

# MetroHealth GIVING

Spring 2016

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# Nurse-Family Partnership Program heads to MetroHealth

In fall of 2016, MetroHealth and Greater Cleveland will be the newest location of Nurse-Family Partnership, a national home visiting program that provides support to low-income, first-time moms during pregnancy and for the first two years following the baby's birth.

The program at MetroHealth is being made possible through \$1.6 million in grants for start-up funding. The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation has committed \$1.2 million to this effort.

The Nurse-Family Partnership, established in 1996, operates in 37 states, including Ohio, where families are served in Franklin and Montgomery counties.

Through regular home nurse visits, first-time moms receive information on preventive health (prenatal care, smoking cessation, future pregnancy planning, etc.) and are connected with local health and educational resources.

This all sets the stage for healthier pregnancies and healthier babies, and for reducing preterm births and infant mortality.

By the end of the year, MetroHealth's program will be up and running, with four nurses each responsible for following up to 25 women through home visits.

"We became aware of Nurse-Family Partnership 20 years ago when we were formed as a grant maker following the sale of Mt. Sinai Hospital," said Mitchell Balk, president of the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation.

Back then, the fledgling program didn't have evidence to show that it was effective in improving the long-term health of mothers and their children.

Over time that has changed, Balk said.

As Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation was taking the next steps in identifying needs in Cleveland's urban community, it looked to Nurse-Family Partnership – and to MetroHealth.

"We approached MetroHealth for a lot of reasons," Balk said. "It is obviously a leader in maternal and child health."

MetroHealth's Women's Center, known nationally for its expertise in caring for women with high-risk pregnancies, and Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit – indicating the highest level of care possible – were among the reasons why Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation set its sights on the hospital system.

"MetroHealth reflects Mt. Sinai's role on the East Side when Mt. Sinai was a Level I trauma center. There are a lot of similarities between Mt. Sinai's mission and MetroHealth's mission."

"How do we not work with the place that's seeing all of this?" he said. "We were thrilled with the leadership's interest in launching this program with us."

The high cost of the program – approximately \$4,800 per family per year – was an initial concern, Balk said. But once representatives from Mt. Sinai and MetroHealth traveled to Detroit to see a two-year-old Nurse-Family Partnership program in action, both sides were convinced that Nurse-Family Partnership needed to be in Cleveland.

"Cleveland's philanthropic and public sectors are so collaborative that we felt that if we took a lead role, others would follow," Balk said.

MetroHealth's Nurse-Family Partnership program also has received a \$300,000 grant from the David and Inez Myers Foundation, and a \$100,000 grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland.

"We do not generally give money to hospitals because we're a 'health before care' foundation," Balk said. "Our care is delivered in the community, not within the walls of the hospitals."

The start-up of Nurse-Family Partnership at MetroHealth comes at a time when MetroHealth, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation and a half dozen







Photo: Nurse-Family Partnership

other hospitals and organizations have pledged to work together to reduce infant mortality rates in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County.

“Infant mortality is devastating,” said Dr. Brian Mercer, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics-Gynecology and Medical Director of the Center for Women at MetroHealth. “The impact on the family, extended family and community is devastating.”

Preterm birth, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, unsafe sleep environments, along with maternal smoking, diabetes and hypertension – all are linked to infant mortality. And depending on the cause, a family impacted by infant mortality is at risk for repeated losses, Mercer says.

“There are very good hospitals with many talented practitioners in Cuyahoga County who do an excellent job of caring for women with pregnancy complications and babies born preterm,” Mercer said. “Medically, we do very well when the bad things happen. But those preterm babies are still at risk for infant mortality down the road.”

What the medical model is not very good at, Mercer says, is changing longstanding risk factors that lead to the preterm birth and its complications.

The Nurse-Family Partnership goes beyond the medical model – into the community and into people’s houses



– to help enhance women’s access to good health practices and health care, he said.

Lydia Bert, Director, Women and Children’s Health, was one of the nurses who traveled to Detroit to see Nurse-Family Partnership in action. Bert was instrumental in helping to secure the Mt. Sinai grant, Mercer said.

Once hired, the four, full-time nurses and one, part-time nurse coordinator will complete training in Colorado, where Nurse-Family Partnership is headquartered.

MetroHealth will focus its efforts on Cleveland’s Near West Side and East Side, which have the area’s highest infant mortality rates. One hundred women whose pregnancies are no more than 28 weeks, and who are at greatest risk, will be recruited for the program.

“There’s something about a nurse going into the home of a first-time mom, and all of the trust that is built up,” Balk said. “There’s an enormous benefit to the mom and baby, and there’s lots of evidence to back it up.”

# Thank You Donors; Community Gives a Record \$13 Million in 2015

**T**hank you to those of you who gave so generously to MetroHealth in 2015.

Among the milestones and accomplishments that you helped us to achieve with your donations:

- Our School Health Program, which provides health care to more Cleveland Metropolitan School District students, will receive a new mobile health unit in the coming months.
- Gifts made to the Edward G. Mansour, MD, Endowment led to the creation of an endowed professorship. Dr. Benjamin Li, who in 2015 joined MetroHealth as Director of the Cancer Center, is the first holder of the Mansour Professorship of Surgical Oncology at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.
- Events held by outside organizations raised money for a variety of MetroHealth areas, including the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; the Child Life and Education Program; the John A. Gannon

Comprehensive Burn Care Center; the Cancer Center and its Patient Assistance Fund; and the Surgical Intensive Care Unit.

- The expansion of the Critical Care Pavilion is on schedule for a July 2016 opening.

The MetroHealth Foundation raised \$13.6 million, the most in a single year. Included in that amount were gifts totaling nearly \$1.2 million from the 2015 Employee Giving Campaign, the campaign slogan of which was "Transformation begins with ME."

One of the high points of the Employee Giving Campaign came in the form of MetroHealth's Anesthesiology Department. Its members have mobilized themselves to advance research and education with their support of the Alfred Cyril Pinchak Research Endowment.

Led by Department Chair Tejbir Sidhu, MD, 10 new donors pledged several hundred thousand dollars in gifts and raised physician participation in their department to 60 percent for the Employee Giving Campaign. It was one of the highest levels of participation at MetroHealth.

The gifts came in the form of Pacesetter level gifts – pledges of 1, 2 or 3 percent of an employee's annual salary on an ongoing, multi-year basis.

The Pinchak Research Endowment is being established in the name of one of MetroHealth's esteemed medical professionals. The endowment is designed to "provide income to support academic endeavors, scholastic activity and excellence in research in the Department of Anesthesiology at the MetroHealth Medical Center."

"It is a fantastic thing," Dr. Pinchak remarked when asked about his colleagues' gifts, which will be used to attract faculty, sponsor resident research, and raise the national profile of the department and MetroHealth. "The faculty has recognized that giving to our Endowment is a long term investment in their own professional development and success, and that of MetroHealth."

To everyone who has contributed to the advancement of MetroHealth, again – thank you!

## MetroHealth Opens Two New Emergency Departments

MetroHealth opened two new, free-standing Emergency Departments (ED) in February in locations formerly operated by HealthSpan. The Cleveland Heights ED opened on February 15, with the Parma ED opening on February 29.

Both locations offer laboratory and radiology services and will also be staffed with social workers and case managers. Telehealth will be used for issues requiring immediate specialty consults.



# Family to Lead Annual Hy-5 Event in May

**T**he two oldest of Laurel Doman-ski Diaz and Sergio Diaz's three boys are cross country runners. But it only partially explains the family's participation in the upcoming Hy-5: The Hyland 5K and 1-Mile Walk at Hyland Software on May 14, 2016.

All five will take part in Hy-5, which will benefit MetroHealth's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). So grateful for the care that their youngest, Benjamin, received when he was born prematurely on November 8, 2013, they're taking an active role in spreading the word about the event, now in its eighth year.

They plan to lead "Benji's Team" with their family and friends.

Because Oscar, 9, and Sebastian, 7, were both full-term babies, Laurel Diaz had no reason to think that anything would be different with her third child, whose due date was around Christmas 2013.

But her water broke at 33 weeks, 4 days.

Understandably, the Diazes were concerned. But they quickly received assurance from Dr. Bradley Stetzer, MD, a MetroHealth OB-GYN who had delivered the two older boys, that their third son was going to be fine.

"Just hearing that reassurance calmed me down," said Diaz, who is vice president of operations at Neighborhood Family Practice.

Even so, the situation was serious enough to have Diaz admitted to the hospital and given steroids for a couple of days in order to improve the baby's lung function and increase the chances that he would be able to breath on his own.

At birth, Benjamin was 5 pounds, 8 ounces – a pretty decent size for such a premature baby. He came out screaming, a sign of healthy lungs. But an unstable heart rate kept him in the NICU for 13 days.

"It was hard to see him, such a little peanut, in the incubator," Diaz said. "But I didn't worry about him because I knew he was in good hands."

Finally he was able to go home to Cleveland's West Side.

For the first six months, Benjamin was very small for his age. Now 2, he has caught up nicely, and has no lingering health issues, says his mother.

"I've been a patient [at MetroHealth] for 20 years," said Diaz, who was one of the first members of the hospital's Family and Patient Advisory Committee.

"I have such confidence in the medical staff – they've always treated me superbly. Not as a number, but as an individual. I knew they were going to treat [Benjamin] the same way."



*The Hyland 5K and 1-Mile Walk will begin at 9 a.m. May 14 at Hyland Software in Westlake. For information about sponsorships and participation, contact Jessica Cartagena at [jcartagena@metrohealth.org](mailto:jcartagena@metrohealth.org) or 216-778-7525.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Cancer Care Center Cultivating Hope Event**  
5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24, 2016  
MetroHealth Cancer Care Center

Please contact Jessica Cartagena at [jcartagena@metrohealth.org](mailto:jcartagena@metrohealth.org) or 216-778-7525 by March 18 if you are interested in attending.

**Hy-5: The Hyland 5K and 1-Mile Walk**  
*Benefiting the MetroHealth Neonatal Intensive Care Unit*  
9 a.m. Saturday, May 14, 2016  
Hyland Software, Westlake

**GALA2016 and GALA AFTERDARK**  
6 p.m. Saturday, May 21, 2016  
Cleveland Convention Center

**NICU Benefit Golf Outing**  
1 p.m. Friday, May 27, 2016  
Shale Creek Golf Club, Medina

**West High All Year Reunion Golf Outing**  
*Benefiting MetroHealth's Cancer Center Patient Assistance Fund*  
10 a.m. Sunday, June 12, 2016  
Hickory Nut Golf Course, Columbia Station

**Gannon Memorial Golf Tournament**  
*Benefiting trauma patients and burn victims in the John A. Gannon Comprehensive Burn Care Center at MetroHealth*  
11 a.m. Monday, September 12, 2016  
Briarwood Golf Club, Broadview Heights

For ticket or sponsorship information, go to [metrohealth.org/upcoming-foundation-events](http://metrohealth.org/upcoming-foundation-events) or call 216-778-5665.





# Foundation Board Bids Farewell to Two Longtime Members,

**Don McGrath**, who retired as senior vice president of communications for Eaton, has relocated with his wife Ginger, from Bratenahl to Santa Fe, New Mexico. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, who served 22 years in the military, McGrath moved to Cleveland in 2006 when he joined Eaton.

McGrath was elected to the Foundation board in 2008. His advocacy for MetroHealth began the previous year when he was transported by Metro Life Flight. Following surgery for a traumatic injury suffered while on a business trip in Pennsylvania, he spent three weeks recovering in the hospital.

"MetroHealth holds a big place in my heart," McGrath said several days after being presented with The MetroHealth Foundation Board Leadership Award during his final board meeting in December.

He went from not knowing much about MetroHealth, despite having lived in Cleveland for a year, to becoming one of its staunchest supporters. He was eager to share with others what he had discovered – that MetroHealth has a wealth of talent in its doctors, nurses and entire team.

"They could go anywhere, but they've chosen MetroHealth because of its caring mission," McGrath said. "They provide the best care possible to whomever comes through those doors."

During his tenure, McGrath served on the Outreach Committee and was an integral part of the fundraising success of The Champions Ball, held in 2011, to kick off the celebration of MetroHealth's 175th anniversary.

McGrath says he has enjoyed watching MetroHealth grow, not only through its footprint on the main campus and throughout Cuyahoga County but also through its image and reputation as one of Cleveland's leading medical centers.

He credits the previous leadership of Mark Moran and the tenure of current CEO Akram Boutros, MD, FACHE, for the success.

And while he will no longer call Cleveland home, he fully intends to return for GALA2016, as a member of the Auction and Sponsorship committees.

"Cleveland is the longest place that we have lived continuously," McGrath said of he and Ginger, a former



Don McGrath, Ginger McGrath, and Brenda Kirk, Chair of The MetroHealth Foundation Board of Directors

television news anchor. Both quickly became immersed in the city. In addition to The MetroHealth Foundation, McGrath also served on the boards of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, and of College Now.

"We've made tremendous friends here," he said. "We'll miss the embrace of the entire community."

**Larry Goodman, PhD**, who serves as Head of School at Andrews Osborne Academy in Willoughby, began volunteering with MetroHealth in 2008 as a member of the Children's Vision Advocacy Council (VAC). Goodman was elected to the Board in 2009 and served on the Nominating and Board Development Committee until his resignation.



Goodman counts VAC membership and being part of the creation of the MetroHealth Hall of Honor as highlights of his time on the board, which he says has benefited from strong leadership.

"I can't imagine being able to do as much good with a volunteer hour as serving on the Foundation board," he says.

Goodman cited the need to devote more time to Andrews Osborne Academy, which he joined in July 2014, as the main factor for leaving the Board in December. "Knowing I was giving up that opportunity was difficult."

Optimistic about MetroHealth's future, Goodman says, "I wish I could be part of this transformation plan. I'll do everything I can as a regular citizen to support it."

# Welcomes Two New Directors in January



**Nicholas Alexander** is one of the original members and the first chair of MetroHealth N.E.T., the group for emerging professionals that was created in 2014.

Alexander is account vice president and senior wealth strategy associate with UBS, which he joined in 2004. He received a B.A. from Kent State University.

For several months, Alexander and a small group of young professionals worked to bring MetroHealth N.E.T. – the brainchild of former Foundation board chair David C. Jacobs – to life.

“It’s such a great mix of people coming together for a common cause,” Alexander says of the organization, which promotes and raises money for MetroHealth initiatives. “The fact that it’s attracting more people and more attention, and continues to have such a positive effect on a number of programs in the hospital, is satisfying.”

Alexander is past president of the board of trustees of Welcome House; he is a member

of both the Finance Council for St. Mark Parish and of the Northeast Ohio Italian American Foundation.

Alexander and his wife, Jennifer, live on Cleveland’s West Side with their daughter.



**Nicholas Russo** is a director at PNC Erievue Capital, where he is responsible for deal origination, transaction execution and portfolio maintenance. He has been with PNC Erievue Capital for eight years.

Russo earned a B.A. degree from Mount Union College. He is a past board member of Julie Billiart School, a Catholic, alternative school in Lyndhurst for students in grades K-8 with special learning needs; and Achievement Centers for Children, where he served as chair of “A Most Excellent Race,” an annual fundraising event.

Russo and his wife, Dawn, live in Rocky River with their two daughters.

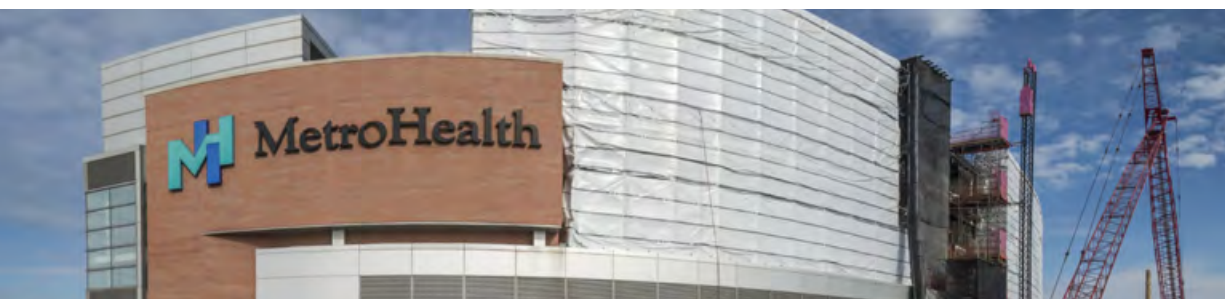


Photo: © Bob Perkosi

## Critical Care Pavilion Update

If you have driven down West 25<sup>th</sup> Street in recent weeks, you’ve seen the incredible progress that has been made with the Critical Care Pavilion renovation.

More than \$1.8 million was raised for the expansion in 2015. Major gifts included a five-year, \$500,000 gift from Eaton; a three-year, \$150,000 gift from the Joyce M. Stielau and Herbert W. Stielau Foundation; and gifts from three anonymous donors totaling nearly \$1 million. In addition, MetroHealth employees

contributed nearly \$178,000 to the effort.

The 100,000-square-foot expansion, construction of which began last summer, includes adding two floors and 85 private intensive care rooms. The new space will be completed by July 1, 2016.

If you are interested in making a lead gift with a naming opportunity, please contact Stella Dilik, Executive Director of Philanthropy, at 216-778-5004 or [sdilik@metrohealth.org](mailto:sdilik@metrohealth.org).

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## The MetroHealth Foundation, Inc.

2500 MetroHealth Drive, Towers 135-A  
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## GALA2016 Update

MetroHealth **GALA2016** is just two months away! If you haven't already done so, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 21!

Be sure to visit [metrohealth.org/gala](http://metrohealth.org/gala), where you can learn more about:

- How to purchase tickets or a sponsorship for **GALA2016** or **GALA AFTERDARK**
- The story of how the families of **GALA2016** Co-Chairs Chuck and Georgia Gile and Stefani Schaefer connected with each other, and with MetroHealth
- How to donate an item for the live and silent auction through Amazon.com, how to get a sneak peek at some of our favorite items up for bid, and how to bid using smartphones or other mobile devices

- Upcoming Pop Up events to share the anticipation of **GALA2016** in the community

And much more!

In addition to the Giles – including **GALA AFTERDARK** Co-Chairs Matt and Amber Gile, and Trevor and Courtney Gile – MetroHealth has assembled a talented group of people working hard behind the scenes planning the evening. They are:

- Auction Chair: Sally Stewart
- Decorating Chair: Suzanne Boutros
- Marketing Chair: Fran Dacek
- Sponsorship Chair: Lee Ann Howard
- Volunteer Chair: Trish Gallagher

Thank you to our lead **GALA2016** and **GALA AFTERDARK** supporters.

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