

MARGOT HARTMANN, MD, PhD PRESIDENT AND CEO

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On an island 30 miles out to sea, the delivery of quality health care is a challenging and ever-changing puzzle. For Nantucket Cottage Hospital, fulfilling that mission means being flexible and efficient, but it also requires community partnerships and generous philanthropic support.

When we launched a new program with the Mass General Cancer Center five years ago to bring world-class oncology services to Nantucket, the benefits for island patients were immense. The program brings oncologists to the island and allows patients to access much of their cancer care close to home, without the cost and stressful burden of off-island travel. The question was always how to pay for the service.

With the return of Swim Across America to the island and the selection of the hospital as a beneficiary, we have found a way to align an inspirational community event with an important service line that makes an incredible difference in the lives of our patients.

Since 2012, Swim Across America's open water swim on Nantucket has raised more than \$665,000 for our oncology program, making it possible for the hospital to continue providing this invaluable service for island residents and visitors. The event has quickly evolved into a beloved gathering for the community that brings together cancer patients and survivors, their families, as well as our own clinicians and staff.

On behalf of Nantucket Cottage Hospital, our patients, and the island community, I want to thank Swim Across America and its tireless Nantucket volunteers for this indispensible support.

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