

Now more than ever, Hackensack Meridian Southern Ocean Medical Center's mission to take care of our families, friends and neighbors has an urgency that is a call to action for everyone who has ever been touched by our hospital.

At the present time, our needs total close to \$1.25M to care for our communities. Your support matters and we are more grateful than we can say. Thank you.

# **Immediate Needs**

### When in Need Fund (WIN Fund) for SOMC team members – any \$ amount

During this unprecedented health care crisis, our health care workers need your support now more than ever. The current pandemic is changing life for all of us, but one constant is the tireless dedication and expert care that our Southern Ocean Medical Center team continues to provide. The WIN Fund provides financial assistance to Southern Ocean Medical Center team members who are faced with financial difficulties through no fault of their own. Any \$ amount can be donated to this important fund for our healthcare heroes

# iPads - \$50,000 for 75 iPads

In our critical efforts to help decrease the spread of COVID-19 and lessen exposure to patients and visitors, we have suspended all visitation to Southern Ocean Medical Center's inpatients, except for special cases such as end-of-life care. Not all of our patients have access to smart phones and tablets to connect with their families on video calls. iPads, which can be properly disinfected between patient uses, would help our patients stay connected with loved ones, which is critical to their emotional health and recovery.

### Ventilators - \$50,000 each

The coronavirus attacks people's lungs, in some cases compromising their ability to breathe. **Ventilators**, which deliver air to the lungs through a tube placed in the windpipe, are a crucial tool to keep these patients alive. These medical devices can be the difference between life and death for those facing the direct respiratory effects of the coronavirus.

### PurpleSun - \$230,000

The current pandemic is bringing increasing numbers of patients to our Emergency Department. Disinfecting against germs is a constant battle that is usually done by hand with powerful chemicals. The PurpleSun machine uses ultraviolet light to kill germs in patient rooms. In 90 seconds, all organisms receive enough UV light to kill them off. Speed and quality provide a significant advantage to our care team as does the ability to utilize a modular unit which can be deployed to various hospital areas and can disinfect parts of an operating room, for example, while staff is working in the same room.

To equip our team with the necessary equipment to continue to battle the coronavirus, Southern Ocean Medical Center seeks to purchase a **PurpleSun machine**.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for our staff - \$250,000

As we continue the fight to contain coronavirus/COVID-19 and end this pandemic, we are working around the clock to ensure our physicians, nurses and clinicians have the necessary equipment, supplies and resources to take care of and protect our patients, team members and the community. Help us obtain the vital supplies and equipment that our teams need to help keep themselves safe. We are relying on them to care for our patients, and they are relying on us to protect them. Ever-increasing equipment needs include N95 Masks/Respirators, Surgical Masks, Goggles, Protective Face Shields and Isolation Gowns.

### Tele-Psychiatry Equipment & Staff - \$250,000

Tele-psychiatry is an innovative practice in healthcare that applies telemedicine to the field of psychiatry. It generally refers to the delivery of psychiatric assessment and care via telecommunication technology, usually videoconferencing. Tele-medicine is a trend occurring throughout the country and has been successfully implemented in several Hackensack Meridian ICU units already. Acquiring technology and hiring staff to manage a tele-psychiatry program at our medical center would assist in expediting consults and addressing the increasing needs for psych consults that have occurred because of the isolation and fear present with so many patients who need to come here for care.

#### Negative Pressure Room Conversion - \$275,000 (approx. \$3,500 per room)

Controlling the speed of infectious diseases like the coronavirus is essential to maintaining a safe healthcare environment. A negative pressure room is used to contain airborne contaminants within the room. **Southern Ocean Medical Center has converted 77 rooms into negative pressure rooms in order to fight the spread of the coronavirus.** These rooms are negatively pressurized with respect to adjacent staff and sterile equipment. While negative pressure rooms must meet the general requirements for a standard medical-surgical patient room, they also have very specific requirements. For instance, negative pressure rooms may only have one patient bed, and should be provided with an area for gowning and storage of clean and soiled materials directly outside or inside the entry door and should be provided with a separate toilet room with a hand-washing sink.