

Methodist Legacy Society

Join Generations of Generosity

When you become a member of the Methodist Legacy Society, you're helping our patients and our communities today and tomorrow. Your planned giving ensures that we will always be able to live our mission and support the way Methodist cares, educates and innovates.

The Methodist Legacy Society recognizes special friends who remember Methodist Hospital Foundation or Nebraska Methodist College in their estate plans.

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Mr. & Mrs. Glen Bennett

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Kimberly K. Reich

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Rhonda Schram

Parker Shipley

David & Janis Silverberg

Jack Skiles

Red & Jann Thomas

Lawrence Uebner

Thomas Warsocki

Wax Charitable Trust

Frank C. “Bud” Weaver

Fred Weeks

Dr. & Mrs. James Wheeler

And our friends who wish to remain anonymous

Learn more about Methodist Legacy Society and the forever impact of your gift. Contact Dana Ryan, CAP®, philanthropy officer, at (402) 354-4825 or Foundation@nmhs.org.

Your Planning Roadmap

Estate planning is an opportunity to create your legacy and make our communities healthier places to live.

If you’ve put off writing your will or making plans for your estate, you’re not alone. Don’t wait to take the first step.

Beyond Retirement: Your Planning Roadmap is a free resource to help launch your planning journey. Request a copy using the enclosed reply envelope or download now at MethodistHospitalFoundation.org/YourLegacy.



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Your Methodist Legacy

WHAT’S INSIDE:

Hope Starts Here: Help Us Care for a Growing Patient Population

You Made This Possible: Celebrating the Opening of the Latacha Education Center

Mobile Milestone: Methodist’s Big Pink Bus Hits a New Screening Record



Secure Your Legacy of Caring with FreeWill

You do so much for our patients and our health system. **Here’s a gift for you:** free legacy planning and peace of mind.

We’ve partnered with FreeWill to help you prepare for the future and protect your loved ones.

Almost 70% of Americans don’t have a will—even though it’s one of the most important things we can do.



With Freewill, you can make or update your will or trust within 20 minutes, free of charge.

Scan the QR code to get started. If you choose, you can make a bequest to Methodist Hospital Foundation.

ARE YOU A METHODIST RETIREE?

Join Methodist CORE

Community of Retired Employees

Stay up to date on retiree gatherings, free continuing education through Nebraska Methodist College, volunteer opportunities, Health System news, and ways to make a difference with Methodist Hospital Foundation. Scan to register or email your contact information to Dana Ryan at foundation@nmhs.org.



Your Methodist Legacy



I felt very safe—like this is exactly where I needed to be.”

Ginger Gifford
8-North patient and Methodist service executive



Ginger Gifford with her family

MISSION IN ACTION: THE WAY WE CARE

Hope Starts Here

Expansion to Serve a Growing Patient Population

Ginger Gifford woke up that November morning with swirling, triple vision.

“When I went to stand, my depth perception and balance were a mess,” she said.

At 47 years old, the registered nurse and Methodist service executive thought she might be having a stroke.

“It’s not something I was planning to face at that stage of life,” Gifford said.

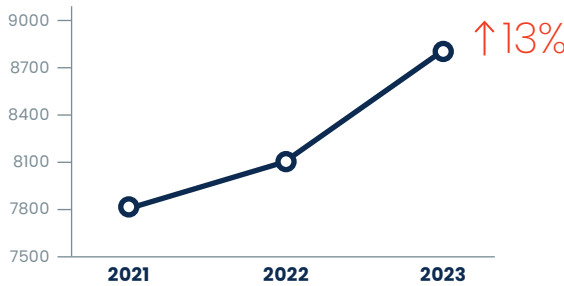
Her husband rushed her to the Emergency Department at Methodist Women’s Hospital. Hours later, she was transferred to the Orthopedics–Neurology Department at Methodist Hospital.

“I felt very safe—like this is exactly where I needed to be,” she said.

Gifford is among a growing number of patients relying on Methodist for neurology, neurosurgical and orthopedic care. This combined service line has experienced 13% growth since 2021. Key drivers include a growing roster of providers, new treatment options and an aging population. Baby boomers are now in their 60s and late 70s.

Over the next decade, hospitals are projected to experience a 43% rise in patients undergoing total hip or knee replacements with a 10% increase in patients being discharged earlier, including the same day as surgery.

Methodist’s Ortho/Neuro Service Line



Neuro population: **up 19%** Ortho population: **up 7%**
Combined Ortho/Neuro Service Line: **up 13%**

The number of patients hospitalized for neuroscience-related diagnoses is also expected to rise—an almost 10% increase over the next 10 years. That includes people confronting Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases, strokes, seizures and spinal surgeries.

Methodist is positioning itself to meet the increased demand—by expanding.

“We’ll be able to provide better care to all these populations – orthopedic, neurosurgery and neurology patients – all in one space with the right equipment and the right people,” said Jan Morgan, MSN, RN, CCRN, a Methodist service executive.

Gifts to Methodist Hospital Foundation will fund the department’s multi-faceted upgrade and expansion. New technology will modernize the floor, including the addition of:

- A virtual nurse—a registered nurse who uses advanced technology to give patients an extra level of monitoring

(continued on inside)

- “Get Well” interactive TVs to help with patient education, scheduling and discharge planning
- A robotic-assisted therapy device that assists patients after a stroke or other neurological injury

The new robotic arm will be housed in a second facet of the project: a larger, more comprehensive treatment and education center, a step-up from the department’s current therapy gym. The renovated space will also be equipped with custom training stairs, a model shower/tub, and a multi-function table that can be used for exercises, treatment and traction.

Approximately 96% of Methodist’s ortho-neuro patients have short-term therapy orders. The new center will help ensure the safest transition to home or another level of care.

“If we’re going to help a patient with getting into the shower, for example, we will also bring family in and train them on how to help. It puts those loved ones at ease and makes them more comfortable taking their family home,” said Lyndsi Hall, DPN, RN, nurse practice coordinator.

The ortho-neuro project also calls for the redesign of two patient rooms. They will be specifically outfitted to serve:

- Complex neurologic patients, allowing for improved monitoring and observation
- Orthopedic patients, particularly those having same-day joint replacement surgery

Methodist has seen significant growth in neurology and neurosurgery recently, with a 19% increase in neurology patients and a 14% increase in providers.

“Technology is advancing. Our providers are performing innovative procedures and using state-of-the-art equipment to provide the best care for our patients,” said Taylor Busch, BSN, RN, ortho-neuro service leader.

The goal of the expansion is seamless care throughout each phase of recovery; faster, safer returns home and fewer readmissions.

“I feel like patients will have better experiences, which will improve patient satisfaction, which will also improve patient outcomes,” said Jenae Romaine, BSN, RN.

As a former ortho-neuro patient, Ginger Gifford is excited about the enhancements. Even though the Methodist service executive practices The Meaning of Care professionally,

she gained a new perspective by being on the receiving end.

“The nurses were so great,” Gifford said. “It made me feel more connected to what we do, and it gave me an even better understanding of the skills and compassion that everyone has.”

Gifford’s care team ultimately ruled out a stroke. Instead, they determined she’d suffered a spontaneous tear in the wall of her carotid artery. It resolved itself. The cause is a mystery.

What Gifford does know is this: The team that made her feel so safe is a team worth investing in.

“If our caregivers have the support that allows them to purchase the best, latest equipment; expand and innovate, it will directly impact our patients and patient outcomes,” she said. “This project will raise the standard of care.”



GREATEST FUNDRAISING NEED

Hope Starts Here: Ortho-Neuro Expansion

For so many Methodist patients, **hope starts here**—the Orthopedics and Neurology Department at Methodist Hospital. This is where they begin moving forward after a stroke, major joint replacement or spinal surgery. It’s where they learn to adapt after a diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis and more.

You can make a difference in our patients’ lives by supporting this crucial expansion.



Hope Starts Here

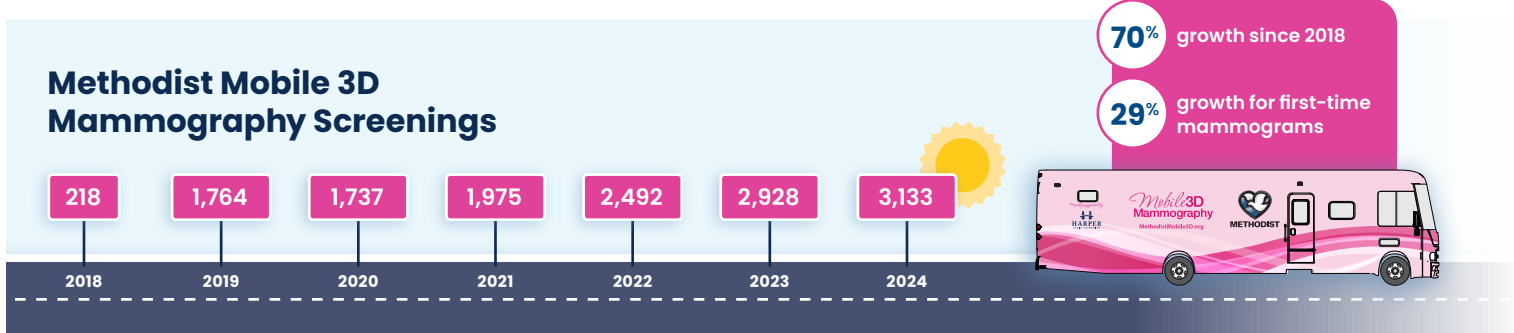
Scan the QR code to make a gift or visit methodisthospitalfoundation.org/ortho-neuro-expansion

“Most rewarding for me is seeing the difference our care makes for our patients. Our goal is to help them regain as much independence as possible.”

Maria Mencke-Teager
BSN, RN, ONC
Staff Development Nurse

MISSION IN ACTION: THE WAY WE INNOVATE

Meeting Women Where They Are in Record Numbers



Your impact was evident in 2024—from the opening of the expanded neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Methodist Women’s Hospital to the millions in life-changing scholarship support you helped to provide to almost 900 Nebraska Methodist College students.

We also celebrated a major milestone in women’s health. Our Methodist Mobile 3D Mammography team performed a record-breaking 3,133 screenings at businesses and community locations in 2024—the first time they’ve exceeded the 3,000 mark.

More Access. More Convenience. More Survivors.

Methodist Hospital Foundation raised money to purchase the big pink bus in 2018. Your ongoing support now funds screenings and follow-up care for uninsured and underinsured women throughout our communities.

Of the almost 200 visits conducted in 2024, more than 20% were at underserved locations, including Charles Drew Health Center, Latino Center of the Midlands and OneWorld Community Health Centers.



Help us keep the momentum going! Join us as a women’s health sponsor and take the lead in providing access to care and education. For more information, scan or visit MethodistHospitalFoundation.org/SupportWomensHealth

*“I hope you realize the profound effect this has on people who don’t have easy access to mammograms and the peace of mind these visits provide. **Thank you.** I am very grateful.”*

Methodist Mobile 3D Mammography patient

“We serve an underserved population and a population that doesn’t always think about getting preventative care. It would not be possible to have so many of our patients access the care they need without your support.”

Stephanie Bradley, Women’s Health Coordinator, Charles Drew Health Center

“Your partnership is helping us meet patients where they are and overcome barriers like transportation, cost and worry. That is life-changing and life-saving.”

Ashlee Murphy, RT(R)(M), Mobile Mammography Coordinator, Methodist Health System

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

Strengthening the Health of Our Communities by the Way We Care, Educate and Innovate

Your generosity powers our impact.

28,386
CANCER & CHARITABLE CARE

10,187
SCHOLARSHIPS & EDUCATION

56,400
INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED
\$13,575,949
DISTRIBUTED

17,827
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Make a difference for now and forever.

- Life Income Gifts — CRUTs and CGAs
- Retirement Plan or IRA Assets
- Bank and Brokerage Accounts
- Life Insurance
- Cash
- Securities
- Real Estate
- Wills or Trusts
- Savings Bonds
- Real Estate

Our team would be happy to answer your questions. Contact Dana Ryan, CAP®, philanthropy officer, at (402) 354-4825 or Foundation@nmhs.org.

For the 12 months ending December 31, 2024

MISSION IN ACTION: THE WAY WE EDUCATE

You Made This Possible Latacha Education Center Now Open at Methodist Hospital



Meet **Harry and Sally**, two of Methodist Hospital’s hardest-working “patients” and a pair of teachers at heart.

Whether they’re helping Methodist staff practice trauma scenarios or nurse residents hone their skills for the future, you’ll find these advanced patient simulators in the brand-new **Latacha Education Center**—another innovative project your gifts made possible.

“As we continue to do more and more complex procedures, the importance of this lab is only going to grow,” said Carrie Phillips, Service Executive, Critical Care & Cardiovascular Service Line.

A few steps from the simulation lab, the center also includes dedicated learning and conference space for patients and families. The goal is shorter hospital stays and fewer readmissions.

What makes the project even more significant—it’s named in memory of Dr. Matthew Latacha (1976–2023), a beloved Methodist electrophysiologist who practiced with kindness, compassion and skill.

The Latacha family, Methodist leadership and staff, and community supporters gathered for the dedication and blessing of the center in January.

“The Latacha Education Center taps into Dr. Latacha’s passions for education, for innovation, for patients and their families, but also for the medical team he worked with. We’re grateful for the Latacha family and for every donor who made this project possible,” said Tracy Madden-McMahon, President and CEO, Methodist Hospital Foundation.



Future-Proof Your Life Must-Have Estate Planning Documents

Planning for the future can feel overwhelming, but having key legal documents in place can bring you peace of mind and make a big difference for your loved ones.

Here are a few to consider:

- ☒ **Last Will & Testament** – Determines asset distribution and guardianship for minor children and pets
- ☒ **Living Will** – Outlines medical treatment preferences if you can’t communicate
- ☒ **Durable Power of Attorney** – Appoints someone to handle finances if you’re unable
- ☒ **Healthcare Power of Attorney** – Designates a person to make medical decisions on your behalf
- ☒ **Beneficiary Designations** – Ensures assets like life insurance and retirement accounts go to the right people
- ☒ **Letter of Instruction** – Provides guidance on funeral wishes and digital accounts

Want to learn more?

Join us for Future-Proof Your Life, an estate planning lunch & learn with attorney Mike Matukewicz of Liakos & Matukewicz LLC. He’ll take us through the must-have documents that can protect you and your loved ones for years to come.

Date: Tuesday, April 22

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Nebraska Methodist College, 720 N 87th Street, Omaha, NE

There’s no charge to attend—and lunch is provided. Don’t miss this opportunity to get informed and prepared!



Scan to RSVP or visit: MethodistHospitalFoundation.org/Future-Proof