

\$254,000 “Survivorship” Grant to Fund Post-Trauma Care Services



Dr. David Livingston and members of the Trauma Team.

As a trauma surgeon and Division Chief of Trauma, **Dr. David Livingston** said he always felt a concern that the patients whose lives they saved would be "lost to follow up." According to Dr. Livingston, "Our concern was that everything we do for trauma patients and families can get lost on discharge. It was obvious that the ongoing needs of these people were not being addressed."

Now, a grant of \$254,000 from the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey will fund the *"Trauma Recovery Project: Enhancing Rehabilitation and Reintegration Following Severe Injury."*

Dr. Livingston will step down as Division Chief of Trauma Services to run the Trauma Survivorship Program.

A patient-centric **"Trauma Survivorship Clinic"** for patients treated in the **University Hospital New Jersey Trauma Center** will provide ongoing comprehensive wrap-around care to patients and families.

He went on to say that additional staff will be hired including an advanced practice trauma nurse, a health coach/navigator and a social worker to work with physicians, APNs and palliative care counselors. They will participate in a multi-disciplinary team to focus on the social, emotional and health needs of trauma patients and family members.

The Survivorship Clinic expects to enroll about 200 patients and families annually. Participants will be assessed for health status, PTSD, depression and anxiety and caregiver burden.

A comprehensive three-year care plan and goals will be developed for each person. Patients and families will be seen at least every two months for the first year, and then quarterly over the next two years.

Patients may be enrolled in a peer support group, receive telehealth coaching services and a specialized patient portal and website to connect to the navigator and health care team.

Family members will receive similar peer support, access to a family member portal, counseling and coaching and access to navigation services and financial counseling.

"Severe injury is a life-changing disease that affects the patient and everyone in the family," Dr. Livingston said. "There are long-term issues of lost time from work, chronic pain, modifications to housing, stress on family caregivers and even financial issues including bankruptcy."

A longitudinal study of 100 severely injured patients at the New Jersey Trauma Center reported that only one third returned to work or school within three years and two thirds were less active than before the injury.

The Trauma team worked with Deanna Breglia, Executive Director, University Hospital Foundation, on the grant application.

The stated goal “is to return greater numbers of patients to full time employment/school, positively impacting both the patient’s quality of life and the economy through decreased patient reliance on public assistance. We believe that many issues such as pain, emotional support financial and social services, can be effectively addressed and are vital to long-term patient outcomes.”



Dr. Anne Mosenthal with former NY Giant George Martin, and hero cop Ken McGuire accepting a gift from the National Law Enforcement Officers Association for the Trauma Survivorship Program.

Grateful former police officer Ken McGuire is a supporter of Trauma Survivorship Program. Ken McGuire has always remembered how Dr. Mosenthal and the trauma surgery team saved his life. Each year he brings flowers to Dr. Mosenthal on January 12 and he has been involved in numerous philanthropic efforts to give back to the Hospital.

After what news reports described as “a furious gun battle” with an armed robber, Orange, New Jersey police officer Kenny McGuire was ‘in extremis’ Dr. Anne Mosenthal remembers when the wounded officer arrived at University Hospital Trauma Center, on January 12, 2001.

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life. Each year he brings flowers to Dr. Mosenthal on January 12 and he has been involved in numerous philanthropic efforts to give back to the Hospital.

This year, McGuire took his gratitude a step further. In his last act as president of the National Law Enforcement Association at its convention in New York, McGuire presented Dr. Mosenthal with a check for \$1,500.

The donation will fund the new Trauma Survivorship Program which helps trauma victims and families navigate the road to recovery.

McGuire’s sister, Anne Egan, works at University Hospital as administrative support for the medical staff office and the foundation. Ken McGuire has been very involved in philanthropy for the hospital, including appearing in a video for our gala.

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