Giving Hope Campaign Launches
LARGEST PHILANTHROPIC CAMPAIGN IN CHARLOTTE’S HISTORY TO TRANSFORM HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE
Dear Friends,

At Atrium Health we believe hope is in everything we do. A cornerstone of our mission is to elevate hope, not only for every patient who walks through our doors, but also for the communities we serve.

That’s why Atrium Health Foundation recently launched the largest comprehensive philanthropic campaign in Charlotte’s history – Giving Hope.

This campaign is a commitment to the health and well-being of every individual we serve, and it encompasses every institute, program, and aspect of Atrium Health. With the support of our donors, we will raise at least $500 million to create healthier communities, bring outstanding education and preeminent research to the communities we serve, and establish exemplary facilities and patient programs that allow us to deliver exceptional care.

It’s a monumental goal. But it’s the greatest endeavors that create the biggest impacts. There will be opportunities, both grand and small, to be a part of Giving Hope — from improving the health of those in fragile communities; supporting the aspiring medical student who might be the first in their family to acquire an advanced degree; creating new spaces to learn, work and deliver world class care; and providing preeminent research in the region.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to make a life-changing difference, not just in our lives, but in our children’s lives and their children’s lives. And together with your help, there’s no limit to the health, hope and healing we can bring...to all.

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.”
We have a vision to build a brighter future for health and we’re leading the way, investing in the care that you, your family, your friends and neighbors – all of us – hope is there when we need it. Our vision can only be realized with our community’s support.

Giving Hope: The Campaign for Atrium Health seeks to raise the funds required to complete the challenge of creating the health system of the future – one designed to provide health, hope and healing, for all.

Learn more at giveatrium.org
CONTENTS
SUMMER 2021

ON THE COVER
2 Cover: Inside the $500 million comprehensive campaign to create HOPE for all patients and communities served by Atrium Health.

GAME CHANGERS
6 Kenilworth Medical Plaza I and II
8 Double Rainbow Research Advancement Fund
8 George Shinn Comprehensive Stroke Center
19 Ganatra Family
20 Isabella Santos Foundation Rare and Solid Tumor Program

PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION
10 Executive Health
11 Psychiatric Residency Graduation
15 Integrative Oncology Study
15 24 Foundation
23 Keep Pounding 5K
24 Inner Circle — Women’s Care
26 Paula Takacs Foundation
26 Sigma Alpha Epsilon

INNOVATORS
9 Howard R. Levine
12 Rick & Linda Hendrick
16 Charlie & Kathy Izard

CORPORATE PARTNERS
25 Fifth Third Bank
25 Ally Bank
27 Brasfield & Gorrie
28 Chick-fil-A

A DOSE OF HOPE
18 Laila Charleston
34 Tanksley Family
38 John McNally and Helen Morrison

GIFT PLANNING
36 Ann P. Miller Trust

UPWARD
30 Costco
31 Publix
32 Ace Hardware
33 Davidson College’s Dance Marathon
33 UNCC’s Ninerthon

SAVE THE DATE
29 Pink Pint Night
Swim Across America
Flock the Yard
Hopebuilders 5K

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On May 25, Atrium Health launched the largest, comprehensive philanthropic campaign in the history of Charlotte. Designed to transform the delivery of healthcare to patients throughout the region, the new campaign – Giving Hope – has a goal to raise at least $500 million to strengthen communities, transform facilities, and advance healing through enhanced medical research and education.

“Great change is upon us,” said Eugene A. Woods, president and CEO of Atrium Health. “There is no better time than now at Atrium Health to reinvent ourselves as a system that not only cares, but educates … that not only innovates, but impacts … that not only leads, but transforms.”
These themes are embodied by the Giving Hope campaign, which Atrium Health Foundation created to support advancements in education and research, as well as to address population growth and access to care, reductions in federal funding, and aging infrastructure on the central campus of Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

Charlotte icon and business leader Hugh McColl, Jr. has been instrumental in kicking off the transformative campaign, which has raised nearly $75 million during its quiet phase. As chair of the campaign, McColl has helped recruit a dynamic group of business leaders and community advocates to the campaign cabinet, which will play a key role in promoting Giving Hope.

**The campaign will emphasize four pillars: social impact, medical education, research, and patient-centered facilities.**

**Healthy COMMUNITIES**
The social impact component of Giving Hope focuses on healthy communities, which starts with fulfilling basic needs. Atrium Health is not only investing in affordable housing and food relief programs, but expanding access to world-class institutes and taking initiatives directly into the communities where they are needed most. Mobile screenings, local vaccination events, virtual primary care in rural schools, and virtual behavioral health throughout the health system are all efforts to ensure that no corner of the community is out of reach.

**Outstanding EDUCATION**
The Wake Forest School of Medicine – Charlotte campus, expected to break ground in 2022, is one of the springboards for the campaign’s emphasis on education. “Support from this campaign will make us better, collectively,” said Dr. Julie Ann Freischlag, CEO of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, dean of the Wake Forest School of Medicine and chief academic officer for Atrium Health. “As our two medical school campuses converge into one learning health system, we are creating one of the nation’s most diverse student bodies.”

*Continued on pg. 4*
GIVING HOPE CAMPAIGN
Continued from pg. 2

The Giving Hope campaign will provide multiple opportunities to support the school, from naming gifts to fund capital projects and distinguished faculty chair positions, to scholarship funding for undergrads, medical students, residencies and medical fellowships.

Preeminent RESEARCH
The strategic combination of Atrium Health and Wake Forest Baptist Health into a single enterprise will also play a key role in the campaign’s efforts to advance research. With community support, Atrium Health intends to become a nationally-ranked, top-10 medical research center in signature areas – elevating North Carolina as a national destination for receiving medical care. Treatments will be developed – from bench to bedside – that impact the lives of patients we serve, and for generations to follow.

Exemplary FACILITIES
For generations to come, patients, families, teammates and learners will benefit from the exemplary facilities that will also be supported through Giving Hope. With support from generous donors, these new and newly renovated patient-centered spaces will be equipped with the newest technologies. They will be distinctive, innovative, accessible and built to accommodate growth.

Architectural rendering of a new bed tower on the campus of Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center

Giving HOPE
DONATE ➔
giveatrium.org
Most recently, Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute opened its new location in the Kenilworth Plaza in Charlotte. As soon as 2022, Carolinas Rehabilitation and Atrium Health Union West will open doors to their new facilities. Additional plans underway include renovations to Atrium Health’s Musculoskeletal Institute and the Atrium Health Levine Children’s specialty outpatient center, construction of a new bed tower on the campus of Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center, and construction and ongoing support of Wake Forest School of Medicine – Charlotte.

“Now, more than ever, we are committed to ushering in a new era of health and driving a collective vision toward a brighter future ahead for the patients and communities we humbly serve,” said Woods. “Every bit of support will move us closer to our goal to build a stronger, more inclusive and, most importantly, healthier community – for the benefit of ALL.”

HOPE. It’s at the center of everything we do.
Our plan is to transform the lives of the people we serve by helping to bring:

- Healthier Communities
- Outstanding Education
- Preeminent Research
- Exemplary Facilities.

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

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Campaign Kick-Off Chair

Jim Hynes
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Adult Concierge & Executive Medicine

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President, Musculoskeletal Institute

Dr. Stacy Nicholson
Enterprise President, Children’s Services

Dr. Derek Raghavan
President, Levine Cancer Institute

Dr. Geoff Rose
President, Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute
On April 14, Atrium Health opened new, state-of-the-art facilities in Charlotte’s Midtown neighborhood — Atrium Health Kenilworth Medical Plaza I and II. The over 400,000 square-foot medical facility is the new flagship location for Atrium Health Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, bringing many of its top-rated specialty services under one roof. With its opening, patients now have access to outpatient care across the medical spectrum, including Atrium Health Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, Atrium Health Neurosciences Institute, Atrium Health Pharmacy, Atrium Health Perspective Health & Wellness, gastroenterology, infectious disease, palliative care, pulmonology and urology.

“With this innovative medical plaza, we’re extending our mission of bringing health, hope and healing for all – even further,” said Eugene A. Woods, president and CEO of Atrium Health. “As we continue to grow our footprint, this state-of-the-art facility will be a destination center for anyone seeking the best specialty physicians in the country. Featuring our nationally ranked Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, together with other top ranked specialties, we designed our medical plaza with the intention to be an easy-to-access location with the very latest technology.”
A $100,000 gift from Dr. Jay Selle and his wife Sheila has established a new conferencing suite inside Kenilworth Medical Plaza I. A former surgeon at the Sanger Clinic (now Atrium Health Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute), Dr. Selle pioneered many advancements in the field of cardio-thoracic surgery alongside Sanger’s founder Dr. Francis Robicsek. While Dr. Selle retired in 1998, he continues to contribute to advancements in care and research at Sanger through his family’s generous contributions.

In addition to the Selle family’s recent contribution, the creation of Kenilworth Medical Plaza I and II has been made possible by several transformational gifts from grateful patients, including Jan and Edward J. Brown III, chair of the Atrium Health Board of Commissioners, Felix Sabates, Jr., and the California-based William, Jeff, and Jennifer Gross Family Foundation.

With support from philanthropy, Atrium Health Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute continues to evolve by recruiting recognized experts who are pushing the boundaries of medicine to improve patient care. With more than 30 care locations and over 200 Sanger providers, patients have convenient access to care close to where they live, as well as the latest innovative treatments and procedures.
EVERY MINUTE COUNTS
GEORGE SHINN COMPREHENSIVE STROKE CENTER IN ACTION

When it comes to treating stroke, fast response time is critical to preserving a patient’s brain function and quality of life. Under the direction of The George Shinn Comprehensive Stroke Center and Atrium Health’s Neurosciences Institute, the Carolinas Stroke Network is ensuring rapid stroke care is available to patients across the region.

During national Stroke Awareness Month in May, Atrium Health announced that support from The George Shinn Neurovascular Excellence and Innovations Fund would help purchase 59 telestroke carts. The equipment will help enhance telemedicine care at 28 Atrium Health facilities, including 10 based in rural communities throughout the stroke network. The carts will allow for seamless virtual connection and coordination of stroke care.

Thanks to the generosity of George Shinn and his foundation, Atrium Health patients now have improved access to early intervention and life-saving stroke care.

$350,000 GIFT TO ESTABLISH THE CRC DOUBLE RAINBOW RESEARCH ADVANCEMENT FUND

Through a recent contribution from a generous anonymous donor, Atrium Health Foundation will establish a new fund dedicated to advancing behavioral health at Atrium Health. The CRC Double Rainbow Research Advancement Fund will focus specifically on providing support for leading research and treatment of bipolar disorder and other mental health diseases and disorders.

Used in collaboration with the Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE), the fund will support annual grants to Atrium Health Faculty members conducting related research. CORE is a department of approximately 30 teammates composed of statisticians, data management, data scientists, health services researchers, and project managers that partners with investigators across Atrium Health to generate real-world evidence that advances the delivery of high-quality, patient-centered care.
With a transformational gift of $1 million made by Howard R. Levine, Atrium Health Behavioral Health Charlotte will be home to the Howard R. Levine Therapeutic Enrichment Center. Adding to his history of longstanding support of Atrium Health – most notably through significant gifts made to Levine Children’s, Levine Cancer Institute, and Behavioral Health – Mr. Levine’s latest gift will significantly enhance the well-being of pediatric and adult behavioral health patients in our region.

Plans for the state-of-the-art facility, which will be housed at Behavioral Health Charlotte on Billingsly Road, include construction of an indoor upper-level track with lower-level basketball and volleyball courts; an outdoor garden for meditation and respite; and spaces for yoga, art therapy, gaming, and sensory integration.

As Behavioral Health Charlotte continues to grow, improvements to the facility’s infrastructure and ancillary programs — through the addition of the Howard R. Levine Therapeutic Enrichment Center — will bolster Atrium Health’s ability to meet the cognitive and physical needs of a growing patient population being treated for wide-ranging behavioral health conditions or mental health crises.

“IT IS MY PRIVILEGE TO HELP EQUIP THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHARLOTTE CAMPUS WITH RESOURCES THAT WILL ENRICH THE LIVES OF PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ALIKE.”

- HOWARD R. LEVINE BENEFACCTOR
GIFT SUPPORTS NEW EXECUTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM AT PERSPECTIVE HEALTH & WELLNESS

Through its concierge medicine practice – Perspective Health & Wellness – Atrium Health believes in offering patients access to the highest level of personalized care and convenience, so patients can live well, while remaining focused and successful in their daily lives and careers. Building upon initial support from donors Jim Mattei and Kenny Habul, whose philanthropic commitments established the Perspective Health & Wellness Fund in 2020, Ed J. Brown, III and his family recently contributed a substantial gift to the Fund to advance the newly created Executive Health Program.

Demonstrating their loyalty to Atrium Health’s mission – through Ed’s service on the Atrium Health Board of Commissioners and their history of supporting numerous service lines – Jan and Ed are now helping to ensure that executives can stay healthy and focused throughout their careers. With their support, the health system can offer robust, all-inclusive, top-tier healthcare with flexible plans tailored to executives’ needs.

To learn more about the Executive Health at Perspective Health & Wellness visit: atriumhealth.org/medical-services/perspective-health-and-wellness

Perspective Health & Wellness manages the Executive Health Program from the newly opened Kenilworth Medical Plaza I & II facility in central Charlotte.
Atrium Health Welcomes First Graduates of the Sandra and Leon Levine Adult Psychiatry Residency Program

On June 25, Atrium Health welcomed its first graduating class of psychiatrists from the Sandra and Leon Levine Adult Psychiatry Residency Program. The four-year accredited program, which first opened in 2018 at Carolinas Medical Center, was initiated by a $3 million commitment from The Leon Levine Foundation. The program is meeting a pressing need for behavioral health services in the region, by training and retaining talented physicians in the field.

With support from philanthropy, Atrium Health continues to further develop the most comprehensive, integrated behavioral health delivery system in the region, offering inpatient, outpatient, school-based, crisis, and residential treatment programs. The residency program embodies the steadfast commitment by Atrium Health and The Leon Levine Foundation to expand mental health services and education, as well as to address the behavioral health crisis in this region and build a model for healthcare organizations across the country.

1. Pictured (L-R): Graduates Veronica Ridpath, DO, April Schindler, MD, and Mihika Batavia, DO, graduated from the program.

2. (L-R) Susan Gray, MD, Director of Residency Education, and Rodney A. Villanueva, MD, Associate Director of Residency Education
Having cemented their legacy of support for wide-ranging healthcare programs across Atrium Health since the early 2000s, Hendrick Motorsports and Hendrick Automotive owner Rick Hendrick and his wife, Linda, recently committed a transformational gift to establish the Hendrick Family Endowed Professorship in Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery.
When Rick and Linda Hendrick’s granddaughter needed a highly specialized surgery recently, the family sought the foremost medical experts to take on the task. She eventually underwent successful surgery at the hands of Dr. Peter M. Waters, then-Surgeon-in-Chief at Boston Children’s, who will join Atrium Health’s Musculoskeletal Institute this fall as the first recipient of the Hendrick Family Endowed Professorship.

Mr. Hendrick remarked, “The level of care Dr. Waters provided our granddaughter was above and beyond. Knowing the powerful impact the experience had on our family, it’s truly exciting that people here in our community will now have access to one of the world’s leading orthopaedic surgeons. The establishment of the endowed professorship will help ensure children in our region will benefit from his incredible expertise and research. A large portion of Dr. Waters’ work is focused on supporting families with limited resources, which we feel is especially important. We are proud to have him right here in our own backyard.”

As the highest level of distinction for a physician at Atrium Health’s Musculoskeletal Institute, the endowed professorship will provide funding to ensure the long-term success of the program and allows the Institute to attract the world’s best and brightest orthopaedic surgeons, including Dr. Waters.

With a vision to enhance clinical care, education, and innovative research to best support patients with congenital hand disorders, the endowment will support medical research, clinical trials, and related programs carried out by Dr. Waters and his colleagues.

\*Benefactors Linda and Rick Hendrick\*

\*Dr. Peter M. Waters, the first recipient of the Hendrick Family Endowed Professorship in Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, will join Atrium Health’s Musculoskeletal Institute this September.\*
WELCOME to Atrium Health Foundation’s Newest Board Members

David Sheffer
Chief Growth Officer – MyEyeDr.

Charlotte native and family man David Sheffer joins Atrium Health Foundation’s board of directors with an extensive background in nonprofit board service, advocacy in communities of color, business development, and finance. David is a family man and serves as Chief Growth Officer and Board Member of Capital Vision Services (d/b/a MyEyeDr.) which has grown from 35 eyecare practices to more than 650 eyecare practices in 25 states during his tenure with the organization. Well-versed in the complexities of running a small business, David’s career began with McColl Partners and has included investment banking, private equity, and business development.

David is a graduate of Myers Park High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration. David and his wife, Julie, are the proud parents of three boys: Abe, Miles, and Dean.

Greg Johnson
Managing Director – Orbital Socket

As one of Atrium Health Foundation’s newest board members, Greg will lend his expertise in brand management, business leadership, and nonprofit advocacy to his new role. A managing director of Orbital Socket, a creative marketing and brand engagement consulting firm he founded in 2014, Greg has over 20 years of experience as a marketing and advertising professional, having worked for global brands such as Nike, Procter & Gamble, and Johnson & Johnson. Greg has served on the boards of many community organizations over the years, including the Good Fellows Club, the Greater Charlotte YMCA Association, the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media Foundation, My Brother’s Keeper Charlotte-Mecklenburg, The Institute of Responsible Citizenship, and churches in Portland, OR, and Cornelius, NC.

A Rocky Mount, NC native, Greg is a 1990 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, with a Bachelor of Arts in Media and Journalism and a concentration in advertising.
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FEATURES
LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE’S INTEGRATIVE ONCOLOGY
BENEFACTORS SHERRYSTRONG AND 24 FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTED

Though every patient’s journey with cancer varies, many patients face the start of their journey with anxiety surrounding their diagnosis and the possibility of negative side-effects from cancer treatment. At Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute, care teams are continually working to improve treatment methods and guide patients to options that have proven, positive effects on patients’ wellbeing, including integrative oncology. Through integrative therapies such as healing touch, oncology massage, meditation, and acupuncture, patients’ bodies – as well as their minds and spirits – can be nourished and healed in remarkable ways.

Authored by a team of medical researchers, physicians, and leaders from Levine Cancer Institute’s Integrative Oncology program, a retrospective study on the benefits of integrative oncology was recently published in the peer-reviewed International Journal of Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork. The authors recognized the transformative philanthropic support the integrative oncology program has received from 24 Foundation and SherryStrong, which continue to be vital to the Institute’s efforts to expand access to these specialized therapies for patients.

Specifically, the study highlights the immense benefits of oncology massage and healing touch for pain intervention during cancer treatment. Fortunately, these and additional integrative therapies can be combined and personalized to meet each patient’s unique physical, emotional, and mental health needs along their cancer journey. Unfortunately, the cost of such therapies is not covered by most medical insurance carriers.

This study, and the vital support of organizations like 24 Foundation and SherryStrong, continue to shine a light on the benefits of integrative oncology and the need for continued financial support to improve access to this and other restorative patient programs offered at Levine Cancer Institute.

24 Hours of Cycling for Cancer Survivorship

In a momentous celebration of 24 Foundation’s 20th anniversary of the 24 Hours of Booty cycling event, hundreds of donors, cancer survivors, and avid cyclists gathered this July in Myers Park to kick off the much-anticipated return to the “booty loop” in person. The hybrid event also offered supporters an “un-looped” virtual option to participate, inviting cancer advocates from far and wide. Through their generosity and the support of numerous corporate sponsors, the event raised $1.2 million to support Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital cancer survivorship programs, as well as other local cancer organizations.
On February 22, 2013, as Charlie Izard and his wife Kathy visited their daughter at her school in New England, their lives changed in an instant. That afternoon at their hotel, Kathy witnessed her athletic husband – an avid fitness enthusiast – experience unusual and frightening symptoms that led the couple to a local emergency department. There, Kathy learned her husband’s main artery had dissected, causing a major heart attack.

Soon the Izards learned that the event was no ordinary heart attack, but one caused by an exceedingly rare cardiac condition: Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD). Prevalent among young and middle-aged...
females, the life-threatening heart condition is diagnosed in less than a dozen male survivors worldwide. In fact, the condition is so rare that Charlie joined a research study at Mayo Clinic, where he later traveled for highly specialized surgery. While the Izards were grateful for a successful outcome and for the excellent care Charlie receives locally at Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, the experience of having to travel for care inspired them to invest in making Sanger one of the world’s preeminent destinations for cardiac care.

Kathy, an accomplished writer, recently authored a heartfelt memoir about her husband’s traumatic experience and her family’s path to healing. She reflected in her book: “Our cardiac crash had resulted in a resurrection, which allowed both Charlie and me to begin living our best lives.” The couple has done just that, identifying their areas of passion and investing their time and gifts in those causes. This includes their commitment to the continued growth of Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute as a destination for world-class cardiac care for our region and a “jewel in the city of Charlotte,” Charlie commented.

As a founding member and chair of the Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute Board of Ambassadors, Charlie has two primary goals: to ensure that members of the community think of Sanger first when faced with any cardiac event; and to inspire others, through his family’s giving, to invest in Sanger as it recruits some of the world’s best medical talent.

The Izard’s recent $500,000 gift, coupled with a $1.5 million commitment through a planned gift, has established the Izard Family Fund for Excellence in Women’s Cardiovascular Care and the Izard Family Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine. This funding will help Sanger recruit experts to address the unique needs and conditions associated with women’s cardiovascular health.

“The Last Ordinary Hour: Living life now that nothing will ever be the same,” by Kathy Izard (2021).

“Through the generosity and vision of Kathy and Charlie Izard, Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute is now able to embark on developing a Women’s Heart Center unrivaled in scope, faculty, clinical care, and research impact. We are so grateful for their support of our mission: advancing the overall state of knowledge in cardiovascular medicine while simultaneously delivering comprehensive and innovative care to all in our region.”

– GEOFFREY ROSE, MD, PRESIDENT OF ATRIUM HEALTH SANGER HEART & VASCULAR INSTITUTE
When given a second chance at a healthy childhood, 13-year-old cancer survivor Laila Charleston found a special form of healing in helping kids and teens fighting the disease. Inspired by her own journey at Levine Children’s, where she was treated in 2017 for Germinomia, the entrepreneurial teen has since created her own personal brand – Poppin’ Curls – to bring comfort to children and adolescents being treated for cancer.

Having experienced first-hand the side effects of cancer treatment, Laila created her own brand of specialized hair oils, chapstick, and personal care packages, to ensure young cancer patients and survivors receive the same nourishment and support she herself needed during her own cancer journey.

Today, Laila is not only the champion of her cancer journey, she is also a newly celebrated member of the Atrium Health Young Ambassadors, a group of children and teens honored for their gifts and service in support of Atrium Health patients.

To learn more about Laila’s care packages and brand, Poppin’ Curls, visit: Poppin-curls.myshopify.com.

This July, Laila made her first delivery to Levine Children’s Hospital and Levine Cancer Institute’s Adolescent and Young Adult Survivorship clinic.
GRATEFUL PATIENT FAMILY LEAVES A LASTING LEGACY OF SUPPORT

Inspired by his family’s desire to leave a legacy in their community, Tansukh Ganatra, along with his wife, Sarla, and son, Rajesh, continue to make an indelible impact on the health and wellbeing of Atrium Health patients. After retiring as the co-founder of US LEC, a successful telecommunications company headquartered in Charlotte, Tansukh and his family began a long-standing commitment to Atrium Health Levine Children’s, first with support for technological advancements in neonatal intensive care, and later with significant support for the hospital’s renowned pediatric congenital heart program.

Most recently, the Ganatra family was inspired by a more personal connection to Atrium Health’s internal medicine, cardiology, and orthopaedic surgical programs. In gratitude for the care their family has received first-hand from Atrium Health, the Ganatras donated $750,000 to establish three new funds that will honor and support the work of Drs. Joshua Patt, Jyoti Rao, and Geoffrey Rose: the Ganatra Family Fund for Excellence in Orthopaedic Surgery; the Ganatra Family Fund for Excellence in Endocrinology; and the Ganatra Family Fund for Cardiovascular Care at Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute.

Giving From the Heart: The Ganatra Family Legacy at Levine Children’s

In 2008, Tansukh and Sarla Ganatra and their adult son, Rajesh, first walked through the doors of Levine Children’s Hospital to tour the facility. Inspired by what they witnessed, the family contributed $250,000 to underwrite the purchase of the hospital’s first 3D Trans-Esophageal Echocardiogram, a specialized technology that enables cardiologists and surgeons to better diagnose heart defects and irregularities. The family’s generosity has grown and continued with several substantial gifts and an estate bequest to provide endowed support for Levine Children’s congenital heart program.

Most notably, in 2017 the Ganatra Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization and Electrophysiology Suite was established with the family’s support and named in their honor. Thanks to gifts from the Ganatras and others in the community, Levine Children’s is consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as a “Best Children’s Hospital” in cardiology and heart surgery.

The Ganatra 3-D Printing Lab helps physicians plan and prepare heart families for cardiac catheterizations and surgical heart procedures.
Since her appointment as Director of The Isabella Santos Foundation Rare and Solid Tumor Program, Dr. Giselle Sholler, in affiliation with the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium, continues to conduct groundbreaking research for rare pediatric cancers at Levine Children’s Hospital. Rare and solid tumor research advances are made possible through transformational gifts including the Isabella Santos Foundation’s $5 million commitment to establish the Isabella Santos Foundation Rare and Solid Tumor Program, and the Beat Childhood Cancer Foundation’s $5.25 million gift to underwrite the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium and cancer research lab now headquartered at Levine Children’s.

This spring, contributions from the Beat Childhood Cancer Foundation and the Isabella Santos Foundation, as well as a grant awards from the Sam Day Foundation and the Little Warrior Foundation, will continue to advance Dr. Sholler’s work to develop precision medicine at Levine Children’s. Based upon using targeted, genomic data to create more effective treatments that are individualized for each patient’s treatment, precision medicine is an alternative to one-size-fits-all treatments, which can be less effective and more toxic to patients.

As a first-time grantee of the Sam Day Foundation, Levine Children’s Ewing Sarcoma Precision Medicine Program will receive funding from the newly established Ewing Sarcoma Research Fund to acquire Ewing Sarcoma-specific tumor data for the development of new clinical trials. Dedicated research for Ewing Sarcoma will offer extensive opportunity for accelerating pediatric cancer analysis while expanding the possibility for Ewing Sarcoma cancer care now for every child, everywhere.
This March marked a record-breaking month of giving for the Isabella Santos Foundation, which teamed up with Charlotte-area Jersey Mike’s Subs for their annual fundraising campaign benefiting Levine Children’s. Thanks to the generosity of donors and Jersey Mike’s Subs customers, the month-long campaign raised more than $290,000. To learn more about the Isabella Santos Foundation and the organization’s groundbreaking role in helping to advance rare childhood cancer research visit Isabellasantosfoundation.org.

The Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium is a group of 60+ universities and children’s hospitals that offer a worldwide network of childhood cancer clinical trials coordinated by Levine Children’s Hospital. The Consortium has a proven track record of managing multisite clinical trials from start to finish and has successfully opened more than 20 Phase I and II trials for pediatric cancer patients, with at least three more pending. These open trials include four feasibility trials using Molecular Guided Therapy in children with relapsed cancers. To date, 16 Phase I/II trials have been completed and are published or in submission for publication.
DR. MARTIN J. KRESHON, SR.

Martin J. Kreshon, Sr., MD, a prominent local physician, passed away on June 20, 2021, surrounded by his loving family. Dr. Kreshon helped establish the Save Your Skin Melanoma Golf Classic, a charity golf tournament that honors the life of his late wife Jerri, a former patient of Atrium Health who lost her battle with melanoma in 2005. Thanks to the dedication of Dr. Kreshon and his family, the tournament has raised more than $1 million since its inception to benefit the Carolinas Melanoma Research & Immunotherapy Fund. The money raised advances Levine Cancer Institute’s research efforts to improve the detection and treatment of melanoma.

Dr. Kreshon was born in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania on November 11, 1929, the son of the late James and Elizabeth Kreshon. An accomplished ophthalmologist at Charlotte Eye Ear Nose & Throat Associates from 1960 to 1995, Dr. Kreshon also served in the U.S. Army and established a longstanding fellowship at Duke University. He always exemplified his belief in hard work being the key to a successful life, one he lived to the fullest.

To support the Carolinas Melanoma & Immunotherapy Fund with a memorial gift, visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org/tribute.

MARGARET W. ROSS

This summer, Atrium Health Foundation shared in the loss of a great supporter, Margaret W. Ross, who passed away on July 13, 2021 at the age of 93. Margaret was married to her beloved husband, F.H. “Sammy” Ross, who served on many community boards – including the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority – before he passed away in 1999. The family, grateful for the care Sammy received at CMC, established the Ross Trauma Center Fund and was recognized for their philanthropy with the naming of the F.H. Ross Trauma Center at Carolinas Medical Center in 2001. The Fund, which supports an array of educational opportunities, research studies, and treatment initiatives at the F. H. Ross Trauma Center, has received contributions totaling nearly $1.1 million over the past two decades.

Margaret Ross, who grew up in Hull, Georgia, spent most of her life in Charlotte with her husband. She was a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church, an avid traveler, and loved to spend time in her favorite destinations of Linville and Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, and St. Maarten. She is survived by her loving children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

To support the Ross Trauma Fund with a memorial gift, visit AtriumHealthFoundation.org/tribute.
Community Keeps Pounding
ON THE PROWL TO FIGHT CANCER

Led by presenting sponsors Rodgers Builders and JELD-WEN, the 11th Annual Keep Pounding 5K raised $70,000 to benefit essential cancer research and patient care programs at Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute and Atrium Health Levine Children’s. In its second straight year as a virtual event, the Keep Pounding 5K continued to draw a dedicated group of over 430 cancer advocates, donors, and patients who united to pound out cancer in our community.

During virtual race week, patient families, teammates, and corporate and community supporters hit their neighborhood streets, parks, and their treadmills to run or complete other healthy activities to support the event.

As the Keep Pounding 5K presenting sponsor since the event’s inception, Rodgers Builders again proved their dedication to the cause and joined co-sponsor JELD-WEN, and numerous corporate supporters from across the community, in raising funds and hope for patients at Atrium Health.

Gary Michel, president and CEO of JELD-WEN, shared with his associates, “Community support is a core value for us, and as part of the Charlotte community, we are challenging all of our associates to keep pounding to raise money in support of Atrium Health Levine Children’s and Levine Cancer Institute. We are thankful for all participating associates and their families for giving back in such a fun and meaningful way.”

Proceeds from this event will support Phase I and Phase II clinical cancer research trials, patient navigators, wellness and survivorship programs, education, and state-of-the-art technology to improve cancer detection and treatment. The Keep Pounding Fund, which was created by the Carolina Panthers and Atrium Health Foundation in 2003, has since received nearly $3.5 million in charitable gifts, which exclusively benefit cancer programs at Atrium Health.

Cancer survivors and advocates from far and wide shared their heartfelt stories of hope and encouragement during the virtual Keep Pounding 5K.
GRATEFUL PATIENTS, PHYSICIANS GATHER TO PROMOTE WOMEN’S CARE

On May 19, Atrium Health Foundation hosted its 9th Inner Circle event, spotlighting Atrium Health Women’s Care. The virtual panel discussion featured Drs. Suzanna Fox, Smitha Vilasagar, Ngina Connors, and Jerry Matkins, as well as several grateful patients, including actress and entrepreneur Olivia Culpo.

Participants heard from talented physicians who highlighted the cutting-edge technology, techniques, and treatments they have implemented to propel Atrium Health to the forefront of women’s care. Women from all walks of life and throughout the region and beyond are now seeking Atrium Health as their destination for care.

For more information on supporting Atrium Health Women’s Care, contact Sara Piner at Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org.

1. and 2. Special guest, actress and entrepreneur Olivia Culpo, shared her personal journey with endometriosis. 3. (L-R): Drs. Suzanna Fox, Ngina Connors, Smitha Vilasagar, and Jerry Matkins

PANELISTS AND FEATURED PATIENTS:

Suzanna J. Fox, MD
Deputy Chief Physician Executive and Enterprise Service Line Leader
Atrium Health Women’s Care Service Line

Smitha Vilasagar, MD, FACOG
Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon and Assistant Professor of OB/GYN
Women’s Center for Pelvic Health
Atrium Health Women’s Care Service Line

Jerry F. Matkins, Jr., MD, FACOG
Attending Physician, OB/GYN
Eastover OB/GYN
Atrium Health Women’s Care Service Line

Ngina K. Connors, MD, MBA
Chair, Department of OB/GYN Division Chief, Maternal Fetal Medicine
CMC Women’s Institute
Atrium Health Women’s Care Service Line

Featured Patients
Olivia Culpo, Lauren Pigg, Jill Vance
FIFTH THIRD PROGRAM TO EMPOWER CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Fifth Third Bank’s “Empower U” has partnered with Atrium Health to offer financial literacy workshops, tools, and resources to our teammates through the “Rise to Success” workforce development program. The program provides both educational and employment opportunities for recent high school graduates from low-income neighborhoods who have an interest in pursuing a career in the healthcare.

ALLY BANK BOLSTERS ATRIUM HEALTH’S “RISE TO SUCCESS” PROGRAM

Complementing Ally Bank’s vision that everyone deserves a path to financial stability, the banking and digital financial services leader is helping high school graduates accelerate their education and healthcare careers—at no cost to students. With a recent gift of $25,000 to support Rise to Success, an Atrium Health workforce development program, Ally Bank is helping to foster the talents and knowledge of promising students from communities with low socioeconomic mobility. Students participating in the program, who are employed full or part-time at Atrium Health, benefit from numerous support services to ensure their path to lifelong economic stability and career success.
THE PAULA TAKACS FOUNDATION PROVES COMMUNITIES ARE “STRONGER TOGETHER”

This April, the Paula Takacs Foundation hosted the annual Sarcoma Stomp, raising over $190,000 to benefit sarcoma research at Levine Cancer Institute. The theme of this year’s virtual event was “Stronger Together,” a message that has taken on a more powerful meaning since the pandemic began. To help unite a passionate community of patient families, Atrium Health teammates, and corporate and community supporters, the Paula Takacs Foundation encouraged participants to share their messages of support online to raise awareness and hope for sarcoma cures.

BAND OF BROTHERS

SARCOMA SURVIVORS, SUPPORTERS GIVE TO LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE

This summer, fraternity brothers from the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (ΣAE) chapter at Western Carolina University presented over $4,300 to Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute. The donation will benefit the Marroum-Kardous Orthopaedic Oncology Fund established at Atrium Health Foundation to advance the research and treatment of sarcomas—a rare group of cancers that begin in the bone or soft tissues. The gift was extremely personal for the young men as two of their fraternity brothers have been diagnosed with the disease. Tragically, their brother, Trevor Arrowood, passed away from sarcoma earlier this year at the young age of 25. Osteosarcoma survivor and fraternity member Parker Cain (pictured front left) was diagnosed with stage IV metastatic osteosarcoma in 2019. After receiving chemotherapy at Levine Cancer Institute, Parker underwent a revolutionary surgery conducted by Dr. Colin Anderson. The procedure successfully removed his tumor and knee, while sparing his leg and mobility. Soon after receiving his prosthesis, Parker learned to walk again.

Parker Cain (front left) was joined by his fraternity brothers (L-R): Joe Beeson, Rodrigo Guevara, John di Zerega, Aidan McInnis, and Nate Craven.
BRASFIELD & GORRIE HELPS IMPROVE ACCESS TO MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENINGS

On April 8, Levine Cancer Institute hosted a free mammography screening day, serving 27 patients at Atrium Health Biddle Point. The event was the first of two Project PINK breast cancer screening days underwritten by Brasfield & Gorrie.

Atrium Health Foundation’s partnership with Brasfield & Gorrie comes at a critical moment for the Project PINK program. With many government and local screening resources scaled back or discontinued due to COVID-19, Project PINK’s comprehensive breast screening and education program is a potentially lifesaving safety net for underserved women in our community. Through Project PINK, LCI offers a safe, welcoming environment for early breast cancer detection services and support, including community education, free mammograms, and recommended follow-up care. Community-minded companies, like Brasfield & Gorrie, are helping LCI achieve its mission to provide high-quality breast cancer care and screenings for those in greatest need.

1-2. (L-R): Ms. Leak and Ms. Graham both received mammography screenings at the Brasfield & Gorrie sponsored event. 3. (L-R): Travis Klingberg, Operations Manager and Caleb Phillips, Regional Director of Business Development at Brasfield & Gorrie

Tickled Pink

Supporting patients and residents of Union County

Month-long fundraising initiative and October 2 drive-through donation drive at Atrium Health Union.

• Donations underwrite free mammograms for uninsured women in Union County; and
• Provide financial assistance for patients being treated for cancer such as transportation costs and other ancillary expenses.

AtriumHealthFoundation.org/TickledPink
On June 4, Charlotte-area Chick-fil-A restaurants hosted a new fundraiser, Chicken for a Cure, donating all mobile orders to Levine Children’s Hospital. During the four-hour event, lines of customers visited 49 participating locations and ultimately helped raise $80,000. Since 2017, Chick-fil-A has raised nearly $160,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital.

Left to Right: Chick-fil-A Restaurant Operators Chad Sheley, Jeremy Stouder, and Beckie Johnston, along with regional Chick-fil-A Marketing Director Katie Martin.

KARTING FOR KIDS AT LEVINE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Giving back is a family affair for Keelan Harvick and his parents, who’ve long supported underprivileged children through the Harvick Foundation, a family foundation established to enrich the lives of children from across the country. Now, Keelan and his family are turning their support closer to home – to benefit patients of Levine Children’s Hospital.

On board his No. 62 Hunt Brothers Pizza iRacing Ford, eight-year-old Keelan has been “karting” for patients at Levine Children’s through a motorsports simulation platform televised on Fox Sports. With Hunt Brothers Pizza’s donation of $5,000 to Levine Children’s made in his honor, Keelan joins the ranks of Atrium Health Young Ambassadors honored by Atrium Health Foundation for their advocacy and fundraising.

Top: Keelan pictured with his father, NASCAR legend Kevin Harvick.

Left: Members of Atrium Health Levine Children’s and Atrium Health Foundation accepted Keelan’s gift in support of Levine Children’s patients.
SEPTEMBER 30

10th Annual Pink Pint Night

AtriumHealthFoundation.org/PinkPintNight

Hosted by Charlotte Radiology and NoDa Brewery, this virtual event raises funds for Levine Cancer Institute Project PINK, which supports free screenings and diagnostic mammograms for local, uninsured women.

OCTOBER 3

5th Annual Swim Across America

SwimAcrossAmerica.org/Charlotte

Participate in a socially distanced half-mile, 1-mile, or 2-mile open water swim or take part in the virtual Swim Across America My Way to support leukemia research at Levine Cancer Institute and Levine Children’s Hospital. SAA My Way is open to any virtual or COVID-safe activity of your choice. Virtual fundraising is also encouraged.

OCTOBER 4–7

Flock the Yard

TealDiva.org

Sponsor or adopt a teal yard flamingo in honor of a loved one, healthcare provider, or company, to raise awareness for signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer. Organized by Teal Diva and Teal Butterfly, the flock will perch at SouthPark Mall’s Symphony Park this October.

OCTOBER 24–30

26th Annual Hopebuilders 5K

Hopebuilders5K.org

From October 24–30, you set the pace and choose the place for your virtual Hopebuilders 5K. Choose your distance and location to run or walk at a safe distance from others in support of Atrium Health Levine Children’s!
Costco’s Annual Campaign Tops $125,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital

This past May, over 600 Costco warehouses nationwide participated in the annual Miracle Balloon Campaign in support of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. This year, three Charlotte-area locations raised over $125,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital, surpassing their previous fundraising record set just last year.

This year also marks two additional milestones for Costco and Levine Children’s Hospital: 20 years of partnership and over $1 million raised for pediatric patients. Thanks to the determination of Costco associates and the generosity of its members, Costco continues to make miracles for our patients!
Shopping for Miracles at Publix

For almost 30 years, Publix associates have been empowering their customers to become miracle makers for local children, selling coupons for donations of $1 or more to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. The grocery retailer’s annual in-store campaign has raised millions for children’s hospitals, helping to procure life-saving medical equipment and fund research, education, and outreach programs. During this year’s campaign, local Publix stores raised $69,000 for our local CMN hospital, Levine Children’s.
Ace is the Place
Celebrating 30 Years of Helping Kids

Across the country, Ace Hardware stores spent the month of April encouraging their customers to Round-Up at the Register, with the extra change going to support Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. In the Charlotte region, 13 Ace Hardware stores - including Blackhawk Hardware - participated in the campaign, which raised $6,000 for Levine Children’s Hospital.

The 30-year partnership between Ace Hardware and Children’s Miracle Network has resulted in more than $140 million raised through initiatives like Round Up for the Kids and Miracle Bucket Days. In the Charlotte area, local Ace Hardware stores have raised over $308,000 for patient programs at Levine Children’s Hospital.

While our communities move forward from the pandemic, Ace Hardware remains ‘the helpful place’ and continues to help children in need across the nation.

Ace Hardware celebrates their 30th year of partnership with Children’s Miracle Network just a year after being named their Corporate Partner of the Year.

1. The 2021 executive board spent the year planning for their event, which they were able to hold in person.
2. The team celebrates the success of their hybrid Ninerthon event. 3. Raising over $30,000 was an incredible feat, and a particularly gratifying achievement a year after their canceled event.
UNCC’s Ninerthon Hosts Hybrid Event to Support Levine Children’s Hospital

With more creativity and spirit than ever before, UNC Charlotte’s Ninerthon team worked tirelessly throughout the school year to raise funds and awareness for their local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital, Atrium Health Levine Children’s Hospital. Hosted virtually this year, the event raised over $30,000 to support Levine Children’s, while ensuring the safety of participating students, faculty and sponsors.

Organized by the Ninerthon’s executive team and broadcasted live to participants and supporters through social media, the day-long dance marathon was full of surprises. From virtual Miracle Family appearances to "morale dance breaks" and health and fitness sessions, dancers kept engaged and inspired to achieve their goals in support of Levine Children’s Hospital.

Davidson College Students Hold Successful Virtual Fundraiser

Taking the year’s events and precautions in stride with the postponement of the 2020 Dance Marathon, Davidson College students and dance marathon organizers returned to campus this year more reenergized than ever to host their first virtual event for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. In addition to their success in securing $8,000 in 2020 without a traditional program, students nearly doubled that amount this spring, raising over $15,000 to benefit patients of Atrium Health Levine Children’s.

The 2021 Davidson Executive Board celebrates surpassing their goal of $15,000.
FROM SURVIVORS TO SUPPORTERS
GRATEFUL PATIENT FAMILY FUNDS PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

An initial pledge in 2009 to help fund the Developmental Therapeutics Program at Levine Children’s marked the beginning of the Adam Faulk Tanksley Foundation’s long history of driving pediatric cancer research in our region. For Mike and Sharon Tanksley, the cause is personal. Their son, Adam, was diagnosed with Stage IV Anaplastic Wilms’ Tumor, a rare childhood kidney cancer with a 20% chance for survival, when he was only three years old.

Adam, now 17 years old and a recent high school graduate, remains cancer free and is grateful to his care team at Levine Children’s Hospital for saving his life. To demonstrate their appreciation, Adam and his loved ones recently presented a check for $100,000 to Atrium Health Foundation—a gift that will help connect children with rare forms of pediatric cancer to clinical trials of the latest, most promising treatments at Levine Children’s Hospital.

“WE WERE THREE DOCTORS; NOW WE’RE 14. WE DIDN’T HAVE ANY SORT OF PHASE I TRIALS, AND NOW WE ARE THE PHASE I CENTER FOR CHARLOTTE. WE OFFER TRANSPLANTS, HIGH-DOSE MIBG THERAPY, AND EVERY TRIAL THAT’S AVAILABLE IN THIS COUNTRY. THE ADAM FAULK TANKSLEY FOUNDATION IS REALLY WHERE ALL THIS STARTED.”

— DR. JAVIER OESTERHELD
JEFF GORDON CHILDREN’S FOUNDATION ENDOVED CHAIR – PEDIATRIC CANCER AND BLOOD DISORDERS; SPECIALTY MEDICAL DIRECTOR – PEDIATRIC HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY/BMT
COUGARS 4 A CURE:
ON THE PROWL TO BEAT BLADDER CANCER

This year, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 83,000 new cases of bladder cancer will be diagnosed in the U.S. and that 17,000 individuals will succumb to the deadly disease. These sobering statistics drive researchers and clinicians at Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute every day in their mission to improve detection and treatment of bladder cancer. Backed by essential philanthropic support from individual donors and grassroots efforts like Cougars 4 A Cure, a growing number of patients at LCI are being enrolled in clinical trials for bladder cancer, each of which moves LCI closer to the goal line of beating bladder and urologic cancers.

Finding a cure for bladder cancer is also the number one motivation behind the Salvino family’s success in raising more than $294,000 through Cougars 4 A Cure, a fundraising initiative established at Charlotte Catholic High School in 2014. First championed by siblings and Charlotte Catholic High School alumni Matthew and Mitchell Salvino, the initiative passed on to their younger sister, Morgan, who earlier this year achieved one of the most successful events to date. Along with the support of her classmates, and CCHS faculty and staff, Morgan raised $41,000 by teaming up with clothing retailer Vineyard Vines to create and sell one-of-a-kind Cougars 4 A Cure t-shirts.

With support from Cougars 4 A Cure and backed by 5MPOWER—a local charitable organization—the Salvino family continues to advance essential bladder cancer research at Levine Cancer Institute. Their support has contributed substantially to the Carolinas Bladder Cancer Fund, which has received more than $828,000 in charitable contributions since its establishment in 2012.

1. L to R – Armando Chardiet, Denise Salvino, Kurt Telford, Morgan Salvino, Matthew Salvino, Mitchell Salvino, Dr. Derek Raghavan, Mike Salvino, and Dr. Peter Clark. 2. Rising CCHS senior Morgan Salvino teamed up with Vineyard Vines to create a one-of-a-kind Cougars 4 A Cure charity t-shirt.

Much of the research we are doing at Levine Cancer Institute is supported by philanthropy. We are fortunate to have a group of benefactors, including the Salvino family, who are passionate about supporting our work. My team’s research efforts are focused on identifying new biomarkers that will help optimize treatment selection for patients with bladder cancer. It’s our hope that we’ll identify new cancer markers that will lead to improvements in the standard of care for everybody with this disease.

- EARLE BURGESS, MD, CHIEF, GENITOURINARY ONCOLOGY SECTION; MEDICAL DIRECTOR, CLINICAL TRIALS; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE - LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE
THE ANN P. MILLER CHARITABLE TRUST SUPPORTS LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY TELEREGNEDICINE CLINIC

As part of its “for all” mission, Atrium Health is committed to not only caring for patients across its 1,500 care locations, but to bringing hope to every corner of the communities it serves. Over the past few years, Atrium Health has continued to develop innovative telemedicine solutions to reach residents living in areas with limited access to care.

Now, with a $25,000 grant from the Ann P. Miller Charitable Trust – created by Ms. Miller’s estate gift in 2016 to benefit Atrium Health patient and community programs – Atrium Health’s experienced telemedicine team will pilot a program that will provide the vulnerable community around the I-85/Sugar Creek intersection with exceptional access to care. Atrium Health has partnered with Northside Baptist Church to house the telehealth clinic and serve individuals and families within their rhythm of life.

Through the Atrium Health Community Telemedicine Clinic at Northside Baptist Church, an onsite health care technician will assist in the completion of an enhanced video visit, which may include either primary or specialty care for children and adults. Using secure and innovative technologies, a medical provider located remotely will complete a comprehensive health exam and develop a treatment plan including prescriptions, follow-up care, and connections to social services when needed.

Atrium Health already has demonstrated success utilizing community telemedicine. Currently, the health system operates virtual clinics in over 30 schools across Lincoln and Cleveland Counties, as well as within Kannapolis City Schools.

For more information contact Sara E. Piner, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning: Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org
Philanthropy serves an important role in fulfilling Atrium Health’s vision for the future of healthcare. A variety of options are available for you to plan for tomorrow, today. Atrium Health Foundation can help you establish your unique legacy gift to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing – for all. For more information, please contact Sara E. Piner, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning at 704-355-0844 or Sara.Piner@atriumhealth.org.
GRATEFUL PATIENT FAMILY DONATES $75,000 TO ATRIUM HEALTH NURSING FUND

While visiting family over the holidays, John McNally and Helen Morrison unexpectedly found themselves at Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center. The Washington, D.C. natives were far from home when John experienced sudden stroke symptoms. He was rushed to the hospital for care where Dr. William R. Stetler Jr. performed a carotid endarterectomy on John’s left carotid artery.

Today, John is on the path to a full recovery and is grateful to his team of doctors and nurses for the compassionate care he received during his week-long stay at the hospital. To show their gratitude, John and Helen recently made a $75,000 contribution to the Atrium Health Nursing Fund, accompanied with a personal letter to his care team to express his heartfelt thanks for the care he received.

In his letter, John specifically recognizes his neurosurgeon, neurologists, Dr. Nina Burkett and Dr. Jeffrey Miller, internists, Dr. Nicholas Young, Dr. Patricia Baker and Dr. Alyssa MacKay, cognitive therapist Devon Brunson, nurse practitioner Swatiben Patel, and the many nurses who cared for him:

Dear Care Team,

We do not know the names of the numerous attentive and kind nurses and nurses’ aides who cared for me. What we do know is that [they] were on the front line of my care... While at CMC, we experienced for ourselves the hard work, long hours, and critical role that nurses played in my care and recovery. We hope that our contribution to the Atrium Health Nursing Fund will provide the Atrium Health nursing staff with support for their ongoing education, training, scholarships, conferences and other endeavors that will enhance their work and their careers.

— John

John and Helen delivered flowers to the Unit 9T nurse team during National Nurses Month.

Following his recovery, John and Helen visited the Gulf this spring – a trip they had originally planned for New Year’s.
In observance of National Nurses Month in May, Atrium Health Foundation helped celebrate the many dedicated nursing professionals across Atrium Health. Through an online campaign for the Atrium Health Nursing Fund, stories of their triumphs and selfless acts throughout the pandemic were shared with thousands of followers.

Thanks to the generosity of patients, teammates, and community members, the Atrium Health Nursing Fund has received more than $100,000 in charitable gifts since its establishment. Contributions to the Fund help to advance the nursing profession at Atrium Health, including support for nurses’ professional development and medical technology such as Lippincott Advisor—a newly acquired, evidence-based diagnostic tool that helps Atrium Health nurses provide exceptional patient care at the bedside.

Tara McGee-Walker, BSN, RN-BC, was featured during National Nurses Month for her instrumental role in planning and overseeing several of Atrium Health’s COVID-19 mass vaccination events.

ATRIUM HEALTH NURSING FUND & NURSING STARS PROGRAM

Donors can support the Atrium Health Nursing Fund and make “Nursing Star” gifts to honor Atrium Health nurses for their service year-round at:

AtriumHealthFoundation.org/Nurses.
From October 24-30, you set the pace and choose the place for your personal Hopebuilders 5K. Choose your distance and location to run or walk at a safe distance from others in support of Atrium Health Levine Children’s! Learn about prizes for top fundraisers, costumes, and a new pumpkin decorating contest at hopebuilders5k.org.