



**Methodist**

HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION

FALL 2020

# Foundation *FOCUS*

MAKING MIRACLES HAPPEN:

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## UNWAVERING COMMITMENT THROUGH TRYING TIMES



There's no denying that the last few months have been a roller coaster of confusion, panic, and melancholy. While the news was often bleak, there were also bright spots — a community rallying together and unwavering dedication by doctors and nurses. At Methodist Health System, we have never lost focus. Even in the most uncertain times, our staff has answered the call, as have many of you.

On North Texas Giving Tuesday, May 5, you helped us raise a record \$671,308 to directly support our frontline staff with personal protective equipment (PPE), supplies, and more. To date, we've raised \$1.6 million in our COVID-19 Extraordinary Support Fund which has helped provide premium pay for nurses working long hours in challenging conditions, childcare for frontline staff, PPE, pastoral services, and more. While we don't know when the battle against the pandemic will end, we are grateful to you for standing with us.

In this issue of *Foundation Focus*, we have a feature of appreciation for our healthcare heroes. In addition, we've been quietly working on the campaign to build a new floor at Methodist Dallas Medical Center for transplant and advanced surgery patients. Even in the midst of the pandemic, our doctors and surgeons are performing lifesaving organ transplants on dozens of patients.

We are beginning a new series, "Donor Spotlight" which highlights our loyal Methodist Health System Foundation donors. R. Stephen Folsom is the chair of the Methodist Foundation Board of Trustees, and he is the third of four Folsom family generations to serve on a Methodist Health System board. We hope you will join us in celebrating the Folsom family's legacy and commitment to Methodist Health System.

Finally, due to the uncertainty and concerns over gathering in large groups, we've made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Robert S. Folsom Leadership Award. It was slated for October 16, but your health and safety are paramount, so we wanted to take no chances. Instead, we're focusing our efforts on a fundraising campaign to support nursing education and health and wellness initiatives for our frontline staff. Stay tuned for more information on our campaigns, events, and meetings. Most important, we hope you and your family stay safe, happy, and healthy. ■

With gratitude,

**James M. Johnston**  
President, Methodist Health System Foundation

# SAVE THE DATE

# NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY .ORG

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# Methodist

HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION

*Foundation Focus* is a publication of Methodist Health System Foundation, located at 1441 N. Beckley Ave., Dallas, TX 75203.

For more information, call 214-947-4555 or visit [MethodistHealthSystem.org/Foundation](http://MethodistHealthSystem.org/Foundation).

Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Methodist Health System or any of its affiliated hospitals.

# How Methodist Dallas is Transforming Transplant Care

In 1980, a conversation between two doctors put into motion the framework for what would become The Transplant Institute and The Liver Institute at Methodist Dallas Medical Center. The institutes are now nearing the 40th anniversary of the first organ transplant surgery performed at Methodist Dallas.

“To think about how that conversation has led to improving and saving more than 3,000 lives and a reputation for accepting the most difficult transplant cases, it’s hard to grasp the magnitude of The Transplant Institute’s impact,” says Richard Dickerman, MD, FACS, surgical director – kidney and pancreas transplant program, The Transplant Institute at Methodist Dallas, and a founding physician of The Transplant Institute.

“When the new transplant unit at Methodist Dallas was announced in 2019, it felt like a sense of accomplishment and a tribute to all those who have been involved along the way,” he says. Methodist Health System Foundation recently began a fundraising campaign to engage generous community funders is supporting the new Transplant Unit at Methodist Dallas.

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— Richard Dickerman, MD, FACS  
surgical director – kidney and pancreas transplant program, The Transplant Institute at Methodist Dallas, and a founding physician of The Transplant Institute

## UNIQUE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Methodist Health System places a significant priority on recruiting and retaining exceptional doctors, and that includes training the next generation of practitioners. Thanks to the generous supporters of Methodist Health System Foundation, Methodist offers graduate medical education fellowships in nephrology and hepato-pancreatico-biliary surgery, as well as a general surgery residency. These enable young doctors to pursue their chosen fields, treating patients and learning from the experts who perform these procedures every day. Dr. Weinstein believes this dedicated unit will provide a unique opportunity for physician training.

“By having a comprehensive team approach, residents and fellows will get to authentically experience working in a multidisciplinary environment,” says Jeffrey Weinstein, MD, medical director liver transplantation and hepatobiliary services, Methodist Dallas. “There is so much value in learning how to work with an entire spectrum of providers when it comes to efficiently managing a patient’s care.”



Transplant surgeons Alejandro Mejia, MD, FACS, and Richard Dickerman, MD, FACS, use the da Vinci® Surgical System to perform many kidney transplants and other complex surgeries like the Whipple procedure for pancreatic cancer.

## A DEDICATED FLOOR

When the transplant unit opens on the sixth floor of the Charles A. Sammons Tower, it will create a centralized home for transplant care.

“From the time a transplant patient enters the hospital through discharge, Methodist Dallas will be better able to streamline and coordinate their care,” says Dr. Weinstein. “By bringing together a focused group, which includes additional expert staff such as nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, and social workers, the quality of patient care rises.”

Transplant patients are a unique subset of hospital patients who have a multitude of needs, both before and after transplant. Due to their complex illnesses, these patients often stay in the hospital for days or weeks prior to their transplant surgeries. They need the expert care of the staff on this unit, all housed in one place.



In June 2018, surgeons at Methodist Dallas streamed a living donor kidney transplant surgery on Facebook Live, which was viewed tens of thousands of times. The courageous patients, a mother and daughter, wanted to raise awareness about living donor transplants.

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## A PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Barbara Winn has lived with hepatitis C since 1988. At that time, treatment options were scant, so it was considered to be a lifelong illness. Last November, when her health began to slip, Barbara suspected it was connected to her liver.

Barbara's husband, Brent, a longtime freelance photojournalist for Methodist Health System, had worked on countless patient feature stories for Methodist's *Shine* magazine. She often helped at these photo shoots and over time learned about many of The Liver Institute's success stories.

***"There was no other place I would consider going to get liver care."***



— Barbara Winn,  
patient,  
The Liver Institute at Methodist Dallas



Barbara Winn with nurse before surgery.

"By December, I knew something was really wrong and told my husband to take me to Methodist Dallas," says Barbara. "There was no other place I would consider going to get liver care."

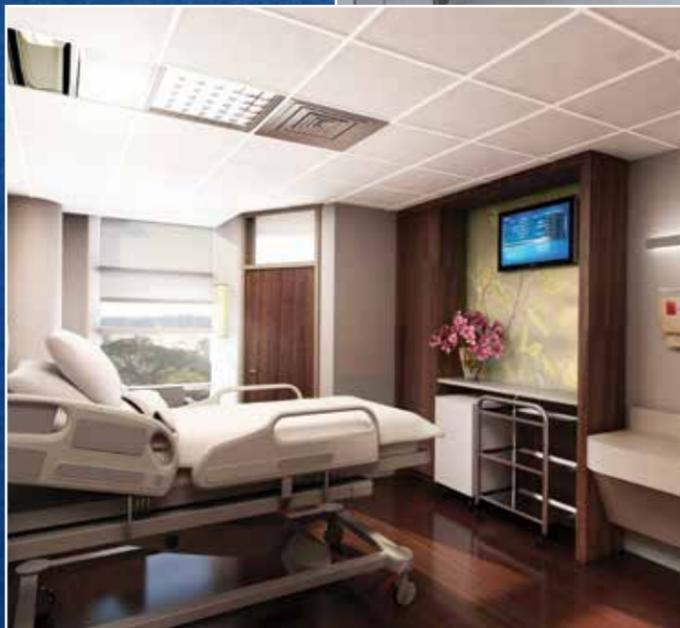
Barbara was diagnosed with advanced liver cancer and would need a transplant. Over the next couple of months, she underwent various treatments in hopes of avoiding complete liver failure. By the end of April, Barbara was back in the hospital undergoing an emergency transplant evaluation.

"Within two days, I was approved for a transplant," she says. "On the day before Mother's Day, just nine days after getting on the transplant list, I underwent surgery for a new liver. I am alive today because of The Liver Institute at Methodist Dallas."

## ENHANCING THE VALUE

Over the many decades since the founding of The Transplant Institute, a dedicated team of doctors, nurses, and leadership has worked tirelessly to transform it into the center of excellence it is today.

"The Transplant Institute has achieved many outstanding milestones and consistently delivers excellent patient outcomes, which has a value beyond measure," says John Phillips, FACHE, President, Methodist Dallas. "It is an honor to meet patients who travel from across the state and around the world who trust their lives to our expert care. When the transplant unit opens this fall, the setting of the care will be on par with the quality of care patients know they will receive at Methodist Dallas." ■



***"The Transplant Institute has achieved many outstanding milestones and consistently delivers excellent patient outcomes, which has a value beyond measure."***



— John Phillips, FACHE,  
President, Methodist Dallas

**To learn more about how you can support the new transplant units at Methodist Dallas, please contact Methodist Health System Foundation at 214-947-4555 or [foundation@mhd.com](mailto:foundation@mhd.com)**



# A Heartfelt **THANK-YOU** to our Methodist friends and family

The past few months have been unprecedented and challenging, but Methodist Health System is weathering the storm in part due to the generosity of its donors, its Board members, and its community. From calls and emails, financial support, and meals for frontline staff, contributions are appreciated at every level of our health system. Since the fight against COVID-19 began, a total of \$1.6 million has been raised through the COVID-19 Extraordinary Support Fund of Methodist Health System Foundation to provide premium pay and childcare for frontline staff, personal protective equipment, and pastoral care services.

On May 5, Methodist Health System Foundation participated in North Texas Giving Tuesday Now, a special daylong giving event hosted by Communities Foundation of Texas, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and the Dallas Cowboys, centered around supporting those on the front lines battling COVID-19. During this event and thanks to a very generous challenge gift of \$250,000 from the Golden Cross Division of Methodist Health System Foundation, your dollars were doubled, raising a total of \$671,308.

It's because of your generosity and support to each of our hospitals and to Methodist Foundation during these unpredictable times that our healthcare team, patients, and community continue to see and experience Methodist Health System's mission *to improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare.* ■



A nurse holds up a sign supporting frontline workers at Methodist Dallas.



A community member donated meals for the frontline workers at Methodist Charlton.



U.S. Navy's Blue Angels flew over Methodist Richardson to show support for frontline workers.



Laura Sweatt, Mike Hernandez, and Brooks Williams are real-life heroes who work at Methodist Mansfield.



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

# The Folsom Family

The name Folsom has become synonymous with Methodist Health System. Four generations of Folsom family members have given generously of their time, their resources, and their hearts to support Methodist Health System's mission and programs.

It started in the 1920s when Oak Cliff resident J.V. "Jack" Folsom served as a lay leader in the Methodist church. He lived down the street from the hospital campus on Colorado Boulevard and volunteered his time as chair of the Methodist Health System Board of Directors from 1958–1962. His son, Robert S. "Bob" Folsom,

followed in those footsteps, serving as chair to both the Methodist Health System Board of Directors and Methodist Health System Foundation Board of Trustees. As a former mayor of Dallas, he saw the critical value Methodist Health System gave to the city and many of its underserved communities.

Bob's son, R. Stephen "Steve" Folsom, is the current chair of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, and he sits on Methodist Health

System's Board of Directors.

"The culture at Methodist is incredible. There is such a spirit of service and caring for anyone who walks in the doors," Steve Folsom says. "I've seen what this hospital and system have meant to my family for generations, and I couldn't be prouder to be associated with it. And now to have my daughter carry on the legacy brings me even more joy."

***"The culture at Methodist is incredible. There is such a spirit of service and caring for anyone who walks in the doors."***

— Steve Folsom

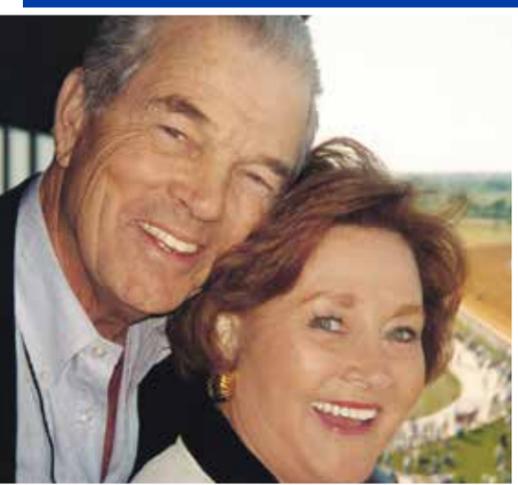
Chair, Methodist Health System Foundation Board of Trustees  
Methodist Health System Board of Directors

Steve's daughter, Hunter Folsom Lacey, is a member of the inaugural class of the Selectman Leadership Council. Formed in 2019, the council is composed of young Dallas business, civic, and philanthropic leaders who share a willingness to serve and a belief in Methodist Health System's mission to *improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare.*

"Knowing how much Methodist has meant to my family, I jumped at the chance to serve on this new council," Lacey says. "For 92 years, Methodist has been providing excellent care to thousands of patients, and I look forward to helping it continue." ■



Hunter Lacey and Steve Folsom



Robert and Margaret Folsom

# LEAVE YOUR MARK ON THE FUTURE.

*What will your  
LEGACY be?*

To learn more about your estate plan opportunities at **Methodist Health System**, please contact John Mitchener at [johnmitchener@mhd.com](mailto:johnmitchener@mhd.com) or 214-947-4555.



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