# **Elevating the Needs of Our Community** Annual Report to our Community: 2023







## Dear Meritus Supporters,

Over the last twelve months, Meritus has reached new heights. If you drive by our hospital campus on the east side of Hagerstown, you will notice our large future academic medical building. But the physical construction isn't the only growth. Meritus has had an incredible year of accomplishments, each one highlighting our mission of "Improving the Health of the Community" in action.

This year, we expanded access to care across Washington County with the opening of a Primary Care Clinic in Cascade and adding needed specialties, including Interventional Cardiology and Neurosurgery to our health system. We proudly opened our mental health urgent care and expanded the Meritus Crisis Center. This year we will continue to expand in the ways our community needs and will proudly open care locations in Hancock and develop a sports medicine clinic at the Valley Mall.

We also kept a focus on providing high quality care. Our teams earned their second consecutive "A" Safety Grade from the Leapfrog Group. We continue to make health care about the patients we serve by asking "What Matters," making sure they know where their next meal is coming from, and setting them up for weekly phone calls if they tell us they feel lonely. We are working on ways to reduce transportation barriers and how we can expand our free rides program so that our patients don't miss needed medical appointments because they can't get to them.

Our Go for Bold community health challenge reached a milestone of more than 115,000 pounds lost. This initiative is helping our neighbors realize healthier lives! Participants are reducing their risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes, reducing heart disease and increasing their physical activity. Together, we will lose one million pounds by 2030.

We continue forward in our pursuit of licensure and accreditation of our medical school, the proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine. This will help reduce the growing physician shortage and create opportunities for medical education right in our community. Our vision is one where local students become physicians and care for our community, so everyone in Washington County has access to expert care.

In all of our accomplishments, our strong supporters helped us go from vision to reality. Last year, more than 744 community members and 119 local organizations contributed financial support to Meritus. Everything our teams do is for our community, and it is incredible to see the full cycle of support that fuels our accomplishments. We can never truly express our appreciation in words, but my hope, is seeing the impact of your support will help you see what a difference you make by choosing to give to Meritus.

With gratitude,

Joshi aulih

Maulik S. Joshi, Dr.P.H. President and CEO Meritus Health, President Proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine

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### Meritus Health contributed more than \$65M in benefits to the community in FY2023.

The Meritus Health Community Benefit information is divided below into eight areas of focus. Benefit areas are defined for your reference and the corresponding percentage of financial support is listed below.

**Community Benefit Operations** are costs Meritus Health assures for dedicated staff time engaged in community health needs assessments and other projects associated with strategy and operations to improve the health of the area.

**Charity Care** is free or discounted health and health-related services provided to patients who cannot afford to pay their medical bills.

**Community Building Activities** include financial and in-kind support for the development of community health programs and partnerships which encourage our neighbors, friends and family.

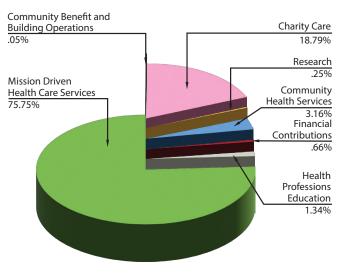


**Community Health Services** include community activities carried out for the express purpose of improving community health.

**Financial Contributions** are defined as cash gifts, grants and in-kind donations provided by Meritus Health to community partners and nonprofits.

**Health Professions Education** is the investment made by Meritus Health in the future of expert care, close to home.

**Mission Driven Health Care Services** encompasses the crucial and foundational support this community depends on Meritus Health for – *Expert Care, Close to Home*<sup>®</sup>.



FY 2023 Community Benefit Total \$65,297,225

## DISTRIBUTION AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

#### 2023 DISTRIBUTIONS TO MERITUS MEDICAL CENTER

55% for Patient Assistance 26% for Staff Education 19% for Tuition Reimbursement

Total Distributed **\$574,002** 

#### 2023 FUNDRAISING PROGRAM RESULTS

#### 92% of funds raised to support medical school

Total Raised **\$10,010,976** 

## TAKING IT HIGHER:

## Meritus pursues licensure and accreditation for medical school



Faced with a current physician shortage in the region, in the state and in the nation, Meritus Health continues forward with our plan to build an osteopathic medical school in Hagerstown, the proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Our leadership team continued to work hard to reach milestones in our journey to becoming an accredited medical school. As our inaugural faculty work to develop innovative curriculum, needed pathways and partnerships, this year our progress reached notable milestones, including construction of the D.M. Bowman Academic Hall. The 200,000 square-foot space, the future flagship building of the medical school, will be a state-of-the-art academic building and offer a conference center with seating up to 600 people, one of the nation's largest simulation centers, in addition to classrooms, learning labs, a library and much more.

"Every day we are building this medical school. We are building the curriculum, we are building community relationships, we are building our faculty and team, and of course we are building this building."

- Maulik Joshi, Dr. P.H., President and CEO Meritus Health, President Proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine

## **Over \$120M**

per year to our state GDP every year beyond 2030





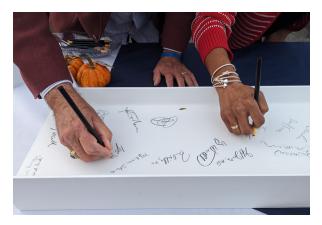
**Fall of 2025** 

Welcome first class of medical students

Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine will be the first new medical school in Maryland in over 100 years In October, more than one hundred community leaders, elected officials and community organizations celebrated a construction milestone for the building at a Beam Signing Ceremony.

"Steel is a core ingredient for this building – a strong foundation of support, which truly is symbolic of those who are signing it to celebrate this milestone," said Maulik Joshi, Dr. P.H. President and CEO Meritus Health, President Proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine.

"The support for this project has been incredible – our community is absolutely playing a significant role in the proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine's progress."





## **\$268 MILLION** JOB CREATION: 1,595 • TAX REVENUES: \$6.2 M

Construction on schedule



Faculty hiring plan on schedule



State licensure and national accreditation in process and on schedule

## OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Our community continues to support our proposed medical school! Since we announced our intention to pursue accreditation and licensure in July 2022, community members, organizations and foundation have pledged an impressive \$12,323,000 in support towards our capital campaign!

We've proudly welcomed more than 26 donors into our Dean's Circle of Supporters.



## DEAN'S CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS

- \$6,000,000 -

Jone L. Bowman Foundation, Inc. Building Naming D. M. Bowman Academic Hall



"We are extremely grateful for the Jone L. Bowman Family Foundation's incredible donation to support our vision. Their family is so committed to our community, and this support is absolutely incredible. It surely will mean our children and grandchildren have access to the care they need and deserve. We are so proud to share that our flagship academic building will be named the D.M. Bowman Academic Hall in honor of this tremendous support. A location that is so much more than a building, it will inspire and educate future generations of socially responsible physicians."

- Maulik Joshi, Dr. P.H., President and CEO Meritus Health, President Proposed Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine

Antietam Broadband	C		or	
Antietam Broadband		Conference Cent		
Building Wifi	Dr. George (	\$100,000 C. Newman II Library	Endowment	Rev. Dr. D. Stuart Dunnan Main Lobby
Family I	. and Anna L. Hersh Foundation onference Room			al Center Auxiliary nulation Lab & Actor's Lounge
		\$50,000		
Mr. Wayne and Mrs. Jill Alter Conference Room			Lakshmi Budi	Dr. C.P. Choudari and Nirmala Chintamaner Conference Room
Meritus Medical Center Medical Staff Gross Anatomy Lab		letown Valley Conference Roor		Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy E. Myers Jr. Conference Room
	Physicians of Drs. Faridi, Jone		erstown Heart o, Reddy, Vaccari	
	le, Miss Lauren and Rappaport rd Room	10		<b>Irs. Bernadette Wagner</b> nt Services
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Dr. Maulik and Mrs. Emilie Lucas Josl Roof Top Deck		hi	Dr. Ramakrishna Kosuri Seminar Room	
		\$20,000		
	e and Adolescent Ca Vediatic Exam Room	re		Mrs. Darlene Stojak ulation Lab
		\$10,000		
Dr. Carrie Adams and Mr. Patrick Adams Exam Room	Dr. 7	Thomas Amali Exam Room	fitano	Dr. Aaron and Mrs. Jessica George Exam Room
Dr. Kalim Ahmed and Mrs. Farhat Khan Exam Room			ntiaz Khurshid	Dr. Shaheen and Mrs. Yasmin Iqbal Study Space
Nicole and Dave Lehr Conference Room	Erica, Josh, Chas	Erica, Josh, Chase, Paige, Kipp and Blake Repac Exam Room		Mr. Kent and Mrs. Lisa Reynolds Exam Room
	Mr. Greg a	nd Mrs. Ruth Fitness Center		

## **SAPPHIRE LEVEL GIVING - \$25,000**



## PLATINUM LEVEL GIVING - \$15,000



**BRONZE LEVEL GIVING- \$1,000** 







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## OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY OF DONORS

Last year, more than 744 community members and 119 organizations supported Meritus: (January 1, 2023-December 31, 2023)

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#### \$5,000 - \$24,999

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Dr. Karl Riggle presents the Trauma Nurse of the Year Award. Pictured: L to R – Aleah Kimmel, B.S.N., Kathryn Graham B.S.N., RN, CCRN; Dr. Karl Riggle

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We would like to thank the 127 anonymous donors who generously donated \$14,548.74 to our organization.

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