

foundation **FOCUS**

news from your friends at the Methodist Healthcare Foundation

winter 2019

METHODIST GOES PINK WITH VALUED PARTNER SUSAN G. KOMEN

This October, Methodist Healthcare proudly served as a Presenting Sponsor of the Susan G. Komen Memphis–MidSouth Race for the Cure, an annual event that raises funding to support the mission of Susan G. Komen to combat breast cancer at every level.

“We are so honored to be able to support the Race. This level of support both conveys our healthcare system’s commitment to combating breast cancer mortality in Memphis and the MidSouth as well as our gratitude to Susan G. Komen for their meaningful and impactful work,” said Monica Wharton, Methodist’s Chief Legal Counsel.

While the event took place in October, the partnership between Methodist and Susan G. Komen, which launched almost eight years ago, is year-round.

Following a study that found that, among the nation’s top 25 largest cities, Memphis had the largest breast cancer mortality disparity between Black and White women, Methodist committed to addressing this critical health disparity.

Since the beginning, Susan G. Komen Memphis–MidSouth has supported Methodist’s community-based breast cancer



navigation work.

With their grants, Methodist is able to address key barriers that women in Memphis and the MidSouth face in accessing preventative breast health screenings – a key step in promoting earlier detection and combatting breast cancer mortality.

“In total, with Komen’s support, we’ve been able to provide more than 3,500 free screenings to women who are in need,” said Wharton. *“Additionally, we’ve been able to address*

the barrier of lack of transportation through the launch of the Methodist Mobile Mammography bus and the provision of free transportation so women are able to attend their screenings.”

Susan G. Komen’s support, totaling well over \$600,000, has paid for screening and diagnostic services for uninsured and impoverished women, covered the cost of transportation to and from appointments, and supported

community-based education and outreach.

“One out of eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetimes,” said Wharton. *“So, any opportunity to raise awareness to this issue and to raise funds is critical to ensuring that people within our community are getting the access to care that they need.”*

To learn more about how you can support this work, call 901.478.0695.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR INTERIM PRESIDENT, ZACH PRETZER

Dear friends,

It is hard to believe that this year, and decade, are about to reach an end. 2019 has been a landmark year for Methodist Healthcare and our Foundation. Thanks to the generous support of donors and partners like you, we've been able to launch exciting new programs and continue our constant efforts to elevate the care we provide to our community. As you will see in this edition of our Foundation's FOCUS Newsletter, your gifts have been impactful in so many different ways.

One constant over the last decade has been our Mike Conley Bowl n' Bash. Through this event and the philanthropy of Mary and Mike Conley, we have raised over \$1 Million to benefit our Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at Methodist University Hospital. We have been consistently humbled by Mike and Mary's dedication, leadership, and support. The naming of the Mike and Mary Conley Comprehensive Sickle Cell Clinic earlier this year reflects their commitment to this important cause. This September marked the 11th and final Mike Conley Bowl n' Bash. Because of the tremendous support of the Conleys and so many sponsor partners over the years, sickle cell patients in our community now have access to the best care possible. We wish the Conley family well in Utah, and we hope they will be able to hear the cheers and support from all of us in Memphis.

This November, we concluded our 2019 signature events in record-setting fashion. With the help of acclaimed actress Andie Macdowell, the Methodist Healthcare Luncheon provided a platform for our Foundation to raise funds for our faith-based, healing mission. And, the Night Life for Methodist Hospice event featuring Caroline Jones set a new record, raising over \$225,000 for our hospice program. We hope you will join us in 2020 for these and other exciting events to support our mission to care for all.

Finally, just six months ago, we opened the beautiful new Shorb Tower at Methodist University Hospital. Philanthropy played a key role in making this commitment to quality care in the heart of our community possible. Donations have directly enabled us to launch innovative new ways to better care for our patients through: improved access to care, innovative resources and technologies, health education, music therapy, outreach, and much more.

Please know that your donations and advocacy make a tremendous difference in the health and well-being of our patients and our community. Whether care is needed for cancer, cardiovascular disease, sickle cell, hospice, transplant, mental health, or other health challenges – your gifts to Methodist Healthcare enable us to provide compassionate, excellent care to everyone, regardless of their circumstances.

On behalf of our Methodist Healthcare Foundation team and Board of Directors, THANK YOU.



Zach Pretzer, Interim President
Methodist Healthcare Foundation



Mike and Mary Conley with Zach Pretzer

Philanthropy Funds Hospital-Based Music Program

Now when patients, family members, guests, and caregivers enter Methodist hospitals, they will be welcomed by the sounds of live music.

In partnership with Creative Aging, Methodist Healthcare has launched a new program to provide live musical performances by local Mid-South musicians at the Methodist Hospice Residence and Methodist North and South Hospitals.



Donations from the Tennessee Arts Commission and individuals is supporting live musical performances at Methodist sites.

The goal of the program is to promote positive experiences and healing for patients, family members, caregivers and community members while expanding access to the musical arts within the Memphis and Mid-South community.

A grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission and support from individual donors provided funding for bi-monthly performances at the three Methodist facilities.

"The music performances have brought great joy not only to our patients, but also to the care providers who are able to perform at the top level of their practice when happy and motivated. In turn, this creates improved safety and patient outcomes as well as a delightful patient experience," shared Jeri Lawson-Pennel, Clinical Director at Methodist North Hospital.

Additional support is needed to continue this meaningful program. To learn more, please visit www.methodisthealth.org/music or call 901.478.0695.

The Foundation Focus is printed two times a year. If you would like to update your contact preferences with Methodist Healthcare Foundation, please contact 901.478.0704.

Methodist Healthcare Foundation 2019 Board Members

Sally Aldrich, Dana Armstrong, Roshun Austin, Wes Barnett, Nicholas Bragorgos, *Chair*, Dr. Jason Chandler, Michael Drake, Kim Heathcott, Yvonne Madlock, Wilson Moore, *Vice Chair*, James Parker, Demetri Patikas, Rev. Dr. Shane Stanford, Monica Wharton

YOUR STORY IS OUR STORY

Emma and Charles Vernon: a Hospice story spanning 25 years

Methodist Hospice has been a part of Emma and Charles Vernon's life for 25 years.

From 1995 to 2019, the Vernons have cared for five of their loved ones at the end of their lives in their home on their farm, Vernon Farms Beef, and Methodist Hospice was there to help.

"Methodist Hospice is the best of the best. It is like having the Methodist Hospital in your home," Emma shared.

Starting with Emma's Aunt, Fannie Hipp, who passed away in 1995, the Vernons observed something special about Methodist Hospice and the team of caregivers.

"Methodist Hospice goes above what anyone would normally expect. They are so perceptive to what's going on with the patient that they try to make their best days ever their final days. That is why we stayed with them," Emma shared.

In the years that followed, Emma and Charles would choose Methodist



Emma and Charles Vernon on their farm.

Hospice again and again to care for their loved ones, including Emma's Father, Herbert Garrison, Charles' Father, Bruce Vernon, Emma's Mother, Margaret Garrison, and Emma's Uncle, John Garrison, Jr.

Emma reflected, ***"When I think about all of the wonderful caregivers—the nurses, the aids, the chaplains—one word I feel is how blessed I was. These Hospice caregivers are our angels here on earth."***

One example of the extraordinary

level of care the Vernons experienced happened with Emma's Uncle, John Garrison Jr. in 2019. As a Navy Veteran, he did not feel appreciated for his service. Emma shared, ***"Methodist and all the workers really picked up on that, and they came together to give him a wonderful 95th birthday party. They brought in a Navy officer dressed in uniform, and they gave him a Certificate of Appreciation. He actually cried."***

For Emma and Charles Vernon, the Methodist Associates who took care of their loved ones are now like family. Emma concluded, ***"They have given us some of the warmest memories of our loved ones because we had them here in our home, and we heard their 'Thanks You's'. Methodist Hospice caregivers were the instruments who allowed us to hear those 'Thank You's'."***

To learn how you can support Hospice, call 901.478.0694.

Living Awards Benefit Honors Leadership In Faith & Health

The 2019 Living Awards Benefit honored four individuals and one organization for their faith-driven work to improve the health and well-being of their community.

In its 37th year, the Living Awards Benefit is Methodist Healthcare's most prestigious event that celebrates the healthcare system's mission and highlights the meaningful work of individuals, and organizations.

This year's honorees were:

- ▶ **George Cates**, for his dedication to promoting the health and well-being of Memphis and the Mid-South through his professional career as the founder of Mid-America Apartment Communities, Board leadership, and philanthropic work with organizations like UT Health Science Center and Overton Park Conservancy;
- ▶ **Darrell Raber, D.Ph.**, for his life-long commitment to his faith and the health of others, exemplified by his 49 years of dedicated service to patients and families at Methodist Healthcare as a Pharmacist;
- ▶ **Dr. Alim Khandekar**, a thoracic and cardiac surgeon and professor,



The 2019 Living Award recipients (from left to right): George Cates, Darrell Raber, D.Ph., Dr. Alim Khandekar, Dr. Bryan Simmons, and Dr. Phil Baker and Dr. Jide Anyigbo of Good Shepherd Pharmacy.

for his dedication to serving all patients, especially those in need, and his inspiring work as a leader in the Muslim community and his efforts to bring together all faith communities in Memphis;

- ▶ **Dr. Bryan Simmons**, for his service and leadership as an infectious diseases physician at Methodist for over 35 years as well as his efforts to raise funds to support Methodist's mission through his Pilgrimage with a Purpose; and
- ▶ **Good Shepard Pharmacy**, a nonprofit membership pharmacy, for their efforts to improve the lives

of community members through affordable pharmacy services and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The event, which took place on August 8th at the Peabody Hotel, brought together over 450 guests, representing family members, friends and colleagues of the honorees as well as generous sponsors, including Presenting Sponsors: **Cigna, Johnson Controls, and Turner.**

Each year, Methodist Healthcare Foundation requests nominations from the community. Honorees are selected by a committee representing Methodist Healthcare senior leaders, retired Physicians, the Methodist Hospital Women's Auxiliary, and the system and Foundation Boards of Directors.

The 2020 Living Awards Benefit will take place on August 27th. Nominations are now being accepted. To learn more and to submit a nomination, please visit www.methodisthealth.org/livingawards or e-mail mhfoundation@mlh.org.

Make your wishes known and make a difference at the same time

Including us in your will and making a bequest is one of the simplest ways to remember what you care about most—while keeping your assets available to you throughout your lifetime. An unrestricted direct bequest—included in your will or living trust—of a certain sum of money, a percentage of your estate, or a particular asset preserves your wishes forever and strengthens our tomorrow.

We are available to provide you with more information on gifts that fit your financial and philanthropic goals.

Please contact us at:

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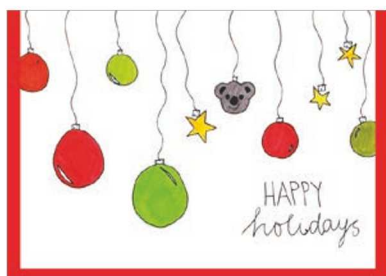
PARTNER WITH METHODIST

Special ways to support Methodist this Holiday Season and into the New Year!

**Hospice Holiday
Honorarium Cards**

Give a gift that gives back. With a \$10 donation per card, Methodist will personalize and mail Hospice Holiday Honorarium Cards to your recipients.

www.methodisthealth.org/holidaycards



BraveHearts Family Grief Camp.
www.methodisthealth.org/golf

**Methodist Health-
care Golf Classic
– June 15, 2020**

Fun day of golf at TPC Southwind featuring breakfast, lunch, and an awards ceremony – Benefitting Methodist Hospice's Camp

**Mental Health
Breakfast –
March 10, 2020**

Business breakfast featuring **Kevin Berthia** and **Kevin Briggs** as they share their true story "The Bridge Between Suicide and Life" – Benefitting the Dennis H. Jones Living Well Network.
www.methodisthealth.org/livingwellbreakfast



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Support Methodist when you shop at Kroger and amazon! Simply register your Kroger Plus card to support **Methodist Healthcare Foundation**

(Org: FJ751), and register on www.smile.amazon.com to support **Methodist Healthcare-Memphis!**

Tickets, tables, and sponsorships are available for all 2020 events.
Contact 901.478.0704 or mhfoundation@mlh.org to learn more.

4 donations make our work possible. **thank you!**