

checkup

2022 | NO. 2

DOING MORE FOR MORE PEOPLE

BVMI
Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative

*You're Helping Mara
Get Back on Her Feet*



Dear Friend,

New patients are streaming through BVMI's doors, and we have you to thank! Hundreds of people are being moved from the waiting list to "the doctor can see you now" because of your generosity.

Your continued support means that being uninsured doesn't have to mean going without healthcare. On behalf of every patient that you've helped, we extend our heartfelt gratitude!

P.S. Party with purpose at our Gala on September 22! Go to bvmigala.org for more information.

Amanda

**Amanda Missey,
President/CEO**

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Imagine How Terrifying it Would Be

to experience strange and unexplained symptoms with no place to turn for healthcare. Thanks to you, BVMI is unraveling a medical mystery for a patient named Mara.

When Mara came to BVMI last year, she had severe pain and swelling in her lower legs, making it hard for her to get around without a walker. BVMI arranged for Mara to have multiple tests at a local hospital, but beyond finding hypertension and anemia, her diagnosis still remained unclear.

Mara's doctors didn't give up and have continued to provide ongoing care, intervention and advocacy. Mara was finally diagnosed with lupus, and has improved with treatment from her BVMI volunteer doctor. She recently received unwelcome news: she also has scleroderma and neuropathy and will need surgery in the near future. Fortunately, she's got BVMI – and you – in her corner.



80K+

Bergen County
adults do not have
health insurance



15

weekly calls from
people who need
healthcare



500

new patients in
the coming year



*“I want the people who
donate to know the impact
they're making.”*

– Mara

Giving and Connecting

BVMI's donors give from the heart. And when they connect us to others who can help, it's a bonus. Lisa and Dan Peterson have supported BVMI since 2016. Lisa also introduced BVMI to other talented, generous people during her career at Stryker (a leading medical technology company). Now a Stryker retiree, she's still making connections to strengthen our Board of Trustees, our Associate Board, and our donor family.



“There's a tremendous amount of need out there,” said Dan. “And BVMI views healthcare through the patient's eyes, which is what sets them apart,” added Lisa.

*“BVMI views
healthcare through
the patient's eyes,
which is what sets
them apart.”*

– Lisa Peterson



**You can make a
difference for patients
like Mara:
BVMI.org/Donate**

Mara knows she's not alone. “The doctors and nurses at BVMI have done so much to help figure out what is wrong with me,” she said. “Because I have such small veins, even the lab techs are kind enough to take their time when I need bloodwork. And all the other doctors I have seen have been attentive and done their best to help me.”

Many BVMI patients – like Mara – have complicated

health issues. Because **you** care, our medical team can take the time to figure out what's wrong and how to treat it. “There are not a lot of opportunities like this for immigrants who can't afford health insurance,” Mara said. “BVMI is here for others like me. I want the people who donate to know the impact they're making, and how much I appreciate their help.”

 Read more about why the Petersons give at bvmi.org/donor-spotlight



Mission

Powered by passionate volunteers, BVMI delivers free, high-quality healthcare to Bergen County's working uninsured, helping them live healthy, productive lives.

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Events



**BVMI 13TH
ANNIVERSARY GALA**

September 22, 2022
Edgewood
Country Club

*Get your tickets
or become a
sponsor today!*





Join us at BVMI's 13th Anniversary Gala honoring Dr. Grishma Parikh, of Metropolitan Endocrinology, and Kamal Patel, of ELLKAY, for their outstanding efforts to ensure that BVMI's patients have access to high-quality, compassionate healthcare.

For more information

on upcoming events, contact Maria Surovets, BVMI
Special Events Manager at msurovets@bvmi.net.



Follow Us!  

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