

1921 SINCE AN ANNIVERSARY



ad journal

daughters of miriam center / the gallen institute

1921-2021 DEAR FRIENDS,



We hope this finds you healthy and safe. The way companies respond to challenging events tests the strength of their people, their culture and their plans. At Daughters of Miriam Center, we responded to the global pandemic with resilience—affirming our strategy, maintaining our mission and honoring our commitment to our seniors. As this ad journal goes to print we are still dealing with the effects of this global pandemic and now must deal with the Delta variant. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the Center’s frontline heroes for their dedication during this pandemic. The Daughters of Miriam Center team worked tirelessly to provide essential services to our seniors while dealing with all the professional and personal challenges brought on by this crisis.

Amidst this pandemic, the year 2021 celebrates 100 years of service to the communities of Northern New Jersey. Daughters of Miriam opened in 1921 barely three years after the Spanish Flu decimated the world; no one could have foreseen that our centennial would take place during another global health emergency. If the past year has proven anything though, it is that we can all come together—the Daughters of Miriam Center family and community—to work as hard as possible, for as long as it takes to safeguard those in our care.

Our 100th anniversary also coincides with the commemoration of the first anniversary of the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic that has devastated the world, including our own community. The staff and administration of the Center have gone above and beyond to ensure that the elderly were well-cared for in body and soul. I-pads and laptops were purchased for residents’ use and telephone and video calls were scheduled with families and friends as often as possible. Activities staff continue to work around the clock to help residents with virtual entertainment options as well as to provide in-person activities whenever possible within safety restrictions.

As always you, our donors, have played a large part in our success in navigating this unprecedented year and we thank you for your support of Daughters of Miriam Center/The Gallen Institute through your donation to our Annual Ad Journal and Covid-19 emergency fund-raising campaign. This is our opportunity to spotlight our accomplishments so our donors, volunteers and the general community are aware of our activities and achievements. In addition, we are deeply indebted to you, our benefactors, for your support as we continue to be recognized as one of the premier long-term care and sub-acute facilities in Northern New Jersey, rated five-stars by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Nursing Home Compare Five-Star Quality Rating System.

Our Board members as well as our donors support the Center because we know, first-hand, the exceptional care that is offered at the Center as many of us entrust our family members to its care. It is extremely gratifying for all of us to have the honor of stewarding Daughters of Miriam Center into its 100th year of service to the seniors in our community.

This Ad Journal is one of the main fundraising vehicles that helps maintain the services at the Center. We are grateful for your participation in this year’s Ad Journal and we look forward to your continued and, hopefully, increased support in the years to come. Let us all be proud that in these difficult times our gifts are making a difference.

Thank you.

Avi Safer
Ad Journal Chairman

Cover Photographs (clockwise, from the top right corner)

- In 1921, Daughters of Miriam Home for the Aged opened its doors on River Street in Paterson.
- Front entrance of the Daughters of Miriam/The Gallen Institute located at 155 Hazel Street in Clifton.
- In 1953, the Paterson Ladies Auxiliary presented the Daughters of Miriam Home & Infirmary for the Aged a Pontiac station wagon to transport the nurses from their home to our home.
- Apartment Tenant Mildred Cohen hugs her dog Morty.
- Since visitation was prohibited during the pandemic, the activities staff filled in for the families and dispensed hugs as well as laptops to keep residents connected. Pictured is activities therapist Marija Jovanovich hugging resident Susan Fenkany.



Daughters of Miriam Center

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1921
SINCE
A N N I V E R S A R Y



Turns
10
This Year...

Daughters of
Miriam
Center

1921-2021

... almost as venerable as its residents.
The imposing building that has stood for
decades at 155 Hazel St in Clifton has its roots in
Paterson and Passaic. Journey with us as the
following pages explore the birth, growth
and continuing development of the center.

1913-1929

Daughters of Miriam's...

... humble beginnings began in 1913 when Reverend Buchin dared to dream that a facility could be built in order to meet the needs of the changing community. According to our archives, the author traced the concept that year when it was discussed by a group of women of the Malbish Arumin Society. These women brought relief to poor families and recognized the need for a shelter for both orphans and the aged. Seeking a home in which to carry on their noble work, these pioneers interested the Honorable Nathan Barnet who purchased the grounds at 469 River Street, known as the Ashley Homestead. On November 1, 1920, Mr. Barnet deeded the property to Daughters of Miriam in memory of his wife, Miriam.

On Tuesday, May 17, 1921 the Barnet Hebrew Free School Band played the Star Spangled Banner and the Hatikvah. Filbert Rosenstein was chairman of the dedication exercises. Isidore Simon, president of the Daughters of Miriam for the Aged and Orphans, addressed the crowd while Nathan Barnet, Mayor of Paterson, viewed the drama from the dais. Later that same day, the first group of children from the Paterson Orphan Asylum were admitted along with a group of senior citizens.

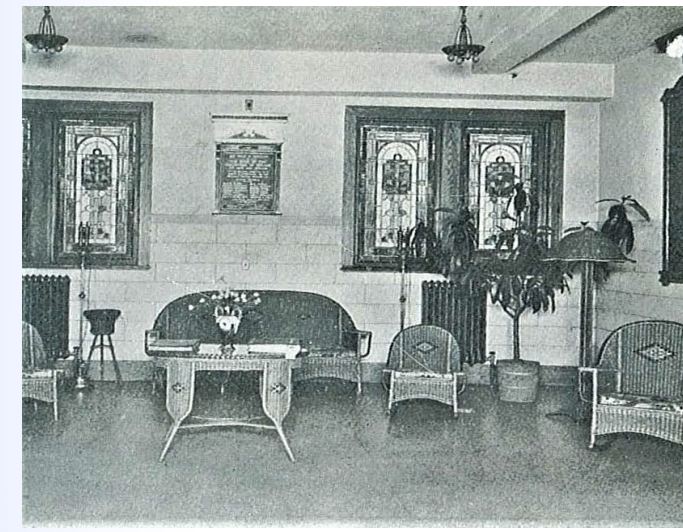
As time passed, it became evident that it would be necessary to provide larger quarters for the children and the aged. Two years, however, were to pass before the Board of Directors went to the public to seek money for a new building. Over \$91,000 was raised. On May 17, 1923, the 43-acre Bannigan State, located on Hazel Road in Clifton was purchased.

Under the chairmanship of Samuel Neinken, the Building Committee adopted plans and awarded the construction contract on March 18, 1926. The very next day, ground for the structure was broken. Although there was no formal program, a crowd was present to witness the simple but impressive exercises. The Honorable Nathan Barnet, our benefactor, had the distinction of formally breaking ground. Two months later, on May 23, 1926, a capacity crowd of over 2000 assembled for the cornerstone laying exercises. Moderated by Filbert Rosenstein, the ceremony brought together officials from Clifton, Paterson and Passaic as well as the governor of the State, A. Harry Moore. The vulnerable philanthropist, Mr. Barnet, placed the cornerstone in position on the northeast corner of the structure.

On Sunday, January 30, 1927, thousands wended their way into the building to participate in the dedication of the new facility. "A dream comes true," was the way Samuel Neinken described the beautiful new home in presenting the key to Nathan Barnet who in turn passed it to President Simon. While it was a proud day for all those who participated, it was a prouder day still for those leaders who dreamed and strived and toiled for a new and comfortable home.



Orphans of the Daughters of Miriam circa 1928



The 1926 original lobby of the Daughters of Miriam, now the exit for the wheelchair accessible ramp to the gardens

From the late 1930s to 1948, Daughters of Miriam slowly relinquished its program for dependent children to a professional casework agency which placed the children either in foster homes or put them up for adoption. The interior of the original building was then expanded and adapted to provide better care for the seniors. A 60-bed nursing unit and staff building with many service facilities were added.

During the years of 1952 to 1957, Daughters of Miriam merged with the B'nai Israel Home for the Aged in Passaic, added 85 new beds and reduced the bed capacity of the original building to eliminate dormitory-style accommodations and to make room for additional services.

From 1957 to 1963, the Home was gradually transformed from a predominantly domiciliary setting to a total nursing unit with concomitant increase in staff and expenditures.

Beginning in 1963, the Home witnessed a growing partnership of government funding with private philanthropy through the introduction of Medicare, Medicaid, and Federal loans and grants for construction. As a result, Daughters of Miriam moved towards a greater dependence upon third party (State and Federal) payment for services. A total of six buildings became the nucleus of the modern campus with the five-story Rothenberg Building increasing the bed capacity to 300 when it opened in 1966. Construction continued with the opening of the 30-bed Meyer Pavilion in 1967 and the completion and occupancy of Miriam Apartments I in 1968.

By the end of the 70s, Miriam Apartments II (Esther and Sam Schwartz Building) represented an additional 150 units to the existing 130 efficiency units of Miriam Apartments I (Brawer Building) providing apartment tenants with independent living combined with security and ready access to medical and social services.

The 1926 "Home" of the Daughters of Miriam

"A Dream Come True ..."



1980-1999

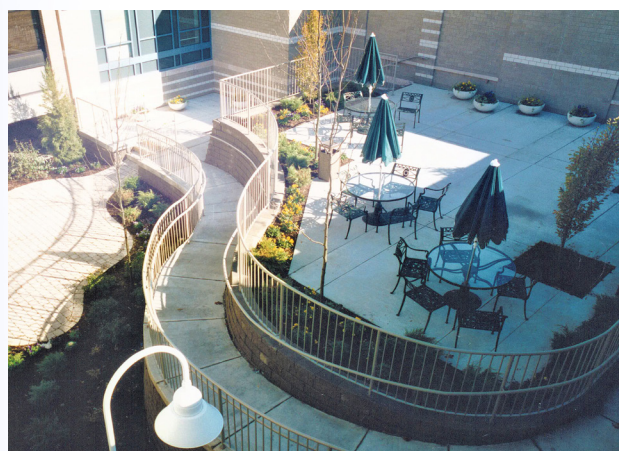


Other services that opened in the 80s included a respite care program and hospice care. The respite care program provided temporary skilled nursing care for seniors who live in the community. While at the Center, respite patients were able to take advantage of the wide range of structured activities available to all residents. The benefits to families are manifold as caregivers can take vacations, deal with business or family issues or just take a break from responsibilities knowing their elderly loved ones are receiving care in a safe environment.



Southwest corner of the B. I. Cohen Family Building during Fall

As healthcare needs changed, new services became necessary. The Center responded to this changing environment by establishing a medical day care program complete with an Alzheimer's disease and related disorders component. The outreach program, endowed by philanthropists Rita and Samuel Brodie and run under the direction of the Medical Director H. Louis Chodosh, helped to maintain the elderly in their own homes by bringing them together for a five-hour-a-day program in a warm, supportive environment where they enjoyed a complement of therapeutic activities.



Northeast view of the Esther and Sam Schwarz Courtyard located in the B. I. Cohen Building

The 80s saw more construction as the 22-bed tower opened and was later endowed by Eva and Morris Feld. This brought the Center's licensed capacity to 340 beds. As the healthcare demands increased, Daughters of Miriam kept pace with the change. The 90s gave rise to further expansion as the Center saw the opening of the B.I. Cohen Family Building, a 27,888 square foot building which replaced parts of the facility dating back to the 1920s and created a state-of-the-art Glatt kosher kitchen.



Cornerstone laying exercise for Daughters of Miriam, Clifton 1926

21st Century

As the dawning of a new century began, the Center embarked on a five-year, \$12 million S.O.S. Save Our Seniors capital campaign to fund numerous renovations including "rightsizing" the facility to 210 beds by eliminating three and four-bedded rooms; the creation of a 38-unit bed Alzheimer's and dementia unit on the third and fourth floors; the closure of the ambulatory unit; the renovation of the 2nd floor complete with open air nurse stations, redesigned lounges, and wireless game rooms; the renovation of the adult medical day center; the opening of the Helen Sanders Thrift Shop; the installation of the Gertrude and Charles Cooperwasser gazebo behind the Apartments; the renovation of the Marcus Auditorium into a multi-media center; the expansion and renovation of the Gallen Institute for Subacute Care; the installation of new elevators in the Center and Apartments; the installation of a new fire alarm system and the replacement of the HVAC systems. By 2009 all floors of the Center had been renovated and residents from the Ambulatory unit were moved into 2 East. The Center spent a total of \$4.36 million renovating 143 beds on six units.

In 2011, due to extensive cutbacks in Medicaid rates, the Board of Trustees made the difficult decision to close the Rita and Samuel Brodie Adult Medical Day Center, the longest continually operating adult day center in the state. The Day Center officially closed in 2012 after a last-chance campaign to reach out to NJ government representatives failed.

Hurricane Sandy blew through the region in 2012; however, due to coordinated pre-planning, the Center came through virtually unscathed. The Center never lost power while the Apartments only experienced a one-day power outage. The facility incurred minor damage when an exhaust fan on the roof of Miriam Apartments I was ripped away and some majestic trees were uprooted.

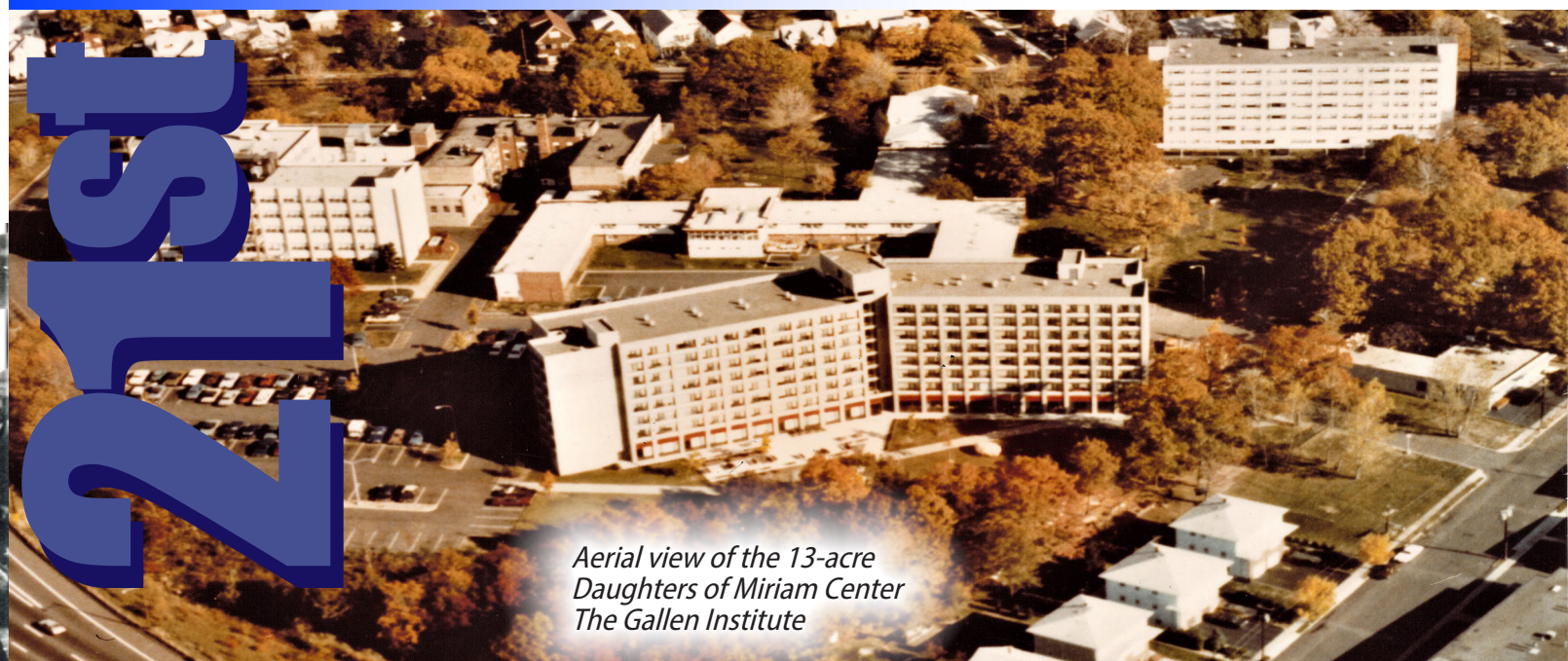
2016 marked a milestone in the Center's history as the "temporary" 1946 Ambulatory building and cottage was razed and the underground oil tanks were removed. In addition, long-planned cosmetic and structural renovations were completed at the Esther and Sam Schwartz Apartments (Miriam II) including a renovated lobby, lounge and dining room. Structural improvements included the installation of a new fire alarm system as well as the replacement of the building's windows.

Thanks to the wireless network installed through the capital campaign renovations, the Center transitioned to e-charting that supported better coordination of care, improved resident outcomes, enhanced financial performance and staff productivity. Through this enhancement as well as other efficiencies, the Center received a perfect score from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in 2017 and was awarded the highest possible rating of five stars. Created in 2008 by CMS, the rating system helps family's judge long-term care facilities. This five-star rating has been maintained every year since.

In keeping with the Center's mission to meet the social, emotional and healthcare needs of the Jewish community, it was determined in 2017 that the Center would better serve its constituents through a consolidation of its holdings; therefore, the Board of Trustees sold Miriam Apartments I, to the Integra Housing Group. Housing and services for independent seniors were now fully concentrated in Miriam Apartments II. The sale of Miriam Apartments I also precipitated the closing of the Helen Sanders Thrift Shop, which had moved to the larger location off the lobby of the apartments a few years prior. The downsizing of the Center's campus left no room for the much-loved shop. In addition, the Center was also forced to close the doors of the 1961 Sheltered Workshop the following year due to changes in federal and state regulations.

In 2019, the parking lot was expanded and renovated to accommodate 223 vehicles. New sidewalks, lighting and drainage were installed. In addition, residents and tenants also benefited from new walkways at the front and back of the Apartments as well as between the buildings.

The Evolution of Daughters of Miriam from a "Home for the Aged and Orphans" through a "Home and Infirmary for the Aged" to its expansion into a "Center for the Aged" and to its ultimate transformation into the "Daughters of Miriam/The Gallen Institute" is foremost the story of people committed to a mission. Regardless of what lies ahead, Daughters of Miriam Center remains steadfast to its mission to continue the proud tradition that Nathan Barnert began a century ago. This retrospect of 100 years is intended both as a celebration of our progress and as inspiration to those who will follow.



Aerial view of the 13-acre Daughters of Miriam Center The Gallen Institute

The third decade of the 21st century began auspiciously with the Center again rated a five-star nursing home by the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare (CMS). Additionally DMC was included in both *Newsweek's* and *U.S. News & World Report's Best Nursing Homes List*.

Early in January 2020, however, news came out of China about a fast-spreading new virus that was killing people in the city of Wuhan. By the end of January the virus – named the 2019 novel coronavirus or COVID-19 – had been confirmed in the United States and the World Health Organization (WHO) had issued a Global Health Emergency. Public health emergencies were quickly declared; first by the US on February 3, then by NJ Governor Phil Murphy on March 9, followed by the WHO declaring COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11.

Center Administration acted quickly to minimize the threat to the health and safety of our seniors and employees by restricting visitation to the Center on March 12, 2020, a day before CMS issued instructions to all long-term care facilities across the country to do likewise. The Apartments closed the communal dining room and coffee shop and requested tenants self-isolate as staff coordinated multiple daily meal deliveries and wellness calls.

Similar to hospitals, our own health care heroes worked tirelessly 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide essential services to our seniors while dealing with all the professional and personal challenges brought on by the pandemic.



This crisis brought on significant supplementary costs for the Center for critical items including personal protective equipment; capital equipment such as heavy-duty washers and dryers to avoid cross contamination for sanitizing gowns, clothing, and other personal items that were in contact with positive COVID-19 residents; and laptops and other technology to help limit the challenge of social isolation. Throughout 2020 new rules and practices were implemented in the facility to keep everyone safe and to comply with what were nearly daily updated instructions and mandates by the NJ Department of Health, CMS and the CDC. Regulations included daily temperature recording of every person entering the building, screening for symptoms of illness or travel to COVID-19 hotspots, weekly COVID-19 testing of staff and seniors, the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including masks, gowns, face shields or goggles, booties and gloves for all staff and masks for residents.



Laptops connect residents and their relatives virtually during the pandemic



“Daughters of Miriam opened in 1921 barely three years after the Spanish Flu decimated the world; no one could have foreseen that our centennial would take place during another global health emergency.”

The early months of the pandemic were set against televised daily updates from the governor's office announcing the increasing number of NJ residents infected and dead from the virus. The elderly were disproportionately affected and nursing homes across the country were in the spotlight. The Center was able to secure an adequate supply of PPE for staff as well as supplies of hand sanitizer and cleaning products. In addition, COVID tests were needed along with a lab to test the samples. We partnered with a nursing agency to ensure we had correct staffing levels as dozens of employees quarantined after showing symptoms or testing positive for the virus. A dedicated Infection Control nurse, in conjunction with medical and nursing staff, trained and provided input for staffing protocols for all from hands-on nursing staff to dietary aides, to housekeepers tasked with cleaning and disinfecting the facility. Physical changes/renovations were made to both individual rooms and units so as to comply with infection control recommendations. Daily updates were emailed to all families and posted on the Center's website.



Balloon Buddies provide virtual hugs to the seniors during restricted visitation

By Spring 2020, New York and New Jersey were deemed the epicenters of the virus so Daughters of Miriam Center stopped all incoming admissions on April 17 so as to avoid introducing the virus from the community into the facility; the Center did not reopen to admissions again until July 17. Despite restricting visitation, Activities and Social Services worked tirelessly to schedule virtual visits with families. Laptops, I-pads and other technology were purchased for residents to keep in touch with relatives and have access to games and cultural events.

The effect on our population, however, has been staggering, ultimately resulting in seniors and staff being infected with many residents succumbing to the virus. We are devastated by these losses and mourn our seniors who were part of our family and were cared for by dedicated staff in very difficult circumstances. As this journal goes to print, the US has over 600,000 COVID-19 fatalities with over 26,000 in NJ alone. In fact, adjusting for population, no other state has reported more COVID deaths than NJ.

As 2020 drew to a close, there was room for optimism though as nursing homes were prioritized to be among the first to receive the vaccines and, by the end of January 2021, all residents and staff who opted in had received the Pfizer vaccine in mass inoculation events at the Center and the Apartments.

Daughters of Miriam opened in 1921 barely three years after the Spanish Flu decimated the world; no one could have foreseen that our centennial would take place during another global health emergency. But, if the past year has proven anything, it is that we can all come together – the Daughters of Miriam family and community – to work as hard as possible, for as long as it takes, to safeguard those in our care.



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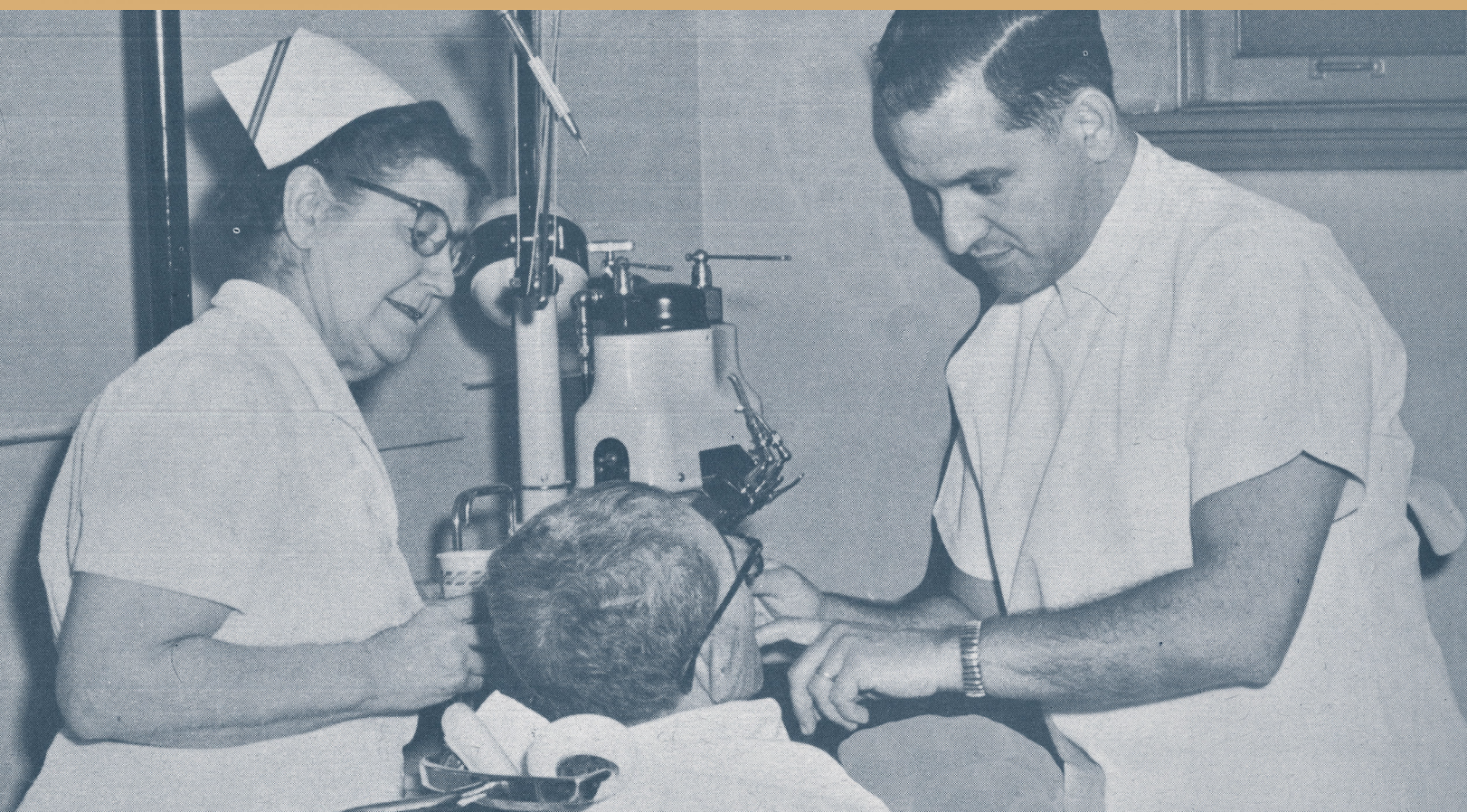
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Thanks for 42 Years of Memories!

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And Wish You Continued Success
During These Challenging Times*

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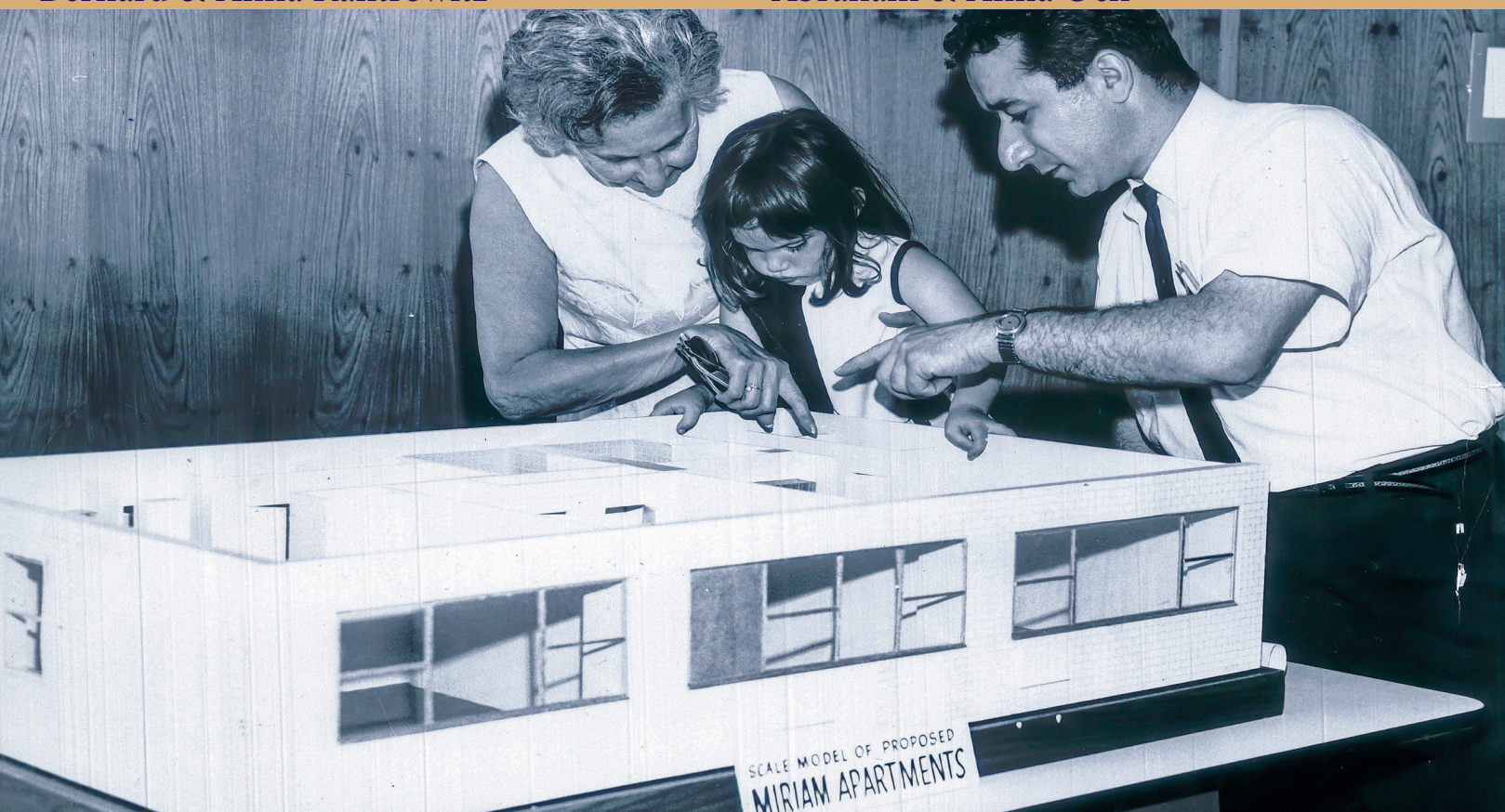
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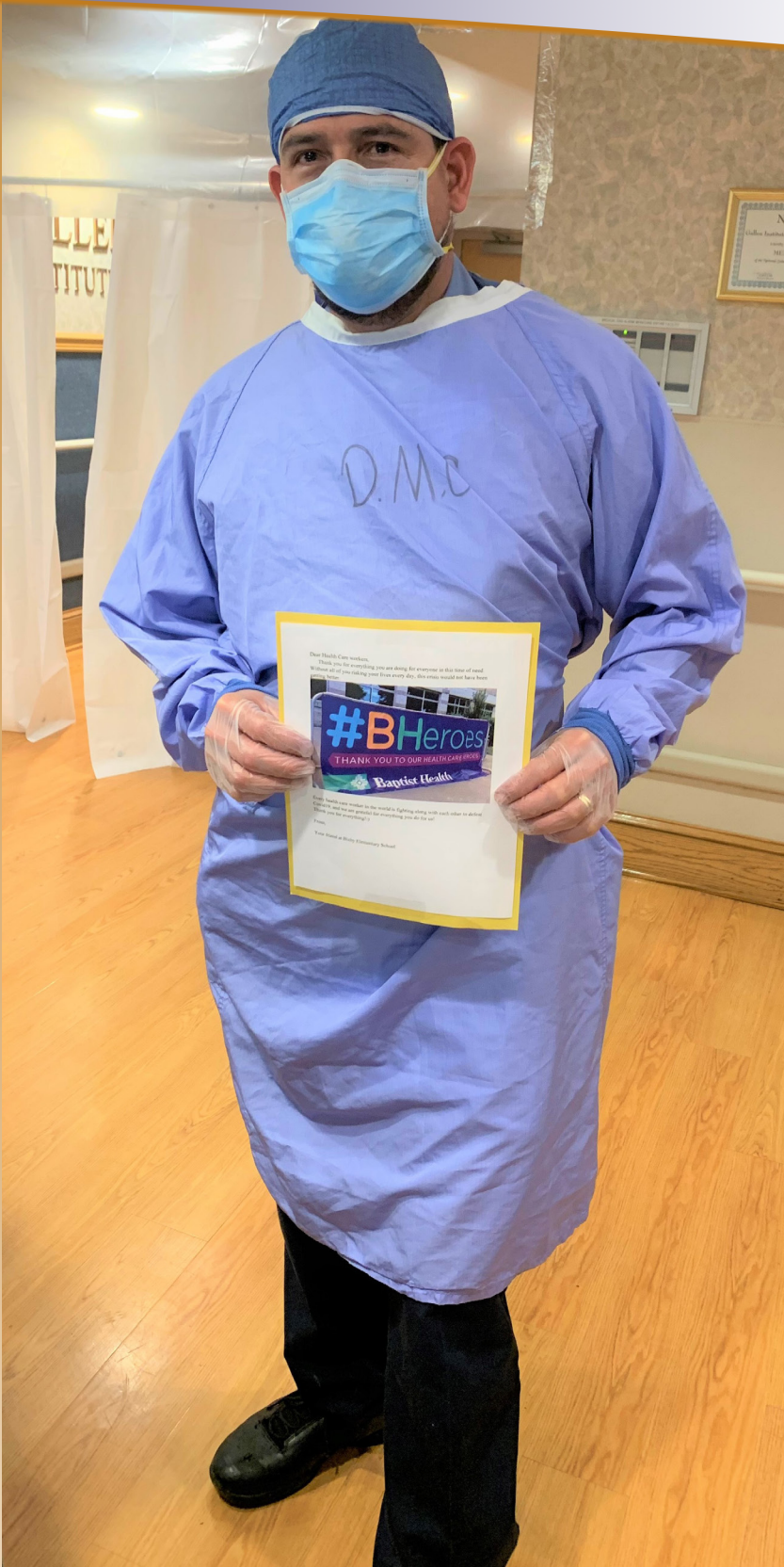
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