

# THE VITAL LINK



January 2019

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## Foundation concludes annual campaign with record numbers

Members of the Maury Regional Health (MRH) community came together in record numbers during the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation's recent annual campaign by contributing \$224,878 in donations and pledges to benefit initiatives that impact residents of the region.

The "Unmask the Need" campaign, which officially began October 1, featured a masquerade theme and focused on the Foundation's role in meeting community health needs through support services like the Maury Regional Health Mobile Unit and an array of programs for patients, community members and employees. At the start of the 2019 campaign, the Foundation set an initial goal of raising \$135,000 — a goal ultimately surpassed by almost \$90,000 thanks to contributions from employees, physicians, volunteers and board members.

"I am very grateful to all the donors and volunteers who assisted with the 2019 campaign," said Joe Kilgore, executive director of the Foundation. "Every donation makes a difference no matter the amount."

Money raised during the 2019 campaign will go on to support a wide range of services to improve quality of life in southern Middle Tennessee, including medication and transportation assistance, a food bank, educational support, community health initiatives and employee assistance. Gifts were also designated to funds that assist cancer, diabetic, heart, neonatal intensive care and pediatric patients.

"Many lives will be touched by the generosity of this year's campaign," Kilgore said.

The annual campaign is the largest fundraising event conducted by the Foundation each year. In addition to the campaign's record total, the Foundation observed a 44 percent increase in donors and a 24 percent increase in donations and pledges over the course of the campaign's run.

Visit [MauryRegionalFoundation.com](http://MauryRegionalFoundation.com) for more information about the work done by the Foundation and to learn about the many ways to support its mission. Donations to the Foundation are accepted on an ongoing basis and can be made in honor and in memory of others.

## Marshall Medical Center celebrates new physical therapy facility

Maury Regional Health celebrated the opening of the new Marshall Medical Center Physical Therapy facility on January 17 with a ribbon cutting and open house.

The new physical therapy site is now conveniently located in the medical center and features a spacious gym, private treatment areas and a dedicated pediatric space. The facility is also easier to access for those with limited mobility due to its location on the main level with a drive-through for patient drop-off.



*Pictured at the open house for Marshall Medical Center Physical Therapy are (l-r) CEO Phyllis Brown, Marilyn Barnes, Gaby Lampley, Amy Maguire, Brittany Purtle, Gregg Cloutier, Kim Hill and Director Jamie Davis.*

**NEW EMPLOYEES**

**MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

**ADMITTING/REGISTRATION**

Laura Hickman

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Lana Barnes  
 Michaela Conner  
 Kelsi Young

**FOOD & NUTRITION**

Kelly West

**HOME SERVICES**

Patti Cox  
 Jeanne Frye

**LABORATORY**

Jennifer Chunn

**NURSING**

Tabitha Hinson  
 Carolyn Lowery  
 Megan Myers  
 Natasha Thompson

**MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL GROUP**

Kristi Gray

# Maury Regional Health reflects on 2018

Maury Regional Health (MRH) celebrated a number of exciting accomplishments in 2018, including a new electronic medical record as well as an array of awards, accreditations, certifications and designations.

“Our organization would not have had such a successful year if it were not for the dedication of our employees, physicians and volunteers,” said CEO Alan Watson. “I am grateful for the leadership and commitment to our patients.”

A new electronic medical record was implemented in 2018 to better serve patients and to bring many of MRH’s software systems into one platform to enhance the continuum of care. The Cerner implementation was a monumental task that took countless hours to build and test.

MRH was also named one of the nation’s Top 15 Health Systems in the U.S. for the fifth time. This study spotlights best-performing health systems in the nation based on publicly available clinical, operational and patient satisfaction data. IBM Watson Health researchers evaluated 338 health systems and 2,422 health system member hospitals. Hospitals do not apply for awards and winners do not pay to market this honor.

Once again, Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC) was ranked number one in the state in medical excellence and patient safety in the categories of overall hospital care and overall surgical care by CareChex®. The service lines of cardiology, orthopedics and surgery also received rankings at the national, regional, state or market area.

Additionally, MRMC received its 10th consecutive “A” score for patient safety from the Leapfrog Group. The safety grading system uses 27 measures of publicly available hospital data to assign grades to approximately 2,500 U.S. hospitals twice per year.

Several re-accreditations were received in 2018 as well as a number of new achievements, including:

- Nurse residency program accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center

- Baby-Friendly designation from Baby-Friendly USA
- Echocardiography accreditation from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission
- The Wound Center received the national Robert A Warriner III Center of Excellence Award.

In 2018, 18 physicians joined the medical staff, bringing the number of physicians on the medical staff to 220. Specialties included family medicine, gynecologic oncology, hospital medicine, internal medicine, nephrology, neurology, plastic surgery, podiatry, pulmonary and critical care, radiology and rheumatology.

The primary care practice in Waynesboro became the fifth MRH-affiliated practice to be designated a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), offering income-based discounts. MRH has offered income-based discounts for primary care since 2013 when Lewis Health Center (LHC) earned the designation. PrimeCare Clinic in Columbia, Lewisburg Family Practice and Lewisburg Pediatrics are also FQHC sites. U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander visited LHC in February 2018 and described the facility as a “model for rural health care.” Accordingly, MRH received the Exemplary Project Award from the Rural Health Association of Tennessee.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and friends, the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation funded the new mobile medical unit, which began operation in February 2018. In the past year, the mobile unit has exceeded 7,000 visits and 500 referrals to either a primary care provider, emergency department or other agency based on patients’ conditions.

New technology and services were also made available in 2018, including groundbreaking for a new behavioral health hospital in conjunction with TriStar Health, the Sonialvision G4 Imaging System and a milk bank donation site.

“Our goal is to provide world-class care for every patient, every day,” Watson said. “Thank you for helping us to achieve this goal.”



**MAURY REGIONAL HEALTH**

The VitaLink, designed by the Foreman Company, is published monthly for Maury Regional Health through the Marketing Department. Distribution is to employees, retirees, members of the medical staff, board of trustees, advisory board, Maury County Commission and volunteers.



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# MRH names Chaney interim CMO

Martin M. Chaney, M.D., a specialist in internal medicine and pediatrics, has been named interim chief medical officer (CMO) for Maury Regional Health.

Dr. Chaney has more than 20 years of clinical and management experience. As CMO, he maintains responsibility for the areas of clinical quality, physician relations and physician recruitment as well as for the Hospital Medicine Program. Dr. Chaney continues to serve as CMO for Maury Regional Medical Group.

“Dr. Chaney’s service as a member of our medical staff and, most recently, as chief medical officer for our medical group will be beneficial as he assumes this new leadership role,” said CEO Alan Watson.



DR. CHANEY

Dr. Chaney received his medical degree from the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama. He completed his internship and residency at University of South Alabama Hospitals and Clinics. He is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics.

As interim CMO, Dr. Chaney fills the role previously held by Christopher Edwards, M.D., who recently relocated to the Atlanta, Georgia, area.

# FQHC program earns renewed approval

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently approved another three-year project period for the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) program offered by Maury Regional Health (MRH).

FQHC-designated practices use a primary care medical home model, providing care to patients regardless of insurance coverage. Most insurance is accepted and those who are uninsured or underinsured may receive primary care or other qualifying services at a discounted rate based on family size and household income. Visits may be as low as \$20 depending on eligibility.

MRH has offered FQHC-related services since early 2014. The primary care practice at Lewis Health Center in Hohenwald was the first location to

receive federal designation. Since that time, four additional practices have received FQHC status: Lewisburg Family Practice, Lewisburg Pediatrics, Primary Care–Waynesboro and PrimeCare in Columbia.

“We are pleased to be able to serve the health care needs of community members under the model provided by the FQHC program,” said FQHC Executive Director Nathan Miller.

Visit [MauryRegional.com](http://MauryRegional.com) to learn more about services provided by FQHC locations.

## BIRTHS

Blake and Stacy Smith, who work in the Accounting Department and the Laboratory, respectively, welcomed Oakley Taylor Smith on January 2, 2019. She weighed 6 pounds and 15 ounces.

Amanda Voss, Anesthesia, and her family welcomed Amelia Ruth Morrow Voss on January 9, 2019. She weighed 9 pounds and 1 ounce.

## IN MEMORY

Rachel DeWeese passed away January 2. She retired from MRMC in 2003 as a patient access representative.

# MRH celebrates successful United Way campaign



Maury Regional Health (MRH) raised more than \$37,000 in 2018 during the annual United Way campaign.

United Way is a national organization with offices around the country — including a presence in Maury County — that supports area residents by providing them with a variety of resources, such as an emergency shelter and services relating to counseling, domestic violence, health care, substance abuse and crisis intervention.

MRH employees Robbie Gadams and Chuck Hoelscher coordinated the 2018 campaign.

“The generosity of MRH employees will be felt throughout the communities in which our employees live and work,” Gadams said.

## Organ shares K-card results at national conference

In December 2018, Lean Process Facilitator Candice Organ presented at the National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, about her department's methods of improving safety measures and preventing falls.

During her conference presentation, Organ discussed the Quality Services Department's work with Kamishibai (K-cards), a visual audit and analysis tool that assists employees with achieving and sustaining improved outcomes in quality and safety measures — particularly pertaining to fall rates. When Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC) used the K-cards, the hospital experienced the longest number of days with zero patient falls in its recorded history.

For more information about the use of K-cards at MRMC, contact Organ at 931.840.4440 or [COrgan@MauryRegional.com](mailto:COrgan@MauryRegional.com).



ORGAN



*Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC) welcomed the first baby of 2019 on January 1 at 10:05 p.m.*

*Stuart and Kara Brooks of Spring Hill are the proud parents of Benjamin Ray Brooks, who weighed 7 pounds, 3.5 ounces. Benjamin is the couple's first child.*

*For the first baby of the new year at MRMC, the Brooks family took home a welcome wagon filled with diapers, wet wipes, books, blankets and much more.*

## MASH accepting applications in February

Volunteer Services at Maury Regional Medical Center will host the annual Maury Academy for Students in Health (MASH) program June 10–21 for high school juniors and seniors interested in learning more about careers in health care.

“The MASH program helps students find their passion and focus on what they want to do the rest of their lives,” said Cindy Short, assistant director of Volunteer Services. “We have four former MASH students who are employees of Maury Regional now and, to me, that is exciting to know we helped them on this journey.”

Applications for MASH will be accepted throughout February and must be submitted online at [MauryRegional.com/MASH](http://MauryRegional.com/MASH) by March 1. The application process consists of interested students filling out the appropriate forms, submitting recommendations from high school personnel and attending an in-person interview.

Contact Short at 931.380.4047 or [CShort@MauryRegional.com](mailto:CShort@MauryRegional.com) for more information.



*High school students in the MASH program spend two weeks observing the day-to-day responsibilities of health care professionals.*

# MRH names Business Partner of the Year

Each year, Maury Regional Health (MRH) recognizes a business partner who assists the system in meeting its mission. Doreen Foster with Sentry Data Systems (SDS) received the 2018 award in December.

SDS is a third-party administrator that manages pricing initiatives on medications covered by the federal government's 340B drug pricing program. Health care facilities that participate in the 340B program are entitled to receive discounts on covered outpatient drugs. Savings realized under the program can in turn be used to provide other health care resources.

Foster was nominated by Administrative Director of Pharmacy Jeff Binkley for her efforts to assist the pharmacy in evaluating drug spending to find targeted areas for cost reduction through an analytics tool offered by SDS. The company has also provided support with audit resources and the Cerner conversion project.

Binkley estimates the health system has saved more than \$27 million over the past nine years as a result of using 340B government pricing.



*Pictured at the award presentation are (l-r) Chief Nursing Officer Deborah Lumpkins, Pharmacy Department Support Coordinator Frances Holt, Administrative Director of Pharmacy Jeff Binkley, SDS representative David Erickson, award recipient Doreen Foster, Supply Chain Director Roger Larkin, Pharmacy 340B Coordinator Jeff Hubbell and Supply Chain Assistant Director Angela Rosen.*

## MRH honors retirees



BROWN

DEBORAH BROWN, a registered nurse in Orthopedics, retired January 19, 2019. She provided more than 21 years of service to Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC).

"Deb has been an essential member of the Orthopedics team," said Tiffany Crews, nurse manager. "Her leadership, vast skills and dedication have helped the Orthopedics Department retain their reputation for excellent patient care. She will be dearly missed not only by

her fellow nursing staff but by the physicians who think so highly of her. We all wish her well on her retirement."

RONALD GAINES retired from MRMC on October 27, 2018. He was a supervisor of operations in the Sterile Processing Department and had provided 28 years of service to the medical center.

"Ronnie's passion for patient care made him a valuable asset to the organization," said Nurse Manager Lacy Huddleston. "His willingness to share his knowledge with his colleagues was recognized by all who came in contact with him. We wish him well in this next chapter of his life and will



GAINES

miss his daily involvement with the OR and Sterile Processing Department."



HOOD

CINDY HOOD, a clinical staff pharmacist in the MRMC Pharmacy, retired January 1, 2019. She began work in 1996, providing 22 years of service.

"Cindy is a stellar pharmacist and we will miss her very much," said Administrative Director of Pharmacy Jeff Binkley. "We appreciate her dedication to MRMC and her commitment to making patient care her priority. We wish her the very best in her retirement!"

JEAN WRIGHT, a registered nurse in Critical Care at MRMC, retired December 18, 2018. She provided 21 years of service to the medical center.

"Jean has been an integral part of our Critical Care team for many years — most recently serving as a relief charge nurse," said Administrative Director Cathy Malone. "Jean made many contributions to her department with an outstanding work ethic and commitment to patient care. We extend best wishes to her for a wonderful retirement."



WRIGHT

## MAURY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE



# FOUNDATION

# News

### **IMAGE OF NURSING MEMBERS SUPPORT EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE FUND**

Image of Nursing members at Maury Regional Medical Center raised more than \$600 through wreath sales in December in support of the William R. Walter Employee Assistance Fund.

The fund is supported by the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation to assist Maury Regional Health employees during unexpected emergencies and with continuing education costs.

Visit [MauryRegionalFoundation.com](http://MauryRegionalFoundation.com) for more information about opportunities afforded through the William R. Walter Employee Assistance Fund.



*Pictured (l-r) are Image of Nursing members, including Hannah Hogan; Savannah Chapman; Lacy Estes; Joe Kilgore, executive director of the Foundation; Ginger Cothran; Carey Albright and Jennifer Spencer.*

## **MRH to conduct 2019 employee engagement survey**

Maury Regional Health (MRH) will conduct the next employee engagement survey February 20–March 13.

Past surveys have resulted in multiple improvements made throughout the MRH system, which have all contributed to making MRH one of the premier health systems in the nation as reflected by the most recent IBM Watson Health Top 15 rating.

The 2019 employee engagement survey will once again be conducted by Press Ganey, an outside source, to ensure all information remains confidential. All employees hired prior to November 30, 2018, will be eligible to participate in the survey. MRH expects to have 80 percent participation across the organization. Updates with details about the survey process will be sent via email.

Survey participants will be entered into a drawing for Amazon Echo Dots with two given per week that the survey is open, meaning the earlier employees complete the survey, the better their chances of winning. Additional team awards will be available at the survey's conclusion for departments with at least 90 percent participation.

## **MRH offers free support groups**

As the new year begins, Maury Regional Health (MRH) is offering several free support groups for any members of the southern Middle Tennessee region who wish to participate.

Support groups allow participants to meet others with similar life experiences and to share their personal feelings and coping strategies, while also hearing from medical professionals and guest speakers. They are informal opportunities to talk and to listen.

“When someone comes to a support group, they will find people who listen and who help normalize what they're feeling,” said Lyndall Propst, chaplain for Maury Regional Medical Center and leader of the Grief Support Groups. “Support groups are safe places for people to be heard.”

Support groups that will meet on a monthly or quarterly basis throughout 2019 include the Breast Cancer Support Group, Cancer Support Group, Celiac Support Group, Diabetes Education Group, Grief Support Groups, Ostomy Support Group, Stroke Support Group and Surgical Weight Loss Group.

Visit the classes and events calendar at [MauryRegional.com](http://MauryRegional.com) for additional information about dates, times and locations.



## MRH CONTINUES ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Maury Regional Health (MRH) continued recognition of its 65th anniversary during the month of January. Celebration meals were served January 24 and 26 and employees received a special gift in honor of the anniversary of the opening of Maury Regional Medical Center in December 1953.

### REMINDER: CHECK YOUR BENEFIT DEDUCTIONS

The start of a new year means the start of a new plan year for benefit elections. Employees are encouraged to check their first paystubs of 2019 to ensure benefit deductions for the 2019 plan year are correctly reflected. Questions about benefit deductions may be directed to Allison McCord at [AMcCord@mauryregional.com](mailto:AMcCord@mauryregional.com).



*Employee Engagement Coordinator Sheila Grossman (left) is pictured at an anniversary event with Physical Therapist Katherin Elmore.*

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### February 2

UNDERSTANDING BIRTH: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., call 931.490.7046

### February 7

DIABETES EDUCATION GROUP: 11 a.m., Annex, call 931.540.4324

### February 8

BLOOD DRIVE: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Auxiliary Conference Room, schedule an appointment at [BloodAssurance.org/MRMC28](http://BloodAssurance.org/MRMC28)

### February 12

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP: 1 p.m., Cancer Center Resource Room, call 931.381.1111, ext. 8177

### February 12

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: 5:30 p.m., MRMC Chapel, call 931.540.4243

### February 12

SURGICAL WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP: 6 p.m., Medical Office Building Conf. Room, call 931.381.1111, ext. 1748

### February 16

SAFE SITTER: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., call 931.490.7046

### February 18

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: 7:45 a.m., Auxiliary Conference Room, call 931.381.1111, ext. 4017

### February 18

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP: 5:30 p.m., Women's Center, call 931.540.4166

### February 18

BREASTFEEDING: 7 p.m., call 931.490.7046

### February 28

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP: 10 a.m., MRMC, call 931.490.4600

### February 28

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: noon, Marshall Medical Center, call 931.540.4243

### February 28

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP: 6 p.m., Maury Regional Annex, call 931.840.4446

# KUDOS FOR CAREGIVERS

Brian Beck  
Christi Beck  
Barbara Beeson  
Karen Blair  
Cassie Bowling  
Sarah C. Brewer  
Amanda Brown  
Kristi Burklow  
Dr. James Butler  
Alison Carlisle  
Todd Chessor  
Crystal Clark  
Dr. Mark Cobb  
Ashlee Conner

Wilson Daniel  
Collins Davis  
Dr. Karen Davis  
Dr. Patrick Davis  
Kim Dickinson  
Louann Ditusa  
Laarni Douglas  
Dr. Jon Freels  
Dr. Rodney Gilbert  
Chase Glass  
Dr. Deborah Goldsmith  
Dr. Anthony Haase  
Shelly Hargrove  
David Heffington

Dr. Danielle Henson  
Jackie Hill  
Jennifer Hirst  
Jill Hooper  
Dr. J. Spencer Jensen  
Dr. Romany Johnpulle  
Dr. Michael Kelley  
Michele Kimbrough  
Amanda King  
Cortney King  
Dr. Justin Kropf  
Lynn Lott  
Crystal Mathers  
Dr. Scott McCall

Keely McFarland  
Dr. Mark Messenger  
Karen Miller  
Kristen Miller  
Laura Morphew  
Tyler Owen  
Dr. D. Davidson Oxley  
Teresa Pisani  
Dr. William Rasberry  
Barrett Raburn  
Sara Ress  
Dr. Danny Robinson  
Amanda Roland  
Pamela Runions

Dr. Mark Seago  
Paige Shepherd  
Jaclyn Simpson  
Gwen Skelton  
Hailey Smith  
Ashley Taylor  
Melissa Tibbs  
Sylvia Tinin  
Angela Walker  
Dana Walls  
Megan White  
Shelli Woody  
Kayla Wright  
Sandra Yokley

THE VITALINK

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MAURY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE  
FOUNDATION



## Save the Date: Mule Kick 5K & 1-Mile Trot

The annual Mule Kick 5K & 1-Mile Trot benefiting the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation is just around the corner! Race day takes place Saturday, April 6, at Riverwalk Park in Columbia with the 5K beginning at 8 a.m. and the 1-Mile Trot starting at 9 a.m.

Sign up today at [MuleKick5K.org](http://MuleKick5K.org).

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