



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:**

[Linda K. Ross](#)

Director of Communications  
Pittsburgh Mercy  
412-667-0027

[Emilee Howells](#)

Communications Coordinator  
Pittsburgh Mercy  
412-791-3132

**PITTSBURGH MERCY  
ANNOUNCES 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PITTSBURGH (March 18, 2024)** – [Pittsburgh Mercy](#), one of the region’s largest social service nonprofit organizations serving more than 18,000 annually, a member of [Trinity Health](#), and serving in the tradition of the [Sisters of Mercy](#), announces three new members to its [2024 Board of Directors](#). Each will serve a three-year term effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026.

“Having a strong, deeply committed, and diverse board of directors who reflect the people and communities we serve is core to who we are as an organization as well as to our mission,” stated [Tony Beltran](#), president and CEO of Pittsburgh Mercy. “I’m excited to serve alongside such an experienced and dedicated group of individuals who will help guide our governance and ensure the success of our ministry and our mission.”

The [2024 Pittsburgh Mercy Board of Directors](#) are:

**Mark D. Gibbons, CPA (Chairperson)**

Audit Partner, Assurance Service Practice Leader  
Urish Popeck & Co., LLC

**Tony Beltran, MBA**

President & CEO  
Pittsburgh Mercy

**Rhonda N. Curry**

Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer  
Gateway Health Plan

**Jaime C. Dirksen**

Vice President, Community Health & Well-Being  
Trinity Health

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**Robert A. James, JD, MBA, MHA**  
Chief Diversity & Strategic Growth Officer  
CGT Staffing

**Sister Diane Matje, RSM, RN, MSN**  
Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy

**Manzoor Mohideen, PhD**  
Director of Clinical Research Operations, Academic Research Center for Hematology, Section of Benign Hematology, Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Medicine  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

**Visala S. Muluk, MD**  
Director of Medicine  
Pittsburgh Veteran's Affairs Medical Center

**Suresh C. Ramanathan**  
President & CEO  
KORYAK

**Jared S. Weiner**  
Chief Financial Officer, Western PA Hospital Division  
UPMC

**Olga Ziegler**  
Vice President, Revenue Program Management  
Highmark Health Inc.

New to the Pittsburgh Mercy Board this year are:

**Robert A. James, JD, MBA, MHA**

[Robert A. James](#), JD, MBA, MHA, is the chief diversity and strategic growth officer for CGT Staffing, a national staffing and contingent labor services company headquartered in Warrendale, Pa. Previously, he served as vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion corporate strategies and Supplier Diversity Program Director for Allegheny Health Network (AHN) and Highmark Health, a \$26 billion blended health care organization that includes one of America's largest Blue Cross Blue Shield insurers and a growing regional hospital and physician network. James was responsible for implementing and advising Highmark Health's corporate affiliates on diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies.

James has Master of Business Administration and Master of Health Administration degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, a Juris Doctorate degree from Georgetown University Law Center, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston College.

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James is also a graduate of Highmark Health's Higher Mark leadership development program, sponsored by the Wharton School of Business, and the inaugural class of Carnegie Mellon University Tepper School of Business and The Advanced Leadership Institute (TALI) Executive Leadership Academy. Additionally, he holds a certificate from Northwestern University's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Program.

In addition to serving on the Pittsburgh Mercy Board of Directors, James serves on the boards of Buffalo, New York-based Evans Bancorp (NYSE American: EVBN), the National Association for Corporate Directors (Three Rivers Chapter), The Pittsburgh Opera, Sewickley Academy, and Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund of Western PA.

James resides in Moon Township, Pa.

### **Sister Diane Matje, RSM, RN, MSN**

Sister Diane Matje, RSM, RN, MSN, is a member of the Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy. Consistent with the tradition of [Catherine McAuley](#), founder of the [Sisters of Mercy](#), Sister Diane has dedicated over six decades of her life in ministry and service to others, first in education and then later in health care. Sister Diane started her career as a teacher in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Allentown.

She earned her Associate Degree in Nursing (AND) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at Gwynedd Mercy University. Following graduation, she worked for 10 years at Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia. She moved to Pittsburgh in 1980. Sister Diane completed her Master of Science in Nursing degree in oncology at the University of Pittsburgh while working at The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh (known today as UPMC Mercy hospital). Following graduation, she worked as an oncology nurse practitioner, working directly with persons and families affected by cancer.

As a former direct caregiver and a subject matter expert on palliative care, end-of-life, and ethics issues, she used her experience to establish the Mercy Hospital Palliative Care Program. She served as the program's first full-time director. Sister Diane later served as a trainer and consultant to many health care professionals and organizations.

In 2005, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging invited Sister Diane to serve on the Commonwealth's first Quality at the End-of-Life Committee. In 2006, Pittsburgh Mercy Health System recognized Sister Diane with the Frances Warde Commendation for Excellence Award. That same year, the Oncology Nursing Society of Greater Pittsburgh awarded her the Joseph W. Schaefer Award for Volunteer Service in Oncology Nursing. Sister Diane has also served as the health services director at the Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburgh. From 2013-2019, Sister Diane served as a clinical volunteer at [Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center](#) in South Side and as a spiritual care volunteer at Outlook Manor in West Mifflin and Garden View Manor in Wilkinsburg,

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two [Pittsburgh Mercy](#) residential programs that serve adults who have complex mental health challenges and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Prior to joining the Pittsburgh Mercy Board of Directors, Sister Diane served three consecutive, three-year terms on the [McAuley Ministries Foundation's Board of Directors](#). McAuley Ministries is Pittsburgh Mercy's grant-making foundation. It awards an average of \$3.5 million in grants annually to organizations that serve the Hill District, Uptown, and West Oakland communities in Pittsburgh. During her second and third terms, she served as board secretary.

Sister Diane resides in Wilkins Township, Pa.

### **Manzoor Mohideen, PhD**

Manzoor Mohideen, PhD, is director of clinical research operations in the benign hematology section of the Division of Hematology/Oncology in the Department of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh where he does clinical research and directs several clinical research trials targeting sickle cell disease (SCD) and other benign hematology diseases. Mohideen oversees the creation and maintenance of regulatory documents; clinical trial data collection, entry, and integrity; the team's handling of protected health information; liaison with study sponsors; budgeting; and institutional review board (IRB) approvals. Additionally, he maintains the integrity of the informed consent process in clinical trials and ensures compliance with state, federal, and FDA regulations.

Throughout his professional career, Mohideen has held roles as a biomedical researcher, clinical researcher, and as an independent consultant. He was co-founder, vice president, and director of research operations for Diascopic, LLC; director of biomedical technology for Interscopic Analysis, LLC; and a consultant on biomedical and health care issues for Pervasive Health Solutions, three biomedical technology solution companies based in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mohideen also has held numerous teaching and/or research positions at the University of Pittsburgh; Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine; Harvard University Medical School; Iowa State University; York University in Toronto, Canada; Tamil Nadu Agricultural Sciences in Tuticorin, India; and the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore, India.

Mohideen is a board director as well as a member of the board finance committee at Jefferson Regional Foundation and has been volunteering for six years at Jubilee Kitchen in Uptown Pittsburgh. He is also former member of the board of review for Boy Scouts of America Troop 810 in Cleveland.

Mohideen resides in Jefferson Hills, Pa.

*Editor's note: Color photos of Mr. James, Sr. Matje, and Dr. Mohideen are attached. Please credit: Photos courtesy of Pittsburgh Mercy.*

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***About Pittsburgh Mercy***

[Pittsburgh Mercy](#) is one of the largest community health and social service providers and employers in Southwestern Pennsylvania. We offer help – and hope – to our community’s most vulnerable:

- People who have complex behavioral health, physical health, and co-occurring disorder challenges.
- People who have intellectual and developmental disabilities
- People who are experiencing homelessness
- People who need wrap-around services to live safe, healthy, and well in the community.

Pittsburgh Mercy serves more than 18,000 people annually in 60+ locations.

Pittsburgh Mercy is the largest Integrated Community Wellness Center (ICWC) in Pennsylvania and the only ICWC in Southwestern Pennsylvania. It is also a five-time awardee of Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) expansion grants.

Pittsburgh Mercy is a member of [Trinity Health](#), serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. Our mission is to be a compassionate and transforming, healing presence within our communities. To learn more about Pittsburgh Mercy or to donate in support of its important work in the community, please visit [www.pittsburghmercy.org](http://www.pittsburghmercy.org). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#).

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