Donor Dollars at Work

For Burke, donations are a key resource that directly help patients and their families. Here’s what philanthropy enabled Burke to do last year:

- **LEAD** by being the first U.S. hospital to use a robot-assisted system, the Walkbot, to help patients walk again
- **COUNSEL** and help patients and caregivers through 171 support group meetings
- **PROMOTE** health and wellness to the 839 members of the Burke Fitness Center
- **PROVIDE** $847,000 worth of care to patients with limited resources
- **OPEN** our 7th outpatient clinic in Armonk, to bring Burke services closer to home
- **TRAIN** the next generation of neurorehabilitation professionals through a new Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation residency program

**A case in point: The Bristal**

The Bristal, a Burke supporter since 2014, is a senior assisted living community with locations in White Plains and Armonk. Burke and The Bristal have worked together on a number of sponsorship projects. In 2017, Burke and The Bristal continue to collaborate on the Senior Health Series, which are lectures held throughout the year that provide useful health information for seniors.

“Burke hosts some wonderful events, many of which focus on senior health and fitness. As a luxury assisted living community that serves the senior population, we are glad to support Burke in their work to help seniors live their best life,” says Ellen Antonucci, Vice President of Marketing at The Bristal.

**Meet the 2017 Burke Award Honorees**

The Burke Award dinner is fast approaching: the event will be held on June 8 at the Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase. This year’s honorees are:

- **Barbara Kessler**, School Librarian, Stroke Survivor and National Aphasia Advocate: Barbara experienced a severe ischemic stroke that left her unable to walk or talk and paralyzed on her right side. After Burke, Barbara was able to regain function and was diagnosed with aphasia. Today, Barbara is active as a national advocate for brain trauma and stroke patients with aphasia and other challenges. She sits on the board of the National Aphasia Association.

  **Steven Kessler**, Lawyer and Senior Compliance Officer, Caregiver and National Patient Advocate: Steve and Barbara work together as national advocates for brain trauma, stroke and aphasia patients, their care providers and families. He has been an international finance and securities lawyer and a senior compliance officer for over 30 years. He is Barbara’s caregiver and committed to improving medical care for returning U.S. war veterans.

- **Michael James Reding, MD**, Neurorehabilitation Consultant and Former Director of the Burke Stroke Rehabilitation Program: Dr. Reding was the Medical Director of the Stroke Rehabilitation Program at Burke from 1980 to 2013, when he assumed emeritus status. He is currently a full-time volunteer clinical researcher at Burke and the Burke Medical Research Institute.

To support the Burke Award, please call (914) 597-2222.