1-YEAR CELEBRATION

This fall we hosted an open house celebration of our 1-year anniversary of moving to Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village (SBEV). Faculty, students, alumni, members of the community, as well as patients and their families joined us for this exciting milestone. Moving to SBEV has provided more space for therapy sessions, including two treatment rooms for exercises and manual therapy and an open hallway for walking. This has allowed us to expand the interventions performed with patients, and it has also allowed us to increase our patient population. Since last fall, we have increased our number of active patients from 15 to 22. This is allowing us to reach more people in the community who do not have access to physical therapy. Our collaboration with SBEV has opened a door to many new connections and possibilities—we are thankful for this and look forward to the future of working together with this wonderful community.

Patient Highlight: Ortiz

Ortiz is a regular PT Heart patient who had a stroke two years ago affecting the left side of his body. This impaired his ability to walk and use his left hand. He began coming to PT Heart last fall because he wanted to improve his strength and get better at walking. Since then, Ortiz says that PT Heart has made him more eager to get up, walk and exercise. It has been a positive experience that has helped him to put forth more effort and make progress towards his goals. Some of his big accomplishments have been climbing stairwells and gaining more endurance. Ortiz says his favorite thing about PT Heart is the interaction, motivation, and positive attitudes of all those involved. Students love working with Ortiz because of his positive and determined charisma that has driven him to make significant progress. Despite his success, Ortiz remains humble saying he is “just a guy striving to become better and get the most he can out of life.”

Recent Updates

PWR has moved to Sylvester Broome As of September, the PWR exercise classes for individuals with Parkinson’s disease have begun to take place at SBEV. These classes take place 10-11am every Friday.

Welcome OT The first Doctorate of Occupational Therapy class began at UM-Flint this fall. We are excited to welcome OT students and faculty to work with us at PT Heart!

Words from Our Leader

Developing rituals and celebrating accomplishments is important to sustaining a strong team. Our first year at Sylvester Broome has been an exciting time of growth and development. While preparing for our anniversary, I was able to reflect on the number of students who have served PT Heart over the years. I want to personally thank all of our students who served at PT Heart. Every cohort has added value to PT Heart which has allowed it to continue to flourish and grow today. I have attempted to capture each Board member by graduation year. If I have forgotten someone, please accept my sincere apology and notify me at amyork@umich.edu.


We love to see our students come back and volunteer. In addition, I love it when new patients tell me that YOU sent them to us. Keep doing the great things you are doing. We appreciate your support in whatever way you can give it.