

A PUBLICATION FOR THE FRIENDS OF MEMORIAL HERMANN

ADVANCING THE

# VISION

Memorial Hermann Foundation / Summer 2017

## Spotlight

A proud look at our world-class  
Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

## Miracles in Real Life

Hear the stories of four children  
whose lives you helped save

## Gala Highlights

Celebrating 30 years of extraordinary  
care for women and children



## Dear Friends,

Welcome to the first issue of our newly redesigned VISION. Since joining Memorial Hermann Foundation in January, I've met so many of the extraordinary people who are part of the Memorial Hermann Health System team.

I've been so impressed from day one, I feel compelled to share news of our latest events and accomplishments. I hope you like the new style and enjoy the content.

As you know, Dr. Benjamin Chu has left Memorial Hermann to pursue his passion in health and public policy. We wish our good friend all the best.

Dr. Chu passed the baton to Chuck Stokes who is now President and CEO after having served as Executive Vice President and COO since 2008. Under Chuck's leadership, the System has attained unprecedented success in patient safety, high-quality care and operational excellence, including earning the prestigious 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital. Chuck, who began his career as a registered nurse, was recently named among Modern Healthcare's "Top 25 COOs in Healthcare." We know he is set to continue making great strides for the entire organization.



Anne Neeson with the Copeland twins at the 2017 Circle of Life Gala (read the twins' story on page 6)

Our dedication to excellence is alive and well at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, recently celebrating its 30th anniversary. In April, I had the pleasure of attending my first *Circle of Life* Celebration Gala, a beautiful affair in more ways than one, as generous donors contributed more than \$3.1 million through the event.

I'm proud to be here and intend to call upon my 30 years of experience at United Way of Greater Houston to lead major fundraising initiatives in support of Memorial Hermann's legacy of world-class patient care, research and education.

For all that we are, and all that we are working to become, we are indebted to our generous supporters. On behalf of our entire organization, thank you.

**Anne E. Neeson**  
Executive Vice President and CEO  
Memorial Hermann Foundation





# Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

## A Gem in the Heart of the World's Largest Medical Center

Overlooking Hermann Park and the Houston Zoo, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital has cared for the tiniest patients for decades. While its patients are small, the size of the facility and magnitude of its expertise is certainly not.

Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center (TMC) wraps its arms around this 12-story building, both literally and figuratively. Memorial Hermann Life Flight® lands on its roof.

### **The significance of these relationships cannot be overstated.**

By virtue of its unique setting on the larger Memorial Hermann-TMC campus and its partnership with a major medical school, UTHealth, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital provides specialized care for infants, children of all ages and women, at the same time providing an easy transition for them to receive ongoing care for the rest of their lives. Here, families throughout Southeast Texas have unique access to an extraordinary array of comprehensive resources:

- Top physicians from McGovern Medical School at UTHealth
- World-class specialists in everything from congenital heart defects to prenatal or maternal hypertension
- Houston's first, most experienced Level I pediatric trauma center
- One of the nation's largest Level IV neonatal ICUs
- A specially trained Life Flight® pediatric team at the ready, around the clock
- The Fetal Center, a national leader in diagnosis, intervention and comprehensive care for babies with congenital anomalies or genetic abnormalities
- Innovative services connecting suburban communities with Texas Medical Center experts

DID YOU KNOW?



With 310 beds, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital is home to one of only four Level IV neonatal ICUs in Texas

Delivers 5,300 babies annually at the Texas Medical Center campus



One and only hospital in Greater Houston providing neonatal and maternal critical care in the same facility

Sees 19,000 emergency department visits per year



Has served as the primary teaching and clinical hospital for McGovern Medical School at UTHealth for more than 40 years

# What Makes Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital a National Resource?

Physicians around the country refer patients to The Fetal Center at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. It's easy to see why. Houston area residents are especially fortunate to have this level of care and medical expertise right here at home.

### Today's and tomorrow's best doctors

Through an academic partnership with the highly regarded McGovern Medical School at UTHealth, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital physicians bring deep expertise in pediatrics, pediatric surgery, pediatric trauma, heart defects, neurological conditions, neonatology, obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences. As a teaching facility, the hospital has the latest technology, and patients greatly benefit from the school's emphasis on teaching, research and safe, quality care.



**"When patients come to us, they have high hopes since they are coming to the Texas Medical Center and being seen by doctors from UTHealth and Memorial Hermann. It's their expectation that they are getting the best, most evidence-based and cutting-edge care available in the world, not just in Houston."**

Sean C. Blackwell, M.D., Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital; Chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth



Beautifully designed spaces support a healing environment.

### Collaborative minds ensure a better patient experience

There's no predicting what types of cases a children's hospital might face on any given day. A young pregnant mom could have a heart attack. A baby could be involved in a serious car accident, perhaps with his entire family.

Thanks to Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital's unique location within the Memorial Hermann-TMC campus, specialists of all kinds are essentially just down the hall, ready to join their colleagues to provide expert advice and hands-on experience. As a result, patients may receive speedier, more efficient care, and families remain together. This is a huge relief when longer-term medical care is required and something that would simply be impossible in a more traditional children's hospital.

### Protecting the gift of life when the unexpected happens

In fact, to see the emergency teams in action when a child's life is in danger is to grasp the depth of medical expertise and personal compassion available to patients at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, any time of the day or night.

- The Level IV neonatal ICU provides the highest level of care to premature and critically ill newborns as early as 23 weeks and weighing as little as one pound
- The trauma center is one of only two Level I pediatric trauma centers in the area
- Life Flight® has a dedicated pediatric team and the most advanced life support systems



### The Fetal Center at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

For most women, having a healthy, full-term baby is a natural process at the hospital. But for high-risk moms, early intervention is critical to both mother and child. This is when the team at The Fetal Center steps in.

Known as maternal-fetal miracle-workers for babies with life-threatening issues such as spina bifida, diaphragmatic hernia, twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome and heart disease, these specialists are prepared to operate in utero or the moment the baby has been delivered.

### Using technology to spread the wealth

The hospital is committed to extending its reach beyond the Houston city limits. Through a new telemedicine project, for example, pediatric surgeons consult with doctors at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital to determine whether a child needs to travel to the Texas Medical Center for surgery or care, or would be served just as well locally.

### A proud legacy continues

For more than 30 years, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital has dramatically changed the lives of millions of women and children and their families. The work being done here and throughout the Memorial Hermann Health System continues to be vital not only to our city and the Southeast Texas region, but also to our nation.



**“If you are unexpectedly ill or injured and you are pregnant, you want an outcome that’s good for both the baby and mom.**

**We’re one of the only hospitals in the country that can take care of any kind of sick mom while still taking care of the unborn baby.”**

Susan Distefano, CEO,  
Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital

We invite you to make a difference in a child's life by making a donation today. Visit [memorialhermann.org/donate](http://memorialhermann.org/donate) or contact 713-242-4400.

# Miracles in Real Life

## Emily and Caitlin



Emily and Caitlin Copeland are spirited 20-year-olds who, like many twins, have a lot in common. They even graduated from their high school as co-valedictorians.

Now in college, their futures are bright. But they began life with the odds stacked against them.

The twins were born conjoined at the liver and chest, a condition that has a low survival rate. Then Dr. Kevin Lally, a twin himself, came into their lives.

Surgeon-in-chief at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, Dr. Lally separated the girls when they were just 10 months old. Two decades later, the only signs of that experience are the twins' matching scars, big smiles and unending appreciation for everyone at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital for the gift of independence, and life itself.

**"Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital is definitely a place of hope."**

Caitlin Copeland

## Faith



When Colette and Ivan Hagler went in for a routine sonogram, they expected to learn the sex of their baby. And they did. She was a girl they named Faith.

But they received unexpected and unsettling news as well. Faith had spina bifida, a complex and permanently disabling birth defect involving the spinal cord.

While babies with spina bifida typically receive treatment to repair their spines after they're born, Faith became the first in Texas to undergo this surgery in utero.

Dr. KuoJen Tsao, co-director of The Fetal Center at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and UTHealth, and Dr. Stephen Fletcher, pediatric neurosurgeon of Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and UTHealth, performed the groundbreaking surgery. Nine weeks later, Faith was born.



Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital was the first in Texas to perform surgery before birth to treat spina bifida.

Faith, who is turning 6 this July, is an active, happy child who is more than just surviving; she's thriving. And jumping. And dancing. And singing. Thanks to another miracle from Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital.

**"I just want to say thank you so much, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. You have been a blessing to our family."**

Ivan Hagler, Faith's father

## Dominic

A typical Saturday morning at the Larkin household quickly turned terrifying when 18-month-old Dominic Larkin was found unresponsive in the family's hot tub.

Dominic's 11-year-old sister called 911 as his mom, Melissa, quickly performed CPR. Melissa was able to resuscitate Dominic, but his lungs had been severely damaged.

Within days, his condition deteriorated into respiratory failure. Dr. Matthew Harting, pediatric surgeon at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and UTHealth, treated Dominic with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a procedure in which a machine takes over vital heart and lung functions until the patient stabilizes.



Has a 99% pediatric trauma patient survival rate, including the most severe cases brought in by Memorial Hermann Life Flight®

**"The nurses taking care of Dominic were always taking care of us. Everyone here was truly invested."**

Melissa Larkin, Dominic's mother

After weeks of lying motionless as ECMO did its job, Dominic graduated to specialized therapy and was soon released from the hospital so he could get back to the business of being a busy 2-year-old.

Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital is one of only two Houston hospitals offering pediatric ECMO, the breakthrough that helped bring little Dominic back to precious life.



**"We have the busiest pediatric and adult trauma center in the U.S. right here, and that combination and volume brings us a real depth of expertise. Children get the benefit of that—better evaluation, more rapid care, rapid resuscitation, blood availability, imaging availability, all these things link to having a high-functioning trauma program."**

Kevin P. Lally, M.D., M.S., Surgeon-in-Chief, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital; Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatric Surgery, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth

## Heroes in Health Meet Maternal-Fetal Medicine Physicians

As part of an ongoing series of special events for our professional philanthropic group, Heroes in Health members mingled with physicians from McGovern Medical School at UTHealth to learn about and support the amazing high-risk intervention and care provided by Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital.

Additionally, the McGovern UTHealth Maternal Fetal Medicine specialists provide care in other Memorial Hermann hospitals to ensure high-quality experts are available in the community.



### From Top:

Dr. Nana Ankumah, Jennifer Hoskovec, Dr. Diana Raucusin, Dr. Sean Blackwell, Dr. Clara Ward, Dr. Joey England, Dr. Jerrie Refuerzo

Jennifer Hoskovec with Whitney and Leigh Martin

# Oh, What A Night

*Circle of Life* Gala  
Saturday, April 29, 2017

This year's gala marked the 30th anniversary of Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in a big way. More than 1,600 generous supporters joined us at the Hilton Americas - Houston to celebrate three decades of awe-inspiring accomplishments on behalf of children in Southeast Texas. We also raised a near-record \$3.1 million to benefit the hospital's special programs and services.

We proudly honored H-E-B in appreciation of their long-standing corporate partnership. Thanks in part to H-E-B's substantial support, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital provides advanced surgical care for newborns and children of all ages.

*(continued on next spread)*



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- 1. More than 1,600 generous supporters enjoy the balloon drop finale
- 2. Susan Sarofim, Memorial Hermann Foundation Board Chair
- 3. Doug and Winell Herron
- 4. Chuck Stokes, President & CEO Memorial Hermann Health System, and Judy Stokes
- 5. Arthur and Philamena Baird
- 6. Larry and Suzie Johnson
- 7. Jim and Sherry Smith
- 8. Alice and Keith Mosing
- 9. Co-Chairs Bill and Diane Campbell with Elizabeth and Will Galtney
- 10. Margaret Alkek Williams and Jim Daniel
- 11. Fady Armanious and Hallie Vanderhider
- 12. Trey and Dana Strake
- 13. Scott McClelland
- 14. Gardner and Deborah Cannon, Memorial Hermann Health System Board Chair
- 15. Will and Mary Williams



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Special thanks to Diane and Bill Campbell & Elizabeth and Will Galtney, our 2017 *Circle of Life* Co-Chairs, for shepherding a spectacular event



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“Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital is a special place. People come in broken and come out whole. With the best of the best, children and their parents are given a second chance.”

Scott McCelland accepts the Gala’s 2017 honoree award on behalf of H-E-B



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(continued)

The evening continued with perhaps the most touching of many special moments to come, a video presenting the poignant stories of four former patients—Emily and Caitlin Copeland, Dominic Larkin and Faith Hagler—and their families, whose lives were forever changed by the phenomenal care they received at Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital. A teary-eyed crowd gave them all a rousing ovation as they stepped onstage.

As guests enjoyed one surprise after another, from Vegas-style entertainment to a balloon drop finale, it would be difficult to pinpoint the gala’s highlight. Contenders would have to include the presentation of individual three-tiered birthday cakes as wait staff marched out to the drums of the Waltrip High School Roaring Red Ram Band.

On behalf of Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital and the children and families it serves, we extend a heartfelt thank you to all our donors for your support.

1. Nick Florescu and Dominique Sachse
2. Dr. Lillian Kao, Dr. Matthew Greives and Colin Moussa
3. Nina and Edd Hendee
4. Mike and Melinda Perrin
5. Doug and Melissa Schnitzer with Rosanna and Myron Blalock
6. Jason and Stacy Johnson
7. Dr. Yvonne and Rufus Cormier
8. Dr. Iggy Distefano and Susan Distefano, CEO, Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital
9. Karen and Roland Garcia
10. Scott McClelland, Soroya McClelland, Will Galtney, Elizabeth Galtney, Diane Campbell, Bill Campbell, Susan Sarofim, Deborah Cannon, Dr. Kevin Lally, Donna Moylan, Dr. Ben Chu, Anne Neeson, Susan Distefano and Dr. Iggy Distefano
11. Lisa and Jerry Simon
12. Bill Gutknecht and Christine Falgout
13. Laurie and Tracy Krohn

# You Can Be Proud of the System You Support

## Gaining National Recognition



**Houston’s first and only** organization and hospital to receive the nation’s highest Presidential Honor for Performance Excellence—the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award—for Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital



**Houston’s first and only** health system to receive the National Quality Healthcare Award for patient safety and healthcare quality from the National Quality Forum



**Finalist for the American Hospital Association-McKesson Quest for Quality** prize for an impressive track record in preventing serious safety events and reducing associated infections at Memorial Hermann Greater Heights

## Obsessed with Zero

Hospital-associated preventable deaths are the third-leading cause of death in the U.S., resulting in over 250,000 deaths per year.\*

That statistic drives Memorial Hermann’s mission to achieve zero incidents of patient harm and medical complications. Efforts over the last decade have made a measurable difference.

**We made hospitals accountable.** Our High-Reliability Certified Zero Awards recognize hospitals that go 12 consecutive months or more without adverse events.

**We aligned quality goals.** Coordinating quality and safety programs across the board has dramatically improved clinical outcomes, care transition and sepsis detection.

**We embraced process improvement.** Adopting the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare’s Robust Process Improvement® methodology, we’ve launched 145+ quality and safety initiatives, and achieved impressive results.

**We looked outside healthcare.** We’ve engaged engineers and experts from industries like nuclear power and commercial aviation, training 25,000+ employees in techniques that improve safety through critical thinking.

**We adopted technology.** For 12 years running, we’ve been named one of the nation’s “Most Wired” healthcare systems by the American Hospital Association for our life-saving technological advancements.

\*USNews.com/news/articles/2016-05-03/medical-errors-are-third-leading-cause-of-death-in-the-US

**Memorial Hermann Foundation**

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**Did you know?**

Memorial Hermann Health System provided more than \$510 million in uncompensated care in fiscal year 2016.



**2017 MEMORIAL HERMANN  
RAZZLE DAZZLE**

**RADIANCE**

**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 12, 2017**

**RADIANCE CO-CHAIRS**  
Philamena Baird  
Regina Garcia

**HONORARY HOST COMMITTEE**  
Sandy Barrett  
Deborah Cannon  
Ann Cazalat  
Julie Comiskey  
Yvonne Cormier  
Jo Lynn Falgout  
Suzie Johnson  
Grace Kim  
Bobetta Lindig  
Brenda Love  
Wendy Mitchell  
Robin Mueck  
Susan Sarofim  
Lisa Simon  
Kristina Somerville  
Karen Stall  
Donna Vallone

**The Westin Houston  
Memorial City Hotel**

**RECEPTION  
10:30 a.m.**

**LUNCH AND PROGRAM  
Noon**

**HONOREE**  
Hallie Vanderhider

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
Steve Tyrell  
Grammy Award Winning  
Producer and Vocalist

Benefiting early detection and outreach programs at the Bobetta C. Lindig Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann Memorial City

**For more information,  
713.242.4438**  
[linda.kuykendall@memorialhermann.org](mailto:linda.kuykendall@memorialhermann.org)  
[www.razzledazzlepink.com](http://www.razzledazzlepink.com)



**Save THE Date**

**FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017**

**IN THE  
Pink  
OF HEALTH**

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
Amy Robach  
Good Morning America Anchor

**LUNCHEON LOCATION**  
The Woodlands Waterway Marriott & Convention Center  
1601 Lake Robbins Drive  
The Woodlands, TX 77380

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Cheryl Brady Co-chair	Tiffany McClung Co-chair	Andrea Alexander Dee Gelsomini Carolyn Allsen Maria Bergh Cindy Burgos Annabelle Carrillo Debra Cooper Bev Earl Sheri Fogarty	Tricia Futcher Dee Gelsomini Tracy Halverson Amy Haymond Ruth Hiller Kay Hohman Kelly Hull Carrie Hyman Lindsey Klingensmith Michelle Leary	Amy Lewis Gayelene McIngvale Dana McPhail-Gaizutis Debbie Melzer Karey Miller-Bancroft Jennie Moran Venetta Morger Linda Nelson Amanda Poole Angel Porter	Melissa Preston Andrea Raiford Courtney West Jennifer Wills Ann Wolford Lorre Yeary Mary Ann Young
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For more information, contact Memorial Hermann at 713.897.PINK (7465) or [inthepink@memorialhermann.org](mailto:inthepink@memorialhermann.org).