

# Reflections OF HONOR

## Innovation and Interventional Medicine

*Raising the standard of  
cardiovascular care*

### **95 Years of Fighting Hunger**

Desert Mission  
Endowment helps  
future generations of  
Valley's vulnerable

### **A Legacy of Generosity**

The Nicholas' quest  
to heal hearts

### **CARES Act Tax Benefits**

Charitable stimulus  
package benefits  
extended



# Reflecting on Honor



Dear friends,

Who could have predicted that we would be forced to endure two years (and perhaps more) of a pandemic that battered healthcare organizations, imposed constraints on how we interact and threatened our very way of life?

Yet here we are approaching the holidays, with an effective vaccine, new protocols for social gatherings and honoring your incredible generosity through it all. Thank you!

Our new magazine, *Reflections of Honor*, is aptly named. Within these pages, we hope to capture the essence of our incredible donors and reflect all you make possible. You give for reasons that are personally meaningful and these stories inspire us every day. Now we hope to inspire you with the stories of people whose lives have been transformed by the care and innovation you've made possible through your gifts.

It is our honor to be the conduit that links donors of remarkable generosity and genuine care for others with the expertise and passion of HonorHealth leaders. What a powerful partnership that delivers transformative health and wellness to our community and our world!

**We Honor Philanthropy.** And the power of philanthropy to transform and save lives has never been reflected more clearly than it has this year.

With sincere gratitude and warm wishes for the holiday season,

**David J. Watson**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**Jared A. Langkilde, MBA, CFRE**  
President & CEO

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## Excellence Recognized

When you give to a nonprofit organization, you want confidence that the organization will use it effectively and with integrity. HonorHealth Foundation has been recognized for financial transparency, leadership and efficiency by the most respected charity watchdogs in the country.



### Charity Navigator Encompass Rating System

100/100 on the Charity Navigator Encompass Rating System, indicating, donors may "Give With Confidence." This rating considers transparency, efficiency, leadership and adaptability during the COVID-19 crisis.



### Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency

Elevated from gold to the Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency, for providing full information on fundraising and financial practices.



### Accredited Charity

Earned Accredited Charity status from the Better Business Bureau, following a comprehensive review of compliance with their Standards of Accountability, including financial metrics, governance and effectiveness.



### AHP High Performer

Named a Top Performer and top 25 percent in net fundraising overall by the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, the leading international professional association for healthcare fundraising organizations.

Visit our website for more information on these credentials.  
[HonorHealthFoundation.org/awards](https://HonorHealthFoundation.org/awards)

# Heart to Heart

**WITH DR. MAULIK G. SHAH**

From mapping heart walls to specialty care for women,  
The Cardiovascular Center of Excellence takes it all to heart





**N**early as complex as the network of arteries and veins that deliver oxygen throughout our bodies, the HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence is equally intricate and vital.

Under the leadership of Maulik G. Shah, MD, executive director of the HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, the vision for a premier destination for treatment of all complexities of cardiovascular disease is coming to life.

Despite steady advances in technology and treatments, one in four people still will die of cardiovascular disease. In Arizona, heart disease is the number one cause of death in adults.

These stats mobilize Dr. Shah and his elite team of heart and vascular experts. The program has been gaining momentum, surpassing several key milestones that uniquely prepare HonorHealth to help set the standard for cardiovascular care in the Southwestern states—and in the United States, including:

- Substantial achievements in quality metrics, such as door-to-balloon time and reduction in post-surgical complications and readmission rates
- Remarkable advancements, including implanting the first leadless pacemaker in a U.S. patient, which is less invasive and reduces complications
- Significant growth in patient demand
- Addition of a nationally accredited cardiology fellowship

Based on this solid foundation and the ever-increasing demand for cardiovascular care, expansion is already underway. HonorHealth's Scottsdale Shea Medical Center is adding a second electrophysiology lab to treat the growing number of patients age 60 and older who have cardiac arrhythmias, abnormal heart rhythms associated with stroke and sudden cardiac arrest.

"We've seen significant growth in the ability to treat the condition by mapping the heart walls to determine where the abnormal heart rhythm originates, then burning or freezing it," explains



*Venkatesh G. Ramaiah, MD, FACS, (left) HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Chief of Complex Vascular Services, with Robert D. Riley, MD, Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Chief of Complex Cardiothoracic Surgery*

Dr. Shah. "To perform such a precise procedure effectively requires the most advanced equipment and imaging, the most advanced teams and the most comprehensive approach. The leader of that advanced team is Rahul N. Doshi, MD, FHRS, FACC, chief of complex arrhythmia management, and the principal investigator on the leadless pacemaker clinical trial.

Also on the Shea campus, a cardiac and vascular operating suite is nearing completion. In this high-tech, hybrid OR, surgeons will treat patients with complex aortic disease. This may include stent replacement, aneurysm prevention or repair; even restoring blood flow to prevent amputation.

"One of the amazing aspects of this new suite is the flexibility it will offer," notes Robert D. Riley, MD, HonorHealth's chief of complex cardiothoracic surgery. "The technology gives us the option to perform a wide variety of procedures all in one room, so we can treat the intricate cardiovascular conditions of our patients, from traditional open-heart surgery to less invasive, catheter-based procedures."

### **Top-Tier Talent**

To offer the best care, you need top talent. This year, HonorHealth Scottsdale Shea Medical Center was recognized by HealthGrades as one of the top 100 hospitals in the country for cardiovascular care. In addition, Dr. Shah says, the HonorHealth system has been recognized for their high-quality, team approach between the hospital and physicians.



An important part of HonorHealth's future will be specialty cardiovascular clinics to care for women... and the high-risk Native American and Asian American communities.

*Success drives success, Dr. Shah is fond of saying. "With our current accomplishments we've been able to recruit highly skilled physicians in the areas of heart care that are most in demand."*

In two of the fastest growing areas within cardiac care—electrophysiology and vascular surgery—HonorHealth has attracted and recruited nationally recognized leaders. Venkatesh G. Ramaiah, MD, serves as the chief of complex vascular services and quickly details the hallmarks of a center of excellence:

*"You have to have the technology and talent to perform complex procedures well. You have to innovate new techniques. And you have to advance knowledge for all through conference presentations and publications."*

*Rahul N. Doshi, MD, FHRS, FACC, (center)  
HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence  
Chief of Complex Arrhythmia Management, with  
members of the electrophysiology team*

### **Interventional Care Reduces Risk, Improves Outcomes**

Another cardiovascular subspecialty where HonorHealth excels is interventional cardiology. David G. Rizik, MD, chief of complex interventional cardiology, leads the team that diagnoses and treats a variety of heart conditions using minimally invasive, catheter-based techniques and specialized imaging.

*"Innovation has enabled us to replace many open-chest, open-heart surgeries with interventional techniques," says Dr. Rizik, who performs procedures such as coronary angioplasty and stenting, cardiac catheterization, transcatheter aortic and mitral valve replacement procedures, transcatheter mitral valve repair and catheter-based treatment for chronic heart diseases.*

For patients, that means reduced risk of complications, less pain and scarring and a faster recovery time when compared to traditional open-heart surgery.

*"With the right team, the right technology, the right environment, we believe the next quantum leap forward in cardiovascular care could originate right here at HonorHealth," notes Dr. Rizik.*



The world is already watching. Each year, HonorHealth hosts the Scottsdale Interventional Forum, a renowned conference that draws national and international cardiovascular experts to learn about advances in interventional cardiovascular treatments, advanced diagnostic imaging and disease management.

## Clinical Innovation and Robust Research

Cardiovascular care is advancing at a breakneck pace with new surgical techniques, technology and medications introduced each year. As a Cardiovascular Center of Excellence and in partnership with HonorHealth Research Institute, HonorHealth has early access to innovative clinical treatments and equipment so they are able to provide patients next generation therapies faster. For example, HonorHealth was one of the first sites in the U.S. chosen to participate in a clinical trial for the Watchman, an implanted device to treat atrial fibrillation.

"In cardiovascular medicine, things are changing so quickly that you *must* be involved in cardiovascular research and have access to those trials to truly succeed," Dr. Shah says. In the last 10 to 20 years, for example, innovations such as injectable therapies for cholesterol and the mitral clip procedure were part of clinical trials and have now become standard of care. "We need to make sure we're at the forefront of advancements like these, and the only way to do that is to accelerate our research effort."

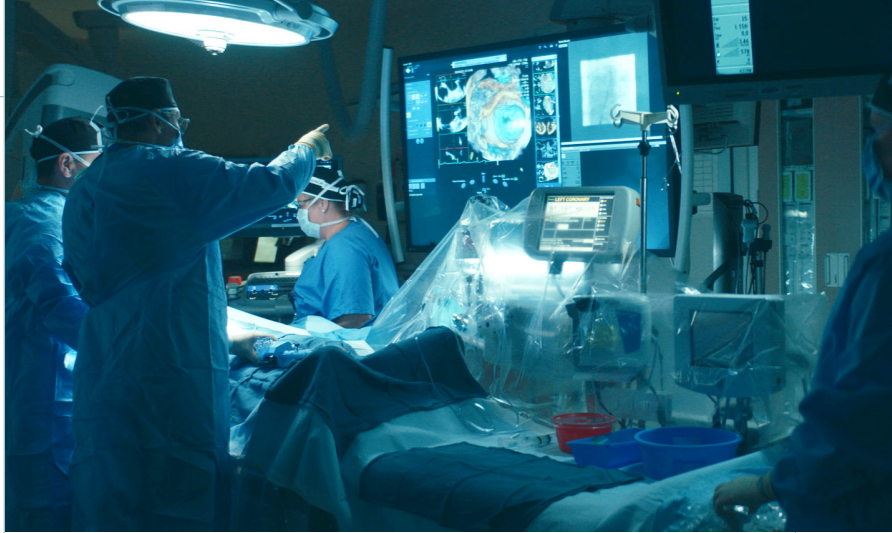
## Raising the Standard of Care

As a Phoenix native, Dr. Shah is passionate about building a preeminent cardiovascular center here in his hometown. And while his focus is on making HonorHealth the best system it can be, it's also important that those efforts also benefit the healthcare community at large.

"As a Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, we have physician leaders who are able to train community physicians who may not have had experience with all the newest techniques," he says. As a result, these physicians often get access to new technology, techniques or treatment options that wouldn't be available in other community centers. Having advanced expertise and innovation available in the community also raises the bar on the level of care all patients receive.

## The Power of Philanthropy

To support this level of expertise, innovation and research takes unwavering community support, including philanthropy.



"Every single thing that we've been able to accomplish at HonorHealth over the last decade is built on the foundation of the benefactors that we are fortunate to have," Dr. Shah proclaims. "Their contributions, financially as well as with emotional support, are huge for us because they've allowed us to have the most advanced therapies available for every patient." He believes that the community's investment in cardiovascular health is a signal that this program is of utmost importance to the hospital system. That has helped HonorHealth attract talented physician leaders from across the nation who want to be part of a growing, thriving system committed to advancing cardiovascular health.

Dr. Shah says that although these physician leaders have been key to HonorHealth's success in cardiovascular treatment, it takes a village to perform well. It's not just the physicians who have to be outstanding. "You need nurses who are outstanding, physical facilities that are outstanding and a workflow that's outstanding. The support for building that infrastructure is a huge reason for any success that we've had—and it will be paramount for any success that we're fortunate to have in the future."

There's much work still to do to make that future a reality, Dr. Shah says. But with the community's support, he believes the HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence has the talent and momentum to accomplish its vision. Upon this foundation, HonorHealth is positioned to make a significant impact to reduce cardiovascular-related deaths for family, friends and the entire community. ●



## LEARN MORE

Scan the QR code to read how the Farley family changed the face of heart care through their generosity.







# A Legacy of Generosity

## The Nicholas' Quest to Heal Hearts

**P**hoenix philanthropists Michael and Priscilla Nicholas haven't experienced any significant heart-related health incidents, but they've put significant heart behind a \$1 million donation in support of the HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

Although Priscilla is active in volunteering to advance heart care and education as well as other healthcare issues, Michael who is a member of the HonorHealth Board of Trustees, says he's not a big joiner. That's one reason why being able to give brings him joy.

"It's our pleasure to give," Michael says, "and it's an honor to be able to do it to show our gratitude for what HonorHealth has given us."

The Nicholas' generous lead gift will help support the development of the expanded electrophysiology lab at HonorHealth Scottsdale Shea Medical Center. Michael says they chose that specific project for a couple of reasons.

"We've been looking for something to do for a few years," Michael explains, "and this just seemed like the right opportunity. Hopefully this is directing our donation somewhere where it may help us in the future or help our family, and it will certainly help the community."

The Nicholases wanted to show their appreciation for the hospital that has always been there for them and their family when they needed it, including their children and grandchildren.

Although HonorHealth has a reputation as a leader in research and innovation, Priscilla believes it's the care and compassion that physicians show every patient that really sets HonorHealth apart from other healthcare providers in the Valley.

"HonorHealth doctors are just always there and always concerned," she says. "Whether it was when my daughter took her daughters in when they were young for colds or when Michael was very ill in California and they helped us get him back home to finish his treatments here—you can always count on them."

The couple also were drawn to the project because of the involvement of their cardiologist, Maulik Shah, MD, FACC, FSCAI, executive director of the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence. Both have been very impressed by the time and concern Dr. Shah gives each patient and by the efforts he and his team have made in building a world-class cardiovascular program.

*"We've always told our children and grandchildren the same thing: They need to give back," Priscilla says.*

With the establishment of the Nicholas Family Foundation, Michael and Priscilla have paved the way for their children and grandchildren to follow in their philanthropic footsteps. It's a legacy they've been building since their daughters were young.

"We've always told our children and grandchildren the same thing: They need to give back," Priscilla says. "If you start out young, you can do it in a small way. There are always people who need your support." ●

# *Recognition that Honors You*



**R**ecognition comes in many forms, but the heartfelt offerings should leave a donor feeling more connected and honored. Every day, HonorHealth Foundation welcomes new donors and embraces lifelong donors who want to give back for generations to come. Part of the donor journey is getting acquainted with the recognition opportunities that come with giving. In April of 2021, the Foundation launched new Donor Recognition Societies with the goal to embrace donors in new ways and create experiences that highlight the Foundation’s mission—to strengthen and advance the mission of HonorHealth through philanthropy.

*“We are so grateful for the doctors and nurses for helping to save Maddi’s life, but for also making the hard days so much easier.”*

*—Kate and A.J. Pollack  
Parents to Maddi,  
NICU patient at Scottsdale Shea  
Medical Center  
Grateful patients and donors*



### Philanthropic Visions Lead to Innovation

Healthcare and its transformational impact are made possible through the philanthropic vision, generosity and loyalty of the grateful patients and donors that we serve. Community giving ensures the health and well-being of our friends, families and neighbors. It also creates a ripple effect of healing for individuals through the research, technology and comprehensive medical services made possible through the generosity of donors. The outcome—that anyone in Arizona can benefit when they need transformational care the most.

Donors can still expect to see invitations to the Foundation's highly anticipated live events including Night of Gold, The Honor Ball 2021 and the Spring 2022 Circle of Distinction event. The new recognition plan includes 10 donor societies (at right) with progressive benefits that donors can move through based on annual or cumulative giving.

Many readers have already experienced Foundation gratitude events. Going forward, HonorHealth Foundation will amplify its gratitude to donors with new benefits such as; complementary education classes—like Stop The Bleed, luncheons with executive leaders, impact reports and videos, a bi-annual magazine and more.

Philanthropy has many definitions but at its core it is kindness and generosity that benefits others. **For more information about your benefits or level of giving, please contact your gift officer.**

## New Circle of Distinction Donors in 2021

### GUARDIAN OF HONOR

*Gifts of \$10,000,000 or more*  
Future Philanthropists.

### CENTURION

*Gifts of \$5,000,000 -  
\$9,999,999*  
Future Philanthropists.

### LUMINARY

*Gifts of \$1,000,000 -  
\$4,999,999*  
Future Philanthropists.

### CHAMPIONS

*Gifts of \$250,000 - \$999,999*  
Lyn & David Bishop  
Susan & Carter Emerson  
Joanne & Ernest Garcia  
James & Deborah Graber  
Dr. Kim & Wally Hewson  
Joe & Madonna Smyth  
Susan & Nicholas Sutton  
Linda & Robert Teal  
Linda & Bill Werner

“We’ve invested over the years in organizations that drive leadership and work to enhance the quality of life for all. So our investment is in people—the people who lead transformational healthcare research at HonorHealth and the patients who need healing and hope.”

—*Jerre and Mary Joy Stead  
HonorHealth Research Institute's  
new Center of Innovation donors*

“There were forward-thinking individuals who gave with a generous spirit in order for today’s heart patients to have the most advanced technology, operated by the brightest and boldest talent, performing the most innovative medicine, resulting in lifesaving and life-changing miracles. And now, it is our turn.”

—*Joseph O. Lampe (1931-2018)  
HonorHealth Foundation Trustee Emeritus  
Heart & Vascular Benefactor*

## *New Circle of Distinction Donors in 2021*

### CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION- CAPSTONE

*Gifts of \$100,000 - \$249,999*

Barton Family Foundation

Philip & Lydia Bell

Sheila & Alan Fitzgerald

Terence & Robin Roche

Anonymous (1)

### CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION- KEYSTONE

*Gifts of \$50,000 - \$99,999*

### CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION- CORNERSTONE

*Gifts of \$25,000 - \$49,999*

The Auen Foundation

April & Eugene Barron

Broening, Oberg, Woods  
& Wilson P.C.

Sandra & Richard Conner

FSMB Foundation

Fraternal Order of  
Eagles, Sunnyslope

“Navigating a neurological health condition brings a unique set of challenges. As a grateful patient it is my great honor to help ensure patients and families get the transformational care they need—under one roof—so they can take this journey to healing together.”

—*Bob Bové*  
*Grateful patient and donor,*  
*Bob Bové Neuroscience Institute*

“First I was a grateful patient touched by the phenomenal manner with which HonorHealth nurses delivered amazing care. And when the heart is touched, our philanthropic arm is inspired. So now I am a proud donor supporting HonorHealth’s nurses through a dedicated fund. It’s my way of serving them as they have supported me.”

—*Peter Larson*  
*Grateful patient and donor*  
*Larson Foundation Transition to*  
*Practice Program*

David L. & Cathy D. Freedman

Belle Griffiths

Susan Hoffmeister

R. S. Hoyt, Jr. Foundation

Susan & Moe Krabbe

Terry & Mark Krivoruchka

LaneTerralever

Diana\* & Ron Leeds

MEDNAX Services, Inc.

Steven\* & Jeanine Mielke

Deborah & Stewart Morick

Physicians Realty LP

Jill & Larry Porcellato

Stacy & Joseph Soderholm

Southwest Gas Corporation

Barbara & Joseph Straining

May & Glenn Tansley

Valley Toyota Dealers

Wholesale Floors

Marc Wichansky

James Williams &  
Jan Haedicke

Deedra & Jerry Zabokrtsky



# Physicians Reflect on Patient Care and Gratitude

Gratitude is the language of the heart and the Foundation is grateful to work in tandem with physicians to accelerate medical breakthroughs and improve patient outcomes. It is a partnership that blends donor generosity and medical innovation to achieve transformation. Physicians were asked what they are grateful for with their work at HonorHealth. Their words are inspirational as is their drive to create a community where health and vitality thrive.



"I am grateful to work with a team of other committed, skilled and well-meaning cardiac doctors and nurses that bring their best every day to the bedside.

I am grateful to work with an elite group of doctors and nurses to deliver cardio-obstetric care to high-risk pregnancy patients at Honor Health Shea. I enjoy being part of the positive experience for mom and baby.

I am grateful I am asked by patients to see their family members because they have had a great experience at HonorHealth within the cardiac services.

I am grateful to work with pharmacists that help manage my chronic Coumadin patients."

—Christina Reuss, MD  
Cardiology  
HonorHealth



"I am grateful for the amazing work, trust and support of my colleagues and team over the last 18 months. Pulling together has sustained us all during these unprecedented challenges. I also have been incredibly touched by the outreach and caring of our patients expressing their continued gratitude to HonorHealth. Many coming in for care, but also asking how we are holding up and how we are doing? I am so thankful for that community support."

—Tiffany Pankow, MD  
Associate Chief Medical Officer  
Primary Care  
Family Medicine  
HonorHealth



"I am impressed with the collaboration between the physicians, administration and the Honor Health Foundation. This environment allows us to focus on optimal patient care and worry less about any obstacles in our practice."

—Kris Samaddar, MD  
Chief of Staff  
HonorHealth Network





# *Desert Mission Endowment*

## Offering Support and Stability for Families in Crisis



**F**or Arizona’s most vulnerable individuals and families—hunger, lack of support services and poor education are everyday realities.

The outcomes are food-insecure households where health suffers, missed work to care for elderly family members and poor academic performance.

To help transform these obstacles for our neighbors, the Desert Mission Endowment was created. This fund helps ensure life-transforming services for our vulnerable neighbors are available today and for generations to come. Donations to the endowment are transferred to an investment account. As the investment grows, interest earnings serve Desert Mission’s annual needs. The principal is kept intact, thus ensuring funds are available for the future.





**A YEAR AT  
DESERT MISSION FOOD BANK**

**20,964**  
emergency food boxes

**13,948**  
individuals and 8,717 households served

**10,674**  
Snack Packs delivered to schools  
and homes during COVID



## 95 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Established in 1927, Desert Mission provided food and medical supplies to ease the suffering of those who moved to the desert to ease their respiratory challenges. Today, through donor giving, it offers health and social services to all the vulnerable in our community.



"In 2020, COVID knocked on our door and invited itself in. We've learned to be resilient to help our community through everything," remarks Sue Sadecki, HonorHealth Desert Mission Executive Director. "After all, Desert Mission started by serving individuals and families who came to the desert to fight tuberculosis. Here we are, nearly 95 years later, and we continue to help the vulnerable in our community."

Powered by your generosity, the Desert Mission Endowment creates a healthier community through the Desert Mission Food Bank, Lincoln Learning Center and Adult Day Healthcare, three pillars that make a real impact for families in need: nourishing food, childcare and education and enrichment for older adults with special needs.

"The Desert Mission Endowment ensures compassionate care doesn't miss a beat—even in the face of a global pandemic," states Jared A. Langkilde, President and CEO of HonorHealth Foundation. "A healthy community means everyone has access to the resources they need in real-time and we are so honored that, together with our donors, we can offer that."

### Food Bank

The link between hunger and poor health is undeniable. Desert Mission **Food Bank** combats hunger by helping to bridge nutrition gaps that negatively affect the health and well-being of community residents and HonorHealth patients alike. Desert Mission clients shop at the food bank as they would in a regular grocery store. The difference: Desert Mission Food Bank offers several free and reduced cost food programs, nutrition education and resource and referral services, including emergency food boxes for individuals and families in crisis.



A YEAR AT  
LINCOLN LEARNING CENTER

310

children participated in  
Lincoln Learning Center's  
programming

98%

of children graduating  
from pre-kindergarten  
were assessed as "ready"  
for kindergarten

31%

were racial or ethnic  
minorities, demonstrating  
diversity in our classrooms

Lincoln Learning Center

A family crisis doesn't always mean an emergency. For many of our clients during the pandemic, it meant trying to balance work with young children forced to learn online at home.

Desert Mission's **Lincoln Learning Center** serves as one of the few Arizona schools to meet the nation's highest standards for child development and school readiness. A licensed, accredited childcare and early education program, Lincoln Learning Center remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic to serve families of front-line essential workers in healthcare, law enforcement and firefighting. Additionally, a before-and-after-school program provided in-classroom support for children learning online.

A YEAR AT  
ADULT DAY HEALTHCARE

85%

of clients have dementia

72%

live with a relative and 26%  
reside with a spouse



Adult Day Healthcare

With the most vulnerable families unable to afford the cost of assisted living, Desert Mission **Adult Day Healthcare** offers a safe environment and enriching activities for older adults, as well as a respite for their caregivers.

Continuing to follow strict safety guidelines, the center currently has 15 participants per day, ranging in age from 56 to 100. They attend one-to-five days per week, depending upon their need and family situation. ●

As the needs of our community continue to grow, Desert Mission and its clients are grateful for the generosity of donors who secure their future through donations to the Desert Mission Endowment. It's a gift that makes a difference today and for the future.



For more information on the Desert Mission Endowment, please e-mail us at [Foundation@HonorHealth.com](mailto:Foundation@HonorHealth.com) or call 480-587-5000.

## Donor Spotlight

# Support for the Cancer Journey

### MidFirst Bank Ensures Personal Support for HonorHealth Cancer Patients

**M**idFirst Bank is a valued community partner, supporting the HonorHealth Virginia G. Piper Cancer Care Center's community programs. Since 2021, they have supported HonorHealth cancer patients with donations designated to Health and Nutrition Services, Community Education and Outreach, and the Body, Mind, Spirit programs.

Each month, this affinity program delivers a check to HonorHealth Foundation representing a percentage of purchases on the MidFirst Bank Pink Debit Card.



"The consistent commitment really adds up," says Jared A. Langkilde, president and CEO, HonorHealth Foundation. "MidFirst giving now totals more than \$350,000!"

Diedre Alexander is just one patient who needed these services during her long battle with stage IV colon cancer.

"The nutrition classes, physical therapy and the Body, Mind, Spirit programs helped me maintain a positive attitude and to do the things I could do to support my treatment," recalls Diedre. She found that yoga

*continued on page 18*



*Friends and walkers joined Diedre Alexander (with tiara) for her Match Walk in September.*

## Meet Diedre Alexander A Cancer Diagnosis Mobilizes Community Giving

Diedre Alexander considers her positive attitude the best tool to fight her stage IV colon cancer. It's also one of the first things you notice when you meet her.

**Q:** How do you maintain such a positive attitude during such a challenging time in your life?

**A:** Research has shown that the most common factor among cancer survivors is a positive attitude. I have many people asking me how I manage to keep a positive attitude throughout

*continued on page 18*



“There’s something new around the corner and maybe it’s the trial that will keep me alive for at least one more summer. And if not, the trials will help other survivors.”

—Diedre Alexander, patient,  
Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center,  
HonorHealth Research Institute



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helped with her overwhelming fatigue and nausea. “It’s been a lifeline for me,” explains Diedre, who considers an optimistic outlook absolutely essential to keeping healthy. “Everyone in the program was so positive and supportive of my beliefs and there are endless opportunities available.”

The HonorHealth Virginia G. Piper Cancer Network Nutrition Services is an exceptional example of how these funds support patient needs beyond their medical care. Proper nutrition is important for everyone, but is especially vital for those like Diedre, who are undergoing cancer treatment.

“Treatment can impact the way foods taste, are digested or are tolerated. In addition, good nutrition supports healing and even emotional well-being,” explains Matthew Schneider, AVP, HonorHealth Network Oncology Services. “The Oncology Dietitians at the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Care Network never turn away patients when insurance does not cover the cost of nutritional counseling.” In fact, through the support of the MidFirst Bank Pink Debit Card, the dietitians can provide patients with unlimited follow-up visits.

Another example of how MidFirst Bank supports our community is through funding the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center’s Pink New Patient Binders. While each new patient receives a binder filled with personalized information and organizational tools, the “Pink Binders” are enhanced with additional resources for those undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

These are just two examples of how MidFirst Bank and HonorHealth Foundation collaborate to positively impact the lives of the patients and caregivers whom we have the honor to serve. ●

### Transform Lives With Us

*If you represent a company or organization, please consider how an affinity giving program could deliver customer engagement for you and regular donations to HonorHealth Foundation that make an impact for people in our community.*



continued from page 17

my six-year cancer journey. With any adversity in life, I believe I have a choice as to whether I want to accept it as a challenge and move through it gracefully and authentically, or if I want to spend time angry, sad, full of self-pity and depressed.

#### **Q: What activities help you “choose positive”?**

**A:** I learned that most stage IV cancer patients survive two years, and the very luckiest ones make it five years. But thanks to clinical trials and access to the latest therapies, it has now been six years since my diagnosis. I recently challenged myself to host a live and virtual 5K walk to raise funds for colon cancer clinical trials at HonorHealth Research Institute. That was the genesis of Diedre’s Match Walk.

#### **Q: It sounds like you had a lot of help. Tell us about the walk.**

**A:** My initial goal was to raise \$25,000 from my family and friends who wanted to do something to help. They provided the first donations that would match other donations. I was so surprised and excited that *Diedre’s Match Walk* raised nearly \$60,000 from participants across the country, some walking in person in Minnesota or Arizona, with others walking on their own in their own hometowns. ●

# Events



## The Honor Ball

Now rescheduled for February 26, 2022

With its rich 45-year history, The Honor Ball brings together a renowned blend of camaraderie and elegance as donors unite to celebrate the impact of philanthropy in our community.

Postponed to Saturday, February 26, 2022, still at the Camelback Inn, co-chairs Sally Tryhus and Christine Watson have fashioned a distinctive evening of dining, dancing and celebration.

Guests also look forward to recognizing the advocacy and generosity of Honoree Howard Katz, a gentleman and philanthropist who, along with his wife Ellen, have made the Valley a better place.

Since its inception, The Honor Ball has raised millions of dollars for HonorHealth programs and services. This year's proceeds benefit:

- HonorHealth Research and Innovation Institute—cancer research
- Bob Bové Neuroscience Institute at HonorHealth
- HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence
- Ellen and Howard Katz Family Patient Assistance Endowment

*Given the current COVID-19 cases in our area and to support your health and safety, we will now require HonorHealth Foundation event guests to provide proof of vaccination or negative COVID test results in order to attend. Watch for more detailed information on this process in the coming weeks.*



**Your Sponsorship Makes a Difference**  
Please support HonorHealth Foundation and reserve your table or make a donation that will transform care at [HonorHealthFoundation.org/HonorBall](https://HonorHealthFoundation.org/HonorBall).



## Raising Awareness for Neonatal Pediatric Care

### HonorHealth Hosts NICU fundraiser

Every year in the United States, almost 400,000 babies are born prematurely. As a specialty medicine, Neonatal Pediatrics requires very specific care for these fragile patients, including medical technology to help them achieve their highest levels of health. To help raise awareness of the needs of premature babies, HonorHealth Foundation hosted the 4th Annual NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) High Tea on September 23.

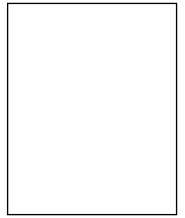
### Caffeine Therapy Gives Jolt to Newborns

This year's High Tea explored the theme "Caffeine with a Cause" and focused on the transformational care, including caffeine therapy, that is delivered to critically ill NICU babies. HonorHealth's Scottsdale Shea Medical Center NICU is a Level III provider—the only one in the northeast Valley with the state's highest possible designation. Proceeds from the community event will support technology, equipment, research and even clothes for the family members who live at the hospital around-the-clock.



Stacy Lovell, Stephanie Mahrer and Mitzie Warner smile happily after raising \$230,000.





## CARES Act Tax Benefits Extended

The tax benefits of the CARES Act, a stimulus package that expands charitable tax incentives for COVID relief, have been extended through 2021.

- For individual taxpayers who itemize deductions, you may now deduct charitable contributions of cash up to 100 percent of your adjusted gross income. Prior to the CARES Act, this was capped at 60 percent.
- If you do not itemize deductions, taking the standard deduction, you may deduct charitable gifts of cash up to \$300 (filing single) or \$600 (filing jointly). This is an “above the line” deduction.
- Corporate taxpayers may deduct up to 25 percent of taxable income, up from the previous limit of 10 percent.

As always, consult with your tax professional.

For more information, contact HonorHealth Foundation at 480-587-5000 or [Foundation@HonorHealth.com](mailto:Foundation@HonorHealth.com).