Momentum

“Momentum is a powerful word, one that signifies the growth and continual progress we strive for within our health system.”
Dear Friends,

It’s always rewarding to share good news, whether it’s a milestone celebration, funding for a new community health initiative, or a grateful patient story. As we wrap up the summer, we have some of the best news to share with you.

In April, we celebrated the opening of a new addition to Levine Cancer Institute, which was made possible through the generosity of Sandra and Leon Levine, as well as many other influential supporters. This wouldn’t have been possible without support from the community.

And for the 12th consecutive year Levine Children’s Hospital was named a “Best Children’s Hospital” by *US News & World Report*. In addition to crediting our world-class care team for this ranking, we credit our donors and friends for their generous support of the facilities, education, research and programs at Levine Children’s.

In this issue of Momentum, you’ll read more about the best team of donors and advocates who are collectively changing the trajectory of healthcare in this community. From hometown heroes like Greg Olsen, whose foundation is transforming pediatric heart care in the region, to generous community leaders and grateful patients who are committed to providing the best care for all – they are all inspiring others to give.

**Please join us in celebrating the good news – and get caught up in the Momentum!**

With gratitude,

Armando L. Chardiet
President
Its great when you’re recognized as the

BEST OF THE

Best.

For the 12th consecutive year Levine Children’s Hospital was named a “Best Children’s Hospital” by US News & World Report. This year, the hospital received a top 50 ranking in seven different specialties, marking the most rankings in their history.

In addition to crediting our world-class care team, we credit our donors and friends for their generous support of facilities, education, research and programs at Levine Children’s. Because of you, we are among the best. THANK YOU!
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Momentum is a publication produced by Atrium Health Foundation. For more information, please call 704-355-4048.
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WHERE THE HEART IS

$2.5 MILLION GIFT TO ESTABLISH HEARTEST YARD PEDIATRIC CARDIAC CENTER AT LEVINE CHILDREN’S

Greg Olsen and his family have demonstrated, once again, that you can never open your heart too much. They certainly have opened theirs, making a generous $2.5 million gift from Receptions for Research: The Greg Olsen Foundation to help build a next generation pediatric cardiovascular and congenital heart outpatient clinic – The HEARTest Yard Pediatric Cardiac Center at Levine Children’s. The gift was announced following The HEARTest Yard Golf Classic, a fundraiser held on May 6 at the Club at Longview, and marks the largest commitment to date from Greg’s foundation.
The HEARTest Yard Pediatric Cardiac Center, scheduled to open in late 2020, will be housed in the Medical Center Plaza building adjacent to Levine Children’s Hospital. The building will be renovated over the next several years to accommodate an array of specialty outpatient services offered by Levine Children’s.

“While most know Greg Olsen as a Pro Bowl Tight End for the Carolina Panthers, we at Levine Children’s know him and his wife, Kara, as visionary leaders and champions in the fight against pediatric congenital heart disease,” said Stacy Nicholson, MD, president of Levine Children’s, as he announced the transformational gift.

Greg and Kara Olsen started the HEARTest Yard initiative in 2012. The name originated from the three surgeries that young patients with single functioning heart ventricles typically endure in their first few years of life. The fund initially focused on private home health care for children born with congenital heart defects. Having a son with a congenital heart defect, they understood firsthand.

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WHERE THE HEART IS

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the special needs of these patients. In 2017, their vision, coupled with a $750,000 commitment, helped launch a cardiac neurodevelopmental clinic at Levine Children’s. The clinic now provides cardiac patients and families at Levine Children’s – from birth through adulthood – access to neuropsychologists, education specialists, mental health professionals, dietitians, and other innovative patient therapies. In turn, this will help the hospital and families get out in front of some of the challenges these young patients may face.

“This latest gift and the creation of the HEARTest Yard Pediatric Cardiac Center at Levine Children’s will be a game changer for the children of the Carolinas,” said Nancy Dobrolet, MD, director of the cardiac neurodevelopmental clinic. “Thanks to the Olsens, and their many supporters, we can now provide the most comprehensive cardiac care in the country for young heart patients.”

SMALL, YET MIGHTY

In her first 24 hours of life, Jessie was diagnosed with a heart defect and then separated from her mom as she was airlifted from her hometown hospital to Levine Children’s Hospital. Her dad had never felt so torn about needing to be in two places at the same time. Jessie spent six days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery, and then endured major surgery on her walnut-sized heart.

“This was an extensive surgery that involves a total replumbing of the heart – a risky operation,” explained her surgeon, Dr. Tom Maxey.

Jessie spent weeks recovering in the Ricky Hendrick Pediatric Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. Her parents, Tommy and Brooke (a nurse at Levine Cancer Institute) were relieved to be together again during the recovery. They marveled at how every step of the way Jessie was surrounded by resources and equipment made possible by philanthropy.

After Dr. Maxey performed a second surgery at age 1, Jessie is now not only surviving, but thriving.
SHOWMARS ON A MISSION TO PROTECT PEDIATRIC HEARTS

This April, Carolina Panther’s star tight-end, Greg Olsen, and Charlotte’s hometown restaurant, Showmars, once again teamed up on a mission to support children from around the local community who are impacted by congenital heart diseases and disorders. Over 1,000 runners, walkers, families and Showmars patrons came together to raise vital funds for the HEARTest Yard initiative at Levine Children’s. During the beloved community event, Greg and his family led a parade to kick off the 5K, which topped off a season of tremendous giving from Greg’s family and foundation, which contributed an additional $2.5 million to help build the HEARTest Yard Pediatric Cardiac Center at Levine Children’s.

1. Over 1,000 runners, walkers and heart advocates turned out to support the HEARTest Yard Fund.

2. Receptions for Research founder and Carolina Panther tight end Greg Olsen addresses supporters of the 5K.

3. Dean Peroulas, chief executive officer of Showmars, thanked attendees and sponsors for their heartfelt support of the HEARTest Yard.

4. Supporters of all ages, including many children and families touched by the HEARTest Yard Fund, showed their support at the family-friendly event, which raised $141,000 this year.
A STAGE IV Thriver

Erin Sipe describes herself as a Christ-follower, wife, mother of two daughters, and native of North Carolina. In 2010, at age 34, Erin added a new title to the list: “thriver.”

After being diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer, that had metastasized to her liver, Erin began treatment at what is now known as Levine Cancer Institute. Kevin Sipe, Erin’s best friend and husband, has served as a supporter throughout the journey.

After treatment, Erin was in remission for five years and continued routine check-ups.

In 2017, a scan showed the presence of tumors on Erin’s spine, followed by the discovery of spots in her brain. A team of physicians from Levine Cancer Institute collaborated with other oncologists to customize a treatment plan for Erin.

When asked about their experiences with Atrium Health, Kevin expressed gratitude for this personalized care: “You’re a person, not just a patient.” He noted healthcare cannot be treated as a task, but instead requires compassion and relationship-building. “Patients at Levine Cancer Institute often receive life-transforming diagnoses, and it truly makes a difference to have providers who emotionally invest in their work.”

For more information on supporting the breast cancer program and patients like Erin, contact Katherine Murphy at 704-355-4048.

“PATIENTS AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE OFTEN RECEIVE LIFE-TRANSFORMING DIAGNOSES, AND IT TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO HAVE PROVIDERS WHO EMOTIONALLY INVEST IN THEIR WORK.”

— Kevin Sipe
Erin’s Husband
CATCHING THE DREAM – AND THE HEARTS OF LEVINE CHILDREN’S PATIENTS

More than socializing and enjoying festivities – what truly makes the Dreamcatcher Society special is the members’ sense of purpose and dedication. The group brings together grateful patient families, children’s health advocates, medical professionals and other generous individuals who are committed to the health and wellbeing of Levine Children’s patients. Through annual financial commitments that boost vital patient programs, such as the Partnership for Pediatric Hearts, members have the unique opportunity to directly impact the care of Levine’s most fragile heart patients.

Attendees at the spring “friendraiser” event, held at Legion Brewing Company SouthPark, were moved by the touching testimonies of two families who formed a special bond when their sons – both named Gray – benefited from life-saving congenital heart care at Levine Children’s. This program, which saves and enhances the lives of children battling a congenital heart disease or heart disorder, relies on the support of groups like the Dreamcatcher Society to bring the latest treatment options and medical technology to patients who need it most.

SPECIAL THANKS to the Carpenter and Jackson families for sharing their stories during the spring event, and to the newest members who caught the dream: Stephen and Jenny Sims; Geoffrey and Erin Shaw; Laura Shaw; James R. Herlong, MD; Sanjeev K. Gulati, MD and Tanu Gulati; Tripp and Whitney Carpenter; and Matthew and Paige Brockmann.

1. Seven-year-olds Gray Jackson and Gray Carpenter who found an unlikely bond through a congenital heart disorder.  2. “Heart moms” share their stories.  3. (L-R) Dreamcatcher Society Advisory Committee Members Vinay and Preeti Deshmukh and Heath and Missy Norman.  4. LCH’s Dr. Gonzalo Wallis (center) with new members Paige and Matt Brockmann.
In just six years, Levine Cancer Institute has expanded into a regional network, extending across 25 sites to bring world-class cancer care to patients, close to home. The Institute’s latest addition – a second building adjacent to the original facility established in 2012 – opened in April, thanks to the generosity of Sandra and Leon Levine. Following their gift of $25 million to support the expansion, others were compelled to follow suit. Many of them gathered on April 5 to celebrate the extraordinary gifts that helped make the new building a reality.
Guests enjoyed tours of the new 260,000 square foot facility, which coupled with the existing building, represents the largest amount of contiguous space Atrium Health has dedicated to any specialty in its system. The new space expands hematologic, thoracic, and G/I oncology programs while offering new translational research capacity in several specialties. There is also dedicated space for continued growth of survivorship programs, supportive oncology, rehabilitation, and telemedicine services.

“We believe healthcare investments have the power to build thriving and successful communities for generations to come,” said Tom Lawrence, Executive Director of The Leon Levine Foundation, who attended the grand opening. “We’re excited to celebrate the opening of LCI II, which will undoubtedly make a significant impact on the lives of so many.”

“We BELIEVE HEALTHCARE INVESTMENTS HAVE THE POWER TO BUILD THRIVING AND SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITIES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.”
— TOM LAWRENCE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE LEON LEVINE FOUNDATION

1. Sandra and Leon Levine with Atrium Health President and CEO Gene Woods (center).
2. Generous donors are recognized on signage outside of the research labs at Levine Cancer Institute.
3. (L-R) Benefactor Leon Levine celebrates with Derek Raghavan, MD, PhD, president of Levine Cancer Institute.
CATWALK FOR A CAUSE CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

The Martin Truex Jr. Foundation has made great strides since its inaugural Catwalk for a Cause, first conceived by Truex's long time partner, Sherry Pollex in 2009. Likewise, the mission of the Martin Truex Jr. Foundation has grown to support immensely vital patient programs and cancer initiatives at Atrium Health and many other sites across the community. This year’s sellout Catwalk – featuring the latest fashions worn by childhood and adult cancer survivors who proudly walked the runway alongside Martin, Sherry, and members of the NASCAR community – was an unforgettable evening honoring those fighting cancer in our community. Thanks to the Martin Truex Jr. Foundation and contributors to Catwalk for a Cause, Atrium Health patients continue to have access to the best and most comprehensive cancer care available.

1. Cancer patients express gratitude to the crowd. 2. Sherry Pollex and a young cancer patient in fancy attire. 3. Martin and Sherry get a little help on the runway. 4. Former LCH patient Andrew Weaver modeling his best.
Ted FRANK, MD
RUNNING THE DISTANCE

Ted Frank, MD, has many titles – husband to Cynthia, father of two, Atrium Health cardiologist and director of Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute’s (SHVI) Heart Transplant Program. He’s also well known for his love of running. The avid marathoner devotes himself not only to his family and running goals, but also to his patients.

Dr. Frank and his fellow Sanger teammates are dedicated to meeting the needs of heart transplant and ventricular assistive device patients as they navigate what is, for many, the most difficult journey of their lives. This includes meeting patients’ physical, emotional and financial needs associated with a major heart procedure. For many patients, covering the cost of medical and non-medical needs associated with their care and recovery can be a hardship. This is where Dr. Frank has stepped in.

He combined his passion for running with his desire for his patients’ health by creating the Heart Transplant Run two years ago. The event – which brings together former and current patients, members of SHVI, and community members of all ages – has raised $80,000 for the Heart Transplant Patient Special Needs Fund. The dedication Dr. Frank and his team have shown their patients through this meaningful endeavor exemplifies one of Atrium Health’s guiding principles: patient-centered care.
MAKING STRIDES FOR MELANOMA RESEARCH

On a sunny morning in May, hundreds of runners and supporters gathered at the Arboretum Shopping Center in South Charlotte for the 8th Annual Miles Against Melanoma 5K. With plenty of sunscreen and protective hats, participants hit the streets to raise awareness about melanoma and funds to support the cutting-edge research and patient care provided at Levine Cancer Institute. Thanks to the runners, survivors and sponsors who joined in, the Miles Against Melanoma 5K raised more than $33,000 for the Melanoma Immunotherapy Fund.

CHARLOTTE KNIGHTS HIT A HOMERUN FOR ATRIUM HEALTH PATIENTS

On the heels of the new Charlotte Knights pediatric rehab playroom unveiled at Levine Children’s Hospital last fall – the Knights are back in action, raising new funds for Atrium Health patient programs and resources.

This May, BB&T ballpark was awash in pink for the 14th Annual Pink Knights baseball game, complete with a pink baseball giveaway and players wearing pink jerseys featuring the names of those who’ve battled breast cancer. The annual event, organized in partnership with Charlotte Radiology, raised over $25,000 to benefit the Carolinas Breast Cancer Fund at Levine Cancer Institute.

This June, Charlotte Knights Charities supporters and players gathered at The Golf Club at Ballantyne for the annual Charlotte Knights Golf Classic, raising an additional $29,000 to benefit Levine Children’s Hospital.
UNC-CHARLOTTE STUDENTS DANCE AROUND THE CLOCK FOR LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

On April 7, a record crowd of 460 students at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte gathered to dance the day away at the 7th annual Charlotte Dance Marathon benefiting Levine Children’s Hospital. Local Children’s Miracle Network Champion Hannah Carroll even stopped by to join in the fun, hitting the dance floor to support the medical care that saved her life. With an unstoppable team of energetic young adults, the Charlotte Dance Marathon raised $46,287 for Levine Children’s.

GET YOUR REAR IN GEAR – CHARLOTTE

Thanks to a national coalition with local ties, residents in Anson and Stanly counties will now have improved access to colon cancer resources through Get FIT For Life – a program of Atrium Health’s Levine Cancer Institute.

Inspired by one woman’s vision to end colon cancer after the disease impacted the lives of her loved-ones, the Colon Cancer Coalition has grown into a national movement through its signature Get Your Rear In Gear annual event, held in cities across the US, including Charlotte.

The Coalition recently awarded Levine Cancer Institute with a $20,000 grant to support Get FIT for Life with funds raised through the 2018 Get Your Rear in Gear held in Uptown Charlotte. With these funds, LCI’s Get FIT for Life will target at-risk, and underinsured men and women in Anson and Stanly Counties for colon cancer screening, and will provide a skilled cancer program development specialist to identify patients in need, connect them to critical resources, and lay the framework for the health literacy education required to sustain long-term wellness.

“HUNDREDS OF INDIVIDUALS IN OUR REGION LACK THE HEALTH EDUCATION TO UNDERSTAND WHY COLON CANCER SCREENING IS CRITICAL OR LACK THE NECESSARY INSURANCE COVERAGE TO PAY FOR TESTING.”

— MELISSA WHEELER, DIRECTOR OF DISPARITIES & OUTREACH, LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE
A $1 million gift from an anonymous grateful patient family in December 2018 has established the Richard L. White, Jr., MD Distinguished Chair in Surgical Oncology at Levine Cancer Institute.

“This is a transformational gift that will help distinguish our surgical oncology services as among the most advanced in the country,” said Derek Raghavan, MD, PhD, President of Levine Cancer Institute. “We are honored to receive such generous support from grateful patients and families.”

Dr. White was honored at an investiture held at Levine Cancer Institute in Charlotte on April 29, during which he was named the inaugural distinguished chair in surgical oncology.

Access to world class care is important to Dr. White, who expressed his gratitude for the support he has received for his program. “Thanks to gifts such as these, physicians like me have access to funds for innovative research, educational opportunities, and special projects that may lead to new therapies,” said Dr. White. “Not to mention, grateful patients who give back to our program are inspiring others to give.”

Mary Hall, MD, Chief Academic Officer for Atrium Health, underscored the importance of establishing distinguished chairs to help recruit and retain world-class talent. “Distinguished chairs are given the freedom to pursue ideas that can move medical science forward and lead to novel therapies to benefit patients.”

As the Distinguished Chair in Surgical Oncology, Dr. White will continue to lead and advance the Institute’s division of surgical oncology, renowned for its effective treatment of cancerous tumors. A truly distinguished physician and surgeon, Dr. White is recognized for developing Atrium Health’s novel immunotherapy program. He earned a medical degree from Columbia University and completed his residency at Georgetown University, followed by a fellowship at the National Cancer Institute. Dr. White’s tenure at Atrium Health spans over 24 years.

“THIS IS A TRANSFORMATIONAL GIFT THAT WILL HELP DISTINGUISH OUR SURGICAL ONCOLOGY SERVICES AS AMONG THE MOST ADVANCED IN THE COUNTRY. WE ARE HONORED TO RECEIVE SUCH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM GRATEFUL PATIENTS AND FAMILIES.”

— DEREK RAGHAVAN, MD, PhD
PRESIDENT OF LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE
SEPTEMBER 14
Stiletto Sprint
TealHeels.org
Get ready to strut down the streets in your best pair of heels for the 9th Annual Stiletto Sprint, presented by Real Estate for the Common Good and benefiting ovarian cancer research at Levine Cancer Institute.

SEPTEMBER 21
Swim Across America
SwimAcrossAmerica.org
Make a splash at the 3rd Annual Charlotte Open Water Swim in Lake Norman, supporting leukemia research at Levine Cancer Institute.

SEPTEMBER 26
Pink Pint Night
AtriumHealthFoundation.org/PinkPintNight
Grab your friends and “fight with a pint” at NoDa Brewery. Enjoy a signature pink brew to raise funds for Levine Cancer Institute’s Project PINK and Project PINK Plus.

SEPTEMBER 28
ISF 5K, 10K, And Fun Run For Kids Cancer
IsabellaSantosFoundation.org
Same race, added yumminess! Run and brunch with the Isabella Santos Foundation and help make an impact on pediatric cancer.

SEPTEMBER 29
Dreamcatcher Panthers Party
dreamcatchersociety.org
Members come cheer on our hometown team at the annual Carolina Panthers Watch Party at BoFA’s Gridiron Club. For more information about joining, visit dreamcatchersociety.org

OCTOBER 12
Hopebuilders 5K
Hopebuilders5K.org
Lace up your running shoes and bring the family out for the 24th annual Hopebuilders 5K, presented by Barings and benefiting Levine Children’s Hospital.
Bright lights, formal gowns, surprise performances and surprise announcements all led to the most successful Levine Children’s gala to date.

The 5th Annual Levine Children’s Gala welcomed over 525 guests to Uptown Charlotte, raising a record $2+ million to benefit Levine Children’s Hospital. The fundraiser was made possible by the generous support of many community sponsors, most notably, presenting sponsor PNC.

Held at the corner of 8th and Brevard on land owned by Levine Properties, the gala was attended by national and local celebrities, athletes, philanthropists, community leaders, representatives of Atrium Health, and numerous corporate supporters.*

Atrium Health President and CEO Gene Woods welcomed the sold-out crowd and was joined onstage by Dr. Stacy Nicholson, President of Atrium Health Levine Children’s, who shared the evening’s biggest news: Sandra and Leon Levine had committed $500,000 to the gala in support of Levine Children’s.

Thank you

5TH ANNUAL
Levine Children’s Gala

The Gala Committee:

Candy and Darren Bing, Stephanie and Howard Bissell, Monica and Armando Chardiet, Amy and Alfred Dawson, Sherrard and John Georgius, Stephanie and David Gitlin, Mandy and Todd Houser, Emily and Tyler Johnson, Kara and Greg Olsen, Ana and Manuel Rey, Tiffany and Scott Smith, Amy and Martin Welton, and Joy and Hunter Widener.

4. Guests hit the dance floor as KC and the Sunshine Band performed. 5. Greg Olsen joined the auctioneer onstage during the live auction. 6. Guests gave generously during the bid paddle raise and live auction. 7. Weston Andress, regional president of PNC, was recognized for his organization’s five consecutive years of serving as the gala’s presenting sponsor.
24 FOUNDATION ROLLS IN SUPPORT FOR CANCER PROGRAMS

More than 1,125 cyclists and supporters of local cancer survivorship and patient navigation programs circled Charlotte’s iconic “Booty Loop” for 24 straight hours this July. Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital, both of which continue to benefit greatly from the annual cycling event, were well represented – from patient-advocates and caregivers, to support staff and Atrium Health leaders in attendance.

This year’s race was a first for 24 Foundation executive director Katy Ryan, who joined the organization last fall and has since inspired new support and renewed participation by devoted cycling enthusiasts and cancer advocates from across the Greater Charlotte region. Just last year the 24 Foundation raised $50,000 for a new hospitality cart that provides healthy snacks for pediatric cancer patients, families and caregivers at Levine Children’s Torrence E. Hemby, Jr. Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Blood and Marrow Transplant Center.

This year’s proceeds, which topped $1.4 million, will continue to support additional patient survivorship programs across Levine Children’s and Levine Cancer Institute.

1. The memorial wall pays tribute to those who’ve battled cancer.

2. The Levine Cancer Institute team was out in full force at 24 Hours of Booty.

3. Cyclists gathered at the annual Survivorship Breakfast to hear inspiring words of wisdom from Declan Walsh, MD, chair of the department of supportive oncology at LCI, and Chasse Bailey-Dorton, MD, chief of integrative oncology at LCI.
ISABELLA SANTOS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN JULY AT LCH

A group of “elves” from the Isabella Santos Foundation (ISF) picked out the best toys for some extra special boys and girls to help celebrate the Foundation’s annual Christmas in July day. Even Santa ditched his summer surfboard and broke out his sleigh to travel to Levine Children’s Hospital, making a special stop at the oncology floor and outpatient clinic.

Patients and families expressed gratitude to ISF for bringing a bit of magic to their hospital stays.

The ISF team is joined by Santa and (to his left) Dr. Javier Oesterheld, the Jeff Gordon Children’s Foundation Endowed Chair in Pediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders, to spread some Christmas cheer in July.

ISABELLA SANTOS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN JULY AT LCH

SEPTEMBER 28
ISF 5K, 10K, And Fun Run For Kids Cancer
IsabellaSantosFoundation.org
Same race, added yumminess! Run and brunch with the Isabella Santos Foundation and help make an impact on pediatric cancer. This event includes a NEW Brunch option as well as raffles and a Kids Zone with games, bouncy houses, face painting and more.

ISF has partnered with Levine Children’s Hospital to establish the Isabella Santos Foundation Rare and Solid Tumor Program. The program will oversee care for all solid tumors, rare tumors, MIBG therapy and all related clinical and scientific research at LCH.

OCTOBER 26
ISF Pumpkin Charity Ball
IsabellaSantosFoundation.org
Join us at the Ritz Carlton, Charlotte October 26, 6-11 pm. Dress up and share an evening of hope!
NORSAN MEDIA’S LATIN RADIOTHON TOPS $150,000 FOR LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Thanks to generous community support, Radiothon Milagros Para Los Niños – held by Norsan Media and broadcast on La Raza 106.1 – raised a record $150,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital this July. Contributions will fund vital medical equipment, healthcare services, clinical research and patient and family support programs, to improve the health and wellbeing of children treated at Levine Children’s Hospital.

Now in its eighth year, the radiothon was broadcast live from the hospital’s Ryan Seacrest Studios. Listeners were moved by stories of hope shared by families of former and current patients from the Hispanic community.

The record fundraising total of the 2019 Radiothon signifies the continued growth of the broadcast since the company’s partnership with Levine Children’s Hospital began in 2011.

1. (L-R) Atrium Health Foundation’s Mark Griffith and Alli Held with Norsan’s Natalia Sanchez, and Beto Tenorio.

CELEBRATING AN AMBASSADOR

Children come first for Beto Tenorio, President of Norsan Media. Beto demonstrates his commitment through programs that support Latino children, including his role on the Board of Ambassadors at Levine Children’s Hospital. Most recently, Beto spent the entire day at Levine Children’s, supporting Norsan’s annual radiothon.

Beto joined Norsan Group in 1996 and is the only employee who has held every position in the company’s Restaurant Division. Today, under his leadership, Norsan Media is the largest regional Spanish multimedia company in the Southeast.

According to Beto, “Anything is possible if you plan, visualize your future, and strive to do your best.”

2. (L-R) DJs Zuhaila Mohamed and Carla Morales shared inspirational stories.
3. For the last four years, 10-year-old Amy has collected donations at her school, Waddell Elementary. She decorated her gift box with messages from classmates and teachers who helped support the radiothon, raising over $400.
4. (L-R) Carla Morales with Norsan President Beto Tenorio, who spent the entire day at the radiothon.
COMMUNITY “KEEPS POUNDING” FOR CANCER RESEARCH

On and off the field, fan favorites Sir Purr, the TopCats, and Carolina Panthers players and coaches, continue to energize the local fight against pediatric and adult cancers through the beloved Keep Pounding 5K. Enjoyed by runners, walkers, Panthers’ fans and supporters of all ages, the Keep Pounding 5K raises vital funds and awareness for cancer research and patient programs at Atrium Health. Led by touchdown sponsor Rodgers Builders, Top Individual Fundraiser Audrea Norris, and Top Team PoZitivity (led by Levine Cancer Institute oncologist and cancer survivor Zvonimir Milas, MD), Keep Pounding 5K donors and participants contributed to a record-total for the event, raising over $150,000. Atrium Health patients and providers continue to be awed and inspired by the generous support of our community, who rally around the FIGHT to end cancer through the Keep Pounding initiative.
“LIVE NOW. APPRECIATE NOW. HAVE GRATITUDE FOR ALL THAT’S AROUND YOU... THAT IS THE GIFT OF CANCER.”

— AMY ROBACH
On May 29, over 200 breast cancer survivors, researchers and activists joined together in a sea of pink at The Westin in Uptown Charlotte for the 3rd annual Speak PINK luncheon. The luncheon, dubbed the "newest forum for breast cancer philanthropy" in Charlotte, featured ABC’s renowned “20/20” co-anchor and breast cancer survivor Amy Robach. Robach spoke about her journey battling the disease and why she chose to publicize her fight, declaring, “I knew in my heart, immediately, that by being public it would save lives.”

Speak PINK brings together – in an intimate setting – survivors and caregivers to gain a deeper understanding of the realities of breast cancer. Presented for the third year by Charlotte Radiology, the luncheon raised funds for LCI breast cancer research and patient programs, including LCI Project PINK and Project PINK Plus, which provide free mammograms and follow-up breast care to uninsured and underinsured women in Mecklenburg County. Initiatives like these provide valuable, life-saving care to women from across the Carolinas and, thanks to support from generous donors, are the reason that incredible stories of hope like Amy’s can continue to inspire others who face similar battles.
HYUNDAI HOPE ON WHEELS DRIVES DONATIONS FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

Hyundai Hope On Wheels® (HHOW), a non-profit organization supported by Hyundai and its U.S. dealers, gave a $100,000 Hyundai Impact Award Grant to Levine Children’s to continue its long-standing fight against pediatric cancer. Founded by the belief that “every minute is precious” in the fight against childhood cancer, HHOW awarded $16 million in grants to 77 hospitals this year, including Levine Children’s. With this latest grant, Levine Children’s has received more than $625,000 in total grants since 2010 from HHOW.

The Hyundai Impact Award was presented to Dr. Ashley Hinson, whose work centers around assessing immune dysfunction in pediatric oncology patients, post-chemotherapy, to determine whether there is an optimal time for restarting vaccinations. During the event, Levine Children’s Hospital patients participated in the program’s signature Handprint Ceremony, dipping their hands in paint and placing their handprints on a Hyundai vehicle.

HHOW remains one of the largest funders of pediatric cancer research in the nation, with a total of $160 million in funding since 1998.
HOPE FOR A CURE: BLADDER CANCER WALK SUPPORTS INNOVATIVE THERAPIES, AWARENESS

With more than 80,000 new cases of bladder cancer in the US each year, the need for clinical research and funding is great. The annual Carolinas 4 a Cure Bladder Cancer Walk shines a spotlight on this disease, gathering supporters at Blakeney Shopping Center in South Charlotte for a two-mile walk to raise funds and awareness for bladder cancer. In May, over 150 supporters came together, many of them bringing colorful signs and banners to honor loved ones who have battled the disease. Thanks to the efforts of these participants and donors, the Carolinas 4 A Cure Bladder Cancer Walk raised over $60,000 for the Carolinas Bladder Cancer Fund at Levine Cancer Institute, including a $25,000 challenge gift by the 5MPower Foundation.

Funds raised support innovative therapies that are being used to extend life expectancy and increase survival rates for bladder cancer patients in the region.

Less than a year ago, cancer treatment took up most of 6-year-old Madison’s life, between ongoing checkups, scans and physical therapy to make sure she stays healthy. But today, her long fight with osteosarcoma – a type of bone cancer almost unheard of in kids her age – is over, thanks to a team of dedicated medical providers at Levine Children’s who became a second family for Madison. This July, Madison and her extended family celebrated a historic moment for the hospital: Levine Children’s was named a Best Children’s Hospital by U.S. News & World Report for the 12th consecutive year in seven specialties, including pediatric cancer.

1. Participants in the annual Carolinas 4 A Cure dress up for the occasion.  2. Even furry friends participated in the bladder cancer walk to support research efforts at Levine Cancer Institute.
A DECADE OF JOEDANCE

The Joedance Film Festival is a tribute to the life of a remarkable young man, Joe Restaino, who inspired his community to action as he bravely battled a rare form of pediatric osteosarcoma. This August, the festival achieved a new milestone: a decade of fundraising for pediatric cancer research. Inspired by Joe’s love of movies, Joedance celebrates the cinematic achievements of remarkable and talented local filmmakers. It has become a beacon not only for this powerful art form, but more importantly for the pursuit of a cure to devastating and rare forms of cancer like sarcoma. Since its inception, Joedance has raised over $170,000 for Atrium Health’s Levine Children’s Hospital to help advance pediatric oncology patient programs, and clinical research.

Joedance participants hit the red carpet to support sarcoma research.

SARCOMA STOMP SUPPORTS RESEARCH AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE

An unprecedented 1,500 attendees gathered for the 8th Annual Sarcoma Stomp, supporting the theme of “making hope REAL” and raising funds and awareness for sarcoma research and patient programs at Levine Cancer Institute. “We work hard to make this event memorable for all participants,” said Sue Udelson, Executive Director of the Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research, which hosted the event. A record $250,000 was raised, which will help fund cutting-edge clinical research trials to investigate new, innovative treatments for the more than 50 varieties of sarcomas.

Team Elissa was out in full force at the annual Sarcoma Stomp.
Sun, wind and rain couldn’t stop riders who pedaled more than 180 miles this April from Charlotte to North Myrtle Beach in the annual Cycle to the Sea benefiting Atrium Health’s Adaptive Sports & Adventures Program (ASAP). Supported by a dedicated group of volunteers and ASAP staff, the group of able-bodied and disabled cyclists rode side by side to raise over $60,000 for one of the community’s most vital programs for youth and adults with physical challenges.

The Adaptive Sports and Adventures Program, which relies heavily on the support of events like Cycle to the Sea, is the very reason adaptive cyclists Brian Muscarella and Robbie Parks (pictured) train and participate in the event each year. Their fundraising, along with the support of many other teams and donors, allows them to give back to the very program that has transformed their lives after sustaining debilitating injuries. “Being involved with Carolinas Rehabilitation and ASAP, I have had the good fortune to meet hundreds of people through volunteer efforts and competition,” said Robbie. “Some of these relationships have positively shaped and changed the direction of my life in ways I would never have otherwise experienced.”

1. Able bodied riders gave support to the hand cyclists, who pedaled more than 180 miles to raise funds for ASAP. 2. Brian Muscarella, Robbie Parks, and Team Freak are among the top fundraisers for many years running in Cycle to the Sea.

**YOUNG AMBASSADOR HIGHLIGHT**

10-year-old Colton Peterson was all smiles in June as he presented over $600 to Dr. Stacy Nicholson, president of Levine Children’s Hospital. Colton raised the funds by decorating his front yard for Christmas, which included a bucket with a sign that asked for donations for Levine Children's!
What is planned giving?
Simply put, “planned giving” is the transfer of assets to a designated nonprofit organization, for example any of the number of programs, services or facilities of Atrium Health, during a lifetime or as part of an estate plan. This forward-thinking approach to giving is “planned” because often these assets are not liquid, have tax consequences and are generally transferred via a will or other written means.

It can involve assets you might never think of.
A life insurance policy. Real estate. Stocks. Business holdings. A checking or savings account. These are all assets that can be leveraged in planned gifts.

It can work in tandem with other family priorities.
Planned giving is not an “all or nothing” option. Gifts can exist side-by-side with other beneficiaries and personal priorities.

Leave a lasting impact.
Philanthropy serves an important role in fulfilling Atrium Health’s vision for the future of healthcare. A variety of options are available for you to plan for tomorrow, today. Atrium Health Foundation can help you establish your unique legacy gift to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing – for all. For more information, please contact Sara Piner, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning at 704.388.0844 or Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org.

3 Steps to Making a Beneficiary Gift
Beneficiary designation gifts are among the simplest and most flexible charitable legacy gifts. You can designate any one of Atrium Health’s programs, services or facilities as a beneficiary of a retirement, investment/bank account, or your life insurance policy. With a beneficiary designation in place, you continue to freely use your retirement, investment, or bank account. You can also change your mind for any reason at a future date. A gift through a beneficiary designation is simple, flexible and leaves you with the peace of mind that those assets are designated to a cause for which you care deeply.

Legacy Gift In Action
The new Pediatric Cancer Translational Research Laboratory at Levine Cancer Institute opened this spring thanks, in part, to the generous legacy gift from Mr. Seddon “Rusty” Goode, Jr. Mr. Goode named Atrium Health Foundation as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy and those charitable dollars, along with others, have now come to life!

The pediatric cancer translational research laboratory will be the region’s only lab dedicated solely to advancing translational research and scientific breakthroughs in the fight against pediatric cancer.
We are pleased to introduce our newly rebranded legacy society, Evergreen Society (formerly known as the 1940 Society.) The new name reflects our vision for legacy giving and aligns well with the Atrium Health tree of life symbol, which represents our organization’s values and mission. The resilient sentinels of the forest, evergreens represent hope for the sun’s return. Like the evergreen, our donor and legacy society members are ensuring a brighter future by supporting the Atrium Health programs, services and facilities they care about most.

Join our giving society today! Planned giving is an important form of philanthropy at Atrium Health Foundation. Our Evergreen Society recognizes supporters who have indicated their intention of providing a legacy gift to benefit one of the world class programs at Atrium Health.

Join these generous donors today, who are ensuring the progress and growth of Atrium Health’s world-class programs, services and facilities. If Atrium Health is part of your estate plan, please let us know, so we can honor you as well!

Membership

Anonymous
Betty and Don Anderson
Sarah and Thomas Belk, Jr.
Jim and Dorothy Berry
Elinor Caddell
Tansukh, Sarla and Rajesh Ganatra
Mark Griffith
T. Hampton Hopkins, EdD
Deborah Hopper
Peggy and James Hynes
Scott Kerr
Jane and Hugh McColl, Jr.
Joe Miller
Donna and Wallace Nunley, Jr., MD
Jacqueline and Louis Pfeiffer
Margaret W. Ross
Lori Levine Sklut
Susan and Jack Stricker
Victoria Sutton
Nicholas Trivisonno
Donaldson Williams

In Memoriam

Wylie Arnold, Jr.
Lucille and Harry Barrett, Jr.
Michael Black, Jr.
Anita Blumenthal
Addison Brenizer, MD
Willard Brown
Joseph Bruno
Ethel Bryant
Melvin Caudle
Alex Copeland, Jr.
John Crist, Jr.
Judy and John Crosland, Jr.
Ruth Flowe
Rosalie Fountain
George V. Gilbert
Seddon “Rusty” Goode
Laura “Johnny” Guffey
Verling K. Hart, MD
Cynthia Huntley
Julia Jones
Ola Kincaid
Ninna Lester
Charles Lightner
Virginia McEwen
Ann P. Miller
Catherine B. Miller
Robert Miller
Irene Millroy
Elizabeth and Ronald Moore
Eileen Nichols
Patricia Paterson
Adeline and Morton Puner
Addison Reese
F.H. “Sammy” Ross
Warner Shelly
Earle Spaugh
Louvene Steele
Marietta Stokes
Charles Stone
A.B. and Harry Winkler, MD
Vonee Wogens
Elizabeth and Paul Younts
MARK GRIFFITH, CFRE

When he’s not busy coaching baseball at Myers Park Trinity Little League, teaching Sunday school at Christ Episcopal Church, volunteering with several local organizations, or raising three growing boys with his wife Katie (pictured), Mark Griffith plays an equally important role in the mission of Atrium Health Foundation as Assistant Vice President of Development.

In his 14-year history with the Foundation, Mark has achieved great success in his efforts, leading the growth of annual fundraising for Levine Children’s Hospital and related programs at Atrium Health to a level of over $15 million per year. In part due to his efforts, local children now have access to the most advanced care, close to home. Because of his passion for the health and wellbeing of children in our community and his achievements at Atrium Health, Mark was recently awarded the “40 Under 40” distinction by the Charlotte Business Journal.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR TEAM AT ATRIUMHEALTHFOUNDATION.ORG.
Leslie Sykes, JD

Stepping into the role of Atrium Health Foundation’s first Director of Corporate Relations only one year ago, Leslie Sykes has hit the ground running. Her passion and tenacity for creating far-reaching impact are driving forces in her early success.

Leslie, who joined the Foundation after serving as the American Red Cross Lead Grants and Foundations Specialist for the state of North Carolina, brings to her role a deep knowledge of corporate philanthropy, nonprofit law, grant writing, and grassroots community development. This experience allows her to align corporate goals with Atrium Health’s important community health programs, diversity and inclusion initiatives, innovative projects, and MED 1 – a disaster response mobile hospital. From cultivating new corporate partners to growing existing partnerships, Leslie’s role is vital to the Foundation’s mission and sustained growth.

Outside of the office, Leslie enjoys being mom to two young children, an avid home renovator and mid-century modern curator and collector.

Giving is what drives the team at Atrium Health Foundation – every day. This summer, teammates took time to give back, volunteering at Second Harvest Food Bank and Crisis Assistance Ministries.

A SERVING OF HOPE

Guests at 5Church restaurant were treated to a special dining experience on March 28, when a group of young children – all kidney patients treated at Levine Children’s Hospital – stepped in to serve as their wait staff. The dinner featured a tasting of healthy features on the menu that were created specially to highlight a kidney-friendly plate. The guests of honor enjoyed a cranberry juice toast in honor of 5Church, longtime supporters of Levine Children’s. The restaurant, which hosts several fundraisers for the hospital each year, contributed all proceeds from the evening to support the hospital’s Pediatric Nephrology Center of Excellence.

1. Young Kidney Krusaders prepare for a night of service in support of the Nephrology Center of Excellence at Levine Children’s. 2. Chef Jamie and 5 Church leadership pose with nephrology patients turned chefs. 3. Cooking up some fun and healthy options in the kitchen at 5Church.
LEVINE JCC KIDS TRI BRINGS JOY TO PEDIATRIC REHAB PROGRAM

On June 2, kids of all ages and abilities took over the campus of the Levine Jewish Community Center for the 8th Annual Kids Triathlon. The Kids Tri provides youngsters with the opportunity to complete a shorter version of a triathlon by participating in kid-friendly swimming, biking and running events. In the months leading up to the triathlon, participants and their families host creative fundraisers in their communities to raise money for the Adaptive Sports & Adventures Program (ASAP) at Carolinas Rehabilitation, as well as the world-class pediatric rehabilitation program at Levine Children’s Hospital. This year’s top fundraisers enjoyed a VIP meet-and-greet with Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton. The Kids Tri raised $130,000 for Atrium Health, bringing the eight-year total raised from the event to nearly $750,000.

1. Top fundraiser Makenzie poses with fellow triathletes and members of her medical team.
2. Carolina Panthers quarterback and hometown hero, Cam Newton, was the honored guest at the kids triathlon, taking time to meet top individual fundraisers before sharing words of inspiration with more than 200 participants, families and volunteers.
3. A kids tri participant and LCH patient is cheered on by his rehab therapist.
4. The event kicked off with a splash!
5. Father/daughter bonding at the JCC Kids Tri.
PUBLIX HAS A HEART FOR KIDS

For nearly 30 years, Publix has supported Children's Miracle Network hospitals around the country with their annual coupon sheet campaign, raising more than $3 million in 2019 alone. This year, local stores did not disappoint, teaming up to raise over $65,000 for patients at Levine Children's by offering $1, $3, and $5 coupon sheets to customers at the register. Proceeds from the coupon sheets stay local and benefit the world-class treatment provided to children at Levine Children's Hospital every day.

A LEGACY OF HEALTH, HOPE, AND HEALING FOR LEVINE CHILDREN’S

Each year, through Walmart and Sam’s Club’s partnership with Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, hundreds of employees, thousands of customers, and millions of dollars contribute to the health, hope, and healing of patients at Levine Children’s Hospital.

This May, Walmart Regional Vice President Kate Mora kicked off the 2019 Walmart and Sam’s Club campaign with impassioned remarks to local store managers and associates, followed by tours of Levine Children’s Hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Pavilion and MedCenter Air – two beneficiaries of the retail chains’ generous support in recent years.

Hannah Carol, local CMN Champion, also shared her touching story of the life-saving care she received in the hospital’s NICU shortly after she was born. Year after year, newborns just like Hannah are saved in the NICU thanks to medical equipment funded by Walmart and Sam’s Club.

Celebrating its 32nd year of fundraising with Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, Walmart and Sam’s Club have collectively raised over $12.1 million for Levine Children’s.

DAIRY QUEEN’S SWEET TREATS SUPPORT LIFE-SAVING CARE

Dairy Queen’s signature Blizzard treats tasted a little bit sweeter in June during their annual Children’s Miracle Network balloon campaign. Charlotte-area DQ locations offered Miracle Balloons to customers at the register as the perfect way to top off their delicious desserts: with the gift of world-class care to patients at Levine Children’s Hospital.
SUN SAFETY FIRST AT THE SAVE YOUR SKIN GOLF CLASSIC

Skies were cloudy for the Save Your Skin Melanoma Awareness Golf Classic in June, but generous donors and attendees still made sun safety a priority at the 14th annual event, held at Ballantyne Country Club. Levine Cancer Institute patients and community members – allies in the fight against melanoma – came together to generously support the Melanoma and Immunotherapy Fund. Proceeds from past events have funded melanoma research and enabled Levine Cancer Institute to introduce sun safety into local school curricula. Through the support of many generous sponsors, led by Bank of America Merrill Lynch and SHERLOQ Solutions, this year’s golf classic raised $82,500 to benefit vital patient and community programs organized by Levine Cancer Institute.

1. (L-R) Bank of America’s Ken Vance, event founder Dr. Martin Kreshon, Sr., and Atrium Health Foundation’s Scott Kerr. 2. A delighted Dr. Kreshon celebrates the grand total raised with volunteers, sponsors, and LCI physicians.

Make Your Nurse a Star!

Honor or memorialize a nurse who has touched your life, or the lives of your loved ones, by making a gift to the Atrium Health Nursing Fund. Your gift will help support nurses as they seek continuing education opportunities, such as attendance at national conferences, participation in clinical specialty education programs, and more!

Honorees will receive a star-shaped pin, symbolizing their special commitment to patient care and service across Atrium Health.

Visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org/Nurses
OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS

9th Annual
Stiletto Sprint
Saturday, September 14
SouthPark Mall

Slip on your teal heels and join women and men of all ages for the Stiletto Sprint. All funds raised benefit ovarian cancer research and patient services at Levine Cancer Institute.

tegalheels.org

CHILDREN’S HEALTH

24th Annual
Hopebuilders 5K Presented by Barings

Saturday, October 12
Levine Children’s Hospital

Hope, health, and happiness. They are what we want for our children.

Your donation plays a crucial role in the healing and recovery of patients at Levine Children’s Hospital. Join us in giving children hope for a healthy future.

hopebuilders5k.org
Breathing Life into a Brighter Future

When Palmer Horton’s parents first heard their newborn’s diagnosis, they were overwhelmed. They didn’t know what a pulmonologist was, let alone what it meant to have cystic fibrosis (CF).

Fast forward five years and the Hortons are now the driving force behind making Levine Children’s Hospital an accredited care center – one that offers the highest level of cystic fibrosis care, all in one place. They’ve grown close to the care team at Levine Children’s, which Mallery (Palmer’s mom) calls their “village.” Part of that village is Ashley Chadha, MD, Palmer’s lung specialist. Along with Dr. Chadha, the Hortons and other grateful patients are working together to raise funds and awareness for CF.

Although she’s not in kindergarten yet, Palmer knows so much medical jargon, she even keeps her doctors on their toes. She’s spunky and tough, and you’d never know that every day she takes 30 pills and undergoes two hours of breathing treatments. Palmer, along with her parents, has remained committed to fighting her disease and keeping a positive outlook. Through their advocacy, the Hortons are making the future brighter not just for their daughter, but for all young CF patients in our region.