Large Gift Rolls In
24 FOUNDATION COMMITS $1.75 MILLION TO ATRIUM HEALTH
“Momentum is a powerful word, one that signifies the growth and continual progress we strive for within our health system.”
Dear Friends,

Atrium Health Foundation has rolled into a new decade more rapidly than ever. What began with an emphasis on our healthcare enterprise embarking upon plans to transform healthcare and build the health delivery system of the future has swiftly changed gears amidst the public health crisis we are now facing with COVID-19. Our sense of excitement about new buildings, new programs, and innovative research has been replaced with the great concern of going the distance to keep our community safe.

We are all in this together – and it’s times like these that we pull together and do what is right for the health and well-being of all we serve.

Let’s not lose sight of the generous donors – both regionally and nationally – who have helped position Atrium Health among the best health systems in the nation. With your support, we will continue to make a tremendous impact.

In the meantime, this issue of Momentum is dedicated to you, our dedicated philanthropists who are helping us provide the best care to all. If you wish to help with our current efforts surrounding COVID-19, visit atriumhealthfoundation.org/gothedistance.

The wheels of philanthropy continue to roll. Thank you for going the distance – yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

With gratitude,

Armando L. Chardiet
President
KEEP POUNDING 5K

SATURDAY, MAY 30
PARTICIPATE FOR THE ONES YOU LOVE.

keeppounding5k.org

BENEFITING ADULT AND PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH AND PATIENT PROGRAMS AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE AND LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL
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Atrium Health Foundation
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BIG WHEELS
Keep On Turning
LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE,
LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL RIDING THE WAVE
OF SUPPORT FROM 24 FOUNDATION
Since 2002, 24 Foundation has dedicated its efforts to improving the lives of cancer patients in our community through annual fundraising efforts, including their infamous 24-Hours of Booty cycling events. Most recently, the Foundation gathered at Levine Cancer Institute to share a $1.75 million commitment to Atrium Health’s Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital. With this gift, 24 Foundation will have donated more than $5.5 million collectively to both facilities to support adult and pediatric cancer survivorship and wellness programs.

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“WE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO FUNDING CANCER SURVIVORSHIP AND NAVIGATION PROGRAMS. SEEING FIRSTHAND THE RESULTS OF OUR COLLECTIVE GIFTS AND THE IMPACT WE ARE MAKING RIGHT HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY IS EMPOWERING.”

– KATY RYAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 24 FOUNDATION
“WE GREATLY APPRECIATE OUR LONG-STANDING PARTNERSHIP WITH 24 FOUNDATION AND THEIR DEDICATION TO BUILDING THE SURVIVORSHIP AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE AND LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL.”

– ARMANDO CHARDIET, PRESIDENT, ATRIUM HEALTH FOUNDATION

BIG WHEELS KEEP ON TURNING

Continued from pg. 3

“We greatly appreciate our long-standing partnership with 24 Foundation and their dedication to building the Survivorship and Wellness Programs at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital,” said Armando Chardiet, president of Atrium Health Foundation. “Their generous philanthropic support will help us achieve our vision of implementing services at all points throughout a survivor’s cancer experience with a team of the most highly trained specialists.”

This commitment will support ongoing enhancement of the Institute’s world-class navigation program and continue to sustain and grow existing survivorship and integrative oncology programs such as healing arts, massage therapy, yoga and acupuncture. In addition, a portion of the gift will support the pediatric cancer survivorship program at Levine Children’s Hospital.

As more patients are seeking opportunities to participate in activities that promote mind and body wellness at all points across their cancer experience, philanthropy will continue to play a key role in advancing care for patients and improving their quality of life during and after treatment.

“On behalf of our team of riders, supporters and sponsors, we are proud to have Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital among our primary beneficiaries and to donate funds to these amazing cancer facilities,” said Katy Ryan, executive director of 24 Foundation. “We are deeply committed to funding cancer survivorship and navigation programs. Seeing firsthand the results of our collective gifts and the impact we are making right here in our community is empowering.”
Manuel Rey
SVP and Multicultural Banking Executive for Fifth Third Bank

Manuel is senior vice president and multicultural banking executive for Fifth Third Bank. He is responsible for leading the multicultural banking strategy and its execution. Born and raised in Mexico, Manuel graduated from law school there prior to earning a master's degree in public administration from UNC Charlotte. Manuel is a past member of Atrium Health’s Board of Advisors. He is married to Ana and they have two children. He and Ana have served on the Levine Children's Hospital Gala organizing committee since the event’s inception and Manuel has also been involved with the annual Latin Radiothon benefiting Levine Children's Hospital. Manuel is a past President and Chairman of the Board of the Latin American Chamber of Commerce and has served on several local boards such as the Board of the Mayor’s International Cabinet. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Commission of the League of Governments and on the Executive Committee of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce.

Mike Rucker
Former Carolina Panther & Owner, Vision Realty (A residential real estate business)

Mike Rucker is a retired Carolina Panther who resides in Weddington, NC with his wife, Kristina, and their three children. He currently serves on the Atrium Health Board of Commissioners and has served as Team Captain of the Foundation’s Young Ambassadors program since its inception. This program recognizes youth fundraisers who are making a significant impact on healthcare in our community through fundraising efforts that benefit Atrium Health facilities and programs. During his professional football career Mike also raised substantial funds for Atrium Health’s Carolinas Neuromuscular/ALS Center through his annual “Sack ALS” campaigns and participation in our annual Pinstripes event.
TRANSFORMING PATIENT EXPERIENCE AT LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

For Barings employees, children’s health and well-being are top priorities. Known for valuing a team-driven approach to their work and a commitment to the community, the international investment firm has shown unwavering support for Levine Children’s Hospital for more than a decade through its gifts and volunteerism. In 2019, Barings stepped up once more to commit $125,000 in corporate and employee gifts to be raised over the next two years as Levine Children’s Hospital embarks upon a major renovation project to its third-floor diagnostic suite.

With this latest commitment of support from Barings, Levine Children’s Hospital will be able to create a more kid-friendly, inviting, and engaging environment for young patients undergoing diagnostic procedures, such as X-ray or ultrasound scans. The planned renovations will improve patient experience, reduce sedation rates, and create a better care and work environment – for all.

Managing director and AHF board member David Secrest shown far left with fellow employees at the 24th Annual Hopebuilders 5K, for which Barings was Presenting Sponsor.
David Secrest was born in Shelby, and now considers himself a local Charlottean. He is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill where he was a punter on the football team. His Institutional Debt Management group was acquired by Babson Capital Management, which rebranded as Barings in 2016. Barings (in many cases led in their volunteer and sponsor efforts by David) has an extensive history of support for events benefiting our foundation, including the annual Hopebuilders 5K, Levine Children’s Gala, and the Sarcoma Stomp 5K. In 2018, David danced in the Charlotte Ballet’s Dancing with the Stars Gala on behalf of Levine Children’s Hospital and raised a then record $129,000 for the hospital. David also has served for several years on the foundation’s Levine Children’s Hospital Board of Ambassadors and he and his wife Natalie are members of the Dreamcatcher Society.

Welcome

NEW ATRIUM HEALTH FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER

David Secrest
Managing Director, Barings

Diagnostic Suite Upgrade

With significant support from Barings, Levine Children’s Hospital recently transformed the hospital’s pediatric diagnostic suite using underwater-themed aesthetic and equipment upgrades to create a more positive, healing environment for patients, family and staff during diagnostic procedures. With the completion of the renovation project, patients and their families are now surrounded by the new underwater theme from the moment they arrive in the diagnostic suite – from floor to ceiling wall coverings in procedure rooms, to a 3D game station in registration, to illuminated designs on all MRI, X-ray, ultrasound and CT equipment. Plans also include upgrading existing medical technology to a 3T Magnet.
Eleven-year-old Sofia has a big job for her young age – but she’s ready and up to the challenge. After celebrating the end of her chemotherapy by “ringing the bell” – a rite of passage for young cancer survivors at Levine Children’s Hospital – Sofia recently celebrated another milestone at the hospital: accepting her new title as the local Children’s Miracle Network Champion for 2020.

Patients from Levine Children’s Hospital and their families can find hope in Sofia’s journey, which took her from a two-year battle with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, to celebrating the end of treatment, to returning to the activities she loves most: playing soccer, creating art, dancing and inspiring her peers. This year, Sofia will travel across the region to share her story, inspiring dozens of Children’s Miracle Network corporate partners and supporters to continue giving generously to a cause they all hold dear: Levine Children’s Hospital.
Sophia is once again a cancer-free, carefree kid who can enjoy her favorite hobbies: baking and creating art.

Giving Back
WHERE YOUR GIFTS ARE SUPPORTING ATRIUM HEALTH

Support from individuals, foundations, and corporations in 2019 enabled Atrium Health Foundation to grant $30+ million in support across Atrium Health. Funds are supporting new research efforts; enhancing existing programs and adding new programs; creating new specialized facilities; endowing academic medical chair positions, and more.

PROGRAMS/INITIATIVES

FACILITIES

EDUCATION

RESEARCH

54%

28%

10%

8%
If you stopped 100 people on the street in Charlotte, and asked them to name a "prominent banker," chances are, that most would mention Hugh McColl. His achievements are well known and his record of service to nonprofits, extraordinary.

LEADERSHIP IN THE MAKING
McColl’s father was a third-generation banker. McColl majored in banking while in college, and he ended up spending a 42-year career in the industry. Given that iconic status, his career path might appear to have been pre-ordained. According to McColl, however, nothing could be further from the truth.

Growing up in Bennettsville SC, McColl’s main interest was sports. His father determined his college choice (UNC-Chapel Hill) and virtually dictated his major (banking). He was a self-described “terrible student” whose main passion was not academics but sports. After graduating, he signed up for the Marines and went on active duty.
For decades, the McColl family has supported Atrium Health, from funding Muscular Dystrophy research to Levine Children’s Hospital, the Francis Robicsek Cardiovascular Surgery Fund, and membership in the Evergreen Society.

1. Philanthropists Jane and Hugh McColl (center) join family for Jeans, Genes & Geniuses in support of the McColl-Lockwood Laboratory for Muscular Dystrophy Research.

2. Qi Long Lu, MD, PhD, leads the McColl-Lockwood lab in developing experimental therapies for the treatment of muscular dystrophies.

“The Marines served as my graduate school in leadership,” he says. “The things I learned there have guided every aspect of my business career. As an officer, you are responsible not just for yourself but your people. You don’t eat until your troops have eaten. You don’t ask anyone to do anything you wouldn’t do yourself.” McColl notes that the most important business application of this approach is treating everyone as an equal and giving everyone an equal chance to succeed. While McColl is proud of that philosophy, he acknowledges that his legendary reputation for “aggressiveness” is in fact accurate.

“When in doubt you should attack, and when not in doubt you should attack. I always maintain that there are only three possible forms of attack: frontal assault, frontal assault, frontal assault.” This philosophy is exemplified by the McColl family’s pursuit for a cure for muscular dystrophy. The cause is personal, as Jane and Hugh McColl have a granddaughter who has fought the disease for many years. They took the lead, funding the McColl-Lockwood Laboratory for Muscular Dystrophy Research at Atrium Health and recruiting Qi Long Lu, MD, PhD, one of the world’s preeminent scientists studying Muscular Dystrophy. Today, McColl says he is as optimistic as ever that key breakthroughs are on the horizon.

CHARITABLE ENCOUNTERS

During his time in the Bank of America spotlight, McColl was privileged to travel internationally, meeting with some of the world’s best known political and business leaders. “I enjoyed each of those encounters,” he recalls, “but the truth is I never felt intimidated by any of those people.” McColl credits this to a natural sense of confidence he’s been blessed with since an early age. That self-confidence is reflected in an anecdote that McColl likes to tell, dating back to 1995. Bank of America sponsored an event, which took place in Baltimore, and McColl was seated with Vice President Al Gore.

“Being with Al Gore was fine,” McColl remembers, “until I spotted my boyhood hero, Yankee legend Joe DiMaggio, sitting elsewhere.” McColl excused himself and worked his way over to where the illustrious “Yankee Clipper” was seated. DiMaggio was notorious for refusing to sign autographs, so McColl took a different approach. He pulled a baseball from his coat pocket – one that happened to have been signed by Bill Clinton – and made DiMaggio an offer he couldn’t refuse.

He said, “I know you don’t like to sign, but I’ve been a diehard Yankee fan all my life. I traveled to New York alone, at age 14, to see your team play in the 1949 World Series. And if you sign my ball I’ll send a generous donation to your favorite charity.”

One more successful frontal attack! DiMaggio signed the ball.
At the intersection of Highway 74 and Stallings Road in Union County, construction of a new 150,000-square-foot Atrium Health campus broke ground in January of this year. An extension of the existing Union facility in Monroe, Atrium Health Union West will offer emergency, inpatient and outpatient care to residents, serving the needs of a community that has experienced accelerated growth in recent years. Building plans include construction of 40 acute care beds, 10 emergency department bays, two operating rooms, imaging and lab services, and a 40,000-square-foot medical office building with physician practices.

Mike Lutes, senior vice president and president of the South Market with Atrium Health, introduced the construction project at the groundbreaking ceremony stating, “This is truly a great day for not only Atrium Health but for Union County as well. This future campus is so much more than a hospital. Due to its location it will be an impressive gateway into this great county.”

Construction of the new hospital campus fulfills Atrium’s commitment to continue building a vibrant community to provide world-class inpatient and outpatient care for residents across the region.

With the support of future philanthropic investments, Atrium Health Union West is anticipated to open in 2021. For more information on how to support Atrium Health Union West, visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org.
HATS OFF TO

Dr. Robert A. Heyer, MD

In February, over 230 guests paid tribute to Dr. Robert A. Heyer, MD, for his distinguished 42 years of service to Atrium Health and his many contributions to the advancement of healthcare and medical education in our community. The celebration was hosted by longtime Atrium Health supporters Rick Hendrick and Felix Sabates. Surrounded by friends, family, and many of his medical colleagues, Dr. Heyer was honored with the announcement of the Robert A. Heyer, MD, Pulmonary Medicine Fund. In recognition of his service as the Carolina Panthers’ team physician since 1994, and his role as president of the NFL Physicians Society, Dr. Heyer was also honored by members of the Panthers and NFL community, including retired players, former Carolina Panthers coach Ron Rivera, and former Carolina Panthers president Danny Morrison.

Established this year, the Robert A. Heyer, MD, Pulmonary Medicine Fund supports medical student education, lectureships, and other educational programs that promote and perpetuate meaningful patient-physician relationships. Along with many generous contributions made during and following Dr. Heyer’s retirement celebration, a substantial anonymous gift of $100,000 was announced at the event.

To support the Robert A. Heyer, MD, Pulmonary Medicine Fund, visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org/HeyerFund.

The Robert A. Heyer, MD, Pulmonary Medicine Fund is dedicated to the support of strategic investments in patient care and education in the Pulmonary and Critical Care Division of Carolinas Medical Center, including therapy and support needs of patients who have survived a prolonged episode of respiratory illness. The Fund will support lectureships and other educational efforts that promote meaningful physician-patient relationships, such as medical studies conducted on issues related to ICU patients and survivors to enhance their quality of life.

1. Dr. Heyer, who attended every Panthers game, with team President Tom Glick. 2. (L-R) Felix Sabates, Dr. Heyer’s nurse, Mary Jo Little, and Dr. Heyer, who was honored with a toast and a cowboy hat – a nod to his retirement destination and hometown in Texas.
Atrium Health Foundation has received a $2 million gift from the California-based William, Jeff, and Jennifer Gross Family Foundation to help Atrium Health’s Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute initiate change and fundamentally transform “best” cardiovascular care in the region.

The gift from the Gross Family Foundation – the charity founded by retired asset manager Bill Gross and his son and daughter – will launch the Center for Cardiovascular Care Transformation at Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute. The Center will be the driving force for innovation in education, research, and clinical care pathways necessary to support foundational change in the delivery of cardiovascular care in the greater Charlotte region. It will be housed in the new Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute Kenilworth location.
For the Gross family, the gift is personal. “Thanks to Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute and Bill Downey, MD (Vice Chair of Quality and Care Transformation), my mother-in-law received lifesaving care after suffering a heart attack,” said Jeff Gross. “We are forever grateful for Dr. Downey’s expertise and are thrilled to make this donation to benefit others who are in need of the best heart care.”

To keep pace with the continuous change in cardiovascular medicine, the elements that define “best care” evolve rapidly, challenging providers and often resulting in variation in the quality of care delivered. Adding to the challenge is the anticipated increase in the cardiovascular patient population of 20 million more patients nationally over the next decade. The new Center for Cardiovascular Care will address these challenges, translating research into clinical care, identifying disparities in care among underserved populations, and investing in virtual access and remote patient monitoring capacities.

“Currently, there is no existing model of cardiovascular care delivery in the country that can provide ‘best cardiovascular care’ to address expected patient needs,” said Geoff Rose, MD, SHVI President. “Thanks to community support from generous organizations such as the William, Jeff, and Jennifer Gross Family Foundation, we will implement novel approaches to care that once developed, can be replicated at other health systems across the country.”

Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute plans an extensive expansion at its upcoming Kenilworth location.

“THANKS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM GENEROUS ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE WILLIAM, JEFF, AND JENNIFER GROSS FAMILY FOUNDATION, WE WILL IMPLEMENT NOVEL APPROACHES TO CARE THAT ONCE DEVELOPED, CAN BE REPLICATED AT OTHER HEALTH SYSTEMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.”

– GEOFF ROSE, MD, SANGER HEART & VASCULAR INSTITUTE PRESIDENT
$1 MILLION GIFT ESTABLISHES
Distinguished Chair for Orthopaedic Oncology

A $1 million gift from the family of Dr. Marie-Claire Marroum (including husband Kal Kardous and son Paul Kardous) has established the Marie-Claire Marroum, MD, Distinguished Chair in Orthopaedic Oncology at Atrium Health. Jeffrey S. Kneisl, MD – Executive Vice Chairman and Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Atrium Health’s Musculoskeletal Institute and Chief Surgical Officer at Atrium Health – is the first recipient of this Distinguished Chair. He was honored at an investiture held at Levine Cancer Institute on February 25.

The Marroum-Kardous family is renowned in Charlotte for their contributions to the community – Dr. Marroum as a pathologist with Atrium Health; Kal, a prominent business leader and founder of Charlotte Copy Data; and Paul as an established architect and designer. They also have a long philanthropic history, having provided significant resources to advance other cancer and cardiac related initiatives at Atrium Health.

The family’s most recent donation (organized by Paul Kardous as a surprise gift to his mom) will support both the Musculoskeletal Institute and Levine Cancer Institute, advancing treatment and research programs for sarcoma and related forms of bone and soft tissue cancer.

“Transformational gifts such as these help position us among the best health systems in the country,” said Derek Raghavan, MD, PhD, president of Levine Cancer Institute. “We are grateful to the Marroum-Kardous family for their generosity and for their commitment to advancing next generation medicine.”

Dr. Claude “T” Moorman, president of the Musculoskeletal Institute, 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 our patients.”

(From left): Community leader Kal Kardous; Jeffrey Kneisl, MD, the Marie Claire Marroum, MD Distinguished Chair of Orthopaedic Oncology; Marie-Claire Marroum, MD and son, Paul Kardous.
The Marie-Claire Marroum, MD, Distinguished Chair in Orthopaedic Oncology marks the ninth endowed chair to be established at Atrium Health. “I am humbled to have this chair named in my honor and elated that the first Chair is Dr. Jeffrey Kneisl,” said Dr. Marroum, who recruited Dr. Kneisl to Atrium Health in 1992 and has worked closely with him ever since.

“Thanks to the Marroum-Kardous family and others, physicians like me have access to funds for innovative research, educational opportunities, and special projects that can take our program to the next level,” said Dr. Kneisl. “Not to mention, grateful patients who give back to our program are inspiring others to give.”

Dr. Kneisl has always inspired Dr. Marroum, who recalls a time when they served on a tumor board and were discussing a young laborer who had a kidney cancer that spread to his upper arm bone. The consensus around the table was to amputate; however, Jeff vehemently objected, saying, “He is a laborer; he has to use his arm. I cannot do that to him.”

“This is Jeff Kneisl, a super surgeon who does not think only with his brain, but also and very often with his heart,” said Dr. Marroum.

MARIE-CLAIRe MARROUM, MD

Dr. Marroum, a retired pathologist known for her clinical expertise in sarcoma and other rare forms of cancer, is fluent in five languages and has extensively traveled the world. Renowned for her culinary proficiency, Dr. Marroum hosts many gatherings of friends and colleagues in her home discussing medicine and world issues, while wielding a wooden spoon.
Over 200 community members, donors and mental health advocates gathered at Carmel Country Club on the evening of Thursday, March 5, to hear keynote speaker, Ginger Zee. Known to millions around the country as the ABC News chief meteorologist, Ginger Zee shared her personal experience of resilience and self-care, in the face of significant mental health challenges.

Based on her New York Times best-selling memoir *Natural Disaster: I Cover Them, I am One*, Ginger Zee’s story is about embracing the sunshine, after years in the dark storm of depression. This emotional and poignant night left the audience feeling renewed, empowered, and intensely moved by her chronicle of life as a “Natural Disaster”.

Ginger Zee Speaks raised $175,000 to support Atrium Health’s Behavioral Health Charlotte, the most comprehensive behavioral healthcare provider in the region, delivering services across a continuum of care including emergency, inpatient care, outpatient therapies, virtual care, primary care, education and community outreach.

1. Martha Whitecotton, R.N., MSN, FACHE and Senior Vice President, Behavioral Health with Ginger Zee, guest speaker and chief meteorologist for ABC News.

2. Ginger Zee meets with residents and faculty from The Sandra and Leon Levine Psychiatry Residency program at Atrium Health.

3. Courtney Salton, Lynn Salton, Ginger Zee, Dr. Russell Salton, III, MD, and Russell Salton IV.
Russell A. Salton, III, MD

As a third-generation physician who has based his life’s work on the ethos “do no harm,” Russell A. Salton, MD, principal and founder of AccessOne, has forged new pathways to health, hope and healing for local patients and insurance payors. His passionate commitment to patient advocacy has spanned the length of his career: first as a primary care physician and CEO of Metrolina Family Physicians; later, as co-founder of a managed care company, Primary PhysicianCare; and today, his role as Chairman of AccessOne. His goal has been steadfast from the beginning – to expand access to needed healthcare services while supporting the financial viability of provider organizations.

Among the most critical healthcare services Dr. Salton believes underserved residents need most are behavioral healthcare services. This is why Atrium Health is so proud to partner with AccessOne and Dr. Salton to ensure the very best behavioral health services are made affordable and available to patients – close to home.

With a dozen inpatient behavioral health locations across the region providing 24-hour access to on-site, behavioral health services, Atrium Health serves nearly 7,400 patients and performs more than 100,000 virtual interventions each year. Recognized nationally for its innovations in care, such as integrating virtual behavioral health into 44 primary care settings, Atrium Health has enhanced access to care for its patients and reduced avoidable inpatient care by 25% and avoidable emergency department visits by 13%.

Under the leadership of Martha Whitecotton, RN, MSN, FACHE, Senior Vice President, and Wayne Sparks, MD, Senior Medical Director, Atrium Health Behavioral Health is transforming care for the community through its clinically integrated and sustainable system of high-quality, patient- and family-centered care.
NEW FUND SUPPORTS Vision for Women’s Health

As the Deputy Chief Physician Executive and Senior Medical Director of Women’s Services at Atrium Health, Suzanna Fox, MD, sees each woman who walks through our doors as an individual with unique needs. Every day, she is driven to provide the best experience for all of them. This drive began decades ago when she established Eastover University OB/GYN with George E. Stubbs, III, in 1994.

A recent gift from an anonymous donor in memory of Dr. Stubbs will help Dr. Fox carry on her mission and her team’s vision to be the first and best choice for all. The gift established the Women’s Health Services Advancement Fund, which will support strategic investments in the programs, education and research for Women’s Health Programs at Atrium Health.

Representing a newer service line, Dr. Fox has shaped a program that brings together physicians, subspecialties and Advanced Practice Providers to ensure multiple access points for patients. Combining the various services has helped create unity and support amongst the team and created better connectivity to care for patients.

Milo, Dr. Fox’s two-year-old pyredoodle, is being trained as a therapy dog to one day serve at Levine Children’s and Levine Cancer Institute. Milo will follow in the footsteps of Jax, her previous goldendoodle, who was also a therapy dog.

to each, her own

Every woman deserves care on her terms – to make her own decisions – to feel accepted and supported. And that’s why we’re here:

to answer your questions, help you stay informed, and provide care for you at any stage of your life. Whether you’re looking to start a family or just to stay healthy, we’re here to help you be the best you that you can be.

Find an OB/GYN today.
AtriumHealth.org/Women
Finding Healing in Integrative Oncology - AND IN GIVING BACK

Having watched her husband endure painful side effects of cancer treatment, 80-year-old Lora Hamrick knew she wanted to take a firm stand for what her own battle with cancer would entail: no surgery, no radiation, no aggressive treatments. Facing stage-3 breast cancer, Lora found an ally in Dr. Chasse Bailey-Dorton, Levine Cancer Institute’s chief of integrative oncology. “Whatever time I had left, I decided I was going to be healthy,” says Lora.

Integrative oncology, the main form of treatment Lora has sought throughout her journey with breast cancer, is a holistic way to promote wellness while reducing cancer’s impact and maximizing a patient’s quality of life. The Institute’s integrative services include acupuncture, healing touch, Tai Chi and Qigong. Since she began using the program’s services regularly, Lora reports that her tumors have shrunk, her diet has improved, and her energy has never been better. “Every day of the last three years, I’ve felt good,” Lora remarks. Her cardiologists are especially impressed with her improved heart health, a secondary benefit of the holistic care Levine Cancer Institute provides.

Recognizing the great benefit of the integrative oncology program at Levine Cancer Institute, which is currently limited in its size and scope, Lora recently showed her gratitude for the program and her medical team by donating $75,000 to extend and expand the integrative oncology program. Her generous gift will support nursing education and allow Levine Cancer Institute to enhance its integrative oncology services so that more patients can benefit from this unique model of care.

Grateful patient Lora Hamrick with Healing Touch Certified Practitioner Arlene Mauney, a cherished member of Lora’s integrative oncology team at Levine Cancer Institute.
Katelyn Collins and her mother, Lori, share more than a bubbly personality and sweet smile. Twelve-year-old Katelyn was diagnosed at age seven with a rare immune deficiency disorder: chronic mucocutaneous candidiasis. The disorder, which she shares with her mother and has afflicted three generations of her family, is a type of primary immunodeficiency — a medical condition that makes it hard for patients to fight off infections and can lead to life-long chronic health issues. Often patients with a primary immune deficiency require the support of several medical specialists, such as hematologists, bone marrow specialists and others.

At Levine Children’s multidisciplinary outpatient clinic, numerous medical specialties, such as immunology and hematology, come together to address complex medical cases, like Katelyn’s, in a holistic way. Led by Niraj Patel, MD, director of pediatric infectious disease and immunology, each physician and specialist who comprises Katelyn’s medical team has carefully coordinated treatment plans for Katelyn, aiming to find the best treatment options for her as she continues to live with her disorder. Since multiple providers can be seen in one office visit, Katelyn can spend less time at the hospital and more time doing the things she loves most: participating in Girl Scouts and cheerleading.

For the past decade, Dr. Patel and his patients have joined together to raise funds and awareness of immunodeficiency disorders through a group called I.D.E.A. (Immune Deficiency Education and Advocacy) Katelyn and her family are proud to be part of this group, which hosted its second biennial gala and silent auction this year.
GRATEFUL FAMILIES CELEBRATE THE NEXT CHAPTER IN IMMUNE DEFICIENCY CARE

Surrounded by many grateful patient families in attendance at the Second Biennial IDEA Gala, Dr. Niraj Patel, director of Levine Children’s Hospital’s pediatric infectious disease and immunology program, spoke passionately about the importance of philanthropy in advancing the hospital’s new multidisciplinary clinic, which serves children affected by primary immune deficiencies.

Though there are few known cures for immune deficiency disorders, families of patients at Levine Children’s continue to find hope in the many resources that philanthropy enables: patient education, multidisciplinary care under one roof, behavioral therapy resources, and clinical research to improve patient care.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, grateful patient families and many community sponsors, the IDEA Gala raised $120,000 to continue support for the clinic’s work and patient resources provided by I.D.E.A. – the Immune Deficiency Education and Advocacy group founded by Dr. Patel and his patients in 2009.

1. The family of Levine Children’s patient, Sophia Mervin (not pictured), celebrated the special event auction with Sophia’s physician, Dr. Niraj Patel. Sophia was one of several patients to help create the painting, which was auctioned off at the 2nd Biennial IDEA Gala. 2. Grateful patient-family members Jana Chaney (left) and Terriann Vogel (far right) celebrated the IDEA Gala with Niraj C. Patel, MD, MS, director of the Immunodeficiency Center for Levine Children’s.

Immunodeficiency Center of Excellence

Established at Levine Children’s Hospital in 2010, the Immunodeficiency Center of Excellence encompasses numerous medical specialties to treat patients with complex diagnoses, including medical providers trained in pediatric psychiatry, clinical research, bone marrow transplantation, primary immunodeficiency, and nursing. With support from the 2020 Biennial IDEA Gala and Silent Auction, the program will soon add an immunodeficiency research manager, as well as a dedicated mental health professional and social worker.
COMMUNITY MEMBERS OPEN THEIR HEARTS TO PATIENTS

Joining in a community tradition, hundreds of runners, patients, volunteers and donors bundled up and gathered for the 16th Annual Cupid’s Cup 5K. Proceeds from the event, which has raised over one million dollars since its inception, help to cover the cost for uninsured cardiac patients to attend cardiac rehabilitation at Atrium Health-Pineville, Atrium Health-SouthPark, and Atrium Health-Union. This year, funds will also go to vital stress management and behavioral health support services offered at Cardiac Rehabilitation.

The annual run – which brings together participants of all skill levels as well as graduates of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program – was sponsored generously by: APM Terminals; Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute; Piedmont Plastics; Chick-Fil-A Charlotte; LSI; AM King; Blooming Smiles Pediatric Dentistry and NBC Charlotte.

1. Atrium Health teammates from Cardiovascular Rehabilitation came out in full force to support their patients.

2. 5K participants were in high spirits despite the low temps.

3. Event sponsor LSI had a great turnout for the 2020 Cupid’s Cup 5K.

The Inner Circle Explores Robotic Surgery

On January 30, an intimate group of Atrium Health donors and staff gathered for a reception showcasing one of healthcare’s most innovative technological advancements – robotic surgery. Atrium Health is counted among a growing number of healthcare institutions where surgeons are implementing robotic surgery in the operating room. Compared to traditional surgical techniques, this minimally invasive method helps patients by increasing surgical accuracy, lowering patient recovery time, and reducing postoperative complications. As Atrium Health’s unique Robotic Surgery Program expands, philanthropy will play an important role in bringing this state-of-the-art practice to surgeons system-wide.

Presented to guests by Dr. John Martinie and Dr. Vedra A. Augenstein, both of Atrium Health, the Inner Circle event offered guests a unique, hands-on opportunity to try the cutting-edge surgical technology during a guided demonstration.

Atrium Health Foundation Board Member Luther Lockwood participates in a guided demonstration of the robot with Mark Honore of Intuitive Surgical.

Vedra A. Augenstein, MD
John Martinie, MD
CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC COUGARS ON THE PROWL FOR A CURE FOR BLADDER CANCER

On January 24, Charlotte Catholic High School Cougars celebrated their seventh annual “Cougars 4 a Cure” fundraising event. Created by Charlotte Catholic alumni Matthew and Mitchell Salvino, and carried on by sophomore Morgan Salvino, the event honors the Salvino family’s history with the disease, while raising critical funds to support bladder cancer research at Levine Cancer Institute. Over the years the event has expanded beyond a family affair, as Charlotte Catholic High School students, coaches, athletes and faculty have passionately dedicated their time and energy to the event through t-shirt sales and a signature fundraising night hosted by the JV and Varsity basketball teams. This year, the students raised a record $50,000.

(DANGLING WITH THE STARS OF CHARLOTTE GALA

Rasu Shrestha, MD, is not only a champion for Atrium Health’s mission in the workplace. This spring, the executive vice president and chief strategy officer took his dedication to Atrium’s mission to the stage, dancing in Charlotte Ballet’s Dancing with the Stars of Charlotte Gala along side dancer Sarah Hayes Harkins. Dr. Shrestha, and five other dancing pairs, competed for two awards: the Judges’ Choice, for best dance performance, and the People’s Choice for the most donations raised for the star’s chosen charity through public voting. Dancing their way into our hearts, Dr. Shrestha and his dance partner made a tremendous impact on the future of medical education in our community through their participation and fundraising efforts. Their supporters gave generously to fund the Atrium Health Medical Education Endowment, which will help provide scholarships to students at the future Wake Forest School of Medicine campus in Charlotte.

(Charlotte Catholic Cougars 4 a Cure)
Looking for a way to support Atrium Health during these unprecedented times?

You can go the distance for Atrium Health and our community.

The Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund will be used to support our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and future essential needs, such as hospital equipment; temporary facilities for screening and monitoring; patient/family hardship support; technology to connect patients and families during visitor restrictions; and more.

Support the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund today:

[DONATE]

atriumhealthfoundation.org/gothedistance

Events subject to change but still planned as of publication date.

MAY 6
Honor a Nurse on National Nurses Day
Recognize outstanding nurses at Atrium Health by making them stars! Make a gift in honor of a nurse or nursing unit by contributing to the Atrium Health Nursing Fund. Visit: AtriumHealthFoundation.org/Nurses to learn more.

MAY 30
Keep Pounding 5K
KeepPounding5K.org
“Keep pounding” cancer this spring by participating at the Keep Pounding 5K. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome to join as all proceeds go to adult and pediatric cancer research programs at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital.

JUNE 15
Save Your Skin Melanoma Awareness Golf Classic
AtriumHealthFoundation.org/SaveYourSkin
The 15th annual event, held at Ballantyne Country Club, supports melanoma research, treatment, and awareness at Levine Cancer Institute.
RUNNING THE RACE TO END ORAL CANCER

For the past six years, Rock Hill resident Shelley Blevins bundles up and sets off to cheer on her community as they participate in the Race for the Cause 5K/10K. The brisk morning of February 1 proved to be perfect for the event, as dozens of runners and community supporters gathered to race and commemorate Shelley’s late husband Jeremy Blevins, who passed away in his early 40s after battling oral cancer. Since creating the Jeremy Blevins Oral Cancer Fund and charity race in 2014, Shelley and her husband’s many supporters and friends have raised vital funds and awareness of the disease that has impacted her life forever. With the help of generous donors, community members and sponsors, the 2020 Race for the Cause raised over $18,000 to advance oral cancer research and improve patient care at Levine Cancer Institute.

TEAMMATE GIVES BACK TO SUPPORT RENOVATIONS TO SURGICAL TRAUMA INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Late last year, the Surgical Trauma Intensive Care Unit of Carolinas Medical Center benefited from extensive renovations, thanks to a generous gift from the family of Kathy and Murray Williams. Kathy, a dedicated, longtime nurse in the unit, was inspired by her patients to make a gift from her family’s estate to upgrade and enhance the décor and furnishings of the waiting room and respite rooms. Her keen understanding of the challenging journey many patients face following a traumatic injury led her to support a positive patient experience for every individual who walks through the unit’s doors.

(L-R) Kathy and her dog Jack; Robert Rose, Chief Nurse Executive of Atrium Health’s Central Market; and Chan Roush, Vice President of CMC and MSKI. On her days off, Kathy takes Jack to visit patients on the Surgical Trauma Intensive Care Unit floor.
The spirit of giving filled Levine Children’s Hospital for the eighth annual Secret Santa Radiothon, presented by Morris-Jenkins. On December 5, generous listeners and sponsors of Beasley Media Group Stations Kiss 95.1, Country 103.7 FM, K104.7, Power 98 FM and V 101.9 FM raised $175,000 to bring health, hope and healing to Levine Children’s patients. Reaching audiences far and wide across the region, radio hosts and the families of patients inspired listeners to become “Secret Santas” for patients, bringing the spirit of the season to every child spending the holidays at Levine Children’s Hospital.

1. Presenting Sponsor Morris-Jenkins celebrated another successful Secret Santa Radiothon, thanks in part to their tremendous support.

2. K104.7’s Phil & Mel in the Morning hosts brought the holiday cheer to Levine Children’s.

3. Morris Jenkins employees took callers’ pledges of support for 13 hours straight during the holiday radiothon.
MARTIN TRUEX JR. FOUNDATION RAISES FUNDS, AWARENESS

Aiming to hit cancer from all angles, Martin Truex Jr. Foundation, along with SherryStrong, continue to bring childhood and ovarian cancers to the forefront locally and nationally, thanks to their advocacy and fundraising. Levine Children’s Hospital and Levine Cancer Institute are honored beneficiaries of their annual fundraising efforts, which most recently included a series of fundraising events and campaigns across the region: a Wine and Dine fundraising event, hosted by numerous local restaurants and wine retailers; the popular annual “Karting Against Cancer” go-cart race, held for the third time at the GoPro Motorplex in Mooresville; and the Drive for Teal and Gold Steering Wheel Campaign, celebrated by 32 drivers from NASCAR Cup and Xfinity Series who competed with a specially-designed gold and teal Max Papis Innovations steering wheel.

Thanks to these and their other year-round fundraisers, the Martin Truex Jr. Foundation and SherryStrong continue to generously support integrative medicine opportunities for Levine Cancer Institute and the Levine Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Program.

The Legacy of Paula Takacs Lives on at Atrium Health

Although Paula Takacs lost her battle with sarcoma, she created an amazing legacy. Her determination and vision—carried on today by Executive Director, Sue Udelson, and Paula’s husband, Geoff, set the Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research on a course to change the face of sarcoma research and patient care. The foundation’s tremendously successful fundraising efforts have impacted not just Levine Cancer Institute patients, but also Levine Children’s patients and countless others as their advocacy has created a ripple effect, inspiring sarcoma patients and survivors across the country.

In December 2019, the Foundation presented $260,000 to Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital physicians and staff, representing proceeds from the organization’s annual Sarcoma Stomp and Playing for Paula tennis tournament. This latest contribution will continue to support sarcoma-related clinical trials and biomarker studies conducted at Levine Cancer Institute for the benefit of adult and pediatric patients.

Sue Udelson, Executive Director of the Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research, presents the organization’s latest gift to physicians and sarcoma researchers from Levine Children’s Hospital and Levine Cancer Institute.
RICHARD L. WHITE, JR. MD HONORED AS ENDOWED CHAIR IN SURGICAL ONCOLOGY AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE

Thanks to second $1 million gift from an anonymous grateful patient family, Dr. White – a celebrated physician and surgeon whose tenure with Atrium Health spans 25 years – will continue to lead and help advance the Institute’s division of surgical oncology and the management of cancerous tumors as the Richard L. White, Jr. MD Endowed Chair in Surgical Oncology.

One of the highest honors bestowed upon a physician leader, endowed chairs are given the academic and scientific freedom to pursue ideas that can move medical science forward and lead to novel therapies to benefit patients.

Support Surgical Oncology through Philanthropy

The surgical oncology and breast program at Levine Cancer Institute provides a wide range of services including breast radiology, surgical oncology, medical oncology, reconstructive surgery, radiation oncology, genetics risk assessment and testing, and integrative medicine. To support surgical oncology, contact Page.Stroup@atriumhealth.org.

THE ALEX HEMBY FOUNDATION CONTINUES LEGACY OF SUPPORT

Adult cardiac and pediatric cancer patients will benefit from the continued generosity of the Alex Hemby Foundation, which recently made a $50,000 gift in support of Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital. Over the years, the family foundation has made a significant impact on research, community and staff education, and patient care across Atrium Health. Their most recent gift provides vital support to several important patient programs, including: underwriting a new Charlotte Consortium for CPR led by Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute and the purchase of hands-only CPR mannequins; launching a survivorship and integrative retreat for patients and families impacted by childhood cancer; and supporting monthly wellness and integrative support groups serving patients and caregivers within Levine Children’s Torrence E. Hemby Jr. Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Blood and Marrow Transplant Center.

Pictured: May Beverly (“Bevie”) Hemby, who manages the Alex Hemby Foundation along with sisters Sandy Burnett and Alexa Amick, serves on the Atrium Health Foundation Board of Directors.
SPIRIT OF CHILDREN
Since 2008, through its Spirit of Children Program, Spirit Halloween has generously supported Levine Children’s Hospital’s Child Life Program. Last year the Halloween retailer raised nearly $90,000 for the Child Life Program through year-round fundraising and Spirit Halloween pop-up shop proceeds.

JOEDANCE FILM FESTIVAL
Representatives of the Joedance Film Festival, including founder Diane Restaino, presented a check for $35,000, which represents proceeds from the 10th annual film festival hosted by the organization in August 2019. Funds benefit pediatric cancer research conducted by Levine Children’s Hospital.

RE/MAX EXECUTIVE
RE/MAX Executive owner Hadi Atri, CFO Kourosh Sharifi, and many of their colleagues, presented a check to Levine Children’s Hospital as a result of their 2019 fundraising campaign for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.

JACKSON LASKOWSKI KEEP HOPE ALIVE GALA
Grateful patient Jackson and his mother, Maggie Laskowski, surprised Drs. Pope and Kaplan in December with a $50,000 donation to support the Levine Children’s Cancer & Blood Disorders department. Visit keephopealiveinc.org to learn more about the Jackson Laskowski Keep Hope Alive Fund.

GINGEBREAD LANE AT THE BALLANTYNE CHARLOTTE
At the start of the new year, The Ballantyne Charlotte presented a check for $11,025 to Levine Children’s Hospital, representing proceeds from the hotel’s annual holiday Gingerbread Lane competition – a favorite holiday tradition for Ballantyne residents and hotel guests.
THE PERFECT BLEND COULD LEAD TO YOUR ULTIMATE GIFT LEGACY

Blended gifts use a variety of giving strategies by combining the power of current gifts and planned gifts, including bequests. These gifts help you see the impact of your giving today and continue to support the research, programs and facilities of Atrium Health in the future.

An attractive way to achieve your financial, tax and estate planning goals, blended gifts are any number of gift combination options that can extend your giving beyond a simple gift of cash.

Blended gifts enable you to help us in more ways than you might believe possible. Here are ideas of ways you can blend your annual giving with a planned gift:

• Giving to us from your donor advised fund already? Consider naming us as the successor beneficiary of your fund – creating your ultimate gift!
• Are you utilizing your IRA’s required minimum distribution as part of your charitable giving today? Consider naming the program, research or facility of Atrium Health you are giving to as the successor beneficiary of your IRA.
• Do you use your bank or money market accounts for your charitable giving today? Establishing a Transfer on Death (TOD) provision for those accounts is a cost-effective way to leave a legacy and retain complete ownership of the assets while you are living.

Please contact Sara Piner, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning at 704.355.0844 or Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org to discuss creating your blended gift options.

Are you already making annual gifts to help us in our mission? A planned gift can be added to your annual gifts this year to increase the impact of your giving, provide greater tax savings, preserve wealth for you, and your family and further our mission.

With a blended gift, you can be honored not only for the annual gifts you are giving today, but for the ultimate legacy gift you will make in the future!
CAROLE ANN SIMPSON IS ENJOYING HER PLANNED GIFT LEGACY – TODAY!

Carole Ann recently established her planned gift in honor of all the people who have helped her during her cancer journey. She is leaving her legacy gift to the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund in honor of her doctor, Reza Nazemzadeh, MD, and the Levine Cancer Institute nursing team that has cared for her during her chemotherapy treatment.

Each person is incredibly special to Carole Ann, and she wants to acknowledge them by honoring them in her legacy plans. She hopes her gift helps find a cure for pancreatic cancer. “If not a cure, then a drug that can better treat it would be great.” But, she hopes for a cure.

An Atrium Health retiree, Carole Ann worked for more than 43 years in medical records, and later, the OBGYN Medical Education practice. She managed health statistics for medical residents before moving into recruitment. Proud of her work and her time at Atrium, Carole Ann is grateful that she can leave a philanthropic legacy for the organization she was a part of for so many years.

Carole Ann with Hunter, a therapy dog and pet of Carole’s nurse, Edith Miller.
For more than a decade, Atrium Health’s Young Ambassadors program has celebrated kids and teens who are making an extraordinary impact in the lives of Atrium Health patients through philanthropy. From youth-organized lemonade stands, to bake sales, and birthday donations, our young ambassadors’ selfless service and ingenuity deserve our thanks and recognition.

Aspiring Young Ambassadors…you also can make a difference by donating funds or organizing fundraising events to support patients of all ages and backgrounds at Atrium Health. We want to hear from you! What are your fundraising plans and goals for 2020? What are your hopes and dreams for patients of Atrium Health? We want YOU to be part of our next annual Young Ambassadors celebration (fall 2020).

To become an Atrium Health Young Ambassador, or to refer a child or teen who has demonstrated Young Ambassador qualities, contact Patricia Beckas at Patricia.Beckas@atriumhealth.org.
Make Your Nurse a Star!

Make a gift in honor of a nurse or nursing unit by contributing to the Atrium Health Nursing Fund, which supports Atrium Health nursing programs across the hospital system. Honor or memorialize current or former nurses who have touched your life or the lives of your loved-ones in a meaningful way. Your gift will help to improve and advance nursing programs across Atrium Health!

Visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org/Nurses