

# THE GREATEST NEEDS FUND

## The Lifeblood of Lahey



**The Greatest Needs Fund** at Lahey Hospital & Medical Center provides immediate-use, unrestricted dollars to the hospital to direct resources where they are needed most. Philanthropic support to this fund ensures our ability to strategically invest in priorities that enhance patient care, advance our research and education enterprise, and maintain our standing as a leading provider of world-class healthcare.

Hospitals operate on extremely thin margins, and with the current healthcare landscape, operating expenses are rising faster than reimbursement rates. As a result, unrestricted support has become even more crucial to meet unexpected needs that emerge outside our annual budget. Dollar for dollar, the Greatest Needs Fund makes the most profound immediate impact on Lahey—allowing us to invest in the needs that sustain us today and the priorities that will advance us tomorrow.

**The Greatest Needs Fund** has helped make possible innovative programs and initiatives such as the following:

**The Lahey Hospital Ambulance Service**, Lahey's first in-house ambulance service, was launched in 2022 to help address capacity challenges by making the discharge process more efficient for staff and patients. The program has accomplished this goal and is improving the patient experience through expedited discharges and reduced wait times.

**The Health & Wellness Department** at Lahey was established to provide patient-facing colleagues with wide-ranging support, such as behavioral health and mindfulness resources and new wellness programs and initiatives—including the opening of the Serenity Suite in 2022, a quiet space for colleagues to take their breaks.

Through a collaboration with the Posse Foundation, Lahey launched a new summer internship program in the Department of Surgery in 2022. Each summer, this program offers five **Posse Scholars** from diverse backgrounds historically underrepresented in medicine the opportunity to gain valuable experience in the medical field and receive mentorship from Lahey leaders.

Lahey implemented the **Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI)** collaborative pilot program in 2022 to train approximately 200 residents and fellows in developing skills and learning best practices to address bias in the workplace.

Your philanthropy to the **Greatest Needs Fund** would help advance and sustain critical initiatives and programs that distinguish Lahey as a leader in providing the highest quality and safest care to members of our immediate and surrounding communities. The following areas are among Lahey's highest funding priorities—where all donors can make a meaningful impact.



### Enhancing the Patient Experience

For 100 years, Lahey has been providing world-class, patient-centered, compassionate healthcare to everyone who enters our doors. Gifts to the Greatest Needs Fund support initiatives aimed at enhancing the patient experience, such as:

- Achieving next steps for the Lahey Hospital Ambulance Service, which include constructing a garage and obtaining an Advanced Life Support ambulance to enable the safe transport of critically ill patients.
- Implementing modern technology and software into healthcare delivery at Lahey to help caregivers meet patients' needs more efficiently, communicate with colleagues and families more effectively, and better ensure the safety of all patients and staff.



### Attracting and Retaining Diverse Talent

As widespread staffing shortages continue to challenge and disrupt hospitals and healthcare institutions across the country, Lahey is responding with innovative ways to support and retain our current colleagues and recruit new candidates. Your gift to the Greatest Needs Fund would advance these efforts by supporting initiatives like:

- Expanding our summer recruitment program for nursing students to other employee groups, to increase our pipeline programs and inspire new graduates from a variety of healthcare programs to seek employment at Lahey.
- Renovating work spaces—such as replacing flooring and investing in modern furniture and equipment designed ergonomically—to increase the comfort, safety, and engagement of our staff.



### Investing in Leading-edge Technology

To maintain and elevate Lahey's status as a preeminent provider of leading-edge healthcare, we must invest in the very latest medical equipment and state-of-the-art technology. Unrestricted gifts help strengthen Lahey's infrastructure by supporting such efforts as upgrading medical equipment and access control systems with new models and modern technology. Initiatives like these enhance efficiency of care delivery and the safety and well-being of our colleagues and patients.