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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: MELISSA PEGRAM DUNN NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY — THANK YOU!

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT A YEAR OF UNCERTANITY & GRATITUDE

s we gather to celebrate the winter holidays and culmination of another unusual year, it gives us a chance to reflect and appreciate our blessings. While the past year offered hope and return to a more normal life, there were still challenges and opportunities for our frontline healthcare workers, our

James M. Johnston

health leaders, and our community. But Methodist Health System remained steadfast — committed to its mission, to its patients, to its employees and to our community.

Thanks to your generosity, Methodist Health System Foundation completed the capital campaign for the new floor for The Transplant Institute at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, and we began a new campaign for a nursing collaboration with Texas Tech University's School

of Nursing, Methodist Health System, and the city of Mansfield at our Methodist Mansfield Medical Center campus. In addition, more than 100 donors participated in the annual North Texas Giving Day campaign powered by Communities Foundation of

Texas, collectively contributing more than \$133,000 to provide mammograms and diagnostic services for women in southern Dallas, as well as to other related programs.

Methodist employees are our family, and they have always selflessly given back in support of the mission and culture. Through the Methodist Gives Employee Giving Program, they provided more than \$462,000 for campus needs, programs, and services.

While health and safety concerns this fall led us to reschedule the 2021 Robert S. Folsom Leadership Award to April 8, 2022, the Foundation is pushing ahead with the transformative renovation of the Women's Imaging Center at Methodist Dallas. Folsom Award recipients Linda and Mitch Hart designated the center to receive proceeds from the event, which will ensure patients have a sophisticated facility to match their exceptional care.

We have much to be grateful for, and that starts with each of you. Whether time, talent, or treasure, your gift matters, and we could not continue the critical work of Methodist Health System Foundation without you. Thank you, and we wish you and your family a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!



James M. Johnston
President, Methodist Health System Foundation

### METHODIST EMPLOYEES GIVE BACK IN A BIG WAY

n addition to their dedication and hard work, Methodist Health System employees embrace the opportunity to provide compassionate, quality care through the Methodist Gives Employee Giving Campaign. It's just one more way they choose to live out the Methodist care commitments — take care of patients, take care of each other, take care of ourselves, and take care of Methodist — each and every day.

During this year's campaign, which ran from August 9–22, the Foundation team visited each campus, providing fun giveaways and opportunities to sign up for the program. These visits included the newest hospitals, Methodist Midlothian Medical Center and Methodist Southlake Medical Center.

The 1,189 employees who participated in the annual program contributed a cumulative \$462,129 to Methodist's programs, services, and capital improvements. Each employee chose how to direct their gift that included the Basic Employee Needs Fund, their Campus' Greatest Need, or to United Way of Metropolitan Dallas. Since the program's inception in 2005, employees have raised more than \$5 million. In addition, most have chosen to participate in the 30 Minute Club, in which they donate 30 minutes of their biweekly salary to one of the beneficiaries.

The Methodist Gives Employee Giving Program is central to the mission and culture of Methodist Health System, and we are proud that so many of our employees choose to give back.

**Employees who choose to participate in Methodist Gives designate one of these programs to receive their donation:** 

**Basic Employee Needs Fund:** donations provide short-term financial assistance to employees in a crisis

**Campus' Greatest Need:** chosen every year by the campus president, funds go toward a piece of equipment or an initiative that benefits employees and patients alike

**United Way of Metropolitan Dallas:** financial gifts go directly to the many initiatives and programs of the United Way

#### Make your impact on the **FUTURE**.



#### **Creating a legacy**

A powerful way to invest in your community's health for generations to come is by naming Methodist Health System Foundation as a beneficiary in your will.

Our website —

#### MHSF.PlanMyLegacy.org

— offers resources that make it simple to create your legacy through Methodist.



For information about
Methodist's Legacy
Giving Program and our
Weiss Legacy Society,
which recognizes
donors who include
Methodist in their estate
plans, we invite you to
contact Joy Duncan
at 214-947-4602 or
joyduncan@mhd.
com. She looks forward

to visiting with you!

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.

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.

**FEATURE** 

The Women's Imaging Center at Methodist Dallas Medical Center

# A Beautiful Façade to Match the Excellent Care

reast cancer is one of the most recognized forms of cancer around the world, as well as one of the most treatable when detected in its earliest stages. The Women's Imaging Center at Methodist Dallas Medical Center was established in 1991 to serve the women of southern Dallas County with vital, lifesaving services. Today, the Women's Imaging Center has flourished into a beacon for women's health and often serves as a front door for patients coming to the hospital.

In 2020, the Women's Imaging Center provided more than 9,000 individuals with screening and diagnostic mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies, and bone density scans. Of these, 60 percent reside in southern Dallas County, 12 percent were uninsured, and 70 percent were of minority descent. The Texas Cancer Registry reports that African American women are twice as likely to die from breast cancer when compared to women of other races.

The updates and renovations to the Breast Center at Methodist Dallas will allow women to enjoy a spa-like environment when getting lifesaving mammograms. This is top-tier healthcare delivered in a beautiful space by caring and exceptional staff. As a physician, it is the kind of place I am proud to send my patients, family, and friends.

 Katrina Birdwell, MD, FACS, breast surgeon on the Methodist Dallas medical staff Patient care is without a doubt a priority of the center, and in a recent survey of patient experience, it scored in the 94th percentile for overall patient satisfaction.

"Nothing can prepare you for the words, 'You have breast cancer.' Once I arrived at the Women's Imaging Center, the welcoming, genuinely caring staff created a sense of security that stayed with me through the entirety of my experience," says Shanika Davis, patient and breast cancer survivor. "I was truly treated like family from the moment I walked in, and this continued throughout one of the hardest conversations I've had in my life. Dr. Birdwell and Linda Gage [BS, RN, OCN, CN BN, breast can nurse navigator, both sat with me, explained my type

of cancer and the plan of action my cancer team created for me in language I could understand. My cancer team!"

The center continues to receive accolades and accreditations, and Methodist Dallas leaders are now championing a full renovation to modernize the entrance and exterior hallway, reception and waiting areas, and exam and imaging rooms. These improvements will not only enhance the care setting, they will also help increase our capacity and ensure access to advanced screenings, diagnostics, and treatment, benefiting patients and community members.

The proceeds from the 2021 Robert S. Folsom Leadership Award have been designated to this capital project. Methodist Health System Foundation is grateful to the Folsom Award honorees Linda and Mitch Hart for prioritizing this renovation and ensuring women in southern Dallas and across the city have a modern, beautiful space to match the exceptional care they receive.

To learn how you can support the **Women's Imaging Center** or the **Breast Health Outreach Program**, please contact Methodist Health System Foundation at **214-947-4555** or **foundation@mhd.com**.



The Women's Imaging Center is a key component within the Breast Center at Methodist Dallas, which is accredited by the American College of Surgeons National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers.

■ The Center is recognized as a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology, and it consistently produces patient satisfaction scores above the 90th percentile.

#### BREAST HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

For some members of our community, access to breast health services can come with significant obstacles. Implemented in 1991, Methodist Dallas Medical Center created the Breast Health Outreach Program to help improve access to care by targeting uninsured women between the ages of 40–64 who are in need of screening mammograms and diagnostic services.

A team of certified oncology nurses provides breast health education, liaison services between patients and physicians, and assistance to overcome barriers to care. A key component of the program is the Methodist Health System mobile mammography unit, generously renovated and updated by Foundation Board of Trustees member David B. Miller. By making screening mammograms mobile, the dedicated team can help where the need is greatest. The program relies heavily on grants and the generosity of donations from individuals, groups, and organizations. Since its inception, the program has provided more than \$4 million in charitable breast cancer detection services to over 14,000 underserved women in our communities.



Winter 2021 Foundation Focus



1441 N. Beckley Ave. Dallas, TX 75203

#### SAVE THE DATE

# 2021 ROBERT S. EADERSH

## AWARD

# Linda and Mitch Hart

Friday, April 8, 2022 Hilton Anatole

More details to follow: MethodistHealthSystem.org/Folsom



# Methodist DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

# MELISSA PEGRAM DUNN

ometimes fate weaves people and places into our lives, and we may not understand why until much later on. In this case, Methodist Health System has been a thread in Melissa Pegram Dunn's life. She recently felt called to make a generous donation to Methodist Midlothian Medical Center, which opened in

Dunn was born in Midlothian, TX, and grew up thinking of Methodist Dallas Medical Center as the city hospital vital to serving her

community. "I've known about Methodist since I was a young girl. Methodist Dallas, or 'Methodist Central' as we called it, was the main hospital — the place you went to when you were very sick or needed a complicated surgery," says Dunn.

Later, as a young attorney practicing commercial and transactional law in Dallas, she often assisted independently practicing physicians at Methodist in creating physician practices. During this time she met Ernest Dunn, MD, a trauma surgeon

at Methodist Dallas and her future husband. In fact, Dr. Dunn was a founder of both the trauma and CareFlite air ambulance programs.

> When Dunn first heard about the plans to build Methodist Midlothian, she was elated. "As a native of Midlothian, I was so thrilled and so very grateful that Methodist chose to build such a sophisticated facility

to benefit the people of that community," Dunn says. "My parents are also from Midlothian—so what a better way to pay

tribute to them than to make a significant donation in their honor." A plaque has been placed inside Methodist Midlothian to honor Mr. and Mrs. Milton Pegram.

"My hope is that this gift could be used to improve care or equipment for emergency situations," she says. It's because of generous donors like Melissa Pegram Dunn that Methodist can further spread its mission of providing compassionate, quality healthcare to neighboring communities.



yearly mammogram is a woman's best chance for early cancer detection and a crucial part of her overall healthcare. Access to these screenings can be challenging for those who are uninsured or underinsured.

On Thursday, September 23, Methodist Health System Foundation joined the Communities Foundation of Texas' North Texas Giving Day to raise awareness and support for the Breast Health Outreach Program at Methodist Dallas Medical Center and other donor-requested designations.

COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS

## <u> — NTX —</u> **GIVING DAY**

The fundraising event was a smashing success. The Foundation raised \$133,661, exceeding our goal, much in part due to a few generous Foundation Board of Trustees members who challenged us with a matching gift of \$50,000.

Thanks to your support, more women will have access to critical cancer screenings, diagnostic services, and other resources.

To learn more about the **Breast Health** Outreach Program at Methodist Dallas, please contact the Foundation at 214-947-4555 or foundation@mhd.com.