedication and compassion our staff brings to every patient interaction. This dedication has been honored through numerous national recognitions awarded throughout Marshall Health Network, a true testament to the hard work of our entire team.

Finally, **Serving You** is a pledge that extends beyond our clinical services. This past year, we've been proud to partner with local organizations and programs that share our mission to improve the health and well-being of our communities. In the following pages, you'll find stories of several of these impactful partnerships.

As I look across my time with Marshall Health Network, I am inspired by the incredible talent, dedication and positive momentum of our team. Together, we have achieved so much and I am confident that this spirit of excellence will carry forward into an exciting future.

As we look ahead, we are preparing to welcome Marshall Health Network's next CEO, Scott Raynes. He brings a wealth of experience and a shared commitment to advancing our mission. I am confident his leadership will guide Marshall Health Network to new heights and further strengthen our impact in the community. You can read more about Scott in this issue.

The road ahead is full of opportunity and I have no doubt that, together, we will continue to achieve remarkable milestones.

Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD
CEO, Marshall Health Network
President, Cabell Huntington Hospital & St. Mary's Medical Center

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We are... Health Network

In the coming months, Marshall Health Network will introduce new facility signs and logos that bring together our facilities under one cohesive brand identity. This shift embraces the respected brand equity of Marshall University, a trusted name in healthcare, education and community service, and positions Marshall Health Network strongly alongside other university health systems regionally and nationally.



A unified healthcare brand is essential for building patient loyalty, while also distinguishing Marshall Health Network as a cohesive, reliable provider network in a competitive landscape.

A strong, recognizable brand makes it easy for patients to identify and feel confident in MHN's services, no matter which facility they visit. It also reinforces our commitment to quality and safety, helping patients feel confident in choosing us as their preferred provider for compassionate, exceptional care.

Through our united identity, we're strengthening our connection to the community and reinforcing our mission of *Advancing Health, Inspiring Hope and Serving You*. Stay tuned as we unveil this exciting transformation! ■

Marshall Health Network welcomes home Scott Raynes

Scott Raynes, FACHE, has been named President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Marshall Health Network (MHN) and will assume the role in early 2025.



A West Virginia native, Raynes brings over 35 years of executive health care experience. He joins MHN from Southeast Georgia Health System in Brunswick, where he has served as President and CEO since 2022. During his tenure, Raynes led a teaching hospital, a children's hospital, a community hospital, two skilled and long-term care facilities and a 200+ multi-specialty physician group. He also oversaw the graduate medical education affiliation with the Medical College of Georgia for teaching and residency programs.

Raynes began his health care career in West Virginia and served with health systems throughout the state for 17 years, locally serving as the President/CEO of the former HealthSouth. He joined NorthCrest Medical Center/ NorthCrest Health System (Tennessee) in 2005 as President & CEO for eight years. He then joined Baptist Healthcare Corporation (Florida) where he served as President of Baptist Hospitals, Inc. and Executive Vice President for nine years.

"We are pleased to announce Scott Raynes as the next CEO of Marshall Health Network," stated David Fox, MHN board chair and CEO selection committee lead. "He has the vision, experience and compassion to lead MHN as an academic health system for the future."

Raynes succeeds Kevin Yingling, MD, RPh, who announced plans to retire as MHN's founding President & CEO in April 2024.

Raynes is a member of the Georgia Hospital Association, past president of the Tennessee Hospital Association and a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from West Virginia Institute of Technology, master's in business administration with a specialization in healthcare from West Virginia University and a master's degree in higher education and counseling from Morehead State University in Kentucky.

Raynes and his wife, Shawwna - a Huntington native - are eager to return to West Virginia. They have two daughters, Delaney, who is attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and Ella, who is a senior at University of Alabama. ■

"We are pleased to announce Scott Raynes as the next CEO of Marshall Health Network. He has the vision, experience and compassion to lead MHN as an academic health system for the future."

– **David Fox**
MHN board chair and
CEO selection committee lead



Answering the call:

Dr. Maria Tria Tirona, founder of Marshall University's oncology program retires after 23 impactful years

Maria Tria Tirona, MD, is a woman of faith. Growing up in a Catholic family in the Philippines, she was determined to honor the Lord with her life's work. As a child, she thought that meant becoming a nun, like her two aunts. However, in high school, her aunts encouraged her to explore other options. When she mentioned an interest in becoming a doctor, they said, "Maybe you can better serve God if you become a physician."

Dr. Tirona followed her calling to medicine and attended medical school at the University of the East in the Philippines and went on to a career in medicine that left a positive impact.



Dr. Kevin Yingling, President and CEO of Marshall Health Network, had just begun his tenure as chair of the department of internal medicine at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2001, when Dr. Tirona was recruited to establish the oncology program.

"Dr. Tirona was gracious enough to visit our campus and arrived with a vast knowledge of hematology-oncology in a value-based practice plan," Dr. Yingling said. "Although the cancer center renderings were not yet complete, she saw the vision of Joan C. Edwards, donor and namesake of the Edwards Cancer Institute, and what was possible."

"Dr. Tirona was gracious enough to visit our campus and arrived with a vast knowledge of socialized medicine and how to practice hematology-oncology in a value-based practice plan."

– Kevin Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP
Marshall Health Network CEO

“I love West Virginia. I always say to my friends that it’s the best kept secret in the United States. People are so appreciative. That’s one thing about our patients. They’re very appreciative of the service you provide them – we have such nice people in West Virginia.”

– Maria Tirona, MD

Former Medical Director, Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center

“Our existing oncology program was defined by Dr. Tirona’s clinical expertise, passionate advocacy for education and tireless work ethic,” said Larry D. Dial Jr., MD, chief physician executive for Marshall Health Network and vice dean for clinical affairs at the School of Medicine. “Her foundational leadership guided trainees, patient care and clinical trials offered by the Edwards Cancer Institute, leading us to the integrated oncology program we have today. That journey that should be celebrated, studied and hopefully replicated by the leaders of the future.”

One of Dr. Tirona’s areas of focus has been the cancer clinical trials program. The Edwards Cancer Institute is now a legacy member of the Alliance Clinical Network, one of the nation’s major clinical trials cooperative groups supported by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). For patients with cancer, that is a big deal.



“Clinical trials are part of the standard of care for treating cancer patients,” said Dr. Tirona. “The NCI-sponsored group develops practice-changing clinical trials, and we’re able to offer them to our patients without them having to travel far from home for treatment.”

She was also committed to establishing a fellowship program. To date, Marshall’s hematology-oncology fellowship has trained 22 skilled and compassionate hematologist-oncologists.

After 23 years of teaching, mentoring and treating patients at Edwards Cancer Institute, Dr. Tirona chose to retire in 2024.

“I’m very lucky, and I’ve enjoyed my career,” she said. “I’m a spiritual person, and I know God led me to this place. I’ll always cherish being a Marshall University faculty member and the time I spent teaching and mentoring medical students, residents and fellows. It is one of the best things I’ve done with my life. I’m very blessed and very grateful.”

In retirement, she plans to spend more time with her mother, siblings and family and just be a “normal person,” at least for now.

To view the complete feature story by Jean Hardiman, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n765mja>. ■

Advancing Health.

Marshall Health Network is Advancing Health by pushing the boundaries of what’s possible in patient care. We provide access to high-quality care and the latest medical advancements, ensuring our communities benefit from cutting-edge treatments and technologies. Through groundbreaking research and innovative solutions, we’re shaping the future of healthcare—improving lives, setting new standards and delivering the best outcomes for patients.

How AI is transforming healthcare for our community

Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping healthcare in remarkable ways, bringing faster diagnoses, customized treatments and greater access to services. As AI continues to advance, these innovations are becoming more integral to local medical centers, helping make healthcare more efficient and accessible. Here, we explore some exciting AI applications used in our community that are making a real difference.

Faster diagnoses and personalized treatments

Imagine visiting the doctor and getting a tailored treatment plan or a diagnosis more quickly than ever. AI can analyze vast amounts of data to detect health patterns that might go unnoticed, enabling earlier and more accurate diagnoses. By supporting doctors in creating individualized care plans, AI helps increase the chances of successful treatment outcomes for each patient.

In the case of coronary artery disease (CAD)—a leading cause of death in the U.S.—AI is proving invaluable. At St. Mary’s Medical Center (SMMC), the HeartFlow analysis technology is transforming how CAD is diagnosed. This technology uses CT scans and AI algorithms to generate a detailed anatomical model of a patient’s heart, providing doctors with precise insights into blood flow and blockages caused by plaque buildup. As Melissa Mielcarek, Executive Director at St. Mary’s Regional Heart Institute, explains, “Identifying exactly where and how an artery is blocked can improve a person’s treatment plan, including whether or not an intervention is needed.”

By increasing the accuracy and timeliness of CAD diagnoses, this AI tool helps physicians design more effective treatment strategies, addressing a condition that affects nearly half of the adult population.

Improving cancer screening accuracy

AI is also enhancing the early detection of breast cancer at SMMC’s Breast Center, where two mammography machines equipped with Hologic Dimensions Genius AI provide more accurate readings. Dr. Ben Moosavi, Medical Director at the Breast Center, explains how AI

“AI is a fantastic addition to using computers in AI-generated protocols to enhance screenings in multiple ways. One, it makes the detection of cancer more accurate. Two, it reduces false positives. Three, it’s more efficient and cost effective. Four, it increases access to screening in underserved areas. And five, it supports clinical decisions.”

– Ben Moosavi, MD
Medical Director,
SMMC Breast Center

improves cancer detection: “AI is a fantastic addition to using computers in AI-generated protocols to enhance our screening and help our radiologists. One, it makes our detection of cancer more accurate. Two, it reduces false positives. Three, it’s more efficient and cost effective. Four, it increases access to screening in underserved areas. And five, it supports clinical decisions.”

The AI-assisted mammography process is simple for patients. While the image is captured, AI helps radiologists interpret it, often catching details that a human eye might miss. In fact, the combination of radiologists and AI can detect up to 20% more cancers than radiologists working alone. As the Cabell Huntington Breast Health Center plans to adopt similar technology in its new Medical Outpatient Pavilion, more local patients will benefit from AI’s added accuracy, leading to earlier detection and improved treatment outcomes.

AI screening for diabetic retinopathy

Another transformative use of AI in our community is happening at Marshall Health, where an AI system helps screen diabetic patients for diabetic retinopathy, a leading cause of blindness.



The system, LumineticsCore, uses a specialized camera to capture images of patients’ retinas, which the AI software then analyzes for signs of this serious condition. “This technology doesn’t replace a comprehensive eye exam by an eye care professional,” says Dr. Shannon Browning, Marshall Health’s Chief Medical Information Officer, “but it provides a convenient option for patients with diabetes to help prevent vision loss during regular check-ups with their primary care provider.”

Available in two of Marshall Health’s Huntington clinics, this AI tool allows for on-the-spot diagnosis, making it easier for diabetic patients to access essential eye care and prevent complications before they lead to vision loss.

MU studying the use of AI to make colonoscopies more effective

Marshall University is testing new ways to make colonoscopies more effective by using advanced technology and AI. The study combines two tools—Endocuff, a device that attaches to the colonoscope and a Computer-Aided Detection (CADe) system powered by AI—to spot polyps and abnormalities more accurately.

Both devices have individually shown promise in improving colon lesion detection and patient safety during colonoscopies, but this is the first study that combines the use of both tools in a single trial in the United States.



“Our goal is to see if combining these tools helps find more adenomas and identify patients who benefit most from this approach,” says Dr. Wesam Frandah, lead researcher and gastroenterologist at Marshall Health.

Since early detection is key to preventing colorectal cancer, the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S., this research could make a big difference. Marshall Health is currently recruiting patients for this multi-year study.

A smoother, more efficient system

Beyond enhancing medical accuracy, AI also streamlines everyday tasks in healthcare, from record-keeping to scheduling. This frees up healthcare staff to focus on patient care, ultimately creating a smoother, more responsive healthcare experience for all.



As these examples show, AI is far more prevalent in healthcare than many may realize. From diagnosing heart disease to catching early signs of cancer or diabetic retinopathy, AI is quietly supporting our local medical providers to deliver better, more connected and more personalized care. While we’re only at the beginning of this journey, AI’s potential to make healthcare more accessible and effective is already evident in our daily activities. As AI continues to evolve, our healthcare system will be better able to meet patient needs. ■

Experience comfort and clarity with MRI Theater at Rivers Health

Patients who struggle with claustrophobia, anxiety, or noise sensitivity find that undergoing an MRI at Rivers Health is more comfortable than traditional systems.

In 2020, Rivers Health became the first hospital on the East Coast to offer the Canon MR Theater, a revolutionary MRI system that provides more space and operates at 90 percent lower noise levels compared to conventional machines. The Canon MR Theater features Pianissimo Acoustic Noise Reduction Technology, significantly reducing the noise patients experience during the scan and offers in-ear audio for a more soothing environment.



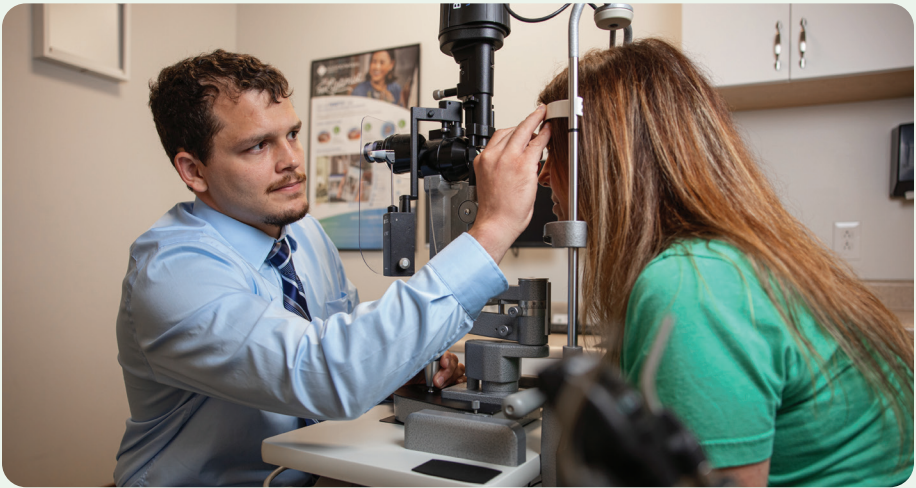
One of the standout features of this system is its theater capability, which provides a visual focal point to help patients remain calm during their MRI. Patients can watch calming scenes or even enjoy a movie, further reducing the anxiety associated with the exam.

“We’ve had patients travel from as far as New York and Pennsylvania to take advantage of our quieter technology,” said Jennifer Jenkins, Director of Radiology at Rivers Health. “This equipment not only delivers high-quality imaging but also enhances patient comfort throughout the entire process.”

For more information or to schedule a patient for an MRI at Rivers Health, call 304.675.6257. ■

New Neuro-Ophthalmology Service Brings Specialized Vision Care Closer to Patients

If you’re living with vision challenges linked to neurological conditions like stroke, brain tumors or multiple sclerosis (MS), there’s hope right here in southern West Virginia.



Marshall Health Network (MHN) now offers neuro-ophthalmology, a new service led by Dr. Christopher W. Burrell—the region’s only neuro-ophthalmologist. This specialized care is designed to help patients understand and manage complex vision issues, bringing expert solutions closer to home.

Neuro-ophthalmology bridges neurology and eye care, focusing on vision problems that originate in the brain or nervous system. Dr. Burrell and his team are equipped to diagnose and treat a wide range of conditions, from optic nerve inflammation and visual disturbances to more complex conditions such as eye muscle weakness, nystagmus (involuntary eye movements) and various nerve-related vision issues. In addition to treatments, services include genetic testing, Botox therapy and collaboration with Marshall Health’s MS Center of Excellence.

“Neuro-ophthalmologic issues often require a team approach and can take years to diagnose,” says Dr. Burrell. “Our goal is to provide timely, comprehensive care right here in West Virginia, helping patients get the diagnosis and treatment they need faster and with fewer hurdles. We’re dedicated to supporting our patients’ well-being with expert, compassionate care.”

Marshall Health Network is proud to make this specialized service available to patients across West Virginia and the tri-state area, continuing its mission to ensure our community receives the expert care they deserve – close to home, with confidence and compassion.

For more information about neuro-ophthalmology services at Marshall Health or to schedule an appointment, please visit marshallhealth.org/services/neuro-ophthalmology or call Marshall Neurology at 304.691.1787. ■

“Our goal is to provide timely, comprehensive care right here in West Virginia, helping patients get the diagnosis and treatment they need faster and with fewer hurdles. We’re dedicated to supporting our patients’ well-being with expert, compassionate care.”

– Christopher W. Burrell, MD
Neuro-ophthalmologist
Marshall Health

Robert and Lena Shell Outpatient Medical Pavilion

The Robert and Lena Shell Outpatient Medical Pavilion, located at 1340 Hal Greer Blvd., Building 2, on the Cabell Huntington Hospital campus, is now fully operational, offering a seamless and convenient healthcare experience for patients. This state-of-the-art, five-story, 80,000-square-foot facility features a covered access walkway that connects the building to the hospital parking garage. This walkway helps patients and visitors can reach their appointments comfortably, regardless of the weather.



Convenient, Comprehensive Services

With all services moved in, the Pavilion is a central hub for outpatient care, providing a wide range of specialties, including neurology, physical therapy, pulmonary, gastroenterology, endoscopy and imaging. The Cabell Huntington Breast Center has relocated to the ground floor of the new building and offers advanced mammography machines equipped with AI technology for enhanced cancer detection accuracy.

The Robert and Lena Shell Outpatient Medical Pavilion fulfills its mission of patient-centered care by combining state-of-the-art technology and convenient access to services under one roof, providing easier access to many of most-used services. ■



Exciting Updates at Rivers Health: New Services and Facilities

Rivers Health is investing in improved access and enhanced facilities with three major projects this year. The opening of the Rivers Health Wound Center, the Rivers Health Gallipolis Ferry Clinic, and the groundbreaking of a state-of-the-art Emergency Department.

Specialized Wound Care at the New Rivers Health Wound Center

In October, Rivers Health proudly opened the Rivers Health Wound Center, a specialized outpatient facility dedicated to treating patients with chronic or non-healing wounds. The center features a multidisciplinary team of physicians, nurses and technicians trained in advanced wound care techniques. They assess patients’ symptoms, identify any underlying conditions affecting healing and develop personalized treatment plans for optimal outcomes.



Under the leadership of Yuna Farah-Peterson, DPM, the Wound Center delivers expert care to help patients heal and regain quality of life. The facility is located at 2500 Jefferson Avenue, Point Pleasant. Call 304.857.3613 to schedule an appointment.



Expanded Primary Care at the New Gallipolis Ferry Clinic

Rivers Health has extended its reach with the opening of the Rivers Health Gallipolis Ferry Clinic. Led by Hannah Leport, MD, a board-certified family physician and Point Pleasant native, the clinic offers primary care services for both adults and children. Dr. Leport’s deep connection to the area ensures compassionate, personalized care. Services include annual exams, wellness visits, chronic condition management and treatment for minor illnesses or injuries.

The clinic is located at 346 3rd Ave., Gallipolis, OH. To learn more or schedule an appointment, call 740.446.7393.

Building for the Future: A New Emergency Department

Rivers Health was awarded \$7 million in Rural Hospital Grant funding, as announced by former Gov. Jim Justice. Rivers Health will utilize the grant to renovate and expand its emergency department, a project that was announced at a ceremonial groundbreaking in October 2024.



Rendering of Rivers Health's new ER.

The facility will feature:

- 16 private treatment rooms, including two trauma rooms and two psychiatric care rooms.
- Five fast-track rooms for patients with minor injuries or illnesses.
- A level entryway for easier accessibility for patients and ambulances.
- Improved proximity to the helipad for faster patient transfers to advanced care facilities in Huntington.

These upgrades were carefully designed to enhance patient access to high-quality emergency care..

These exciting developments reflect Rivers Health's dedication to expanding access to exceptional healthcare services across the region. Stay tuned for updates on the progress of these projects. ■

Marshall Health Network partners with Primefocus Health to offer digital health solutions

Marshall Health Network announced a new partnership with Primefocus Health to expand access to quality healthcare in our region. Together, we're creating a customized digital health solution that tackles critical issues like access to care in rural areas, obesity, healthy aging and support for substance use recovery.



Primefocus Health, a new venture with LG Electronics' innovation center, aims to make healthcare more accessible and personalized. This partnership will help us reach over 1.4 million people across 40 counties in West Virginia, southern Ohio and eastern Kentucky, using non-invasive technology and remote monitoring to bring care directly to patients' homes.

Through this new solution, patients will be able to connect with healthcare providers from the comfort of their homes using an app-based portal. The platform will track progress for various health conditions, offer easy communication with doctors and allow timely interventions when needed.

Here's how our collaboration with Primefocus Health will focus on key health needs:

- **Rural health:** Expanding access to healthcare in rural areas where resources may be limited.
- **Obesity:** Supporting healthy lifestyles with resources on nutrition, physical activity and behavioral health.
- **Healthy aging:** Offering older adults access to preventive care, wellness programs and chronic disease management.
- **Substance use disorder:** Providing support and treatments for those managing substance use issues, with a focus on opioid recovery.

"We're thrilled to provide patients with easier access to healthcare right at home," said Marshall Health Network CEO, Dr. Kevin W. Yingling. "This collaboration means more convenient care, better outcomes and an improved quality of life for our community."

"We're working to transform healthcare by empowering people with tools to actively improve their health," added Darren Sabo, CEO of Primefocus Health. "Our partnership with Marshall Health Network will allow us to address the specific needs of West Virginia and Appalachia, bringing care to people where and when they need it most."

Development is set to continue, with plans to roll out these new services to patients in 2025. ■

"We're thrilled to provide patients with easier access to healthcare right at home. This collaboration means more convenient care, better outcomes and an improved quality of life for our community."

– Dr. Kevin W. Yingling

Marshall Health Network CEO

Inspiring Hope.

Inspiring hope goes beyond providing outstanding health care; it's also looking to the future with optimism and determination. It's about empowering patients to see beyond an illness or injury, supporting them in their journey towards recovery, and offering innovative and accessible treatments and therapies to pave the way for a brighter tomorrow.

Focusing on quality and excellence

Marshall Health Network is committed to providing the highest quality patient care to everyone. We take pride in our people and the services they provide. Our hospitals have been nationally recognized for that commitment with numerous awards and recognition.

Cabell Huntington Hospital is one of **America's 100 Best Hospitals** for 2025, as well as **America's 50 Best Hospitals for Surgical Care 2025** (2022-2025). According to research released by Healthgrades, this achievement puts CHH in the top 2% of hospitals nationwide for overall clinical performance across the most common conditions and procedures.

CHH was also the only hospital in West Virginia to receive both Healthgrades **Outpatient Orthopedic Surgery Excellence Award** and **Outpatient Joint Replacement Excellent Award** for 2024.

St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) and Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) have been recognized in the annual *U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals* rankings and ratings for 2024-2025. Of the more than 4,500 hospitals evaluated, only 37% earned even a single High Performing rating.

SMMC has been recognized as a **High Performing Hospital** by U.S. News and World Report for treating heart attack, heart bypass surgery, heart failure, hip replacement, pneumonia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

SMMC was also recognized as **Best Regional Hospital for Equitable Access** for its success as a high performing hospital providing excellent care to patients in underserved communities.

CHH was recognized as a **High Performing Hospital** for knee replacement and COPD.



CHH has once again achieved accreditation as a **Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology Surgery** and a **Center of Excellence in Robotic Surgery**, recognized for providing the highest quality of care and patient safety by the Surgery Review Corporation (SRC).



CHH's The Maternity Center has been designated as **Birth-Friendly** by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), as well as **2025 High Performing hospital for Maternity Care** by U.S. News & World Report. This is the highest award a hospital can earn.

SMMC was the first facility in West Virginia to earn **Heart Failure Accreditation** from American College of Cardiology (ACC) Accreditation Services.

SMMC has received the American College of Cardiology's NCDR **Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award** for 2024. SMMC is one of only 259 hospitals nationwide to receive the honor. This is the eighth consecutive year SMMC has been recognized as High Performing. ■



“We’re working to transform healthcare by empowering people with tools to actively improve their health. Our partnership with Marshall Health Network will allow us to address the specific needs of West Virginia and Appalachia, bringing care to people where and when they need it most.”

– Amanda Long, RN
Clinic coordinator

Marshall Health Network hospitals receive 2024 WVHA Commitment to Excellence Honors Program awards



The 2024 West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) Commitment to Excellence Honors Program, led by the WVHA Quality Committee, celebrates hospitals that excel in developing and implementing initiatives aimed at improving patient care, advancing the health of West Virginians and adhering to nationally recognized standards proven to enhance patient outcomes.

Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary’s Medical Center received the program’s highest level of distinction, the Gold Honor, for their unwavering dedication to quality improvement and patient care. Rivers Health was recognized with the Silver Honor for its commendable efforts in these same areas. ■

St. Mary’s Community Care Clinic offers health services for patients with lower incomes

If you or someone you know needs affordable healthcare, the St. Mary’s Community Care Clinic is here to help. Part of Marshall Health Network, this clinic provides high-quality care for lower-income residents across the Tri-State area, serving individuals who meet financial eligibility guidelines. Whether you’re insured or uninsured, the clinic is dedicated to making sure everyone has access to the care they deserve.

“At St. Mary’s Community Care Clinic, we offer a wide range of services, including medical, endocrine, cardiac and surgical care, all delivered by a team of compassionate professionals,” said Amanda Long, RN, the clinic’s coordinator. “Our goal is to provide quality, patient-centered care to those who may not be able to afford it otherwise”

The clinic also partners with Facing Hunger Foodbank to provide eligible patients with monthly food boxes, including fresh produce, meat and pantry staples, to support their overall health. Need extra help? A social worker is available onsite to connect patients to resources like transportation assistance, medical bill support and food security programs.

While the clinic focuses on preventive and specialized healthcare, some services—like mental health care, pain management and orthopedic care – are not provided directly. However, the clinic can help coordinate referrals to trusted specialists. Although medications are not dispensed onsite, prescriptions are conveniently sent to local pharmacies.

To get started, patients need to complete eligibility paperwork and provide proof of household income. Social workers are available to help with the application process.

For an appointment, call the St. Mary’s Community Care Clinic at 304.526.1300, or reach out to the clinic’s social worker at 304.526.1239. ■

A Century of Caring, a Year of Celebrations

In 2024, St. Mary’s Medical Center proudly marked a century of service to the Tri-State community – a milestone rich in history, faith and dedication. The celebration began in November 2023 with a special ceremony where Huntington Mayor Steve Williams unveiled new signage for Honorary Pallottine Square, a tribute to the Pallottine Missionary Sisters who established St. Mary’s in 1924.

The year-long celebration was filled with meaningful events, reflecting on the legacy and looking ahead to the future. In January, the Feast of St. Vincent Pallotti, founder of the Pallottine Missionary Sisters, set the tone for a year of gratitude and reflection. Two special publications—The St. Mary’s Story, a detailed history of the medical center and Praying the CHRIST Values of St. Mary’s, a devotional and prayer book – were released to commemorate this incredible journey.



In June, the Legacy Children’s Carnival and All Ages Health Fair brought the community together for a day of fun and wellness. Families enjoyed games and activities while also benefiting from health screenings and information designed to support people of all ages. Employees joined in the festivities with a vibrant Legacy Luau, celebrating their contributions to St. Mary’s enduring success.

The annual St. Mary’s Gala took on special significance this year, honoring the 100-year legacy with a timeline walk-through and a moving video presentation that captured the spirit of St. Mary’s through the decades. The Centennial Celebration Dinner, aptly themed “View the Past, See the Future,” was a highlight. Bishop Mark E. Brennan of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston joined the Pallottine Missionary Sisters, community leaders and St. Mary’s team members for an evening of reflection and recognition. The dinner included the induction of new honorees into the St. Mary’s Wall of Fame, celebrating individuals who have made lasting contributions to the medical center.

Through all the events and milestones, one thing has remained constant: St. Mary’s commitment to being a place “of healing, of hospitality and of hope.” As the community celebrated 100 years, this mission was more evident than ever.

St. Mary’s Medical Center is proud to continue its journey of serving the patients with faith, compassion and excellence as it steps into the next century of care. ■



Wall of Fame inductee, Michael Sellards, President & CEO of St. Mary’s Medical Center from 2000 to 2019.

From Food Service to Patient Care: Carrie Kimball’s inspiring journey at St. Mary’s

Healthcare careers are both rewarding and in high demand, but the cost of education can be a major roadblock for many. That’s why Marshall Health Network (MHN) introduced a tuition assistance program, making it easier for people to pursue their dreams in fields like nursing, respiratory care, lab technology, surgical technology and medical imaging.



One inspiring example of how this program can change lives is Carrie Kimball, whose journey at St. Mary’s Medical Center highlights the power of perseverance and support in turning aspirations into reality.

Carrie Kimball’s journey at St. Mary’s Medical Center has been a path filled with resilience, growth and purpose. Starting her career in food services in January 2009, she remembers vividly the snowy morning when she nervously reported for her first day on the job. She was determined to make a positive impression, even if a winter storm almost slowed her arrival.

As a food service worker, Carrie’s role focused on meal preparation for patients. She soon moved into the diet clerk’s office, where she helped patients choose meals that met their dietary requirements. This role offered her a first glimpse into patient care and sparked an interest in healthcare. Through MHN’s ASPIRE Employee Program, which provides employees with financial assistance and low-cost or free opportunities to further their education, Carrie was able to take her ambitions further. She joined the Patient Care Specialist (PCS) program, where her passion for direct patient care truly blossomed.



The pivotal moment that led Carrie to pursue nursing came with the birth of her daughter. After six years of trying to conceive and following a heartbreaking loss, Carrie finally held her child in her arms. She realized she wanted to set an example for her daughter: that age is no obstacle to achieving your dreams. “I needed to show her that if you have a dream, you can achieve it if you try hard,” Carrie shared.

Carrie’s journey wasn’t without challenges. One of her initial fears was drawing blood — a skill she knew was essential but dreaded due to the thought of causing

pain to her patients. Overcoming this apprehension required her to face it head-on and each successful procedure brought her greater confidence and empathy, ultimately strengthening her as a caregiver.

The hands-on training she received as a PCS laid the groundwork for her future as a nurse. It taught her the fundamentals of patient care and embedded a sense of duty and compassion that would carry through her career. Carrie credits her friend and colleague, Jessica Gillespie, RN, as a key mentor. Jessica guided her through LPN school, helping her master difficult concepts and teaching her effective study strategies. Jessica’s support and mentorship proved invaluable, reminding Carrie of the power of camaraderie and support in healthcare.

Looking back on her journey, Carrie has valuable advice for her younger self and anyone starting in the field: “Stay focused on your goals. Don’t stop just because it’s hard — try harder.” She believes in the saying, “Determination will overcome any obstacle,” a mindset that has carried her from the dietary office to a position of responsibility and care as an LPN.

Carrie’s next step is to bridge an RN program, determined to continue her path of growth and service. Her story is a testament to the power of perseverance, the impact of mentorship and the importance of pursuing dreams, no matter where you start or what obstacles lie in your way.

“Stay focused on your goals. Don’t stop just because it’s hard — try harder.”

– Carrie Kimball

Learn more about the Marshall Health Network ASPIRE program here:
www.marshallhealthnetwork.org/aspire. ■

Serving You.

Marshall Health Network has a rich history of caring for the communities we serve. We are so proud of these community outreach efforts to do what we can, when we can, for those who need it most. Learn more by visiting marshallhealthnetwork.org/community.



Community baby shower



Facing Hunger Food Bank



Habitat for Humanity



HIMG Center for Sight

Community baby shower

St. Mary's Women and Family Care held a Community Baby Shower for new and expectant mothers. Expectant mothers had a chance to connect with pediatric experts, learn important tips for parenting and take home some amazing gifts and prizes.

Community health and wellness fairs

From Wellness Wednesdays at Huntington Mall to engaging Lunch & Learn sessions, blood sugar screenings and convenient drive-thru flu shot clinics, MHN is dedicated to supporting your health and well-being at every stage of life.

Culloden Elementary School

St. Mary's Operating Room team visited Culloden Elementary School for the 3rd Grade Health Science Fair. Staff brought along fractured "bones" to demonstrate real-life medical skills, guiding students through the process of plating and repairing rib and sternum fractures.

Facing Hunger Food Bank

Each month, MHN employees volunteer to help pack food items, organize and clean the warehouse. Rivers Health hosted a mobile food distribution where employees distributed enough food to provide 14,625 meals.

Habitat for Humanity

The Auxiliaries of CHH and SMMC along with our MHN Volunteer Services team participated in the "She Nailed It" with Habitat for Humanity of the Tri-State to help build a home for a family in Huntington.

HIMG Center for Sight donates glasses

The HIMG Center for Sight, an outpatient service of SMMC, donated 270 pairs of glasses and 150 new glasses cases while staff collected 235 used eyeglasses and cases.

Hope Blooms

MHN Auxiliaries attended this inaugural event to help raise funds and awareness for Project Hope Women and Children treatment facility that supports women with substance use disorders and their children.

Rivers Health Ladies Night Out

More than 120 women in Mason and Gallia counties enjoyed some fun and pampering during this event. Participants were able to shop with local vendors as well as receive free breast exams, screening mammograms, chair massages and paraffin wax hand treatments.

Rivers Health unFAIRgettable season

RH staff and volunteers took part in activities at the Mason and Gallia County Fairs. Physicians offered information and blood pressure screenings, and a cooling station was available.

Shepherd's House

Salt of the World Ministries, Inc. has established Christ based sober living homes for men and women. MHN was proud to sponsor their program to help those seeking recovery help.

SMMC Trunk or Treat

Students from the St. Mary's School of Nursing, Respiratory Care and Medical Imaging got in the Halloween spirit to host a safe community trunk-or-treat.

Superheroes save the day at Hoops

Superheroes from High Access/Central Window Cleaning, a Cleveland-based company, wore their favorite superhero suits and cleaned windows while Hoops pediatric patients watched from their rooms. The superheroes also visited patients before getting back to their day jobs of saving the world.

United Way of the River Cities

Each year Marshall Health Network employees donate to the United Way of the River Cities to help give back to our communities. MHN volunteers also participated in "Read Across the River Cities" program to read the first two chapters of Charlotte's Web to third graders across six counties.

YMCA Steady in Motion

Marshall Health Network is proud to sponsor the Huntington YMCA's Steady in Motion program, which helps Parkinson's patients reduce symptoms through boxing and exercise.



Shepherd's House



SMMC Trunk or Treat



United Way of the River Cities



YMCA Steady in Motion



Heather Pinckard-Dover, MD – Neurosurgery
Assistant Professor, Marshall University
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

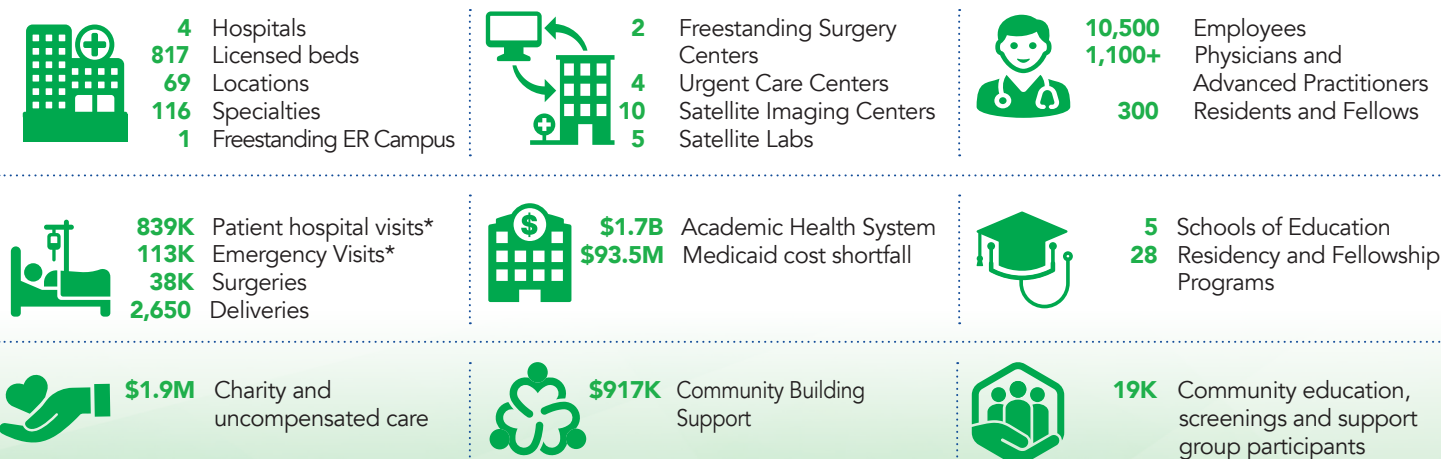


Your hands
work hard.

Let us help you
keep them working.

Moving health care boldly forward as the region's premier integrated academic health system

Marshall Health Network serves more than 1.4 million children and adults throughout West Virginia and central Appalachia, providing greater access to high-quality health care.



* 2023, CHH, SMMC & RH

Marshall Health Network Hand Specialists



Aouod Agenor, MD
Assistant Professor
Marshall Orthopaedics



Luis E. Bolano, MD
Clinical Professor
Scott Orthopedics



Suhirad Khokhar, MD
Assistant Professor
Marshall Orthopaedics



Alan R. Koester, MD
Associate Professor
Marshall Orthopaedics



Steven R. Novotny, MD
Associate Professor
Marshall Orthopaedics



Your hands are essential to everything you do – don't let pain or injury hold you back. **Marshall Health Network's** skilled hand surgeons specialize in diagnosing and treating conditions affecting the hand, wrist and fingers, including:

- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Arthritis & Joint Pain
- Fractures & Sports Injuries
- Trigger Finger
- Tendon & Nerve Injuries

From minimally invasive treatments to advanced surgical care, we're here to help you regain strength, mobility and comfort.

Discover more about expert hand care at Marshall Health Network, visit <https://marshallhealthnetwork.org/> or ask your provider if a consult is right for you.

An elderly couple, a woman with short curly hair and a man with a white beard, are laughing together in a home setting. The woman is wearing a blue top and a necklace, and the man is wearing a striped shirt. They are holding hands and looking at each other. The background is a blurred interior of a house.

Discover more belly laughs.

It's your health. Discover more personalized care.

Discover more dancing like nobody's watching. More jumping into sprinklers on a hot summer day. More giggles and full-out belly laughs. At Marshall Health Network, we're committed to helping you experience it all, and more. With more than 1,100 physicians and specialists, we're bringing you the latest in research and treatment options to help you enjoy the best in health, life long. Today, discover amazing caregivers who put you first because we believe you deserve more.



Discover more.

Visit MarshallHealthNetwork.org.