



Dear Friends of Mercy

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you for your contributions to Mercy Health Foundation. Your generosity has helped us meet the needs of our West Community region, from implementing a telestroke program in Kingfisher, to providing chemo care packages in Ada, to the incredible new Coletta Building under construction in Oklahoma City.

In this annual report, we're proud to share stories of kindness, support and medical advancements, but they are just a fraction of those that happen in our hospitals and clinics every day. Every story is important, and every story teaches us how we can better deliver compassionate care and philanthropic support.

In FY2015, more than 2,800 donors helped the Foundation raise \$4,132,250 to support projects and programs right here in Oklahoma.

As friends of Mercy Health Foundation, you have made that possible through your counsel and your donations, and because of you, we have been able to continue the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



A Special Thanks to our FY 2015 Donors

Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City is grateful for the support of the following individuals, organizations and corporations who contributed \$100 or more between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 to support Mercy's work in Oklahoma City. *This listing does not include gifts made to the Advancing Care Together campaign.

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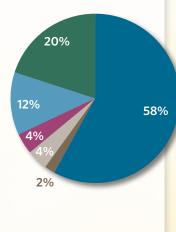
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Mercy Health Foundation | 3 West Communities

Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City **Areas Your Gift Supported**

*Gifts to the Advancing Care Together capital campaign not included

| Area | % | Value |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------|
| ■ Areas of Greatest Needs | 58 | \$677,469 |
| ■ Cancer Services | 2 | \$20,605 |
| ■ Charity Care | 4 | \$51,170 |
| ■ Hospice | 4 | \$48,222 |
| ■ Hospital Services | 12 | \$140,181 |
| ■ Women and Children | 20 | \$228,533 |
| | 100 | \$1,166,180 |



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Sisters of Mercy break ground at the site of Mercy's new Coletta Building, which will house breast care and cancer services. Pictured from left to right are Sr. Rose, Sr. Miriam, Sr. Claver, Sr. Emerita, a cutout of Sr. Coletta, Sr. Claudia and Sr. Rebecca.

Breaking Ground on a New Model of Care

Co-workers and friends of Mercy gathered together on August 27, 2014 to be a part of the groundbreaking ceremony for the Coletta Building, which will house the latest technology for cancer detection and treatment. The building's name honors Sister Mary Coletta Massoth, longtime former administrator of Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, whose vision and persistence moved Mercy to its current location.

"We are so excited to begin construction on this new building," said Jim Gebhart, president of Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City. "The facility design and the services within it were born out of the feedback of hundreds of patients and their family members. The idea for the Coletta Building is to provide everything needed by our patients and families in one location."

When the facility opens in the spring of 2016, it will

feature an 86,000-squarefoot space housing services related to breast health, cancer treatment, and research related to breast health and cancer. The light-filled atrium of the Coletta Building will be named for the Gaylord Family, which has a long history of support for Mercy.

E. K. Gaylord, patriarch of the family and founder and president of the Oklahoma Publishing Company, began a special relationship with Sister Mary Coletta during a hospital stay.

"She would visit him every year on his birthday and bring him a birthday cake from the hospital kitchen," said Kay Oliver, executive director of Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City. "When he turned ninety, she also brought him a book called 'How to Live to be One Hundred'. Apparently it was good advice, because Mr. Gavlord lived to be 101."

Their friendship sparked generations of philanthropic giving to Mercy, and that generosity continues to this day; the Gaylord family made a \$5 million lead gift to the campaign to erect the Coletta Building.

"Inspired by Sister Mary Coletta, my grandparents were instrumental in the development and support of Mercy Hospital back in the 1970s in preparation for the hospital's move in 1974," said Louise Gaylord Bennett, Mercy Health Foundation board member. "For many years following, my parents were also interested and involved in the growth of Mercy Hospital, serving in board capacities and providing financial support. Now, some 41 years later, our family continues to support Mercy and is proud to be a part of the new Coletta Building."

The Gift of Solace

Patty Ruffin and her husband, Dr. Rick Ruffin, have generously donated funds for the construction of a chapel inside the Coletta Building, an 86,000-square-foot space that features the latest technology for cancer detection (read more about the Coletta Building on page 5).

"No matter your diagnosis, no matter your prognosis, no matter your religion we want this chapel to be your rock in the middle of the storm," Patty says.

Patty is a ten-year breast cancer survivor, and during her cancer experience, she became even more grateful for the gift of her faith.

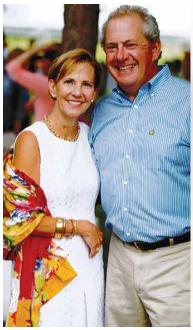
"Both my family and my husband's family have been impacted by cancer in many ways. My younger sister was diagnosed with breast cancer three months before I was. As I was getting ready to visit her, I looked out my window and saw a bright red rose blooming on my rosebush - despite temperatures in the 20s!" Patty recalls. "I cut the rose and took it to my sister, who burst into tears as I handed it to her. She had been praying to Saint Thérèse. And just before I went in to my first surgery, Sister Rose came to visit me." (Roses are St. Thérèse's signature; they are believed to be Thérèse's way of whispering to those who need a sign that she was heard, and God is responding.)

Rick and Patty believe that no matter what the outcome for any cancer patient, it is vital that Mercy continue to deliver the competent and compassionate care that Patty and her family encountered every step of the way. The new Coletta Building will allow Mercy to deliver on that promise at an even higher level.

Mercy's Cancer Resource Center is a wonderful facility providing services to cancer patients. When it is housed in the Coletta Building, all services and treatment will be under one roof and patients will have greater access to assistance.

The resource center is there to help with all the little things that were 'no big deal' before a cancer diagnosis. Whether it's feeling a sense of loss when patients can no longer take care of themselves, struggling to find a ride to the many treatments they have, or increasing financial burdens, cancer magnifies everything.

While experiencing the stress of dealing with cancer, spiritual and emotional support becomes extremely important - as Patty and Rick well know. In addition to the chapel, the Coletta Building will also offer chaplains dedicated to helping and supporting patients and their loved ones.



Mercy Health Foundation Board Member Patty Ruffin with her husband, Dr. Rick Ruffin.

Patty adds, "We are particularly excited that this chapel will be a place of solace for the patients and their families right there in the new building."



"More than 1.500 donors helped the Foundation raise \$2.5 million in 2014 to improve the Mercy experience for all of the patients and families we serve. You are making a difference at Mercy! Thank you for supporting us and helping us live out the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy."

Kay Oliver, Executive Director, Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City

The Meinders Family Foundation

The Meinders Family Foundation made a \$100,000 gift to the Coletta Building's cancer center at Mercy Hospital of Oklahoma City, in appreciation for the care that Herman Meinders received this year.

Bob Meinders, Herman's brother. recalls that Herman was feeling very bad, so his daughter and wife took him to Mercy's emergency room.

Herman spent four days in the hospital recovering from a health event. and "the staff was wonderful," according to Bob. He adds, "Anyone should receive the same level of care, and we wanted to use this gift to do good for everybody. That's the way it should be."

Monitoring the Health of Mothers and Babies

The number one goal in labor and delivery is a safe delivery of a healthy newborn, and fetal monitors are the standard in obstetrics to ensure safety of both mom and baby. Modern technology has advanced fetal monitoring so that a baby's heart rate in-utero can be tracked continuously during a woman's labor, but the monitors must be reliable and accurate.

"Our unit faces critical situations almost daily, and these monitors are tools that help ensure we can deliver healthy babies. They're our 'view into the womb'," says Cindy Morris, executive director of specialty services.

Cindy notes that Mercy Birthplace cares for moms with higher-order multiples, such as triplets and quadruplets, as well as high-risk pregnancies. Many mothers with complications spend weeks or months in the antepartum unit, where their babies are continuously monitored as they develop in-utero. The advanced care that Mercy provides relies upon assessment of the babies' well being, and the monitors are crucial to that process. Without the fetal monitoring system, nurses and doctors would not know when it becomes imperative to deliver immediately.

"The monitors alert us if we need to deliver right away, if a baby is in distress and a C-section is needed, or if we can wait to give the mother a chance to have a vaginal delivery," Cindy adds.

"Because of the generosity of Mercy Health Foundation donors, it was possible to purchase \$650,000 of new fetal monitoring equipment."

Quality Safe Path Nurse Kyla Dufrene is grateful for the decision.

Kyla recalls, "My sister-inlaw delivered her third baby at Mercy last December. I was working the night shift when she came in at five-thirty a.m. to start her induction: I placed the fetal monitor and contraction (TOCO) monitor on her before leaving for the day. Only later did I hear how her baby's heart rate dropped for a prolonged period, which led to an emergency C-section. The baby was delivered quickly, with no negative ramifications, but if it were not for the fetal monitor detecting the dramatic change in my nephew's heart rate, who knows how long he would have been in distress? He might not have even survived to make it through a vaginal delivery."

\$499 - \$100

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Oklahoma City is grateful for
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Mercy Gala



Mercy Health Foundation Board Members and Gala Chairs Susan Drake and Louise Bennett celebrating a successful Mercy Gala.

Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City held the Mercy Gala on December 5, 2014 at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club. Guests enjoyed music from Wade Tower and Dave and The Wavetones, as well as a raffle and live auction. More than 450 guests attended the Gala, which raised over \$260,000 for the Mercy Care Fund and other critical projects of Mercy Health Foundation. The Sisters of Mercy and the Mercy Care Committee administer the Mercy Care Fund, which provides assistance to individuals and families in need.

Mercy Golf Classic



Golfers Trae Rahill, Dr. Cullen Thomas, Bonnie Thomas, Greg Dial enjoying Mercy's 31st Annual Golf Classic.

The 31st Annual Mercy Golf Classic welcomed 220 golfers on September 15, 2014 at Quail Creek Golf and Country Club in Oklahoma City. Revenues from the tournament exceeded \$115,000 and benefited Mercy Hospice and Mercy's palliative care program, as well as other projects of Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City. Mires Consulting, LLC was the tournament sponsor; Dana Gordon and Steve Katigan chaired the Golf Classic.

Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City Board of Directors



First row: Jill Greene, LaRue Switzer Stoller, Susan Drake, Kathy Brown and Chelin Satherlie. Second row: Kermit Brown, Steve Brown, Bob Samis, Steve Katigan, Dana Gordon, Nicole Dell'Osso, Gary England, Mary England and Patty Ruffin. Third row: Joe Strunk, Cam McLain, Mike Krenger, David Sine, Nicole Dobbins, Suzy Merritt and Jim Hartsuck, MD. Not pictured: Louise Bennett, Terry Bradley, Whitney McClendon, Desmond Mason, Kay Murcer, Di Smalley, Kyle Sweet, Robert Wienecke, MD, Margaret Whittemore, Sister Rose Elizabeth Power and Jim Gebhart.

Mercy Society Brunch

On May 18, 2014 Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City held a champagne brunch to kick off the formation of its Mercy Society. Donors qualifying for Mercy Society were invited to this inaugural event, held at brand-new Mercy I-35. Donors were the first members of the public to see the impressive building's 200,000 squarefoot sports performance facility, state-of-the-art fitness center and outpatient surgery suites, as well as imaging and clinical care services. In addition to



Mercy Health Foundation Board Member Suzy Merritt pictured with her husband Paul Merritt and Mercy Society members Tallie and Thad Valentine while touring Mercy I-35.

private tours, donors enjoyed a delicious meal and heard first-hand the future plans for Mercy Society. About 50 guests attended the brunch.



"Developing better and more comprehensive health care solutions to meet the needs of our community is made possible through the support of our donors, board members and corporate partners. Your support of Mercy is truly appreciated, and your partnership helps us provide critical resources to families throughout Oklahoma."

Jim R. Gebhart, FACHE, President, Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City



"I'm so proud to serve alongside some of Oklahoma City's most talented and generous leaders on Mercy Health Foundation's Board of Directors. Our community deserves the highest level of care possible, and with your support and involvement Mercy is delivering compassionate, profound health advancements."

Kathy Brown, Ex-Officio Board Chair, Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City

A Special Thanks to our FY 2015 Donors

Mercy Health Foundation Ada is grateful for the support of the following individuals, organizations and corporations who contributed \$100 or more between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 to support Mercy's work in Ada.

\$50,000 +

The Chickasaw Nation

\$49.999 - \$10.000

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\$9,999 - \$5,000

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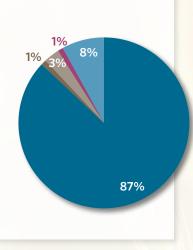
Board of Directors



Front row from left to right: Letha Wood, Maxine McFalls, Bryan Roehl, Dawna Sherrell, Allene Warren and Taylor Howard. Back row from left to right: Todd Essary, Wes Hilliard, LaVonda Jones, Chad King, Chair, Hicks Smith, Shawna Williams, Sarah Jane Johnson and Kassie Cothran, Investment Chair. Not pictured: Jessica Boles, Jeff Williams, Starla Christman and Keri Norris.

Mercy Health Foundation Ada **Areas Your Gift Supported**

| Area | % | Value |
|---------------------------|-----|-----------|
| ■ Areas of Greatest Needs | 87 | \$532,287 |
| ■ Capital Projects | 1 | \$3,686 |
| ■ Charity Care | 3 | \$15,846 |
| ■ Community Support | 1 | \$7,696 |
| ■ Education and Training | 8 | \$50,000 |
| | 100 | \$609.515 |



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Packaging Up Compassion

When it comes to leadership, 16-year-old Ada High School student Calli Henderson is at the top of her class.

Calli, along with her friend Camryn Horne, came up with the idea to create 'chemo care packages' for new cancer patients at Mercy Hospital Ada an idea inspired by the care that Calli's grandmother, Judy Young, received.

Judy was diagnosed with a return of her lung cancer in 2014. Calli witnessed the compassionate treatment that her grandmother received at Mercy and, after Judy passed away in July, wanted to do something to keep up the spirits of cancer patients.

"Spending time in the hospital with Meme, I saw that cancer patients' spirits can be lifted by visits from volunteers and small acts of kindness."

She and Camryn convinced their high school advanced leadership class to raise money for the care packages, and the group managed to bring in \$800; enough for 13 packages.

The care packages contain items that make chemotherapy easier for patients, such as lotion, hand sanitizer, magazines, crossword puzzles, a \$10 gift card to Wal-Mart, candy, headphones, and an inspirational card signed by Calli and Camryn. The packages are then handpainted with positive quotes and kind words from members of the leadership class.

The first packages were delivered in December of 2014, and were a big hit with the patients. Calli says that one male patient waited to open his until Christmas because he knew he wouldn't be getting presents; another woman used the gift card to help buy shoes for her daughter; and yet another was so encouraged by the



Calli hand painting a care package with a fellow leadership classmate.

gesture that she kept going with her treatment instead of stopping early.

The leadership class had previously raised \$1,600 by selling football game t-shirts for the Ada vs. Ardmore Mercy Kickoff Classic, and Mercy Health Foundation Ada decided those funds would be best used to purchase supplies for another 27 chemo care packages.

"Camryn and Calli attended a Mercy Hospital Ada leadership meeting in December to present their project, which touched

everyone in the room, including our new hospital president, Lori Wightman," says Todd Essary, director of the Foundation.

After Calli and Camryn finish with their leadership class, Calli says that the duo plans to keep creating the care packages, because they like giving back.

"Dr. Carter, Dr. Lamb, Dr. Ahmed, Dr. Ray...they were all great to Meme," Calli adds. "I just think Mercy is awesome."

Black and White Ball

The Mercy Black and White Ball is one of Ada's premier social events. Held Saturday, March 7 at East Central University's Foundation Hall, 2015's Ball raised over \$60,000! Close to 300 guests enjoyed dinner and dancing, and participated in both silent and live auctions. Lead sponsors of the event were The Chickasaw Nation and Ada Dodge. The event's proceeds funded the purchase of several LUCAS

chest compression devices and also helped support Mercy Hospital Ada's internal grants program.

Because of successful events like the Black and White Ball and the generous support of the Ada community, Mercy Health Foundation Ada has now purchased four LUCAS chest compression devices. These devices are compact and portable and can



Mercy Black and White Ball quests Brian Geist, Tara McKinney, Brett Gowdy and Dr. Jose Jacinto.

provide life-saving chest compressions to patients suffering cardiac arrest. Studies show that LUCAS compressions are able to sustain a higher blood flow to the brain and heart when compared to manual CPR.

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Ada Golf Classic and Poker Championship

The Mercy Golf Classic, Dinner & Poker Championship held on Saturday, August 16, 2014 at Oak Hills Golf and Country Club in Ada, Oklahoma was a huge success for Mercy Health Foundation Ada. More



"We had a wonderful year thanks to the many community members who supported the hospital through personal contributions or by participating in our Mercy Golf Classic, Dinner and Poker Championship. We have so many donors who give back annually to our mission. Our community always supports the Foundation as we improve hospital services and add state-of-the-art medical equipment."

Todd Essary, Director, Mercy Health Foundation Ada



Rodnev Stine, LaVonda Jones, Russ Allen and Lee Bahner participated in Ada's Golf Classic as part of the Vision Bank team.

than 200 community members participated in golf, dinner and competitive poker, raising an impressive \$29,650 for the hospital's Greatest Needs Fund.



"As the foundation board chair, I'm overwhelmed by the engagement and support the Ada community continues to provide for the betterment and advancement of local health care. Together we are creating a stronger, healthier community and I'm proud of our accomplishments and thankful for our supporters."

Chad King, Board Chair, Mercy Health Foundation Ada Mid-America Auto Group was the event's lead sponsor; Mike Feezel served as Golf Chair and Chad King was the Poker Chair.



"We are extremely fortunate to be supported by the Foundation, generous donors and community partners. We are better for our patients because of the advocacy and generosity of those in our community. On behalf of the patients, staff and physicians at Mercy Hospital Ada, thank you for your commitment to the health and well-being of our patients and community."

Lori Wightman, President, Mercy Hospital Ada

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A Special Thanks to our FY 2015 Donors

Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore is grateful for the support of the following individuals, organizations and corporations who contributed \$100 or more between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 to support Mercy's work in Ardmore.

\$100,000 +

Southern Oklahoma Memorial Foundation

\$99,999 - \$50,000

Banks Memorial Trust Mullen Trust Fund

\$49,999 - \$10,000

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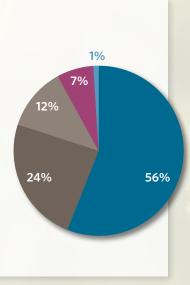
Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore **Board of Directors**



Top row left: Dr. Mark Melton, Ron Crosby, Don Wilson, Bill Dolman, Bob Willis, Daryle Voss. Bottom row left: Andre' Moore, Shana Hammond, Steve Martin, Bill Goddard, Mike Todd. Not pictured: Bill Buckner and Tom Dunlap.

Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore Areas Your Gift Supported

| Area | % | Value |
|----------------------|-----|-----------|
| ■ Capital Projects | 56 | \$358,538 |
| ■ Cancer Center | 24 | \$156,962 |
| ■ Charity Care | 12 | \$76,708 |
| ■ Community Outreach | 7 | \$47,900 |
| ■ Hospital Services | 1 | \$4,392 |
| | 100 | \$644,500 |



Lung Navigation System Saves Lives

"Oklahoma has a high incidence of lung cancer, and in Carter County it is extremely high. Our local physicians wanted to do something about that. The key to survival is early diagnosis and intervention," says André Moore, executive director of Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore.

Enter Super-Dimensional Electro-Magnetic Navigation Guided Bronchoscopy, or "Super D", as it's affectionately known. The equipment enhances the ability of physicians to see into the periphery of the lung during a bronchoscopy to detect possible areas of concern, and also enables the retrieval of tissue for biopsies.

Through the generosity of donors to Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore.

this \$180,000 piece of equipment has been used to treat over 50 patients so far.

"It's a navigational device that helps us get to where we need to go. A conventional bronchoscopy wouldn't allow that," says David Lively, clinical lab manager at Mercy Hospital Ardmore.

Cancer patient Thomas Crawford describes Super D as something different: a blessing. "Without this procedure, my cancer may not have been distinguished as a small tumor instead of post-op inflammation," Thomas notes. "I cannot say enough to thank Dr. Sabangan and the surgical team that treated me with such professionalism and care."

Super D can also be used during surgeries, helping determine where to target treatments such as radiation. Ideally, it will become a key component of a lung-screening clinic, which will eventually provide a full-fledged effort toward lung cancer treatment in Ardmore.

"Having this equipment in Ardmore - halfway between Oklahoma City and Dallas - is a huge help. We can detect a problem, biopsy it, and direct the patient to proper treatment. The Foundation has allowed us to deliver this superior care right here at home."



"Simply put, without the generosity of our community many projects and initiatives would not see the light of day."

Daryle Voss, President, Mercy Hospital Ardmore



"Our Foundation board of directors realize the goal of exceptional care in our hospital would not be achieved without the support of the citizens of our community."

Steve Martin, Board President, Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore



"Ardmore is an amazing community with a genuine giving spirit when it comes to helping our hospital provide quality health care services."

André Moore, Executive Director. Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore

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Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore's first annual New Year's Eve Gala was co-chaired by Bill Dolman and Shana Hammond.

New Year's Eve Gala

Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore held its first New Year's Eve Gala at the Ardmore Convention Center, and more than 200 people attended the event. An elegant dinner was accompanied by vocal entertainment, courtesy of the talented daughter of one of Ardmore's physicians, and the Al Good Orchestra of Oklahoma City provided dance music. An event highlight was the auction of a suite at Chesapeake Arena for an Oklahoma City Thunder Basketball game, and of course the evening ended with the beginning...of 2015.

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A2A Race for Mercy



Hundreds of volunteers assisted with A2A activities at the finish line and all along the 26.2 miles course.

On March 29, 2015 Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore hosted its 6th annual A2A Race for Mercy. The marathon started at the foot of the Arbuckle Mountains and ended at Ardmore High School's Noble Stadium. On race day, over 1,000 runners participated in the full marathon, half

marathon, 5k or kids fun run. Runners and community members also enjoyed a community health fair and pasta dinner at the Ardmore Convention Center the day before the race. The race and its related activities raised \$97,000 to benefit the Mercy Cancer Center in Ardmore.



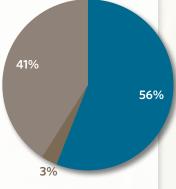
Mercy Health Foundation of Oklahoma **Board of Directors**



Mercy Health Foundation of Oklahoma Board of Directors. Front row: Cindy Carmichael, Di Smalley, Steve Wood, Sr., and Rebecca Hendricks, RSM. Back row: Ben White, MD, Michael Vincent, MD, Curtis Davidson, Mike McCurry, Thomas Dunlap and Jalal Farzaneh. Not pictured: Ba Luong, Richard Smith, MD.

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| Area | % | Value |
|--------------------------|-----|-----------|
| ■ Areas of Greatest Need | 56 | \$115,098 |
| ■ Capital Projects | 3 | \$6,209 |
| Charity Care | 41 | \$83,135 |
| | 100 | \$204,442 |



A Special Thanks to **Our FY 2015 Donors**

Mercy Health Foundation of Oklahoma is grateful for the support of the following individuals, organizations and corporations who contributed \$100 or more between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 to support Mercy's work in El Reno, Healdton, Kingfisher, Logan County, Tishomingo and Watonga.

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Mercy Hospital El Reno



Pictured: One of the newly purchased ambulances on display for public viewing at Union City's 2014 Fourth of July "Fourth Fest" community event.

Ambulance Campaign in El Reno, OK

The Mercy Hospital El Reno Ambulance Replacement Campaign began in 2012, with a fund-raising goal of \$300,000 (over a threeyear period) to purchase replacements for the three aging ambulances operated by Mercy Hospital El Reno EMS.

The campaign also created a permanent maintenance and replacement fund through subscriptions

to the ambulance service. By promoting the campaign and making large contributions, the cities of El Reno, Calumet and Union City have been significant partners with Mercy Health Foundation.

To date, the Mercy Hospital El Reno Ambulance Replacement Campaign has raised a total of \$259,304, with two of the three ambulances purchased.



"To the many individuals and organizations who supported our campaign to purchase ambulances with special gifts, thank you! Mercy is committed to improving health care in this community, and I'm excited about all of the advancements we can accomplish together."

Doug Danker, Administrator, Mercy Hospital El Reno

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Mercy Hospital Healdton



Community members participate in Healdton's Elder Fair which is hosted annually by Mercy Hospital Healdton.

Elder Care at Elder Fair

Every year in May - National Elder Awareness Month -Mercy Hospital Healdton holds Elder Fair for members of the community.

"The idea came from a local attorney who specializes in elder law," recalls Sharon Smith, case manager and community outreach coordinator. "She told me that what people in the community really needed was one place to come and get information about area services available to elders. Many times, they just don't know where to start."

The 2014 Fair, held May 23, marked the 4th anniversary of the event. Twenty-eight vendors, including businesses

catering to local elders with services such as home health care, hospice, assisted living, diabetes education, dietitians and emergency transportation, set up booths where they answered questions and distributed door prizes. Representatives from different Mercy departments came to explain available health services; AARP, the Healdton YMCA and Oklahoma Insurance Authority (answering questions concerning Medicare) were on hand as well.

attended the casual. come-and-go event.

"We have people of all ages, because not only do you have elders there, you have people looking for information to help their parents and grandparents," Sharon adds. "Elder Fair keeps getting bigger every year. I'm already thinking about ways to make the 5th anniversary special."

Mercy Hospital Healdton also provides free monthly presentations to the community about health issues such as diabetes, exercise, falls, respiratory diseases, immunizations, storm preparedness and other topics of interest by expert professionals.

A brown-bag luncheon followed the Fair for attendees and vendors. A diverse group of approximately 75 people

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"From the Elder Fair to cutting edge telemedicine, we're providing families in Healdton and in surrounding communities the exceptional service they deserve. Mercy is improving the health of our entire community, and I am very grateful for the meaningful gifts that have helped us enhance the services we provide."

Jeremy Jones, Administrator, Mercy Hospital Healdton

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Mercy Hospital Kingfisher

Telestroke Preventing Disability and Saving Lives

When Stephen Baustert noticed his wife's face drooping on the right side in July, he knew she was likely having a stroke and needed to get to the hospital immediately. Thankfully, Mercy Hospital in Kingfisher was only three miles away.

When Stephen and his wife, Janis, arrived at the emergency room, a physician assistant examined Janis, reviewed her history and activated the stroke response team. After a blood draw, computerized tomography (CT) scan and blood pressure monitoring, the couple communicated with a Mercy neurologist in Springfield, Missouri, on a television screen through two-way, audio-visual technology.

Janis Baustert was Mercy Hospital Kingfisher's first patient to use the new telestroke program, which connects patients to specialized care without driving to another city or hospital to see a specialist.

If the neurologist determines that the patient is having a stroke through the telestroke program, the local emergency room provider can administer tissue plasminogen activator (tPA), the clot-buster drug that is approved for the acute treatment of ischemic stroke, the most common type of stroke. The drug is most effective when provided within three hours after symptoms begin.

"Two million brain cells die every minute when a patient is having a stroke," says Dr. Richard V. Smith, medical director of Mercy's NeuroScience Institute in Oklahoma City. "Once you lose those brain cells, you can't get them back, so it is important to get to the emergency room immediately to limit brain damage by receiving the treatment you need, when you need it."

For Janis, the neurologist determined that the use of tPA could be more harmful. than helpful because she had experienced two minor strokes previously. If a patient who had a stroke in the last three months receives tPA. that patient is at a higher risk for developing a brain hemorrhage. So far, the stroke has led to some memory loss for Janis, but no other major complications.

"My mother's stroke was serious and frightening, and I'm so thankful for the great care she received at Mercy," says Beth Hajek, Janis and Stephen's daughter. "I'm a Mercy co-worker and I'm also a proud supporter of Mercy Health Foundation, but you just don't realize how important having access to great local care is until you see it in action."

The telestroke program is available at nine Mercy hospitals across Oklahoma. In addition, Mercy Hospital



Kingfisher resident and stroke survivor, Janis Baustert, pictured with her husband Stephen Baustert.

Oklahoma City is one of only seven community hospitals in the entire nation to be currently certified as an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center.

"I'm just so happy the telestroke service is there for other people in a similar situation," adds Stephen Baustert.



"Kingfisher is a great place to call home. We enjoy great schools, committed clubs and churches, and top-notch health services. From Mercy's new telemedicine program to trusted family physicians, we provide a high level of care to all of our patients and their families. Thank you for supporting Mercy's work in Kingfisher."

Brian Denton, Administrator, Mercy Hospital Kingfisher





Mercy Hospital Logan County

Grant Program Helps Staff and Patients

Mercy Hospital Logan County's internal grant program is growing every year. Only a few applications were filled out when the program began in the fall of 2013, but during the most recent round, the program received 11 grant requests, ranging from iPads for patients with speech-language impairments, to ceiling tiles with illuminated pictures to distract radiation patients, to a portable ventilator.

"It's great to see the positive changes around the hospital," says Josh Tucker, administrator for Mercy Hospital Logan County.

In this program, which is funded by Mercy Health Foundation, Mercy co-workers apply for grants for program funding or equipment needs, and a grants committee, comprised of Logan County advisory board members, chooses which requests should be funded. The requests range from items costing a couple hundred dollars to a few thousand.

Since the program began, Logan County has awarded a total of \$31,782 through four grant cycles. In calendar year 2014, \$15,000 was allocated for the grant program and seven grant awards were made, totaling \$15,136.

According to Josh, these grants purchase equipment that would not normally come out of the operations budget.



"Mercy works best when we have the support of the community, and I'm so proud of what we're accomplishing in Logan County. Not only are we earning the trust of our patients and their families, but we're also earning accolades from our neighbors. We owe many thanks to our generous patients, volunteers, donors and friends."

Josh Tucker, Administrator, Mercy Hospital Logan County

For example, one item funded in the fall of 2014 is a Stanley Magic Force Automatic Door Operator, which cost about \$2,800. The door operator will be used by the Mercy Guthrie Division Clinic, and will make it easier for patients – especially those in wheelchairs – to move from one area to another.

"The grants help boost the morale of our co-workers, but really this program is about taking care of our patients," Josh adds.
"These items help us do our jobs more effectively."

Mercy Hospital Tishomingo



"I'm so grateful to be in the close-knit community of Tishomingo, and to be a part of the work Mercy is doing here. We're providing a high level of compassionate care to all of our patients and their families. I can't say thank you enough to the community members who have chosen to support our important work."

Gary Sharum, Administrator, Mercy Hospital Tishomingo

Mercy Hospital Watonga



"A gift to Mercy is truly an investment in the health of your community. Here in Watonga, we do our best to bring compassion and healing to all who enter our doors, and we could not accomplish this mission without the generosity of our friends and neighbors. Thank you."

Bobby Stitt, Administrator, Mercy Hospital Watonga



Mercy Health Foundation

Patricia Arnold, CFRE

President

patricia.arnold@mercy.net

Heather Clay, CFRE Regional Vice President heather.clay@mercy.net

Mercy Health Foundation Oklahoma City

Kay Oliver Executive Director helen.oliver@mercy.net

Natalie Estes

Special Events Manager
natalie.estes@mercy.net

Jenne Knudsen

Director of Operations
jenne.knudsen@mercy.net

Kathleen Seay Administrative Assistant kathleen.seay@mercy.net

Brigette Zorn

Annual Giving Manager

brigette.zorn@mercy.net

Mercy Health Foundation Ardmore

Andre' Moore

Executive Director

andre.moore@mercy.net

Shannon Steele

Development Coordinator
shannon.steele@mercy.net

Mercy Health Foundation Ada

Todd Essary

Director
todd.essary@mercy.net