

John Theurer Cancer Center/Governor Christie Hackensack event
Louis M. Weiner
Speech
July 2, 2013

WELCOME

I want to acknowledge our gracious hosts, Hackensack University Medical Center, Mr. Bob Garrett, Dr. Andrew Pecora, Dr. Andre Goy, guests, and hospital staff.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our special guest, Governor Chris Christie.

I lived and went to high school in New Jersey, and the Jersey shore has been my beloved summer playground for as long as I can remember. I know I speak for many in thanking Governor Christie for his work to preserve the shore and the many people whose lives were disrupted in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Thank you for joining us at this special time, and for your support of our efforts to defeat cancer through this exciting new venture.

INTRODUCTION

In some ways the cancer center I lead shares something important with this great state.

You see, there is this rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike not too far from here named after coach Vince Lombardi, another Jersey guy, the same man for whom Georgetown's cancer center is named.

So, I am especially excited that Hackensack University Medical Center's John Theurer Cancer Center has affiliated with Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center to fight one of the dreaded killers of our age by joining together to provide expert clinical care and cutting edge research.

The key phrases associated with this affiliation are **mutual benefit** and **shared vision**.

So why are two high-quality cancer centers, each of them a pioneer in its own right, teaming up?

We are doing this because the partnership of JTCC and Georgetown Lombardi creates a powerhouse that is greater than the sum of its parts.

[BENEFIT TO JTCC]

In terms of benefits to John Theurer, Georgetown Lombardi is one of 41 National Cancer Institute designated comprehensive cancer centers.

Lombardi brings to the table cutting-edge science and clinical care, which is exemplified by its leadership in the development a few years ago of the life-saving HPV vaccine.

This partnership gives John Theurer direct affiliation with an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center and improved access to a critical mass of basic and population research that can translate to cancer prevention, treatment and cure.

This gives New Jersey residents greater access to research-inspired clinical care, right here in their own communities, benefiting from the expertise contributed by one of world's great universities.

[BENEFIT TO GEORGETOWN LOMBARDI]

And for Georgetown Lombardi: JTCC has world-class expertise, particularly in blood-based cancers and bone marrow transplants.

In fact, stem and bone marrow transplants led by JTCC experts will soon be available in Washington because of our new partnership, creating the first academic, high-volume, high-impact bone transplant program in the DC region.

And, by teaming up with JTCC we can conduct more clinical trials, test more new drugs, and help more people than ever before, encompassing two of this nation's largest and most important metropolitan areas.

[CONCLUSION]

So in conclusion, this powerhouse combination will accelerate progress towards the prevention and cure of all cancers.

This joining of forces will directly benefit the citizens of New Jersey and the Washington metropolitan region.

But it's bigger than that: As we develop a shared enterprise that changes the face of cancer, the impact of this collaboration will resonate around the world.

And as a proud Jersey guy, I don't think there's any better place for it to occur.

Thank you.

Please join me in welcoming to the podium Mr. Robert Garrett, President and CEO of HackensackUMC.