

Inspired *by you.*



The care provided to her daughter Olivia led Jennifer Yacoubian to volunteer for the McLeod Children's Hospital. Your support helped make this possible.

Donors Like You Lifting Spirits

Dedicated Support Began During the Unprecedented Pandemic

Each of you may have a COVID-19 Pandemic story of someone who helped you or that you were able to help.

The McLeod Health Foundation was blessed to have generous donors like you who responded with gifts, encouragement and unique ways to say thank you to our front-line workers.

One special supporter, Shalomi Dadush, his wife Karen and son, Simon, began their relationship with the McLeod Foundation during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Shalomi and his family became aware of the Foundation through family members who are employed at McLeod Health Seacoast.

The Foundation staff quickly learned that when they called on Shalomi, he always answered with, “My friend, how can I help you today?”

As owner of several businesses in the Ocean Drive area of North Myrtle Beach, SC, Shalomi is well-known for his warm, giving spirit. As one of the first donors during the pandemic, Shalomi and his family began their involvement with McLeod by providing food for the staff at both McLeod Health Seacoast and McLeod Health Loris.

“We faced challenges we never knew existed or could imagine. Staff needed encouragement. Shalomi’s nourishment was just the lift they needed,” stated Christina Jackson, McLeod Foundation Director.

As Shalomi learned more about the many ways the McLeod Foundation provides support beyond clinical care, he continued his generosity. He was delighted to be one of the sponsors for the successful Jockeys and Juleps event held this past Spring.

Recently, Shalomi and his family have made a generous financial commitment to support programs funded by the McLeod Foundation. It is his family’s desire that the funds are available when they are needed the most.

This incredibly generous donor and his family stressed that, “Wherever McLeod needs the help -- we want to be there.”



In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Shalomi Dadush, his wife Karen and son, Simon, have become dedicated supporters of the McLeod Health Foundation.

Your Gifts Saved Lives

Generous Donors Fund the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit

Donors like you have ensured life-saving access to annual mammograms through the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit. Since being purchased in 2008 entirely by generous donors like you, the unit has made it possible for more than 32,000 women to conveniently receive this critical screening. **Lives have been saved due to our giving community.**

Now, this incredible resource needs replacement so it can reliably travel throughout the region to offer this special service to women. **Once again, donors are responding to the call for help.**

April Munn knows early detection is key and has joined the Mobile Mammography Unit Committee to help raise funds for this important initiative.

For 15 years, April Munn diligently received her annual mammogram. Yet, in January 2020, April was diagnosed with Stage III Breast Cancer after finding a lump that was growing rapidly.

She immediately started chemotherapy with **Dr. Jamie Smith** followed by surgery with **Dr. Amy Murrell**. Being a single mother with two children she went into “fight mode.”

While battling cancer, the COVID-19 Pandemic hit, which meant restricted visitation during April’s chemotherapy treatments.

“It was a very frightening time in our lives, but the McLeod Cancer Center staff always treated me first class,” shares April. “I did not feel like a cancer patient when I was there, and I was always met with hugs.”

Nearly a year later, April was able to ring the bell as she finished her last radiation treatment in December. She commends the wonderful nurses and physicians who worked together.

You can help women like April by supporting the new Mobile Mammography Unit. For more information, contact the McLeod Health Foundation at 843-777-2694 or visit our website at mcleodinspiredbyyou.org.



April Munn is honored to serve on the McLeod Foundation committee raising funds for a new Mobile Mammography Unit.

“It is amazing how God puts things into place even during COVID,” recalled April.

April is also grateful to supporters like you and is confident our region will rally to provide the essential funding to keep life-saving mammography care on the road.

Your Generosity Inspires Professional Advisory Council

Annual Dues Jumpstart Fund to Assist Vascular Patients

Dedicated donors like you guide the work of the McLeod Health Foundation's Professional Advisory Council (PAC). This group made up of local financial and insurance advisors and attorneys devote their time to help clients make their best gift.

Inspired by your generosity, PAC donates their annual dues to fund programs which help patients treated at McLeod Health.

Scott Mitchell, PAC Chair, explains, "Our members are so moved by the many generous donors to the McLeod Foundation that we wanted to use our annual dues to also help patients."

This year, they learned from **Dr. Eva Rzucidlo**, Medical Director of Vascular Services for McLeod Regional Medical Center and the McLeod Vein Center, of the countless challenges that her patients with vascular disease face. While some are blessed with the means to afford personal supplies as needed, many struggle to afford essential items, such as compression socks.

Often, patients seen in the vascular office are instructed to wear specialized compression socks to aid with their illness and to alleviate their symptoms.



Dr. Eva Rzucidlo is pictured with Anthony Smith, one of her patients who has benefited from the generosity of the Professional Advisory Council.

These socks not only help with pain relief, but also improve blood flow to the legs, which is important for a patient struggling with vascular issues.

For many patients, these socks are vital for their recovery but financially out of reach. These specialized socks can run nearly \$100 per pair, making it difficult for some to afford -- especially if multiple pairs are needed.

After personally seeing many patients going without these socks, Dr. Rzucidlo approached the McLeod Foundation.

Upon hearing the request and learning of the profound impact it would have on this group of patients, PAC members were moved to provide the funding to jumpstart this initiative.

Inspired by you, the council's generous gift will help patients with limited financial support have access to resources that will bring them comfort, as well as prevent any further challenges and obstacles in their care.

To learn more about the Professional Advisory Council and how you can make your best gift, visit www.mcleodhealthlegacy.org.

You Are a Hero for Children

Your Generosity of the HERO Fund Helps Children at McLeod Health

McLeod Children's Hospital treats more than 56,000 children a year. Many of these families may worry about providing for special needs as their precious children recuperate.

As these needs are often urgent, the HERO Fund was established. **Gifts like yours help the HERO Fund bridge the gap for children and their families who are experiencing financial difficulties.**

Jennifer Yacoubian, a dedicated volunteer for the Children's Hospital, graciously agreed to chair the HERO Fund Committee to help make sure these families get the support they need. She was moved to support the Foundation because of the care her daughter Olivia received from McLeod Pediatric Rehabilitation.



Jennifer Yacoubian is grateful to McLeod Health Foundation donors who support the HERO Fund and families served by the McLeod Children's Hospital.

"The children of our region deserve the best healthcare that we can possibly provide, and the HERO Fund is the perfect vehicle to help as many children as possible," she explained.

Jennifer and the HERO Fund Committee were touched by the recent story of a child you helped.

Because of loyal supporters like you, the HERO Fund was able to assist a nineteen-month-old boy who was admitted with a brain cyst. After three surgeries and several months of rehabilitation, he was finally ready to go home.

Due to the growth of the cyst, he experienced severe developmental delays. He had difficulty sitting up and holding objects so he needed to remain in a crib once discharged. The HERO Fund purchased a crib and jogging stroller to help the child have a safe place to sleep and sit while working on these developmental delays.

When asked how others can assist, Jennifer said, "Making a gift to the HERO Fund is a very meaningful way to help. Volunteers are also essential and there is no such thing as a small task. Thank you for caring enough about our children to give."

You can be a Hero and help children in McLeod Children's Hospital by making a gift to the HERO Fund or by becoming a Children's Hospital Volunteer. Visit mcleodinspiredbyyou.org, respond using the reply envelope or call the McLeod Health Foundation at 843-777-2694.

Donors Like You Provide Support for the Guest House at McLeod

Gifts of Comfort Allow Donors to Offer Care for Patient Families

Your gifts to The Guest House at McLeod have provided a “home away from home” for more than 35 years.

And now, new mom Corey Fowler has been led to service for our guests through a chance encounter. Corey, originally from Ohio, now living in Florence, South Carolina, was enjoying the park one morning with her baby. She struck up a conversation with another mother from Ohio who had been vacationing in Myrtle Beach and went into early labor. She was rushed to McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence where her premature baby could receive care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

“She shared that she was here alone with her sister. Her husband had to return home to work and take care of their other child. They were relieved to be able to stay safely, comfortably and conveniently in The Guest House at McLeod. I asked her if I could bring her some meals to help make her stay a little easier. She was very appreciative,” explains Corey.

Following this experience, Corey learned that the Guest House is funded entirely by generous donors like you and is a special haven for families of McLeod patients especially young parents of NICU infants.

Corey had started a business, Convenient Crockpot Creations, following the birth of her child. As it grew, she often shared her creations with families struggling with health challenges. She had been praying for guidance to find a more consistent way to help others through her work.

You, like Corey, can help by sponsoring a family facing a health care crisis with a \$200 contribution. Visit mcleodinspiredbyyou.org or return your gift in the reply envelope provided.



Corey Fowler found a way to help others and lift their spirits by delivering meals to The Guest House at McLeod.

The conversation in the park was an answer to her prayers. Corey decided she wanted to help people in a difficult situation far from home. She found a way to do this by delivering six meals at a time to the Guest House that are stored in the freezer for guests to cook in a crockpot as needed with the Bible verse, 1 John 4:9-12.

“My hope is to share that someone is thinking of them, praying for them and showing them God’s light,” shares Corey. “I have learned in the South that people show love by bringing food for comfort and my business allows me to use it as a ministry to bless others.”

The families who benefit from the Guest House are grateful to you and volunteers like Corey who provide comfort and encouragement when they need it most.

Your Desire to Help Others

A Gift Provides Warm Comfort From a Generous Donor

You and your family may have had personal experiences with healthcare. During times of difficulty, compassionate help by staff and friends are essential and greatly appreciated.

Often, these experiences inspire you with the desire to help others. Many of you have made generous gifts to the McLeod Health Foundation as a trusted way to provide compassionate assistance to other families.

This was the case for Daphne Heffler.



Daphne Heffler’s generous donation to the McLeod Foundation allowed the McLeod Hospice House to purchase a blanket warmer to bring comfort to hospice patients.

Since 1975, Daphne, a registered nurse, has been a fixture at McLeod Regional Medical Center through her many years of service caring for others.

Daphne first started as an intern at McLeod in the Cardiac Care Unit working her way up to Associate Vice President before she retired in 2012.

This past Fall, her late husband **Dr. Joel Heffler** was hospitalized with various health issues. After battling his illness for many weeks, he was transferred to McLeod Hospice House to receive this special level of care.

During his stay, Joel was continuously cold and would always ask for a warm, soft blanket. Daphne realized how much a blanket warmer would benefit patients at the Hospice House.

Years ago, a physician once told Daphne, “You see what you look for and you recognize what you know,” and that quote has stayed with her through the years. During their stay at the Hospice House, Daphne recognized a need and wanted to find a way to help provide comfort for other patients.

After Joel passed away in November, Daphne contacted the McLeod Foundation to express her wishes to provide a warm blanket for other patients. Through Daphne’s generous donation, the McLeod Hospice House was able to purchase a blanket warmer and soft blankets for patients and families to use during their stay.

“This is such a simple gesture, but I am glad to know this comfort will be there for future families,” explains Daphne.

Like many donors, loving care and identifying a need inspired Daphne’s generous gift. We are grateful for each of you.

YOUR GIFTS PROVIDE HOPE

The HOPE Food Pantry is Established With Your Support

You provided hope for Bruce Bacote this past March when he learned from **Dr. Jamie Smith** that he had throat cancer.

Hearing the word cancer was overwhelming for Bruce and his wife. The many complications of a cancer journey weighed heavily on their hearts.

Because of your support of the HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Fund, Dr. Smith was able to provide comfort, sharing there was special help available for them.

Generous HOPE Fund donors provide help every day for challenges such as transportation, power bills, rent, and pain and nausea medications.



Courtney Moore (left), Registered Oncology Dietitian, with Sarah Beth Averette (right), the HOPE Fund Coordinator, provides items from the HOPE Food Pantry to Bruce Bacote.

For Bruce, his critical need was totally different -- nutritional food was essential for his recovery.

With his diagnosis of head and neck cancer came an introduction to an extremely limited diet. He could no longer tolerate the foods he once enjoyed. With the expenses of frequent treatments and visits to his physician, Bruce also could not afford the food meant to nourish his body during his cancer fight.

A HOPE Fund Coordinator made possible by HOPE Fund donors ensures a caring individual is on hand each day to assist patients with their individualized needs. Our coordinator, Sarah Beth Averette, reviewed different types of assistance available with Bruce and his wife.

She learned of their struggle to afford adequate and appropriate foods for him to eat throughout his months of upcoming treatments.

Thanks to HOPE Fund donors like you, The HOPE Food Pantry was established last year, just in time to help patients like Bruce.

Sarah Beth, along with Courtney Moore, a Registered Oncology Dietitian, worked with Bruce to determine which foods would be appropriate for his personal journey. Each week, he receives a bag full of nutrient-dense foods needed to sustain him throughout his chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

In gratitude for donors like you, Bruce shared, "It felt so good to be helped. This took so much stress off of me."

The McLeod Health Foundation
invites you to enjoy

*An Evening of Hope
at Home*

22nd Annual Cancer Benefit
benefitting the HOPE Fund at the
McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research

Thursday, September 23, 2021
7:00 p.m.
The Comfort of Your Own Home

To make your reservations or to learn more,
visit www.mcleodfoundationevents.org or call 843-777-2694.

"Tickets" are \$100 per person. Each "couple/attendee"
will receive one Celebrating Hope Gift Bag.

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