Going the Distance

COMPASSION, GENEROSITY
DRIVE HOPE DURING PANDEMIC

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER
LIKE AIR, WE’LL RISE
Dear Friends,

Looking back...Moving forward.

As a young man, I never imagined that one day I would lead an organization during a pandemic. Nor did I think – as I wrote graduate papers regarding racial injustice – that decades later, we’d still be facing similar challenges. The past few months have certainly been challenging; they have also been rewarding. It’s a privilege to work for a health system that is leading the way in response to the COVID-19 crisis – from conducting our own testing and providing same-day results, to offering an international clinical trial for coronavirus patients, to addressing disparities in access to care in our communities of color. It has also been uplifting to see the outpouring of support, kindness, and strength within our community that continues to guide us all through unchartered waters.

At some point, the coronavirus will be a reflection in our rearview mirrors. Although it has placed many things on hold, we remember that our most vulnerable patients – such as those battling cancer, heart disease, or other serious illnesses – still need support and access to the very best care. And we remember Atrium Health’s commitment to bringing the health delivery system of the future to this region.

As we pivot and move forward, I reflect upon this community with gratitude. This issue of Momentum honors some “old friends” who were instrumental in leading our health system to where we are today. It also highlights new relationships that have been forged, as donors have helped equip, feed, house, and support our teammates and even stepped forward to sponsor “virtual” fundraising events.

From the $10 gifts to the $1 million gifts, your donations are bringing us together to support Atrium Health and our Caregiver Heroes. Thank you for giving hope!

With gratitude,

Armando L. Chardiet
President
Momentum

“Momentum is a powerful word, one that signifies the growth and continual progress we strive for within our health system.”
Thank You for Going the Distance!

To address the community’s needs and support Atrium Health’s response to COVID-19, the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund was established earlier this year by Atrium Health Foundation. We’ve truly been inspired by the generosity of individual donors, as well as our health system leaders and corporate partners, whose gifts provide educational materials, medical technology innovations, specialized equipment, and funding for testing and mobile units. If you haven’t already, please consider joining us in going the distance for our patients and community by supporting The Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund.

Support the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund today:

DONATE >

atriumhealthfoundation.org/gothedistance

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ON THE COVER

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Cover: Dr. Beril Cakir, hospitalist at Atrium Health’s Carolinas Medical Center, spent time painting during her first week of social distancing. She drew inspiration from Maya Angelou’s poem, “Still I Rise,” saying, “We have great people working in this system and we will succeed.”

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Over the past months, Atrium Health has been at the “point of the spear” in battling COVID-19 in our communities, and our teammates and caregiver heroes have continued to shine bright – bringing health, hope and healing to those who need it the most.

The challenges have been great – and in response, Atrium Health Foundation shifted its focus to address the most pressing needs surrounding the pandemic. In March, Atrium Health Foundation created the Essential Needs Fund to help provide hospital equipment; temporary facilities for screening and monitoring of patients; patient/family hardship support; technology to connect patients and families during visitor restrictions; and more. Since its inception, the fund has received nearly $2.5 million in donations.

In addition, Atrium Health established the Atrium Health Teammate Emergency Care Fund to address the needs of our Caregiver Heroes. This fund supports personal, family, living, or funeral expenses incurred as a result of COVID-19. That fund has also generated close to $2.5 million.

Thanks to generous support from Atrium Health leaders, community leaders, corporations, and more – coupled with in-kind donations of gift cards and over 80,000 meals – Atrium Health Foundation is providing bright spots during the midst of uncertain times. We are providing hope.

Together, we are making a difference!
Ally Financial and Sunlight Financial

In the wake of COVID-19, Ally Financial and Sunlight Financial joined forces with local restaurants to support frontline healthcare employees at Atrium Health. Together, the companies’ $30,000 gift to the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund is helping to provide meals from local restaurants to over 8,000 Atrium Health frontline workers fighting against the coronavirus – including minimum-wage hourly employees, social workers, nurses, physicians and many others. On behalf of our dedicated healthcare heroes serving on the front lines, we are grateful.

Barings

A global firm with local roots, Barings continues to show tremendous dedication to the community, including its steadfast support for Levine Children’s Hospital. Not only did the company honor its commitment to the Levine Children’s Gala, which took on a virtual format for 2020, Barings additionally gave $100,000 to support the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund in response to COVID-19, of which $20,000 was earmarked to provide meal vouchers for front-line healthcare workers.

AT&T

To support COVID-19 efforts, AT&T stepped forward with a $25,000 donation to the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund, which offers relief for healthcare employees, such as protective equipment, technology, meals, and lodging. The gift will support a campaign that has been created to provide meals for thousands of Atrium Health employees. To date, donations to the campaign have funded over 64,000 meals. In addition to providing meals for employees, AT&T donated tablets to Atrium Health, which were deployed to the nursing team for immediate use in communicating with patients and families.

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COVID-19 Funds in Action

- **Lodging** for caregivers
- **Meals** for frontline healthcare workers and staff
- **Educational materials** to keep patient-facing teams prepared to fight COVID-19
- **Handwashing stations** at testing sites
- **Special UV equipment** for sanitization
- **Funding for testing** and mobile units to reach out to underserved areas
Margaret and Smoky Bissell

Charlotte business leader Smoky Bissell and his wife Margaret were among the first to step forward to support Atrium Health teammates during the COVID-19 crisis. Their transformational gift of $1 million was designated to provide lodging for caregivers who were unable to return to their homes after treating patients. Not only did this provide safe respite, but it gave much needed business to a local hotel. In addition, when the Bissells learned that Atrium Health facilities had the need for baby monitors to facilitate communication between patients and their care teams, they once again stepped in with a generous donation.

Longtime supporters of Atrium Health, the Bissells have consistently demonstrated their passion for providing world-class care in our region. In addition to chairing the capital campaign for Levine Children’s Hospital, Smoky Bissell – along with his wife – has left lasting impressions through their gifts in support of pediatrics, cancer care, and education.

The David A. Tepper Charitable Foundation

The David A. Tepper Charitable Foundation has made a transformative gift of $650,000 to the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund to provide safety gear, medical equipment, technology, and much more to support Atrium Health’s response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and future essential needs. Atrium Health has benefited from David Tepper’s and the Panthers’ generosity in the past, including significant donations to support the nationally recognized Levine Children’s Hospital, named a Best Children’s Hospital in multiple specialties by U.S. News & World Report.


– BRETT J. DENTON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

The Atrium Health Teammate Emergency Care Fund was created in May to provide teammates with financial assistance for hardships, including COVID-19. Atrium Health President and CEO Gene Woods helped fuel the newly established fund by making a personal $1 million donation.

Collectively, the Executive Council committed an additional $1 million, and members of the Atrium Health Board of Commissioners and Atrium Health Foundation, as well as other businesses and organizations followed suit. To date, the fund has generated nearly $2.5 million in support of caregiver heroes.

Thank you.
When chaplains and compassion champions across the health system identified a compelling need to connect isolated patients with their families, they approached Atrium Health Foundation to purchase at least 100 iPads from the Essential Needs Fund.

The iPads arrived in the nick of time, as the nursing staff at Atrium Health University City was trying multiple avenues to connect a patient who was near end of life with family who lived out of state. Within 15 minutes of the chaplain at that hospital receiving the new iPad, they were able to connect the patient with family so they could say goodbye. This is just one of many meaningful interactions that have already been possible, some sad...others joyful, in the short time this technology has been available.

Teamwork made this happen – from Atrium Health President and CEO Gene Woods encouraging the program, to IAS working quickly to get the product in hand, and for the chaplains and nurses who are working frontline to support our patients. Most especially, though, were the generous donors who made this gift possible.

A COMPELLING NEED IS MET

DONATIONS SCORECARD
(YTD AS OF AUGUST 7, 2020)

PPE (# of items) ......................... 573,147
Sewn Masks (# of masks) ................. 33,674
Blood Donations (# of people / units) .... 2,922
Food (# Meals and # Snacks) .............. 193,884
# of Gift Cards ........................... 7,446
Value of Gift Cards ..................... $1,212,545
Financial / Foundation ................... $4,742,614
NEW LEADER JOINS ATRIUM HEALTH’S MUSCULOSKELETAL INSTITUTE

Timothy Sell, PhD, joined Atrium Health earlier this year to help lead the creation of the Performance Center being developed in Rock Hill SC, in conjunction with the Carolina Panthers.

A world-renowned Biomechanist, Dr. Sell joins Atrium Health most recently from Duke University where he was on the faculty of the Pratt School of Engineering and served as the Director of the Michael W. Krzyzewski Human Performance Laboratory. A graduate in Human Movement Science and Rehabilitation Science at UNC Chapel Hill and University of Pittsburgh, respectively, Dr. Sell completed his postdoctoral work at University of Pittsburgh in Sports Medicine.

Throughout his career he has been involved with the military on biomechanical research related to equipment and injury prevention. Dr. Sell was recently awarded a $2.1 million grant from the Department of Defense to work with Special Forces on cervical spine biomechanics and injury risk. This research will provide the military with novel tools to combat cervical spine injury and will have applications for civilian public service professionals including fire and police departments and federal agencies.

CLINICAL TRIAL FOR COVID-19 OFFERS HOPE

Atrium Health’s first clinical trial for patients with coronavirus disease (COVID-19) opened in April. The international trial, coordinated locally by Levine Cancer Institute’s Clinical Trials Division, was launched in less than two weeks – an extraordinary feat.

Zainab Shahid, MD FACP, - Medical Director, Bone Marrow Transplant Infectious Diseases at Levine Cancer Institute - is serving as Principal Investigator of the trial, referred to as the XPORT trial. Dr. Shahid and her team are aiming to enroll one to two patients a week with a goal of identifying the best treatment option for patients, as there are no proven therapies at this time.

“The study drug appears to offer a promising treatment option,” said Dr. Shahid. “Only with the help of clinical trials can we find treatment answers for COVID-19.”
MECKLENBURG COUNTY, ATRIUM HEALTH, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS DISTRIBUTING 2 MILLION MASKS TO THE COMMUNITY

Atrium Health CEO, Gene Woods committed to supporting the North Carolina COVID response and Governor Cooper’s masking mandate by participating in an innovative private-public partnership to supply over two million masks to the community. Atrium Health will work with the Charlotte Executive Leadership Council (CELC), philanthropic organizations, and local government to lead the distribution of masks for the greater Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. Through this effort, they will build processes that can be used as a model for large-scale mask distribution across the state. In addition, the Initiative will lay the foundation for a new networked approach to solving complex cross sector community crises.

This bold vision supports Atrium Health’s core mission by ensuring our community has the education, motivation, and tools to be safe during the ongoing pandemic.

ATRIUM HEALTH INCREASES ONGOING COMMITMENT TO CHARLOTTE’S HISPANIC COMMUNITY

Throughout the greater Charlotte region there has been an increase in positive COVID-19 cases directly affecting the Hispanic population. As part of its mission to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing – for all, Atrium Health has focused its commitment, launching a new initiative: “Para Tu Salud.” Simply translated to “For Your Health,” the initiative will further educate and inform Hispanic communities on how to stay safe and healthy.

A recent $100,000 grant from the Atrium Health Essential Needs Fund will support this program in a number of important ways, including internal and external campaigns to ensure patients supported by Atrium Health’s Covid Virtual Hospital are receiving information in a health literate and culturally appropriate way; improved patient navigation and treatment plans; and partnerships with community-based organizations to support proper utilization of PPE and precautionary practices, such as social distancing.
Tansukh Ganatra was born in Uganda, along the banks of the River Nile, to parents who had emigrated there from India in the late 1930s. Their town, Jinja, is the site where the 4,000-mile-long River Nile originates. As a boy, he had a number of adventurous friends who routinely challenged one another to move ever-closer to the hippos and crocodiles that infested the river’s headwaters. Tansukh, being the studious type, preferred to stay behind in the Land Rover and read. Tansukh was sufficiently studious and graduated first among the high school seniors in his entire province. He enrolled in the University of Nairobi, in Nairobi, Kenya, where he majored in electrical engineering. He describes his early years at the university as “uneventful,” but relies on a quote from Julius Caesar to describe the impact of his first meeting with future wife Sarla. “I went. I saw. And I was conquered,” he says. He and Sarla wed during his senior year and have now been married 52 years.

Fortunately, the two were of one mind on deciding next steps. They set their sights on North America and headed to Rochester, New York, where a friend of Sarla’s from India had moved. They arrived there with only $647. It was the improbable start to a life story that would later include extraordinary personal and professional success.

Tansukh went to work for the Rochester Telephone Corporation, initially doing small projects that cost only $400 each. When he left the company – 19 years and seven promotions later – he was responsible for approximately 180 people and an annual budget of $200 million.

The next stage of his career included a four-year tenure as president and chief operating officer of a start-up venture, ACC Corp., which he led through a period of exceptional growth, followed by a lucrative sale. By this time, however, Tansukh and Sarla decided to move south. “We set out to find a new city that would satisfy the most important criterion of all: having at least one good Indian restaurant.”

Arriving in Charlotte, Tansukh found a Charlotte phone book, called the first person whose name was “Patel,” and asked if he knew a good Indian restaurant. This particular Mr. Patel not only knew a good restaurant but insisted that the Ganatras come to his abode for a special home cooked meal. Impressed by the show of hospitality, they decided then and there to move to Charlotte.

"WHEN YOU ARE BORN, YOU COME INTO THE WORLD WITH NOTHING BUT THE FATE THAT LIES AHEAD OF YOU. WHEN YOU DIE, YOU LEAVE WITH NOTHING BUT THE GOOD WILL THAT YOU HAVE EARNED BY YOUR ACTIONS WHILE LIVING. THE GREATEST THING WE CAN DO WITH OUR WEALTH IS ARRANGE FOR IT TO PROVIDE PERMANENT BENEFIT FOR THOSE WHO NEED TO BE UPLIFTED."

– TANSUKH GANATRA
After relocating, Tansukh co-founded yet another high-tech business venture in 1996 – US LEC. The company competed directly with Bell South, offering local phone service in more than two dozen cities. Tansukh and his Rochester based partner raised $96 million in capital to get the enterprise going. Seven years later they sold it for $840 million and at that time, Tansukh stepped away from active management and joined the Board of Directors of the acquiring company, where he continued as a Vice-Chairman.

Given these outcomes, it was not surprising that the Ganatras would begin to focus more heavily on philanthropic interests. They support numerous causes, but their number one passion is healthcare, and for good reason. When their son Rajesh was born in 1972, he was diagnosed with a rare heart condition known as “tetralogy of fallot,” a combination of four congenital heart abnormalities. Rajesh was treated successfully at the University of Rochester Medical Center, and this experience spurred a lifelong family interest in pediatric cardiac care. As a result, after settling in Charlotte the Ganatras took an immediate interest in Atrium Health’s Levine Children’s Hospital.

Since 2008, the Ganatras have made many substantial donations that have led Levine Children’s Hospital to become much more innovative in its educational and clinical programs for pediatric heart patients. The Ganatras are also members of Atrium Health Foundation’s Evergreen Society, having created several charitable trusts and a family foundation that will provide endowed support to Atrium Health programs in perpetuity.

Tansukh is philosophical when asked why his family is so strongly committed to planned giving: “When you are born, you come into the world with nothing but the fate that lies ahead of you. When you die, you leave with nothing but the good will that you have earned by your actions while living. The greatest thing we can do with our wealth is arrange for it to provide permanent benefit for those who need to be uplifted.”
Francis Robicsek, MD, PhD, founder of the Sanger Clinic (now known as Atrium Health’s Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute), passed away peacefully, April 3, at the age of 94. Known worldwide, Dr. Robicsek was an extraordinary person who dedicated his life to improving medicine and the world in ways both small and large. He asked to be buried in his scrubs, a symbol of his lifelong commitment to caring for others.

Born in Miskolc, Hungary on July 4, 1925, Dr. Robicsek graduated from medical school at Pazmany Peter University in Budapest in 1949. At just 28 years old, he became chief of the University of Budapest Department of Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Robicsek and his wife, also a physician – who was six months pregnant at the time – fled Hungary during the Hungarian revolution, escaping from Soviet control before they were able to fly to America. The young family settled in Charlotte, where Dr. Robicsek’s uncle – a local building contractor – helped arrange visas for the couple.

In 1957, Dr. Robicsek began his career with Atrium (where he holds the record for longest serving employee), and so began a new era of cardiology and surgery. He and his partners performed the region’s first open heart procedures and first heart transplant. After performing 35,000 surgeries, Dr. Robicsek set aside his scalpel but remained involved with Atrium Health and his other areas of passion as a philanthropist, writer, art aficionado, academic – and so much more. He also helped tens of thousands – close to home and abroad – as the President of Heineman Medical Outreach, Inc. His commitment to providing care for all is one that lives on through his legacy.

In 2017, a group of generous colleagues, patients, and friends came together to recognize Dr. Robicsek in a special way, establishing an endowed chair in his honor. Their remarkable contributions helped establish The Francis Robicsek, MD, PhD Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Surgery at Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute.

For more information on supporting this endowment, please contact Mark Griffith at 704-355-4048.
NEW FUND SUPPORTS PERSPECTIVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Atrium Health’s Perspective Health and Wellness has provided concierge medicine in the Charlotte region for over 15 years. The practice offers an enhanced level of personalized care, availability, and convenience. Board-certified providers take a proactive, holistic approach to help patients find the right balance to achieve and maintain their best health.

Two recent gifts – one from Kenny Habul, president and CEO of SunEnergy1 and the other from Jim Mattei, President of Mattei Holdings and Atrium Health Foundation board chair – will advance PHW’s mission of providing the best level of personalized care for their patients. The collective established the Perspective Health and Wellness Advancement Fund, which will support patient, programmatic, personnel, outreach, and equipment needs to advance care within Perspective Health and Wellness at Atrium Health. Philanthropic support of this program, led by Dr. Lorri Ayers, Medical Director of Adult Concierge and Executive Care at Atrium Health, will also help provide enhanced holistic and integrative care, full time staff committed to diet and nutrition services, psycho-social support, and specialized equipment.

For more information on how you can support the Perspective Health and Wellness program, contact Sarah Trimmer at 704-355-1955 or sarah.trimmer@atriumhealth.org.
Although participants were unable to gather in March for the annual celebration of the Levine Children’s Gala, supporters and sponsors joined together with overwhelming force so that the heroes at Levine Children’s can continue to build hope for the most vulnerable patients that it serves. Corporate sponsors - including presenting sponsor PNC – table sponsors, and ticketholders honored their commitments to the gala. Local artists, restaurants, boutiques, small businesses, and sports teams also generously donated their talents and resources to help support the gala.

This year, the auction moved completely online, enabling the entire community to join in on the bidding! Auction packages included beautiful patient-inspired artwork, luxurious spa treatments, and once in a lifetime concerts tickets. Thanks to generous community support, the gala raised over $500,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital!
Thank you to our generous Levine Children’s Gala corporate sponsors:

PNC, Genesys Global, Collins Aerospace, Office Environments, Brighthouse Financial, Beck Group, Rodgers, Truist
The familiar adage of “standing on the shoulders of giants who came before us” aptly describes the impact of Dr. Hamilton McKay and Dr. Robert McKay on the early beginnings of Atrium Health. As Atrium Health continues to provide world-class healthcare for all while focusing on the future, it is important to look back at the deep roots of medical education, research, and philanthropy supporting Atrium Health’s tree of life.

Dr. Hamilton McKay’s interest in medicine and education began with his grandfather who was a graduate of Princeton University and a doctor in the 1840s. A son of a Presbyterian minister, Hamilton graduated from Davidson College, attended Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, and studied urinary surgery at Philadelphia’s Presbyterian Hospital. He arrived in Charlotte in 1913 to practice medicine and joined the faculty at NC Medical College.

Ten years younger than his brother, Robert McKay graduated from the University of Virginia in 1917. When World War I broke out and troops were deployed in 1918, they both enlisted. Robert McKay served in the infantry as a captain and Dr. Hamilton McKay’s war assignment was as a surgeon stationed in the Bordeaux region of France. The war experience profoundly affected Robert McKay as he witnessed the deaths and war atrocities on the front line where he also sustained injuries to his right hand. When the war ended, Dr. Hamilton McKay remained with the occupation forces and continued his medical education at the University of Paris before returning to Charlotte. Robert immediately enrolled in medical school at Johns Hopkins, the premier model of a medical institution based on scientific research.
At Johns Hopkins, Robert studied under the famous Dr. William Halsted, commonly referred to as the father of modern surgery, and became one of Dr. Hugh Hampton Young’s first urology residents. Johns Hopkins ranks the 100 most important research articles to date, and the urology article Dr. Robert McKay co-authored with Dr. Young ranks as Number 3. Armed with the latest medical information and training in the field of urology, Robert returned to Charlotte to practice with his brother. They both continued their commitment to medical research, publishing over 75 medical articles throughout their careers.

Amid a time of fragmented healthcare in Charlotte during the late 1930’s, the brothers provided the vision and organization, as well as philanthropic support, to make Charlotte Memorial Hospital a reality. Hamilton and Robert McKay, along with three other physicians, helped to establish the hospital authority, a not-for-profit entity which was free of tax liability and had the ability to issue bonds. The goal of opening a modern medical center with teaching and research functions came to fruition when Charlotte Memorial Hospital opened its doors in 1940. Robert and Hamilton McKay gifted the Department of Radiology and dedicated it to their parents. The plaque recognizing their generosity remains in Atrium Health’s Carolinas Medical Center, today at the base of the brass staircase. Dr. Hamilton McKay’s wife Kate inspired the community to financially support the hospital, while Hamilton organized the Physician Executive Committee and the Board of Directors consisting of civic and municipal leaders. Kate served on the Board for 18 years, and Robert served as the first Chief of Urology. Robert and Hamilton McKay started its first residency programs which continue today. Hamilton McKay’s innovation and vision extended to the establishment of the Southern Section of the American Urology Association through the organization of scientific meetings and continuing education.

Hamilton and Robert both died in 1967. The McKay brothers’ legacy of medical education, research, and philanthropy continues throughout the history of Charlotte Memorial Hospital and Carolinas Medical Center. Dr. Hamilton McKay’s daughter, Katherine McKay Belk Cook, and grandson, Tim Belk, had long tenures of service on the Board, as well as philanthropically supporting its growth. Atrium Health’s Department of Urology has been recognized numerous times by US News and World Report, and continues to grow and expand its services with a commitment to medical education and research. Atrium Health’s roots run deep, and the McKays’ strong foundation will continue for many years to come.
Sarcoma Stomp Breaks Record

FOUNDATION RAISES CRITICAL FUNDS FOR SARCOMA RESEARCH AT LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE

A simple yet profound message united The Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research and a growing community of sarcoma advocates during the 2020 Sarcoma Stomp: You can’t quarantine hope. Galvanized by the significant sarcoma research advances attributed to the foundation’s fundraising efforts and the generosity of their donors, more than 50,000 sarcoma “stompers” took part in the 2020 virtual event, including many Levine Cancer Institute sarcoma patients, survivors and Atrium Health teammates.

1. Michael B. Livingston, MD, medical oncology specialist at Levine Cancer Institute.  2. Edward S. Kim, MD, chair of the Department of Solid Tumor Oncology at Levine Cancer Institute.  3. Joshua Patt, MD, MPH, orthopaedic oncology surgeon at Levine Cancer Institute and vice chair of education of Atrium Health Musculoskeletal Institute

LCI SARCOMA RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS – AT A GLANCE:

• Approximately $1.2 million in ongoing and future projects supported by individual and corporate Paula Takacs Foundation donors

• Immunotherapy/chemotherapy sarcoma clinical trial available at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s for ages 12 and up, offering patients a new treatment option

• Preliminary approval of concept for a new investigator-initiated, Phase II clinical trial combining CDK4/6 Inhibitor and an immunotherapy drug, which would be available for patients age 12 and up at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s. Critical for those patients who are no longer responding to chemotherapy or who are not chemo-eligible

• Studies of 10 years of clinical data and 600 biomarkers underway in synovial sarcoma and osteosarcoma

• Pending blood and tissue biopsy study associated with ongoing clinical trial
Feeding Patients’ Greatest Needs

Thanks to generous support from Bristol Myers Squibb, Rodgers Builders and J.E. Dunn Construction, Levine Cancer Institute created a program to provide emergency feeding for low-income and medically fragile cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cancer patients may be immunocompromised due to their treatment and unable to obtain food for themselves or their families because of exposure risks associated with COVID-19. Many cancer patients risk malnourishment during their course of treatment if they are unable to access healthy, balanced and appetizing food.

In collaboration with clinicians, social workers, and navigators, the Emergency Patient Feeding Program identified cancer patients who would benefit from food deliveries. In partnership with a dietician, Levine Cancer Institute assembled the delivery, ensuring the contents were optimally balanced to conform with specialized dietary needs of cancer patients undergoing treatment. Deliveries also included recipes and cooking tips.

Donations to the Levine Cancer Institute Critical Impact Emergency Fund support needs such as food, transportation (currently one of the greatest needs), rent, utilities, and more. For more information, contact Page Stroup at 704-355-0951.
KEEP POUNDING

For the past 10 years the Carolina Panthers and Atrium Health Foundation have hosted the Keep Pounding 5K to raise money for the Keep Pounding Fund at Levine Cancer Institute. Traditionally the race featured a course through Dilworth and finishes on the field at Bank of America Stadium, but this year was a little different. Thanks to presenting sponsors JELD-WEN and Rodgers Builders the Keep Pounding 5K was held virtually. Over 1,100 patients, families, friends, and community members registered and completed the 5K during the race week held May 23-30. Stories of hope were shared online and through WSOCTV to spread awareness and demonstrate the importance of raising funds for Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital. The community came together to raise over $75K and give hope for families and patients. Although the race looked different this year, one thing remained the same: the Carolinas’ commitment to Keep Pounding in the fight against cancer.
GRATEFUL FAMILY BONDS WITH NEWBORN SON USING HOSPITAL WEBCAM SYSTEM

Charlie Reedy was born on March 30, 2020 at 33 weeks, weighing only 4 lbs. 15 oz. Charlie spent his first five days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Levine Children’s Hospital where he was monitored closely for initial breathing issues. This was followed by an extended stay in the Neonatal Progressive Care Nursery where his breathing, red blood counts, and general development continued to be monitored. While Charlie grew stronger inside the hospital, his family was unable to be by his side due to increased visitor restrictions from COVID-19. Fortunately, Charlie’s big sister, Emmy, and grandparents were able to meet him for the first time using the hospital’s secure neonatal webcam system, which was made possible through the Cottie and Cake Fund with support from The Philip L. Van Every Foundation. The innovative technology has enabled the Reedy family and many others to connect with their newborns, showing the true impact of virtual care and philanthropy.
Atrium Health Foundation would like to welcome the newest members to our team! Please join us in welcoming Katelyn Budke, Kaley Tyler, Sarah Trimmer, Kathy Curtis, and Shonda Surratt. We continue to grow in order to support our mission of inspiring transformational giving to improve health, elevate hope, and advance healing – for all.

**Katelyn Budke**

Katelyn joined Atrium Health Foundation after working several years in nonprofit philanthropy and operations in Minnesota. In her current role, Katelyn supports the Foundation’s fund development and annual giving programs, focusing on major fundraising initiatives and special events. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Katelyn earned her B.S. in Environmental Studies & Wildlife Ecology in 2015.

**Kathy Curtis**

Kathy joined the Foundation in May 2020 bringing with her 10 years of experience providing administrative support to other Atrium facilities. Working in different facilities has provided Kathy a unique perspective on how each area works toward a common goal for our teammates, patients, and the community. A native Charlottean, Kathy enjoys travel and spending time with family and friends.
Albemarle Foundation

Among six core values, Albemarle Corporation and Albemarle Foundation exemplify three that cut to the heart of what matters in our community and healthcare system at this time: care, courage, and collaboration. Not only does Albemarle Foundation continue to be a vital partner by supporting essential breast cancer programs at Levine Cancer Institute through Project Pink, the corporate foundation recently took their support a step further, contributing substantially to Atrium Health’s most pressing needs around the COVID-19 response, including support for healthcare workers. Albemarle continues to go the distance for Atrium Health and our community.

Kaley Tyler

Kaley currently serves as Director of Donor Relations and Stewardship. Prior to joining the team, she served as Sr. Director of Donor Relations for the University of South Florida Foundation. Her background includes 12 years of leading teams and donor relations. A graduate of Kansas State University, Kaley holds a M.S. in Counseling and Student Development and a B.S. in Family Studies and Human Services.

Sarah Trimmer

Sarah currently serves as Director of Development, providing support for Carolinas Rehabilitation and Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute. She has spent her entire career in the nonprofit industry and most recently held development roles at Novant Health Foundation and Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center in Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated with a B.A. in Sociology from Dickinson College and earned her M.A. from Johns Hopkins University.

Shonda Surratt

Shonda joined Atrium Health Foundation in 2020 following 4 ½ years in the Atrium Health Medical Group Finance Division. A New Jersey native, she earned a B.S. in accounting from Johnson C. Smith University. She will be responsible for monthly accounting functions and multiple bank and credit card reconciliations.
Children’s Miracle Network Fall Campaigns

September 1 – 30: Costco Miracle Balloon Campaign

October 11 – ACE Hardware Foundation Racing for a Miracle

October 30 – November 1: Speedway Round-Up Campaign

November 2 – Extra Life – National Game Day
Associates at Publix Super Markets have been working diligently these past few months to ensure their customers get what they need for their families. They also empower their Publix shoppers to become miracle makers. How? By raising critical funds for Levine Children's Hospital during their annual fundraising campaign. From June 3 – 14, Publix stores across the country raised millions of dollars to support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Publix locations right here in Charlotte and the surrounding area raised over $11,000 during this year’s campaign. These funds were raised by Publix customers purchasing miracle coupons for donations of $1, $3 and $5 and coupon offers from vendors like Kellogg’s Frosted Flakes cereal, Johnson & Johnson, M&Ms, Red Bull, Georgia Pacific (Angel Soft Bath Tissue and Sparkle Paper Towels), Oil-Dri (Cat’s Pride®) and Frito Lay.

FACTS

- Publix has been a CMN partner since 1992
- In the Charlotte region, Publix has fundraised since 2014 (when our first Publix location opened) and since that time has raised over $360,000.
2020 WALMART/SAM’S CLUB VIRTUAL KICKOFF:

Across the country, with the impact of COVID-19, virtual events are a new reality. This is no different in the world of Children’s Miracle Network, where the annual Walmart and Sam’s Club CMN Campaign kickoff event moved to a virtual format in 2020. Regional managers, market managers, and CMN champion associates from Walmart and Sam’s Club locations across the region, logged on to the virtual platform to hear what’s new at Levine Children’s Hospital, meet the 2020 CMN Champion, Sofia, celebrate top performing locations in 2019, and receive encouragement and motivation for another successful campaign.

2020 Campaign Summary:
Local Walmart and Sam’s Club stores once again joined forces to “Change Kids’ Health, Change the Future” by raising money for Levine Children’s Hospital during the annual #HelpKidsLiveBetter campaign that ran from June 22 through July 19, 2020.

Walmart and Sam’s Club associates, customers, and members have raised $12 million for Levine Children’s Hospital since 1988, raising nearly $454,000 this year alone. Every dollar of these funds go back to Levine Children’s Hospital to purchase equipment and provide services to patients and families that otherwise would not be funded.

Money was raised primarily through a register campaign where customers and members could round up their purchase total to the next whole dollar with that round up amount being donated to Levine Children’s Hospital. At self-checkout, customers had the option to donate $1 or more.

Walmart and Sam’s Club joined the CMN Hospitals fundraising family in 1987 with Sam Walton himself being personally involved in the beginning of the relationship between the organizations. The #HelpKidsLiveBetter campaign supports Walmart’s goal of giving back to local communities.
1. Walmart stores raised funds through a round-up campaign at the registers.

2. Walmart team members put children first by participating in fundraising for Children’s Miracle Network.

3. Children’s Miracle Network Champion, Sofia, advocates around the region in support of CMN fundraising.
UNCC DANCE MARATHON GOES VIRTUAL TO SUPPORT LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Each year, University of North Carolina - Charlotte students organize and host the “Ninerthon” dance marathon to raise funds for Levine Children’s Hospital. While the 12-hour dance had to be canceled this year, UNCC students joined together to host a virtual fundraiser in its place. Through social media, students posted videos, photos and stories to encourage friends and family to give, raising more than $21,000 for pediatric patients at Levine Children’s Hospital.

This year’s theme was “stars” to symbolize spreading light to those who need it most. Our 2020 CMN Champion painted a piece of artwork to show how UNC Charlotte Ninerthon truly shines light in and out of Levine Children’s Hospital.

VIRTUAL RACE MAKES REAL STRIDES FOR MELANOMA RESEARCH

The Miles Against Melanoma 5K brings together hundreds of runners and supporters each year to raise funds for melanoma research at Levine Cancer Institute. Though this year’s 9th annual event took place virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions, participants, survivors, sponsors and donors showed their support in a meaningful way, raising $21,000 for the Melanoma Immunotherapy Fund.

To date, the event has donated over $200,000 to Levine Cancer Institute’s Melanoma and Immunotherapy Fund.
SEPTEMBER 10-13
Flock the Yard
TealDiva.org
This September, keep your eyes on the sky as 2,000 teal yard flamingos flock to Southpark, perching on the amphitheater lawn from September 10-13. Sponsor a teal flamingo and help raise awareness for signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer.

SEPTEMBER 24
9th Annual Pink Pint Night: Virtual Edition
AtriumHealthFoundation.org/PinkPintNight
Kick off Breast Cancer Awareness Month with Charlotte Radiology, in partnership with NoDa Brewing Company and Atrium Health Foundation. Proceeds benefit screening and diagnostic mammograms provided free of charge to local, uninsured women through Levine Cancer Institute: Project PINK.

SEPTEMBER 26
ISF 5K Run and Brunch The Virtual Edition
IsabellaSantosFoundation.org
Even though they are unable to have their Run and Brunch together this year, that won’t take the fun out of brunch! Celebrate with ISF and help children fighting cancer. We Won’t Stop. Register, fundraise, and join the brunch club.

OCTOBER 1-25
25th Annual Hopebuilders Virtual 5K
Hopebuilders5K.org
Run, walk and build hope for sick and injured children from across our community. Join our virtual, 25-day challenge as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Hopebuilders 5K!

NOVEMBER 19 (6AM - 7PM)
Latin Radiothon: Para Los Niños
800-234-6217
Make miracles for patients of Levine Children’s Hospital by tuning in and contributing to the Latin Radiothon: Para Los Niños – hosted by Norsan Media. All proceeds benefit Levine Children’s Hospital and Children’s Miracle Network.

THROUGH NOVEMBER
Swim Across America Coast to Coast Challenge
SwimAcrossAmerica.org
Swim Across America is “making waves” to fight cancer by hosting a virtual “Coast to Coast” challenge to support leukemia research at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital. Choose your own activity for this unique fundraising challenge.
With so much uncertainty at the moment, our work to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing – for all, has never been more important! While you may be unsure of a way to support Atrium Health given this crisis, creating a planned gift is a powerful way to make a lasting impact and legacy with us that will not cost you anything today.

We hope you will join the many people who have included our organization in their will, trust, or beneficiary designations. Writing a will is one of the most important steps to take, though understandably uncomfortable given the current crisis. Now more than ever, it is important to protect what matters most to you and have a plan in place.

You can read more about our planned giving options on our website: www.ahflegacy.org.

**CARES ACT**

The U.S. Congress has passed the CARES Act to provide economic assistance, and there are some important changes that may impact your charitable giving this year:

- **Additional income tax charitable deduction:** You can deduct up to $300 above the standard deduction for individuals in charitable contributions. This is for everyone, even if you have no other itemizations.

- **No “RMDs” from your IRA, but still a smarter way to give:** For individuals with IRA accounts, there are no Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) this year. However, giving pre-tax funds out of your IRA will still lower your future tax burden compared to giving cash. If you are interested in this method of giving please contact your IRA custodian today or contact Sara Piner, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning at 704.355.0844 or Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org for more information.

- **Deduct 100% of your income with charitable cash gifts:** For 2020, gifts of cash to charity (excluding donor advised funds and supporting organizations) are deductible up to 100% of AGI. The gift may be for any charitable purpose and is not limited to gifts for Coronavirus relief.
3 WAYS TO HELP ATRIUM HEALTH FOUNDATION TODAY

There are multiple ways to support Atrium Health Foundation and we want to help you figure out the way that works best for you:

1. **Give a cash gift:** Thanks to the recent passage of the CARES Act, you can take income tax deduction in 2020 for cash contributions directly to charity of up to 100% of your income.

2. **Give from your donor advised fund:** You have already set these charitable dollars aside, use the DAF Widget on our website to make giving from your donor advised fund even easier!

3. **Join the many people who have included us in their legal will:** You can support Atrium Health Foundation forever without paying a cent today. It’s an easy way to help make a difference – for all.

DYER FAMILY PROVIDES GENEROUS SUPPORT WITH DONOR-ADVISED FUND

A generous contribution was recently made by Dr. Heather and Mr. Gray Dyer to support Atrium Health teammates working on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. For Dr. and Mr. Dyer, it is especially important to support our community during uncertain times. The Dyer family made their contribution from a donor-advised fund, noting the benefits of this giving vehicle: “Donor-advised funds are such a wonderful philanthropic tool to facilitate generosity. They can be funded with appreciated assets like stocks or mutual funds. In doing so, donors can avoid capital gains taxes and be eligible for an income tax deduction, too.” In addition to his philanthropic support, Gray Dyer serves on Atrium Health Foundation’s Professional Advisory Council and is the owner of the financial planning firm Dyer & Company.
Ann Miller Trust Continues to Support Atrium Health’s Mission

Since 2016, significant gifts from the Estate of Ann Patricia Miller have benefited Atrium Health patient programs and service lines dedicated to improving adult and pediatric heart care, neonatal intensive care, pediatric cancer research, pediatric kidney disease research and patient care — and most recently — Atrium’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These gifts reflect Ann’s lifelong desire to serve others and help people in need. A native of Salisbury, North Carolina, Ann studied nursing in Charlotte. Her long and distinguished nursing career including positions with Atrium Health as an employee of Charlotte Memorial Hospital and Carolinas Medical Center.

During her career, Ann spent many years working both in the operating and recovery room. Among many gifts from her estate that have advanced Atrium Health’s mission since her passing, her gift of $20,000 to the The Francis Robicsek, MD, PhD Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Surgery was a fitting tribute to the time she spent working in the operating room with the late Dr. Robicsek, founder of the Sanger Clinic – now Atrium Health’s Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute.
Their DREAMS bring out our best

It takes more than just experience and expertise to be named the region’s only Best Children’s Hospital. It takes complete dedication from every pediatrician, specialist and care team member throughout our network. That’s why this year we’ve been ranked in more specialties than ever. Because we’re not just inspired by children’s dreams, we’re committed to helping them come true.

Learn more at LevineChildrens.org/Best.

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!
In this unprecedented time for Atrium Health, our country and the world, our primary concern is for the well-being of our patients, healthcare workers and community. Amidst so much change one thing remains constant: Atrium Health’s commitment to improving health, elevating hope and advancing healing—for all.

We invite you to visit Atrium Health Foundation’s new planned giving website that was produced prior to the rise in COVID-19. This website is intended to help you protect your assets, loved ones and community, both today and well into the future. We hope you will join the many people who have included our organization in their will, trust, or beneficiary designations. You can read more about our planned giving options on our website: www.ahflegacy.org.