

HEALING HEARTS

DR. PAMELA MARCOVITZ

**FOR DR. MARCOVITZ,
WATCHING HER HEART PATIENTS
IMPROVE IS ALL THE REWARD
SHE NEEDS**

Many say that music can heal the heart. While this may be true, Dr. Pamela Marcovitz, the director of Beaumont Hospitals' Ministrelli Women's Heart Center, is on a powerful mission to eradicate and heal heart disease in women using preventative measures, education and the technology that the center offers.

Starting her undergraduate education as a music major, she changed her course and pursued education until, as a graduate student at the University of Michigan, her counselor encouraged her to go to medical school. "It is amazing how well she read me," Marcovitz says. Taking her counselor's advice, she began her pre-med classes. "I started one step at a time and continued with my courses. I stayed focused and knew that I would reach my goal."


Marcovitz was drawn to study the heart while in medical school at Wayne State University. "I was always intrigued by the heart, and somehow I kept coming back to cardiology," she says. It became a mission during her fellowship at the University of Michigan. "I read a research study and saw that women were not represented as much as men – I was outraged!" Marcovitz knew that a change was necessary from that point on.

Prior to joining the staff at Beaumont Hospital in 1997, Marcovitz was an assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Medicine and the director of the University's Briarwood Outpatient Cardiology Clinic. In 2002, the Ministrelli Women's Health Center opened, and since then the facility has served thousands of women. Marcovitz explains that the center is "a unique environment for women to feel comfortable."

She also takes pride in being involved with the way treatment is conducted at the center.

"We use a holistic approach. We also have modern technology, so we can see the special view of the heart. This is important because heart disease is the number one killer of women, and women are not included in research studies as much as men. Women are (represented) in the studies only 22 percent." As the director of the center, Marcovitz says she is proud that she can make a difference in women's lives with her work both in the community and at the center.



Marcovitz encourages other women to "put themselves first and take care of themselves." Also, in order to reverse and prevent heart disease, she encourages eating healthy, exercising, and keeping blood pressure and cholesterol low. With a passion for healing others, one of Marcovitz's motivators is "seeing patients improving. That is motivating because it is so rewarding."  – Yvette Stines

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