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PHOTO: Dr. Govind and Mrs. Jyothi Rao

**DR. GOVIND and MRS. JYOTHI RAO SUPPORT “EXCELLENCE AND COMPASSION ... THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. MARY’S” with a \$1 MILLION GIFT**

***The Rao Outpatient Pavilion Opens Soon!***

Amsterdam, New York - Dr. Govind and Mrs. Jyothi Rao recently announced an unprecedented gift of \$1,000,000 in support of the extended provision of high quality outpatient care through “*Excellence and Compassion ... The Campaign for St. Mary’s Healthcare.*” The name of the facility, the Rao Outpatient Pavilion, will honor the Rao family for their ongoing and monumental contributions to needed health care in our community.

The Rao’s early gift of \$250,000 towards the campaign, prompted other generous donors to commit six-figure support to the “new building” which will be home to the comprehensive Cancer Medicine Center including the new service of radiation oncology, and continuing full-range of services including medical oncology and infusion therapy. The facility will also feature the Women’s Breast Health Center, an expanded Medical Imaging Center; Laboratory Services, Outpatient Registration, Pre-Surgical Teaching and Testing; and the site of the new Urgent Care Center. The \$18 million Outpatient Pavilion is set to open in October 2015.

“This extraordinary gesture is affirmation of the great need and value of the new facility, and the incomparable commitment of Dr. and Mrs. Rao and their family, to the health of our community,” said Victor Giulianelli, President and CEO of St. Mary’s Healthcare. “This gift is one of compassion; a legacy

of their indelible and enduring spirit towards the future of our patients and the culture of care for our community. We thank the Raos for establishing an exceptional philanthropic pace for others.”

Dr. Rao has enjoyed a successful tenure in his pediatric practice in Amsterdam, and the Rao extended family includes 8 other pediatricians. The family’s generous legacy is underscored by the Neena Rao Charitable Corporation, established to honor Dr. and Mrs. Rao’s daughter, Neena, and to help people in need, most notably children. The family’s charitable nature has touched countless lives in the city of Amsterdam, throughout Montgomery County, across the country, and in India through the Foundation.

“We are eternally grateful to the Rao family for their support at this critical time in our history,” said Al Turo, Vice President for Planning and Development. “The construction of this 40,000 square foot Outpatient Pavilion will lead to increased accessibility and better outcomes without the worry of travel for our patients and their families. We cannot thank the Rao family often enough for their vision and leadership in these times of changing healthcare.”

For more information about St. Mary’s Healthcare, Amsterdam contact:

Jerri Cortese, Director of Community Relations  
St. Mary’s Healthcare, Amsterdam  
518-841-7162 (office)  
518-573-0970 (cell)  
[cortesej@smha.org](mailto:cortesej@smha.org)  
[www.smha.org](http://www.smha.org)

#### About St. Mary’s Healthcare, Amsterdam

St. Mary’s Healthcare features an award-winning acute care hospital, primary and specialty care centers throughout Fulton and Montgomery counties, more than 30 behavioral health services for persons in Fulton, Montgomery and Hamilton counties, a full continuum of physical rehabilitation services and a 160-bed nursing home. The organization has earned exceptional national rankings for excellence in medicine and has a continuing commitment to provide an exceptional patient experience. For more information about St. Mary’s Healthcare, call (518) 842-1900 or visit us online at [www.smha.org](http://www.smha.org). To stay connected to St. Mary’s, follow us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/smha.org](https://www.facebook.com/smha.org). St. Mary’s Healthcare is a member of Ascension Health, the largest not-for-profit Catholic healthcare network in the world

#### About Ascension

Ascension ([www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world’s largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all persons with special attention to those who are struggling the most. In FY2015, Ascension provided \$2 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. More than 150,000 associates and 35,000 affiliated providers serve in 1,900 sites of care – including 131 hospitals and more than 30 senior care facilities – in 24 states and the District of Columbia. In addition to healthcare delivery, Ascension subsidiaries provide a variety of services and solutions including physician practice management, venture capital investing, treasury management, biomedical engineering, clinical care management, information services, risk management, and contracting through Ascension’s own group purchasing organization.