A PROMISE KEPT: TEXAS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL THE WOODLANDS p. 18

DIRECT FROM THE HEART
Direct Energy p. 22

AMERICAN LEGENDS HONORED p. 24

PERFORMING MIRACLES: TRANSPLANT SERVICES AT TEXAS CHILDREN’S p. 26
To know your child’s emergency — just like Chloe’s — can’t wait.

Chloe’s sudden illness during a family vacation left her feverish, unable to breathe and fighting for her life. In the race against time, her family knew Texas Children’s Hospital was her best chance. With your contribution to the Promise Campaign, we can give that chance to even more children facing life-threatening emergencies.

Make your promise. Donate today.

texascildren.org/promise
5 A Responsibility to the Future
Shirley and Ralph Alexander

8 Ambassadors for Texas Children’s Hospital

19 The Driving Power of Promise
Nancy Gordon

22 A Heartfelt Commitment
Direct Energy

26 Giving Children a Second Chance at Life: Transplant Services at Texas Children’s Hospital

2016 Calendar of Events
What’s New, What’s Next

Big Turnouts, Better Outcomes
Community Events Supporting Texas Children’s Hospital

The Woodlands

20 Years of “What’s Up, Doc?”

Celebrating Legendary Americans
An Evening with a Legend Events

Six Decades of Making a Difference
The Auxiliary to Texas Children’s Hospital

IN THIS ISSUE ...
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A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FUTURE

SHIRLEY AND RALPH ALEXANDER

Shirley and Ralph Alexander moved to the Houston area 31 years ago. They were a young couple, newly married and anxiously awaiting the arrival of a child, and they were comforted knowing that family from New York had also recently relocated to nearby Spring, Texas. Soon after the move, the Alexanders’ young niece was diagnosed with leukemia. Her best choice for treatment was Texas Children’s Hospital.

Shirley said. “It was a great place to think about the next chapters in our life — settling here and enjoying all the things that this community brings.”

Since returning to the area, the Alexanders have witnessed many things, including astronomical growth. New commercial and residential developments are constantly cropping up, and with them, new people and new opportunities. But the most striking thing Shirley and Ralph have noticed about The Woodlands is the sense of community inherent in its residents and the generous spirit of civic and philanthropic responsibility. “If you have a desire to help, to be constructive, to create progress for our community, you can do it here,” Ralph said. “Shirley and I have had the pleasure of meeting wonderful people who give of themselves — not just money, but time, to make this a better place, and that’s really exciting.”

The Alexanders began exploring ways to become involved. The choice immediately became clear to them when they learned that Texas Children’s Hospital was working to bring its world-class health care to the communities north of Houston. Shirley and Ralph recently made a generous gift of $250,000 to Promise: The Campaign for Texas Children’s Hospital that will specifically support Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands. “Why are we so supportive of Texas Children’s? I’d have to say the first reason is because we can be,” Ralph said. “And those of us who can be, I think, have a responsibility to do that. But also, we’re getting the opportunity to get something that is absolutely best on the planet here. Texas Children’s is world-class, and it’s great for the community.”

“My promise is: I’m here today. I’m going to be here for the long term. I’m not going away. I’m here forever. So my promise is a promise of a lifetime for Texas Children’s and the work they’re doing.”

– Shirley Alexander, Promise Campaign donor

“Don’t wait until you can — it’s time to give when it’s needed.”

– Ralph Alexander

Hear more from Shirley and Ralph at aspire.texaschildrens.org/alexanders
Last fall, Texas Children's Hospital’s annual Houston Forum Luncheon at the Hilton Americas–Houston served as the official announcement of Promise: The Campaign for Texas Children’s Hospital.

Texas Children’s commitment to raising $475 million will help ensure that the hospital is able to meet current pressing challenges and put into place the infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of the growing pediatric population in our community — and the patients and families we will serve 5, 10 and even 20 years from now.

The campaign’s top priorities are:

**Pediatric Tower:** a 640,000-square-foot, 19-story building that will allow Texas Children’s to enhance its critical, surgical and emergency care services in the Texas Medical Center. The tower is scheduled to open in 2018 and will house Texas Children’s Heart Center, additional patient rooms, enhanced intensive care units and state-of-the-art operating rooms.

**Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands:** a 548,000-square-foot dedicated pediatric hospital to serve the growing communities north of Houston.

Guests heard more about these two priorities from Texas Children’s Hospital’s President and CEO Mark A. Wallace and about the importance of philanthropic support from Promise Campaign chairs Carol and Mike Linn. They were also introduced to the Graves and Kramer families. Born with a heart defect, Juliana Graves is the youngest patient ever to receive a heart transplant at Texas Children’s Hospital. Chloe Kramer was rushed to Texas Children’s in respiratory failure and received lifesaving treatment that included extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) — a treatment that few children’s hospitals are able to provide.

To learn more about the Promise Campaign, please visit texaschildrens.org/promise.
“Texas Children’s is the best on the planet,” John Raymond said. “They did miraculous things for us.”

Ambassadors for Texas Children’s Hospital is a community of socially engaged individuals who share a dedication to the hospital’s mission and serve as a strong voice for children and women who need the most specialized care available.

In addition to raising significant funds for Texas Children’s each year, Ambassadors gather together for a wide array of events including Ambassadors On Call luncheons — where guests hear from Texas Children’s experts and tour world-class facilities — and annual social events such as the Holiday Party and Family Fun Day.

The home of Marita and J.B. Fairbanks was transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland for the seventh annual Ambassadors Holiday Party last December. Nearly 500 guests enjoyed an evening of holiday lights, food, music and dancing, but the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Ambassadors’ annual check — $1.7 million this year — for the hospital’s area of greatest need, Promise: The Campaign for Texas Children’s Hospital.

Among the guests at the Holiday Party were Leigh Anne and John Raymond, who have experienced firsthand the kinds of miracles that happen at Texas Children’s Hospital every day. Leigh Anne and John were ecstatic to discover they were expecting their fourth child. At a routine 20-week ultrasound, they found out they were having a little boy. They also learned that their son had a congenital heart defect called tetralogy of Fallot, a rare condition caused by a combination of four heart defects. These defects affect the structure of the heart and cause oxygen-poor blood to flow out of the heart and into the rest of the body. Infants and children with tetralogy of Fallot usually have blue-tinged skin because their blood doesn’t carry enough oxygen. The Raymonds began praying for a miracle.
When Charlie was born three weeks early on February 9, 2015, the Raymond’s learned that their prayers had been answered. From the beginning, doctors at Texas Children’s had explained that Charlie would most likely need a temporary surgery three to five days after his birth to help him grow strong enough for a major surgery later. At the last ultrasound before his birth, Leigh Anne and John learned that Charlie’s arteries had grown enough that he would not need that initial procedure. In fact, he was able to wait six months until August 2015 to have a surgery later. At the last ultrasound before his birth to help him grow strong enough for a major surgery, prayers had been answered.

We honor them here.
**FAMILY FUN DAY**

On Sunday, May 1, 2016, more than 950 Ambassadors members and their families enjoyed an afternoon at the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center for Family Fun Day. The “Under the Sea”-themed bash, chaired by Keni and Chase Fondren and Christine and David Underwood, featured a petting zoo, crafts, games, a video game bus, balloons art and more! Best of all, 27 bins of items such as play dough sets, crayons, glue and sticker books were donated to the Child Life Program at Texas Children’s. A member of the Child Life team sent this note to the event chairs following Family Fun Day:

“I just wanted to thank the Ambassadors on behalf of the Child Life team for the fabulous donation!! I think I speak for the team, as I saw their joy as they selected items. THANK YOU so much for featuring Child Life and donating things to benefit the department. These items will help them do their job in therapeutic play and make a big impact on the patient experience. Many thanks again!”

By joining Ambassadors for Texas Children’s Hospital, you can make a life-changing difference in the health of children and women. Your membership will also help support Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands through the Promise Campaign.

To join, or to get more information, visit ambassadors.texaschildrens.org or call us at 832-824-6900.
BIG TURNOUTS, BETTER OUTCOMES
COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORTING TEXAS CHILDREN’S

Became of the generous support of Houston’s philanthropic community, Texas Children’s Hospital has been treating the sickest patients for more than 60 years, offering a level of expertise and compassionate care that just can’t be found elsewhere.

Each year, members of that community gather for special events that both highlight and financially support many of the world-class divisions and specialty areas at Texas Children’s. These events include Toss for Texas Children’s Heart Center, The Bad Pants Open, and Celebration of Champions.

TOSS FOR TEXAS CHILDREN’S HEART CENTER

October 2015 Houston Polo Club

Toss for Texas Children’s Heart Center is a fundraiser like no other—a bean bag tournament, great food, friends and lots of fun in the spectacular setting of the Houston Polo Club—all to raise community awareness and support for Texas Children’s Heart Center.

At the third annual event last fall, Surgeon-in-Chief Dr. Charles D. Fraser, Jr. and chief of Cardiology Dr. Daniel Penny were on hand to encourage the high-spirited competitors. Also in attendance were Texas Children’s Board members Nancy Gordon and Cindy Taylor, as well as Dr. Wayne Franklin, director of Texas Children’s Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program, John Nickens, executive vice president, and Radiologist-in-Chief Dr. George Bissett.

In Healing Hands

The Reeves Family

Shortly after their daughter MaryAlan was born, Amy and Michael Reeves learned that she had a potentially life-threatening hole in her heart. They brought her to Texas Children’s for treatment when she was just four months old. Dr. Carrie Altman, medical director of Cardiology, and her team were able to close the hole in MaryAlan’s heart without having to perform open-heart surgery. Today, she is a healthy five-year-old who loves tennis and all types of dance—especially if she gets to wear her hair bow.

A Promise to Give Back

The Griggs Family

Cari and John Griggs began their journey with Texas Children’s Heart Center when Cari was pregnant with their youngest son Gus and they learned he had a rare lung disease that also had cardiac implications. Gus had four-life-saving fetal surgeries at Texas Children’s and spent the first five months of his life in the hospital’s neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

Seven years later, Cari was shocked to learn that she, too, had a congenital heart condition—an atrial septal defect that had never been detected before and that required open heart surgery. She was referred to Texas Children’s world-class adult congenital heart team, and Surgeon-in-Chief Dr. Charles D. Fraser, Jr., performed surgery to close the hole in her heart muscle.

Cari and John then decided to have all their children tested. Results revealed that their daughter Lila also had a hole in her heart. Dr. Fraser was to perform Lila’s surgery, but in one last test performed right after she was wheeled into the operating room, Dr. Fraser noticed something peculiar. He even brought in multiple teams to corroborate. The hole was gone.

After so many years of putting their lives in the hands of the experts at Texas Children’s Hospital, the Griggs family feel they owe a special debt of gratitude, and they give freely of both their time and resources to make certain those same miracles are possible for others. They are both currently serving as co-chairs of Texas Children’s Promise Campaign.

“The hospital has changed my family’s life,” Cari said. “It changed my fate because of the generous support of Houston’s philanthropic community, many of whom have experienced Texas Children’s lifesaving care firsthand. Toss for Texas Children’s Heart Center event co-chairs Cari and John Griggs and Amy and Mike Reeves can attest to that.

Event Chairs
Cari and John Griggs
Amy and Mike Reeves

Host Committee
Holly and Austin Alvis
Sheri and Camp Bailey
Kelly and Carl Beeler
Karen and John Berger
Diana and Todd Brook
Tam and Heath Brown
Kris and David Buck
Debbie and Kent Chatwer
Eva and Charlie Christ
Eliana and Rob Christy
Kelly and Jay Cliburn
Allison and Miller Cranwell
Jon and Kenneth Dalbor
Staci and John Donoven
Carolyn and Chris Erwin
Gardner and Elizabeth Dudley
Mary and Robert Duncan
Pepper and Ashley Edelen
Eliana and Thad Fuller
Jennifer and Jason Gordon
Jami and Garrey Griggs
Rachel and Trey Griggs
Mary and Carter Groves
Ashley and Michael Harris
Tori and John Haines
Caroline and Torrey Hawkins
Tiffany and Erin Herleck
Lizzie and Charlie Hershman
Elizabeth and Wyatt Hogan
Jill and Scott Holstad
Natalie and Roy Hufnagel
Disah and Will Huntzsch
Shayler and Billy Igglesden
Jesica and Jeff Jacobs
Isla and Joseph Jarnavay
Kristie and Kyle Koffman
Alicia and Robert Kimmel
Kirsti and Robert Kincannon
Marie Louise and David Kinder
Catherine and Adsbury Kinsey
Edmund and Eliot Knude
Susan and David Light
Tori and Joseph Luesnagent
Kay and Brandon Lobb
Kim and Richard Lucas
Merrit and Jon Marini
Mike and John Massey
Christie and Billy McCarty
April and Jed McMayon
Alison and Charlie Meyer
Christine and Sha Moren
Lauran and Brad Morgan
Amy and Hardy Murchison
Jake and Philip Peacock
Maisy and Sam Pitts
Alliann and Jonathan Plamhoff
Junia and Andrew Priest
Sarah and Richard Putsch
Leigh Anne and John Raymond
Sally and Chris Ring
Leann and Cooper Robertson III
Courtney and James Robertson
Beth and Chase Robinson
Margaret and Jeremy Sanders
Alana and Wynne Sheets
Liz and Andy Stegemann
Courtney and Doug Stevenson
Carolyn and Gary Turner
Kate and Logan Walters
Suzana and Havas Falamarchik

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MORE THAN $150,000 raised for Texas Children’s Heart Center

400+ SUPPORTERS in attendance

COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORTING TEXAS CHILDREN’S
Pants in all prints, colors, fabrics and designs made their fashion debut at the 18th annual Bad Pants Open, presented by RBC Capital Markets and Wealth Management. It was another successful year for the popular golf tournament benefiting Texas Children’s tiniest patients. Funds raised from the tournament support nurse education, patient and family support programs, and the establishment of a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

BAD PANTS OPEN
BENEFITING TEXAS CHILDREN’S NEWBORN CENTER
October 2015 The Clubs of Kingwood

NEARLY 400
bad-panted
golfers

OVER $470,000
raised for
Texas Children’s
Newborn Center

71
VOLUNTEERS

See more event photos at aspire.texaschildrens.org/badpants2015

Bad Pants Open Committee 2015

Chairman
Rob Cooksey

Tournament Committee
Mike Casey
Donald F. Cohen, DDS
Norma Dunn
Walter L. Fitzgerald
Lee Fox
Robert L. Frank
Clint Freeland
Jay Graham
Jim Guinn
Charles T. Hanks, MD
Mike Knapp
Trey McCord
Holly Mickler
Jeff Mickler
Andy Shackoul
Scott Shackoul
Bill Spillman
Gary L. Whitlock

Founders
Mike Armstrong
Moose Rosenfeld
Michael Wiesenthal
“I tell people that I carried Colin and J.J. for 32 weeks, and Texas Children’s Hospital carried them to full term.”
– Samantha Brantley

Samantha and Brian Brantley are grateful for The Bad Pants Open and for everyone at Texas Children’s Hospital who gave them the gift of healthy, thriving and completely wild toddlers — their identical twin sons, Colin and J.J.

Because the boys shared one placenta, the pregnancy was considered high-risk from the beginning. During a routine appointment, Samantha’s doctor discovered that Colin had not grown in three weeks, while J.J. had nearly doubled in size. The babies needed to be delivered right away.

At 32 weeks gestation, Colin and J.J. were born via emergency C-section and were immediately moved to Texas Children’s NICU, where J.J. would spend six weeks and Colin would spend eight. Those weeks could have been terrifying for Samantha and Brian, but through it all, they had enormous faith in the entire staff. “Everyone in the NICU inspire such confidence,” Samantha said. “We never once doubted the incredible care they were receiving.”

To this day, Samantha and Brian are still amazed at the patience, confidence and warmth of the doctors, nurses and staff at Texas Children’s NICU.

At 32 weeks gestation, Colin and J.J. were born via emergency C-section and were immediately moved to Texas Children’s NICU, where J.J. would spend six weeks and Colin would spend eight. Those weeks could have been terrifying for Samantha and Brian, but through it all, they had enormous faith in the entire staff. “Everyone in the NICU inspire such confidence,” Samantha said. “We never once doubted the incredible care they were receiving.”

To this day, Samantha and Brian are still amazed at the patience, confidence and warmth of the doctors, nurses and staff at Texas Children’s NICU.
Texas Children’s Cancer Center’s cast of Community and Patient Champions walked the Runway for a Cure at the eighth annual Celebration of Champions fashion presentation and luncheon. The event, emceed by Fox 26’s Melissa Wilson, lauded a group of outstanding community leaders and heroic young cancer survivors, who all wore the season’s ensembles for work and play provided by fashion retailers Saks Fifth Avenue and Dillard’s.

400+ GUESTS
the largest audience ever

MORE THAN $320,000
raised for Texas Children’s Cancer Center
Fighting for a Dream

An afternoon at the ballet was all it took for a little redhead girl, all starry-eyed and freckle-faced, to chart the course for her life. After that performance of The Nutcracker, Peyton Richardson, then three years old, poured herself into ballet, practicing tirelessly and envisioning herself on the world’s great stages. But early in 2015, Peyton’s dream seemed in jeopardy. She was lethargic. She was losing weight. Then a diagnosis came: acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL). But despite the diagnosis, a fire still burned inside Peyton, something Dr. ZoAnn Dreyer, an ALL expert and director of Texas Children’s Cancer Center’s Long-Term Survivor Program, could see immediately.

“I could tell right from the beginning that Peyton was quite the spirit,” Dr. Dreyer said. “She’s so artistic and poised.”

Peyton’s road to recovery was a long one, with eight months of aggressive chemotherapy followed by three more years of treatments. None of that stopped her from walking proudly down the runway as a cancer survivor at Celebration of Champions.

And she didn’t stop there. Not even cancer could make Peyton give up on her dream. She jumped back into ballet classes and into the eighth grade. That indomitable spirit prompted Dr. Dreyer to recommend Peyton’s participation in a contest for children with cancer sponsored by Northwestern Mutual. Applicants were asked to submit videos in which they tell their story and then describe their idea of a great adventure. The winner would have that adventure adapted as the design for a Rose Parade float.

On New Year’s Day, Peyton’s dream came to life as she and her family sat atop a custom-built parade float, featuring an intricately carved music box inlaid with more than 10,000 pink roses and a 15-foot tall ballerina dancing “en pointe” among the world’s great cityscapes. Peyton herself was dressed in a custom Tiffany blue dress, handmade by the costumers at the Houston Ballet.

“Ballet is harder than cancer. Cancer is temporary. I’m not going to let cancer take ballet away from me.”

– Peyton Richardson
Progress on Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands over the last one-and-a-half years has been nothing short of extraordinary, and the excitement continues to build!

The new facilities that will serve communities north of Houston were the focus of The Forum Luncheon The Woodlands last spring, where guests enjoyed a 3-D virtual tour of the emergency center, an inpatient room, the pediatric intensive care unit, the physical medicine and rehabilitation unit, and an operating room. To emphasize the critical need for more dedicated pediatric care in these communities, the audience also heard from several patient families whose children’s lives were saved by the world-class care they received at Texas Children’s. However, each of these families faced a literal race against time and Houston traffic to receive the specialty care that was then available only at the Texas Medical Center campus. Soon, that same expertise and subspecialty care will be available close to home.

Donors Dawn and Richard Rawson also discussed the motivation behind their gift and challenged others in the community to join them in supporting Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

At the Forum Luncheon The Woodlands last fall, the presentations focused Texas Children’s most important assets — its people. Guests were treated to a panel discussion on three specialty service lines that will be available at the new hospital: Sports Medicine, Oncology/Hematology and Otolaryngology. Tenured Texas Children’s faculty members Drs. Al Hergenroeder, Susan Blaney and Carla Giannoni introduced some stellar recruits in these areas — Drs. Kristen Ernest, Michael Gleason and Charles Hughes. Donors Marta and Steve Pate, on behalf of the entire Pate family, and Shirley and Ralph Alexander spoke about the philanthropic spirit inherent in The Woodlands, what motivated them to give so generously, and the need for others to join in helping Texas Children’s Hospital increase its access to care.

Last August, Texas Children’s Hospital and Tellepsen Builders celebrated the topping out of Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands with more than 700 members of the community.

**January 31, 2014**
Groundbreaking ceremony for Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

**August 14, 2015**
Topping Out ceremony

**October 4, 2016**
Medical office building opens

**April, 2017**
Inpatient tower opens

**TEXAS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL THE WOODLANDS**
in attendance. Traditionally, a topping out is a builders’ rite held when the last beam or structural element is put in place during construction. Usually, a small tree or branch is adorned with flags or ribbons and raised to the top of the new structure.

To commemorate this exciting milestone, a Promise Campaign tree — decorated with promises from Texas Children’s leadership team and employees to current and future patients — was hoisted, as President and CEO Mark A. Wallace spoke to guests about what will be the region’s first and only dedicated children’s hospital and emergency center.

Now, we are just a few weeks away from the opening on October 4 of Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands Medical Office Building, which will house our subspecialty outpatient clinics. The inpatient tower will open in April 2017, complete with a pediatric emergency center, four operating rooms, 28 intensive care beds, 12 radiology rooms, a helipad and more than 1,000 free parking spaces.

At Texas Children’s, one of our promises is to deliver the right care, at the right time, in the right place. Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands is one of the ways we are keeping that promise.

THE WOODLANDS LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Jeffrey Shilt, Chief Surgical Officer, to the leadership team at Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

Dr. Shilt comes to Texas Children’s from St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital in Boise, Idaho, where he was an active pediatric orthopedic surgeon and director of the hospital’s Spasticity Clinic and motion analysis lab for children and adults. Prior to his time in Idaho, he held positions as associate professor and residency program director at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Shilt’s research interests include management of spasticity in cerebral palsy, sports performance and treatment of endurance sports injuries.

We are also excited to welcome Michelle Riley-Brown as the new President at Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

Dr. Charles Hankins, Chief Medical Officer, says, “My promise is that each and every day, we will roll up our sleeves and dig in to make health care in this community better than it was the day before.”

Dr. Jeffrey Shilt
Chief Surgical Officer

“My promise is to rise to the expectations of patient satisfaction in our community by providing state-of-the-art, top-notch surgical services.”

Michelle Riley-Brown
President

“My promise is to always keep patients and families at the front of every decision we make.”

Dr. Charles Hankins
Chief Medical Officer

“My promise is that each and every day, we will roll up our sleeves and dig in to make health care in this community better than it was the day before.”
This spring, Texas Children’s Hospital presented two very special Forum Luncheons in Houston and The Woodlands. Both programs paid tribute to the legacy of David Vetter, arguably the most famous patient ever treated at Texas Children’s. David was born in September 1971 with a primary immune disorder known as severe combined immune deficiency (SCID). With his body unable to protect itself against infection, David lived for 12 years inside a series of plastic isolation units at Texas Children’s Hospital and in his home near The Woodlands.

Between the two events, nearly 1,000 people gathered to hear a panel of experts in the field of immunology at Texas Children’s: Dr. William Shearer, former section chief of Allergy and Immunology; Dr. Celine Hanson, a long-time physician in the Allergy and Immunology service; and Dr. Jordan Orange, section chief of Immunology, Allergy and Rheumatology. They discussed a variety of topics, including the incredible impact the knowledge gained from David’s life is still making in the field of immunology today, why newborn screening is so important, and research and treatment advances in immunology on the horizon. At The Woodlands event, guests were treated to a wonderful performance by the choir of David Elementary School, named after David Vetter and located in The Woodlands.

Each year, this school holds the David Dream Run. All proceeds support the David Center at Texas Children’s Hospital, which provides care in many areas, including allergy, asthma, immune dysfunction and HIV/AIDS. For the past two years, all proceeds from David’s Dream Run have supported the newly established David Clinic, which will be housed at Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands: Dr. Javier Chinan — who many years ago cold-called the state health department along with Drs. Shearer and Hanson to lobby for required newborn screening for SCID in Texas — was introduced as the director of the David Clinic.

Carol Ann Demaret, David’s mother, concluded each event by speaking about David’s life and the inspiration it provides to so many — even today. She was joined on the stage by three patient families whose children were born with SCID and are now living healthy lives thanks to successful bone marrow transplants. These children highlight how far science has come since David’s birth and the incredible knowledge gained from his life. As Mrs. Demaret said of her son, “While he never touched the world, the world was touched by him.”
When Nancy Gordon walks through the halls at Texas Children’s Hospital, she’s there to recharge for the enormous task at hand: raising money so we can fulfill our promise to provide the very best care to all the children who come to us for help.

“When I see children who are not well enough to enjoy all the wonderful things our city has to offer, my heart goes out to them,” Nancy said.

Nancy channels this compassion into her service at Texas Children’s. For three decades, she has worked hard to raise funds to help expand the hospital’s facilities and to recruit the brightest specialists in pediatric medicine. She is a powerhouse, serving on the hospital’s initial Development Council and chairing fundraising events prior to joining Texas Children’s Board of Trustees in 1998.

According to Nancy’s husband Jim, “Nancy is not a morning person, but if it has something to do with Texas Children’s — she is up and out!”

Nancy’s contributions as a trustee have centered on capital campaign fundraising. She recently stepped up as a co-chair of the $475 million Promise Campaign. Her passion is the hospital’s passion: ensuring that Texas Children’s has everything it needs to provide the very best care at the right time and in the right place.

“So what drives Nancy? Well, she has a personal stake in Texas Children’s: that makes her experience truly rich and rewarding. One of her sons was a patient at the hospital as a baby, and her niece, who is now an adult, continues to receive treatment at Texas Children’s for a congenital heart defect. She certainly has the support and admiration of the leadership at Texas Children’s. Most important, Nancy has made such an impact on her own family that Jim and their sons — Ryan, Scott and Matthew — recently joined forces to make a leadership gift in her honor to support the Promise Campaign.

“Over the years, her fundraising efforts for Texas Children’s have been monumental. We’ve seen how hard she works behind the scenes, and it is truly inspirational,” Ryan said.

Scott has also been moved by his mother’s tireless work ethic and dedication to the hospital.

“I have seen firsthand her passion for helping any child in need, which fuels her amazing drive to improve and grow the hospital alongside the Texas Children’s team,” he said.

Giving to Texas Children’s has been a family matter among the Gordons for many years. In 1990, a gift from the Meyer and Ida Gordon Foundation helped fund the Texas Children’s Meyer and Ida Gordon Emergency Center.

“The Gordons’ legacy of giving to Texas Children’s is remarkable,” Mark A. Wallace, the hospital’s president and chief executive officer, said. “We have also been incredibly fortunate to have Nancy serve as a board member, fundraiser and advocate. She is a tireless leader whose wisdom and gracious ways compel others to personally invest in Texas Children’s and what it is doing to advance the health of our community.”

Nancy’s legacy of giving — of time, talent and treasure — will undoubtedly live on.

“The time, effort and endless passion my mother puts into Texas Children’s has been evident to me over the last 18 years,” said Matthew. “What has really made me proud are the compliments we receive about her advocacy of the hospital and its mission. My mother is a role model in the community, her actions have set a standard in our family that my wife Whitney and I hope to live up to.”

“My promise is to keep giving my time, energy, enthusiasm and heart to raise money so we can keep serving the community.”

— Nancy Gordon, Promise Campaign co-chair
Last November, Texas Children’s Hospital celebrated the 20th anniversary of “What’s Up, Doc?” Jennifer and David Ducote chaired the beloved event, where 400 guests joined more than 65 Texas Children’s physicians and scientists at Texas Children’s Pavilion for Women. There they discussed hot-topic medical issues occurring right here in Texas and in the broader medical community.

For two decades, doctors, surgeons and hospital leaders have mingled and talked with guests in a relaxed and informal dinner setting. The success and longevity of the popular event lies in the rare access it provides to these world-class medical professionals. “What’s Up, Doc?” was founded in 1995 as a way to educate the public about the depth and breadth of the incredible things happening at Texas Children’s Hospital every day. While the event has grown over the years, the goal has remained constant — to support the people of Texas Children’s Hospital. Funds raised through this special event have helped to recruit the best and brightest from around the world and to keep them at Texas Children’s.

“People have a natural fascination with medicine and science,” said Dr. Mark Kline, Texas Children’s physician-in-chief. “What’s Up, Doc?” offers a unique opportunity for physicians and researchers to listen to the questions people have and provide some insights into what’s happening today in medicine.”

See more event photos at aspire.texaschildrens.org/whatsupdoc2015
20 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY
Past Event Chairs

2015  Jennifer and David Ducote
2014  Karla and Jorge Goudet
2013  Haley and Barrett Webster
2012  Amy and Peter Shaper
2011  Jennifer and Todd Tellepsen
2010  Stephanie and Brad Tellepsen
2009  Laura and Will Robertson
2008  Cari and John Griggs & Laura and Andrew McCullough
2007  Estela and David Cockrell & Stephanie and Ernie Cockrell
2006  Ginny and L.E. Simmons
2005  Kara and Aaron Howes
2004  Kirby and Scott McCool
2003  Joy and Scott Plantowski
2002  Mollie and Dan Castaneda
2001  Susan and Mike Flank
2000  Charla and George Wilson
1999  Amy and Neil Leibman
1998  Stephanie Milligan
1997  Kelly Kayen
1996  Linda Evans and Nancy Gordon
at Texas Children’s, the team there really understands the emotional needs of the families and the parents in particular.”

Texas Children’s compassionate care and commitment to the community has also struck a chord with Direct Energy employees.

The scene was something akin to reality TV — the CEO of a major corporation on a ride-along with an air conditioning technician, the unlikely pair bouncing around in a company truck together and exchanging pleasantries despite a slight language barrier. They inquired after one another’s families and their daily lives: They talked about their children.

But the conversation took an unexpected turn when the technician began speaking about his young daughter Camilla, who had been born with a life-threatening heart defect that required surgery when she was just two weeks old. It was the experts at Texas Children’s Hospital, he said, who had saved his baby’s life.

And after a moment, as they continued to drive, the technician looked at his employer in earnest and said, “Texas Children’s — they do good. We should support them.”

Direct Energy president and CEO Badar Khan was touched that day, not only by the technician’s story, but also by the connection the two men shared. All three of Mr. Khan’s children, ranging in age from 1 to 11, had experienced the world-class care that Texas Children’s provides.

“I just can’t speak more highly of the doctors, the nurses, the staff,” said Mr. Khan. “These are tough times — taking your child or your baby to the hospital — and I think at Texas Children’s, the team there really understands the emotional needs of the families and the parents in particular.”

Texas Children’s compassionate care and commitment to the community has also struck a chord with Direct Energy employees.

“Philanthropy and community support are ingrained in the corporate culture at Direct Energy, with more than 6,000 employees supporting causes and charities worldwide. But for many years, one organization especially has received both generous support and volunteer time — Texas Children’s Hospital.

This special dedication to Texas Children’s mission motivated Direct Energy to make a $5 million gift to the Promise Campaign. The gift will support expansion at the Texas Medical Center campus — and Texas Children’s Heart Center in particular — and is the largest corporate commitment ever to a campaign priority at Texas Children’s.

“A promise is a commitment. It’s a commitment to be there through whatever’s happening around the world and when it matters the most. And we promise to be there for Texas Children’s.”

– Badar Khan, president and CEO, Direct Energy

Hear more from Badar Khan at aspire.texaschildrens.org/directenergy
“In today’s environment, where oil and gas prices aren’t where they used to be, it’s incredibly important for companies that can give to step up and provide leadership. I feel proud, I feel lucky to work for a company where we’re able to make this kind of commitment, and to an institution as great as Texas Children’s.”

– Badar Khan

Texas Children’s Heart Center has been leading the way in pediatric cardiac care for more than 50 years and provides the full continuum of care, including cardiology, congenital heart surgery, cardiovascular anesthesiology and cardiovascular critical care. The Heart Center also houses programs in adult congenital heart disease, coronary anomalies, developmental outcomes and preventive cardiology.

By the Numbers 2015

- 18 HEART transplants
- 1,000 CARDIAC catheterizations
- 900 CONGENITAL heart surgeries
- 1,300 STRESS tests
- MORE THAN 27,000 echocardiograms
- MORE THAN 25,000 electrocardiograms
President George W. Bush

February 2015

Texas Children’s Cancer Center proudly celebrated the 10th anniversary of An Evening with a Legend with a magnificent evening honoring President George W. Bush. CBS News Chief Washington Correspondent Bob Schieffer returned to the stage as the host for the first time since hosting the 2003 Legends event with Robert Duvall.

Presented by Wells Fargo, this memorable event was chaired by Carolyn and David Light, Susan and David Light, and Melissa and Mano DeAyala. More than 1,000 attendees packed the Hilton Americas ballroom to hear President Bush and Bob Schieffer in an intimate and jovial conversation about life, family and politics. President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush accompanied their son to the event, which raised $1.2 million for research. Texas Children’s Cancer Center treats more children with cancer than any other organization in the United States.

Bringing the Party to the Kids

2015 Children’s Party

In conjunction with An Evening with a Legend, the Children’s Party committee hosts a pre-event each year to celebrate the patients whom the hospital proudly serves. Cancer Center patients and their families showed their patriotic pride at a literacy-themed Children’s Party. Patients participated in arts and crafts, jewelry-making, storytelling and even designing their own U.S. flags with their handprints. Meanwhile, their parents relaxed and enjoyed complimentary massages.
In the words of William H. McRaven, Chancellor of The University of Texas System, “You can’t change the world alone.” This is certainly true in the fight against devastating diseases like pediatric cancer. Thanks to the more than 800 guests who came together for the 11th annual An Evening with a Legend, the event raised more than $845,000 in support of Texas Children’s Cancer Center.

A sea of burnt orange flowers and tons of Longhorn pride filled The Westin Galleria ballroom for this sold-out evening, presented by Wells Fargo. Cynthia and John Adkins, Nancy and Jim Gordon, and Sonny and Jodie Jiles served as honorary chairmen. The Houston Chapter of The University of Texas Longhorn Alumni Band kicked off the night in true Longhorn spirit with a special rendition of the UT fight song that had all guests on their feet. Mark A. Wallace, president and CEO of Texas Children’s Hospital, served as the evening’s emcee, and Dr. David Poplack, director of Texas Children’s Cancer Center, delivered welcome remarks, speaking on behalf of the patients and families at the Cancer Center.

During an on-stage interview led by Mike Perrin, Athletics Director at The University of Texas at Austin, the Chancellor discussed his vision for The University of Texas System, his time as a Navy Admiral, and the mission he led to capture Osama bin Laden. An unprecedented live auction featured the Chancellor’s personal “wanted” poster of bin Laden, signed by the famous Navy SEAL Team Six he led as Commander of United States Special Operations Command; a football signed by Chancellor McRaven and Mike Perrin; and a special cow, Moo-T, named by a three-year-old Texas Children’s Cancer Center patient and painted by Kermit Eisenhut in honor of The University of Texas System.

Under the leadership and vision of the event founders, Lynn Baird, Flo Crady, Emily Crosswell and Ned Torian, An Evening with a Legend has raised more than $47 million for Texas Children’s Cancer Center.
GIVING CHILDREN A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE

TRANSPLANT SERVICES AT TEXAS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

For children with organ failure or damage that medicine alone can’t remedy, transplantation offers hope for the future. A transplanted donor organ can maximize the chance for survival and improve a child’s quality of life. This very special gift comes to dozens of children each year through Transplant Services at Texas Children’s Hospital and through the philanthropy of donors who so generously support this area.

In 2015, Texas Children’s surgeons performed 86 solid organ transplants, making our program one of the largest and most active pediatric transplant programs in the country.

The Transplant Services team often has success with cases other programs might consider untreatable. For example, they performed the hospital’s first triple heart, lung and liver transplant in one procedure — one of only three ever performed in the United States. Texas Children’s surgeons also performed the first pediatric lung-kidney transplant in the nation. Since 2004, nine patients at Texas Children’s have received double organ transplants — liver-kidney, liver-lung, heart-lung, heart-kidney and lung-kidney. And on March 11, 2016, renal transplant surgeons set a record, completing four kidney transplants in 18 hours.

In addition to providing the best possible care for every child who comes to us, including those who cannot find care elsewhere, Transplant Services is advancing research and education in the field and has hosted two major conferences. The group hosted its first Transplant Symposium in 2014. It was a highly rated event, and on September 4, 2015, 184 individuals attended the second symposium.

“Texas Children’s continues to earn its reputation as having one of the best pediatric transplant programs in the country,” Dr. John Goss, medical director of Transplant Services, said. “We continue to produce great outcomes for our patients, and I believe our success is a testimony to the skill and commitment of our multidisciplinary team.”

The following stories demonstrate why transplantation is often called the most amazing medical miracle.

ONE OF THE LARGEST AND BEST PEDIATRIC TRANSPLANT CENTERS IN THE NATION
Like any grandmother, Cindy Smith wanted to pass something special on to her first grandbaby, Clara Boddie. It turned out to be something that no one could have imagined. “Doctors discovered Clara’s kidney problem during my pregnancy but said we couldn’t do anything more at the time other than monitor her condition through weekly ultrasounds,” Clara’s mother, Kate Boddie of San Antonio, said. “So I spent a lot of time praying.” Clara was placed on dialysis just a week after being born with a single impaired kidney. But in March 2015, Kate’s prayers were answered when it was discovered that her mother Cindy’s kidney was a perfect match for Clara. Cindy eagerly volunteered to be the organ donor for her granddaughter.

Experts at Texas Children’s successfully performed the transplant surgery that restored Clara’s health — the best possible gift for her and her family. Cindy had the opportunity to give the kidney that saved and changed her granddaughter’s life. Knowing her mother was not only healthy, but also willing to be a living donor, Kate was able to focus her attention and energy on Clara. She stayed with her daughter at Texas Children’s for six weeks after the surgery. During this time, she watched Clara progress daily with the compassionate, quality care that the transplant team provided. “I am so blown away by how much a transplant affects someone,” Kate said. “Clara is extremely healthy and is growing and doing well.”

Riki and Chris Graves of Corpus Christi have much to celebrate — most notably, Riki’s life and the life of their two-year-old daughter Juliana — both of which were at stake just a few years ago. On her 38th birthday, Riki received a diagnosis of breast cancer. At the time, she was six weeks pregnant with her second child. A move to Houston for cancer treatment put Riki and Chris closer to Texas Children’s Hospital, where experts diagnosed another life-threatening condition: a congenital heart defect known as hypoplastic left heart syndrome in their unborn daughter. Riki postponed her cancer treatments to ensure the best possible outcome for Juliana. She soon learned that her daughter’s best chance for survival depended on the availability of a donor’s heart and the skilled hands of Texas Children’s heart transplant team. But the situation looked even more grim when heart failure prompted Juliana’s early delivery at just 36 weeks on April 9, 2014. “Juliana’s underdeveloped heart was so malformed that it could not be repaired,” Dr. Jeff Dreyer, medical director of the Cardiac Transplant Program at Texas Children’s, said. “The only option was to perform a heart transplant, but she didn’t have three to six months to wait for an organ donor.” Miraculously, a heart became available just five days after Juliana’s parents placed her on the wait list. Juliana’s transplant surgery was a success, and she became the youngest heart transplant patient in the history of Texas Children’s. Not long after, Riki finished her cancer treatment. Today, both Juliana and Riki are doing well, something the Graves family celebrates every day. They also give thanks for those who share the precious gift of life through organ donation.
Bella Tomlinson was born in 2011 at 34 weeks in Jacksonville, North Carolina, amid the fury of Hurricane Irene. Unfortunately, this was not the only storm she faced early in life. Bella was home for only about a month after her birth before her mother sensed something was wrong and took her to the doctor.

“It sounded like she had a cold, but her oxygen level wasn’t registering,” her mother Maya said. “She had a bad set of lungs and was put on a ventilator at just two months old.”

After doctors had conducted what seemed like every test possible, there was still no clear explanation of what was going on with Bella. That’s when one of her doctors advised Maya to reach out to Dr. George Mallory, a pediatric pulmonologist at Texas Children’s. Practically over the phone, Dr. Mallory diagnosed Bella with a rare genetic disorder. A team from the Kangaroo Crew, Texas Children’s emergency transport system, brought Bella and her mother to the hospital, where her diagnosis was confirmed. Bella needed a double lung transplant.

Maya found out on a Saturday morning that a set of donor lungs had become available. By 6:30 that evening, the doctors reported that all had gone well with Bella’s transplantation surgery. She now had a second chance at life.

“It’s amazing to see how far Bella has come, ” Maya said. “She is a normal, energetic four-year-old as well as a superstar and an inspiration to a lot of people.”

BELLA TOMLINSON, A SUPERSTAR WHO HAS WEATHERED LIFE’S STORM

A PROMISE TO CARE FOR ALL CHILDREN IN NEED OF CRITICAL CARE

More children like Clara, Juliana and Bella are coming to Texas Children’s every day for the high-quality critical care that the hospital’s specialists provide. Texas Children’s is committed to meeting even the most complex medical needs of every one of its patients. That’s one of the reasons for the construction of a new Pediatric Tower at its Texas Medical Center (TMC) campus, which will allow for the expansion and enhancement of all critical, surgical and emergency care services.

The 19-story Pediatric Tower will house additional intensive care units (ICUs) that will be located in close proximity to 12 high-acuity operating rooms. Each ICU room will have sufficient space for the patient’s family and all the advanced equipment and technology used today to deliver the best care possible. In addition, The Meyer and Ida Gordon Emergency Center will be redesigned and expanded to provide more space for families and patients who are waiting for care and to increase efficiency in the delivery of this care. This is one of the highest priorities within the Promise Campaign.

Ongoing philanthropic support from the community will help Texas Children’s continue to fulfill its promise to provide all children with the best care possible.

Every donor plays a vital role in giving children a second chance at life.
To take Karla from surgical gown to cap and gown.

A congenital disease not only jeopardized Karla’s dream of graduating high school — it threatened her life. But dedicated surgical care teams at Texas Children’s Hospital helped turn her dream into a reality. Your gift to the Promise Campaign can help even more children celebrate life’s cherished moments.

Make your promise. Donate today.
For more than 60 years, The Auxiliary to Texas Children’s Hospital has filled a niche that no other group could, providing compassion to patients and their families alike. When the hospital was first founded, 300 women volunteered for placements across six service areas. Today, more than 1,300 people of all ages and walks of life give their time in over 100 positions.

“Volunteers are wonderful representatives of Texas Children’s, both inside the walls of the hospital and in the communities where they work and live,” Paige Schulz, director of Volunteer Services, said. Auxiliary volunteers’ signature red vests and smiling faces are often the first sights patients and families see when they walk through the hospital’s doors. Their energy and enthusiasm make a huge difference throughout Texas Children’s — at the Texas Medical Center Campus, the West Campus, the Pavilion for Women and soon at Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands.

“I am constantly amazed by the power of the red vest,” Tina Dooley, 2016 Auxiliary president, said. “I can’t tell you how many times I’ve been stopped at the hospital and even at the grocery store by doctors and families who want to thank The Auxiliary for making a difference.”

In addition to tens of thousands of annual volunteer hours, The Auxiliary is also one of the top 10 donors to Texas Children’s Hospital and has given more than $6 million to various capital campaigns and hospital programs since 1999. The group’s recent $1.5 million commitment to the Promise Campaign will support Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands, helping set a path for future volunteer opportunities and also continuing The Auxiliary’s legacy of giving.

“At Texas Children’s, volunteers are committed to helping patients and families,” Rocky Ghoneim, immediate past president of The Auxiliary, said. “It’s important for us to maintain that connection as the hospital grows.”

“My promise is to try and bring smiles and lessen stress during difficult times for our families and for our patients.”

— Tina Dooley, 2016 president, The Auxiliary to Texas Children’s Hospital

Hear more about The Auxiliary to Texas Children’s Hospital at aspire.texaschildrens.org/auxiliary
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY

The Auxiliary generously supports a wide array of programs for patients, families and even Texas Children’s world-class experts.

**Fellowships**
Since 1977, The Auxiliary has awarded fellowships to the hospital’s most promising physician-scientists. Awards in 2015 totaled $450,000.

**Wish lists**
The Auxiliary budgets more than $200,000 a year to provide grants for departments to purchase items that may not otherwise be funded through the hospital’s budget.

**Junior volunteers**
Nearly 200 high school and college students volunteer at the Texas Medical Center campus and in the community.

**The Auxiliary scholarship program**
Six $3,000 college scholarships are awarded annually to outstanding young volunteers.

**Patient and family programs**
Volunteers lend helping hands in many ways, including holding sick babies, providing companionship for patients, offering spiritual care, transporting tea and activity carts, and hosting holiday activities.

**Gift and toy shops**
The Auxiliary plays a pivotal role in the operation of six gift shops and helps determine how their revenues are reinvested back into the hospital.
