

A young child with dark hair, wearing a dark blue cable-knit sweater and khaki shorts, stands in a playroom. The child is holding a large, iridescent bubble in front of their chest. Several other bubbles of various sizes are floating in the air around the child. In the background, there is a wooden climbing structure with colorful handholds and a blue mat on the floor.

McLeod Health Foundation  
**ANNUAL REPORT  
TO DONORS**

Inspired  
*by you.*

JANUARY 1, 2025 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025

# CELEBRATING YOU

*as our Loyal Donors*



Each and every day you offer spiritual and emotional support for patients, families and staff through our vitally important Pastoral Services program.

In our complex healthcare world, obstacles will continue yet we are confident in your generosity and determination to help others in overcoming them.

**Please know that all at McLeod Health along with the many patients and families who may never know your name are grateful to you.**

As you review this annual report you will learn of other like-minded donors who, like you, believe in helping others overcome obstacles. I hope you will see yourself in some of their sacrificial choices to ensure excellent local care for our families, friends and neighbors.

**As always, we are inspired by you.**

Elizabeth Jones  
Executive Director

C. Pierce Campbell  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

During a recent church sermon, we were asked to consider the difference between a barrier and an obstacle.

**Where a barrier is insurmountable an obstacle is surmountable.**

Patients who turn to McLeod Health often face barriers. Their barriers may be a frightening diagnosis, excruciating pain, fear of the unknown, financial uncertainty or simply being alone.

**Through your continued and generous support of the McLeod Health Foundation, donors like you turn their insurmountable barriers into obstacles to be overcome.**

You have helped fund a new specialized ambulance which safely transports critically ill newborn babies to our state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Your gifts provide gas cards and transportation for cancer patients to travel to their lifesaving treatments.

You helped build and continue to support the region's only Hospice House where patients can spend their final days in comfort and with dignity.

You provide a safe, convenient and comfortable "home away from home" for families to be near their hospitalized loved ones at the Guest House at McLeod.



## ON THE COVER

*At just 22 months old, Kiki Alvarez lights up every room with his curious spirit and contagious giggle. But, behind his joyful demeanor, Kiki's parents began noticing something that tugged at their hearts -- he wasn't speaking like others his age. A key part of Kiki's journey has been the use of specialized therapy tools and sensory equipment made possible by the Chapin Foundation grant for the McLeod Carolina Forest Pediatric Rehabilitation department. Kiki's story of hope thanks to donors like the Chapin Foundation is featured on page 12.*

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Scan the QR code or go to [mcleodfoundation.org](http://mcleodfoundation.org) to view our list of donors and the 2025 annual report online.

# The Wootens Focus on Helping Others

## *Coastal Cancer Care Benefits from Their Generosity*

For Judy Wooten, her family's cancer journeys have influenced the direction of her life.

Judy grew up an only child in the Longs/Loris area of South Carolina. She began her career working at Horry Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) and married her first husband, Stuart. Years later, she was devastated to learn of her husband's diagnosis of lung cancer which had metastasized to his brain and bones.

Judy was only 33 years old when Stuart passed away, and she struggled to go on emotionally. With the help of her loving parents, she went back to school to obtain both her undergraduate and master's degrees. Judy returned to HGTC working her way up to the position of Associate Vice President of Human Resources and retired after 42 years of service.

During her tenure at HGTC, Judy learned of her beloved mother's diagnosis of ovarian cancer. It was heartbreaking when she passed away after only 10 months.

As God's plans are often better than we can ask for, Judy was introduced by a cousin to Pat Wooten, a Real Estate Broker and Auctioneer from Whiteville, North Carolina. They discovered they had similar values, and the couple married the following year.

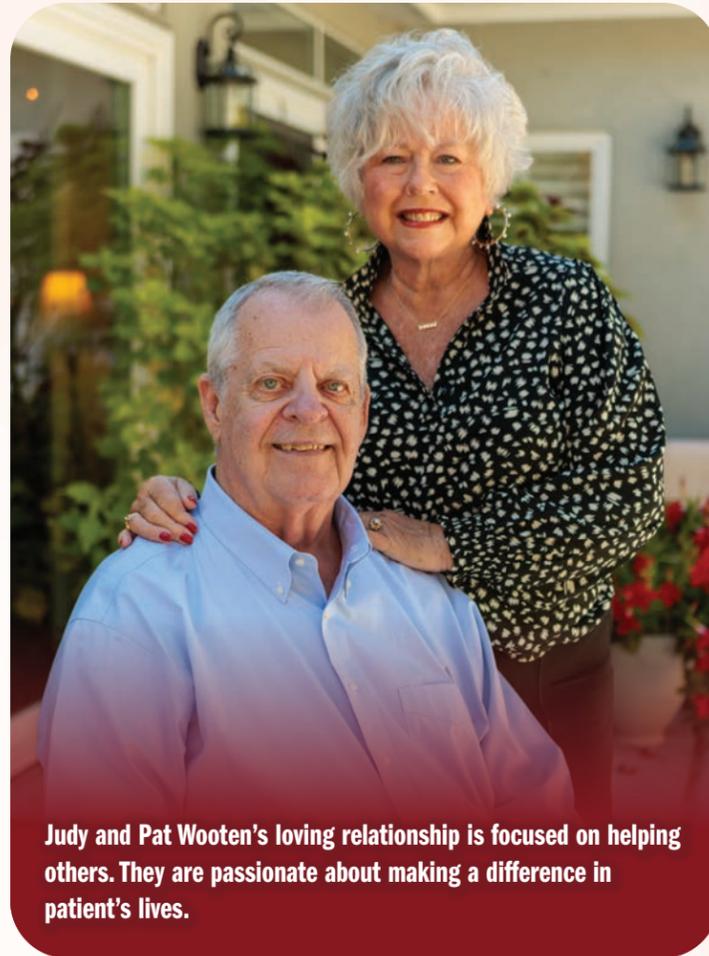
The Wootens' loving relationship spills over with their focus on helping others. The McLeod Health Foundation is blessed by their generosity.

Pat has a heart for mission work and has taken many trips over the years. "I am so blessed and there is no greater feeling than to see God at work and participate in what he is doing," explains Pat.

Judy's personal experiences with cancer guide her service on the McLeod Foundation's HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Committee. She has also previously served on the McLeod Health Foundation Coastal Board.

**"When I hear the stories during the HOPE meetings, it is so eye opening, and it motivates me to want to give more," offers Judy.**

Judy and Pat are passionate about supporting the HOPE Fund through regular monthly giving. They see it as an easy way to make a real impact on patients' lives.



**Judy and Pat Wooten's loving relationship is focused on helping others. They are passionate about making a difference in patient's lives.**

Their generosity continues with a significant pledge to the Healing and Hope Capital Campaign in support of the new McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research located on the McLeod Health Seacoast campus.

Judy recalls, "Stuart was treated by Oncologist Dr. Michael Pavy in Florence. It was so difficult driving back and forth from Loris to McLeod Regional Medical Center for Stuart's care. I knew it was important to invest in excellent local cancer care."

**"Now, because of McLeod Health, healthcare in our coastal region has evolved with amazing physicians and state-of-the-art facilities," adds Pat. "As we get older, the convenience and location are so important. It is a blessing to be close to McLeod Health Seacoast."**

# The Foxes Thrive in the Culture of McLeod Health

## *Building on the Legacy of Those Who Have Gone Before*

It was a recommendation by a friend that brought April and Dr. Dan Fox from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to McLeod Health 30 years ago. The region has benefitted from this suggestion as the couple became an integral part of the McLeod Health family.

In the early years, Dr. Fox cared for patients as an Anesthesiologist in Surgical Services and April was a Pharmacist in the Operating Room Pharmacy.

The generous couple began contributing to the McLeod Health Foundation and appreciated learning more about the institution which has been a vital part of the growth of the region.

It was thrilling for the Foxes to experience McLeod Health's culture and its quality journey led by Clinical Effectiveness.

**"We knew we were a part of something special when all hospital board meetings and retreats opened with prayer," expresses Dr. Fox.**

They are proud to be a part of McLeod Health, where there is an emphasis on physician collaboration with the administration and the nursing staff. It was through these determined efforts that the hospital received recognition as a top-tier hospital and attained the AHA-McKesson Quest for Quality Award.

The couple thrives in an environment of cooperation for quality healthcare directed by the values their family shares.

They feel blessed by the strong faith and determination of leadership in directing the hospital to achieve its mission to improve the overall health and well-being of the people of our region.

"Each year as we return from vacation, I like to remind Dan of how fortunate he is to look forward to returning to the hospital," shares April.

**"It became apparent to us that McLeod Health's focus on quality is built on the legacy of many who came before including our founder Dr. F. H. McLeod," explains Dr. Fox. "We wanted to be a part of that legacy and are honored to make our personal commitment."**

Recently, the Foxes established a life insurance policy with the McLeod Health Foundation as their sole beneficiary. They have designated their gift to McLeod Cardiac Services to help ensure excellent quality care continues beyond their current support.

**Dr. Fox and April offer, "It is an honor for us to be able to participate by making our commitment, along with so many others who have supported the hospital and, in turn, blessed our entire region."**



**Dr. Dan and April Fox have ensured that their legacy of caring at McLeod Health will continue on for generations to come.**

Despite living with adversity very few of us will know, RJ is all smiles -- a testament to the care he and all children receive at McLeod Children's Hospital thanks to the generosity of our donors.



## Celebrating McLeod Children's Hospital Champions

*Your Giving Through CMN Partners Provides Lifesaving Care*

What does it mean when you respond “Yes, I will!” when asked to purchase a Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) Balloon or contribute to a CMN fundraising event at your local grocery store or other business?

**Well, it could mean the difference in life or death for children across our region.**

RJ Self’s entrance into the world was met with challenges that could be considered barriers to life. He was born with Tetra-amelia Syndrome, a rare condition resulting in the absence of all four limbs. The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at McLeod Children’s Hospital became his first home, where he received specialized care and support.

Thanks to all of you who said “Yes, I will!” RJ had access to lifesaving equipment and therapies, empowering him to overcome his obstacles. Today, RJ is an active and determined young boy, proving that limitations are merely stepping stones to success because of your caring gifts.

**RJ’s dedicated mother, Jasmine shares, “I am so proud of my son; he is truly a miracle. Despite every odd stacked against RJ, he has overcome them all. We will be forever grateful to all who support the amazing care which was available to him at McLeod Children’s Hospital.”**

CMN Hospitals started in 1983 and soon after McLeod Children’s Hospital became one of their early affiliates in 1986. CMN is the largest network of children’s hospitals with a mission to engage communities to increase fundraising for their local children’s hospitals in the U.S. and Canada.

CMN works with local businesses who hold fundraising events throughout the year. These collective efforts provide much needed funds for the local children’s hospital.

**Today, McLeod is pleased to share with you that RJ has been selected as a CMN National Champion.**

Every year, local member hospitals of CMN identify a “Champion” within their community to serve as the face for children treated at their local children’s hospital.

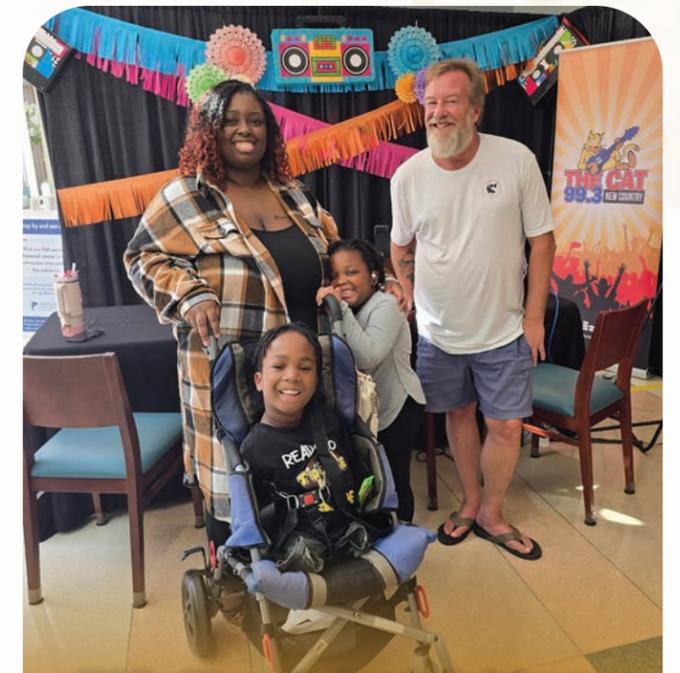
These ambassadors spend their year advocating for the charitable needs of children’s hospitals across the U.S. and Canada.

Champions play a vital role in raising awareness about the ongoing need for donations to support children’s hospitals. Through sharing their personal experiences, Champions and their families illustrate the essential impact of local, unrestricted fundraising in enabling member hospitals to meet the needs of their communities.

**We are thrilled to honor and celebrate RJ and all of you who give through CMN local partners. Please remember to say “Yes, I will!” when visiting one of the local CMN partners listed below.**

### CMN Partners:

- 7-Eleven
- Dairy Queen
- Walmart
- Log a Load for Kids
- Sam’s Club
- Ace Hardware Corp.
- Costco Wholesale
- GameStop
- Credit Union for Kids
- Love’s Travel Stops
- RE/MAX
- Ollie’s Bargain Outlet
- Marriott International
- Panda Restaurant Group
- Marriott Vacation Worldwide
- PGA Tour Superstore
- Publix
- Speedway
- Panda Express
- Aflac
- Wawa, Inc.



RJ Self and his mom Jasmine and sister Jaslynn are pictured with DJ Ed Palmer during the 2025 McLeod Children’s Hospital Radiothon.

# FLORENCE FAMILY FOCUSES ON FAITH AND GIVING BACK

## *A New Appreciation for Excellent Local Cancer Care*

Healthcare has been the focus of McLeod employee Kelvin Oakley's professional career for 29 years but two years ago his family came face to face with the critical importance of excellent local care.

Kelvin is a tremendous asset for McLeod Health and the patients who count on excellent care in the region. He has served as a paramedic, a nurse, an educator, stroke and trauma coordinator and in his current role as Associate Vice President of Patient Flow

Management, he is responsible for all transport of patients across the system.

Kelvin and his wife, Tracy, have two active sons Caleb and Gavin. They have been all-state multisport athletes and raised in their family's tradition of strong faith and involvement with Mullins First Baptist Church.

In his senior year in high school, Gavin started experiencing a cough which was initially dismissed as mild asthma. However, a chest X-ray revealed a tumor requiring further testing.

This frightening turn of events led to a video meeting with the McLeod Tumor Board to discuss various scenarios. The best option was to have newly recruited Thoracic Surgeon Dr. Srinivas Kolla remove the tumor.

**"We feel blessed to have been under Dr. Kolla's care as the surgery proved complicated and a portion of Gavin's lung and phrenic nerve had to be removed,"** explains Kelvin. **"We felt helpless seeing him in intensive care, but the staff were amazing."**

Fortunately, the tumor was a B-cell lymphoma which is easier to treat with chemotherapy and has a high recovery and success rate.

Gavin, who is doing well today and following in his parent's footsteps with a career in healthcare, had been hesitant to discuss his experience. Yet, during a recent job shadowing at McLeod, he shared his experience with the medical staff.

**"It brings chill bumps to you when you hear him tell his story," Kelvin proudly states. "His story affected our entire family, and we are especially blessed as his older brother Caleb also provided spiritual and emotional support."**

Kelvin and Tracy are incredibly grateful for the high-quality cancer care which is a priority for McLeod Health. They have generously supported the McLeod Health Foundation through the Employee Campaign for more than a decade. Now, through this very personal family experience, they have made a significant commitment in their estate plans to continue excellent cancer care for future generations.

**"When our family faced our greatest crisis, we were supported by a strong faith and knew we were surrounded by caring and competent healthcare professionals,"** explains Kelvin. **"We want to share our blessings with other families who may face their own medical crisis through our legacy commitment to the McLeod Health Foundation."**



The Oakley Family has chosen to express their gratitude for Gavin's care by making a commitment through their estate plans to support the McLeod Centers for Cancer Treatment and Research.

# A LIFETIME OF GIVING BACK

## *Bullock Family Brings Values of Service to the Pee Dee*

Gunter Bullock's relationship with his family instilled his values of giving back by devoting time to important causes. Fortunately for the Pee Dee, his professional life led him to our region.

Gunter grew up in Thomasville, Georgia, where he found his passion for community service in high school. While obtaining his undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Georgia, he volunteered at the local indigent healthcare clinic and spent his summers working at his Uncle Dennis Wheelus' nuclear pharmacy in Florence, South Carolina.

This experience led him to attend the Medical University of South Carolina's College of Pharmacy to study Nuclear Pharmacy. While there, he met his wife Emily, and they married in 2016. He continued his focus on helping others by serving on three medical mission trips to Nicaragua.

His Uncle Dennis opened Pee Dee Isotopes in 1993 and provided nuclear medicine services for McLeod Health and the surrounding region. The business was eventually sold in 2007. However, in 2015, Gunter, Dennis, and Casey Hydro reopened the business to bring back quality



Gunter and Emily Bullock want to support the McLeod Foundation in order to offer the region excellent healthcare. They are pictured with their children Lucile, Cathryn and William.

nuclear medicine service to McLeod Health. The business is now called PDI Pharmacy Services.

**"We think of McLeod not as a customer but as a partner,"** explains Gunter. **"We know that by doing what is best for McLeod, we are doing what is best for our region."**

For Gunter and Emily, Florence is home for their expanded family which includes three young children. Emily is a clinical staff pharmacist in the inpatient and pediatric pharmacy in the McLeod Children's Hospital. She experiences firsthand how physicians and staff care for the children of our region.

**"It is truly a blessing to have access to this amazing facility,"** shares Emily.

The young couple began their relationship with the McLeod Health Foundation by joining

the Circle of Excellence, a young giving society which involves donors 45 years and younger who make a generous donation of \$500 or more annually to support patient care at McLeod.

As his understanding of the work of the Foundation grew, Gunter continued

his interest in service by serving as a McLeod Fellow and then joining the McLeod Health Foundation's Board of Trustees.

He also led a substantial commitment from PDI Pharmacy to benefit the new McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research in Horry County. This meaningful gift was inspired by his father's journey with Appendix Cancer.

Gunter and Emily have also made a legacy gift in their estate plans to the McLeod Health Foundation and have been inducted into the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society.

**"We want good healthcare in our region, and it truly needs to be a community effort, or we won't have quality medical care for our families, friends and neighbors,"** adds Gunter as he explains their focus on philanthropy.



Owen Bellflowers still enjoys the Spiderman playset he received when he was a patient at McLeod Children's Hospital. This is a shining example of how the smallest act of kindness can make a real impact for children throughout the region.

## Child Life Services Expand to Serve All Pediatric Patients

*NASCAR Foundation Joins Donors to Further Support McLeod*

## NASCAR Foundation Provides Grant for Child Life Activity Center in the McLeod Day Hospital

The NASCAR Foundation is a shining example of how donors further assist pediatric patients at McLeod. They recently provided a grant to create a separate Child Life Activity Center in the McLeod Day Hospital for outpatient pediatric surgery patients. The center provides an environment where children can engage in fun activities prior to surgery, reducing anxiety for both the child and family.

“This grant has transformed a somewhat sterile playroom into a fun and joyful one,” Cory added.

“A child’s experience with the medical world sets the tone for how they view and use healthcare services for the rest of their lives,” says Cory. “Our donors help us transform the idea of what a hospital can be.”

And today the treasured Spiderman playset is still in Owen’s bedroom at home.

Harsh lights, beeping equipment, caregivers bustling in and out -- hospitalization is stressful for most adults. But imagine this from a young child’s perspective: sick, in pain, and removed from everything familiar. However, thanks to generous gifts to the McLeod Health Foundation, the McLeod Children’s Hospital Child Life Program has been making hospital stays easier, more kid-friendly, and even surprisingly fun at times.

Cory Prescott, McLeod’s Child Life Coordinator, guides and reassures patients and their families in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and on the Pediatric Floor. “Positivity is our goal,” Cory says. “Providing a comfortable and stress-free space makes their stay feel less like a hospital and more like a hotel with fun toys and activities.”

Maggie Bellflowers experienced the ongoing evolution of the Child Life Activity Center when her son Owen, a kindergartener at the time, was hospitalized with three highly contagious viruses.

**“The playroom was like being in the Hilton,” Maggie remembers. “His eyes grew three sizes when he saw it. He gasped, ‘Mama, I want to go there!’”**

Although in isolation in his own room, Cory and her staff brought the Child Life Activity Center to Owen.

“He felt so much love and compassion,” Maggie continued, “Owen got to choose the toys he wanted to play with: a teddy bear, coloring books, a comfortable blanket, and his favorite: a Spider Man playset to keep. I was blown away and said, ‘Do you spoil every patient like this? Cory smiled and said, “Yes. Yes, we do.””

What started out as overwhelming became calm. “My anxiety about my young child melted away,” Maggie said. “It was such a relief to hear him say, ‘Mama, I don’t need you. I’m fine here with the nurses.’”

Even when it was time to remove his IV port, which Owen was apprehensive about, Cory calmed his fears.

**“What started out as overwhelming became calm. My anxiety about my young child melted away.”**

**- Maggie Bellflowers**

# Chapin Foundation Continues Generous Vision

## *Giving Every Child a Chance to Thrive Brings Hope to Families*

Thanks to Simeon B. Chapin, who established the Chapin Foundation in 1943, the quality of life in Myrtle Beach has been greatly enriched. His legacy continues to guide the Foundation today as it partners with organizations like McLeod Health.

**This year, the visionary businessman's legacy is touching the lives of children suffering the effects of disease, injury or disability through a \$90,000 grant for pediatric rehabilitation equipment at McLeod Health Carolina Forest's Pediatric Rehabilitation department.**

Chapin's legacy is evident with the specialized care McLeod provides for children like Enrique "Kiki" Alvarez. He is one of the many beneficiaries of this generous man's vision of providing access to high quality care for the most vulnerable of Myrtle Beach.

At just 22 months old, Kiki lights up every room with his curious spirit and contagious giggle. But, behind his joyful demeanor, Kiki's parents began noticing something that tugged at their hearts -- he wasn't speaking like others his age.

Coming from a bilingual household, his parents initially wondered if the delay was simply part of navigating two languages. But their instincts told them something more was happening.

Fortunately, they acted upon their instincts and turned to McLeod Pediatric Rehabilitation, where Speech-Language Pathologist Jennifer McKevitt began working closely with Kiki.

**A key part of Kiki's journey has been the use of specialized therapy tools and sensory equipment made possible by the Chapin Foundation grant.**

Today, Kiki is making remarkable strides. He is beginning to use small words, imitate sounds and communicate through signs.

**"We are still waiting for him to say those precious words of 'mama' and 'dada' – but he's getting closer every day," Kiki's mom Lizeth shares with tears in her eyes.**

Kiki's story is a testament to the power of early intervention, compassionate professional care and community generosity. Thanks to the Chapin Foundation's support, McLeod Pediatric Rehabilitation on the Carolina Forest campus continues to offer children like Kiki the tools they need to thrive and the hope their families embrace.

Tory Mackey, Executive Director of the Chapin Foundation, reflected on Chapin's vision: "We are continually inspired by the vision Mr. Chapin had for Myrtle Beach and how he identified critical areas that have stood the test of time. From the board to the staff, we all have an incredible sense of calling -- that is what keeps us going."

**For families like Kiki's, the Chapin Foundation's investment means more than equipment. It represents hope. It reflects a belief that every child deserves the chance to thrive, to overcome obstacles, and to step into a brighter future.**



Kiki Alvarez lights up any room with his curious spirit and contagious smile. His story is a testament to the power of early intervention, compassionate care and community generosity.

# RELATIONSHIP BENEFITS FAMILY

## *A Daughter's Perspective of Excellent Local Healthcare*

Baker Tange had a great start in life when she was born at McLeod Regional Medical Center. Growing up in Florence and eventually marrying another Florentine, Chad Tange, Baker is firmly devoted to this community.

She began her relationship with the McLeod Health Foundation by attending a Circle of Excellence Sunday Funday. The Circle of Excellence is a young giving society organized through the McLeod Health Foundation. It is comprised of individuals and couples 45 and under, who contribute \$500 or more annually to support the work of the Foundation.

Baker and Chad joined the group and began learning more about the impact of philanthropy on the community she loves.

Her knowledge of McLeod Health continued to grow as she participated in the McLeod Fellows program. This eight-month program provides community leaders with the opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at medicine and to explore the complex issues driving healthcare today while demonstrating the continuing need for philanthropy.

During McLeod Fellows, Baker was particularly interested in the McLeod Cancer Center presentation as two days prior, her mother, Cely Anne Brigman, shared with the family that she had just been newly diagnosed with breast cancer.

After undergoing surgery and completing radiation, Baker shared in her mother's celebration as she joyfully rang the bell.

One month later, Baker learned that her father, Rich Reynolds, had suffered a massive stroke. While some suggested moving him to Columbia or Charleston, Baker confidently encouraged him and her stepmother to remain at McLeod Regional Medical Center for his care. After making miraculous strides in the Intensive Care Unit, her dad was discharged and continued his therapy at the McLeod Outpatient Rehabilitation Center.

"I am really passionate about McLeod Health and the ways I can serve our community through my volunteering. The years I spent getting involved through McLeod Fellows and the Circle of Excellence gave me the confidence in McLeod I needed when my parents faced medical crises," shares Baker.

**For Baker and her family, frightening health crises gave them a new appreciation for the value of excellent local healthcare. Baker's knowledge of the quality of care available at McLeod also helped her guide their wise medical choices including a recurrence of Cely Anne's cancer.**

"Knowing that your community has your back when it matters most is incredible," explains Baker.

"I got to see firsthand how powerful the mission of McLeod Health really is."

**Baker and Chad are proud that their giving through the Circle of Excellence will continue to support the services that have been so vital for her family and others in their beloved community.**

Baker will continue to help guide this generous group as she takes the reigns as Chair in the coming year. Her personal experience over the past few years has given her a unique perspective as she prepares to lead this dedicated group of young donors.



Baker Tange is grateful for the excellent, compassionate care delivered to both of her parents at McLeod Regional Medical Center.

# The American Dream

## Faith, Hard Work and Philanthropy Go Hand in Hand for the Gunter Family

Two friends working at McLeod Hospital decided to do some matchmaking for their high school age siblings. The success of their plan led to a family dedicated to helping others.

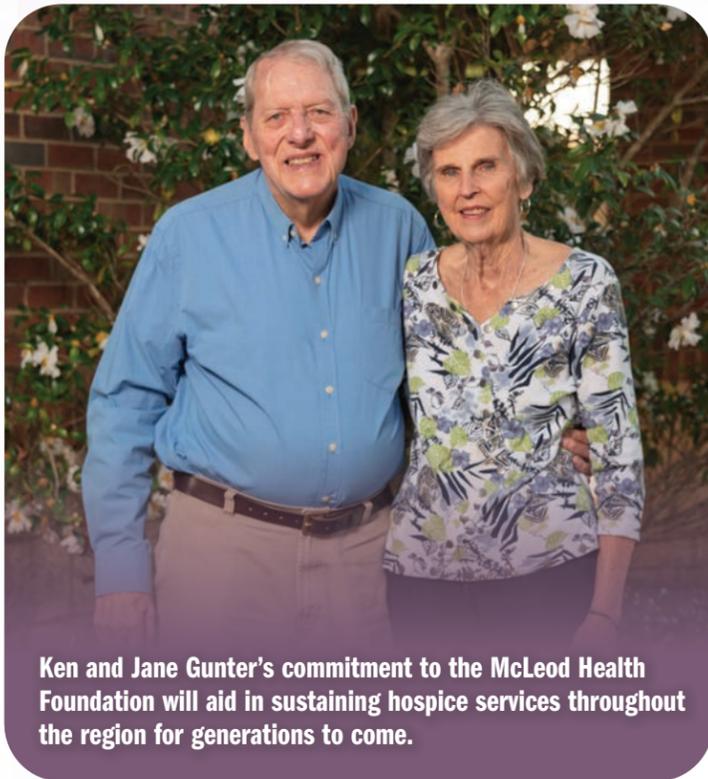
Jane and Ken Gunter, the siblings of those two friends, decided to get married. She had completed two years at USC-Florence and was finishing her degree at USC-Columbia. Their union established a family focused on faith, hard work and giving back. Three sons, Kent, Kyle and Kacy were born at McLeod Health.

After serving his country in the Navy, Ken earned a Civil Engineering degree from Florence-Darlington Technical College and worked with W.C. Logan & Associates Construction Company for 12 years. Two years after the company was sold to an out of state construction company, he left the company with plans to go out on his own.

**“I had prayed every night for those two years that God would open the door for my next endeavor,” explains Ken.**

Stepping out on faith, he acquired Florence Builders from John Frank, a former co-worker and friend at W.C. Logan and the rest is history. All three sons graduated from the Citadel, worked on their own for a short period, and ultimately returned to work with the family business. As the work spread to other areas of the state, the company changed their name to FBi Construction.

The Gunters have called Mechanicsville of Darlington County their home for 58 years and worship at



Mechanicsville Baptist Church with Pastor Stanley Goodwin. Their former pastor of 25 years, Frankie Tanner, introduced their family to hospice care. Frankie was instrumental in the early years of McLeod Hospice with his wife, Jessie, who continues to serve as Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator.

It is the family's special relationship with Jessie's work that guides their generous support for McLeod Hospice. They have specifically honored her service by sponsoring a tree for the annual *A Light for Someone You*

*Love Hospice Tree Lighting* for 28 years.

“Our family received exceptional care by angels like Jessie at McLeod Hospice and we understand the value the program brings to our community,” shares Jane.

**“Faith is something we have always instilled in our children. We taught them to save, save, save so they can give, give, give,” states Ken. “It was only natural for us to establish a McLeod Hospice Tree Lighting Endowment to continue our support for McLeod Hospice in perpetuity.”**

The Gunter family calling is to leave this place better than they found it. They want to share their blessings and McLeod Hospice is one of the places close to their heart.

**“McLeod Hospice is like no other. Families of every creed, every walk of life, financially secure or insecure...every family is treated the same. Every patient is given the full range of compassionate services. That speaks for itself,” adds Ken.**

# YOUR GENEROSITY 2025

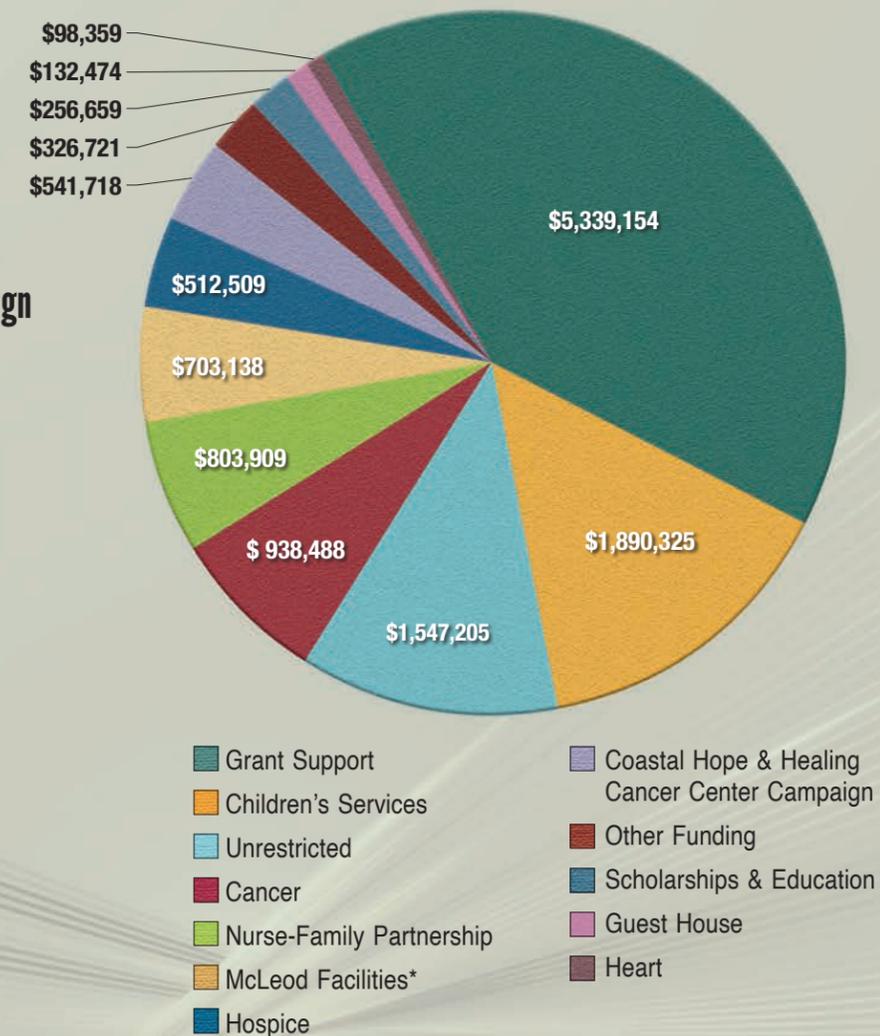
*A Year in Review*

Total Amount Secured by the McLeod Health Foundation  
**\$13,090,660**

Years of Growing Philanthropy for McLeod Health  
**39**

Total Number of McLeod Foundation Donors  
**6,807**

### Your Contributions to Healthcare Services



### McLeod Foundation Employee Campaign Giving Results Since 2020



Since the Employee Campaign began in 1987, McLeod Employees have contributed \$23,943,829.66 in support of McLeod Health programs and services.

\*McLeod Facilities: McLeod Health Cheraw, McLeod Health Clarendon, McLeod Health Dillon, McLeod Regional Medical Center, McLeod Health Seacoast, McLeod Health Loris and McLeod Health Carolina Forest.

These figures are based on the McLeod Health Foundation fiscal year of October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025.



New members welcomed into the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society during the 2025 annual reception and dinner included Mr. and Mrs. John Charles, Mr. and Mrs. Rhett Covington and Mrs. Sandra C. Morris. In addition, Mr. David R. Smith was also welcomed into membership but unable to attend the event.



Cancer Survivor Kimberly Brown is pictured with her husband Damon and her five sisters at the 26th Annual Cancer Benefit *An Evening of Hope* held at the FMU Performing Arts Center.



The team of Dr. Carmen Piccolo, Kim Lanier, Will McLeod and Jon Weiss, Jr., won the 2025 McLeod Children's Hospital Golf Classic. The tournament was held at the Florence Country Club and raised \$160,505 for McLeod Children's Hospital – the largest amount raised in tournament history.



Students with the Wilson High School National Honor Society raised funds to support Mammography Scholarships at McLeod Health. They are pictured presenting a check for \$800 from their Pink Out activities to Lauren Snipes with the Foundation.



April Fox, Ashlee McLeod, and Leslie and Dr. Pat Denton are pictured at *A Night in the Round*. The annual event presented by The Pharmacy benefits McLeod Children's Hospital.



Laura and Erik Marechal are pictured at the 2025 Chef & Child Dinner and Auction. Laura served as Chair of the 2025 Chef & Child Committee.



The McLeod Health Foundation's Circle of Excellence granted \$60,260 to support programs and services at McLeod Regional Medical Center in 2025. A 24 percent increase from last year's grant, this total is the largest amount granted in the Circle's history. Grant recipients with McLeod Orthopedics, McLeod Outpatient Adult Rehabilitation, McLeod Sports Medicine, McLeod Clinical Education, McLeod NICU and the McLeod Family Medicine Residency Program are pictured with Foundation staff and Circle of Excellence Executive Committee Members at the annual Sunday Funday event.



The fifth annual Jockeys & Juleps fundraiser was held in May 2025 at Wildhorse at Parker Farms in Longs. The committee members pictured from left to right included Angela King, Daryl LeDuc, Melissa Wober, Christina Jackson, Jamesha Gore-Coggin, Tanisha Gore, Kayla Thompson, Amy Martini, Carrie King and Joey Bonner.



Members of the McLeod Fellows Class of 2025 are pictured with McLeod Health President and CEO Donna Isgett following their graduation ceremony. The class included Rangeley Bailey, Karen Belissary; Eric Belk; Swapna Bharadwaj; Charlie Blake; Adrian Peguese Carter; Ashley Christenbury; Danielle Evans; David Kahn; Perry MacLennan; Rock Ouzts; Carolyn Pearce; Chris Peebles; Alison Swaggard; Mark Vahle; Lee Ward; and Angie Woodberry.



Members of the Francis Marion University Basketball Team delivered Hospital Buddies to patients in the McLeod Children's Hospital during the 2025 Radiothon. The players are pictured with Wake Up Carolina's Ken Ard and Dave Baker from Live 95.3.



Members of the McLeod Coastal Fellows Class of 2025-2026 pose for a group picture after their first session of the year which included tours of the McLeod Air Reach helicopter.



The family of Kaye Floyd-Parris lit the trees in honor and memory of all those touched by McLeod Hospice during the 40th Annual McLeod Hospice Tree Lighting Ceremony.



From left to right, Michael King, Brianne Bender and Jamesha Gore-Coggin are pictured with members of the Parker Barrow Band at the 2025 Rock Out for The Cure to benefit the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research in Horry County.

# McLeod News

## McLeod Foundation Coastal Names Volunteers of the Year

Each year, the McLeod Health Foundation honors special individuals whose consistent leadership has contributed significantly to the work of the organization. Volunteers are instrumental in helping the Foundation raise funds needed to support the programs and services of McLeod Health.

The McLeod Foundation recognized several deserving individuals during the 2025 McLeod Coastal Founders' Society Dinner held at Seaside Vista. These volunteers serve in championing the need for enhanced patient services in one of the seven hospitals of McLeod Health or planning special events. Many improvements in patient care would otherwise not be possible.

The Foundation honored the following recipients at the Founders' Society event:

Angela and Tony King - Philanthropists of the Year

Dr. Kerolos Rizk - Physician Champion of the Year

Together We Give Foundation - Volunteers of the Year

"In a world that often celebrates what we can gain, the spirit of giving reminds us of the beauty in what we can give — our time, our talents, our treasure. Whether it's a small gesture of kindness or a lifetime commitment to service," said Christina Jackson, Director of the McLeod Foundation Coastal, in presenting the Philanthropists of the Year award. "Through their generosity to the McLeod Health Foundation, Angela and Tony King see it not as a sense of duty, but a heart-filled gesture of helping make a difference in the lives of the patients we serve and in our local community. Their contributions continue to shape lives, build communities, and inspire others to give. The Kings give without expectation, live life by compassion and love, and understand that the spirit of giving doesn't just change the world, it changes us."

In honoring Dr. Kerolos Rizk as the Physician Champion of the Year, Jackson said, "McLeod Health is a physician-led organization with a philosophy deeply rooted in a patient-centered focus, where every decision is guided by what will lead to the most positive patient outcomes. As an ambassador for McLeod Health, Dr. Rizk is a shining example of this philosophy in action. His clinical insights

not only contribute to our goals -- they help define our vision for the future. He inspires those around him -- through authenticity, empathy, and an unwavering passion for patient care. He also actively engages with the McLeod Foundation, supporting our endeavors with the same commitment he gives to patient care. We celebrate Dr. Rizk as this year's Physician Champion for his inspiration, his leadership, and the transformational impact he continues to make in the lives of patients, colleagues and our entire McLeod community."

The McLeod Foundation also honored the Together We Give Foundation as the Volunteers of the Year. "This remarkable group of individuals are not only hands on; they are devoted to a mission. They have a tremendous passion for the cure of cancer and a deep commitment to this cause that touches all of us," added Jackson. "They established Rock Out for The Cure because they've seen, firsthand, the impact of McLeod Health in their own lives, or in the lives of those they love. Thanks to their tireless efforts, this event has brought increased awareness to the coastal region, shining a light on the comprehensive services now available at the new McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research on the campus of McLeod Health Seacoast. These volunteers are more than supporters — they are deeply selfless individuals who have turned personal experiences into purpose."



During the 2025 Coastal Founders' Society Dinner, Dr. Kerolos Rizk, the Together We Give Foundation (represented by Jamesha Gore-Coggin), and Angela (Tony) King were honored with volunteer of the year awards.

# McLeod News

## McLeod Foundation Announces New Board Members



Shannon Chandler



Gray Covington



Angela King



Johnny Rishmawi



James "Jim" B. Smith

The McLeod Health Foundation recently announced the addition of five new members to its Board of Trustees – Shannon Chandler, Gray Covington, Angela King, Johnny Rishmawi and James “Jim” B. Smith.

Shannon Chandler owns and operates Chandler Investments Properties with her husband, Jonathan. The couple have been dedicated Foundation donors since her involvement with McLeod Fellows in 2022. Shannon currently serves on the Finance Committee for her church and is affiliated with several community outreach programs both locally and abroad. The Chandlers reside in Florence.

Gray Covington is a retired school teacher who was born and raised in McColl, South Carolina. She is married to Rhett Covington who owns Rhett Covington Farms in Marlboro County. A breast cancer survivor, Gray received treatment at the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research in Florence. She began personally supporting the HOPE Fund following completion of her cancer treatment and now serves on the HOPE Fund Advisory Committee. The Covingtons were inducted as members of the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society with a gift to the HOPE Fund Endowment in 2025.

Angela King retired from Labcorp in 2023 after 34 years of service in Sales, Sales Leadership and Contract Negotiations. She currently serves as Chair of the McLeod Health Foundation Coastal Advisory Board.

A graduate of the McLeod Fellows Coastal Class of 2018, Angela has been volunteering and supporting Foundation Coastal initiatives since 2020 including the annual Jockeys and Juleps event. Angela and her husband Tony are also new members of the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society. The Kings live in North Myrtle Beach.

Johnny Rishmawi is Vice Present of Rishmawi Investments. A 2019 graduate of the McLeod Fellows program, Johnny has been a dedicated donor to the HOPE Fund since 2017 as a sponsor of the McLeod Cancer Benefit, *An Evening of Hope*. He also partners with the McLeod Foundation to facilitate the gas card program for McLeod cancer patients in need of transportation assistance. Johnny and his wife Anjana are members of the Circle of Excellence Young Giving Society, and Johnny serves on the McLeod Regional Medical Center Community Board. The Rishmawis are residents of Florence.

James “Jim” B. Smith of Myrtle Beach serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Banking Officer for The Citizens Bank. A graduate of the inaugural McLeod Health Fellows Class at the Coast in 2016, Jim currently serves on the McLeod Loris Seacoast Community Board of Directors. He is a previous member of the McLeod Health Foundation Coastal Advisory Board and has been a dedicated volunteer and supporter of Foundation events as well as the new McLeod Center for Treatment and Research in Horry County.

# DR. F. H. MCLEOD LEGACY SOCIETY

*Gifts reflect donations made between January 1 and December 31, 2025.* The Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have established endowments and/or included McLeod Health Foundation in their will, trust and/or estate plans.

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*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.

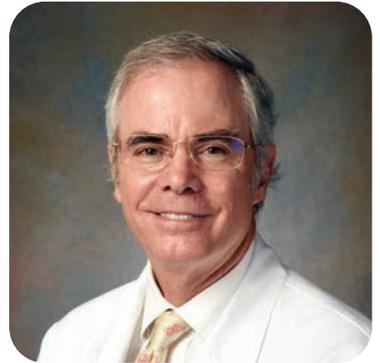
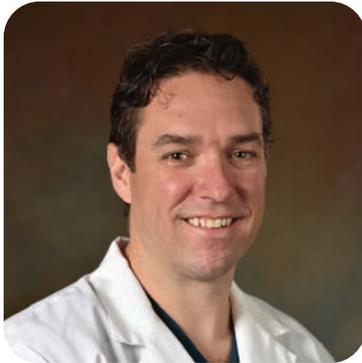
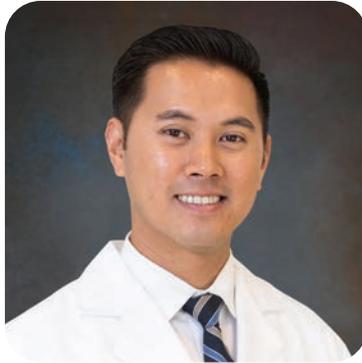
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