That is the message St. John Medical Center (SJMC) President and CEO William A. Young, Jr., brings to the community just a year after the completion of a modernization phase that saw major renovations to the medical center that opened its doors to the community in 1981. The modernization phase brought physical changes as well as additions and upgrades of many services.

“We are growing and expanding to meet community needs. St. John Medical Center is outgrowing its community roots and bringing many sophisticated services to the West Side,” says Young. “Services that you used to have to drive miles and miles to get to.”

Young agrees that people want their health care close to home and do not want to travel. “We are bringing services to the communities that traditionally haven’t been available in a community healthcare setting,” he says.

Programs such as the Advanced Wound Care Center at SJMC, UH Neurological Institute, The Pain Management Center at SJMC, UH Seidman Cancer Center satellite office, and upgraded Women’s Services underscore the wide range of care now available for West-Side patients at St. John Medical Center.

“The Advanced Wound Care Center is a perfect example,” says Young. “We now offer state-of-the-art wound care with hyperbaric oxygen therapy in the heart of Westlake.” The wound center offers cutting-edge treatments and evidence-based protocols to quickly heal advanced wounds and treat infectious diseases.

Another example is the UH Seidman Cancer Center at St. John Medical Center. “Residents can now access high-quality cancer care in their neighborhood,” says Young. “Patients receiving treatment at Seidman sometimes need to come to the Center multiple times a week. It’s more convenient to be close to home, especially when one is not feeling well.”

The Emergency Room is another area of tailored service. St. John Medical Center’s 30-Minute Pledge promises that patients will be seen by an emergency room professional within 30 minutes of arrival. Also, the Emergency Room has implemented InQuicker, a new on-line tool that allows patients to check-in for their projected treatment by choosing a convenient time. St. John Medical Center also boasts a Level III Trauma Center, Accredited Chest Pain Center, Primary Stroke Center, and Pediatric Emergency Services affiliated with UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital.

“The Spine & Orthopedic Center at St. John Medical Center has some of the highest patient satisfaction scores in the medical center,” says Young. “High-quality patient care coupled with excellent outcomes is the hallmark of this service. In addition to outstanding surgical and medical care, The Spine & Orthopedic Center offers patient education, rehabilitation, and five-star accommodations and amenities. Plus, we work closely with post-acute care facilities to facilitate a patient’s continued recovery following a hospital stay.”

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number has swelled to 180,000. “It has tripled in one year,” said Dr. Sayed. “These people have nothing. It tugs at your heart.”

Rooted in a deep reverence and respect for human life and the dignity of each person, the mission of St. John Medical Center is characterized by a spirit of love, truth, justice and stewardship. It strives always to provide care that is compassionate and professional, continuing the healing ministry of Jesus in the community.

For Dr. Sayed and his team, that mission holds true even when the community is half a world away.

“We come to it from our own perspectives,” said Dr. Sayed of the SJMC Zaatari mission team. “I see the medical need, Kristin sees the need for women’s health, and Nikki sees the magnitude of the emergency medical need. When the three of us share our experiences, we see the size of the problem and how overwhelming it is.” The most important message is the urgency of the need, according to Sayed.

“I am proud of Nikki and Kristin and the work that we are doing,” said Dr. Sayed. “The only thing the people over there can finally say is, ‘God, help me!’ And He does, through the support of people who support this mission.”

Ninety percent of the patients they see are mothers and children. Most of the men have either fled from fear or have been killed.

“Most of these kids feel abandoned by the world,” said Hoops, a registered nurse. “Parents don’t even know how old their kids are. It is a nation suffering from a failure to thrive. The young boys feel hopeless, abandoned. They are perfect targets to be recruited as jihadists.”

“The young children don’t move when you give them a shot or pull a tooth,” said Nikki, a surgical nurse. “They are so used to suffering that they don’t react to it.”

Catastrophic wounds are everywhere. Children paralyzed by sniper fire or AED explosions are common. “I have never seen even one injury as serious as these in our country,” said Nikki. “And then some of these victims die of simple things, infections that could be easily treated in the U.S. You never see old people. They just don’t make it.”

“It is a generation of children... kids suffering...and they did nothing wrong,” said Dr. Sayed.

The father of a young girl, paralyzed by a bullet to her head, stood over him and pleaded, “Why don’t we have a voice?”

“We are their voice,” said Dr. Sayed. “They look at themselves as a hopeless cause. But they are not hopeless. They are hopeful causes because we can do something about it.”

“What would you do if you were the person who found himself in need of shelter, food or medical care?” he asked.

The three fund their trips personally and through donations. They take suitcases packed with medical supplies. They set up clinics in private apartments and tents, pharmacies in storage units, and provide medical care wherever a sympathetic door is opened.

“They wait for us to come back every two months,” said Dr. Sayed. “And they offer us anything they may have in appreciation, even if it is just a little food.”

“When you go, you think it is just going to be a drop in the bucket,” said Hoops. “But when you visit clinics, you help people. You see what a difference you can make.”

Their colleagues at St. John Medical Center are helping them to make a difference, too. Just before leaving for Jordan in March, Dr. Sayed was stopped by many at the hospital.

“I was asked to attend to the Syrian babies in Jordan. Buy them milk. Buy them diapers. I thank my friends at SJMC for being part of our mission. Their prayers and support are priceless,” he said.

For information on how to help support this mission, please visit www.SalaamCulturalMuseum.org.

These photos and more can be seen by visiting Dr. Sayed’s Facebook.
With a growing number of specialists, locations where you live, weekend hours and same-day appointments, Westshore Primary Care is here for you and your family whenever and wherever you need us.

With the addition of Zenos Vangelos, DO, to our staff, we are proud to now offer sports medicine care. Dr. Vangelos is available at our Westlake-Detroit Road location. For more information, call 440-250-8660 or go to westshoreprimarycare.com.

WEEKEND & EVENING HOURS AVAILABLE
SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS – 440-892-6424
It all adds up to patient confidence. “When we look at healing, it is more than treating the injury or disease. There is a continuum of care that surrounds the process,” says Young. “If a patient goes to our Emergency Department and needs inpatient care, you are going to stay with us and not be transferred miles away from home. We make sure we can treat our patients in their community. In most cases, if you need a specialist, you will be referred to a SJMC specialist without the need to go to another hospital for extended care.”

Another growth area at St. John Medical Center is The Family Birth Center and Holistic Birthing Center, which has added two more physicians and midwives. “We are one of the few facilities in northeast Ohio to experience volume growth in this area. People now recognize the quality of our Family Birth Center and the responses are overwhelming.”

“No matter your medical need, you will be met by a mission-driven staff at St. John Medical Center. “Our staff truly cares for you and will exceed expectations to make sure your needs are met,” says Young.

With 400 volunteers, St. John Medical Center has a committed group of people who make a difference by donating time on site every day. “We couldn’t do what we do without our volunteers,” says Young. “We talk about living the Mission, and here is a group that gives back to the community right here.”

More community involvement is developing. “We’re making sure we are making a difference in the hospital and in the community we serve,” says Young. “School health events, Chamber of Commerce and community outreach, and the annual Festival of the Arts underscore that commitment. “We’re currently in the planning stages of the July festival,” says Young. “It keeps growing every year. It promises to be even bigger and better.”

Specialty physicians are also adding to the continuum of care. A new vascular surgeon is joining the team, as well as a rheumatologist, an allergy and immunology specialist, sports medicine physician and other specialty recruits.

“This ensures we have the physicians and services that will help keep you in your community,” says Young. “We are ever growing and being recognized on a local and national basis for our high quality of care.”

SIMC was recently recognized as one the top 10 safest hospitals in the United States by Consumer Reports. “This is a huge honor for a community hospital,” says Young. “St. John Medical Center has grown to a higher level of care and the community is responding by seeking care with us as their healthcare provider.”

St. John Medical Center has introduced a central scheduling service designed to improve patient satisfaction and provide faster scheduling of hospital outpatient procedures and testing appointments.

“Our central scheduling team is professionally trained to provide our patients with fast and accurate scheduling,” says William A. Young, CEO and President of St. John Medical Center. “They will offer our patients easy access and one-stop shopping.”

Centralized scheduling is responsible for most out-patient scheduling procedures such as Pre-admission Testing, Radiology services (CT, MRI, Ultrasound, Diagnostic and Mammography), Respiratory Therapy, Biometrics (Cardiology Diagnostic Lab, Vascular Lab and Neurodiagnostic, and Diabetes and Nutrition Education. The centralized scheduler cannot make appointments for provider office visits or surgery.

“Patients calling to schedule an appointment can speak directly with a hospital representative who can find a time to meet their needs,” says Betsy Shaughnessy, Director of the Revenue Cycle Operation at St. John Medical Center. “Live central scheduling also provides patients with an opportunity to ask pre-visit questions.”

To save time, patients should have their physicians order and insurance information available when making the call. Once patients are pre-registered and exams have been scheduled, the patient will report directly to the department or test location without going through registration.

“The centralized scheduling service is available Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. To schedule an outpatient or testing procedure, call 440.827.0222, or toll-free at 877.492.0222.

Jodi R. Burdon Named Director of Perioperative Services at SJMC

Jodi R. Burdon RN, MSN, of Olmsted Falls has been appointed Director of Perioperative Services at St. John Medical Center.

Burdon comes to St. John Medical Center from Akron Children’s Hospital, where she was clinical nurse manager of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Special Care Nursery and interim manager of the Post-anesthesia care unit (PACU), Same-day Surgery (SDS) and Pre-admission Testing (PAT). She has more than 16 years of practical nursing, nursing education/administration, management and strategic planning/initiative experience.

“We are pleased to welcome Jodi to our management team,” says William A. Young, President and CEO of St. John Medical Center. “She is dedicated to elevating nursing practice, increasing standards of performance across the continuum of healthcare, and improving overall satisfaction in healthcare settings.”

As Director of Perioperative Services, Burdon will be responsible for coordination of patient care, supervision of personnel and the overall administration of perioperative programs at St. John Medical Center. She will be responsible for promoting a safe environment for patients and will actively promote a team environment with physicians and staff, and collaboration between departments.

Burdon is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Walsh University. She has a bachelor’s degree in nursing, and a master of science in nursing from Case Western Reserve University, and an associate’s degree in science from Cuyahoga Community College.

Germs Invade Bay, Westlake & North Olmsted Schools

St. John Medical Center Community Outreach ‘Germs’ have been busy teaching elementary students about healthy hand washing.

The name of the program is “Healthy Hands, Healthy Kids.”

“We’ve taught in 5 elementary schools in Bay, Westlake, and North Olmsted and were able to engage over 1,000 school children,” reports Mary Kiczek, RN. “The kids learn about where germs hide, when to wash your hands, the correct way to wash, and how hand washing keeps you healthy. They take a pledge with a foam hand to be a ‘Germinator’, and wash germs down the drain.”

The nurses involved in the program are: Fanny Fungus (AKA Marian Buzzard RN), Sal Monella (AKA Julie Kiefer RN) and Izzy Influenza (AKA Mary Kiczek RN).
St. John Medical Center, which is co-owned by University Hospitals and the Sisters of Charity Health System, is rated as one of the top hospitals in the country for patient safety, according to the latest issue of Consumer Reports, which released safety scores on more than 2,500 U.S. hospitals. In the report, St. John Medical Center rated as the 10th safest hospital in the country.

"We are focused on patient safety every day," says William A. Young, President and Chief Executive Officer of St. John Medical Center. "Each and every person in our hospital is empowered to make patient safety a priority."

Consumer Reports combined five key measures into one composite score (from 1 to 100), giving consumers a way to compare hospitals on patient safety. St. John Medical Center scored a 73 on a 100-point scale. The national average safety score was 51, while the highest-ranking hospital in the country scored a 78.

Why are some hospitals safer than others? "Likely because they do a lot of things – some little, some big – well," said John Santa, MD, medical director, Consumer Reports Health. "That includes everything from making sure staff communicate clearly with patients about medications, which helps prevent drug errors, to doing all they can to prevent any hospital-acquired infections," he said.

According to Doris Peter, PhD, associate director, Consumer Reports Health, "The take-home for doctors is that they should be aware of the quality of care in their own hospitals and those that they refer their patients to. The take-home for patients is that there is variation in the quality of care and that they need to look at the data and hold hospitals and doctors accountable."

Consumer Reports calculated a patient safety score for 2591 hospitals by combining five measures of patient safety into a single composite score (from 1 to 100), using the most recent available data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Three of the measures (mortality, readmissions, and overuse of computed tomography scans) apply to patients aged 65 years and older, and the other 2 (hospital-acquired infections and communication) apply to all adults.

"We are proud of the work of St. John Medical Center's medical staff and employees that make patient safety a priority," said Young. "We are constantly working to better understand how we can improve the care we provide to our patients and their loved ones."

The article is available in the May issue of Consumer Reports and online at www.ConsumerReports.org.
St. John Medical Center Honors Volunteers

St. John Medical Center is blessed to have over 300 volunteers who generously donate thousands of hours annually.

"Thank You for the Lives You Touch" was the theme of the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held at Avon Oaks Country Club April 9.

"With the help and support of our volunteers, we have enjoyed another year of great success and much growth," said SJMC President and CEO William A. Young. "In many ways this is in direct correlation to the fine assistance you provide to our hospital on a daily basis. St. John Medical Center would not be what it is today without your ongoing support."

SJMC volunteers contributed an incredible 52,000 hours of service last year, equivalent to nearly 25 full time employees!

"I see the commitment you have to SJMC and to serving our patients," said Young. "I hope you realize how special the work you do is to us and our patients. Whether you are transporting a patient, providing directions to a family, providing comfort rounds to our patients, attending to the gift shop, assisting a department or serving as a Eucharistic minister - no matter what the task - you do it with enthusiasm, compassion and kindness. You are the heart and soul of this organization."

St. John Medical Center Honors Volunteers

Betty Bennett (10,000 hours served) and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO

Tony Iezzi, PhD. (11,000 hours served) and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO

Juanita Marcis (4,000 hours served) received the Presidential Award from Penny Evans, SJMC Volunteer Manager and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO.

Penny Evans, SJMC Volunteer Manager, Mary Sexton (14,000 hours served) and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO.

Betty Bennett (10,000 hours served) and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO

Front: Richard Ferreri, Carey Neal, Judy Neal, (back row) Phyllis Reveglia, Doris Semersky, Maria Lancashire, Angel Agosto, T osia Rhodes

Penny Evans, SJMC Volunteer Manager, Mary Sexton (14,000 hours served) and William A. Young, Jr., SJMC President & CEO.

Joanne Daberkow, Terrence Kessler, President & CEO Sisters of Charity Health System and Helen Rickey

Nancy Albrecht (seated), Bob Ramsey, Phyllis Reveglia, Judy Neal, Skip Albrecht, June Kearney and Joe Kearney
St. John Medical Center, which is co-owned by University Hospitals (UH) and the Sisters of Charity Health System, has added a well-known, local vascular surgeon to its medical staff with the addition of Christopher J. Smith, MD, FACS. Dr. Smith is now a member of the St. John Medical Group, and is also affiliated with the UH Harrington Medical Center. His practice will be solely dedicated to St. John Medical Center. We are pleased to add a vascular surgeon of Dr. Smith's caliber," says William A. Young, President and CEO of St. John Medical Center. "His significant experience and background will be a major benefit to our heart and vascular program."

Specializing in vascular surgery, Dr. Smith provides diagnosis and treatment for diseases of the peripheral blood vessels and the complications arising from those disease processes. Dr. Smith's expertise and special interests include open surgical and endovascular management of aortic aneurysms, complicated arterial and venous surgery, carotid artery disease, dialysis access, venous disease, and percutaneous intervention for peripheral arterial disease. Dr. Smith utilizes both conventional and cutting-edge techniques in the management of patients with vascular disease and hopes to expand the vascular program at St. John Medical Center.

Dr. Smith was most recently director of Endovascular Surgery and medical director of the Diabetic Foot Clinic at MetroHealth Medical Center. His experiences also include chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland, Pa., and head of the Section of Vascular Surgery at Taylor Hospital in Ridley Park, Pa.

Dr. Smith is an assistant professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and a member of the Society for Vascular Surgery, the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, and the Cleveland Vascular Society. He is a frequent lecturer, is the co-author of publications and book chapters, and has made local television appearances. Dr. Smith is board-certified in Surgery by the American Board of Surgery and in Vascular Surgery by the American Board of Surgery – Vascular Surgery.

Dr. Smith received his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine, served his internship and residencies at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and is affiliated with St. John Medical Center and University Hospitals. A resident of Westlake, Dr. Smith is married and the father of two children.

Westshore Primary Care has locations in Avon, Avon Lake, Fairview Park, Middleburg Heights, North Ridgeville, Sheffield and Westlake. They offer weekend and extended evening hours. And, for those times when hospital services are required, Westshore Primary Care doctors are affiliated with leading teaching and community hospitals, such as St. John Medical Center and University Hospitals.

"It is our goal to help you keep up with the latest information regarding your health and well being, as well as as your advocate in navigating the complex health care system," says Michael Adornetto, DO, President of Westshore Primary Care. "You will find a noticeable difference here in providing you and your family with personalized care."

Westshore Primary Care patients have the added convenience of being linked to FollowMyHealth, a patient portal that offers the convenience of requesting appointments, getting prescription refills and asking billing questions online. All Westshore Primary Care locations are interconnected by the EHR (Electronic Health Record), resulting in improved efficiencies, better and safer coordinated care, and improved preventive care.

In recent weeks Westshore Primary Care has added three new staff members – Zenos Vangelos, DO, a sports medicine specialist; Nancy Wasserbauer, DO, an allergy and immunology specialist; and rheumatologist Mohammed A. Ali, MD.

Dr. Vangelos brings more than 25 years of experience in treating amateur and professional athletes to his new practice at Westshore Primary Care’s Westlake/Detroit Road location. Since 1991, Dr. Vangelos has served as a consulting team physician to the Cleveland Indians. He’s also served as team physician to the U.S. Soccer Federation since 1989, and he’s provided physician coverage for hundreds of local high school, college and amateur sporting events, too. Dr. Vangelos will see patients of all ages with orthopedic injuries and will treat weekend athletes, as well as the more elite athlete needing advanced treatment options.

Dr. Wasserbauer diagnoses and treats pediatric and adult allergies (environment, food, stinging insects, drugs), asthma, atopic dermatitis, hives, and primary immune deficiency diseases. Her focus is on offering patients new therapies as soon as they are considered safe and effective. Dr. Wasserbauer has published many articles and has appeared in allergy educational videos, television programs, and local news articles. Dr. Wasserbauer welcomes new pediatric and adult allergy patients at Westshore Primary Care’s Avon office.

Dr. Ali is an experienced rheumatologist with hands-on experience in the management of arthritis, rheumatic diseases and osteoporosis. He completed his residency and fellowship in rheumatology at University Hospitals of Cleveland/Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, and most recently was a rheumatologist at Holzer Clinic in Gallipolis, Ohio. A member of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association, Dr. Ali will see patients at his Westlake office at 29099 Health Campus Drive.

Visit www.westshoreprimarycare.com to learn more about Westshore Primary Care, or to find office locations, hours and other information. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/westshoreprimarycare.
Because advanced wounds need advanced care.

The Advanced Wound Care Center at St. John Medical Center
Westshore Professional Center
29160 Center Ridge Road, Suite S
Westlake, Ohio 44145
(440) 827-5300
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Advanced Wound Care Center understands the challenges faced each day by professional home care providers when it comes to chronic and non-healing wounds. The Center offers cutting edge treatments, the highest quality of dedicated physicians and nurses, and the ability to work with your dressing formulary – all to help advanced wounds heal faster. And when wounds heal, lives change.

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- Diabetic Wounds
- Pressure Ulcers
- Venous Stasis Ulcers
- Arterial Ulcers
- Non-Healing Surgical Wounds
- Complex Soft Tissue Wounds
- Traumatic Wounds
- Infected Wounds

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