

On the cover: Our new donor walls recognize those in our community who give generously to Overlook, enabling us to attract the highest level of medical professionals.

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“Overlook Medical Center has been on a journey of transformation for the last several years – becoming a hospital that our communities can turn to for the latest in high-quality care, innovation, and an exceptional experience for decades to come. We have enhanced existing spaces, built entirely new structures, such as the Hersh Children’s Center and the East Building, and adopted bold new models of care such as the EmPATH unit. Services like maternity are in brand-new homes on campus, while spaces that have long needed a facelift, such as our emergency department in Union, have been upgraded to match the exemplary care our doctors, nurses and professionals provide. With additions like the neuroscience “super-unit,” bringing together all of our neuroscience resources - including a new Neuro ICU - on one floor, we are continuing to position Overlook as the premier site for care in our region.”

Stephanie Schwartz

A Message from Overlook Foundation and Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center

Since its founding in 1906, Overlook has been guided by a mission to bring world-class health care to its communities. Today, we continue that legacy with the help of many people within and beyond our walls: our talented, compassionate physician and nursing teams; our highly capable technicians and employees; our dedicated volunteers and auxiliaries; and our many generous supporters who contribute their time, talents, and philanthropy. By embracing innovative technologies and processes, we consistently achieve regional and national recognition for excellence in patient care.

In our 2025 annual report – *Guided by Purpose, Leading with Innovation* – we take you inside Overlook’s East Building, a recently completed three-story addition to our Summit campus that houses new, state-of-the-art spaces for critical care, cardiology, maternity care, and neuroscience. We spotlight the Summit and Union Emergency Departments, which have undergone significant facility and technology upgrades designed to make it easier for patients to access Overlook’s emergency services, while enhancing their safety, privacy, and comfort.

We will also take a closer look at the Atlantic Hernia Center at Overlook, the first of its kind in New Jersey and one of only a few in the Northeast, where surgeons perform more than 1,000 hernia repairs every year. We showcase Atlantic Medical Group Women’s Health at Summit, which provides a continuum of women’s health services, including midwifery, from its location in the Medical Arts Center II.

Innovation abounds at Overlook as with our recently opened Neuromodulation Center, which offers stroke survivors breakthrough technology for regaining mobility and patients with rheumatoid arthritis an opportunity to live pain-free without multiple medications. Also being pursued, Brain-Computer Interface research is a burgeoning field that has enormous potential for restoring independence to those who are severely paralyzed.

Thank you for helping us build a medical center that has been ranked among the top one percent of our nation’s hospitals six years in a row. In 2025, gifts and pledges to our semiannual appeals, capital campaigns, and special events from you and other caring individuals, corporations, foundations, and community organizations amounted to nearly \$10 million.

Guided by purpose and leading with innovation, we have created a destination where novel ideas, cutting edge technology, top talent, and a culture of caring converge to deliver exceptional patient care – the kind of care envisioned more than a century ago.

With sincere appreciation for your generosity,

Elizabeth Peck
Board Chair
Overlook Foundation

Stephanie Schwartz
President
Overlook Medical Center

Clelia Biamonti, Ph.D.
Chief Philanthropy Officer
Overlook Foundation

State of **EMERGENCY** Gets Upgraded



Elliot Goodman, D.O.,
Marla O'Donnell, R.N.

"No one wakes up in the morning expecting to go to the Emergency Department (ED)," says Rajiv Prasad, M.D., chair of Emergency Medicine at the Summit and Union campuses of Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center.

"But if you suddenly need emergency care, our phenomenal teams are here 24/7 to compassionately and expeditiously treat whatever concern or ailment you have."

Both campuses have undergone significant facility and technology upgrades designed to make it easier for patients to access Overlook's emergency services, while enhancing their safety, privacy, and comfort. In Summit, where there are over 72,000 emergency department visits annually, a new front entrance, lobby, and triage area welcome patients to the Bouras Emergency Department. Children receive specialized care in the Michael Gordon Reeves Pediatric Emergency Department within the adjacent Hersh Children's Center.

Modern amenities include parking and valet service, private exam rooms, an expedited care unit and specialized services including comprehensive stroke and cardiovascular care, and some of the most advanced imaging capabilities in the region. In 2025, a new Crisis Unit was added to the ED to provide a calm, dignified space for those presenting with behavioral or mental health issues.

"We are a recognized leader in stroke care," remarks Dr. Prasad, who joined Overlook in September 2024 after serving as chairman of emergency services and interim chief medical officer at Bayshore Medical Center. "Seventy-five percent of our stroke patients receive thrombolytic treatment within 30 minutes of their arrival and 100 percent receive treatment within 45 minutes." For those experiencing a heart attack, door-to-balloon time (the time from ED arrival to restoring blood flow to the heart) is under 90 minutes for all patients. Overall waiting times to see a provider have also been reduced to a median time of less than 25 minutes.



Since 2019, Healthgrades® has ranked Overlook in the top five percent of hospitals nationwide for excellence in the treatment of stroke, cranial neurosurgery, and neurosciences more consecutive years than any other hospital in New York and New Jersey. It was the first hospital in the state certified by The Joint Commission as an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center, and the first in the nation to use Telestroke technology in ambulances. Consequently, Overlook is a go-to destination for stroke patients and others with serious neurological conditions.

"The volume of patients coming to our Summit ED is growing at an annual rate of three to five percent," points out Dr. Prasad. "We have an aging population with more complex medical conditions as well as a growing population overall in the surrounding area. Beyond that, patients come here for the excellent care our doctors, nurses, and technicians deliver. They come to Overlook because they know they are going to be treated with respect and compassion, and they trust our talented care team to make the right decisions.

"Patients have access to the best technology and a full spectrum of specialists to help manage and guide their treatment," he adds. "You can't go to a cardiologist and have them also take care of your injured foot. Head to toe, nothing is off limits in the ED."

Overlook's Union campus Emergency Department, with about 36,000 visits per year, recently unveiled a \$6.4 million upgrade to more than 10,000 square feet of its facility. Enhancements include additional private treatment rooms, a redesigned lobby with an assessment and triage area, an expanded on-site lab, a reconfigured nursing station with greater visibility of holding bays, and upgraded bedside monitoring systems.

Atlantic Health took over operations of the Union ED as Overlook's satellite emergency department after Union Hospital closed in 2007. Now, operating outside the confines of a brick-and-mortar hospital, it provides convenient quality care to some of the most underserved



Megan Brugna, R.N.,
Rajiv Prasad, M.D.,
Ari Nutovits, M.D.,
Jennifer Moran, R.N.

and vulnerable populations in the state. Staffed by board-certified emergency medicine physicians, registered nurses, and a dedicated pharmacist and respiratory therapist, it has earned international recognition. In 2023, it became the only ED internationally to receive the Emergency Nurses Association's Lantern Award for five consecutive cycles since the award's inception in 2011.

Serving as medical director there has special meaning for Elliot Goodman, D.O. Twenty-two years ago, he was a young intern at Union Hospital before embarking on a distinguished career in emergency services – most recently as director of Emergency Services at Bayonne Medical Center. Today, he relishes the opportunity to serve the community where his medical career began. The staff, he proudly says, is trained to the highest level to deploy the latest technologies to save lives.

"Foremost in my mind, when I go to work, is the fact that our ED is so uniquely different than what you might expect," observes Dr. Goodman. "It has a concierge feel, offering the highest quality care and the best possible patient experience. It's embedded in our culture here."

Elevating Excellence in Neurological Care

Building on more than two decades of leadership as the area's premier neuroscience center, Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center has opened an all-new inpatient unit dedicated to neurocritical, neurological, and comprehensive stroke care on the 7th floor of the hospital's recently built East Building.

The cornerstone of the F.M. Kirby Foundation Neuroscience Center, the unit also includes the Jeneil B. Reeves Neuro Intensive Care Unit (ICU), which has 12 private rooms for patients recovering from stroke, brain and spine surgery, subarachnoid hemorrhage, and other critical neurological conditions. Just steps away are the Bouras Acute Care Unit and a dedicated Neuro Intermediate Care Unit, providing a continuum of care for patients who require ongoing neurological monitoring but may not need full ICU-level support. Every patient room is private and intentionally designed to promote healing and family connection.



Andrew Tarulli, M.D., Keri Furci, APN, Fabio Frisoli, M.D.

"Privacy is important for sleep and recovery," observes Fabio Frisoli, M.D., chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. "The rooms are beautiful, many with windows looking out at the Manhattan skyline, all with more space for doctors, nurses, and physical therapists to work with patients. And with Neuro ICU, acute care, and intermediate care on the same floor, it's very easy for physicians to see all their patients on a single walk-around."

"The space was built with the intention of optimizing every patient's recovery," says Keri Furci, lead advanced practice provider for neurocritical care, who oversees a team of highly skilled advanced practice providers working 24/7 to manage patients arriving through the Emergency Department or rooftop helipad. "Each room provides more area for the care team, advanced technology, and creature comforts for visiting family members such as couches that convert to beds, private bathrooms, and closet space." Recognizing that patients in Neuro ICU often have photosensitivity, rooms include thoughtful lighting as well as privacy shades, she adds.

"We've had tremendous feedback from patients who were admitted to the former Neuro ICU and have come back to see its transformation," Keri comments. "But what I love most is that the culture hasn't changed. We have incredible providers and nursing staff who advocate for patients and always deliver the highest level of care."

As a physician who regularly uses the inpatient units, Andrew Tarulli, M.D., chair of Neurology and medical director for Ambulatory Neurology for Atlantic Medical Group, considers the new space a vast improvement. "We can get our equipment in and out to do diagnostic testing at the bedside, which can be quite involved in neuromuscular diseases. Families have a comfortable place to relax, and I can sit down and talk with patients at eye level in a private setting."

Patients with neuromuscular diseases such as Guillain-Barré or myasthenia gravis, he points out, need to do extensive therapy before they're ready to leave the hospital. Giving therapists and patients more space to move around makes that a better experience.

When it comes to technology, the neuro inpatient units are equipped with features that are cutting edge and forward thinking. Rooms are hardwired with video EEG to continuously monitor patients with seizure disorders at their bedside. TVs will be equipped with video capabilities so that families and physicians can communicate directly with the patient in bed.

In the event patients need to be isolated due to a respiratory-borne illness, rooms can use 100% outside air with all necessary HEPA filtration to ensure no airborne illnesses will recirculate back into the facility. Conduits for IV lines have been installed outside of rooms to allow nurses to change pumps or medications without entering a patient's room, thereby reducing potential transmission of disease.

"One of the technologies we're planning to introduce in the Neuro ICU is augmented reality goggles," explains Dr. Frisoli. "If a patient has a brain tumor or an intracerebral hemorrhage, for example, we can load their MRI or CT scan into the goggles and then while we're observing the patient, see exactly where that tumor or that hemorrhage lies."

The technology, he acknowledges, not only has a cool factor but also has many clinical benefits. "If we're placing a ventricular drain in the Neuro ICU while wearing those goggles, we can visualize exactly where the ventricle is so we can pass that drain smoothly and safely. Similarly, if we're in the OR and doing an emergency evacuation of a hematoma, we can plan a smaller, more precise incision by visualizing exactly where that hematoma is."

I'm very proud of the neurosciences program we've built here," says Dr. Tarulli. "We've got numerous awards and designations that reflect our high quality of neurological, neurosurgical, and stroke care. We have the talent. Now, we're growing the brick-and-mortar element to keep pace."



**Congratulations to the
Jeneil B. Reeves Neuro ICU team
for earning a
Gold Beacon Award for Excellence
from the American Association
of Critical Care Nurses!**

Hernia Center Brings Together Talent & Technology



Roughly 25 percent of Americans will develop a hernia during their lifetime. While a hernia can take many forms depending upon its location, the only way to repair a hernia is through surgery.

At Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center, where surgeons perform more than 1,000 hernia repairs every year, a world-class hernia center has been established that brings together the most advanced talent and technology in the region. It is the first of its kind in New Jersey and one of only a few in the Northeast.

“There have been huge developments in hernia surgery over the past five to 10 years with advances in robotic surgery, new surgical techniques, and a new class of fellowship-trained hernia surgeons entering the field,”

comments Andrew Robinson, M.D., director, Atlantic Hernia Center at Overlook. “In northern New Jersey, there are only a few people doing the most complex hernia surgeries and at Overlook we have a high density of those surgeons.”

Couple that, he continues, with the latest generation da Vinci 5 robotic surgical platform and an already significant volume of patients, and “it was the right time to formally establish a regional center where people can come to have their hernia fixed by world-class surgeons in a world-class facility.”

A surgical hernia repair can be performed either in a minimally invasive or open manner, depending upon the type of hernia and the patient’s health condition. While not every patient is a candidate for minimally invasive hernia surgery, the latest da Vinci surgical robot has made that an option for a greater number of people. Patients who would have had a two- or three-day hospital stay and a 12-inch incision five years ago now can go home the same or next day with three two-inch incisions and minimal pain and downtime.

“The best thing about hernia surgery is that we have multiple options to match the right technique to the patient and the type of the hernia,” says Muhammad Feteiha, M.D., chairman of the Department of Surgery, who has decades of experience in complex hernia and bariatric surgery.

“There are many patients with large complex hernias who have been told there is nothing that can be done. We want them to know we’re here to help them.”

Andrew Robinson, M.D., Muhammad Feteiha, M.D.

Healing Hands Earn High Honors: Celebrating Our Award-Winning Nurses

Nurses are the backbone of patient care at every hospital, and the nursing staff at Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center – now approximately 1,200 strong – has earned multiple national and statewide honors for not only meeting but exceeding the rigorous standards for nursing excellence.

In May, the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) awarded Overlook Magnet with *Distinction®* recognition as a reflection of its nursing professionalism, teamwork, and superiority in patient care. Although Overlook first achieved Magnet designation in 2020, this marks the first time the hospital achieved Magnet with *Distinction* recognition, a credential awarded to the top 1% of Magnet organizations. Additionally, the ANCC recognized nine exemplars – or specific areas – where Overlook’s scores exceed the ANCC’s national benchmarks.

“I’m very proud that the ANCC recognized the collective work of nursing at Overlook,” comments Chief Nursing Officer Heather Veltre. “It’s a prestigious recognition of nursing quality and confidence. It validates that the work we are doing is yielding the desired outcomes, both for our community and for our team members.”

In recognition of incorporating evidence-based practice and innovation into emergency care, Overlook’s emergency departments in Summit and Union have both received Emergency Nurses Association’s Lantern Awards®.

At the state level, the Organization of Nurse Leaders New Jersey, through the Nursing Workplace Environment and Staffing Councils, recognized Overlook’s nursing program as a high achiever for appropriate staffing.

Since assuming her role more than two years ago, Heather has devoted considerable attention to giving her team members a voice, empowering them to become leaders, and

During the past year, the professional development program distributed more than \$58,000 in nursing scholarships, thanks to philanthropy from the Overlook Foundation. The department held its first nursing graduation ceremony, celebrating the academic achievements of 54 nurses receiving bachelor’s, master’s, or doctorate degrees. Another 618 nurses earned specialty certifications, and 318

provide both didactic and clinical leadership experience for aspiring nurse leaders.

Do satisfied nurses and safe, high-quality care translate into improved patient satisfaction? Absolutely, Heather says. “Our patient experience scores are the highest they’ve ever been. And that’s through a lot of work on the front line and enhancing the care they provide to our community.”



supporting their professional development. “Nursing leadership is more challenging than it’s ever been,” she observes. “Through training programs and one-on-one mentorship, we work collaboratively to make sure that we’ve got strong, confident nurse leaders in place when we’re passing the torch.”

nurses joined the staff. Overlook’s nurse residency program was elevated to the highest global standard through accreditation by the ANCC Practice Transition Accreditation Program with *Distinction*. And a new nine-month Nurse Leader Fellowship Program for charge nurses and assistant nurse managers was launched to

With Chief Nursing Officer Heather Veltre (fourth from right), Nursing Directors Megan Ewing, Deanna Paxos, Teresa Soldiviero, Donna Delicio, Vicki Kostis, Kristine Peterson, Maria DeLauro, and Megan Brugna



Great Expectations for Midwifery Practice

Adrian Balica, M.D., Annie Lawson, R.N.

Midwifery – one of the oldest women-centered healing practices – has been born again at Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center much to the delight of women throughout the region. For more than a year, Atlantic Medical Group (AMG) Women's Health at Summit has been providing a continuum of women's health services, including midwifery, from its location in Medical Arts Center II. It is the only private midwifery practice in Atlantic Health and one of a select few in the state.

"During the COVID pandemic, many women opted to give birth at home or in birthing centers rather than in hospitals," comments Annie Lawson, lead midwife at AMG Women's Health, "so there was a big uptick in midwife-assisted out-of-hospital births. Post-COVID, forward-thinking health systems wanted to give expectant mothers confidence in the safety net of the hospital but still give them the option of midwifery care.

"When we compare national statistics surrounding maternal health and mortality with our counterparts in Europe and Australia, those other developed countries utilize midwifery care much more frequently than the United States and their outcomes are better," Annie adds. "At an administrative level, nationally, there's been a lot more conversation around midwifery and making us an integral part of the care team."

The three midwives on staff at AMG Women's Health function as primary care providers for women of all ages and stages of life. They offer a full range of gynecological services, including contraception, prenatal care, midwifery, postpartum care, perinatal mental health counseling, and keep patients up to date on all their screenings. Ensuring that all women have access to the continuum of

healthcare services, the practice accepts a wide variety of insurance, including Medicaid. Care team members have also become an important lifeline for underserved patients at Overlook's HealthStart Clinic.

Annie points out that hospital physicians provide both collaboration and oversight with midwives and their patients. "Because we're within the hospital system, we can easily collaborate with the physician to ensure that all the appropriate consultations and labs have been done. If patients need extra ultrasound monitoring, we collaborate with our Maternal Fetal Medicine Department. If they need a referral to cardiology, we collaborate with them."

We want people to come out of their birthing experience feeling positive, empowered, and saying it was everything they hoped it would be.

When it comes to time to give birth, patients enjoy all the amenities of the nationally recognized and newly renovated Frank and Mimi Walsh Maternity Center with an added bonus – a midwife by their side supporting them in the birth experience of their choice. "If the patient is trying to remain unmedicated and do things as naturally as possible, we can help facilitate that. If they prefer to be medicated, then we will help with that. If things change or don't go as planned, we have emergency resources here 24/7 should we need them."

"We offer complex care with a community feel," remarks Adrian Balica, M.D., FACOG, chair of Women's Health, Obstetrics and Gynecology. "There are a significant number of patients who want midwifery care, and we have opened our arms to embrace it. Midwifery is evidence-based, empathetic, and our midwives are

role models for our entire community of providers."

The experienced staff coupled with the beautiful new five-star facility is "a slice of paradise," says Dr. Balica, who joined the team last May. The upgraded environment raises the bar for clinical care and patient comfort throughout the birth experience. It includes a welcoming triage area for initial assessment, eight new all-private labor and delivery rooms, two new operating suites, 36 all-private postpartum rooms in The Healthcare Foundation of NJ Newborn and Family Care Unit, an 18-bed Summit Foundation Nursery, and a 15-bed Level III neonatal intensive care unit.

The number of expectant mothers choosing midwifery services has so far exceeded expectations, Annie observes. "Our goal for our first full year in practice was 45 births, but we're finishing the year at around 70. We are constantly having patients call to transfer care to us."

Stimulating Pathways to Healing

Imagine a loved one regaining motor function in their hand years after a debilitating stroke. A person with rheumatoid arthritis living pain-free without multiple medications. Or quadriplegics harnessing their brain power to control robotic limbs. These medical breakthroughs are happening here at the recently opened neuromodulation center at Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center.

"Spinal cord stimulation is a clinically proven strategy for treating chronic pain," explains Ronald Benitez, M.D., an endovascular neurosurgeon and medical director of the center. "Deep brain stimulation has helped countless patients with movement disorders like Parkinson's Disease. Having recently received FDA approval for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, vagus nerve stimulation is an effective treatment for epilepsy and has emerged as a transformative approach for helping ischemic stroke survivors regain hand and arm functionality."

In 2023, Dr. Benitez was the first in the state to implant the Vivistim® device in a stroke patient, helping to facilitate vagus nerve stimulation during rehabilitation therapy. Since then, he has implanted more than 30 Vivistim® devices in ischemic stroke survivors – offering patients an opportunity to achieve mobility beyond their goals and improve their quality of life. Building upon the enormous potential of Vivistim®, as well as recent advances in neuromodulation technology for other conditions, Dr. Benitez – with strong support from Overlook's leadership and foundation – ushered in the development of a dedicated neuromodulation center.

Under his direction, the center offers Vivistim® implants for ischemic stroke survivors experiencing ongoing arm and hand deficits six months to 10 years after their stroke. During rehabilitation, a therapist uses a wireless transmitter that signals the Vivistim® device to deliver a gentle electrical pulse to the vagus nerve (the longest cranial nerve) while the patient performs a specific activity such as writing, cutting food, or hair brushing. This pairing releases neuromodulators that help create and strengthen neural connections to improve upper

limb function. At home, patients activate the device with a magnet to reinforce their motor skills.

"Studies show that Vivistim® Paired Vagus Nerve Stimulation therapy builds lasting neural pathways that continue to work even when Vivistim® is not used, generating two to three times more improvement than rehabilitation alone after six weeks of therapy," says Dr. Benitez.

There is also new hope for patients with rheumatoid arthritis, a chronic condition that affects 1.5 million Americans and is challenging to manage with medication. The SetPoint System is an inch-long device that is surgically implanted in the neck, where it electrically stimulates the vagus nerve for one minute each day. Research shows that stimulation helps suppress debilitating inflammation and reset the patient's immune system.

Another fascinating area being pursued at Overlook's neuromodulation center is Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) research – a burgeoning field that has enormous potential for restoring independence to those who are severely paralyzed. The initial data acquisition phase involves placing a flexible paper-thin, centimeter-wide, high-resolution array onto the surface of the brain, allowing it to record EEG data while patients try to engage in a task.

The recorded brain waves would allow a computer device to learn what the patient is trying to do and manifest those actions for the patient. For example, if the computer learns, over time, what a nonverbal person is trying to say, it could speak for them. If the computer learns that a quadriplegic is trying to reach for a cup, it can control a robotic arm. "While still quite early in development, this field has everyone very excited," comments Dr. Benitez.

As studies show the benefits of neuromodulation for patients with pelvic pain, depression and mood disorders, obesity, inflammatory bowel disease, and other conditions, the team at Overlook's neuromodulation center sees great promise in what the future holds. "Longterm, we look forward to collaborating with other specialties across Atlantic Health to benefit more patients, innovate new applications, and be on the forefront of neuromodulation technologies," observes Neuroscience Service Line Director Megan Ewing. "This is the perfect complement to our nationally recognized neurosciences program, and we're just getting started!"



Neuromodulation, an evolving field in which electrical stimulation is delivered to targeted areas of the central nervous system – from the brain to spinal cord and peripheral nerves – has seen remarkable advances in recent decades.

Megan Ewing, R.N., Ronald Benitez, M.D.



Overlook Auxiliary Building Community Through Creativity



In 2025, the Overlook Auxiliary showcased the power of creative, community-driven fundraising. Volunteers across the organization embraced both longstanding traditions and fresh ideas to support patients, families, and team members throughout the Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center community.

The year got off to a strong start with New Providence Twig 10 hosting a lively “Grab a Girlfriend” event at The Albion in Summit which generated meaningful support for Child Life patients. Short Hills Twig 27 continued more than 50 years of service with its regular vendor sales at Overlook, sustaining its commitment to nursing scholarships.

Expanding the Auxiliary’s reach, the newly created Mother-Daughter Twig completed its first project at Pinot’s Palette, producing a collaborative painting that was auctioned at the organization’s Art for Overlook event. Another all-new group, New Providence Twig 11, chose to focus on mental health, hosting events that ranged from yoga classes to wine tastings.

The always popular Annual Spring Luncheon featured a baby shower theme supporting mothers and

newborns. Attendees contributed funds, books, and diapers, directly benefiting families throughout the Overlook community.

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Auxiliary introduced the Mix & Mahjong fundraiser at Willow & Whisk. The sold-out event featured remarks from Dr. Marc Mandel and raised critical support for the Patient Care Fund.

Youth engagement grew significantly as the Junior Twig program expanded to 13 groups, for a current membership of more than 250 high school students. The full cohort met three times to learn about CPR, mental health, and eating disorders, while completing more than ten service projects. Individual groups contributed through card-making, bracelets, blankets, and fundraisers including Parents’ Night Out Bingo, T-shirt sales, and a Spring Break Movie Morning.

The Auxiliary also enhanced the experience of Overlook team members through three appreciation events and continued its support of Art at Overlook, which donates 20% of all art sales. The Gift Shop & Bloom honored retiring manager Mary Damiano and welcomed new manager Patricia Sammarone, ensuring the continued success of this signature fundraiser.

Through the dedication of its members and supporters, the Auxiliary funded outdoor staff furniture, patient support items, technology updates, behavioral health activities, creative art therapy, and more. In 2025, imagination didn’t just guide the Auxiliary’s fundraising, it defined it, paving the way for an even more innovative 2026.

Beyond Medical Treatment



Healing Arts in the House

While research has long shown art to be a powerful healer, people are increasingly recognizing its value in coping with tough emotions, trauma, and serious illness.



To that end, the Department of Family Medicine is bringing an Artist-in-Residence program to Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center in the hope that patients, families, and caregivers will benefit from art and music during their stay.

“Compassionate care takes many forms here at Overlook,” explains Samantha Pozner, M.D., chair of family medicine. “This program is designed to engage our patients and their visitors in activities that help soothe the pain and promote healing of the mind, body, and soul.”

Currently, a fine artist regularly goes room to room, bringing art supplies and helping those interested get started on small projects, bringing smiles and positive energy to their recovery. Musicians from the New Jersey Festival Orchestra have also been performing duets on several units and in the main lobby of the hospital, filling the halls with beautiful, calming sounds.

With plans to expand the Artist-in-Residence program to other units and increase the frequency of site visits, additional artists and musicians are welcome to share their talents by contacting samantha.pozner@atlantichhealth.org. Donations to support the program can be directed to Overlook Foundation.



Thomas Dooley, Overlook’s program manager of humanistic medicine, with Dr. Robert Klitzman

Spirituality in Health Care

Robert Klitzman, M.D. visited Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center in May to present **Beyond the Physical: The Value of Spiritual Care in Health**, offering a path forward for chaplains, health care providers, and patients and their families to address illness and spirituality more fully in their own lives and the lives of others.

Author of nine books and countless scientific articles, Dr. Klitzman discussed his recent “Doctor, Will You Pray for Me? Medicine, Chaplains, and Healing the Whole Person,” a book that explores the personal stories of illness, death, and dying. He is a professor of psychiatry in the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Joseph Mailman School of Public Health, and the director of the masters of bioethics program at Columbia University.

Dr. Klitzman’s engagement is one of a series of lectures on health and the public interest made possible by a generous gift from the Glasser Foundation and endowed through the Overlook Foundation.

State-of-the

Space matters when it comes to providing the best possible critical and cardiac care, and the recently opened Kevin E. Bell, M.D. Critical Care Unit (CCU) and Wilf Family Cardiology Center deliver that and more.

Located on the 8th floor of the East Building of Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center, both units feature spacious, technology-enabled rooms, strategically placed nurse and physician workstations, and dedicated elevator access to a contiguous, thoughtfully designed environment that enhances comfort, safety, and privacy.

Designed to meet the round-the-clock needs of medical, surgical, and cardiac intensive care patients, the Bell unit has 31 private rooms equipped with large comfortable sofas for visiting family members, spacious closets, and ensuite bathrooms. Cardiac monitors are attached to an overhead boom, allowing care team members to move 360 degrees around a patient with no wires or tubing on the floor.

"Families and patients love the space," observes Nurse Manager Nicole Hradil. "They feel comfortable because it takes their needs into consideration."

Doctors and nurses, she adds, have their own workstations right outside patient rooms, and nurses are cross trained to flex on a dime. Patient rooms – each with two windows – are thoughtfully constructed on an angle to provide team members with the best possible view of those under their care.

"Everything was designed to maximize the experience of the patient, the physician, and the nurses," comments Michael Weinrauch, M.D., section chief of cardiology. "For patients who are critically ill, of vital importance are their family, a quiet healing environment, and knowing that someone is monitoring them. From a doctor's perspective, having the space for multiple caregivers to attend to critically ill patients, having



a computer screen in the room and having TV monitors equipped with remote video interface capabilities are a plus."

Since Overlook is a teaching hospital, Dr. Weinrauch points out, the larger patient rooms, enhanced visibility, and computer workstations are also a benefit for physician residents and nurse educators. "It's not just bigger, it's designed for better functionality."

Should a future pandemic occur, the CCU is capable of doubling capacity and features a robust HEPA filtration system that allows for a switch to 100% outside air with no recirculation to prevent the spread of any airborne illnesses within the facility.

The 29-room Wilf Family Cardiology Center has the same spacious, patient-centered healing advantages as the Kevin E. Bell, M.D. CCU. As one of the units with the highest concentration of turnover in the hospital and the highest concentration of services outside of the CCU, the renovated space, larger telemetry unit, and comfortable rooms are a welcome sight to family members, physicians, and nurses, according to Dr. Weinrauch.

The added privacy of both contiguous units extends to patient transport. A dedicated set of elevators offers private access to and from the Emergency Department, surgical suites, cardiac catheterization laboratory, interventional radiology department, and imaging areas.

"We want families to care for themselves while they're here, too," says Nicole. "Now, they are able to enjoy the spacious visitors lounge connecting the CCU and cardiology units and soon the Hartman Satellite Caregivers Center, an extension of The Thomas Glasser Caregivers Center, will be added to the floor."

"It's very important to have state-of-the-art facilities that match the state-of-the-art care we deliver," remarks Dr. Weinrauch. "We're very excited about this!"



Families are often concerned they are going to miss the doctors doing their rounds. Now they're able to be right there. It's all part of our commitment to care for patients as well as their families.

Maria Stratton, R.N., Michael Weinrauch, M.D., Nicole Hradil, R.N., Thomas Nicholson, M.D.

Interventional Cardiology Technology Added

Funding from the Overlook Foundation has enabled the purchase of cutting-edge technology for the diagnosis and management of coronary microvascular dysfunction (CMD) and epicardial coronary disease. Coroventis CoroFlow, developed in partnership with Abbott, is a cardiovascular assessment system that enables physicians to evaluate both epicardial arteries (the large surface vessels) and the microvasculature (the tiny vessels within the heart muscle).

Patients presenting with chest pain typically have a coronary angiogram to look for plaque buildup in major arteries, but statistics show up to 65% of patients with chest pain have no obstructive coronary artery disease but may have CMD.

"This technology allows us to offer something called coronary function testing to these patients. It helps us look at the circulation in the small arteries of the heart and diagnose conditions such as coronary vasospasm – an often-undetected cause of chest pain," says Lindsay Elbaum, M.D., an interventional cardiologist who recently joined Associates in Cardiovascular Disease and the cardiology care team at Overlook.



Dr. Kevin Bell cuts the ribbon for the new critical care unit named in honor of his 50-year career as one of Overlook's most beloved internists.



Giving at a Glance

The Overlook Foundation raises funds that are used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and fund special programs to help Overlook Medical Center remain in the forefront of medical care.



Restricted Gifts for Capital and Program
\$8,690,201

Unrestricted Annual Support
\$1,261,189

Total
\$9,951,390

If you would like to become a member of the "Overlook Medical Center Family" by supporting the Foundation, you may

- Become one of our "Partners in Excellence" with an annual gift of \$5,000 or more;
- Designate your gift for a restricted or specific project or allow the Foundation's board of trustees to determine the most needed application of your donation;
- Make a Gift of Gratitude in honor of a caregiver;
- Memorialize or commemorate an individual, family, or group by donating;
- Make a planned or deferred gift to maximize tax advantages and/or protect current or future income, thereby becoming a member of our Heritage Society.

All Overlook Foundation gifts are tax deductible and remain at Overlook.

For more information about how you can help further Overlook's mission to provide exemplary health care services to its communities, please contact: Overlook Foundation, 46 Beauvoir Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901, 908-522-2840, www.overlookfoundation.org

The foundation team: (rear) Amy Prince, Doug Magid, Eileen Weiss, Marianne Devlin, Clelia Biamonti, Kerry Mowry, Kelly Lallis, Marie Roberti, Sue Coven, (front) Camille DelTosta, Dina Rieman, Kim Myler, Jillian Parks, Aimee Artzer, and Laura Perrone.

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Saluting a Lifetime of Donor Support

Hosted by Overlook Foundation in Bouras Auditorium last September, "Because of You – A Night of Excellence" brought together more than 70 donors to connect, reflect, and celebrate the power of philanthropy.

New and longtime donors alike were recognized for their shared commitment to excellent and compassionate care for patients and their families, with some attendees having supported Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center for over four decades.

Guests enjoyed light refreshments while marveling at robotic surgery demonstrations from Stryker and Globus who manufacture some of the most advanced medical technology in use at Overlook. On the lighter side, Hilltop Honey was on hand to explain how they care for the hospital's apiaries, with guests later taking a sweet sample home with them.

The highlight of the evening, an inspiring panel discussion entitled *The Power of Your Philanthropy: Fueling Innovation at Overlook*, offered insights into how donor support drives innovation and elevates care. One longtime donor captured the spirit of the evening in a powerful thank you note: "Our hospital is only as good as the people serving it, and that's where the Foundation goes above and beyond."

(above) Panelists Kimberly Ashayeri, M.D., neurosurgeon and robotic spine specialist; Maria DeLauro, R.N., director of nursing for cardiology, neurology, critical care, and behavioral health; Marc Mandel, M.D., section chief of general surgery; Samantha Pozner, M.D., chair of family medicine; and Michael Weinrauch, M.D., section chief of cardiology, with moderator Clelia Biamonti, chief philanthropy officer.

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Junior Board Supports New Wilf Family Cardiology Center

Co-chairs Lilah Darcy and Emma Darrow present a check for \$150,000 to Cardiology Section Chief Michael Weinrauch, M.D. (center) on behalf of the foundation's 2024-25 Junior Board to benefit the Wilf Family Cardiology Center.

The group includes student representatives from 20 area high schools who spent the school year meeting monthly to learn about Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center and the role philanthropy plays in maintaining its top-tier ranking among area hospitals. They also raised more than \$23,000 and, for the third consecutive year, gratefully accepted a major donation from a past foundation board chair who has generously supported Overlook for decades and, in his words, is "... a strong believer in advancing philanthropy through the next generation."



Joining in the check presentation: Cecilia Caligiuri, Pingry; Bernie Holmes, Oratory Prep; Zoe Salazar, Governor Livingston High School (HS); Luke Betlow, Newark Academy; Trinity Millard, Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS; Julia Flocco, Montclair Kimberley; Hena Lad, UC-Allied Health Sciences; Diya Nandakumar, Chatham HS; Sebastian Cempron, Seton Hall Prep; Kelsey Shallcross, Summit HS; Hunter Terborg, Delbarton; Corinne Connant, Millburn HS; Carly Levitt, West Essex HS; Jack Ecklund, Bernards HS; Kimberly Pritchett, Kent Place; Amy Marr, New Providence HS; Sarah Marine, Morristown Beard; Chloe Stadlin, Westfield HS; and Alanna Merritt, Oak Knoll. Missing: Aliza Riaz, Gill St. Bernard's, and Alex Volpe, Delbarton.

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Hitting the Links for Neurosurgery

Nearly 200 golfers teed up last May for the foundation's 35th Annual Golf Tournament at Canoe Brook Country Club to help fund additional dedicated neurosurgical operating rooms featuring state-of-the-art technology.

Leading the pack on the North and South courses respectively were Drs. Daniel Woo, Leroy Sutherland, Gail Schultz, and Ryan Boyne; and Ron Romano, Ray Romano, Bob Romano, and Joe Trinity. For the second consecutive year, Chris Sylvia won the Anthony F. Coppola, M.D. Memorial Award for the lowest individual gross score.



Larry Martello, Chris Asaro, Sabina Certa, and Robert Peake

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When six-year-old Andy Bovin passed away in 1986 after a four-year battle with leukemia, his parents Terry and Denis created the Andy Bovin Memorial Fund. Today, gifts to this fund continue to support leading-edge leukemia research, as well as provide financial help to area families whose children are undergoing cancer treatment.

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Joseph M. Wildman, M.D.
Cecilia Zhang, D.O.



Taking In a Bird's Eye View

Overlook Foundation hosted its Fifth Annual Sporting Clays Shoot at Hudson Farm Club, where participants enjoyed a perfect late summer day to benefit neurosurgical services at Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center.

Among the novice and expert shooters at the event were two squads from Atlantic Brain and Spine (pictured): Fabio Frisoli, M.D., Eitan Sufian, Farah Musharbash, M.D., Samantha Kelly, Ondrea McKay, M.D., Ron Benitez, M.D., Kim Ashayeri, M.D., and Yaron Moshel, M.D.

Dr. Frisoli, chair of neurosurgery, spoke at the awards dinner at which prizes went to the first-place squad (Stephen Chiarello, Joe Mignon, Ben Faden, and Al Nunan); top-scoring individual, Joe Mignon; and leading conservationist, Amit Patel.

Employee Support

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 Nicole Archibald, R.N.
 Aimee Artzer
 Rowan Bascombe
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 Jahday Hartage, E.M.T.
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 Sorcha Hicks

Nicole Hilborn
 Travis Holm
 Nicole Hooks
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 Marsha Hoppe
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 Ingrid Johnson
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 Germaine Jordan, R.N.
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 Alyssa Jurtschenko, R.N.
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 Kathleen Kilpatrick
 Mary Anne King
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 Daisy Ward
 Terrance P. Washburn
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 Bernadette Wilmore
 Danielle Wolf
 Joanna Wright
 Diane Zimmerman

The Overlook Heritage Society

Dozens of Heritage Society members enjoyed a springtime brunch at Baltusrol Golf Club, where they heard from Dr. Michael Weinrauch, section chief of cardiology, who shared exciting updates about the newly opened Kevin E. Bell, M.D. Critical Care Unit and an all-new state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization lab coming to Overlook.



Highlighting the vital role this group plays in advancing care and innovation for our patients, the event offered a chance for members to reconnect, celebrate their shared legacy, and reflect on the future they are helping to shape.

Later in the year, Heritage Society members received a special welcome at the Foundation's donor celebration, *Because of You - A Night of Excellence*, acknowledging their enduring commitment within the broader Overlook community.

With four new members joining in 2025, the Heritage Society proudly includes some 130 forward-thinking individuals whose generosity ensures that Overlook remains a place of healing, hope, and excellence for generations to come. We deeply appreciate their planned gifts – including bequests, retirement assets, and charitable trusts – as we look forward to continuing this journey together.

With heartfelt gratitude, we honor the memory of the Heritage Society members we lost this past year: Byron Arison, Diane Cesarz, Jack Cooper, Jane Nessen, and Sue Thomas. Their legacy will continue to benefit Overlook where the need is greatest.

To learn more about making a planned gift to benefit Overlook Medical Center, please contact Aimee Artzer at the Foundation at 908.522.2181.

2025 Heritage Society Members

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 Barbara Z. Alleyne
 Byron H. Arison
 Anne S. and Paul A. Babineau
 Phyllis and Khoren Basmadjian
 Mr. and Mrs. Amos T. Beason
 Janet B. Bent
 Mr. David Bialoglow
 Clelia Biamonti and Adam Psichos
 Mr. and Mrs. David C. Bushnell
 Diane J. Cesarz
 Ms. Jessalyn Chang
 Mrs. Judith A. Chicka
 Carol and Ed Cimilluca
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 Millie and Jack Cooper
 Mr. David G. Dietze
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 Ms. Suzanne B. Engel
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OVERLOOK at a GLANCE

Atlantic Health Overlook Medical Center – now in its second century of healing – is a nationally recognized provider of world-class health care services in a conveniently accessible suburban setting. Earning accolades for clinical excellence and patient safety year after year, it is home to the region's most respected physicians, nurses, and technicians who offer the most advanced technology, leading-edge treatments, and access to pioneering research in a compassionate, family-centered healing culture.

Our Summit, New Jersey campus is home to the F.M. Kirby Foundation Neuroscience Center, a new neuroscience “super-unit,” that includes the Jeneil B. Reeves Neuro ICU and builds on Overlook’s more than 20-year legacy as the area’s leader in neurological care. The center’s commitment to neurological excellence includes an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center, a Level IV Epilepsy Center, Atlantic Health Neuroscience Spine Center, and the Gerald J. Glasser Brain Tumor Center, where more brain tumor surgeries are performed than anywhere else in the state. Since 2019, Healthgrades® has recognized Overlook Medical Center among the top five percent of hospitals in the U.S. for excellence in the treatment of stroke, cranial neurosurgery and neurosciences more consecutive years than any other hospital in New Jersey or New York.

Our CyberKnife® program is the most experienced in the tri-state area at treating hard-to-reach tumors in the brain, prostate, pancreas, spine, lung, and liver. For our youngest patients and their families, the all-new Hersh Children’s Center is the region’s only combined pediatric emergency and inpatient facility. Beyond our Summit campus, Overlook’s network of caring includes multispecialty physician offices as well as primary care, urgent care, surgical, rehab, infusion, and imaging centers in Union, Clark, Bayonne, New Providence, Metuchen, and Bridgewater.

Overlook’s parent company – Atlantic Health (AH) – serves more than half of the state, including 14 counties and 7.5 million people. The not-for-profit system offers more than 550 care sites, including its eight hospitals, 30 urgent care centers, Atlantic Visiting Nurse, and Atlantic Health Virtual Visits. Facilitating the connection between these services on both land and air is the transportation fleet of Atlantic Mobile Health. AH is powered by a workforce of 21,000 team members and more than 6,800 affiliated

Ranked Among the World’s Best Hospitals

In 2025, Overlook was ranked among the “World’s Best Hospitals” by *Newsweek* for the seventh consecutive year. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Overlook #3 in New Jersey and Healthgrades named Overlook one of “America’s 50 Best” hospitals. Additionally, Overlook was named among America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Critical Care by Healthgrades for 11 years in a row (2016-2026), the longest consecutive number of years for any hospital in New Jersey or New York.

During the past year, the American Nurses Credentialing Center awarded Overlook Magnet with Distinction® recognition as a reflection of its nursing professionalism, teamwork, and superiority in patient care. With this latest credential, Overlook surpasses its first Magnet recognition in 2020 and joins a small and select global community of organizations that not only meet but exceed the rigorous standards for nursing excellence.

Patient safety has always been a top priority for Overlook’s care team members and in 2025 Overlook was awarded the Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award™ for the fourth consecutive year. The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit watchdog organization, also has consistently awarded Overlook an ‘A’ Grade – the highest grade for patient safety – since 2021.

Guided by purpose and leading with innovation, Overlook is a destination where novel ideas, cutting-edge technology, top talent, and a culture of caring converge to deliver exceptional patient care.

2025

Operating Statistics

Outpatient Visits
480,204

Emergency Department Visits
108,108

Admissions
22,847

Same Day Surgical Procedures
14,154

Observation Cases
6,390

Inpatient Surgeries
3,941

Employees 3,940

Births 2,146

Attending Physicians
1,803

Licensed Beds 513

Medical Residents 116

Average Length of Stay
4.74 days



As the massive expansion and renovation of Overlook continued last year, the hospital kicked off 2025 by celebrating the completion of the \$97 million East Building which now houses:

- The Wilf Family Cardiology Center and Kevin E. Bell, M.D. Critical Care Unit on the 8th floor.
- The F.M. Kirby Foundation Neuroscience Center, housing the Jeneil B. Reeves Neuro Intensive Care Unit and Bouras Acute Care Unit on the 7th floor.
- The Frank and Mimi Walsh Maternity Center, featuring the Healthcare Foundation of NJ Newborn and Family Care Unit and The Summit Foundation Nursery on the 6th floor.

The 78,000-square-foot expansion, split between three floors, involved the total renovation of an

existing 42,000 square-foot, two-story section of the hospital, topped by a completely new 8th floor, as well as a three-story addition at the end of the building. The bridge connecting to the main hospital was enlarged and a dedicated patient transport elevator tower added.

For the remainder of the year, many new and renovated areas opened throughout the hospital. Among them, the 6AB Ann M. Oliva Multi-Specialty Unit honors the former executive director of Overlook Foundation, a nurse who served in a variety of capacities during her nearly 50-year career at Overlook. Others include two new operating suites, new and redesigned rooms to support advanced endoscopy procedures, and renovations to the cardiac catheterization lab.

A Warm Welcome



Atlantic Health Names New Leader

Saad Ehtisham, DHA, FACHE has joined Atlantic Health as president and chief executive officer following the retirement of Brian Gragnolati who led the organization for the past decade.

A distinguished leader with extensive clinical and operations experience, Saad most recently served as senior vice president and president of acute care operations for Novant Health, an integrated care delivery network consisting of 19 hospitals, 41,000 employees, and more than 8,600 clinicians caring for patients at nearly 900 sites across the Carolinas.

As Saad made his introductory rounds, members of the Overlook team welcomed him to the hospital, while the foundation invited him to kick off its annual clay shoot with the traditional cannon firing.



Advancing Operational Excellence

It was a homecoming of sorts when Tim Hicks, MBA, FACHE joined Overlook last fall as chief operating officer. The seasoned healthcare executive had been director of operations at Atlantic Health System's Chilton Medical Center prior to serving as vice president of operations at Staten Island University Hospital, part of Northwell Health.

Now, with more than two decades of experience driving operational excellence, strategic growth, and cultural transformation across hospital systems, he is leading initiatives that advance clinical performance, patient experience, and organizational culture at Overlook.



"I am thrilled to be here," comments Tim. "It's been a very warm welcome. Overlook has a culture that is dedicated to patient care, innovation, and being the best in class across many specialty areas. Here, it's about doing things right and doing it on a high level."

Ensuring that Overlook's operational excellence is in lockstep with its commitment to clinical excellence is a top priority, says the new chief operating officer.

That means being good stewards of the hospital's finances and being prepared to weather any future challenges. Stepping into his role during the midst of Overlook's multiphase expansion and upgrade, Tim is focused not just on the present but on the future.

"There are many operational components that go along with growth. We must make sure that all those behind-the-scenes elements of the organization – from pharmacy to food service to environmental services, to name a few – support that growth," he remarks. "It's about managing day-to-day operations as well as keeping an eye on the future and how things like AI and other technologies can be incorporated into our workforce and efficiencies."

Above all, he adds, "we must keep our patients at the forefront of everything we do. We must ask ourselves, 'How can we make their experience top notch and best in class?'"

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Friends Remembered

Since our last report, we have lost several beloved members of the Overlook Foundation family. We recognize their special contributions to Overlook and to our community, and we extend our heartfelt condolences to their families.

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