

April 7, 2025

Dear Friend,

As I reflect on my journey, I can't help but feel immense gratitude for Concord Hospital Health System. Growing up, I did not have a traditional childhood. I moved 37 times by the time I was 17 and attended 11 different schools. With that nomadic upbringing, I had to learn how to find community in unexpected places. At the age of 19, I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and it was right here at Concord Hospital, with providers from our Internal Medicine department and Dr. Fred Briccetti by my side, that I found the care and compassion to help me through. When I later developed breast cancer as a result of my previous cancer treatment, our organization once again provided the exceptional medical care and support I needed.

It's because of these deeply personal experiences — both as an employee and a patient — that I feel so invested in supporting the community of our organization and its mission. I've seen firsthand the profound impact this organization can have, not just in the world-class medical care we provide, but in how we care for each other, especially during the toughest moments. We are more than just colleagues here; we're a family who always has each other's backs, and that's what makes working here such a blessing.

In my role, I have had the privilege of working alongside many of you - dedicated providers, nurses, and staff across our many ambulatory practices. I've seen unwavering commitment to our work and to our patients. I also understand that we all face challenges outside of work, challenges that can sometimes make it harder to give our best.

The Employee Helping Hands Fund is a powerful example of how we care for each other. I've seen it work wonders, providing crucial support during personal crises, helping to cover unexpected medical costs, easing the financial burden of unanticipated life events, and offering a helping hand when someone needs to take time off to care for themselves or a loved one. That's why I'm so proud to be part of an organization that truly believes in taking care of its own, just as we take care of the community we serve, and why I'm so passionate about supporting the Employee Helping Hands Fund.

I want to encourage each of you, my friends and colleagues, to consider doing the same. **By contributing, no matter how big or small, we're not just helping a coworker, we're reinforcing the very heart of what makes our health system a place of healing and compassion.**

Every dollar you give is an investment in the people who make this health system the extraordinary place it is, people who are not only our colleagues but our community.

Please join me in supporting this meaningful effort. Together, we can build upon a workplace environment that empowers, uplifts, and takes care of us all.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Megan G. Rheinhardt, RN

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