

**JANUARY 1, 2021 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021** 

# **CELEBRATING YOU**

as our Loyal Donors



s the McLeod Health Foundation observes its 35th year, we also celebrate **you**, our loyal donors.

Since our establishment in 1986, generous supporters like you have contributed more than \$100 million to the McLeod Foundation. You have been instrumental in providing specialized programs and services for patients at McLeod Health. It is a milestone, which speaks volumes to your wonderful generosity.

In spite of the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic, you have been faithful in your giving.

Our 2021-2022 issue of our Annual Report to Donors is designed to share inspirational stories which illustrate your passion and dedication.

In 2021, thanks to your invaluable support, the McLeod Health Foundation remained strong with gifts totaling more than \$8.7 million.

We celebrate your philanthropy, compassion and love for the patients served by McLeod Health.

Also, if you are in the area, we welcome you to visit us at our new office in downtown Florence located at the corner of Palmetto and Dargan Streets. The McLeod House, built in 1917, was the home of our founder Dr. F. H. McLeod. His legacy continues through your dedication and generosity.

It is with a heart of gratitude that we say thank you for your commitment to our cause. Your gifts are changing lives, and we are forever grateful for your investment in providing hope for a better future.

GiDon Brandlett Jill M. Bramblett

**Executive Director** 

Karen Philie mo

Karen R. Hill, MD Chairman, Board of Trustees

### ON THE COVER

Erik and Laura Marechal are deeply ingrained in the fabric of the Florence community including McLeod Health. They believe that being a part of a community you should give back and supporting McLeod is supporting Florence. As owners of McLean Marechal Insurance and Financial Services, the couple have seen the value of excellent local healthcare through their son's medical treatment with Dr. Al Gilpin to their employees' lives being personally touched by the McLeod Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Their story of giving to support McLeod and the community is featured on page 6.

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# Donors Think Pink

# A Community Comes Together to Ensure Access to Lifesaving Service

ctober signifies a time of idyllic weather with the leaves changing, everyone cheering for their favorite football teams, and donors like you Thinking Pink.

Each Fall, local businesses and community members come up with creative ways to raise funds in support of McLeod Health Mammography Services. This year, the most critical need was a new mobile mammography unit.

Rick Havekost, owner of Micky Finn's in Florence, was made aware of one such local effort through West Florence High School Senior, Addie Bausmith. Addie was involved in "Pink Out," a day of breast cancer awareness and fundraising started by Ruiz Foods in 2010. Addie's focus was raising funding for the new mobile unit.

A few weeks later, Rick was approached by Joan Billheimer and Kaye Floyd-Parris, dedicated supporters of McLeod Health and the McLeod Health Foundation.

Both cancer survivors, Joan and Kaye were instrumental in raising funds for the original McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit.



Rick Havekost and his team at Micky Finn's supported the "Pink Out" in a unique and impactful way.

Their passion to eliminate barriers to care for women in the region continued through their support of the new mobile unit.

Joan and Kaye explained to Rick how the current mobile unit began experiencing wear and tear due to its age. After more than a decade on the road, it became obvious that a new unit would be needed to continue saving lives in the region.

After hearing from others of this crucial need, Rick was moved to be a part of "Pink Out." He decided that Florence's two Micky Finn's locations could support this project in a unique and impactful way.

Every Friday in October, Micky Finn's donated all wine profits to support the initiative. Each of those five Fridays, Rick and his team proudly donned pink shirts, and posted reminders and calls to

action to their loyal customers via social media.

At the end of the month, Rick and his team, with the support of the Florence community, had raised more than \$10,000 toward the new mobile unit.

"Our Micky Finn's team was inspired by the generous community of supporters who joined in this important effort to fund a new mobile mammography unit," Rick said. "We were proud to be a part of the 'Pink Out.'"

Women of our region count on the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit to provide them with access to this specialized screening. To support this new unit, please visit McLeodFoundation.org and click donate or you can call the McLeod Foundation at 843-777-2694.

# FOUNDATION DONORS FULLY INVESTED IN PATIENT CARE

# Personal Experience Yields Gratitude and Giving

cLeod Health Foundation donors like you invest in excellent healthcare close to home.

Often, an amazing local resource like the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research is not fully appreciated until you need it personally.

When Sarah Duby, Associate Vice President at Assurant, moved to Florence four years ago, she had no clue she would come to rely on the McLeod Cancer Center.

When the COVID-19 Pandemic began, Sarah focused on improving her health and started running. As she began to lose weight, she noticed a lump in her breast. Her first reaction was that it was nothing to worry about. However, when she met with her Family Nurse Practitioner Allison Slice, she was immediately sent to the McLeod Breast Health Center for a mammogram which led to a biopsy.

The biopsy revealed a diagnosis of Stage IIB breast cancer.

### Like anyone who hears those words, Sarah was frightened.

She learned the true value of excellent healthcare in the days following her diagnosis. Sarah was seen at once by McLeod Surgeon Dr. Amy Murrell, who helped relieve her fears.

She was then referred to McLeod Oncologist Dr. Ravneet Bajwa, who offered guidance and encouragement. She would come to appreciate that both physicians were fully invested in her cancer journey from beginning to end.

"Your health is always going to be a factor in life at some point, but it's not until you face a medical crisis that you realize the true value of good health care," Sarah explained.

Sarah's employer, Assurant, through its Assurant Foundation, is a long-time supporter of the McLeod Health Foundation and the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit.

Since 2009, Assurant employees and the community have benefitted from easy access to this life-saving screening due to regular mobile unit visits to their office.

"It makes perfect sense for Assurant to support the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit," Sarah commented. "We believe in investing in the health of our employees and our community."

Sarah feels her healthcare team is like her family. She is grateful that Assurant and other donors to the McLeod Foundation value the excellent health care she has benefitted from in her new hometown.



Sarah Duby (left) was supported during her cancer journey by her Assurant family including co-worker Melissa Scott.

# LOCAL TO MCLEOD, LOYAL TO FLORENCE

Local Business Owners Give to Support Their Hospital and Community



Laura and Erik Marechal are dedicated to making a difference in their community by supporting McLeod Health.

early 20 years ago, in search of a loving community for their family, Erik Marechal and his wife, Laura, moved from Charlotte, North Carolina, and returned to Laura's hometown of Florence, South Carolina. Together, they took over the family business, now McLean Marechal Insurance and Financial Services, and became deeply ingrained in the fabric of the Florence community including McLeod Health.

"To be part of a community, you have to give back," Erik said. "Supporting McLeod is supporting Florence."

The Marechals quickly recognized the value of excellent local healthcare, when their son,

Matt, required specialized orthopedic treatments.
McLeod Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon **Dr. Al Gilpin** lovingly cared for Matt for many years.

"Having this subspecialty available locally prevented us from having to travel to Charleston or Columbia," Laura explained.
"Additionally, being in the waiting room showed me the burden many families face in obtaining the 'extras' needed for care: gas money, medications, crutches and walkers."

This experience eventually led Laura, already a McLeod Health Foundation Board member, to join the HERO (Helping Eliminate and Remove Obstacles) Fund Committee. The HERO Fund helps bridge the gap, providing immediate needs for children treated at McLeod and their families who are facing barriers to care due to financial struggles.

As small business owners, the Marechal's employees are like family, and they frequently turn to McLeod for their care.

"We have seen many employees receive care at McLeod and have children there," Erik reflected.

"Recently, two employees had babies who required intensive care.

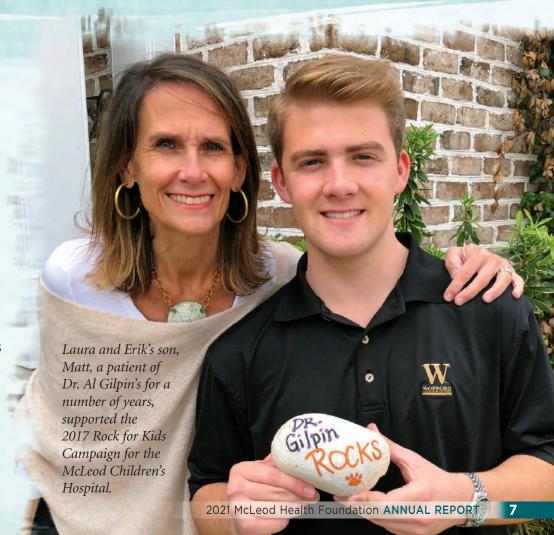
"They are alive and healthy today because of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at McLeod Children's Hospital."

With both their son and their work family in mind, and understanding that having a healthy community starts with caring for our youngest and most vulnerable patients, the Marechals generously supported the McLeod Foundation's campaign to expand the NICU.

In addition to their years of philanthropy, Laura and Erik are members of several committees

and volunteer groups that support the work of McLeod Health and the Foundation. And, while so much of the Marechal's support over the years has been personal, much of their financial support has come through their business.

"We want our employees to know they are a part of our support for McLeod," Erik explained. "And, we want our customers to know we support the local services that benefit us all. A growing community needs a thriving hospital."



# Leaving a Legacy Could Never Be Easier

# Local Caregivers Ensuring Excellent Healthcare for Generations to Come

ran and Dr. Dale Lusk have dedicated their professional lives to serving patients in the region they and their family call home. It was only natural for this generous couple to want to leave a legacy that would provide for patient care in the years to come.

Dr. Lusk began practicing Obstetrics and Gynecology at McLeod Regional Medical Center in 1993. He has been a part of McLeod Administration for the past ten years and is currently the Chief Medical Officer for McLeod Health and the McLeod Healthcare Network. Fran. a Physical Therapist focusing on elder care, is much loved by patients in the local assisted-living facilities. They are also longtime philanthropic supporters of the McLeod Health Foundation,

helping fund several critical projects at McLeod Health over the years.

Upon learning about the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society, the could now easily make the legacy couple knew they wanted to make a legacy commitment. However, with busy professional lives and family obligations, they found it difficult to find the time needed to put estate changes in place.

In the fall of 2020, the McLeod Foundation Newsletter arrived. The Lusks were particularly interested in reading the story of a young couple they knew well.

Jenna and Adam Swindler shared how they had taken advantage of a new McLeod Foundation resource called FreeWill to craft their will. They wanted to ensure their young children were taken care of as well as to include a legacy commitment to support the work of

McLeod Health, which has meant so much to their families.

Fran and Dale then realized they commitment they had been planning by simply following the steps on the link for FreeWill located on the McLeod Foundation website.

"It was like finding the easy button," Dr. Lusk delightfully shares."It only took minutes to ensure our gift was in place to provide for future patients at McLeod."

The Lusks hope that others, who have been putting off creating a will to ensure their wishes are carried out, will visit the McLeod Foundation website to take advantage of this free and simple resource.

### **GIFTS BY WILL**

Getting started is easier than you think.

To make it straightforward and easy for you to begin writing your will, the McLeod Health Foundation has partnered with the organization FreeWill. To start the process of creating your will at no cost to you, visit

www.FreeWill.com/McLeodHealthFoundation.

Fran and Dr. Dale Lusk were happy to learn they could

make a legacy commitment to McLeod Health using FreeWill.

# **HOSPITALITY INSPIRES** YEARS OF GENEROUS SUPPORT

## Donors Provide Home Away from Home for Those in Tough Circumstances

house is just a building, but A a home is a special place where you feel warm and welcomed. To me that is what the Guest House at McLeod is... a place you can feel at home no matter the circumstances."

These are the words of Susan Burley, a McLeod Health Foundation donor and volunteer of more than 30 years.

Susan originally got involved by selling Miracle Balloons during the Children's Miracle Network Telethon in her family-owned Shoney's Restaurants. She and her late husband, Jerry, however, shared a passion for helping those less fortunate and wanted to get more involved with McLeod Health.

"I am a blessed lady because my sweet husband made it possible for me to help those in need through McLeod Foundation programs, and I became passionate about it," Susan fondly remembers.



For more than 30 years, Susan Burley has been a faithful donor and volunteer for the McLeod Foundation.

As the McLeod Foundation raised funds to build The Guest House at McLeod, Susan accepted an invitation to join a committee to help establish the new facility. These early discussions centered around one goal: to make a stay in the Guest House special for those needing accommodations while their loved ones received treatment at McLeod.

"We talked about providing a place to sleep, a place to eat,

and a place for fellowship," Susan recalls. "I knew right away that Jerry and I would sponsor the kitchen -- after all we were restaurant owners. People like to gather in the kitchen, and we know food can bring comfort to others."

Susan even helped make the beds in the house to get it ready for its first guests.

When McLeod decided to expand the Guest House, Jerry and Susan agreed to sponsor the library due to her love of reading.

"We are so fortunate to have McLeod Health in our community. Jerry and I were fortunate to be a part of such an amazing resource," Susan shared.

The Guest House at McLeod is funded entirely by donations to the McLeod Health Foundation. You can make a difference by sponsoring a family's stay for \$200. However, gifts of any level are appreciated. Please visit McLeodFoundation.org and click donate or you can call the McLeod Foundation at 843-777-2694.

# Family Lessons Inspire a LEGACY OF GIVING

McLeod Oncologist Learned Generosity Through a Special Role Model



Dr. Viji Motilal Nehru committed to the HOPE Fund Endowment ensuring her father's legacy of giving continues.

rowing up in Sri Lanka,
Dr. Vijeyaluxmy Motilal Nehru
watched her father give selflessly of
his time and skills. A busy attorney,
he regularly took pro bono cases to
help those in need. This inspiring
man passed away at the young age
of 57, but he left a legacy of giving
for his daughter.

Dr. Nehru now gives selflessly of her time, skills and gifts as the newest Oncologist at McLeod Oncology and Hematology Associates in Florence.

Dr. Nehru is already much loved by her patients, whose extraordinary empathy is demonstrated by her deep concern for their well-being.

"When you are treating a patient, you are not just treating the disease, you are treating the whole person," Dr. Nehru explained. "You must also take care of the other things that are going on in their life. It is important to lend a helping hand so they can concentrate on the most important thing -- actually fighting their cancer."

Shortly after her arrival,
Dr. Nehru was pleased to learn of
the HOPE (Helping Oncology
Patients Everyday) Fund. The
HOPE Fund was established to
assist cancer patients with
immediate and urgent needs.
Through it, her patients have
received assistance for basic financial
struggles like transportation, rent,
nutrition and supplies.

Following in the example of her father, Dr. Nehru wanted to personally support the HOPE Fund. She decided to make a generous commitment to the HOPE Fund Endowment, which will help ensure critical funding for patients in the years to come.

"I believe that those who have much are under an obligation to help," Dr. Nehru shared. "We are our brother's and sister's keepers. We owe it to people who are less fortunate."

Through the HOPE Fund Endowment, Dr. Nehru ensures her father's legacy of giving continues.

"I just think of my dad, my role model," Dr. Nehru said. "He did so much. I now must do my own part to help."

# Foundation Donors Making the World a Better Place

## Providing Specialized Compassionate Care Close to Home

ike many dedicated supporters of the McLeod Health Foundation, Alice Marlowe gives to make the world a better place. Her generous spirit was inspired by the compassionate care provided to her husband in his final days.

"My husband, John, was transported to McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence during the middle of the night from a nursing home in Scranton.

I learned that he only had hours to live," recalls Alice.

As McLeod Hospice took on John's care, the shift from crisis management to calm reassurance was seamless. They were both lovingly cared for at McLeod as the focus shifted from curing the infection to making him comfortable for his transition from this life to the next.

Alice grew up one block from Loris Hospital. Upon returning to her hometown, she began her long service with the hospital which later became McLeod Health Loris.

Alice has been a generous supporter of the McLeod Foundation with both her gifts and her time.

Hospice care has been her focus as she helped establish a bereavement group for the program. She also serves on the McLeod Foundation Loris Seacoast Board, is a McLeod Fellow and has helped guide development efforts in Loris.

"Community service is rent for a spot in Heaven. We all should make the world a better place," shares Alice.

Because of her family's experience with McLeod Hospice, Alice realized there was a need for this compassionate care in Loris. After a visit to the McLeod Hospice House in Florence, Alice was further touched by the size and design of the patient rooms which allowed family members to be with their loved one in a comfortable and home-like environment.

She then committed to a gift which would sponsor a room designed for hospice patients at McLeod Health Loris in John's memory.

The renovated patient rooms allow McLeod Health to bring features of the McLeod Hospice House in Florence closer to those living in Loris and surrounding towns.

"No one should have to leave their local community to die with dignity," shares Alice. "It is my wish to inspire others to support McLeod Hospice services in our community. When someone sees you are doing something, they are often encouraged to do the same."



# MAKING A POWERFUL IMPACT THROUGH JOINT GIVING

Young Leaders Focus on Healthcare Need



Meggie Baker and members of the Circle of Excellence are committed to impacting several areas in the McLeod Children's

hen a group of individuals come together to work towards a common goal, they will accomplish so much more than going it alone.

This is the power in joint philanthropy and is especially true for members of the Circle of Excellence, a young group of donors make a generous annual who support patient care projects at McLeod Health.

The Circle of Excellence is comprised of individuals and couples under age 45 who contribution of \$500 or more to the McLeod Health Foundation.



and separation that often accompany their hospital experience.

"In the next year, we plan on redesigning the playroom in McLeod Children's Hospital," Cory shares excitedly. "We have so many wonderful ideas for the upcoming Child Life Activity Center redesign. It includes a medical area designed for play that allows children to be a doctor or nurse and in doing so, process some of the things they have experienced. We are also creating a teen room and adding more adaptive equipment. This includes a special playhouse and swings, which allow children with IV poles to play and enjoy being a child."

These young leaders have found their common interest in healthcare is often motivated by personal experience.

because I have been fortunate enough to receive excellent medical care my entire life," said Meggie Baker, Co-Chair of the Circle of **Excellence Executive Committee.** "I want others who face lifechanging illness to have access to exceptional care and services. This group enables me to have a voice in giving."

Circle of Excellence members gather regularly to socialize and learn more about healthcare at McLeod. Each year, the membership reviews a list of high priority needs from McLeod Health and votes on how to award the funds they contribute.

Last year, the members learned about various funding needs for many McLeod Health programs. The group decided to commit a "I joined the Circle of Excellence portion of their funds to impact several areas of McLeod Children's Hospital, which benefit children and their families.

> For Meggie, supporting the redesign of the Child Life Activity Center was especially meaningful.

"The Child Life Activity Center is a play area that provides hospitalized children a safe space to be a child even as they face a difficult diagnosis," Meggie explained. "By adding more space tailored to specific needs, the center will foster warmth and well-being as the children work through their recoveries."

Meggie speaks for her fellow Circle of Excellence members when she encourages other young people to join. Not only for the philanthropic aims, but also to "meet and interact with others who share similar interests, passions, and goals."



To learn more or to join the Circle of Excellence, visit www.McLeodHealth.org/ get-involved/thecircle-of-excellence, or scan the QR code to the left.

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# Local Business Driven By Its Mission

# Giving Abundantly for the Region's Children



Ted and Mandy Fulford, pictured with their children Hazel, Archer and Hadley, own RE/MAX Southern Shores. The couple and their agents are huge supporters of the McLeod Children's Hospital.

he mission of RE/MAX Southern Shores is, "To assist one another in living abundant lives."

In addition to their service to the community, this mission drives the business's 15-year partnership with McLeod Children's Hospital, a Children's Miracle Network Hospital (CMNH). Nationally, RE/MAX is a sponsor of CMNH, and the support of RE/MAX Southern Shores to the McLeod Health Foundation directly benefits the children treated at McLeod Children's Hospital.

For Mandy and Ted Fulford, owners of RE/MAX Southern Shores, living an abundant life includes giving back to help children

and families who depend on McLeod Children's Hospital for specialized, critical care.

"Our teams look forward to regular visits to the Children's Hospital," Mandy said. "These are some of the most memorable and life-changing moments with our agents. We are able to meet the children and their families whose lives are being changed in part due to our support."

Three years ago, the Fulfords and their agents learned of an urgent need to update monitors in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at McLeod Children's Hospital. Every agent, through the RE/MAX Miracle Home Program,

donated a portion of their sales to support this vital cause. They also held creative fundraising events and volunteered to help these children in need.

Thanks in part to these efforts, the NICU now has these new stateof-the-art monitors, which allow the staff to provide the highest level of care for these tiny babies. Their gifts are helping to ensure these little ones can thrive and continue to grow and one day go home with their family.

The generosity of the RE/MAX team came full circle the following year, when the family of one of their agents delivered twin babies who needed this specialized care in the NICU at McLeod Children's Hospital. Those very monitors, so lovingly provided by their generous gifts, now helped these beautiful twins survive and grow stronger so they could go home.

"Through the dedication of our RE/MAX Southern Shores family, we were able to give significantly to support the children of our region," Mandy and Ted proudly shared.

For everyone at RE/MAX Southern Shores, helping others live an abundant life is celebrated -both with the clients they serve and the patients and families who benefit from their generous support.

# **Cheraw Angels Focus on Compassionate Care**

# Service and Gifts Dedicated for End-of-Life Patients and Families

cLeod Health Foundation supporters, like you, lovingly offer gifts to provide for patients and their families through all stages of life.

One dedicated couple, special angels from Cheraw, focus their gifts and time to help patients receiving end-of-life care.

Serving their beloved Cheraw community has always been a major life purpose for Pat and M.B. Godbold. For 50 years, M.B. has helped others plan for their families' security by guiding them through important life insurance decisions. Now, he ministers as a McLeod Hospice Volunteer in Cheraw. Pat, a retired librarian at Cheraw High School, devotedly coordinates the bereavement committee at the First Baptist Church of Cheraw, which provides meals for local families who have lost loved ones.

In 2017, in light of his longstanding commitment to the community, M.B. was asked to represent Chesterfield and Marlboro Counties on the McLeod Hospice Advisory Board.

As the McLeod Hospice program in Cheraw grew, hospital leadership recognized the need for a dedicated hospital room for hospice patients and their families. A patient's environment is crucial to maintaining comfort and peace of mind during a terminal illness.

The McLeod Foundation asked M.B. to steer fundraising efforts to renovate a patient room dedicated to hospice care.

"After Pat and I visited the McLeod Hospice House in Florence, we fully appreciated the importance of the room environment," M.B. explained.

"We witnessed the compassionate care provided in this setting as hospice professionals ministered to both the patient and family during end of life."

Inspired by this visit, M.B. and Pat wanted to do more than simply help raise funds... they decided to personally fund the room renovations at McLeod Health Cheraw. The Godbold's generous commitment was fulfilled through a tax-wise IRA Rollover and an appreciated stock gift.

"McLeod Health Cheraw now has a patient room with the comfortable features of the McLeod Hospice House," M.B. proclaimed. "Pat and I are thankful we could help provide this compassionate care for the people of Chesterfield and Marlboro Counties."

Smart Giving From Your IRA, A Tax-Saving Way to Help the McLeod Health Foundation.



For those 70½ years old and older, it is possible to support the McLeod Health Foundation through your IRA. To learn more about this special way of giving, scan this QR code or call the McLeod Foundation at 843-777-2694.

Pat and M.B. Godbold used a tax-wise IRA Rollover and an appreciated stock gift to fund the renovations of a patient room dedicated to hospice care at McLeod Health Cheraw.



# Loyal Donor Enthusiastically Supports the HOPE Fund

## Regular Updates Inspire Years of Dedicated Support

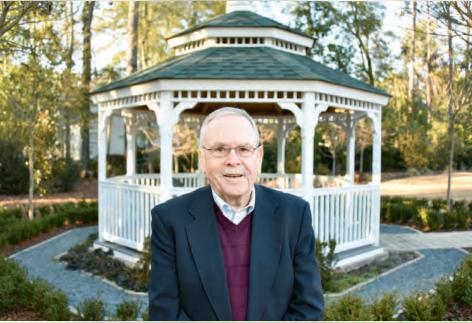
arry Gardner, a longtime donor to the McLeod Health Foundation, became passionate about the HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Fund because of special friendships.

Harry was first made aware of the fund by his friend, Asa Godbold. Asa's late wife, Marilyn, served on the HOPE Fund Advisory Committee and spoke highly of the impact it had on the lives of cancer patients.

When Harry then learned that his friend, Robin Aiken, had helped establish the HOPE Fund, it felt like a full-circle moment.

Growing up, Harry had been a classmate of Robin's sister, Wana Kaye Hutchinson Rhodes. Later in life, Wana Kaye's journey with pancreatic cancer would inspire Robin and her family to establish the HOPE Fund.

While accompanying her sister to treatments at Duke University Hospital, near Wana Kaye's home in Pinehurst, North Carolina, Robin learned about a fund that helped low-income patients with immediate needs receive assistance during their cancer treatment. After McLeod Health opened the new Cancer Center in 2013,



Harry Gardner honors and remembers two special friends through his support of the HOPE Fund.

Robin, a McLeod Foundation Board Member, approached Foundation staff about starting a similar fund at McLeod. The following year, the HOPE Fund was established.

"I support this fund every year because I know that each penny goes to help cancer patients," Harry shares. "It is a way for me to give back, but also to honor and remember friends I have lost to cancer, including Wana Kaye and Marilyn."

Harry, like many Foundation donors, looks forward to the newsletters that update him on the

ways his gifts have been put to work to help others. And, he is inspired to continue his support through the annual appeal letter.

"When I read the annual letter from a McLeod Oncologist and the note from Robin, I am always moved to send in my support," states Harry. "Through their correspondence I understand more fully the pressing needs of the program and patients."

All at McLeod Health are grateful for donors like you and Harry, who are inspired to give our patients hope. You are a blessing to those in need.

# You Can Honor Healthcare Heroes

Your Gifts Thank Those Who Provide Exceptional Care While Helping Others

ou may be able to relate to the anxious moments experienced by Carroll and Nancy Player in August of 2021.

For the Players, life changed dramatically during a casual dinner out with friends. Without warning, Nancy suddenly suffered a stroke. She was rushed to McLeod Regional Medical Center. What began as a comfortable, routine meal had tossed the Players into a world of uncertainty.

"I had complete confidence in McLeod, but also severe anxiety about Nancy's prognosis," recalled Carroll, a retired dentist, and a longtime friend of the McLeod Health Foundation.

His trust in McLeod did not waver and would result in a Healthcare Hero award, which recognizes staff who shine exceptionally bright. McLeod Nurse Josh Summerford was that shining light.

"Josh showed empathy like I have never seen before," Carroll remembered. "He was great at explaining what he was doing, and always looked Nancy in the eyes."



Nancy and Carroll Player honored McLeod Nurse Josh Summerford with a Healthcare Hero award for the care he provided to both of them following Nancy's stroke.

The Players were pleased to learn of the Healthcare Hero Program. Patients and families can honor staff who provide exceptional care by making a gift to the Foundation which will be used to help others. These heroes are recognized at a gathering of their peers and are presented with a Healthcare Hero Certificate and pin to wear on their uniforms or nametags.

As Nancy continues her recovery, she says Josh is a role model for McLeod staff. He reduced Carroll's anxiety by involving him in conversations about Nancy's treatment and chatting about Florence's past.

A proud Florentine, Carroll was pleased to learn that Josh's grandfather owned Kirk's Delicatessen, an iconic Florence landmark.

It is for these reasons that Carroll and Nancy made their gift to nominate Josh for a Healthcare Hero award. Josh's standard of care shows that effective medicine does not consider patients or

their loved ones' fears as abstract problems to be solved, but as human beings to be healed and comforted.

"The Healthcare Hero program gave us the ability to express our gratitude directly to the person who provided the care," Carroll explained. "We are pleased to provide the affirmation and encouragement for healthcare workers who continue excelling in their compassionate care."

If you would like to honor a Healthcare Hero, please visit www.McLeodHealthcareHero.org or call the McLeod Foundation at 843-777-2694.

# THE EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN All About Teamwork

## Your Frontline Team Believes in Giving, Too

f you have ever played sports, you have heard the phrase, "There is no 'I' in TEAM."

Though it may sound cliché, it is the mantra of Andrew and Angela McNeil, employees of McLeod for more than two decades. Andrew, a Nursing Director in Surgical Services, and Angela, an Oncology Nurse Navigator, share a passion for using teamwork to care for their patients.

"I keep patients connected with their doctors and make referrals to providers like social workers and dietitians," Angela says. "We focus on holistic treatment, and that means no one person can do everything that is necessary for a patient." Andrew agrees, "As a director, my goal is to be a part of a collective group that achieves positive results at a larger scale than a single operating room."

The McNeils' focus on teamwork also motivates their long-time giving to the McLeod Health Foundation through the Employee Campaign.

The Employee Campaign, the largest source of the Foundation's donations, makes possible a wide variety of necessary services that, while improving patients' outcomes, are not covered in the hospital's budget. Angela is especially grateful

for the gas cards and a food pantry provided through the Foundation's HOPE Fund, which helps cancer patients of limited financial means with travel assistance to appointments and access to proper nutrition.

"It gives patients peace of mind," Angela explains. "And, if they have one less thing to worry about, they will have more room for optimism about their treatment."

The McNeils feel joy knowing that their donations can be a part of every positive outcome funded by the Foundation. Referencing Indian independence leader Mahatma Gandhi, Andrew says that, "we should all want to be the change we desire for patients and giving is being a part of change."

The McNeils' teamwork in their happy marriage, their approach to patient care, and in the McLeod Foundation's Employee Campaign, show that great things are not achieved by flying solo, but through many people contributing a little in the service of a common goal. Through the combined effort of all who make the Employee Campaign successful, the individuals at McLeod Health show they are a championship

There are several ways for McLeod Health employees to join the fundraising efforts of the McLeod Foundation. For more information, visit McLeodFoundation.org or call 843-777-2694.



Andrew and Angela McNeil find joy in knowing their support of the Employee Campaign enhances the care their patients receive.

# YOUR GENEROSITY 2021 A Record-Breaking Year in Review

Total Amount Raised by the McLeod Health Foundation

\$8,793,346

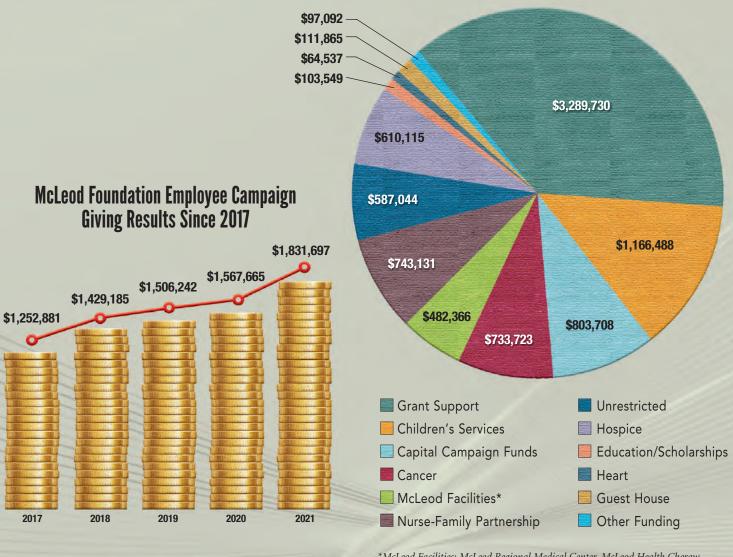
Years of Growing Philanthropy for McLeod Health

35

Total Number of McLeod Foundation Donors

7,425

### **Your Contributions to Healthcare Services**



<sup>\*</sup>McLeod Facilities: McLeod Regional Medical Center, McLeod Health Cheraw, McLeod Health Clarendon, McLeod Health Dillon, McLeod Health Loris Seacoast

These figures are based on the McLeod Health Foundation fiscal year of October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021.



Members of the Trinity Collegiate School Volleyball Team generated \$1,400 for McLeod Mammogram Scholarships from their PINK OUT fundraising efforts.



Ann Orr and Emily McLean pause for a picture before a meeting of the McLeod Angels.



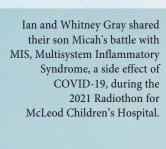
Lauren Strickland presented Davis Sawyer with the McLeod Foundation a check for \$2,500 for McLeod Children's Hospital. Lauren raised the funds by holding her very own fundraiser requesting donations to help children in need. In addition to the funds she collected, Lauren donated money from her personal savings and her parents agreed to match her total donations.



The first annual Jockeys & Juleps fundraiser was held in May 2021 at WildHorse at Parker Farms. The event benefitted local healthcare services at McLeod Health Loris and McLeod Health Seacoast. Pictured from left to right: Amy Martini, Kayla Thompson and McKinley Sanders.



Walmart Associate Brigetta Jean McVicker raises funds for McLeod Children's Hospital at the Walmart Neighborhood Market Fuel Center at Market Common. McVicker's motivation for supporting McLeod is her grandson, Oliver, who was a patient in the McLeod Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.







Café Gelato partnered with OceanWatch Marriott to raise \$10,000 for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, benefiting McLeod Children's Hospital.



The Blue Cross Blue Shield team of Steve Gdovin, David Gdovin, Dave Gdovin and Dan Bergeson enjoyed participating in the McLeod Children's Hospital Golf Classic at the Florence Country Club.





Kim Beck and Krista Meekins with Ruiz Foods presented a check to Jill Bramblett and Davis Sawyer with the McLeod Foundation for more than \$7,200. The donation, generated from their PINK OUT fundraising efforts in October, go toward the HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Fund. Ruiz Foods has held the PINK OUT in support of McLeod for the past six years.



Yulaundra Heyward, Radine Tate and Janet James, members of Florence AARP #2401 donated food to the Guest House at McLeod for out of town families whose loved ones are receiving care at McLeod Regional Medical Center.



participated in the Ruiz Food Pink Out Challenge in support of 3D Mammography at McLeod Health.



The McLeod Health Loris Seacoast Fellows are pictured in front of McLeod AirReach during their visit to McLeod Health Seacoast to learn about Emergency Services including McLeod HeartReach and AirReach.



Carson Gainey set up a lemonade stand in his hometown of Hartsville and raised \$1,110 for the McLeod Children's Hospital. He is pictured with his family and Elizabeth Jones with the McLeod Foundation.

# McLeod News

# Dianne Rowan Honored as Volunteer of the Year

McLeod Regional Medical Center recently named Dianne Rowan as the Volunteer of the Year for 2021. Rowan, a Florence resident, is the 34th recipient of the McLeod Volunteer of the Year award. She began volunteering for McLeod in July 2019. Rowan volunteers for the McLeod Foundation and in the Postpartum/ Newborn Nursery at McLeod. She is also a member of the McLeod Volunteer Auxiliary Board and the McLeod Auxiliary Scholarship Committee

In presenting the award to Rowan, Linda Boone, Director of Volunteer Services for McLeod, shared, "Dianne is a remarkable volunteer. She loves to help out anywhere she can including special requests such as mailings, jewelry and pecan sales as well as providing assistance to the Patient Representatives and Epidemiology Department. She has also volunteered nearly 895 hours since she began with us in 2019."



Dianne Rowan and Beverly Owens both dedicate their time as volunteers for the McLeod Health Foundation. Dianne was recently named the 2021 Volunteer of the Year for McLeod Regional Medical Center an honor Beverly received in 2019.

# McLeod Health Foundation Announces New Board Members

The McLeod Health Foundation recently announced the addition of three new members to its Board of Trustees — Cindy Dawn Arnette, Jarrod B. Tippins, PharmD, and Jennifer H. Yacoubian.

#### **CINDY DAWN ARNETTE**

Cindy Dawn Arnette has been very involved in the Dillon community over the years serving on the Dillon County Chamber of Commerce Board as well as First Presbyterian Church, Cotillion Club, Love Feeds, and the Glove and Trowel Garden Club. A teacher for 23 years, Arnette now works with her husband Wilmer at



Trico Water Company in Dillon. She serves on the McLeod Health Dillon Community Board and is a member of the 2021-2022 Class of McLeod Fellows.

### an In You

#### **JARROD B. TIPPINS, PharmD**

Tippins is the owner of THE PHARMACY, an independent pharmacy located in Florence. In 2015, he was recognized as the Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the year by the South Carolina Pharmacy Association. Tippins served as the South Carolina Pharmacy Association Pee Dee Region Director for nine years and is

the Pee Dee Pharmacy Association President. He is a loyal supporter of the McLeod Health Foundation sponsoring several events and campaigns. Tippins is a graduate of the McLeod Fellows Class of 2019 and serves on the McLeod Foundation Grants Committee.

#### JENNIFER H. YACOUBIAN

Yacoubian grew up in Florence and is no stranger to healthcare as her father is **Dr. Daniel Hyler.** An active volunteer with the McLeod Health Foundation, Yacoubian chaired the 2019 Chef & Child Dinner and Auction. She currently serves on the Circle of Excellence Executive Committee and is chair of the



McLeod Children's Hospital HERO Fund Advisory Committee. Yacoubian and her husband, Dikran, are charter members of the Circle of Excellence Young Giving Society. She is also a member of the McLeod Fellows Class of 2022.

# McLeod News

# An Evening of Hope and Inspiration

Since its establishment in 2014, the HOPE Fund has helped thousands of patients with needs such as transportation, medications, nutrition and unique personal financial struggles.



An Evening of Hope to benefit the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research was held virtually on September 23, 2021. More than \$143,000 in generous support was raised for the HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Fund.

Gifts made in support of the HOPE Fund benefit oncology patient support services and provide oncology staff with improved access for immediate assistance needs for their patients. Since its establishment in 2014, the HOPE Fund has helped thousands of patients with needs such as transportation, medications, nutrition and unique personal financial struggles.

The evening included inspirational video testimonials featuring Cancer Survivors Lynn Harrelson of Hartsville; Willie Vereen of Florence; Ginger Godfree of Myrtle Beach; Johnny Echols of Florence and April Munn of Florence; as well as the conclusion of a week-long silent auction.

Ginger and Johnny were both recipients of assistance from the HOPE Fund.

"When I was getting chemotherapy for triple negative breast cancer, Sarah Beth Averette, the HOPE Coordinator, came to me and said, 'I understand you are driving back and forth from Myrtle Beach.' And at that time, I was doing it twice a week. She said she knew the price of gas was high.

I was also not able to work at that time and it got to be where it was too much. Fortunately, Sarah Beth was able to provide me with gas cards for my chemo treatments."

In Johnny's case, he was released from work during the COVID-19 pandemic which resulted in his insurance being cancelled. Unable to walk due a large tumor in his back, Johnny needed a better walker with wheels so he could

remain upright.

"I mentioned it to **Dr. Jamie Smith**, and he told me to 'hold on there might be a program he could get me into.' Thank God! Thank McLeod! Through the HOPE Fund, Dr. Smith said, 'We can get you another walker.' They also gave me my medicine free and said if there was anything else I need to just let them know."

Both Johnny and Ginger are grateful to all the donors who support the HOPE Fund and the annual cancer benefit, *An Evening of Hope*.

To watch the event, please visit www.McLeodEveningofHope.org. Donations to the HOPE Fund can be made by contacting the McLeod Foundation at 843-777-2694.

2021 McLeod Health Foundation ANNUAL REPORT 2021 McLeod Health Foundation ANNUAL REPORT

The following list represents members of the McLeod Foundation's Founders' Society. Our entire list of donors are recognized on the McLeod Foundation's website: www.McLeodFoundation.org.

The McLeod Health Foundation is pleased to honor YOU, our donors who generously support the Foundation. Your gifts help make it possible for us to support McLeod Health in providing healthcare for the people of our region.

### **Centurions**

Gifts reflect donations made between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Centurions of the Founders' Society provide annual gifts totaling \$10,000 and up in support of the mission of the Foundation. Centurions include individuals, corporations, organizations and other foundations that make a major charitable investment in the health of our region. Through their partnership with the McLeod Foundation, Centurions are closely involved in changing the quality of life throughout the region.

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Audrey M. Gilbert

**Harbor Freight Tools** Robby Roberson

Michele Pridgen

Dr. and Mrs. Cheney M. Meiere, Jr.



Justin Shaw, Jamesha Gore-Coggin and Kelly Coggin enjoy the "Kentucky Derby" themed event, Jockeys & Juleps at WildHorse at Parker Farms.

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James P. King

The Leon Levine Foundation

Log a Load for Kids Campaign

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One Shot Girl

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Gifts reflect donations made between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Benefactors provide annual gifts of \$5,000 ~ \$9,999 for the work of the Foundation. Benefactors include individuals, corporations, and organizations; several of whom sponsor many Foundation events.

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### **Patrons**

Gifts reflect donations made between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Patrons of the Founders' Society provide annual gifts totaling \$2,500 ~ \$4,999 to help fulfill the vision of the Foundation. Like Benefactors, Patrons are closely involved in the work of the Foundation.

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Cory Prescott, the Child Life Specialist in the McLeod Children's Hospital, obtained funding for Xbox game karts from "One Shot Girl." Cory and the Children's Hospital staff are pictured with the game karts built by Gamers Outreach which allow kids to be kids while in the hospital.

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Christina Jackson, Director of the McLeod Foundation for McLeod Loris Seacoast, recognized Frank Boulineau and Ed Prince for their many years of service on the board.

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present a check to Christina Jackson and Carrie King with the McLeod Health Foundation to benefit 3D Mammography at McLeod Loris Seacoast. The proceeds were raised from the 17th Annual Contender/Yamaha Rumble in the Jungle Fishing Tournament. Nicole Gause

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presented a check for \$2,500 to the McLeod Foundation to benefit the HOPE Fund. She is pictured with her niece, Leona Burns, and the HOPE Coordinator Sarah Beth Averette.

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### Every gift counts, no matter the size.

Your gifts are critical in supporting the programs and services at McLeod Health, which are available for our patients and their families thanks to your generosity.

In this Annual Report, you have learned about the many ways, you, our donors, can support the work of McLeod Health. Below is an easy guide to some of the ways you can make a difference.

### ONLINE

A gift made online is the quickest and easiest way to provide support. Visit www.mcleodfoundation.org and click donate to make your gift today.

### RECURRING GIFTS

Regular, ongoing monthly gifts make a tremendous impact and are easy to set up at the online link above.

### CASH OR CHECK

Gifts of cash, including checks made payable to McLeod Health Foundation, may be mailed to:

McLeod Health Foundation, P.O. Box 100551, Florence, SC 29502-0551

Or personally delivered to the McLeod Foundation Office —located at 300 S. Dargan Street, Florence, SC 29506.—

### APPRECIATED STOCK TRANSFER

A gift of appreciated stock may allow the donor to avoid paying tax on capital gains.

If you would like to make this tax-wise donation of your appreciated assets, please call the McLeod Health Foundation for simple transfer instructions.

(843) 777-2694

### IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER GIFT (QCD)

For individuals 70½ years old and older, you can make a gift each year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as the McLeod Health Foundation without having to pay income taxes on this distribution. This popular gift option is commonly called the IRA charitable rollover, but you may also see it referred to as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

For additional ways to support the McLeod Health Foundation, please visit: www.McLeodFoundation.org and click on Ways to Give or call (843) 777-2694.

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### **McLeod Health Foundation**

The Mission of the McLeod Health Foundation is to generate philanthropic and community support to perpetuate medical excellence at McLeod Health.

The Vision of the McLeod Health Foundation is to help provide the very best healthcare resources.

The audited financial statement of the McLeod Health Foundation is filed each year with the Attorney General of the State of South Carolina.

In accordance with the law the financial statement is available upon request.

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