

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating bold milestones and modest moments of compassion



BAPTIST HEALTH®

FOUNDATION



Dear friends,

Progress has a way of revealing itself in bold milestones and modest moments of compassion. In 2025, we experienced both — and they tell a great story.

As you move through this annual report, consider it a guided tour of your impact. You'll see progress that's impossible to miss, like advanced hospital services reaching rural communities and a groundbreaking human clinical trial that could change how breast cancer is diagnosed.

Other times, progress is more quiet but just as life-changing, reflected through investments in nursing education or innovative playroom tools, helping children with specific needs grow while still allowing them to simply be kids.

These moments happened because you cared. You saw an opportunity to serve your community with selflessness and acted upon it. There's real power in that kind of generosity, and it multiplies when we move forward together.

Looking ahead, the needs within our communities will not slow down, which means neither can we. Though because of your support, we're equipped with the tools to continue responding with urgency and advocating for those we serve — whether it's through transformative projects in rural care or new resources that support caregivers and patients alike. I hope, as you read on, you feel that same sense of optimism and possibility.

Thank you for believing in this mission of exceptional care. None of this progress would be possible without you.

With gratitude,

Roy Lowdenback, CFRE
Vice President of Philanthropy, Baptist Health Foundation

OUR MISSION

Baptist Health demonstrates the love of Christ by providing and coordinating care and improving health in our communities.

OUR SHARED VISION

Baptist Health will lead in clinical excellence, compassionate care and growth to meet the needs of our patients.

OUR FAITH-BASED VALUES

Integrity, Respect, Compassion, Excellence, Collaboration and Joy.

Baptist Health Foundation team

Roy Lowdenback

Vice President of Philanthropy

Lora Croley

Associate Vice President, Donor Relations

Dodie Stogner

Associate Vice President, Operations & Finance

Stephanie Cieslak

Executive Director, Planned Giving & Individual Giving

Justin Leighty

Greater Louisville Executive Director & Corporate Giving

Ross Buskey

Regional Philanthropy Officer — East

Carolina Tafur

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Sarah Wunderlin

Regional Philanthropy Officer — Kentuckiana & West

Jackson Davenport

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Haley Schnell

Donor Engagement Officer

Kelsey Kennady

Fund Manager

Ashley Lambert

Operations Manager

Taylor McDonald

Stewardship Manager

Amanda McElroy-Gray

Philanthropy Program Manager

Reuben McNeill

Grants Manager

Ethan Smith

Prospect Development Manager

Berry Stockton

Donor Content Manager

Zach Underwood

Database Manager

Karen Hutson

East Regional Philanthropy Coordinator

Rachel Olson

Stewardship Coordinator

Victoria Reyna

Gift Processing Coordinator

Josh Grigsby

Database Analyst

Ryan Yother

Corbin Philanthropy Director & East Regional Philanthropy Officer

Erika Samuels

Floyd Philanthropy Director

Austin Dupré

Oldham Philanthropy Director

Tracee Troutt

Hardin, VP, Chief Development Officer

Amy McClure

Hardin Philanthropy Coordinator

Michelle Stucker

Hardin Philanthropy Officer

Lori Matthews

Lexington Foundation Executive

Shannon Livingston

Paducah Philanthropy Director

Kari Martin

Richmond Foundation Director

Heather Richman

Richmond Philanthropy Officer

This year, we witnessed incredible progress.



Across our Baptist Health communities, **\$20,290,305** was distributed to move care forward.

We expanded **access**, ensuring entire regions and communities could receive care that once felt out of reach.

We prioritized **innovation**, investing in tools, programs and resources that are changing, and in some cases saving, lives for patients and caregivers.

And we elevated the **patient experience**, creating moments of comfort, trust and healing that turn care into meaningful connection.

Every step forward matters. Every improvement builds toward a stronger, more compassionate future of healthcare. And every bit of it is possible **because of you**.

Every dollar donated, every story shared, every event attended, and every word of support is helping people in your community receive care close to home, delivered with excellence and heart.

The next chapter holds even greater opportunity to expand access, accelerate innovation, and deepen the human experience of care. The need is growing, and as healthcare demands continue to rise across our communities, your commitment matters now more than ever.

We look ahead with urgency and optimism — ready to meet what's next because of partners like you.

From all of us at Baptist Health Foundation, **thank you** for your continued investment, for staying engaged, and for taking thoughtful action toward the betterment of your community.



Access

\$5.8 million was directly invested into programs, facility enhancements and essential services to expand access to care, creating more resources and opportunities to live healthier lives for you and your neighbors.

Through donor-funded projects, Baptist Health is expanding access to care with the capacity to impact more than **523,000 patients** and cases across our communities.



\$5.8 million directly invested into programs, facility enhancements and essential services

3.6%



INPATIENT VOLUME

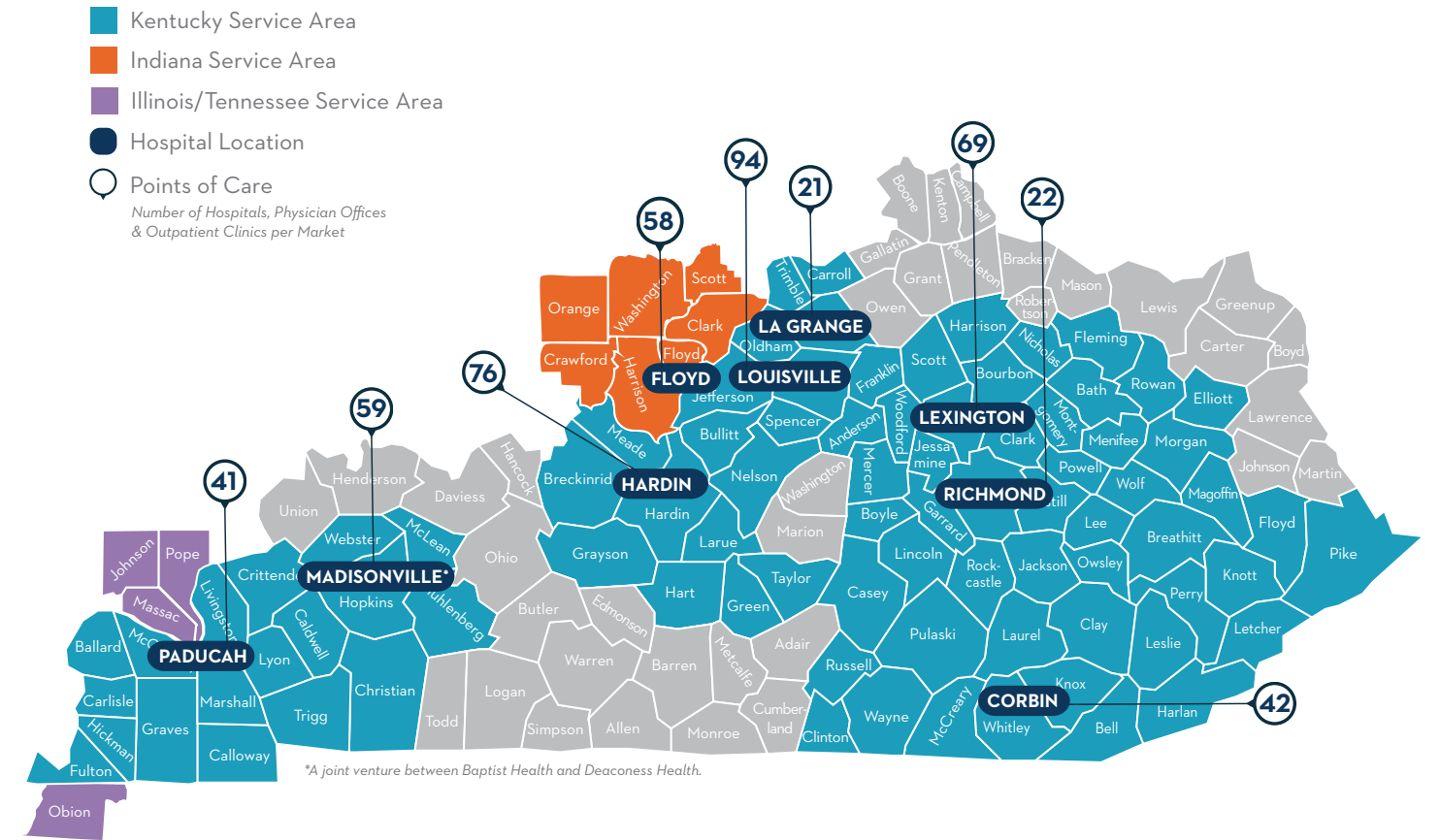
4.7%



OUTPATIENT VOLUME

This year's growth in both inpatient and outpatient volumes reflects Baptist Health's commitment to expanding access to high-quality care for patients throughout Kentucky and southern Indiana.

Source: KHA/IHA, IP 2025



Access is where compassion becomes action. Across every Baptist Health market, philanthropy plays a vital role in removing barriers that stand between patients and the care they need, ensuring help is available when it's needed.

While access to care is being strengthened in communities throughout Kentucky and

southern Indiana, the examples that follow offer just a snapshot of the broader impact. These highlighted programs and services show how generosity helps overcome challenges like financial strain, distance and limited resources so care can reach more people without delay.



A path to a career in healthcare

From the start, the purpose of the Baptist Health Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Program has been access — access to care when seconds matter and access to education for people who want to serve their communities but haven't always had a clear path into healthcare.

The idea began with Keith Smith, system director of ambulance and emergency medical services, whose more than 40 years in EMS, including 12 with Baptist Health, have given him a front-row view of the growing strain on emergency services across Kentucky. In 2019, a state board of EMS report revealed workforce demographics did not reflect the communities it served, reinforcing challenges Keith had seen throughout his career.

"A career field is not going to be successful if you don't represent the people in the community," Keith said. "When I was promoted to this position with Baptist Health, I felt like it was time to help make a change."

Keith partnered with Annabelle Pike, director of community health and engagement, to put plans into action. He addressed regulatory and clinical requirements, while Annabelle focused on outreach and workforce partnerships.

"The first goal of the program is to reduce the barrier of entry into healthcare, a notoriously high-barrier-to-entry field with collegiate requirements," Annabelle said.

That focus shaped the program, which is offered at no cost to participants. Baptist Health covers tuition, textbooks, materials, and the required national background check. Participants must be at least 18 and hold a high school diploma or GED.

Recruitment was intentionally community-based, partnering with Louisville's Goodwill Young Adult Opportunity Campus, Kentucky Career Center—Lincoln Trail in Elizabethtown, and Southern Indiana Works in New Albany, resulting in a cohort that reflected the areas it serves.

The hybrid model combines self-directed online training with in-person skills days focused on hands-on learning, including lifting and moving patients, taking vital signs, controlling bleeding, OB/GYN emergencies, and caring for patients with special challenges.

The first cohort launched in January 2026 and runs through May. Graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians exam and, once certified, pursue EMT roles — ideally within Baptist Health.

"Our hope is to have an 80% success rate or better," Keith said.

The need could not be more urgent. In both Kentucky and southern Indiana, staffing shortages threaten timely emergency response. By creating a direct, supported pathway into EMS careers, the Baptist Health EMT Training Program strengthens the chain of care, ensuring ambulances arrive on time and patients are covered when emergencies arise.

Essential to making the program come to life was the involvement of Truist Bank, which came forward with grant funding.

"Without the support of Truist, this would not have been possible," Keith said.

The bank's investment removes financial barriers for individuals who would otherwise not have access to EMT education, creating opportunities that change trajectories and strengthen local resources long term.

"To my knowledge, we are the first healthcare entity to offer an EMT program at no cost to students in the hopes of these students working throughout the community," Keith said.

The EMT Training Program is a model of what's possible when a community partner and philanthropy align around access to education, impactful careers, and ultimately, lifesaving care.

"EMTs do work that few people see, but it's an invaluable career where you truly make a difference in people's lives," Keith said.

"A career field is not going to be successful if you don't represent the people in the community."

Keith Smith, system director of ambulance and emergency medical services

Mobile clinic takes behavioral health to students

Jamie Waddle understands the people she serves because her story begins in a place much like theirs.

Growing up in eastern Kentucky, she learned what it means to live in a close-knit community where neighbors care for one another but often keep their struggles private. This perspective now shapes her work as a behavioral health therapist with the mobile healthcare clinic for Baptist Health Medical Group in Richmond, where she brings care directly to students who might otherwise go without it.

“It just means so much that we’re offering this space — this ability to meet students where they are,” Jamie said.

Jamie has spent more than 20 years working with children and families, a path that led her to become a licensed professional clinical counselor focused on helping young people build skills they can carry into adulthood.

That calling is now on wheels.

Thanks to donor generosity through Baptist Health Foundation, the behavioral health mobile clinic travels to local schools, offering

students a safe, private space to talk openly about their thoughts and emotions. By removing transportation barriers, the donor-funded vehicle makes care accessible without students ever leaving campus.

“Students don’t have to figure out where to go or how to get there,” Jamie explained. “We bring the care to them.”

Jamie provides trauma-informed, evidence-based care, including cognitive behavioral therapy, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), and social-emotional regulation skills. Students learn to identify emotions, manage stress, process trauma, and build healthy coping strategies that can shape the rest of their lives.

“Beginning mental health care at a young age helps students build skills they can rely on later,” Jamie said. “When life gets stressful or difficult, they already have tools in place.”

Asking for help isn’t always easy, but the mobile clinic helps take the first step. By coming directly to students, it removes the pressure of seeking care on their own and shows them they are not alone.

“It’s wonderful to know people want to provide these services and invest in the youth of their community,” she said.

With continued support, the impact of the mobile clinic could expand — more days in schools, more students served, and wider access to care at a pivotal time for young people.

“The kids aren’t scared to come out here,” Jamie said. “They’re ready to talk. They feel safe. And that’s because someone cared enough to make this possible.”



“Students don't have to figure out where to go or how to get there. We bring the care to them.”

Jamie Waddle, behavioral health therapist



"Knowing our community stands behind this work strengthens our commitment to providing compassionate, specialized behavioral health care."

Michelle Rodriguez, director of inpatient behavioral health

Inpatient Behavioral Health unit changing lives in La Grange

Access to care in your home community is essential in the face of a behavioral health emergency. It ensures timely, effective treatment and removes barriers that can make seeking help even harder.

The Inpatient Behavioral Health unit at Baptist Health La Grange meets this need, providing inpatient psychiatric care to communities that have long gone without it. It represents the only publicly available inpatient behavioral health beds across Oldham, Henry, Trimble, Carroll and Shelby counties.

The 11-bed unit was designed to support healing from the moment a patient arrives. All-private rooms and bathrooms offer dignity and privacy, while a calm, structured environment and secure outdoor courtyard provide space for reflection. Every element was created with safety and stability at its core.

Since opening in July 2024, more than 410 patients have received inpatient psychiatric care at Baptist Health La Grange. Because the service is embedded within the hospital, its reach extends beyond the unit.

"Patients throughout the hospital benefit from having the service on campus," Michelle Rodriguez, director of inpatient behavioral health, said. "Our specially trained staff is available to provide resources to patients admitted for other conditions who are also in need of support."

The staff is a dedicated interdisciplinary team, ensuring care is comprehensive and responsive.

"It features psychiatrists, registered nurses, licensed social workers, master's degree-level therapists, recreational therapists, and mental health technicians," Michelle said.

Beyond the unit, the team works to reduce stigma community-wide through participation in events like Chalk the Walk during Suicide Prevention Month, the National Alliance on Mental Illness Louisville's Step Forward for Mental Health Walk, and support of Be Kind to Your Mind, which connects teens and parents to mental health resources.

Each opportunity for growth connects to philanthropy and the power of generous donors who also believe mental health care should be accessible and free of stigma, support that is helping change the conversation around mental health.

"It truly encourages our entire team," Michelle shared. "Knowing our community stands behind this work strengthens our commitment to providing compassionate, specialized behavioral health care."

Innovation

Innovation is how progress takes shape. Across Baptist Health, philanthropy fuels forward-thinking solutions that strengthen care today while building what's next.

From advanced technology and new clinical capabilities to pilot programs and groundbreaking research, donor support helps transform lives. While innovation is happening in communities throughout Kentucky and southern Indiana, the examples highlighted here offer a focused look at how strategic investments are driving smarter, faster and more effective care.

To stay ahead, we must be willing to evolve, and your generosity makes this evolution possible.



Donor-supported innovations across Baptist Health have the capacity to impact nearly **200,000** patients and cases by improving care, efficiency and outcomes.



\$5.3 million
distributed to support innovation



64
innovative projects funded



Baptist Health Hardin pioneers the future of breast cancer detection

This is innovation at its most ambitious — and it’s potentially life-changing.

In 2025, Baptist Health made history with the launch of the nation’s first human clinical trial of 4D mammography, a groundbreaking imaging technology developed by Calidar that has the potential to transform how breast cancer is detected. Designed to deliver more precise, noninvasive imaging, 4D mammography represents a powerful step forward in earlier detection and improved outcomes for patients.

The opportunity to bring this innovation to Baptist Health was recognized years earlier, when the Calidar team was still in the prototype phase of development.

“They had reached a point in their research and development where they were ready to take the next step, which ultimately meant partnering with a healthcare system capable of leading a human trial,” Tom Carrico, vice president of operations at Baptist Health Hardin, said.

Tom and his team spearheaded efforts to bring the study to Hardin, where it was launched under the leadership of Craig Kamen, MD, principal investigator. It focuses on patients who have already completed a screening mammogram and a diagnostic mammogram — the typical first steps in detecting breast cancer. When diagnostic imaging reveals suspicious findings, patients are usually referred for a biopsy. In this study, eligible patients still undergo a biopsy but also receive a 4D scan for comparative analysis. The analysis is what’s being studied and won’t be used for diagnostic or treatment purposes.

“The goal is to compare the 4D imaging results with biopsy findings to determine just how accurately this technology can detect cancer,” Tom explained.

Donor support helped complete the specialized imaging suite required for the trial, allowing the study to move forward without delay.

“I’m extremely grateful to the donors who made this possible,” Tom said.

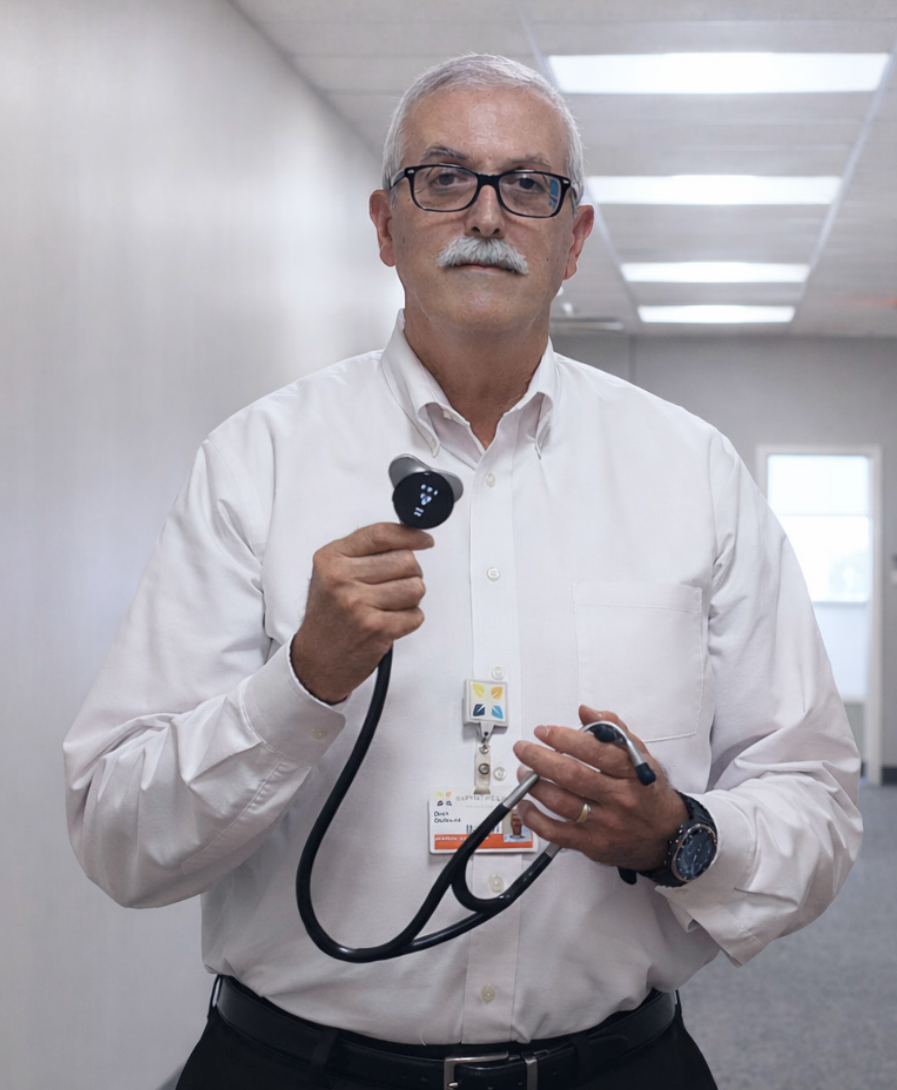
The 4D mammography human trial marks a historic moment — not only for the location where it launched, but for Baptist Health as a whole. It demonstrates how generosity fuels innovation that reaches far beyond a single community, positioning Baptist Health at the forefront of medical advancement.

“This project highlights the sophistication and expertise we have to do things that aren’t just innovative for the sake of innovation, but are truly advancing patient care to the very highest level,” Tom said.

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Tom Carrico, vice president of operations, Baptist Health Hardin





Improving heart care efficiency through AI-assisted screening

Innovation is driven by a goal of delivering smarter, faster and more accessible care — no matter where patients live. The desire for accessible care is pushing progress across Baptist Health, including the introduction of SENSORA®, an FDA-cleared, AI-powered platform designed to detect early signs of cardiac disease using digital stethoscope technology.

Working with Eko's devices, SENSORA brings advanced insight directly to

"The fact that there are people out there willing to invest is huge. I hope they understand what this means to a lot of patients."

Dean Oswald, director of operations for cardiovascular services, Baptist Health Medical Group

the point of care. A one-minute scan can help providers determine whether further testing is needed, allowing patients to receive answers more quickly and often avoid unnecessary follow up.

For leaders like Dean Oswald, director of operations for cardiovascular services at Baptist Health Medical Group, the potential was immediately clear. With decades of experience in software development, he understood how emerging technology — when applied thoughtfully — could transform healthcare access, especially in rural communities.

After Gery Tomassoni, MD, discovered SENSORA at a national conference, he and Dean partnered with Baptist Health Foundation to launch a 90-day trial, exploring how artificial intelligence could support earlier detection and more efficient care in Lexington and the surrounding community.

The results were compelling.

"The AI found the same issues an echo would find," Dean said. "This means a lot of patients can find the issue sooner — and many of these patients wouldn't have received the echocardiogram due to cost."

Further testing confirmed the platform's reliability.

"We compared the AI results with patients who already had an EKG, and it correlated very well," Dean explained. "Then, we tested it with new patients and found their data was real. If this is used on a patient and it says their heart function is normal, there's a 98% chance they have no issues."

Across Baptist Health, innovations like SENSORA help address real-world challenges. Cardiology clinics see thousands of new referrals each month, many of those do not require advanced intervention, creating delays for patients who do.

By helping providers identify which patients truly need advanced care, SENSORA has the potential to streamline access, reduce anxiety, and free up appointments across urban and rural clinics alike.

Today, SENSORA units are already in use, pairing digital stethoscopes with AI-enabled insight. Expanding this innovation is possible because of philanthropy.

"If the foundation wasn't involved in this, we wouldn't have it," Dean said. "The fact that there are people out there willing to invest is huge. I hope they understand what this means to a lot of patients."



Strengthening patient care through immersive learning

Thanks to donor support, staff education has taken a leap forward through the expansion of the Simulation Lab at Baptist Health Louisville. Once limited in resources, the lab is now a thriving hub of innovation, bringing together experienced nurses, new graduates and interdisciplinary teams to learn, practice and strengthen the skills that lead to better patient care.

The labs are used by multiple disciplines across the hospital, including nursing staff, support staff and respiratory therapists. They support a wide range of educational needs, from training and advanced skill development to continuing education and competency evaluations.

The demand reflects the value.

“The labs are in use almost every day of the week, often with multiple classes spread across the four labs,” simulation coordinator Amanda Lynch explained. “A busy day can mean more than 50 learners spread across the labs.”

Each lab is equipped with realistic clinical technology to support immersive, hands-on learning. Sim Lab 1 features a birthing manikin and infant manikin, along with an infant warmer, isolette, and maternal and neonatal monitors, which allow labor and delivery, mother-baby and NICU teams to practice obstetric and neonatal emergency scenarios in a safe, realistic environment. Sim Lab 3 includes a high-fidelity critical care manikin, ventilator, code cart and patient monitor, enabling learners to safely rehearse high-risk situations, such as Code Blue responses, while developing advanced assessment and clinical decision-making skills.

“Nurses learn to identify a team lead, practice closed-loop communication, and navigate interdisciplinary conversations,” Ashleigh Route, a nurse educator at Baptist Health Louisville said.



To further ease the transition into practice, a dedicated simulation series addresses common challenges new nurses face — like feeling unprepared or overwhelmed — through immersive virtual reality (IVR). With donor-funded IVR headsets, nurses engage in hyperrealistic training scenarios, including medical emergencies, in a controlled, supportive setting.

Ashleigh’s team launched a research project to measure the results.

“The impact was profound,” she said. “We saw significant improvement in new grad self-efficacy scores.”

Looking ahead, the Simulation Lab’s role continues to expand.

“Beginning in 2026, the lab will also provide chaplain intern students with the opportunity to gain simulated practice experience prior to entering the hospital for their clinical orientation,” Amanda explained.

Ashleigh is clear about what made this progress possible.

“Every innovative strategy we’ve been able to implement, from the IVR headsets and high-fidelity manikins to our escape room teamwork simulations, has been supported by donor funding,” she explained. “We’re changing the culture of nursing education.”

“The labs are in use almost every day of the week, often with multiple classes spread across the four labs.”

Amanda Lynch, simulation coordinator

Patient experience

Patient experience is the heart of everything we do. Across Baptist Health, philanthropy helps ensure care is not only clinically excellent, but based in safety, compassion and trust.

From programs that ease stress and uncertainty to enhancements that create more welcoming environments, donor support elevates each moment of the patient journey. While these efforts are taking shape in every community we serve across Kentucky and southern Indiana, the following examples offer a glimpse into how intentional investments are improving comfort and connection.

Because when patients feel cared for as individuals, healing goes further.



\$7.9 million

distributed to enhance the patient experience

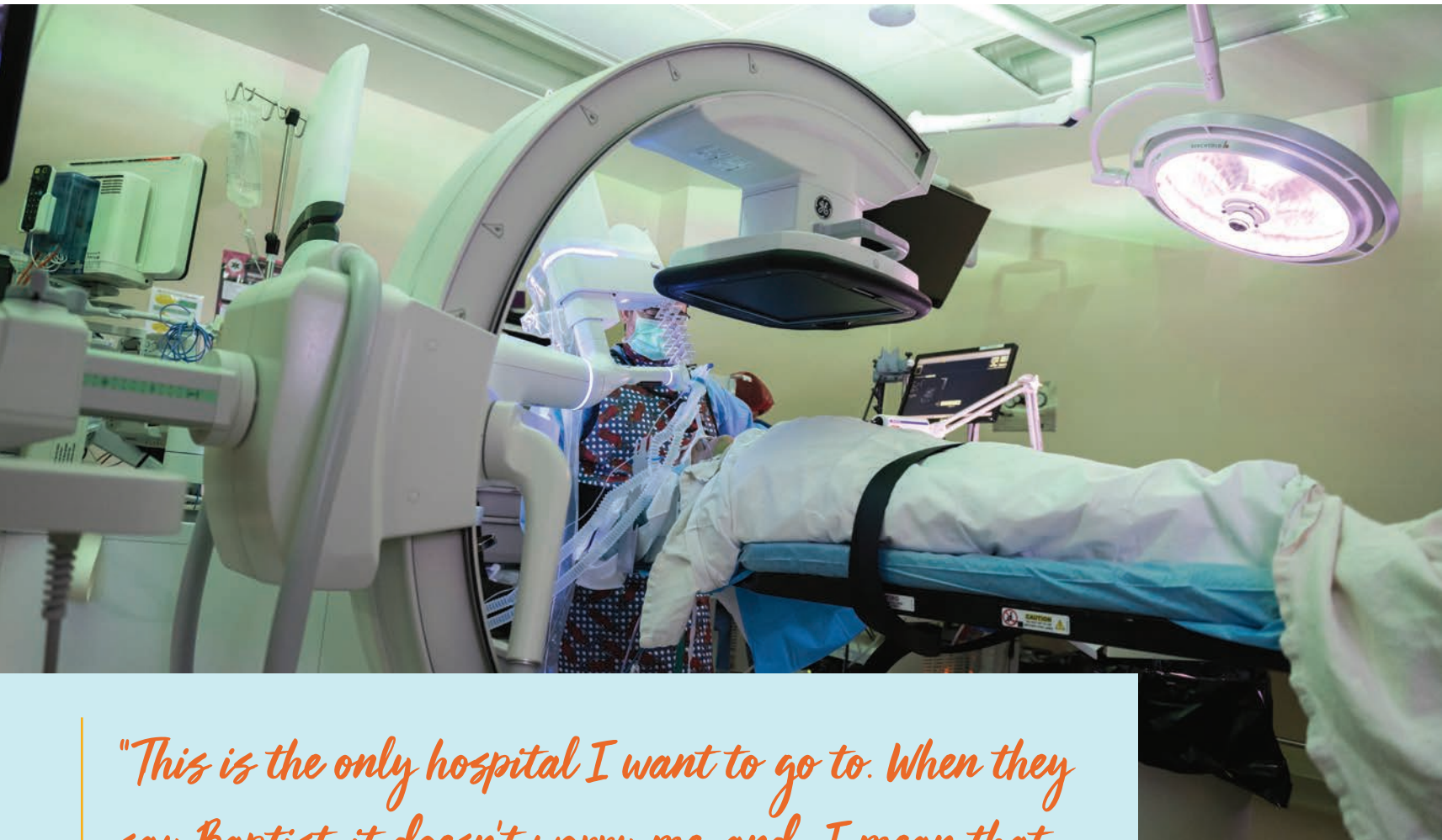
+ 124

donor-funded projects focused on improving care delivery and comfort

Patient experience enhancements have the capacity to support approximately **45,000** patients each year across key service lines throughout Baptist Health communities.



Robotic-assisted surgery provides a smoother path to recovery



"This is the only hospital I want to go to. When they say Baptist, it doesn't worry me, and I mean that with all my heart." Joyce Manis, patient

Joyce Manis has learned to face health challenges with resilience.

Living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and having already survived a major tumor removal years earlier, she was no stranger to medical uncertainty. Then, during treatment for COVID pneumonia, her care team at Baptist Health Paducah noticed a small spot on her lung.

"Eventually, I was told I needed a biopsy," Joyce said.

This was a moment that could have meant an invasive procedure and a difficult recovery. Instead, Joyce's experience was shaped by advanced, donor-funded technology designed to improve the patient experience.

To identify and diagnose the cancer, Joyce was cared for by pulmonologist Keith Kelly, MD, who used a donor-funded fluoroscopic C-arm to perform an Ion robotic bronchoscopy. This approach allows physicians to guide a tiny, flexible catheter deep into the lungs with robotic precision, using real-time imaging to reach small or hard-to-access nodules with greater accuracy than traditional methods.

When the biopsy confirmed cancer, Joyce's care continued seamlessly with the same focus on precision, safety and comfort.

She underwent robotic-assisted lung surgery with cardiothoracic surgeon Austin Ward, MD,

who performed the procedure using the da Vinci robotic system. From a console, Dr. Ward guided robotic arms through several small incisions while viewing high-resolution, 3D images inside her body, allowing for exceptional accuracy while minimizing trauma.

"I think I had six little holes," Joyce said.

For a patient with a complex medical history, that difference mattered. It meant less pain and an all-around smoother recovery.

"The healing — everything about it — was great," she said.

Joyce is grateful for the donors who make advanced treatments like robotic-assisted surgeries possible and hopes to see these investments continue.

"Just keep growing," she said. "Keep updating the technology. Who in the world has ever heard of this? I didn't. But look what it did."

With multiple pacemakers, a history of cancer, and now successful lung surgery behind her, Joyce knows exactly where she wants to be treated from now on — the place that's prioritizing the quality of her care.

"This is the only hospital I want to go to," she said. "When they say Baptist, it doesn't worry me, and I mean that with all my heart."

Donor-supported tools transform pediatric physical therapy

There's no feeling quite like watching a child take their first steps. For parents, it's a milestone that marks a child's growing independence and opens the door to new possibilities.

Amanda Tolliver, a physical therapist specializing in pediatrics in Corbin, witnesses those moments often.

"Seeing parents light up when their child does something new is so fulfilling," Amanda said.

Alongside occupational and speech therapists, she supports children with a wide range of diagnoses, from developmental delays and autism to cerebral palsy and other neurological disorders.

The team's work is centered on helping children build independence by improving balance, mobility, coordination, communication and sensory regulation — skills that allow them to participate more fully in everyday life. Innovative pediatric therapy equipment, funded through donor generosity, expands what therapy can look and feel like for children. Much of this equipment is shared across physical, occupational and speech therapy, maximizing its impact for both patients and caregivers.

Interactive balance tools help children practice stability and coordination. Fine motor games support grasping and cause-and-effect learning. Sensory equipment, including weighted toys and calming tools, help children regulate and feel more comfortable during sessions.

One of the most impactful additions has been an interactive projection system that offers dozens of movement-based games, supporting visual tracking and group play, which is especially helpful for children who may feel anxious or hesitant in traditional therapy settings.

It also helps with balance.

"Instead of me having to physically hold a child up, the weight-supporting harness allows them to stand independently and participate," Amanda said. "Independence is huge for the child and for the family."

Philanthropy has also played a role in maintaining the space itself. After a fire nearly a decade ago, donor support helped rebuild and fully outfit the pediatric therapy area. In the years that have followed, continued generosity has allowed the team to keep adapting and growing, even with limited financial resources.

"We don't have a huge budget for new equipment," Amanda said. "But having this support for new learning tools gives us more ways to meet kids' needs. It helps them make better functional gains and supports families in ways that last."

When a child takes the first steps — steady or uncertain, but entirely their own — Amanda is able to see the result of support in motion.

"Being able to ask the foundation for help and having them come through again and again means everything," she said.



"Being able to ask the foundation for help and having them come through again and again means everything."

Amanda Tolliver, physical therapist



Reclaiming confidence and identity during cancer care

With cancer can come the feeling of loss of control — a simple statement that captures the uncertainty, vulnerability, and fading sense of self that may accompany a cancer diagnosis. Working with patients to restore even small pieces of control is what gives Jill Crawford's work meaning.

"I try to understand their needs and help connect them to resources that make a difference," Jill said.

For nearly 10 years, Jill has supported patients through diagnosis, treatment and recovery as the breast nurse navigator at Baptist Health Floyd's cancer center. Through conversations with patients, Jill has learned that changes to one's body are among the most emotional aspects of the cancer journey.

Regaining a sense of agency can make a difference, which is why she champions the Wig and Mastectomy Bra Boutique.

"Being able to choose a hairstyle gives them more confidence going into treatment," Jill said.

Located within the cancer center, the donor-funded boutique offers patients a private, welcoming space where they can try on wigs or be fitted for a mastectomy bra free of charge.

"We let patients know it's available, and then we allow them to come in on their own time," Jill explained. "Some ask for help, and others just want to come in with a family member and have fun. We give them that space."

Because of generous donors, the boutique can offer a growing variety of wigs — longer styles, different colors, and options that reflect the individuality of today's patients.

"We're seeing younger patients," Jill said. "They're not going to want gray wigs or shorter cuts. Having options makes a big difference."

The same is true for mastectomy bras, which are designed to support healing and help clothing fit better after surgery.

"A mastectomy bra might help a woman feel comfortable wearing a feminine shirt again," Jill said. "It's amazing what it does for them."

Wigs and specialty garments can be expensive, and for patients facing mounting medical bills, they're often out of reach. Donor support ensures cost is never a barrier to confidence or self-expression. And while many associate wigs with women, Jill is quick to point out that the boutique serves more than one group.

"Men use the wigs too," she said. "Any patient going through chemotherapy and losing their hair has access."

Finding joy during chemotherapy can feel hard to imagine, but for patients, the boutique offers a rare moment to focus on themselves. A place to pause. A chance to choose. A few minutes of deserved vanity. An opportunity to reclaim something that feels familiar in the midst of uncertainty.

"As simple as it seems to us, it's a game changer for our patients," Jill shared. "It gives them confidence, and it gives them hope."



"As simple as it seems to us, it's a game changer for our patients. It gives them confidence, and it gives them hope."

Jill Crawford, breast nurse navigator

Baptist Health Corbin



\$19,896
Corporate gifts



\$1,521,107
Grants



\$337,773
Individual gifts

\$1,878,776 Total dollars raised

\$169,820 Distributed

366 Total donors

77 First-time gifts

111 President's Circle members

2 Legacy Society members

Meet Kip

When Kip Jervis walked through the doors of Baptist Health Corbin just two days after Christmas, he wasn't sure he'd walk out again. He wasn't even sure he'd survive the hour.

"I knew I didn't have time to get home," Kip said. "Something in me knew — you don't have time."

A well-known radio voice in southeastern Kentucky, Kip was just a few miles from the hospital when pain surged from his left arm into his chest. He couldn't breathe. He couldn't hold a bottle of water.

"I knew I was in big trouble," Kip recalled. "I just started praying, crying out to God, 'get me there.' And I drove myself straight to Baptist."

When he reached the ER doors, doubled over and desperate, what happened next left a permanent impression.

"They knew the second they saw me," Kip said. "That team didn't waste a second. I told the nurse, 'I think I'm having a heart attack,' and she already had people working on me. I'll never forget that."

Kip was experiencing a "widowmaker," one of the deadliest forms of heart attack. Because of the emergency team's rapid response, he survived and was sleeping in his own bed the very next night.



"People don't believe it when I tell them," Kip said. "But it's true. That's a testament to how fast and how good they are."

A man of deep faith, Kip sees both grace and human excellence in his survival.

"I believe in prayer, absolutely," he said. "But I also believe in great teams like this. If you feel like something's wrong, trust your gut. And if you need help fast, Baptist Health Corbin is where you want to be."

His story reflects the lifesaving power of exceptional emergency care and the generosity that makes it possible.

"Because of you, there's a place like this for people like me. I walked into Baptist Health Corbin dying, and I walked out alive."

Kip Jervis, patient

Baptist Health Floyd



\$2,890
Corporate gifts



\$50,000
Grants



\$106,517
Individual gifts



\$40,000
Planned gifts

\$199,407 Total dollars raised

\$143,796 Distributed

122 Total donors

34 First-time gifts

74 President's Circle members

2 Legacy Society members

Meet Stephen

You never quite know what's happening beneath the surface — until someone looks closer. This was the case for Stephen Gettelfinger, an Indiana man whose routine checkup revealed a life-threatening heart condition he never saw coming.

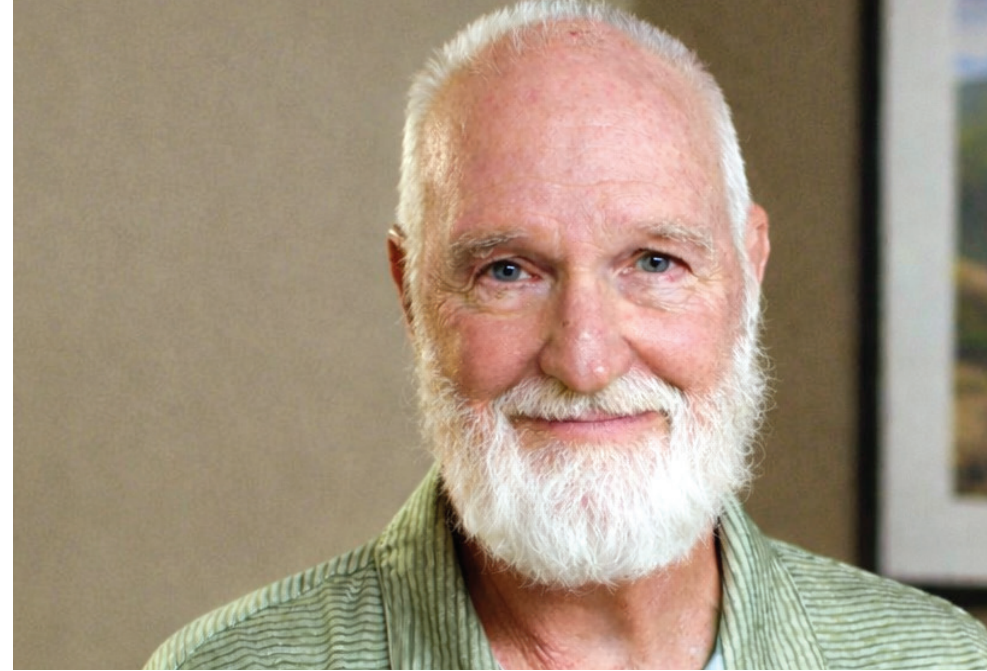
"We'd been in Florida," Stephen said. "I was walking four miles a day, biking 12 to 15 miles. Maybe I felt a little tired in the afternoons, but I thought that was just from the cancer treatments. I had no clue anything was going on with my heart."

Stephen was previously treated for follicular non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, so when lab work showed elevated calcium levels, it didn't raise alarms. But his care team ordered additional testing that told a different story.

That's when cardiologist Matthew Keith, MD, stepped in.

"He said I needed a heart cath," Stephen said. "Dr. Keith showed me the blockage on the screen. It was too tough for stents. He told me, 'You're young enough that we should go ahead and do open-heart surgery.'"

Plans to return to the beach were quickly replaced with surgery, but Stephen said what



followed at Baptist Health Floyd exceeded every expectation.

"Everyone I encountered, the echo techs, the nurses, Dr. Keith, they were just incredible," Stephen said. "I mean, it's just unbelievable to get that kind of attention. Sometimes you feel like you're a nuisance or in the way, but not there, not at Baptist Health Floyd."

Thanks to an attentive primary care provider and the swift coordination of the cardiac team, Stephen avoided returning to Florida unaware of a critical risk. At the core of that care is donor support, helping make advanced heart services, early detection and seamless collaboration possible for patients across the region.

Stephen and his wife are now among those donors.

"Both me and my wife received such excellent care and attention while we were at Baptist Health Floyd, and we wanted the staff to be recognized for that."

Stephen Gettelfinger, patient

"We really wanted to show in a special way how much we appreciated the care that I received," he said. "Every nurse that I had would come in and give me the professional treatment that I needed, but they also went out of their way to talk on a personal level."

Stephen's story is a reminder that exceptional care happens when people — caregivers and donors alike — show up with heart and put compassion into action.

"Both me and my wife received such excellent care and attention while we were at Baptist Health Floyd, and we wanted the staff to be recognized for that," Stephen said.

Baptist Health Hardin



\$138,230
Corporate gifts



\$325,930
Grants



\$404,891
Individual gifts



\$35,649
Sponsorships

\$904,700 Total dollars raised

\$7,350,010 Distributed

197 Total donors

59 First-time gifts

109 President's Circle members

3 Legacy Society members

Meet Rosa

Rosa Vittitoe has spent her career caring for people, and for the past several years, she's helped shape what stroke and neurology care looks like in Hardin County.

"I've been in healthcare for 40 years," Rosa said. "I started as an aide at 15, and I've been in critical care most of my life. Every day I still get excited to do what I do."

Rosa joined Baptist Health Hardin in April 2018 as the stroke coordinator, becoming the hospital's first Stroke Certified Registered Nurse® through the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing.

At the time, the hospital had already earned its designation as a Primary Stroke Center, but Rosa brought the focused leadership needed to help the growing program reach its full potential, from strong treatment outcomes to the American Heart Association Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke Gold Plus recognition, acknowledging consistent, high-quality stroke care.

Beyond the data and accolades, the heart of the program is found in people — and for Rosa, the work is personal.

Years before she took on this role, her father suffered multiple strokes. The experience shaped her perspective and formed an understanding that she now takes with her to the bedside.

She leads her team to do the same.

"When I'm with a patient and I see the nurses with me, and we're all on the same page, there's this fulfillment that's unexplainable," she said. "That's when you know you're doing something that matters."

Ask around Baptist Health Hardin, and you'll hear no shortage of praise for Rosa's strong advocacy and expertise. But ask her directly, and she's quick to deflect the credit.

"It's the culture we have here," Rosa said. "I would want my family member here. Our nurses, our physicians — everyone cares deeply."

That culture of care is sustained by donor generosity, which funds important resources that support patients and families through recovery, including the Stroke Support Group, a space for connection, encouragement and understanding.

"It's to be available, to share stories," Rosa explained. "It's energizing and it's been amazing to watch."

Each year, more than a thousand stroke patients turn to Baptist Health Hardin for care. Their trust, and the generosity of donors who invest in care close to home, helps strengthen a program built on teamwork and compassion.

"I'm proud of this program. Proud of what we've built and how far we've come." Rosa Vittitoe, stroke coordinator



Baptist Health La Grange



\$62,292
Individual gifts

\$62,292 Total dollars raised

***N/A** Distributed

54 Total donors

8 First-time gifts

35 President's Circle members

1 Legacy Society member

*Established in October 2025, Baptist Health Foundation Oldham is proud to celebrate its very first year of impact.

"I love my patients here at La Grange. I look forward to all the ways we can continue to help them out."

Tony McGhee, respiratory therapist

Meet Tony

Sometimes, the strongest leadership is subtle. After 30 years with Baptist Health, including the past 12 as a respiratory therapist at Baptist Health La Grange, Tony McGhee has humbly built a career focused on showing up for people in a modest and meaningful way.

"I enjoy the patients, and I enjoy providing good care," Tony said.

His straightforward approach has guided decades of service, from bedside moments that require steady reassurance to the everyday work that keeps patients breathing easier.

Over time, Tony began to see how care could extend beyond his clinical role, with opportunities to help fulfill needs both in and outside the hospital. He chose to give back as an employee donor, supporting resources that improve the patient experience where he works and lives.

Through philanthropy, mother-baby areas have been strengthened with essentials like panda warmers in the nursery and new furniture in patient rooms — investments that bring comfort and peace of mind to growing families.



Donor support has also helped transform the Genesis Garden, a place where compassion takes root in a very tangible way. With 16 raised beds spanning 656 square feet, the garden now produces 45 varieties of fruits and vegetables. Nearly 2,000 pounds of fresh produce have been shared with local families facing food insecurity.

These moments of impact reflect a patient-centered culture Tony has experienced firsthand — one defined by exceptional care and a community that looks out for one another.

"I agree with this mission and providing Christ's love to people in need," Tony said. "It's a worthy cause, and we're on the right track."

True to his nature, Tony doesn't seek recognition, just progress. His commitment is shaping his future at Baptist Health La Grange, not only as a caregiver but as a neighbor invested in the well-being of those around him.

"I love my patients here at La Grange," Tony shared, "I look forward to all the ways we can continue to help them out."

Baptist Health Lexington



\$121,832
Corporate gifts



\$100,893
Grants



\$509,583
Individual gifts



\$42,843
Sponsorships

\$775,151 Total dollars raised
\$1,270,035 Distributed
430 Total donors
54 First-time gifts
191 President's Circle members
4 Legacy Society members

Meet Vanessa

Speaking of her 25 years at Baptist Health Lexington brings Vanessa Watkins joy. What began as a job has been realized as a calling, a community, and a place where she's built both a career and a sense of purpose.

"I believe my job was God sent," Vanessa said.

Over the years, Vanessa worked her way up and now serves as outreach team leader for the Clinical Lab. In this role, she supervises staff and manages the complex logistics that keep the lab running smoothly, from proper specimen collection to ensuring a positive patient experience. It's detailed, behind-the-scenes work, but work that matters deeply to her.

"I appreciate the people I work with and the patients that I run into, even the office we have," Vanessa said. "I just love that I work here."

It's a love that extends outside the hospital and into the Lexington community she calls home.

Vanessa has volunteered at local food banks, helping fill bags for neighbors experiencing food insecurity, and has also lent her time to local schools during back-to-school efforts. Being there for others is simply part of who she is.



"I like to help people," she said. "I think it's about sharing and caring, and it does my heart good to donate."

A few years ago, Vanessa's desire to make a difference also led her to begin making donations to Baptist Health Foundation Lexington, benefiting patients, fellow employees and her neighbors. As a Christian, Vanessa sees her values reflected in her hospital's culture and the mission of Baptist Health — demonstrating the love of Christ by improving health in the communities it serves. She lives this mission daily, through her work, her volunteering and her generosity.

After 25 years of incredible service, Vanessa is doing what she can, when she can, and hopes to inspire others to do the same.

"All of us come from different walks of life, and we never know how we can help someone else," she said. "I like to think my small contribution helped somebody along the way."

"I like to help people. I think it's about sharing and caring, and it does my heart good to donate."

Vanessa Watkins, outreach team leader

Baptist Health Greater Louisville



\$102,644
Corporate gifts



\$202,000
Grants



\$1,548,816
Individual gifts



\$121,233
Planned gifts



\$250,730
Sponsorships

\$2,225,423 Total dollars raised

\$6,748,313 Distributed

497 Total donors

112 First-time gifts

266 President's Circle members

35 Legacy Society members

Meet Bonnie

Newborns delivered at Baptist Health Louisville come into the world surrounded by expert care, compassion, and a team wholly committed to protecting mother and baby. Much of that commitment is embodied by Bonnie Hibbs, whose career has been defined by advocacy, leadership and heart.

"I've been a nurse for more than 30 years, and all but a few of those years have been here at Baptist," Bonnie said.

Bonnie began her career at the labor and delivery bedside, later working in OB before stepping into leadership as executive director of the women's health program. Over decades of service, she's witnessed moments of joy, walked alongside families through uncertainty, and helped guide the growth of one of Kentucky's busiest maternity programs.

Baptist Health Louisville delivers approximately 3,500 babies each year, making it the fourth busiest delivering hospital in Kentucky, with volume continuing to grow annually.

"I've seen the program grow from a small special care nursery to a Level 3 NICU," she explained.



"The more moms we have, the more moms we can protect by providing exceptional care."

Bonnie Hibbs, executive director of the women's health program

A growth that reflects both community trust and increasing patient need, more families are turning to Baptist Health Louisville for high-risk and specialized neonatal care, and the NICU is depending on donor support to expand.

In the meantime, Bonnie and her team are taking the volume in stride. She speaks with pride about the nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists and caregivers who bring skill, urgency and compassion to every shift, caring for the smallest patients during critical moments.

"The more moms we have, the more moms we can protect by providing exceptional care," Bonnie said. "And that's important to me."

Donor support has already helped equip the NICU with advanced technology, essential resources, and highly trained staff needed to meet this moment. Now, partnership is paving the way to go further, expanding capacity, providing vital equipment, and ultimately, keeping more families together.

"What better cause than keeping a mom and a baby together?" Bonnie said. "What better cause than giving babies the best possible start?"

Baptist Health Paducah



\$199,658
Corporate gifts



\$352,500
Grants



\$334,407
Individual gifts



\$233,807
Planned gifts



\$4,527
Sponsorships

\$1,114,899 Total dollars raised
\$3,405,459 Distributed
291 Total donors
42 First-time gifts
196 President's Circle members
18 Legacy Society members

Meet Tommy

When Tommy Thomas found himself unusually winded while on a trip to Nashville, he brushed it off at first, chalking it up to age. But deep down, he knew something wasn't right.

Back home in Paducah, the feeling lingered. Over breakfast one morning, he turned to his girlfriend and said, "I need to go to the hospital."

At Baptist Health Paducah, early testing appeared routine. But during a stress test, things quickly changed.

"I knew I was struggling," Tommy recalled. "When I finished, I passed out. That's when they said, 'Mr. Thomas, you're having a heart attack.'"

Tommy flatlined four times, and each time, the Baptist Health Paducah heart care team brought him back. Cardiologist Sanjay Bose, MD, placed stents and inserted an Impella® pump to support his heart. As his condition worsened, cardiothoracic surgeon Austin Ward, MD, made the call: open-heart surgery couldn't wait.

"I asked him, 'Do you work on Saturdays?'" Tommy recalled. "He told me, 'Not normally, but this Saturday I am.' For him to give up his day off to save me — I just thought that was sensational."



Dr. Ward performed a quintuple bypass surgery. After 13 days in the hospital, Tommy began his recovery grateful for advanced, lifesaving care delivered with urgency, right in his hometown.

An avid golfer, Tommy is now focused on getting back on the fairway.

"Golf teaches you about adversity — how you respond to bad shots, how you keep going," Tommy explained. "And sometimes, you get that one perfect shot, what I call a 'comeback shot,' that keeps you playing."

The exceptional care provided by Dr. Ward, Dr. Bose, and the entire Baptist Health Paducah heart care team was Tommy's shot for a comeback, and his gratitude shines through.

"I tell people, you can go anywhere, New York, Houston or Mayo Clinic, and you're not going to get better care than right here."

Tommy Thomas, patient

Baptist Health Richmond



\$66,827
Corporate gifts



\$396,000
Grants



\$346,035
Individual gifts



\$300,000
Planned gifts



\$174,930
Sponsorships

\$1,283,792 Total dollars raised

\$760,036 Distributed

379 Total donors

150 First-time gifts

159 President's Circle members

5 Legacy Society members

Meet Rita

Each visit to the Robert L. Telford Cancer Center at Baptist Health Richmond begins with kindness for Rita Mathis. Nurses greet her by name and compliment her makeup. They remember that ginger ale helps settle her stomach.

"They make us feel like we're not a number," Rita said. "It's a personal thing."

Soon after Rita and her husband relocated from Florida to Kentucky, she was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a rare blood cancer.

"I didn't have a clue it would be cancer," Rita said, remembering more than a year of declining energy, difficulty walking, and unanswered questions before her diagnosis.

They were connected with oncologist Firas Badin, MD, and the cancer center, which was recently renovated and expanded thanks to donor support, became their lifeline. The modern, welcoming space allows patients like Rita to receive advanced cancer care close to home, surrounded by comfort and compassion.

"I have never been let down for a moment here," Rita said. "I don't have to worry if they're going to do things correctly. I feel like I'm at home."



Though chemotherapy sessions lasted hours, the care she received made each visit manageable and hopeful.

"The best word is support," Rita shared. "It's so nice to have friends."

Now focused on preventive care, Rita remains grounded in faith and gratitude — for her care team, her new community, and the generosity that made the cancer center possible.

"I have never been let down for a moment here. I don't have to worry if they're going to do things correctly. I feel like I'm at home."

Rita Mathis, patient

Baptist Health System



\$238,872
Corporate gifts



\$5,050,000
Grants



\$104,735
Individual gifts



\$23,515
Sponsorships

\$5,417,122 Total dollars raised
\$442,836 Distributed
152 Total donors
27 First-time gifts
105 President's Circle members
1 Legacy Society member



"I want donors to know they helped us buy time. More time at home for patients and their families, instead of time spent in the hospital."

Steven Heatherly, MD, cardiologist

Meet Steven Heatherly, MD

Heart failure is a journey. But with the right tools, it doesn't have to define a patient's future.

Cardiologist Steven Heatherly, MD, is working to ensure those tools are available across Baptist Health.

"When I took on the role as system medical director for heart failure, I wanted every Baptist hospital to have a heart failure clinic and access to the best technology," Dr. Heatherly said. "One of those was the ReDs system."

The ReDs™ (remote dielectric sensing) system addresses one of the greatest risks for heart failure patients: fluid building up in the lungs, often before symptoms appear. Dr. Heatherly has championed its adoption systemwide because of its ability to detect this earlier.

In just 45 seconds, care teams can measure lung fluid using painless radio waves. What once required multiple tests can now be identified during a routine visit. A simple score helps providers determine, in real time, whether medication adjustments are needed, often preventing emergency visits or hospitalizations.

"It's been a game changer," Dr. Heatherly said. "It takes the guesswork out of figuring out if a patient has too much fluid or not."

Thanks to donor support, what began in one clinic has expanded across Baptist Health, helping ensure patients receive consistent, proactive care whether they live in a large city or rural community.

"I want donors to know they helped us buy time," Dr. Heatherly shared. "More time at home for patients and their families, instead of time spent in the hospital."

For Dr. Heatherly, that time is everything.

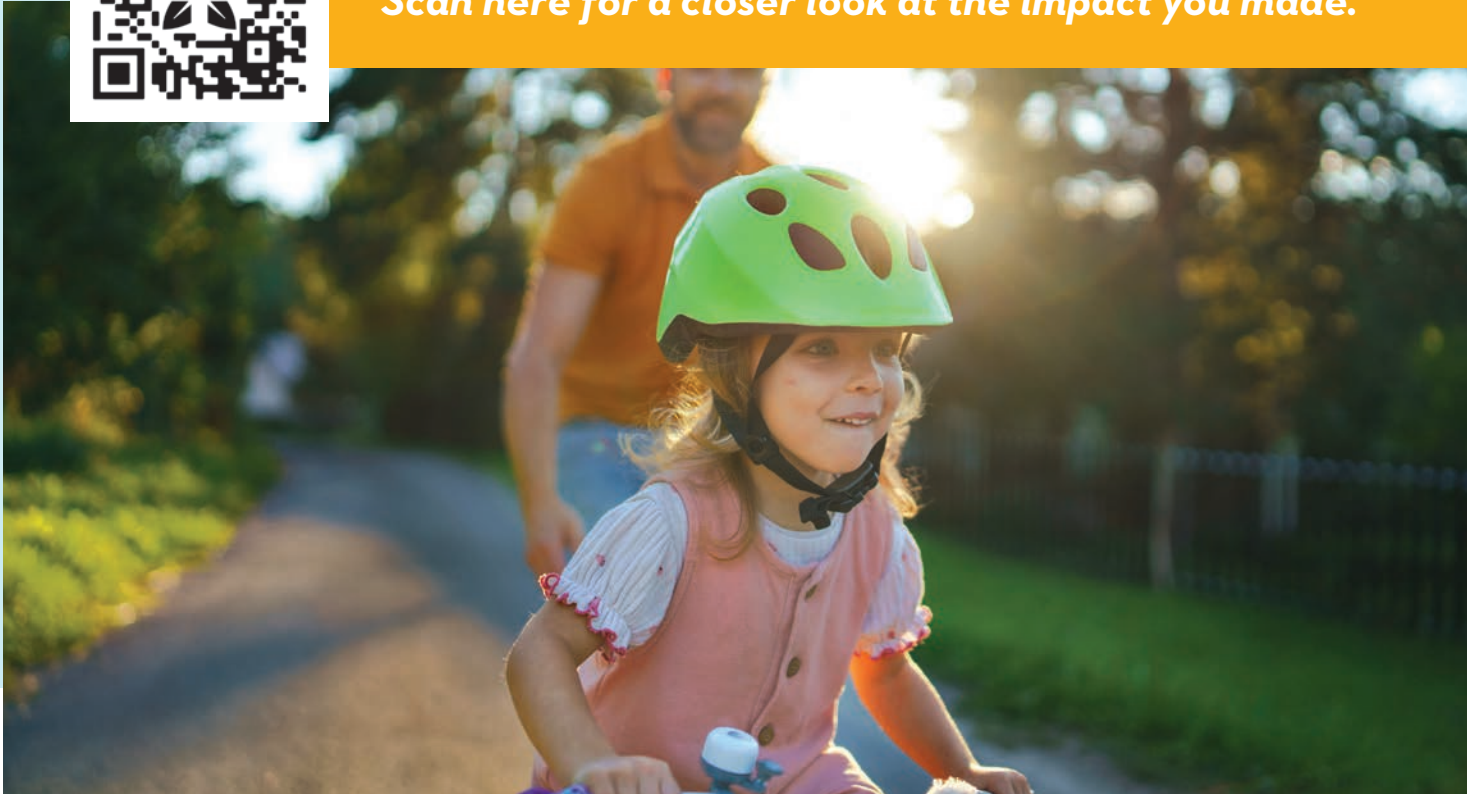
"I get to hear about the grandkids and ball games patients go to," he said. "They're able to do that more effectively because of the care we provide."

Baptist Health plans to continue expanding access to the ReDs system, equipping more clinics to change — and save — more lives.

"We tell patients heart failure is like walking through murky water," Dr. Heatherly said. "You want someone to help guide you through it. Using devices like the ReDs system, we can help patients live a better quality of life."



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