

### Greetings,

As spring arrives and outdoor activities are bringing people together, we are encouraged that so many families have gotten their COVID-19 vaccination series. If you have not yet done so, we encourage everyone ages 5 and up to get their vaccine and everyone 12 and up to get their booster as soon as possible so that we can protect our youngest children and put the pandemic behind us.

In this issue of *AtlanticView Kids*, you'll learn about our newly opened Hersh Children's Center at Overlook Medical Center that brings together emergency and inpatient pediatric services into one convenient, family-friendly space. Should an emergency room visit turn into the need for being admitted, the move is seamlessly expedited. Emergency and inpatient rooms are bright, cheerful, and private with in-room accommodations for parents to stay with their child.

Many in our community will want to know about our new chief of Pediatric Physiatry. For parents of children with neurological disorders, like cerebral palsy and brain injuries, it's helpful to know that a pediatric physiatrist, a physician specially trained in neuromusculoskeletal medicine, can help their child develop or regain their milestones, like walking, speaking, and using their arms.

What's the secret to a great parent-pediatrician relationship? Trust and communication. Read the story on page 7 to learn one family's story of how they discovered a new trusted friend when their old pediatrician retired.

We always want to hear from our readers, so please contact us at atlanticview@atlantichealth.org if you have a story idea or want to share a comment.



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Chair of Pediatrics, Atlantic Health System Children's Health and Goryeb Children's Hospital

### AtlanticView at Goryeb Children's Hospital kids Spring 2022

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AtlanticView Kids is published for
Atlantic Health System by Wax Custom Communications.

For additional information, visit atlantichealth.org.

Atlantic Health System, an integrated health care network in New Jersey, is comprised of Morristown Medical Center, Overlook Medical Center, Newton Medical Center, Chilton Medical Center, Hackettstown Medical Center, Goryeb Children's Hospital and Atlantic Rehabilitation. The six medical centers have a combined total of 1,841 licensed beds and more than 4,000 affiliated physicians providing a wide array of health care services to the residents of northern and central New Jersey. The medical centers, and Goryeb Children's Hospital as part of Morristown Medical Center, are accredited by The Joint Commission. Specialty service areas include advanced cardiovascular care, pediatric medical and surgical specialties, neurology, orthopedics and sports medicine. Each of these programs has earned top ratings and recognitions in its respective field.

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Atlantic Health System Attn: *AtlanticView Kids* P.O. Box 1905 Morristown, NJ 07962

### AtlanticView Kids

Twice a year, Atlantic Health System publishes AtlanticView Kids, which includes informative articles on many different health-related topics and events. Issues are available online at atlantichealth.org/atlanticview or email atlanticview@atlantichealth.org to receive a hard copy.



### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

Would you like to share your experience at Goryeb? Please help us spread the word and help more people in our community. Review us on Facebook, Google or Yelp.

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# **CEO's** corner

Now in our third year of the pandemic, we have all created strategies for coexisting with COVID-19. Whether by masking and distancing or through regular testing and boosting our immunity, we have worked hard to find our new normal and live life more fully in these unpredictable times.

Sadly, some strategies for protecting ourselves actually put us at greater risk.

While many have experienced how effectively physicians and hospitals are providing COVID-safe care, others continue to delay annual checkups, preventive screenings, and treatments for chronic conditions.

Our well-being depends on timely primary and preventive care and visiting labs for the imaging and testing we need. Too often, our caregivers are now supporting patients through delayed healing and unnecessary suffering caused by a lack of routine care.

Do not put your health at the bottom of your to-do list. We have perfected our protocols to ensure that, even in these uncertain times, your care is safer, easier and more convenient than ever before.

In this edition, learn more about the new Hersh Children's Center at Overlook Medical Center that brings together pediatric inpatient and emergency care, and the importance of physiatry for children with neuromuscular illnesses.

As always, thank you for entrusting the Atlantic Health System family with caring for you and your loved ones.



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# **Atlantichealth.org** en Español

Atlantichealth.org has expanded its Spanish translated web pages. Consumers can now access the website in Spanish to learn more about Atlantic Health System, its health care programs and services, language assistance options, locations, patient and visitor information, and health and wellness articles. Check it out at espanol.atlantichealth.org.

### Get Involved With Camp Clover

Atlantic Visiting Nurse will once again sponsor its bereavement day camp for children, Camp Clover. The camp, which is free of charge, is available to children and teens grades 1 through 8 who have experienced the death of a close relative or friend. Dates are from August 15 through August 18, 2022, at Camp Riverbend in Warren, NJ. To register, volunteer or donate, please call 973-379-8444.



4 Atlantic Health **System Hospitals** Recognized as High Performing by U.S. **News & World Report** for the Best Hospitals for Maternity

For their work in delivering extraordinary care for moms, Atlantic Health System's Morristown, Overlook, Chilton and Newton medical centers have been recognized as High Performing in Maternity Care (Uncomplicated Pregnancy) by U.S. News & World Report. "High Performing" is the highest rating U.S. News awards for that type of care. This is the first time U.S. News has published a list of Best Hospitals for Maternity.



verlook Medical Center recently marked the completion of the Hersh Children's Center, a newly built facility that centralizes the hospital's pediatric emergency and inpatient services in one convenient, family-friendly space.

"We are honored to at last be able to provide our young patients and their families with the highest quality of care in a space designed specifically for them," says Stephanie Schwartz, president of Overlook Medical Center. "This state-of-the-art facility gives us a home for the future of pediatric care at Overlook — one that truly complements the experienced care team and advanced technology that serve our patients at Overlook."

The new nearly 12,000-square-foot center brings together the Meri and Sol Barer Inpatient Pediatric Center (formerly housed on Overlook's sixth floor) and the Michael Gordon Reeves Pediatric Emergency Department for better coordinated care of patients, ages 0-21.

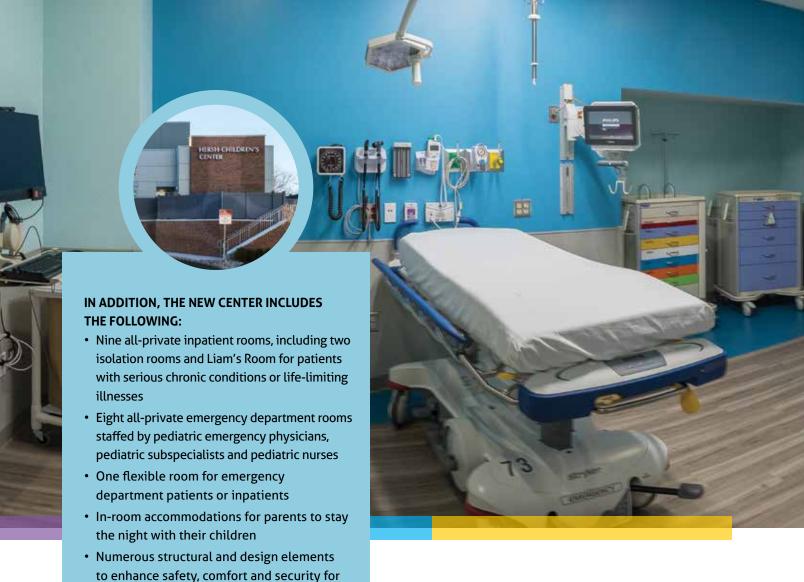
"This combined and innovative approach to pediatric care is one of only a few of its kind in the northern NJ region," says Walter Rosenfeld, MD, chair of pediatrics for Overlook

Medical Center and medical director of children's health for Atlantic Health System. "By bringing emergency and inpatient pediatric services together, we can dramatically reduce the time between an emergency department visit to an inpatient room for children requiring hospitalization. It will also improve continuity of care by having clinical teams dedicated to patients from the moment they enter, through every stage of their experience."

When it comes to childhood emergencies, the new pediatric emergency department is fully equipped to handle the full range of pediatric conditions, with streamlined care to ease stress on the family. The emergency department is staffed 24/7 by doctors specializing in pediatric medicine.

For patients who require a stay, the new inpatient unit offers comforting special touches like sleep accommodations for parents, family lounges and a play area with skylights and plentiful windows.

The Hersh Children's Center is seamlessly connected to Goryeb Children's Hospital, with access to over 100 pediatric specialists who provide advanced expertise, both at Overlook and throughout Atlantic Health System.



The Hersh Children's Center is funded, in part, by a \$2 million grant from the Dorothy B. Hersh Foundation. Established in 1979 to fulfill the wishes of the late Dorothy B. Hersh, the Hersh Foundation provides grants for capital expenditures benefiting the needs of hundreds of thousands of children throughout the state of New Jersey. "The children's center is a project near and dear to our hearts," comments Harriet Donnelly, Hersh Foundation administrator. "We have been thrilled to partner with Overlook on a project that will raise the standard of pediatric emergency and inpatient care in our area."

patients and families

A \$2.5 million pledge from the Nicholas J. and Anna K. Bouras Foundation funded the relocation of the Michael Gordon Reeves Pediatric Emergency Department, as well as new adult waiting and triage areas.

The Hersh Children's Center is the latest phase of a plan to transform the hospital, which includes new structures,

redesigned spaces and additional upgrades. Prior to the children's center, Overlook opened its new employee parking garage, as well as its new Bouras Emergency Department entrance.

In the midst of the pandemic, hospital construction officials implemented another innovation — reengineering ventilation systems, giving the facility the ability to utilize outdoor air for full circulation throughout the Hersh Children's Center and Bouras Emergency Department.

These and additional phases of the enhancement plan are funded through generous donations to the Overlook Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports the hospital.

The Hersh Children's Center at Overlook Medical Center is located at 99 Beauvoir Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901. Visit atlantichealth.org/overlookkids for more information.



# What Is a Physiatrist?

## And why you need one

here are only a few hundred pediatric physiatrists in the United States. "But when they find us, patients' and families' faces light up as they say, 'I've been asking for this my whole life," says Hannah Aura Shoval, MD, Chief of Pediatric Physiatry.

"Physiatrists are physicians specializing in neuromusculoskeletal medicine, and we work on improving function and quality of life," explains Dr. Shoval, who joined Goryeb Children's Hospital this spring. She is board-certified in physiatry, pediatric rehabilitation medicine and brain injury medicine by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

A pediatric physiatrist "works with kids to develop milestones — helping them stand, walk, use their arms for activities and speak," she says. "Where we really shine is with kids who have an underlying neurological disorder that affects their muscles and bones. In particular, we are specialists in cerebral palsy and brain injuries, which can affect multiple systems and make daily activities difficult. A physiatrist teases out what problems are caused by muscle, bone, and nerve, and then uses this information to diagnose the cause of the problem and to prescribe treatments. We work to treat the child as a whole, frequently coordinating care with other specialties."

Dr. Shoval's examination will include a detailed history and physical exam to fully understand your concerns and may

Hannah Aura Shoval, MD

include X-rays, MRI scans and other tests. Treatment could involve a combination of medications, specific exercises, therapies, braces, wheelchairs or walkers and injections.

Dr. Shoval has extensive experience treating cerebral palsy, the leading cause of motor problems in children, and has published research on treatments for it. "There is so much we can do for these kids. I especially love preventing common bone, skin, or nerve problems in children with cerebral palsy, so that they never become an issue in the first place," she says. "There are very few people who can do the injections that allow these kids to keep functioning and be pain-free."

Dr. Shoval is a leader in adaptive sports for kids, which are all about "finding ways people can participate," she says. "It can be life-changing. We come up with adaptations so kids can ride a bike or play a sport, and we try to continually push them to be their best. That's our goal in physiatry: to allow children to reach their full potential."

### ATLANTIC MEDICAL GROUP

Dr. Shoval and Pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation are part of Atlantic Medical Group, a multispecialty network of health care clinicians. For more information, visit atlanticmedical group.org. Dr. Shoval can be reached at 973-971-6505.

# Finding the Right Doctor

A pediatrician and a mom talk about the foundations of a great relationship

hen she had children, Erin N. took them to her own childhood pediatrician. A few years on, as that doctor was moving toward retirement, he brought on a younger colleague, Theresa Giannattasio, DO. "She was wonderful," Erin says. "From the first visit, I felt very comfortable, and it was a smooth transition to receive our care from her." So when Dr. Giannattasio moved to Atlantic Health System several years ago, Erin decided that the family would make the move as well, driving from their Rockaway home. "It just made sense," Erin says. "She was the one who was treating my children." (Gianluca, now 15, and Maria, now 11.)

"I was thrilled when I saw the family on my schedule," Dr. Giannattasio says. "When a family puts their trust in you, that is very special."

What is the secret of a great parent-pediatrician relationship? Asked separately, Erin and Dr. Giannattasio had similar responses.

### ARE THEY WILLING TO LISTEN?

"First and foremost, you want to be heard — to find a



Theresa Giannattasio, DO

doctor that is quick to offer some comfort and, if possible, a quick resolution," Erin says.

"When you meet a doctor, do you feel comfortable and do you feel that they genuinely have the best interests of your child at heart?" says Dr. Giannattasio.





### ARE THEY ACCESSIBLE?

Gianluca recently had three bloody noses in a week. "We all get a bloody nose from time to time, but that made me nervous," Erin says. "I reached out to Dr. Giannattasio and said, 'Do I need to panic or is this normal?' She got back to me immediately and put my mind at ease."

"No matter what age your child is, you want to be able to see your doctor quickly for guidance and reassurance," Dr. Giannattasio says.

### DO THEY KNOW THEIR PATIENTS AS PEOPLE?

"When you meet a family and mesh with them, it's not just that you are their primary care doctor; you become part of a family dynamic," Dr. Giannattasio says.

"My children have very different personalities and she understands that," Erin says. "She knows their personalities and concerns, the areas in which they are nervous and apprehensive and she is ready right away to put them at ease."

### ATLANTIC MEDICAL GROUP

Theresa Giannattasio, DO, and Atlantic Medical Group Pediatrics at Florham Park are part of Atlantic Medical Group, a multispecialty network of health care clinicians. For more information, visit atlanticmedical group.org. Dr. Giannattasio can be reached at 973-992-5588.

## SUPPORT OUR HOSPITALS

To donate and learn about innovative programs, services and state-of-theart technology that our foundations are supporting.

Morristown Medical Center/Goryeb Children's Hospital: f4mmc.org Newton Medical Center: atlantichealth.org/newtonfoundation Hackettstown Medical Center: atlantichealth.org/hmcf Chilton Medical Center: atlantichealth.org/chiltonfoundation Overlook Medical Center: overlookfoundation.org





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# Hersh Children's Center

### Bringing Inpatient Pediatric Care and Pediatric Emergency Care Together

The Hersh Children's Center at Overlook Medical Center, one of only a few of its kind in northern NJ, offers an innovative approach to pediatric care. While pediatric emergency services, staffed by doctors specializing in pediatric medicine 24/7, and inpatient hospital care are separated within the center, their close proximity allows for continuity of care and unmatched quality. With sleeping accommodations for parents, a playroom and family lounge, our team of experienced and compassionate pediatric physicians and caregivers will put your family's needs first.

We are seamlessly connected to Goryeb Children's Hospital with access to over 100 pediatric specialists who provide advanced expertise at Goryeb Children's Hospital at Morristown Medical Center and the Hersh Children's Center at Overlook Medical Center.



