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LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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LVHN WEEKLY

POCONO

Your wrap-up of the week's news from LVHN.

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Dr. Nester discusses our positive operating margin.

New Adoption Assistance Benefit

It helps colleagues cover adoption expenses.

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Complete the First Quarter Bundle

You must complete it by Sept. 30.

LVH-Muhlenberg
Summer Festival
Aug. 18-19

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Lehigh Valley
Children's
Hospital Campaign

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Places to Work"
Survey

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LVHN news

Your Young Child's
Milestones

At Risk for GERD?

Prevent Childhood
Poisonings

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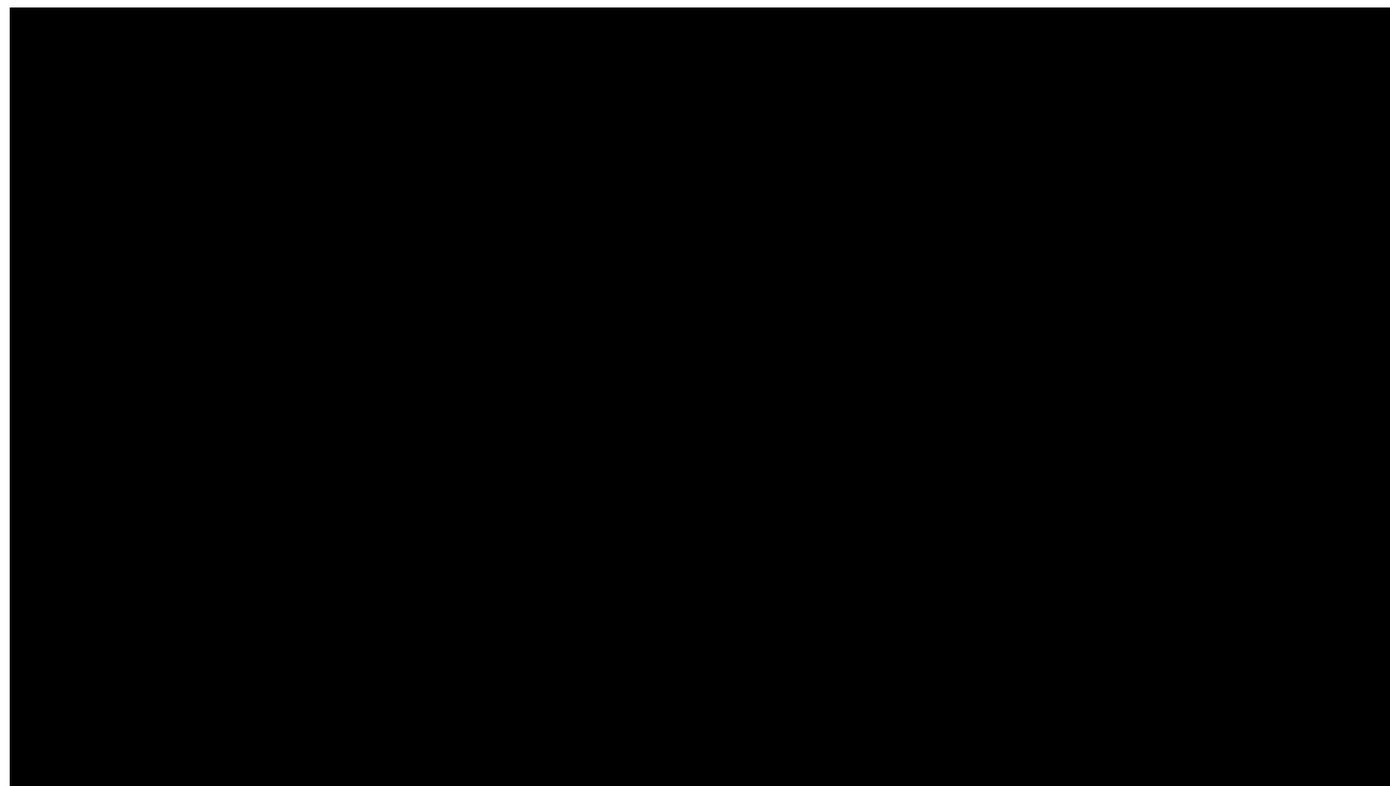
CEO Update: End-of-the-Year Financial Results – VIDEO

BY [ADMIN](#) · AUGUST 3, 2018



Each month, LVHN President and CEO Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, records a video called the CEO Update about a timely topic. It's part of the way we're sharing information with you called the [Communication Cascade](#). In this edition, Dr. Nester discusses how we ended the fiscal year financially and the factors that position us well for fiscal year 2019. Here's a transcript of the video.

The video below will only play in Google Chrome. If you are using Internet Explorer, click [here](#) to watch.



Fiscal year 2018 is over. Looking back, it's easy to see we accomplished great things together and made LVHN stronger. We grew our health network, made new partnerships, integrated our campuses

and created a better work experience for you.

As you know, we also faced financial challenges this year. But we again worked together as a team to find ways to work efficiently, reduce costs and overcome challenges. Your hard work was the difference-maker, and I'm glad to report that we ended the fiscal year with a positive operating margin.

After all the bills were paid, we achieved a 1.3 percent operating margin. That means we have \$35.1 million left over to reinvest into our health network and community. Thank you for all you did to make it happen. It shows just how strong we are when all 18,000 colleagues move forward together.

So what's next? How do we continue to make LVHN stronger in fiscal year 2019? It starts with creating a solid budget, and colleagues throughout our health network worked hard to do just that.

The work we did to [consolidate hospital licenses in the Lehigh Valley](#) and Schuylkill County will result in millions of dollars in costs savings in the next budget. Plus, a change in how we'll be reimbursed by Medicare also will add millions. These and other factors position us well for FY19.

With a strong budget in place, our focus over the next year will be on redesigning the way we deliver care. Leaders throughout our health network are already examining ways to create new clinical and operating efficiencies. This important work will help us provide better health and better care at a better cost.

Yet, the success of our health network starts with you. That's why we'll also introduce ways to create a better colleague experience for you in FY19. By working together, I'm confident we can achieve the Quadruple Aim (creating Better Health, Better Care, Better Cost *and* a Better Colleague Experience) and position LVHN to be even stronger in 2020 and beyond.

As we ring in a new fiscal year, I'm LVHN Proud to work with you to further our mission. Thanks for all you do to make LVHN, one of our nation's premier health networks, even stronger.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Nester". The signature is fluid and cursive.

ABOUT ME: My name is Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN). I came to LVHN in 1998 as the Director of LVH-Muhlenberg's Emergency Department. Prior to becoming President and CEO in 2014, I served as the health network's Chief Strategy Officer. I am originally from Reading, and I'm proud to lead an organization that continually strives to provide better health and better care at a better cost for the great people of our community.

Considering Adoption? New Benefit Helps Cover the Costs

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · AUGUST 1, 2018

Sadly, there are thousands of children waiting to be adopted. Plus, the costs associated with adopting a child are very high. To help colleagues who are considering or in the process of giving a child a loving home, LVHN is offering a new benefit.

LVHN's new adoption assistance benefit reimburses colleagues \$5,000 per child to help cover the cost of qualified adoption expenses. These expenses may include adoption fees, attorney fees, court costs, travel expenses and re-adoption expenses related to the adoption of a foreign child. This benefit is available to full-time and part-time colleagues who are not governed by a union contract.



To receive reimbursement, colleagues must complete the [adoption assistance form](#) and provide copies of the documents listed in the [adoption assistance policy](#).

Here are more details about the benefit:

- Adoptions would include a colleague's stepchild or relative, as long as the child is under age 18.
- Colleagues must be actively working at the time he or she requests the reimbursement. Therefore, if a colleague is on a leave of absence when the adoption becomes final, the colleague must wait until he or she returns from this leave before applying for reimbursement.
- A colleague must be employed by LVHN at the time of the adoption and will have six months from the date the adoption was finalized to request reimbursement.
- A reimbursement can only be requested one time each calendar year.

LVHN–Pocono Foundation Awards Community Grants and Scholarships

BY [HOLLY YACYNYCH](#) · AUGUST 3, 2018

Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN)–Pocono Foundation awarded \$217,336 to community nonprofit organizations and local students pursuing health degrees during the organization’s 26th Annual Grant Reception.

“We are continually reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a most generous community,” says Stephen Cunningham, Vice President of Market Development.

“The selfless giving of many enables the LVHN–Pocono Foundation to provide scholarships for tomorrow’s health care professionals and resources to many local organizations that improve the quality of life in the region. Every year we look forward to this event and are always inspired by what motivated our scholarship

recipients to pursue a career in health care and of the great work our community partner grant recipients are doing with limited funding. The Foundation is pleased to announce this year’s award recipients who also share a mission to care for and heal the community.”

The 12 Monroe County community organizations that were honored through the generosity of the Dr. Alberta Finch Children’s Health Endowment Fund (\$7,582) and the Dr. Claus G. Jordan Endowment Fund (\$43,875) include:



- American Red Cross
- Big Brothers | Big Sisters
- Brodhead Watershed
- Center for Vision Loss – Monroe County
- Friendly Community Center
- Garden of Giving
- Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Network
- Pocono Area Transitional Housing
- Pocono Family YMCA
- Pocono Services for Families & Children

Salvation Army of East Stroudsburg

- Women's Resources of Monroe County

As a result of the R. Dale Hughes Nursing Scholarship Endowment, Jennie Cramer Memorial Nursing Scholarship (\$21,000), Robert A. Gordon Nursing Scholarship (\$1,000), Dr. Elmo J. Lilli Healthcare Scholarship (\$2,500) and the Sean P. Cunningham Memorial Scholarship Endowment (\$9,000) the following students from northeastern Pennsylvania schools received scholarships:

- Kristy Whitby – Hughes Nursing Scholarship
- Allison Stahl – Jennie Cramer Nursing Scholarship
- Jillian Kolibas – Jennie Cramer Nursing Scholarship
- Jillian Kolibas – Robert A. Gordon Nursing Scholarship
- Miranda Kramer – Elmo Lilli Healthcare Scholarship
- Sarah Marino – Sean P. Cunningham Memorial Scholarship – Notre Dame
- Geangina Day – Sean P. Cunningham Memorial Scholarship

The Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Pocono Heroes Fund awarded four grants for the total amount of (\$11,000) to the respective EMS agencies serving LVH–Pocono: Bushkill Emergency Corps, Pocono Mountain Regional EMS, Suburban EMS and West End Community Ambulance Association.

The Valerie M. Hodge Memorial Pediatric Dental Center, providing dental care for the uninsured and underinsured of Monroe County, has also raised a total of (\$35,264) through the Valerie M. Hodge Memorial Pediatric Dental Center Endowment. In addition to these grants and scholarships, several LVH–Pocono physicians received a grant from the William B. Cramer Medical Staff Equipment Endowment (\$41,235) to enhance the medical services provided to the community in various service lines.

The Pocono Health Foundation Endowment also provided funding (\$24,880) to the LVH–Pocono Critical Care Department, LVH–Pocono Trauma Department and the United Way of Monroe County – Double Bucks program.

The Community Health Endowment continues to provide funding to programs and organizations serving the community. This year (\$15,000) was awarded to the East Stroudsburg Borough Fire Department for equipment costs and an automated external defibrillator (AED) was donated to Eldred Township to serve community needs.

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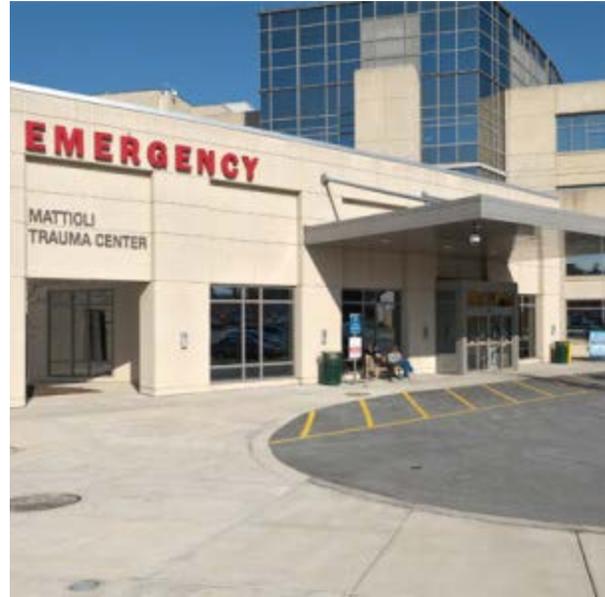
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Adult and Trauma Programs Earn Re-accreditation

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · JULY 30, 2018

The results are in. Our Level I Adult Trauma Center and our Level II Pediatric Trauma Center have been re-accredited. The Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation re-accredited our programs for a three-year period effective Oct. 1.

LVHN is the first program in the nation to have both accreditation surveys on the same day. Despite the challenge, colleagues made the day successful. Here is what the surveyors had to say about the excellent trauma care we provide to our patients:



- “The trauma staff is engaged, caring, dedicated and detail-oriented.”
- “Your trauma surgeons are dedicated and caring, and a huge asset to the institution.”
- “Your nursing leadership is outstanding.”
- “When staff were asked why they stay, their answer was, ‘The people!’”
- “You are a trauma center that is a hospital, not a hospital with a trauma center.”
- “I never saw anything like your concussion program.”
- “Your commitment to the trauma program is evident.”

Congratulations to all the colleagues in our trauma program for another successful accreditation and for providing the trauma care the people of our community expect and deserve. We are #LVHNProud of you.

AIDS Activities Office Is Now Named Comprehensive Health Services

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · JULY 31, 2018

The AIDS Activities Office (AAO) will have a new name beginning Aug. 1, 2018. The new name is Comprehensive Health Services. The new name reflects a request from patients to not have the name of a health condition as part of the practice name.

Other than the name, nothing else about the practice is changing. Comprehensive Health Services will continue to provide the same services as part of LVHN. There are no changes to billing or accepted insurances. All appointments will be honored as scheduled at the same location within LVH—17th Street. The phone (610-969-2400) and fax (610-969-2195) numbers remain unchanged. These providers will continue to provide care at Comprehensive Health Services:



- Leslie Colip, MD
- Timothy Friel, MD
- Marcelo Gareca, MD
- Margaret Hoffman-Terry, MD
- Victoria Lieb, CRNP
- Amy Slenker, MD
- Joseph Yozviak, DO

If you have questions about this change, call 610-969-2400 or 888-402-LVHN.

Volunteers Needed for Celtic Classic

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · AUGUST 3, 2018

LVHN is the new medical partner of Celtic Classic. During this event, we will staff one health tent and treat minor medical conditions. This partnership also allows us to share important health and safety messages with thousands of visitors who flock to Bethlehem each day.

We need volunteers to staff our health tents at Celtic Classic from Sept. 28-30. Tasks include caring for minor medical problems such as bee stings and cuts. We need both licensed and nonlicensed colleagues. Please refer to this schedule to see which shift works for you.



2 Licensed

1 Nonlicensed

Date

Friday, Sept. 28

5-7:30 p.m.

7:30-10 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 29

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

2-5 p.m.

5-7:30 p.m.

7:30-10 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 30

11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

2:30-6 p.m.

Children in the tent must be at least 14 years of age and occupy a nonlicensed shift at the same location as their parent/guardian. Children not meeting these guidelines are not allowed to accompany staff during shifts.

We're required to include licensed staff with clinical expertise on all shifts. Acceptable Lehigh Valley licensed staff are registered nurses, physicians and physician assistants. Non-licensed colleagues will receive \$10 in food tickets for each shift worked. Every colleague will receive a health network T-shirt.

Signing up is easy. Simply review the schedule to select your times, including your second and third choices. Then call 888-402-LVHN. Be prepared to provide the following information: complete office address, job title, department cost center and employee ID (obtained through API or Lawson).

Registration will be accepted until Friday, Sept. 7.

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Complete the First Quarter Bundle

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · AUGUST 3, 2018

The first core bundle of fiscal year 2019 has been released. You must complete this mandatory training by Sept. 30, 2018. The bundle includes courses applicable to our corporate compliance program.

Access to the bundle varies depending upon the LVHN location where you work. Here are details:

- Lehigh Valley and Hazleton colleagues – Visit The Learning Curve (TLC)
- Pocono colleagues – Visit myNetLearning
- Schuylkill colleagues – Visit HealthStream

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