

Cancer Center Celebrates 20th Anniversary

In 2005, the Joan Knechel Cancer Center at HMC opened its doors for the first time. It was named in memory of a dedicated nurse who worked at Hackettstown for more than 20 years.

After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Joan worked tirelessly to ensure cancer patients received the best possible care in their own community. Following her untimely death in her 40s, her family continued to fundraise to support the center



which now bears her name. Members of Joan's family, physicians, team members and patients gathered earlier this month to mark the 20th anniversary of the center.

Yana Goldberg, MD, Medical Director, Radiation Oncology, Joan Knechel Cancer Center, said, "Over the past 20 years, this center has witnessed extraordinary progress.



"Treatments once thought to be unimaginable in the Western Region are now routine."

Ashish Shah, DO, Medical Director, Outpatient Infusion Center, HMC, said, "In line with Joan's vision we are now able to offer sophisticated, cutting-edge hematology and oncology care closer to home.

"We want our patients to be able to come and not be stressed about driving 45 minutes to an hour to another facility, or another part of the state, or even out of state, to get their cancer care.

"It's an honor to be part of this cancer program and I look forward to many more years."

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