

# BLOCK ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER

## NEWSLETTER

The Island's Full Spectrum Primary Health Care Center



### Virtual Fundraiser and Auction a Success!

The Block Island Medical Center thanks all the businesses and individuals who donated to the 2021 Virtual Fundraiser and Silent Auction. Through the generosity of our donors, funds and equipment worth over \$135,000 were raised for the Medical Center. The Block Island Medical Center is a nonprofit, accepting tax-deductible donations from generous Block Island community members near and far to operate. Special thanks to the hard-working committee for organizing this fantastic event. It is never too late to participate; go to [BIMC2021GIVESMART.COM](http://BIMC2021GIVESMART.COM) to donate, buy remaining items, or learn more about the fundraiser.



### Block Island Medical Center's Up 1,006 Visits Compared to July, 2020

As of the end of July, the Block Island Medical Center patient visits are already up 1006 visits compared to this time last year. Implementing specific time slots for routine primary care visits, such as blood work and disease management, allows for a smoother clinical workflow and decreased patient wait times. Thanks to Block Island Volunteer Fire and Rescue, NSPD, our staff, and all the community members who support the BIMC in so many ways, helping us all adjust to the increased demand.

	2020	2021	Change
Medical Visits	1597	2399	+50%
Nurse Visits	698	804	+15%
PT Visits	710	563	+26%
<b>Total Visits at BIMC</b>	<b>3057</b>	<b>4063</b>	<b>+32.9%</b>

## WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNING BIMC MEMBERS

Welcome to our new and returning members from all over who signed up during the 2021 membership drive. Membership supports the Medical Center financially and allows voting in Board elections, helping to maintain the integrity of Block Island Medical Center. The contribution is \$ 30 for an individual membership or \$ 50 for a family membership. These funds are used for general operating expenses. Block Island Medical Center is available for all your health needs throughout the entire year. We welcome everyone to be a part of this vital community resource. Click on the membership link below.

[MEMBERSHIP](#)

or send a check indicating the individual or family membership noted on the memo line to

[BIMC](#)

[P.O. BOX 919](#)

[BLOCK ISLAND, RI 02807](#)

or drop off checks at our office located at

[6 PAYNE ROAD](#)



**Block Island Health Services, Inc**  
**The Block Island Medical Center**



## Capital Campaign to Update the Island's Medical Center

The Block Island Medical Center is about to start the most substantial renovation and expansion of the facility in its 30-year history. The plans call for a new wing off the back with a complete second floor and basement. The expanded space will include four primary care rooms, two urgent care rooms, and increased physical therapy space. The addition will also provide housing for the visiting doctors, residents, and medical students who are integral to keeping the island community safe and healthy during the busiest times of the year. Once completed, the entire community will enjoy the benefits of a new medical center to serve the

island's healthcare needs well into the future.

"It is gratifying that more and more islanders are seeking care from the Medical Center," said Dr. Tom Warcup. "Our primary care visits are up, and there is a waiting list for physical therapy. Between that demand and providing urgent care, this expansion is critical." The Medical Center will continue to be a primary and acute care provider - not a hospital and not a full-service emergency room. "Emergency patients will continue to be transferred to a mainland hospital as soon as possible, but because of frequent constraints due to weather and our remote island location, we need more capacity for acute care until transfer is possible," said Dr. Warcup. "The redesigned primary clinical area and larger physical therapy space will meet increasing demand among islanders for services to stay as healthy as possible."

Fundraising for the \$5 million+ project is well underway, with over \$4 million pledged. The total goal for BIMC's Capital Campaign is \$7.5 million, which includes funding for its endowment. Donations and pledges payable in up to five years may be made on the Medical Center's website: [Block Island Medical Center Capital Campaign](#)  
More architectural renderings and floor plans are available on our site too.



## **DR. PETER BAUTE AWARD RECIPIENTS STEPHANIE RICH AND NICOLAS PHILLIPS**

Dr. Peter Baute faithfully served the Block Island community as a physician, interim Executive Director, innovator, advocate, and mentor. Friends and family of the late Dr. Baute established an Endowed Fund and Award to honor his commitment to counsel, kindness, and care to countless individuals on Block Island and well beyond its shores. Recipients of the award demonstrate Dr. Baute's legacy traits: exceptional interpersonal skills and compassion coupled with a high level of acumen in delivering healthcare on Block Island. The \$500 award is typically given to one Block Island student annually. However, this year there were two worthy candidates. Block Island School Class of 2021 graduates Stephanie Rich and Nicolas Phillips received the Dr. Baute Award. In July, Dr. Warcup presented the award at the monthly BIVFR meeting where both Stephanie and Nick volunteer. Stephanie and Nick will use the award to help pay for their EMS certification. Block Island is fortunate to have such dedicated individuals contributing to the care of our community.



## Block Island Medical Center's 2020-2021 Intern Savannah Brown off to Providence College!

The Block Island Medical Center's 2020-2021 Intern Savannah Brown is studying biology on a pre-med track at Providence College. Savannah graduated as the salutatorian of the Block Island School's class of 2021. While completing her internship at the Medical Center, she maintained a 4.0 GPA, was a National Honor Society student, and was also the Block Island Leo Club President. Savannah credits her experience working at the Medical Center for her decision to focus on pre-med studies. Before her internship experience, she had wanted to study law. Her experiences working at the Block Island Medical Center made her realize her love for working with patients and treating injuries. Savannah concluded her internship and senior project on physical therapy treatment plans for athletes, with a case study on a cyclist with shin pain. We wish you well, Savannah, and are very confident in your future.



[DONATE TO THE BLOCK ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER CLICK HERE](#)





**The U.S. Coast Guard made a special visit to the Block Island Medical Center to help strengthen our ability to work as a team. While here, they toured our facility, we toured their aircraft, and together we refined our workflow and came to a deeper understanding of each other’s resources.**

## **NEW BIHS BOARD ELECTED**

In June, Block Island Health Services Board held its 2021 election. Leaving their board positions were Chair Cindy Baute, Treasurer Pete Tweedy, and Board Member Robert Greenlee. The Block Island Health Services Board helps support the Block Island Medical Center by fundraising and assuring the Block Island Medical Center Team is striving towards the mission and vision of the Block Island Medical Center. The members of the BIHS Board are dedicated and to the betterment of healthcare on Block Island, and they receive no compensation for their service. Their common denominator is their interest in supporting quality modern health care on the island. We welcome our newly elected Board members and thank them for their commitment and countless hours spent ensuring quality healthcare is available on the Block Island.

### **BIHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SUSAN STOVER | CHAIR  
 LAURA PARSONS | VICE CHAIR  
 GORDON NELSON | TREASURER  
 MILLIE MCGINNES | SECRETARY  
 MICHAEL (MIKE) BROWNSTEIN, MD  
 THOMAS (TOM) MURPHY  
 BRIAN OTT, MD  
 KEISHA PHILLIPS-BROWN  
 NANCY RUDDLE  
 RAY TORREY  
 ROBIN LEWIS VILA  
 SHARON WEINBERG  
 THOMAS K. WARCUP, DO, MHA, EX OFFICIO  
 MARY DONNELLY, RN, EMERITUS



### A Night of Gratitude

To give Block Island Medical Center providers the proper welcome that was impossible when they started during the pandemic in April, 2020, we had a very small party on June 26th. Adrian Mitchell hosted the event to welcome providers Tom Warcup and Laurie Anderson and the newly elected Board members, and to thank the outgoing Board members. Ranking members of the BIVFD, town representatives, and the BIMC team came together in mutual gratitude for a wonderful sunset gathering.

Kimberly Ward spent hours preparing for the event and served guests delicious appetizers from Kimberly's Restaurant and the BI Oyster Bar and Grill, who sent their chef to help, all free of charge. Rita Draper of the Oar and the 1661 graciously donated large trays of sushi. Thank you to Block Island Grocery, Champlin's, Interstate Navigation, the National Hotel, and Payne's Dock for donating everything from beer and wine to cocktail napkins and cups.

The night was a lovely way to start the season, and welcome our providers, and thank the Block Island Health Services Board, town officials, and many of the volunteers who give time and dedication to bettering the Block Island community.

