

# NRCI Insights Newsletter

Northeast Regional  
Cancer Institute

Get a deeper look at the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute- its board, staff, volunteers, and activities.

## Recognition of The Smeraldi Family



Dr. Alessandro Smeraldi (late) and his wife, Gail Smeraldi have been involved as the CASUAL Day chairs since 2024. As chairs, they have gone above and beyond the role and brought new energy and excitement to this educational and awareness campaign about the early detection and screening for colon cancer. Their personal story has made an impact on their friends and family to get screened. Additionally, their children, Hayley and Caleb have also been involved through their school, Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School. This year, Caleb

coordinated a dress down day, sold CASUAL wristbands and hosted a regatta event in honor of his dad.

Dr. Alessandro Smeraldi, a colon cancer survivor, made it his mission to share his story with the local community and to be an advocate for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute. His vision for this year was to host a panel event for the community to share information about the risk factors, signs and symptoms and options for colon cancer treatment and survivorship. His vision came to fruition in the co-partnership event with the Gesinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, entitled, Colorectal Cancer: Prevention, Treatment & A Path Forward.

We are saddened by his recent passing and know his legacy will live on through this campaign. His family will continue to spread the message about CASUAL Day for years to come.

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute would like to take the opportunity to thank and recognize the Smeraldi Family.

## Partner Spotlight: Edward R. Leahy Jr. Clinic for the Uninsured



The Edward R. Leahy Jr. Clinic for the Uninsured, located at The University of Scranton, has been providing free health care to uninsured residents of our Lackawanna County community since 2008. After a brief hiatus due to the pandemic, the Leahy Clinic reopened in early 2024 through a partnership between The University and the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.

The University of Scranton and the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine have partnered to expand the scope and access to free healthcare for those who are uninsured. The medical clinic

provides basic primary care, including preventative care and screenings, physical examinations, sick visits, basic gynecologic care, management of chronic medical conditions and referrals as needed for specialty care.

The Leahy Clinic demonstrates a commitment to interprofessional education, offering several areas of care in addition to the medical clinic, including physical therapy, low vision therapy, occupational therapy, counseling and behavioral health, exercise and nutrition programs, and health education.

Faculty and undergraduate and graduate students studying in the health professions at the University of Scranton and medical professionals and medical students from Geisinger provide care to clinic patients. The Leahy Clinic also benefits from medical and non-medical volunteers from the university and surrounding community.

The Leahy Clinic is completely free for patients and is funded entirely through private donations and grants. The Leahy Clinic does not receive federal or state funding or bill insurance. The Clinic's Administrative Director, Maria Vital, wants to spread the word that we welcome additional volunteers in the Leahy Clinic. There are volunteer opportunities for both medical professionals and individuals who are not in a medical profession.

To get information or find out more about the services at the Leahy Clinic call 570-941-6112.

### Meet our New Board Members



We would like to welcome four new Board members, Gail Smeraldi, DPM, Amber L. Sobuto, D.O., John J. Sobuto, D.O., and David J. Grega, CPA.

Gail Smeraldi, DPM is a retired Podiatrist, the 2024-2025 CASUAL Day Co-Chair, an active community fundraiser and a mother of two, Hayley and Caleb.



Amber L. Sobuto, D.O. is board-certified in Hematology, Oncology and Internal Medicine. She is a Hematologist/Oncologist with Hematology & Oncology Associates. Dr. Sobuto is a graduate of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her fellowship in Hematology and Oncology and her residence in Internal Medicine at Lankenau Medical Center in Wynnewood, PA. She is a mother of four children, Giovanni, Scarlett, and twin girls Livianna and Juliet.



John J. Sobuto D.O. is a Pulmonologist with the Lehigh Valley Physician Group as of May 2025. Dr. Sobuto is a graduate of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed Fellowship training at Lankenau Medical Center. His specialty is in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He holds board certifications in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, Critical Care Medicine all under the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Sobuto has a special interest in Advanced Bronchoscopy with a focus on early-stage lung cancer diagnostics. He is a member of the American College of Chest Physicians and the American Thoracic Society. Dr. Sobuto is a father of four children, Giovanni, Scarlett, and twin girls Livianna and Juliet.



David J. Grega, CPA is the Corporate Controller at Medico Construction Equipment, Inc., where he is responsible for overseeing all accounting and financial operations while playing a key role in driving the company's growth. Before joining Medico Construction Equipment, Inc., David served as a Director at McGrail Merkel Quinn & Associates, P.C., bringing 16 years of experience in public accounting. David holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Wilkes University and resides in Shavertown with his wife Sarah and their three children. David is a member of the Knights of Columbus and has previously served on the Finance Committee at Wyoming Valley Country Club. He also dedicates his time as a coach for both Back Mountain Little League and Lake-Lehman Youth Basketball.

### ***About the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute***

**The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a nonprofit community-based agency serving seven counties in northeast Pennsylvania with offices located in Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. Focusing on surveillance, community and patient services, and hospital and practice support services, the Cancer Institute invests 100% of its resources locally.**

SERVING NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES  
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