



The McLeod Health Foundation

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

\$845,383 Raised for Children's Hospital

The 2011 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Celebration Broadcast raised \$845,383 for McLeod Children's Hospital. The Foundation would like to thank our sponsors and supporters for their generosity. The broadcast also allowed the community to celebrate the children who have overcome illness or injury and the wonderful staff who cared for them.



WBTW News 13's Brie Jackson with 2011 Miracle Children Ainsley Jordan and Kane Davis.

The Celebration Broadcast is a culmination of year-round efforts dedicated to helping hospitalized children. The McLeod Children's Hospital is the local partner for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals providing the highest level of pediatric care and technology in the region.

The live broadcast took place on Saturday, June 4, on WBTW News 13. One hundred percent of locally-generated donations stay right here to benefit the Children's Hospital. These funds are used to purchase and provide highly specialized services and equipment for the McLeod Children's Hospital, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), which help advance the treatment of critically ill and injured children and infants.

McLeod Angels Making a Difference

The purpose of the McLeod Angels is to provide networking and health care related educational opportunities for women who support the McLeod Foundation and to develop women's knowledge of the impact of philanthropy on health care. Membership dues create a fund to invest effectively in projects that build and strengthen Foundation supported programs through the power of joint contributions. This year, the McLeod Angels voted to fund two programs with a total contribution of \$12,000.

The programs funded include:

"Cribs for Kids" This program provides families with little or no resources, cribs to help prevent unnecessary and tragic deaths. "Cribs for Kids" is a true hands-on program designed to provide families with both an appropriate sleeping environment and education regarding safe sleep for babies.

The Indigent Drug Program (IDP) allows McLeod Family Medicine patients who cannot afford their medications a way to get their medicines at no charge. IDP Coordinator Kimberly Solomon helps patients prepare necessary documentation to take advantage of existing medication programs sponsored by pharmaceutical companies. This program is beneficial because patients who take their medications are able to maintain a better quality of life and manage their health care needs.

For more information or if you would like to join McLeod Angels, visit www.mcleodfoundation.org or call 843-777-2694.



Members of the McLeod Angels Advisory Committee

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McLeod Foundation Provides Support to NICU

The McLeod Foundation recently granted the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) \$307,500 to help support the needs of the unit and assist the staff in providing excellent medical care to the infants treated at McLeod Regional Medical Center. The grant money will be used by the NICU to maintain current services, fund family-centered aspects of care, and purchase specialized clinical equipment for the NICU.

McLeod Regional Medical Center has a 40-bed NICU which provides care to critically ill infants from the Pee Dee to the Grand Strand. Many of these infants require ground transport to McLeod for specialized neonatal care. In addition, there are approximately 450 admissions to the NICU each year with 125 of these babies weighing less than three and a half pounds.

The McLeod NICU is an area of both high touch and high technology with these two levels of care often intertwining. One example of how the Foundation funds will be used is the purchase of Giraffe Omnibeds. A combination radiant warmer and isolette, these beds reduce noise, increase humidity and help enable the baby's temperature to remain constant. This unique isolette also allows the NICU staff quick, easy access for hands-on treatment to the baby while providing a quiet, enclosed environment for rest. The McLeod NICU has achieved many successful outcomes with the use of these isolettes for very tiny babies, some as small as one pound, three ounces. In addition, premature babies are surviving, and actually thriving with less fluid and subsequent weight loss due to the humidification these beds offer.



*NICU Nurse
Melanie Brewer cares for
a baby in one of the
Giraffe isolettes.*

Did You Know...

MCLEOD FOUNDATION FACTS

400 families

in need have received a free car seat because of the McLeod Safe Kids program.

10,000 seats

are in the Florence Civic Center. Last year, McLeod Children's Hospital treated more than 22,000 children. You could fill the Civic Center arena twice in one day with all of the children treated at McLeod in 2010.

Upcoming Events:

McLeod Angels Luncheon
September 21, 2011

*An Evening of Hope
Cancer Benefit*
October 6, 2011

Festival of Trees
November 18 & 19, 2011

McLeod Hospice House: Angels At Work

A Letter from Jim Sellers:

My widowed mother, Sybil Sellers of Bishopville, had courageously fought Alzheimer's Disease for more than five years. Living 100 miles away, I relied on my aunt, her youngest sister, to be her daily caregiver.

Right before Thanksgiving 2009 my Mother fell, fracturing her left hip. She remained in McLeod Regional Medical Center through December, her mental and physical condition deteriorating daily.

On December 26, 2009, my wife and I took our two teenage boys to visit. When we entered her hospital room, her face beamed with delight, and it was as if the hands of time had been rolled back. Yet, only a few days later, reality set in as she stopped eating and rarely opened her eyes. The doctors told us the best thing we could do for her was to place her in hospice care.

I confess, having never had a hands-on experience with hospice, I had only a vague idea as to what it encompasses. Her final "home," the McLeod Hospice House, was spacious, well-appointed, and comforting, and our family was welcome 24/7. My Mother was made comfortable, and everyone was on her timetable.

As hours stretched into days, I realized that Mama really was okay. Peaceful, comfortable, almost serene... maybe more so than she had been in a long, long time.

Knowing that she was in capable, caring hands, I decided to try to catch up on some of the post-holiday backlog at my Myrtle Beach office. As I was eating lunch at my desk, I received "the call." The end was imminent.



In this picture from 1991, Sybil Sellers gets help making biscuits from her oldest grandson, Trey.

Unfortunately, even pushing the legal speed limit, I didn't arrive in time but as I walked into her room, I was overwhelmed to find my cousin holding her hand and McLeod Hospice Chaplain Jessie Tanner watching over her as soft music played in the background. I was given as much time as I needed to say my good-byes, and then the staff did the most unexpected thing -- they gave me a rose and thanked me for allowing them to care for Mama. I was speechless. They were thanking me when it should have been the other way around.

Now, when I pass by McLeod Hospice House, I feel a deep connection and understanding, and I catch myself smiling, for I've stepped inside and seen angels at work.

How You Can Help

There are many ways that your help can assist the efforts of the McLeod Health Foundation. Whether you are making an honorarium or memorial gift, or volunteering your time, your involvement now is more critical than ever before!

For more information on how you can help assist the efforts of the McLeod Foundation, contact our staff at 843-777-2694 or visit www.McLeodFoundation.org.



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