2017 PROVED TO BE A LANDMARK YEAR FOR BURKE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL.

After becoming President and CEO in April, my goal was to position Burke as the centerpiece for post-acute rehabilitation care in the Montefiore Health System. To accomplish this, we made sure our rehabilitation services are offered seven days a week, ensuring our patients’ needs are met every day of the year. In addition, we expanded our outpatient reach at White Plains Hospital and brought our therapy services to St. Luke’s Cornwall and Montefiore New Rochelle hospitals.

Burke also launched a new outpatient physician practice on its main campus in White Plains that provides expanded medical services while offering the same quality, compassionate care that Burke is known for. We identified a huge gap in healthcare for patients who were discharged from an inpatient hospital stay, but still required follow-up medical care. These patients are now able to schedule appointments with board-certified Burke / Montefiore doctors for a variety of medical conditions requiring physical rehabilitation and specialty services in an outpatient setting. These services are open to all patients, not just those who have been discharged from Burke.

2017 was also a year of high accolades for Burke. I am pleased to say that in 2017 Burke received a 3-year accreditation from The Joint Commission, a nationally recognized organization that is the gold-standard in grading healthcare organizations and their commitment to safe, quality and effective care.

The hospital also received the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI) Award for Outstanding Nursing Quality by Press Ganey. The award honors hospitals that have made impressive and measurable improvements in nursing performance and patient outcomes.

Burke closed out 2017 by being named Hospital of the Year by Hospital Newspaper, which lauded the hospital’s outpatient clinic expansion, the nationally-recognized residency program and the culture of giving back to the community.

Yet with all of these changes, many long-held Burke traditions continued. Burke hosted the Heels & Wheels 5K race in May, one of the few events that allows able-bodied runners and wheelchair athletes the chance to compete side-by-side. The hospital’s biggest fundraiser, the Burke Award Dinner, was held in June. In September, Burke held the 38th annual Wheelchair Games, an event run by employees and volunteers that focuses on the spirit of inclusion. All of these events illustrate Burke’s commitment not only to the rehabilitation field, but also to the communities that we serve.

As we move through 2018, there is much to look forward to. We will continue to strengthen our ties throughout the Montefiore system, increasing our presence at St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital and Schaffer Extended Care Center in New Rochelle. We will also open the first caregiver center in a rehabilitation hospital in the United States and expand our network of outpatient clinics.

On behalf of the entire staff at Burke, I wish you happiness and good health for 2018 and beyond.

Jeffrey Menkes
President and CEO
Burke Rehabilitation Hospital continued to solidify its place within the Montefiore Health System in 2017. Burke grew its outpatient presence at White Plains Hospital and introduced therapy services to our Montefiore partners at New Rochelle Hospital and St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital in Orange County. Burke continues to operate under the Burke brand as an inpatient hospital as well as in its outpatient clinics. The Burke and Montefiore partnership has aligned the strengths of each institution to improve patient experiences and results. The relationship with Montefiore will continue to grow in 2018 as Burke looks to increase its presence at St. Luke’s Cornwall as well as Schaffer Extended Care Center in New Rochelle.

Rusty Chmelovsky had been a patient at Burke since 2008 when a work-related injury left him paralyzed from the waist down.

On Dec. 20th, Rusty stood up, and with the assistance of his ReWalk Robotic Exoskeleton, walked out of the hospital’s front door. In doing so, Rusty became the first patient in the region to be discharged from a hospital with the device.

Rusty’s story made headlines across the country and beyond, being dubbed the “Christmas Miracle” throughout the United States and as far abroad as Russia. It’s just another example of how Burke employs the latest technology to help our patients get back to the lives they love.

To learn more about Rusty, please visit our website at burke.org/rustys-story

Montefiore Health System is one of the New York’s premier academic health systems and is a recognized leader in providing exceptional quality and personalized, accountable care to approximately 3 million people in communities across the Bronx and the Hudson Valley. It is comprised of 11 hospitals, including the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, and close to 200 outpatient care sites. The advanced clinical and translational research at its medical school, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, directly informs patient care and improves outcomes. From the Montefiore-Einstein Centers of Excellence in cancer, cardiology and vascular care, pediatrics, and transplantation, to its preeminent school-based health program, Montefiore is a fully integrated healthcare delivery system providing coordinated, comprehensive care to patients and their families.
BURKE LAUNCHES OUTPATIENT PHYSICIAN PRACTICE

In November, Burke launched a new outpatient physician practice on its White Plains campus that provides expanded services while offering the same quality, compassionate care that Burke is known for.

Patients are now able to schedule appointments with board-certified Burke/Montefiore doctors for a variety of medical conditions requiring physical rehabilitation in an outpatient setting.

The highly-trained staff is equipped to treat and manage complications related to stroke, spinal cord injury, brain injury, cardiac disease, pulmonary disease, orthopedic surgery, amputations, musculoskeletal disorders, chronic pain, dementia, arthritis and other debilitating conditions that do not need to be treated in a hospital.

For more information about Burke’s outpatient physician practice, or to schedule an appointment with a physician, please call (914) 597-2332.

Or visit www.burke.org/physicianpractice

PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

“I was a dancer and came to Burke after having bilateral knee replacement. I was in intense pain and didn’t feel I would ever be able to move forward. The therapists here are with you every step of the way. My therapist, Trevor, choreographed a dance with me and at my last session we performed a Fox Trot. That’s how I left Burke.”

Claudia

“I’m now at Burke for outpatient care and it’s the same thing. The therapists are engaged and they’re paying attention to you and your needs. Everybody at Burke is rooting for you to get better.”

Burke prides itself on being more than just a rehabilitation hospital. We strive to be a dedicated member of the community that provides cutting edge programs tailored to the needs of local residents.

The largest of these programs is Burke’s Fitness Center, a state-of-the-art gym for adults over 40 and those with a qualifying disability. The fitness center features personal trainers, equipment and classes. Classes include a Silver Sneakers program, tai chi, various yoga classes and more. Burke’s adaptive sports program also offers those with physical and intellectual disabilities the chance to participate in a wide array of sports and athletic activities.

For those dealing with longer-term illnesses, Burke offers several support groups. These groups are free and meet on our White Plains campus. Support groups include brain injury, amputee, spinal cord injury, young onset Parkinson’s disease and caregiver groups.

For a complete list of our community programs, please visit www.burke.org/community

Burke Rehabilitation Hospital is a leader in rehabilitation medicine and continues to conduct cutting-edge research to help patients achieve their highest level of recovery. These trials, many of which are funded by nationally-recognized organizations, focus on topics like dementia, Alzheimer’s disease and more. Patients are encouraged to learn more about Burke’s clinical trials to see if they qualify.

To learn more about Burke’s research initiatives, please visit www.burke.org/education
In 2017, the Faces of Burke photography exhibit traveled to various locations throughout Westchester County, showcasing the individuality of the patients treated here every day and illustrating their Burke experience. Patients with physical and cognitive impairments resulting from stroke, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, cardiac disease, pulmonary disease and orthopedic issues come to Burke to regain their mobility and independence.

Max, a professional motocross rider, had his leg amputated after he was thrown from his bike. After being fitted with a prosthetic limb, Max came to Burke and learned to run again. He eventually got back on his bike and competed in the X Games.

Ronald from critical care surgery was unable to walk or lift his hand to his head. The father of three came to Burke and regained his strength. Two years later, Dr. Verrier is back in the operating room.

Susan spent a month at Burke undergoing therapy following an aneurysm. She came in non-verbal and unable to walk. Today she's not only walking and talking, but driving and babysitting her three grandchildren.

Barbara suffered a severe ischemic stroke just months before her daughter's wedding. She came to Burke unable to walk or talk. Barbara was able to relearn basic activities thanks to her therapy. She also danced at her daughter’s wedding.

Luke broke his neck in a boating accident and wasn't able to move from his shoulders down. After months of therapy at Burke, he was able to stand upright. Today, he's taking steps on his own, and studying to be a neurologist.

The compelling photographs and stories of the featured participants illustrate a diverse and inspiring group of patients who have succeeded in getting back to the lives they love.

To learn more about the Faces of Burke exhibit and its participants, visit www.burke.org/FacesofBurke
Burke was established thanks to the generosity of our founder and benefactor, John Masterson Burke. This legacy of giving continues today. As a nonprofit institution, Burke relies on the generosity of individual donors, foundations and corporations to ensure that we can continue to provide our much-needed programs and services—and remain at the forefront of rehabilitation medicine.

This philanthropic support enables us to provide the most effective rehabilitation care and conduct cutting-edge clinical research. We recognize and thank the following contributors who have supported Burke with gifts of $1,000 or more.

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