Methodist Health System Nurses: Fulfilling Our Mission

THANK YOU!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: Jim Atkins and G. David Neal
Methodist Health System: MOVING FORWARD FROM COVID-19

As the days get longer, it seems that the light at the end of the tunnel is brighter now. The extraordinary surge in hospitalized COVID-19 patients has passed, vaccines have become increasingly available, and more North Texans have received those critical shots. We all seem to be able to breathe a little easier — to be optimistic about returning to a more normal lifestyle. This pandemic isn’t over, however, we encourage each of you, like Methodist Health System is, to continue following health and safety protocols and to get your vaccination.

We’re very pleased to share with you that Methodist Health System and Methodist Health System Foundation remain focused on our mission, to improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare. We’re extremely grateful to our medical teams, to our leadership team, to our boards, to our patients and their families, and certainly to our donors for their generous efforts during the past year.

In this issue of Foundation Focus, we are spotlighting: several of our excellent staff, like the Methodist Charlton Medical Center nurses on the cover; some of our Foundation activities and projects; and two distinguished Golden Cross Division Board of Trustees members, Jim Atkins and G. David Neal.

Two Popular Legacy Gifts

• Bequest: By naming a charitable organization as a beneficiary in your will, you can contribute, for example, an IRA or insurance proceeds through your estate. Bequests can also establish endowments, so your donation makes an impact in perpetuity.

• Outright gifts: By making a gift of stock or real estate now, for example, you can contribute funds for immediate use. Outright gifts can be undesignated or restricted for a particular purpose.

Methodist Foundation’s Weiss Legacy Society recognizes donors who name Methodist as a beneficiary in their wills. Named for Charlotte and Martin Weiss and established in 1954 as Methodist’s first endowed, the long-reaching impact of a Legacy Gift and to Methodist’s responsible stewardship, Mitchener adds, “The Weiss’ gift helped build Methodist Dallas hospital a half a century ago and we are clearly seeing the benefits of their gift still today.”

Charles Tandy, MD, is a retired anesthesiologist on the Methodist Dallas medical staff. He and his wife, Roena, are Weiss Society members, who long ago made a legacy gift to support Methodist well into the future. “Methodist is like a child we’ve brought up. It’s impossible to not want to do more,” say the Tandys.

Jeanne Huss had been living with significant breathing issues for some time when she finally turned to Methodist Dallas Medical Center for help. Huss was so grateful for the care she received, crediting her last three years of health to the hospital staff, that she named Methodist Dallas a beneficiary in her will. As a beneficiary, Methodist then designated funding for ventilators to help other patients suffering from similar ailments.

“For more than 90 years, Methodist Health System has been fulfilling our mission to improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare. Our Legacy Giving program receives support from those with a shared passion for the work we do now, in another 90 years, and beyond,” says John Mitchener, vice president of development, Methodist Health System Foundation.

We are pleased to announce the 2021 Robert S. Folsom Leadership Award recipient is Linda and Mitch Hart. The event will be held on October 1, at the Hilton Anatole, and there will be much more information to come about the event and the Harts. Of course, we are mindful of the changing public health situation, so we will keep you apprised of any changes to our current plans.

In the meantime, we appreciate your continued thoughts and generosity, and wish you a happy spring!

With gratitude,

James M. Johnston
President, Methodist Health System Foundation

LEGACY GIVING – Your Future Impact

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Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Methodist Health System or any of its affiliated hospitals.
To improve and save lives through compassionate, quality care. These words are not just a platitude; rather, they are the words Methodist Health System Foundation lives by. Whether the need arises at a particular hospital or clinic, or it serves the system, the Foundation can answer the call, thanks to so many generous donors. In 2020, which was certainly a unique year, here are the projects and initiatives you helped support:

**Folsom Fall Campaign**

The challenges of the last year were unprecedented, requiring system-wide dedication, collaboration, and perseverance, especially from our Methodist Health System nursing staff.

To honor their efforts, Methodist Foundation departed from the long-standing tradition of hosting a fall Robert S. Folsom Leadership Award dinner, which recognizes an individual’s excellent leadership and commitment to the community: instead, we chose to chair a month-long Folsom fall campaign dedicated to nursing and nursing scholarships.

“Through the Folsom fall campaign, donors contributed $1.2 million,” says Jolyn Angus, MBA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, CENP, senior vice president and chief nursing executive, Methodist Health System. “Funding will support nursing in targeted areas.” These areas include:

**New Education**

Though Methodist has long-standing nursing education programs, our nursing leadership believes there may be a new way to support education for someone in our Methodist family.

“Ideally, we could address the challenge of work-schedule flexibility to accommodate staff who attend nursing school,” says Barbara Madden, MSN, RN, vice president nursing and chief nursing officer, Methodist Dallas Medical Center.

**Ongoing Education**

One way nurses pursue continuing education is by attending conferences.

“This year, we plan to use some of the Folsom proceeds to send a much larger contingent of nurses to key leadership conferences,” explains Nora G. Frazier, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, vice president nursing and chief nursing officer, Methodist Mansfield Medical Center. “More attendees translate into more knowledge returning to our campuses, along with a renewed focus on exploring the profession of nursing.”

**Burnout Prevention**

“Part of the Folsom proceeds will be invested in targeting nurse burnout prevention,” says Teresa Land, MBA, RN, vice president nursing and chief nursing officer, Methodist Charlton Medical Center.

“This is a widespread challenge that we are looking to approach in two ways: a respite room set up for relaxation with massage chairs, aromatherapy, and soft music, and scheduled breaks for its use; and the introduction of more nurse recognition programs and broad-based education programs, such as training programs to safely resolve patient-nurse conflicts.”

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**COVID-19 Extraordinary Support Fund**

When Methodist Foundation established the COVID-19 Extraordinary Support Fund in April 2020, no one expected that within six months donors would contribute $1.6 million to support the hospital system during the pandemic. A year later, this support fund continues to provide for nurses and frontline workers.

In the early months of the pandemic, the fund helped cover areas of urgent need, such as personal protective equipment (PPE), infrastructure, staffing and overtime, and pastoral and patient care in underserved communities, to name a few.

For healthcare staff working directly with COVID-19 patients, Methodist provided subsidized and low-cost childcare options through organizations such as YMCA, and premium pay, which is an additional percentage added to employees’ base pay.

**Methodist becomes first in North Texas to vaccinate and a vital vaccine partner**

As soon as a COVID-19 vaccine became a reality, Methodist Health System began planning. “We always wanted to be at the forefront of administering this vaccine,” says Pamela Stoyanoff, MBA, CPA, FACHE, president and chief operating officer, Methodist Health System.

“Our preparation efforts were recognized when Methodist Dallas Medical Center became the first hospital in North Texas to get the vaccine in December.”

As the availability of vaccine doses increased, it became apparent that partnerships would be key to broadening the vaccination efforts. “We approached Parkland early on and solidified a partnership that has them sending us between 1,000 and 2,000 doses each week,” explains Stoyanoff. From there, Methodist reached out to the city of Dallas and offered help. The city was eager to have this assistance and began sharing their vaccine waiting list, a first for any hospital system in the city.

“We administer 2,000 to 3,000 of the city’s vaccine doses each week at Methodist Dallas,” Stoyanoff continues. “From this successful collaboration came our partnership with Dallas County. The county came to us for help in administering second doses as needed. We are incredibly proud to be the only health system involved in county, city, and hospital partnerships as we all work toward the goal of vaccinating our communities.”

**Total COVID-19 Funds Contributed**

$1,587,730

- **COVID-19 PPE**
  - $500,000 (31%)

- **COVID-19 General**
  - $837,730 (53%)

- **COVID-19 Pastoral Care**
  - $50,000 (3%)

- **COVID-19 Bright Horizons Child/Sibling Care**
  - $200,000 (13%)

*Data as of Spring 2021 Foundation Focus*
There are few people who can say their entire lives have intertwined with Methodist Dallas Medical Center and Methodist Dallas Golden Cross Academic Clinic (previously called Dallas Methodist Hospital and Golden Cross Clinic, respectively), but Jim Atkins and G. David Neal can. Atkins was born 80 years ago at Methodist Dallas, and Neal’s parents supported the Golden Cross Ministry, which provides care to the elderly and others who could not afford it, financially and voluntarily. Little did they know they would both go on to play strategic supporting roles with Methodist Dallas.

Atkins and Neal were first introduced to one another in their Sunday school class and later became delegates to the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. During one of the conferences they attended, they were introduced to the great work the Golden Cross Academic Clinic at Methodist Dallas Medical Center does for the community. The Golden Cross Academic Clinic was created by the Golden Cross Ministry and Methodist Dallas to provide healthcare to those in southern Dallas. After being introduced, they knew they wanted to do more, so they shared the mission of the Clinic to their Sunday school class.

“Our Sunday school class was just as inspired to get involved and make a difference, so we committed to raise $5,000 over a five-year period, and we raised the total amount in about two years,” Atkins says. In 2004, Joy Duncan, vice president of board engagement and strategic initiatives, Methodist Health System Foundation, invited Atkins and Neal to join the Golden Cross Division Board of Trustees.

Both Atkins and Neal diligently served 16 years on the board to help improve access to care for those who would otherwise go without. One of their many achievements of note is the MedAssist program — one of the longest-running programs at the Clinic — which provides patients with short-term prescription drug assistance, while long-term medications can be secured at an affordable price.

“Another program credited to the Golden Cross Division Board is the Faith Community Nursing program, a mission-driven initiative of Methodist Health System that partners with faith communities in an effort to improve the physical and spiritual health of Dallas-area congregations through an abundance of resources.

“We pushed for the clinic to expand these programs into different areas, in both southern and northern Dallas. Though northern Dallas may have some wealthier areas, there’s a large percentage who still need a lot of help,” says Neal.

Atkins and Neal both announced their retirement from the Golden Cross Division Board in early 2021, and we profoundly thank them for their many years of guidance and wish them the very best in all future endeavors.

“Jim Atkins and G. David Neal have been long-standing supporters and dedicated volunteers for the Golden Cross Academic Clinic. Their commitment to the community and their efforts to improve access to healthcare have made a significant impact on those in need. We are grateful for their leadership and support.”

— G. David Neal Former Golden Cross Division Board member

Jim Atkins
G. David Neal

Donor Spotlight:
Linda and Mitch Hart
Friday, October 1, 2021
Hilton Anatole Hotel
More details to follow
www.methodisthealthsystem.org/folsom

SAV E T H E D AT E
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FOLSOM
LEADERSHIP
AWARD

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