BUILDING COMMUNITY

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2016
A YEAR OF TREMENDOUS PROGRESS

If you have been on the Medical Campus lately, you can’t help but feel that things are happening. 2016 marked a year of enormous progress as construction dominated the Campus landscape, fueling further development nearby. We are beginning to realize our potential as a catalyst for further investment and growth in our community as we attract more companies and entrepreneurs who are drawn to both the amenities and the energy found here.

While the momentum grows and the Medical Campus is gaining notice, the progress here did not happen overnight. The BNMC team marks its fifteenth year in 2017 and we are delighted to see that the foundation we have built over the last decade and a half are reaching a tipping point in that we are moving from “planning” to “doing.”

Today, we have a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem at the Innovation Center. We are optimizing energy efficiency, we are creating a culture of health and active living for employees and neighbors, and we are connecting individuals and small businesses with economic opportunity. We invite you to view our new website and video at bnmc.org to learn more.

We know there is much more to be done. Our team will continue to ask “what if?” and find the right partners and resources to continue our momentum. As always, we invite you to join us!

Sincerely,

Matthew K. Enstice  Angelo M. Fatta, Ph.D.
PRESIDENT & CEO  BOARD CHAIR
Momentum is building on the Medical Campus as preparations continue for the opening of new facilities in 2017. As Roswell Park Cancer Institute’s Scott Bieler Clinical Sciences Center was completed, construction of both the UB Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and the John R. Oishei Children’s Hospital are in full swing. New construction began on the parking garage on the corner of Ellicott and Goodrich Streets and the entrance to the Allen/Medical Campus Metro station was renovated as part of the Medical School construction in 2016.

The activity on Campus and the expected increase of students and employees is drawing more development around Campus for housing, retail, and other amenities to serve the Campus population and neighbors.

With a growing population on Campus, the BNMC team is actively planning and implementing strategies to manage growth. We are mindful of creating an environment that builds community where people want to work, visit, and live.
CREATING A CULTURE OF HEALTHY LIVING

One of our strategic focus areas is instilling a culture of health across the Medical Campus and surrounding communities, creating an environment within our institutions, workplaces, and neighborhood that will make the healthy choice, the easy choice.

In 2016, the BNMC was involved in a myriad of programs aimed at providing greater access to fresh, nutritious, locally grown food on Campus and throughout our community, and in promoting health and active living. Whether it was in helping to bring a community garden to the Moot Center in the Fruit Belt, connecting the Buffalo Public Schools to local farms for fresh produce in school cafeterias, funded through the NYS Department of Agriculture, promoting our Summer of Wellness activities on Campus, or working with local employers on health and wellness assessments, our work served to build our partnerships and our expertise to help make Buffalo a healthy city.

We spent significant time on the Farm to Hospital grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help us build a partnership with Health Care Without Harm and a better understanding of food systems that will inform the implementation of this program and connect our hospitals with local fresh food.

Received five year “Creating Healthy Schools & Communities” grant from NYS Department of Health to cultivate healthier schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods, in connection with Complete Streets.
TESTING NEW APPROACHES TO ENERGY

As a multi-institution Medical Campus with a strong partnership with National Grid, we are in a unique position to test new energy approaches that can optimize energy efficiency and serve as a model for other innovation districts or municipalities. In 2016, we completed the initial feasibility study of a Campus microgrid, supported with a $100,000 award from NYSERDA’s NY Prize to create a self-sustainable energy hub. The microgrid goal is to offset utility outages or natural disasters by enhancing reliability and resiliency and to empower our member institutions to optimize their priorities with respect to reliability, cost, and sustainability.

Our energy work also extended to the local community as we worked with National Grid on the Neighborhood Solar Partnership Program for Fruit Belt residents. Part of Governor Cuomo’s visionary Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) initiative, this program provides installation of solar energy systems to eligible Fruit Belt homes to introduce renewable energy in the neighborhood. The project will also help to determine whether concentrated neighborhood solar projects can produce grid efficiency, make economic sense in low-to moderate-income neighborhoods, and if they can be replicated elsewhere. The program is free to eligible residents and provides cost savings on their electric bills.
DEVELOPING STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL HIRING

Our member institutions continue to work together to develop strategies to connect local small businesses to opportunities on the Medical Campus and to lay groundwork to better prepare and connect local residents to jobs. The BNMC regularly convenes our Workforce and Procurement Councils, made up of representatives of our institutions and community partners to collaborate on new strategies that can bring more economic opportunity to local residents.

Through our 2016 Vendor Fair and better coordination and referrals among institutions, small businesses are gaining greater opportunity to sell their products and services here.

By better understanding the requirements of our employers, and the needs and skills of potential employees, we are working to make greater connections to increase more job and career opportunities on the Medical Campus.
SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The BNMC’s Innovation Center and dig, our cowork and event space, have become the region’s epicenter of entrepreneurial activity, helping to further economic growth, ignite urban revitalization, and build a strong, dynamic community. With support from KeyBank, we opened Learn at the Innovation Center in 2016, providing even more educational space for workshops and seminars.

The Medical Campus is already home to disruptive new technologies and scientific advancements driven by thought-leaders in clinical care, research, education, and business. Continuing to stay ahead of technology is critical to the future of medicine and to the further development of life sciences, materials informatics, and biotechnology companies.

We continue to cultivate an entrepreneurial culture that has attracted new companies and provides a comprehensive support system for those starting a business including workspace, education, access to business resources, and networking opportunities. A key asset is our ability to help make connections between inventors, scientists, and business designers, with those who can provide the services needed to launch and grow new companies. Only seven years old, the Innovation Center is home to more than 120 companies today.
MANAGING GROWTH THROUGH TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The depth of our planning and the strength of our partnerships have never been more important as we prepare to welcome even more people to Campus with the new buildings opening in 2017. We continue to focus on smart urban growth, alternative commuting options such as bike and car share, and accommodating the transportation and parking needs of employees, patients, and visitors, with considerations for our neighbors.

Progress continued in 2016 on the construction of a new parking garage on the corner of Ellicott and Goodrich Streets that will double the number of spaces available compared to the previous garage located there. This included relocating the majority of patient and visitor parking while maintaining the highest-level of customer service. We worked with neighbors and elected officials and advocated for new parking regulations in the Fruit Belt that helped to protect parking for residents. We also worked closely with the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) to finalize a plan for the redevelopment of multiple streetscape enhancements to corridors on and surrounding the Campus.

We worked closely with Campus partners & the NFTA to create a Corporate Pass Program, making commuting by transit a more affordable and easy option.
ENGAGING OUR NEIGHBORS

Consideration for and connection to our surrounding neighborhoods continues to be a driving force for BNMC’s work. Whether it is developing strategies to ensure local residents can realize economic opportunity on the Medical Campus, by promoting a healthy culture, or in bringing innovative programs such as the Neighborhood Solar Partnership, we are committed to breaking down barriers between the Campus and the community.

Building on our Four Neighborhoods, One Community master plan, we continue to find ways to engage our neighbors, through gatherings like our “At the Table,” informal meals with our neighbors and, “Better Together”, a group of local pastors who convene regularly to better understand their needs and advocate on their behalf.

We partnered with the Fruit Belt/McCarley Gardens Task Force on a grant from Preserve New York to complete a cultural resource survey of the neighborhood.
Our annual Student Open House includes Campus tours, conversations with experts and professionals, and hands-on learning that serves to educate and inspire the next generation of researchers, scientists, medical professionals, and entrepreneurs. Our signature event attracted nearly 500 students, teachers, and parents and provides a behind-the-scenes look at the work of the Campus partners. We also open our doors throughout the year to dozens of school groups for tours and talks with our team.

In 2016 we also hosted our first summer camp, a prosthetic hand challenge, for Buffalo Public School Students in partnership with University at Buffalo, Buffalo Manufacturing Works, and the Jacobs Institute. During the course of the camp, students were challenged to create and assemble a prosthetic hand printed on 3-D printers and donated to children in need through an international non-profit.
OUR MUTUAL CITY APPROACH
MutualCity is our unique approach to community revitalization that leverages the assets of our multiple Medical Campus institutions and community partners, developed with support from the F.B. Heron Foundation. Our core MutualCity principles include:

- Mutual understanding, whereby we believe that strong communities benefit organizations and vice versa;
- Listening to gain understanding;
- Connecting people and organizations to take on challenges and create opportunities;
- Action stemming from engaging key leaders and acting on community input;
- Collaboration to harness the collective strength of our community;
- Investing our resources and assets to serve strategic objectives;
- Adapting when necessary; and
- Dreaming and continually asking “What if?”

LAUNCHED
“TALKING CITIES”
A PODCAST ABOUT REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES
bnmc.org/podcast
The Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Inc. (BNMC) is building on the assets of our world-class Medical Campus – known for its clinical care, research, and education – to support our mission of furthering economic growth, igniting urban revitalization, and building a strong, thriving community.

MEMBERS

Allentown Neighborhood
Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center
Buffalo Medical Group, PC
Hospice Buffalo
Fruit Belt Neighborhood
Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute
Kaleida Health
Olmsted Center for Sight/Ross Eye Institute
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
University at Buffalo
Unyts