



**Christine Alexander-Rager, MD**

President and CEO  
The MetroHealth System  
2500 MetroHealth Drive  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

June 2026

## President's Report to the Board of Trustees

Good afternoon, Trustees:

Thank you for your service to our system, our patients, our caregivers and our community. Here are a few highlights to share since we last met:

● **OPHC ribbon-cutting and community celebration:** Thank you, Trustees, for joining us on Saturday, June 13, and helping us cut the ribbon on MetroHealth's new Outpatient Health Center. What a powerful celebration of what our system means to our community.

As we were designing this state-of-the-art facility, we listened closely to what our patients and their families told us mattered most. They asked for shorter trips between appointments and more services under one roof. They asked for warm spaces and welcoming faces, and they asked for easy-to-navigate buildings. The new Outpatient Health Center will deliver it all.

And we listened closely to our Medical Staff, who told us what mattered most to them and what they needed to best serve our patients.

The result is a beautiful 300,000-square-foot building made up entirely of clinical space – more than a dozen departments, including our Center for Breast Health, Pediatric Medical Care, Cancer Center, Heart and Vascular, Internal Medicine, OB-GYN and a drive-thru retail pharmacy that will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

During his invocation, Pastor **Luis Vizcarrondo** from Iglesia Refine Church beautifully summed up what this project means: "A place of healing is measured not by the height of its towers but by how short the distance is between its doors and its neighbors. ... Trust is the first medicine."

● **Pediatric trauma care update:** We have chosen not to pursue recertification of our Level II Pediatric Trauma Care Program after our American College of Surgeons (ACS) verification ends in January 2027. While this may sound like a big deal, almost nothing will change about how we provide emergency care for our youngest patients. We will remain the region's premier Level I Adult Trauma Center and still treat pediatric emergencies in our Emergency Departments.

This decision was driven, in part, by an acute nationwide and regional shortage of pediatric neurosurgeons, who are essential to operating an ACS-verified pediatric trauma center. (Recent research measured *only* 298 certified pediatric neurosurgeons practicing in the United States.) After closely evaluating this and other factors, it became clear that what was best for our region's children and their families was not to seek reverification.

When it comes to what's best for the children and families of Greater Cleveland, MetroHealth will always choose the difficult right over the easy wrong and do what is best for the community.



**Christine Alexander-Rager, MD**

President and CEO  
The MetroHealth System  
2500 MetroHealth Drive  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

When serious injuries happen to children, we trust our region's EMS professionals to determine the best destination for a patient. These first responders are trained to match the severity of an injury with the appropriate level of care. Currently, many pediatric trauma patients in Greater Cleveland are being transported directly to UH Rainbow Babies & Children's, the region's only Pediatric Level I Trauma Center.

As plans have been announced to open additional Level I adult and pediatric trauma centers across the region, we have been warning about what the research has clearly shown: adding unneeded trauma centers dilutes the talent of care teams, dulls their skills, strains the trauma workforce, raises healthcare costs for everyone, and increases patient mortality.

Some other important points:

- o This decision changes very little about how we care for sick and injured children. Except in cases of very complex and serious injuries, we will continue to have the ability, capacity, and expertise to provide emergency care for children.
- o Our four Emergency Departments – Main Campus, Brecksville, Cleveland Heights and Parma – will continue to treat children for emergency needs.
- o MetroHealth will remain a Comprehensive Burn Care Center for both children and adults, providing the highest level of specialized burn care in the region.
- o This decision will not result in any employee layoffs.
- o If complex pediatric trauma cases arrive at MetroHealth, patients will be stabilized and transferred to UH Rainbow Babies & Children's to ensure they receive the highest level of specialized pediatric care.

● **Fireside Chat:** On June 17, I held another lunchtime Fireside Chat open to all MetroHealth employees. I was able to share information and open the floor to caregivers to answer their questions, voice their concerns and share their ideas.

These events are essential to keeping the lines of communication open – in both directions – between system leadership and the front-line caregivers fulfilling our mission every day.

● **Out and about:** Since we last met, I've had the honor of representing our system in some interesting and inspiring ways:

- o On June 5, I welcomed attendees to MetroHealth's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gun Violence Awareness Day event. This event brought together community partners, advocates and those impacted by gun violence for a day of awareness, support and action.
- o On June 6, I had the honor of welcoming a record crowd of more than 1,200 participants at MetroHealth's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Resiliency Run. It was so inspiring to see that many people, early on a Saturday morning, coming together to support trauma patients, families, friends and caregivers.
- o On June 11, I was honored to participate in "Hormones Across the Lifespan: Puberty, PMOS, Perimenopause & More," a community health event in Richmond Heights organized by the Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission. I joined MetroHealth providers **Dr. Connie Moreland**, Vice President of Provider Pipeline Development & Engagement, and **Tracy Hardy, MSN, WHNP-BC**, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, during an engaging panel discussion. These community events focusing on women's



**Christine Alexander-Rager, MD**

President and CEO  
The MetroHealth System  
2500 MetroHealth Drive  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

health issues have been a powerful safe space for women in our community to share their questions, concerns and real-life experiences. We will do all we can to support them.

- o On June 18, I was one of a dozen local women honored by Crain's Cleveland Business as a 2026 Crain's Woman of Influence. The luncheon in the Flats was a great opportunity to connect with other local leaders and share more about our essential mission and the wonderful work of MetroHealth caregivers.

Thank you to everyone who worked behind the scenes to make these events possible.

And, thank you again, Trustees, for all you do for MetroHealth.

With deep appreciation,

**Christine Alexander-Rager, MD**

President and CEO  
The MetroHealth System



**MetroHealth**

# Report to the Board of Trustees

Christine Alexander-Rager, MD

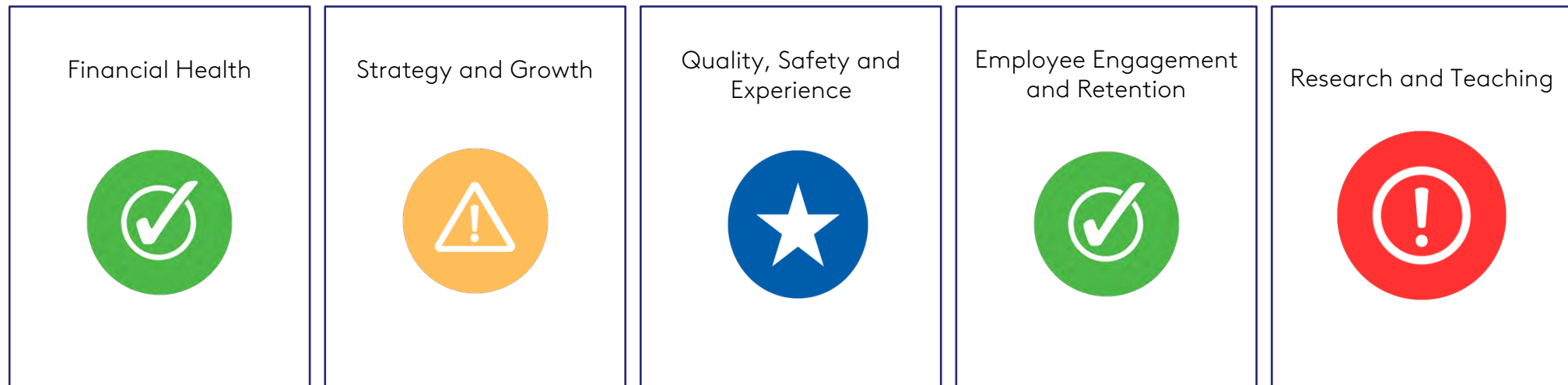
President and CEO

**June 2026**

# System Goal Performance



## June Snapshot: 2026 System Goals



 Off track; adjustments needed    Generally on track with minor issues    On track to meeting goals    Exceeding goals; approaching stretch

These goals align with and support our mission of service to our community. Achieving them allows us to continue lifting the health and improving the lives of our patients, especially those who are most at-risk. This is what we've done for Greater Cleveland since 1837.

# Financial Health

**Goal:** Achieving 2026 Adjusted Operating Income (Loss)Target

**Status:** ON TRACK

**The Measure:** Operating Income (Loss) is a key performance indicator for an organization's financial health.

**Why It Matters:** As an institution, we are committed to ensuring our caregivers have the resources they need to provide the highest level of care.

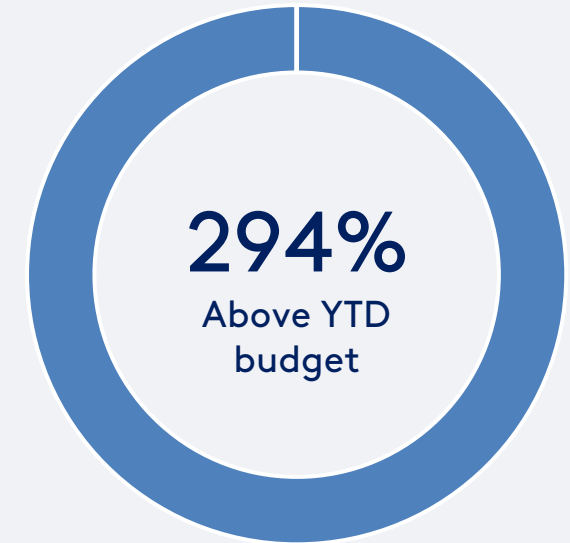
## Recent highlights/initiatives:

- YTD Operating Expenses were \$10.6M below budget through May 2026 due to improved cost management
- Hospital State Directed Payment (Canoe) received in April for a net of \$62.8M

Goal Owner: Jeff Rooney



YTD Adjusted Operating Income (Loss)



YTD Actual: \$32.4M  
YTD Budget: (\$16.9M)  
Variance: \$49.3M  
2026 Target: \$0 (Break-Even)

\*YTD as of May 31, 2026

# Strategy and Growth



## Composite: Access and Strategic Growth Performance

Status: **GENERALLY ON TRACK**

**The Measure:** Composite score of components that represent proxies for Access, Share of Wallet, Market Share, and sustainable growth.

2026 COMPOSITE TARGET	Component Weight	Min	Target	Max	YTD Performance	Tracking
Share of Wallet #	50%	BL + 0.25%	BL + 0.75%	BL + 1.25%	LY + 0.1%	GENERALLY ON TRACK
Ambulatory Clinic Visits	40%	1,441,519	1,461,261	1,481,273	584,611 (-2.6% from Target)	GENERALLY ON TRACK
New Patient Growth	10%	66,977	70,502	74,027	26,235 (-9.8% from Target)	OFF TRACK



# 2025 Baseline performance was recasted with the StrataJazz financial software migration. The baseline recast results are listed in following slides.

Goal Owner: Nabil Chehade, MD

# Strategy and Growth



## Component 1: Increase Share of Wallet Over Prior Year

2026 COMPOSITE TARGET	Component Weight	Min	Target	Max	YTD Performance	Tracking
Share of Wallet	50%	BL + 0.25%	BL + 0.75%	BL + 1.25%	LY + 0.1%	GENERALLY ON TRACK

Status: **GENERALLY ON TRACK**

**The Measure:** Improvement on the amount of medical revenue received by MetroHealth compared to the total patient medical expenditures. Share of Wallet metric is Domestic Spend/Total Spend.

**Why It Matters:** Share of Wallet reflects the organization's ability to serve the medical and care needs of existing patients. This provides continuity of care and a proxy measure of patient experience and access.

**Recent highlights/initiatives:** 2025 Baseline performance was recasted with the StrataJazz financial software migration. Results are listed below:

Baseline – 51.83%

Minimum (BL+0.25%) – 52.08%

Target (BL+0.75%) – 52.58%

Maximum (BL+1.25%) – 53.08%

Goal Owner: Nabil Chehade, MD

# Strategy and Growth



## Component 1: Increase Share of Wallet Over Prior Year

Status: **GENERALLY ON TRACK**

**The Measure:** Improvement on the amount of medical revenue received by MetroHealth compared to the total patient medical expenditures. Share of Wallet metric is Domestic Spend/Total Spend.

**Why It Matters:** Share of Wallet reflects the organization's ability to serve the medical and care needs of existing patients. This provides continuity of care and a proxy measure of patient experience and access.

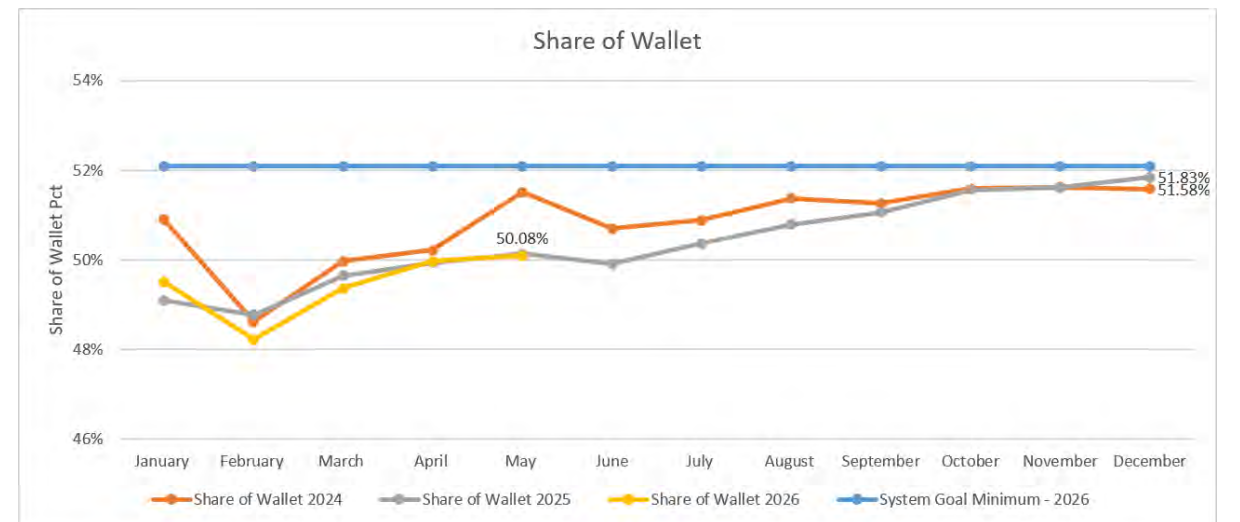
**Recent highlights/initiatives:** Year-to-Date performance is nearly identical to last year's performance through May (+0.1%).

Goal Owner: Nabil Chehade, MD

2026 SOW									5/31/2026
May YTD									
Group	MetroHealth Pt Activity	Pt Adj	PY Pt Activity	Pct of Yr	Projected Annual Pt	Pro-rated Total Spend	Domestic Spend	YTD SOC	
Total Medicare	47,033	1.7%	46,352	75.6%	63,298	\$ 380,973,460	\$ 182,039,566	47.8%	
Medicaid	67,977	18.0%	69,739	64.9%	123,512	\$ 197,249,626	\$ 121,067,293	61.4%	
Commercial PPO	61,606	0.0%	65,132	60.3%	102,165	\$ 367,225,013	\$ 152,206,368	41.4%	
Commercial Narrow Network	15,864	12.0%	17,170	74.1%	23,962	\$ 57,405,273	\$ 46,959,309	81.8%	
<b>TOTAL PATIENT POPULATION</b>	<b>192,480</b>		<b>198,393</b>		<b>312,937</b>	<b>\$ 1,002,853,372</b>	<b>\$ 502,272,536</b>	<b>50.1%</b>	
	-3.0%				-3.3%		-2.6%	-2.6%	

2025 SOW									5/31/2025
May YTD									
Group	MetroHealth Pt Activity	Pt Adj	PY Pt Activity	Pct of Yr	Projected Annual Pt	Pro-rated Total Spend	Domestic Spend	YTD SOC	
Total Medicare	46,352	1.7%	43,855	75.5%	62,471	\$ 375,994,163	\$ 176,780,368	47.4%	
Medicaid	69,739	18.0%	76,367	65.0%	126,680	\$ 202,308,826	\$ 129,488,049	61.1%	
Commercial PPO	65,132	0.0%	59,931	60.1%	108,407	\$ 389,664,589	\$ 160,166,856	44.5%	
Commercial Narrow Network	17,170	12.0%	15,412	74.1%	25,953	\$ 62,174,980	\$ 49,011,303	81.7%	
<b>TOTAL PATIENT POPULATION</b>	<b>198,393</b>		<b>195,565</b>		<b>323,511</b>	<b>\$ 1,030,142,559</b>	<b>\$ 515,446,575</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	



# Strategy and Growth



## Component 2: Improvement of Ambulatory Clinic Visit Volumes

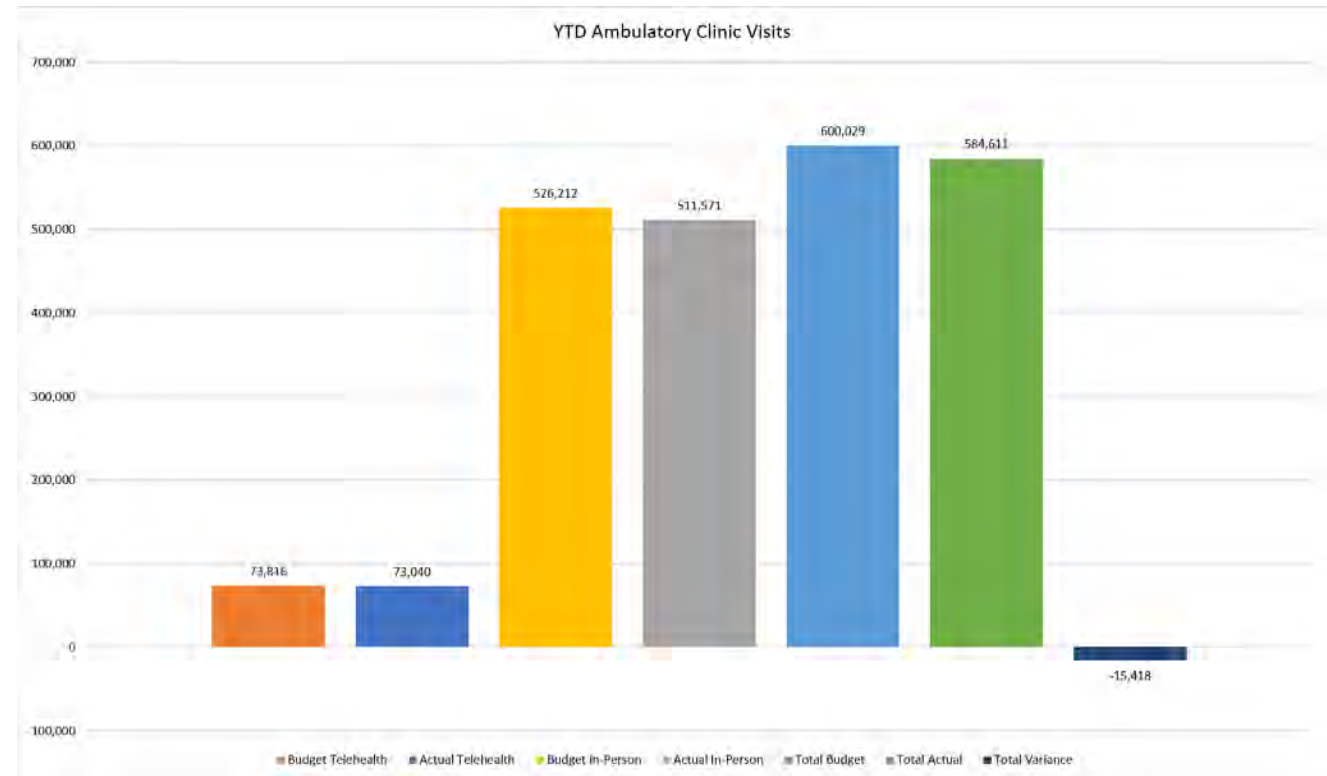
2026 COMPOSITE TARGET	Component Weight	Min	Target	Max	YTD Performance	Tracking
Ambulatory Clinic Visits	40%	1,441,519	1,461,261	1,481,273	584,611	GENERALLY ON TRACK

Status: **GENERALLY ON TRACK**

**The Measure:** Reported Ambulatory Clinic Visits completed between January 1, 2026 through April 30, 2026.

### Recent highlights/initiatives:

- Total Ambulatory Clinic visits is 584,611 compared to Target (2026 Budget) of 600,029. This is 15,418 visits below Target.
- In-Person Clinic Visits are 2.8% below target (-14,641 visits) while Telehealth is 1.1% below target (-776 visits).



# Strategy and Growth



## Component 3: New Patient Growth Over New Baseline

2026 COMPOSITE TARGET	Component Weight	Min	Target	Max	YTD Performance	Tracking
New Patient Growth	10%	66,977	70,502	74,027	26,235	<b>OFF TRACK</b>

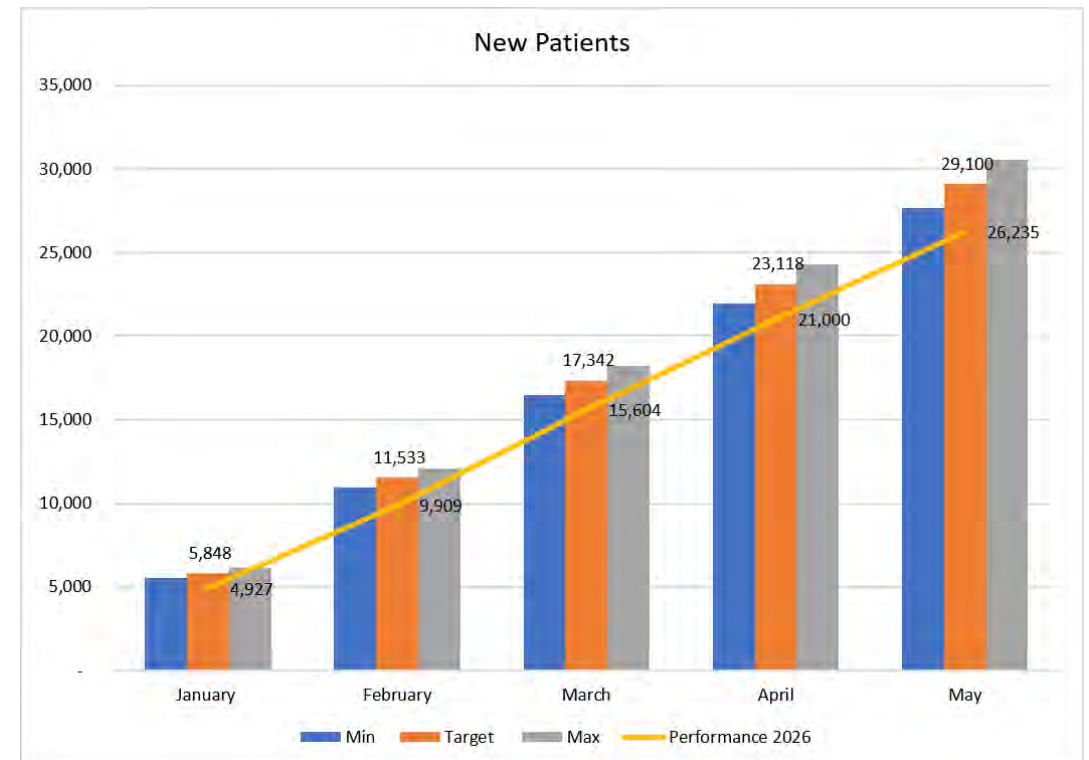
Status: **OFF TRACK**

**The Measure:** Improvement to the number of new patients seen in 2026 from Baseline (prior 3-yr historical average). New Patients are individuals that have not had a financial transaction with The MetroHealth System in the prior 3 years.

**Why It Matters:** New patients are required for sustainability and growth of our patient population as natural churn occurs.

**Recent highlights/initiatives:**

- Current patient trend is 9.8% below Target and 5.1% below Min.
- This is 2,865 new patients below Target.



Goal Owner: Nabil Chehade, MD

# Quality, Safety and Experience



## Goal #1: Elimination of Harm Goal with Sepsis Risk Adjusted Mortality

Status: **EXCEEDING GOALS**

**The Measure:** Patient harm is defined as any preventable condition that occurs because of medical care in a healthcare setting. This composite score covers 16 publicly reported preventable harms, including pressure ulcers, post-operative sepsis, in-hospital falls with hip injury and hospital-acquired infections like MRSA and C-diff. In addition, this measure now includes sepsis-related mortality as part of the composite score.

**Why It Matters:** In addition to simply being the right thing to do, our performance in this area is reflected in our CMS Care Compare Star Ratings, Leapfrog grades and CMS performance-based penalty and incentive programs.

2026 COMPOSITE TARGET	YTD HARM SCORE	YTD SEPSIS MORTALITY	YTD COMPOSITE SCORE
0.98	0.80	1.23	0.80

### Recent highlights/initiatives:

- Our May year-to-date performance is currently 23% better than our 2025 end of year performance
- Due to great collaboration between our nursing department and infection prevention team we are seeing improvements in our CLABSI and CAUTI rates with May have none of these critical hospital acquired infections.
- We scored 95.8% on our CMS Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting (OQR) audit. Failing this audit would have resulted in a 2% reduction to MetroHealth's Annual Outpatient Prospective Payment update.

# Quality, Safety and Experience



## Goal #2: Improving the Patient Experience

Status: **EXCEEDING GOALS**

**The Measure:** Our Patient Experience score is a composite of all 9 domains of the HCAHPS patient survey as well as two questions from both the Emergency Department and Ambulatory real-time survey. This composite reflects our patients' perception of communication with providers, staff responsiveness, cleanliness and other factors.

**Why It Matters:** Every person at MetroHealth contributes to the patient experience, and this measure reflects our commitment to ensuring everyone receives high-quality and compassionate care.

2026 TARGET	YTD 2026 (April)
3.0	3.17

### Recent highlights/initiatives:

- MetroHealth saw a 22% increase in grievances during Q1 but thanks to our Patient Relations team collaborating with all areas of the system, we continue to meet CMS requirements with a 30-day closure of 100%.
- Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery (OAS) CAHPS achieved a 2.8% higher "overall rating" and 2.9% higher "would recommend" score compared to other safety net hospitals' average scores.
- Compassionate Communication in Care training, co-created by ENT leadership and facilitated by Patient Experience was incorporated into the ENT retreat to reinforce the power of listening, tools for connecting, communication strategies and the importance of empathy in healthcare.

Goal Owner: Joseph Golob, MD

# Quality, Safety and Experience



## Goal #3: Ambulatory Quality Metrics Improvement

Status: **ON TRACK**

**The Measure:** As part of our commitment to elevating the level of care we provide, we are tracking 13 key ambulatory metrics that cover a variety of services and quality measures.

**Why It Matters:** Our performance on these metrics are important for the health and well-being of our patients but also our value-based arrangements with key payers. They are also reflected in our quality scores and rankings.

**About Composite Scoring:** Each quality measure has a minimum, target and maximum performance goal: 1 point for meeting minimum; 2 for target and 3 for max.

2026 SCORING	2026 YTD COMPOSITE
Threshold: 14 pts	5 pts
Target: 18 pts	
Stretch: 22 pts	

Measures	Baseline	2026 Target	YTD 2026	Points
Cervical Cancer Screening (%)	66%	67%	67%	2
Breast Cancer Screening (%)	75%	76%	74%	0
Colorectal Cancer Screening (%)	63%	64%	61%	0
Kidney Health Evaluation (%)	61%	62%	31%	0
Diabetes: Glycemic Status Assessment Greater Than 9% (Lower is Better) (%)	22%	21%	37%	0
Controlling Blood Pressure (%)	72%	73%	71%	0
7 Day Follow Up for SUD ED Patients (%)	11%	13%	12%	1
Timeliness of Prenatal Care (%)	82%	83%	83%	2
Well-Child Visits in First 15 Months (%)	61%	62%	57%	0
TFU for Inpatient Discharges (7 day) (%)	52%	53%	51%	0
Pharmacy Capture Rate (%)	57%	61%	59%	0
Completion of Medicare Wellness Visits (N)	16796	17500	6205	0
Improving Annual Comprehensive Assessments of Care Conditions (%)	69%	72%	57%	0

Goal Owner: Nabil Chehade, MD

# Employee Engagement and Retention



**Goal:** Improvement of Employee Engagement Survey Engagement Index Score

**Status:** n/a (survey has not launched)

**The Measure:** The Engagement Index is a composite measure that reflects employees' motivation, commitment and connection to the organization. Perceptyx builds the index from a small set of core engagement items that assess intent to stay, pride, advocacy and willingness to give extra effort.

**Why It Matters:** This survey is one of the many ways our caregivers can tell us about their experience working at MetroHealth, the progress we have made, and, most importantly, how we can do better.

2026 Target Goal	2026 Performance
81.4%	n/a - Survey has not yet launched

## Recent employee engagement activities include:

- In recognition of Hospital Week (May 10–16), all employees received an eCard with a monetary points deposit on behalf of the CEO, acknowledging their valuable contributions to the System. Points can be redeemed for gifts from our online storefront. The message also included a "Save the Date" for the upcoming August employee appreciation event.
- HR kicked off summer appreciation efforts on June 8 by providing lunches to the decentralized WIC teams during their All-Staff meetings.
- HR and the MetroHealth Foundation teams partnered together for the OPHC Open House event on June 11, offering employees the opportunity to tour the space. Participants received a commemorative pin and a postcard featuring a small copy of the mural displayed in the Pediatrics Department.



**Goal Owner:** Deborah Southerington

# Employee Engagement and Retention



**Goal:** Reduction in Turnover Rate Within First Year of Employment

**Status:** ON TRACK

**The Measure:** This measure is defined by taking the number of employee departures within first year of employment and dividing it by the number of employee departures in 2026.

**Why It Matters:** An organization's ability to retain new hires is an indicator of its total rewards offerings, organizational culture and management.

2025 Year-End Baseline	2026 Target Goal	Q1 2026
35.6%	33.8%	32.6%

## Recent retention highlights include:

- 0 Inpatient PCNAs exited MetroHealth in the month of May.
- Talent Acquisition's recent visit to the University of Akron resulted in 5 students interested in Respiratory Therapy Assistant roles.
- 18 Radiology staff members were hired during first half of 2026, with another 9 set to start in the near future. This will reduce staff burnout and decrease the reliance on travel staffing.
- HR held workshops and training sessions throughout the month of May with caregivers at an ambulatory site to improve cross-departmental communication and collaboration, establish accountability and role clarity, rebuild trust, and create sustainable engagement throughout the team and their leaders. One leader noted they are already seeing improved teamwork and employee engagement.

**Goal Owner:** Deborah Southerington

# Research and Teaching



## Goal: Increase Grant Applications

Status: **OFF TRACK**

**The Measure:** This measure tracks the number of grant applications (federal, state or Foundation-level) our faculty and staff submit to public and private sources for funding to support research, education and training programs. MetroHealth/Case Western Reserve University is the primary award recipient.

**Why It Matters:** As an academic medical center, research and education are at the heart of what we do. One of our strategic priorities as a System is to build upon our role as an academic institution, and securing funding from outside sources is an important component of that work.

2025 Year-End Baseline	2026 Target Goal	YTD
116 applications	90 applications	33 [Annualized 79]

### Recent academic highlights include:

- May 20, 2026: Medtronic announced their intention to acquire SPR Therapeutics, a Cleveland biotech company commercializing percutaneous peripheral nerve stimulation (PNS), for \$650 million. Percutaneous PNS was developed by investigators at MetroHealth, CWRU and the Cleveland FES Center.
- **March 12, 2026: First-in-human implantation of the KeyGrip System, the most recent iteration of an implanted upper limb neuroprosthesis system for SCI.**
- Grants are slowly trickling in! These grants have notice of award.
  - HRSA: Primary Care Training and Enhancement – Residency Training in Street Medicine; PI: Adebambo; \$2.5 million; start 5/13/26
  - NSF: The COSMIIC Open-Source Neuromodulation Ecosystem; PI: Fu; 1.5 million; start 9/1/26
  - OH Department of Higher Education: Launching a minimum viable product robotic caregiving system for people with cervical SCI; PI: Schearer; \$488K; start 6/1/26
  - VA grants awarded to investigators based at MHS with joint appointment at the Cleveland VA:
    - Wearable monitoring of post-stroke arm movement quality; Investigators: Pulliam, Bryden, Pundik; \$342K, Start 1/1/27
    - Enabling MRI compatibility for a modular neuroprosthesis; PI: Makowski; \$1.28 million
    - Noninvasive electrical stimulation device to improve bladder control for men with SCI; \$963K

Goal Owner: John Chae, MD

# System News and Accomplishments

# Gun Violence Awareness Day

On June 5, caregivers, community leaders, local organizations and survivors of gun violence gathered for our **3rd Annual Gun Violence Awareness Day**, part of National Gun Violence Awareness Month. As the region's premier Level I trauma center, MetroHealth and our caregivers know too well the impact gun violence has on our communities. Nearly 130 people are killed with guns every day, and about twice as many people are shot and injured.

These deaths and injuries are preventable, but prevention takes all of us working together.

The event's featured panel discussion – “The Ecosystem of Violence Prevention” – was moderated Myesha Watkins, Administrator of the Cuyahoga County Office of Violence Prevention, and featured Ohio Rep. Darnell Brewer; Shanell Harris, MSSA, LSW, TICP, Manager of the MetroHealth Trauma Recovery Center; and Giovanni Sanchez, survivor of gun violence.



# Resiliency Run

More than 1,250 members of our MetroHealth family, survivors, caregivers and community partners came together at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo on Saturday, June 6, for our 10th annual **Resiliency Run**.

Participation climbed 10% over last year, setting a record and making this our most successful run yet.

This event continues to honor the strength and determination of trauma and burn survivors, as well as the caregivers who support them during their recoveries.



# Outpatient Health Center

Earlier this month, we marked an exciting milestone with two special events honoring the opening of our new **Outpatient Health Center**, which will welcome its first patients on July 27.

On Thursday, June 11, employees got a first look during an open house that featured self-guided tours through key areas on the ground level and 5th floor. Along the route, subject matter experts were on hand to answer questions at stations highlighting the Cancer Center, Center for Breast Health, Pediatrics, the 24/7 drive-thru Retail Pharmacy and more.

We continued the celebration on Saturday, June 13, with a ribbon cutting and community open house attended by elected officials and local leaders.



# The MetroHealth Foundation



## Notable Gifts (\$25,000+)

- A bequest of \$1,000,000 in support of Emergency Medicine.
- A grant of \$33,000 from The Shannahley Foundation in support of the Benjamin Gerson Family Endowment.

## 2026 Communications Strategy

- Integrating strategy, storytelling and data-driven, multi-channel outreach to ensure the right message reaches the right audience – and inspires engagement and giving.
- Advancing a consistent, integrated communications approach across platforms to strengthen donor engagement and reinforce MetroHealth’s mission.

## Storytelling Initiative

- Expanding Foundation Board storytelling efforts to help members clearly articulate why MetroHealth matters to them.
- Providing tools and training to support 90-second personal stories that connect individual experiences to system priorities.  
Equipping Board members to navigate complex conversations.

## GIVING Magazine (Spring 2026)

- Theme: “Where Compassion Begins: With You.”
- Reinforces alignment with 2026 priorities through compelling, mission-driven storytelling.



[Read this issue.](#)



## Partners in Good Health

- **Experian:** Renewed investment in MetroHealth's School Health Program, expanding access to care for more than 6,200 students across Cleveland schools. [Read the press release.](#)
- **National EMS Week | Miller Family Support:** Hosted system-wide cookouts to recognize first responders as vital partners in trauma care. Special thanks to Barb and Abe Miller for their generosity in making this recognition possible.
- **Buhrer Dual Language Academy + America SCORES Cleveland:** Students (grades 3–5) participated in a Soccer/Poetry program, building confidence on and off the field. Led a spring service project benefiting MetroHealth's Child Life Department. Buhrer is a School Health Program partner site.
- **Perspectus Architecture:** Recognized as a [2026 Humanity Corporate Partner.](#)

## Foundation Board Engagement

Annual Meeting & Retreat | MidTown Collaboration Center

- Focused on the evolving healthcare landscape and MetroHealth's path forward.
- Emphasized the role of storytelling, connection and engaged board leadership in strengthening philanthropic impact.
- Featured discussion with **Christine Alexander-Rager, MD.**

## Foundation Board Transitions

- **Renewing Terms:** John Chae, MD; Bill Clawson; Jade Davis; Eric Fiala; JoAnn Glick; Terry Stancin, PhD; Jacke Wiedemer.
- **New Members:** Ann Aber; Luis Cartagena, CPA; R. Justin Mistovich, MD, MBA; Candace Mori, PhD, RN, APRN, ACNS-BC, NEA-BC, ONC.
- **Concluding Service:** John Grech; Melissa Kline, DNP, RN, NEA-BC; Marcy Levy Shankman, PhD; Sherrie Dixon Williams, MD; Aaron B. Witwer.

## Mark Your Calendars

- **The Clyde L. Nash, Jr., MD Professorship in Orthopaedic Education Installation of Harry Hoyen, MD** - Tuesday, July 14 | 4:30–6:30 p.m. at The Glick Center, Main Campus.



# Nursing

- The Postpartum Unit celebrated **365 days without a parental baby drop** — a major patient-safety milestone. This success reflects focused prevention efforts, stronger education for new parents and a unit-wide commitment to safety. The team’s work also contributed to broader quality initiatives, including MetroHealth’s recent Magnet designation with distinction.
- MetroHealth’s **Patty Pawlak, Nate Albright** and **Katie Davis Bellamy** attended the American Organization for Nursing Leadership’s advocacy day in Washington, D.C. Advocacy Day is AONL's premier two-day event that brings nurse leaders together to influence policy and elevate nursing leadership at the national level.
- A long-stay patient praised PCNA **Barbara “Barbie” Siegel** for her exceptional, compassionate care, nominating her for the BEE Award — which recognizes ancillary staff who demonstrate outstanding teamwork, compassion and daily excellence. Barbie is known for treating every patient like family and consistently going above and beyond to support their needs.



# Government Relations



- STRIDES by Ryan Johnson at the First Suburbs Consortium meeting.
- Attendance at ADAMHS Board Annual Meeting and City Club Forums for CMSD CEO Warren Morgan and Mayor Justin Bibb
- Brecksville Mayor Darryl Kingston visit to Brecksville Health Center for EMS week cookout.
- Cuyahoga County Press Conferences on Water Safety (Dr. Escajeda) and Gun Violence (Anthony Zalewski)
- Chief Greiner, Deb Southerington, Romona Brazile testimony at the Cleveland City Council Public Safety Committee on Healthcare Workplace Violence Menacing Ordinance.
- Community Violence Listening Session with Councilwoman Jasmin Santana at Via Sana
- Dr. Alexander introductory meetings with Westlake Mayor Dennis Clough and Cleveland Heights Mayor Jim Petras
- Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission Community Conversation- Dr. Alexander, Dr. Connie Moreland, and Tracy Hardy
- Cuyahoga County Board of Health Nursing tour of Birthing Center



# Community Relations



- Sponsorships
  - National Medical Association Region IV Conference
  - Asian Festival- Health Pavillon Sponsor
  - Senior Transportation Connection
  - SafePlace
  - WellLink- ConnectNEO
  - Pride in the CLE
  - Honey from the Rock Foster Care Awareness Month Luncheon
  - Bikur Cholim Safety Fair
  - Positive Plus Violence
  - La Placita



# Communications

## Pediatric Trauma Care Highlights

- [MetroHealth to scale back pediatric trauma care, citing lack of need](#) – Signal Cleveland
- [MetroHealth to close pediatric trauma center](#) – Cleveland.com/Plain Dealer.
- [MetroHealth won't reverify its pediatric trauma center](#) – ideastream
- [MetroHealth will no longer have a pediatric trauma care center](#) – ideastream
- [MetroHealth to end Level II pediatric trauma center designation](#) – WKYC
- [MetroHealth declines reverification of pediatric trauma center](#) – Spectrum News

## Cleveland Clinic plans to pursue Level I Trauma:

- [Ohio lawmakers say Cleveland Clinic hasn't shown need for new Level I Trauma Center](#) – Cleveland.com/Plain Dealer.
- Dr. Gary Tinkoff's op-ed was published in Crain's Cleveland [Opinion: Northeast Ohio already has enough trauma centers - Crain's Cleveland Business](#)

# Communications



## OPHC employee and community open houses

- [MetroHealth debuts outpatient facility amid cost pressures - Cleveland Business Journal](#)
- <https://vimeo.com/1201513622/171688d17b?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

## Internal Communications

- Managed employee communications, which included some of the following:
  - Pediatric Trauma update
  - OPHC opening updates/parking
  - Dr. Robert Smith retirement tribute
  - Fireside Chat with Dr. Alexander
  - Emergency Road Repairs



# Marketing

## Emergency Care Campaign

**Objective:** Build awareness and drive patient volume into MetroHealth Emergency Departments by reinforcing expert, close-to-home care for patients of all ages.

### Strategy

- Geo-targeted, multi-channel campaign focused on community locations surrounding Brecksville, Parma and Cleveland Heights
- Emphasizes expertise, proximity and care for the entire family

### Multi-Media Campaign

- Paid: Search, social media, streaming radio, outdoor, print, direct mail
- Owned: Email, social, web content, internal messaging, [Be SimplyWell](#) and [FieldBrief](#) newsletters
- Earned: Media outreach, thought leadership, EMS/community partnerships, Cleveland Metroparks partnership channels



loga County Fresh Water Institute Joins Partner Agencies to Promote Water Safety Month

[Watch the Water Safety press conference with Dr. Escajeda, emergency medicine](#)



Social media



# Awards and Recognitions



- **Barbara "Barb" Riley**, Cuyahoga County Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Director, has been elected treasurer of the National WIC Association (NWA) Executive Board of Directors. The NWA is the nonprofit voice of the 12,000 public health nutrition service provider agencies who serve over 6.7 million mothers, babies and young children served by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).
- **Aliza Bartunek, APRN**, a nurse practitioner with MetroHealth's Foster Care Program, was recently honored for her leadership in ensuring children entering foster care are met with compassion and dignity. Bartunek received the Impact Award on May 22 during a Foster Care Awareness Month luncheon hosted by the city of Cleveland and Honey from the Rock, a local nonprofit, volunteer-run foster care closet.
- **Jill Evans, MSN, RN, NI-BC**, Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, has been named to Becker's Hospital Review's "170 Women in Health IT to Know" list. This recognition honors leaders who are advancing healthcare through innovation and technology.
- The 2026 GME Awards honored outstanding trainees and leaders who exemplify excellence in education, mentorship and patient care. This year's recipients include Resident Excellence Award winner **Thomas Lampeter, MD**; Fellow Excellence Award winner **Riya Kalra, MD**; Program Coordinator Award recipient **Katie Shergalis**; and Program Director Excellence Award honoree **Sirisha Kundrapu, MD**.



Barb Riley



Aliza Bartunek, APRN



Jill Evans, MSN, RN, NI-BC



Thomas Lampeter, MD



Riya Kalra, MD



Katie Shergalis



Sirisha Kundrapu, MD