

A PUBLICATION
FOR THE FRIENDS OF
MEMORIAL HERMANN

Memorial Hermann Foundation
SUMMER 2026

HEAL Commons

ADVANCING THE

VISION

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To health. TOMORROW'S PROMISE.

DEAR FRIENDS,



I'm always inspired by what we are able to accomplish together. This issue of *Vision* is another wonderful reminder of philanthropy's power in action.

In April, we celebrated the opening of the latest educational innovation at Memorial

Hermann's Health Education and Learning (HEAL) High School—a simulated hospital and learning laboratories where students gain realistic, hands-on experience as they prepare for careers in health care. Additionally, the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence is now sharing simulation resources with first responders, helping them practice high-stakes emergency skills before lives are on the line. Together, these philanthropic investments are helping prepare tomorrow's caregivers while strengthening emergency readiness throughout our community.

Later in April, contributions to this year's gala celebrations topped \$4.3 million. Gala Chairs Angie and Zach Matula's generosity and leadership exemplify the spirit of philanthropy that continues to move our mission forward and inspires others to make a difference.

As always, the remarkable recoveries of featured patients like Isaac, Dawson and Camila are living reminders that behind every gift is a person whose life has been forever changed. I hope you enjoy their stories as much as I did.

Thank you for believing in Memorial Hermann and in the life-changing opportunities your ongoing support creates for our community, now and for generations to come.

To health,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne".

Anne E. Neeson
Executive Vice President & CEO
Memorial Hermann Foundation

Pictured above: Anne Neeson at *Elevated Connections* in Aspen with Angie Matula, who chaired both 2026 gala events with her husband, Zach.



LEARNING COMES TO LIFE

With the opening of a simulated hospital and new learning laboratories on its campus, Health Education and Learning (HEAL) High School in the Aldine Independent School District (ISD) has reached another important milestone. Designed to replicate clinical environments, the new facilities give students an unprecedented opportunity to learn by working alongside staff members from Memorial Hermann, the high school's medical partner, before the students begin careers in health care.

HEAL High School students practice operating room skills and procedures in a new simulated medical-surgical suite identical to those found on Memorial Hermann campuses.

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learning laboratories provide real-life training in nursing, physical and occupational therapy, medical imaging, pharmacy and health care administration careers.

When HEAL High School students walk through the doors of their new simulated hospital, they're entering an environment designed to prepare them for the realities of modern health care. Patient rooms, an intensive care unit (ICU), nurses' station, imaging suite and pharmacy spaces closely resemble those they'll encounter throughout their careers, giving them the chance to develop practical skills in realistic clinical environments while they're still in high school.

The newest spaces were officially unveiled in April 2026, during a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by leaders from Memorial Hermann, Aldine ISD and Bloomberg Philanthropies, along with students and community leaders. The celebration marked another important moment for HEAL High School and the innovative collaboration that continues to expand opportunities for students interested in health care careers.

The 6,500-square-foot simulated hospital and learning labs build on the program's unique blend of classroom instruction, hands-on learning and professional mentoring.

"This is not just a ribbon cutting. It is a promise fulfilled," says Aldine ISD Superintendent LaTonya M. Goffney, EdD. "HEAL High School students can see their future in their present. Memorial Hermann, through this program, is giving students the tools to leave their pathway prepared."

The 6,500-square-foot simulated hospital and learning labs build on the program's unique blend of classroom instruction, hands-on learning and professional mentoring. Students begin in the classroom, where they build a foundation in anatomy, medical terminology and the principles of patient care before advancing to specialized learning labs tailored to their chosen career pathways.

Nursing students learn to care for patients in a safe, yet realistic mock hospital ICU.

There, future nurses, physical and occupational therapists, imaging professionals, pharmacists and health care administrators develop technical skills and gain experience with the equipment, technology and procedures they will use in their professions.

"Students are learning what our real hospitals look like, so they are prepared to jump into jobs immediately after graduation."

David L. Callender, MD

The simulated hospital brings those lessons together in an authentic clinical environment. Students care for patients in medical-surgical rooms, practice critical care skills in ICU settings, perform imaging procedures using a working X-ray machine and gain experience in a hospital pharmacy. Designed to mirror the pace and unpredictability of a busy hospital, the facility incorporates realistic interruptions, overhead announcements, patient emergencies and team-based decision-making that challenge students to apply their knowledge under real-world conditions—building confidence and competence before they ever begin caring for patients professionally.

"Our teams designed the spaces on this campus to mirror Memorial Hermann clinical spaces," says David L. Callender, MD, president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Health System. "Students are learning what our real hospitals look like, so they are prepared to jump into jobs immediately after graduation. They are already a part of our Memorial Hermann family."

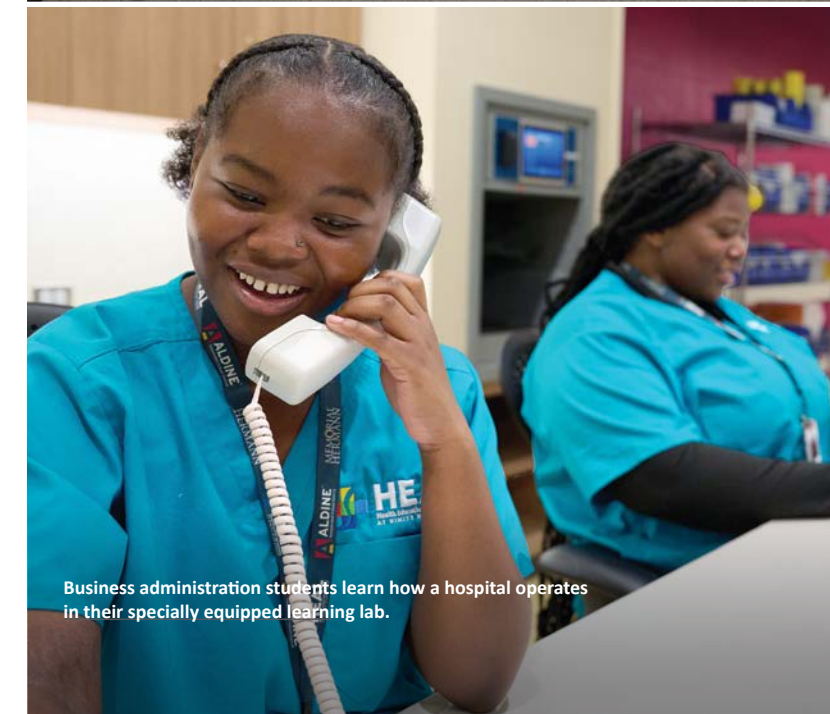
For HEAL High School junior Precious, the program has already provided a clearer vision of her future. "This program is laying a good foundation for me in health care," she says. "I enjoy the mentorship, the hospital-based learning and the simulation experience. I get to shadow nurses, assist with patient needs and understand the importance of human compassion. It has been an incredible opportunity."



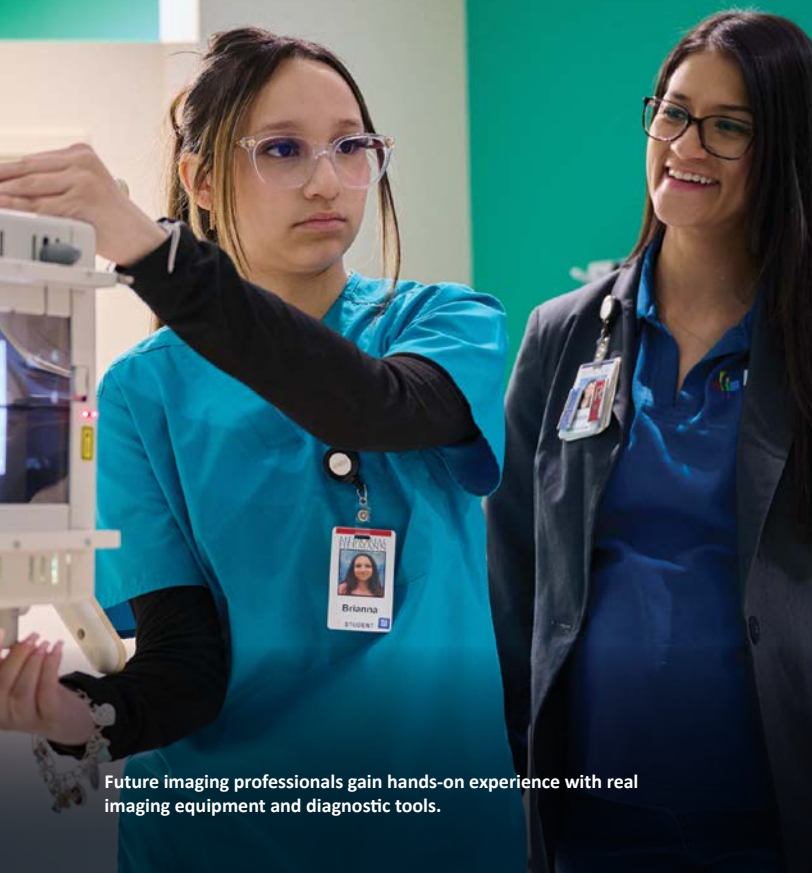
The new training wing includes both a retail and a hospital pharmacy.



HEAL High School students welcome Kate Herman, Program Manager of Bloomberg Philanthropies education team, on the opening day of the new simulation hospital and learning labs.



Business administration students learn how a hospital operates in their specially equipped learning lab.



Future imaging professionals gain hands-on experience with real imaging equipment and diagnostic tools.



A high school pharmacy student shows off the new simulated hospital pharmacy to touring Foundation Board members Steve Trauber and Amy Pierce.

This summer, Memorial Hermann expanded HEAL High School’s innovative model with the launch of the Youth Apprenticeship Program, welcoming 26 students into two-year paid apprenticeships in the program’s nursing and therapy pathways.

“I enjoy the mentorship, the hospital-based learning and the simulation experience. I get to shadow nurses, assist with patient needs and understand the importance of human compassion.”

Precious, a HEAL High School junior

Working alongside Memorial Hermann caregivers at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital, Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center, TIRR Memorial Hermann and Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, students progress through Apprentice I and Apprentice II experiences while completing high school. Embedded in patient care environments and earning twice the minimum wage, they work directly with patients, gaining mentorship, professional development and firsthand experience with health care operations. Nursing apprentices earn a Patient Care Technician certification, an entry point for nursing, while therapy apprentices at TIRR Memorial Hermann can earn a Rehabilitation Technician certification by examination—without the college coursework typically required.

The apprenticeship program helps students explore health care career possibilities, develop professional skills and build a foundation for long-term career growth within Memorial Hermann.

HEAL High School was made possible through an initial \$31 million gift to Memorial Hermann Foundation from Bloomberg Philanthropies as part of its first-of-its-kind national initiative to strengthen the health care workforce. With Memorial Hermann and Aldine ISD leading the local partnership, Houston was one of only 13 communities in the country selected to participate in the program—and



Memorial Hermann Foundation Board Members Sam Golden, Amy Pierce, Steve Trauber, Scott Holstead and Bill King tour the simulated TIRR Memorial Hermann at HEAL High School.

was the first to launch a paid youth apprenticeship model, which is now serving as a blueprint for the other participating communities.

“Every student who walks through these doors represents the future of health care,” says Memorial Hermann Foundation Executive Vice President and CEO Anne Neeson. “Through philanthropy, we’re able to create opportunities that prepare young people for meaningful careers while strengthening the workforce our community depends on.”

“Through philanthropy, we’re able to create opportunities that prepare young people for meaningful careers while strengthening the workforce our community depends on.”

Anne Neeson

As HEAL High School grows toward full enrollment in 2028, each new class of students will have opportunities to move from classroom instruction to simulation, hospital-based learning and real-world experience. For many, those first steps toward a career in health care may begin before they have even graduated—and lead to a future of caring for patients and communities across Greater Houston.



REAL-WORLD HEALTH CARE TRAINING ON A HIGH-SCHOOL CAMPUS

6,500-Square-Foot Clinical Training Wing

Simulated Hospital

Medical-surgical patient rooms and ICU
Nurses’ station
Hospital pharmacy
Medical imaging suite
Classroom/lecture space

Immersive Learning Spaces

Retail pharmacy
Mock rehabilitation hospital and therapy space
3D Anatomage visualization lab
Health care business office
Nursing learning lab
Pathway-dedicated classroom spaces
HEAL Commons library and collaboration spaces

Youth Apprenticeship Program

Paid, two-year apprenticeships connecting students with professional mentors and real-world experience at four Memorial Hermann hospitals



INSTANT COMMUNITY

At TIRR Memorial Hermann, remarkable recoveries can also lead to meaningful lifelong connections.

Dawson, right, surprises Camila on her discharge day from TIRR Memorial Hermann, marking the two young stroke survivors' first meeting in person.

At first glance, Dawson and Camila might seem to have little in common beyond their love of sports, active lives and independent spirits. And yet, within months of one another, they each suffered devastating strokes that changed their lives in an instant.

Dawson and Camila both lost the ability to move normally and faced frightening uncertainty about whether they would walk again. Both eventually arrived at TIRR Memorial Hermann, where intensive rehabilitation, determined care teams and an unexpected connection between two patients would help shape their recoveries.

One day Dawson was competing, riding horses and planning for the future. The next, she was struggling to move and speak.

At 16, Dawson had two strokes after years of unexplained symptoms caused by thoracic outlet syndrome, a rare condition that restricted blood flow and ultimately led to blood clots. One day she was competing, riding horses and planning for the future. The next, she was struggling to move, speak or experience the independence that had always defined her.

After a difficult initial hospitalization near her home in Fort Worth, Dawson was transferred to TIRR Memorial Hermann, where physicians and therapists immediately focused not only on her medical recovery, but also on helping her reconnect with the life she wanted to regain.

Real recovery finally begins

When she arrived, she could barely lift her head and had little movement in her legs. Yet Dawson never doubted she would walk again. “I told my physical therapist that I was walking out no matter what,” Dawson says, “and she took me seriously.”

Under the care of a multidisciplinary rehabilitation team, Dawson began rebuilding skills she feared she had lost forever. Her doctors helped simplify her medication regimen while her therapists focused on getting her upright and moving. Within days, she was taking her first assisted steps.

Therapy soon became what her family jokingly described as “walking, walking and walking some more.” Using supportive equipment and guided exercises, Dawson spent hours building strength, balance and coordination. Each milestone led to another—lifting a leg off the bed, sitting upright, standing and eventually taking steps with a walker.

Tackling every challenge

While Dawson was focused on learning to walk again, she had other skills to regain as well. Speech and swallowing therapy proved especially frustrating. “I couldn’t talk, and I didn’t like the way I sounded,” she recalls. “All I wanted to do was walk.” Still, she continued putting in all the hard work required. “When you have someone who believes in you, it’s a lot easier,” she says. Weeks later, she did exactly what she promised she would do: She walked out of TIRR Memorial Hermann.

The experience stayed with her long after discharge. Like many TIRR Memorial Hermann patients, Dawson understood how isolating recovery can feel, especially for a young person. She hoped sharing her story might one day provide the encouragement of a peer she wished she had during her own journey.

An opportunity to share experiences

Several months later, another family found themselves reading Dawson's online patient story repeatedly during some of the darkest nights of their lives.

In February 2026, Camila collapsed during athletics at school after suddenly developing a severe headache and weakness on her left side. By the time she arrived at the local hospital in Corpus Christi, she was vomiting, unable to control parts of her body and struggling to speak clearly. "At one point, Camila looked at me and said, 'Mommy, I don't feel good. Something's wrong,'" recalls her mother, Cristal.

Dawson's story gave Camila's family something they desperately needed in those early days—hope.

Initially, physicians struggled to determine what was happening. Hours later, an MRI finally revealed the cause: an ischemic stroke caused by a completely blocked carotid artery. Camila underwent an emergency thrombectomy to remove the clot, followed days later by a lifesaving craniectomy to relieve dangerous swelling in her brain. Her care team warned her parents that it was too soon to know whether she would ever speak or walk again.

When doctors removed her breathing tube days later, Camila quickly proved them wrong. "The first thing she said was, 'Can you take me to Walmart?'" her father, Brandon, recalls with a laugh. As Camila stabilized, her parents began researching rehabilitation hospitals. During long nights in the intensive care unit, Brandon came across Dawson's patient story while searching online for pediatric stroke recovery stories. "Her story pulled me through," he says. "I kept reading it over and over."

Common bonds inspire confidence and trust

The similarities between the girls immediately stood out to him. Both were young athletes. Both were stubborn, determined and fiercely independent. Most importantly, Dawson's story gave Camila's family something they desperately needed in those early days—hope.

"I told my wife, 'We're going to TIRR Memorial Hermann,'" Brandon says.

Camila arrived in March 2026, following additional surgery to replace part of her skull. Within hours of arriving, her rehabilitation team had already begun therapy. "At the other hospital, they were scared to let her move," Camila's mother says. "At TIRR Memorial Hermann, it was different. They looked at where she was and how far they knew she could go."

Some of the same TIRR Memorial Hermann physical therapists who treated Dawson also quickly pushed Camila beyond what she believed she could do herself. During one early therapy session, her therapist encouraged her to stand and walk while playing a game. "I can't walk," Camila insisted. Moments later, she was taking steps. As Camila's strength and confidence grew, Cristal reached out to Dawson through social media, hoping her daughter would connect with someone who truly understood what she was experiencing. Soon Camila began communicating with Dawson directly, and the two quickly formed a bond.

"Dawson was just unbelievably welcoming," Cristal says. "She told me she was glad she could be that person for someone else because she knew how important that kind of support could be." For both families, the connection became an extension of the healing taking place at TIRR Memorial Hermann. Therapists, physicians and nurses helped restore physical abilities, but the relationships formed there helped restore confidence in what the future could hold.

The power of survivorship

Those kinds of connections are common within the TIRR Memorial Hermann community. Former patients often stay involved long after their own discharge, encouraging others just beginning similar journeys. Camila's mother saw that spirit reflected throughout Camila's recovery, whether from therapists who challenged her daughter to do more than she thought possible or clinicians who treated their entire family with compassion and encouragement during an overwhelmingly emotional time. "They didn't set limitations for her," Cristal says. "They believed in her before she fully believed in herself."

Over the course of five weeks, Camila progressed from needing extensive assistance to walking independently out of TIRR Memorial Hermann ahead of her parents at discharge.

Today, Dawson, a communications major at Tarleton State University, has launched her own photography business and returned to the activities she loves, while Camila is back in school and continuing outpatient therapy three times a week as she steadily regains movement in her left arm and hand. While their amazing recoveries continue, both families say one of the most meaningful outcomes has been the connections they formed through TIRR Memorial Hermann. What began as a story shared online became a source of encouragement and friendship at exactly the right moment.

"Dawson told me she was glad she could be that person for someone else because she knew how important that kind of support could be."

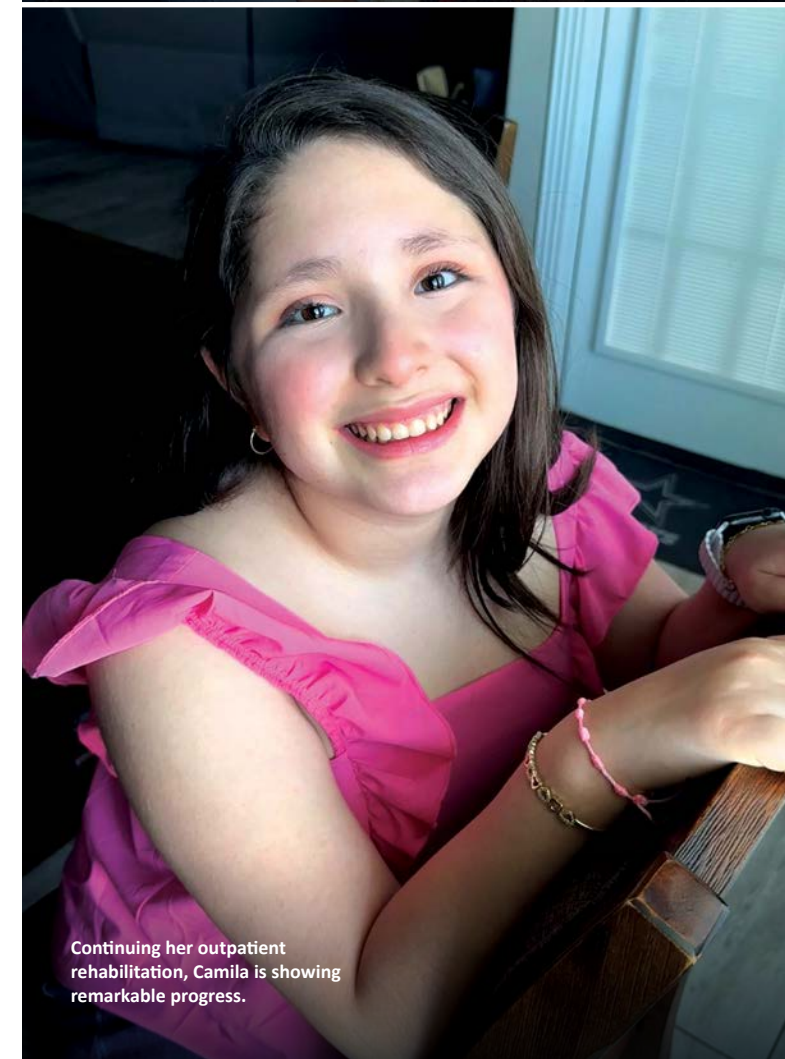
Camila's mom, Cristal

For Dawson, helping Camila provided an opportunity she never had during her own recovery: the chance to show another young stroke survivor what is possible. For Camila, hearing from someone who had already walked the path ahead helped transform fear into hope.

Their stories are remarkably similar in many ways, but both families say the most important part of their experience at TIRR Memorial Hermann went beyond rehabilitation alone. They found a community that matched Dawson's and Camila's determination with the expertise, encouragement and support needed to help them reclaim the lives they were determined to return to—and inspired them to help others do the same.



Dawson and her cherished horse, Iceman, are now riding once again.



Continuing her outpatient rehabilitation, Camila is showing remarkable progress.

ELEVATED CONNECTIONS

Foundation friends and supporters come together to celebrate philanthropy and build momentum for TIRR Memorial Hermann's future.

Wynne Snoots spoke about the high-quality care he received at TIRR Memorial Hermann.



This year's *Elevated Connections* events in Aspen celebrated the community of supporters whose generosity continues to shape Memorial Hermann's future. Over two days of conversations and presentations, donors learned about the *Tower of Strength* campaign, an ambitious expansion and renovation that will help transform the campus of TIRR Memorial Hermann's nationally recognized rehabilitation care.

Some of the most memorable moments came through stories. Foundation Executive Vice President and CEO Anne Neeson and Memorial Hermann Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Physician James J. McCarthy, MD, shared why philanthropic investment is essential to creating a facility that matches the caliber of care delivered every day.

Elevated Connections host Wynne Snoots, a Foundation board member, then offered a deeply personal perspective, reflecting on the TIRR Memorial Hermann rehabilitation team that helped him return to his family and the life he loves.

Guests also joined Memorial Hermann President and CEO David Callender, MD, and executive leaders over breakfast for discussions about the health system's priorities and the opportunities philanthropy creates to improve lives across the community.

An elegant brunch in The Garden at Hotel Jerome was the perfect finale to another inspiring *Elevated Connections* retreat, strengthening relationships among supporters committed to Memorial Hermann's mission and the future of TIRR Memorial Hermann.



Wynne Snoots, Aimee Snoots, Lacey King, Alec King



Elizabeth Galtney, Will Galtney



Gregg Falgout, Jo Lynn Falgout, Christine Falgout-Gutknecht, Bill Gutknecht



Edd Hendee, Nina Hendee, Tonya Callender, Sherry Smith, Dr. David Callender, Jim Smith



Ken Lawrence, Cathy Lawrence



Amy Pierce, Anne Neeson



Ashley Sloan, Amalia Stanton, Melissa Mithoff, Melissa Sugulas, Valerie Dieterich, Bethany Buchanan, Audrey White



Rhonda Abbott, Will Williams, Mary Williams, Sam Golden



Lisa Simon, Erin Asprey, Valerie Golden



Hallie Vanderhider, Bobby Dees



Bill Schneidau, Emily Clay



Leticia Trauber, Steve Trauber



Zach Matula, Angie Matula, Suzanne McCarthy, Dr. Jamie McCarthy



Greg Garland, Gail Garland



Scotty Arnoldy, Cornelius Dupré II



Oscar Brown, Sarah Morgan, Amy Pierce, Frank Jones, Demetra Jones

READY FOR THE WORLD

As Houston welcomed visitors from around the globe for the FIFA World Cup 2026™ games and events, Memorial Hermann was ready—with coordinated planning, enhanced emergency response capabilities and philanthropic investments that will benefit the community for years to come.

Hosting one of the world's largest sporting events brought excitement and opportunity to Houston—along with an enormous responsibility to prepare. With hundreds of thousands of visitors expected in the region, Memorial Hermann teams spent months planning for the potential impact on emergency services, hospitals and the broader health care system.

The preparations reached across the continuum of emergency care. Memorial Hermann Life Flight® expanded around-the-clock aircraft coverage and implemented a proactive auto-launch protocol to expedite critical patient transfers. Additionally, affiliated doctors and nurses helped numerous patients avoid a trip to an ER over the course of the events.

“The people who came here could not believe we were providing this service to the community.”

Adam Lee

“Our providers and nurses did a phenomenal job,” says Adam Lee, director of Emergency Management and Organizational Resilience at Memorial Hermann. “The people who came here could not believe we were providing this service to the community...they were extremely happy.”



Memorial Hermann teams proudly supported the City of Houston's Mobile Medical Unit, providing medical care for all FIFA World Cup 2026 Fan Festival™ events.

Readiness and safety are top priorities for Memorial Hermann. Recently, philanthropy accelerated the replacement of state-of-the-art equipment to support emergency response needs across 11 Memorial Hermann community hospitals. The important investment builds on years of philanthropic support for Memorial Hermann Life Flight, trauma care, emergency preparedness and access to care across the system.

Together, these investments, training partnerships and response strategies reflect the breadth of preparation required to care for a community during an event of unprecedented scale. Although the World Cup provided a highly visible catalyst, the newly enhanced capabilities will continue to benefit patients and the Houston region for years to come.



First responder trainees safely practice critical emergency medicine skills on manikins in the simulation lab at the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence.

PREPARING FIRST RESPONDERS FOR THE REAL THING

Launched in spring 2026, a new collaboration among Memorial Hermann's Trauma Service Line, the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence and Houston Fire Department is giving emergency medical services (EMS) trainees ongoing opportunities to put classroom knowledge into practice, working through realistic emergency scenarios in the Institute's simulation lab.

By sharing its training resources with future EMS professionals, Memorial Hermann is helping strengthen the skills and confidence of the paramedics who may one day provide critical care in the field and bring patients through its hospital doors.

A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR HIGH-STAKES LEARNING

Immersive simulation
EMS trainees practice in lifelike patient care environments designed to mirror a wide range of complex emergencies.

High-fidelity manikins
Realistic patient simulators allow participants to assess changing conditions and sharpen critical thinking and clinical judgment without risk to patients.

Interdisciplinary teamwork
Simulation exercises strengthen communication and coordination among first responders and hospital caregivers before they meet in the field.

Innovation before implementation
The 45,000-square-foot Institute serves as a vast resource for testing new equipment, workflows and technology before they are introduced into patient care.

GARDEN PARTY DELIGHT

Memorial Hermann supporters came together under the stars for an evening celebrating generosity, community and the collective impact of philanthropy.

Memorial Hermann Foundation supporters filled McGovern Centennial Gardens for *Sky Full of Stars*, a relaxed springtime celebration of the people whose generosity helps Memorial Hermann bring hope and healing to patients and families throughout the region.

Chaired by Angie and Zach Matula, the spring event honored Gail and Greg Garland and Anna and Scott McLean for their leadership, generosity and longstanding commitment to Memorial Hermann and the people of Houston. ABC13 reporter Pooja Lodhia served as emcee, guiding a brief program in which Memorial Hermann leaders reflected

on the many ways philanthropy advances care across the system—from the lifesaving response of Memorial Hermann Life Flight and specialized trauma care to rehabilitation at TIRR Memorial Hermann.

The Matulas spoke about their family's personal connection to Life Flight, recounting how Life Flight helped save his father's life when Zach was an infant.

The casual celebration offered friends and supporters a chance to reconnect while recognizing the collective generosity that continues to open new possibilities for Memorial Hermann and the communities it serves.



Anna McLean, Diane Maben, Scott McLean



Richard Morris, Beth Morris



Alberto Garza, daughter Ruby Garza



Angie Matula, Kendra Oden, Elizabeth Gross



Mike Perrin, Melinda Perrin, Anne Neeson, Erin Asprec, Albert Yen



Fernando Gil, Patti Gil



Gary Stankowski, Susie Stankowski, George Bedre



Frank Jones, Demetra Jones



Charles Zube, Millie Zube, Christina Volkers, Ryan Volkers



Sonya Johnson, Isaac Johnson



Brad Henkel, Katie Meyers, Lacey King, Alec King

AMAZING FEATS OF PHILANTHROPY

Nearly 500 guests gathered at Hilton Americas-Houston to celebrate Life Flight and the champions who strengthen it.

Memorial Hermann Foundation's *Signed, Sealed and Delivered* gala this spring paid tribute to the many generous Foundation supporters whose gifts strengthen Memorial Hermann Life Flight and the system's nationally recognized trauma network.

Chaired by Angie and Zach Matula, the gala honored Gail and Greg Garland and Anna and Scott McLean for their leadership in helping the Life Flight campaign surpass its ambitious goal.

Thanks to the extraordinary commitment of donors throughout the community, the campaign has now raised \$60 million to fund

five new, state-of-the-art helicopters that will serve patients across Texas for years to come.

That evening, guests entered through a candlelit walkway featuring handwritten messages from grateful patients, the first of many ways the evening underscored the profound impact philanthropy has on lives saved and futures restored. During the program, former patients, including Isaac, featured in upcoming pages, shared moving stories of survival and recovery.

By evening's end, the two gala celebrations had garnered \$4.3 million to advance Memorial Hermann Foundation's mission.

Above: Scott McLean, left, with his wife, Anna, and Greg Garland, with his wife, Gail, receive honorary Life Flight jackets for their efforts on behalf of the Life Flight expansion campaign.



Mark Lashier, Laurie Lashier



Beverly Postl, Jim Postl



Vanessa Sutherland, daughter Sydney Sutherland



Aimee Snoots, Wynne Snoots



Craig Janies, Anne Neeson, Zach Matula, Angie Matula, Scott McLean, Anna McLean, Gail Garland, Greg Garland, Tonya Callender, Dr. David Callender



Alvin Abraham, Nick Nagurski



Kendall King, John King, Julie King, Jackson King



Jim Smith, Sherry Smith



Bill King, Cheryl Boblitt King, Tonya Callender, Dr. David Callender



Marty Phillips, Gary Petersen, Langston Turner



Angie Matula, Zach Matula



Elliot Castillo, Eric McLaughlin



Anne Neeson, Troy Thacker, Allison Thacker



Ken Sheirr, Gretchen Sheirr



Kathy de la Mora, Melissa Sugulas, Stacey Lindseth, Laurie Krohn, Amalia Stanton



**Dr. Jamie McCarthy, Suzanne McCarthy,
Kathee Beirne, Marty Beirne**



Rob Chramosta, Donae Chramosta, Rob Pierce, Amy Pierce



Rosangela Capobianco, David Capobianco



Ellen Susman, Tony Bradfield



Hallie Vanderhider, Bobby Dees



Donald Bowers, Shawn Bowers, Siva Adams, Teddy Adams



Wells McGee, April McGee



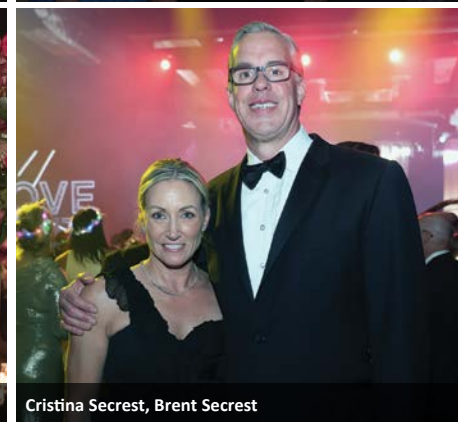
Julie Reischman, Phil Reischman



Claudia Kreisle, Neil Hansen, Dr. Michelle McNutt



Oscar Brown, Sarah Morgan, Coble Jorgensen, Jeff Jorgensen



Cristina Secrest, Brent Secrest



WAKING UP ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BED

At 20 years old, Isaac had a plan. He was enrolled at Texas Tech University, working as a certified nursing assistant and preparing to enter nursing school that fall.

With his parents by his side, Isaac is well on the path to recovery, more inspired than ever to follow his dream of becoming a nurse.

One night in February 2026, Isaac's plan took a detour. Driving home after a shift, he was struck head-on by a drunk driver traveling the wrong way, without headlights.

The highway was so dark, Isaac never saw the car coming. In the final seconds before impact, investigators later determined, he managed to swerve slightly. That split-second instinct may have saved his life.

Isaac's sister and parents had been trying all evening to reach him. After many unanswered calls, they finally received the news no family wants to hear: Isaac had been involved in a serious crash and was in critical condition. When they arrived at the hospital and, later saw what remained of his vehicle, they struggled to understand how anyone could have survived the crash.

Survival was only the beginning. Isaac couldn't eat. He couldn't swallow. He couldn't walk.

Isaac had suffered a traumatic brain injury as well as a fractured femur. Surgeons performed an emergency craniotomy to relieve swelling in his brain. He remained on life support for 10 days while his family kept vigil at his bedside, leaning on faith and prayer as they waited for signs of progress.

When his care team finally removed his breathing tube, Isaac responded. But survival was only the beginning. He couldn't eat. He couldn't swallow. He couldn't walk. Before Isaac was discharged, a nurse offered his family advice that would change the course of his recovery: Take him to TIRR Memorial Hermann.



Isaac was one of several guests to share their personal experiences of triumph and gratitude on stage at the *Signed, Sealed and Delivered* gala.

Isaac arrived with nearly 30 diagnoses. Some days, he couldn't even feel where his legs were. Undaunted, a multidisciplinary team of physicians, therapists, nurses and dietitians began the painstaking work of helping Isaac reclaim his life. Progress came slowly at first. They adjusted his medications and helped restore his sleep-wake cycle. Suddenly, movement returned. Then came the milestones that would carry him home.

Week by week, Isaac progressed from requiring two people just to stand, to navigating a wheelchair, to walking with a walker. Seven weeks after the accident, he stood on his own, struck the gong and walked out of TIRR Memorial Hermann with nearly every diagnosis behind him.

Today, Isaac continues moving forward. He still plans to become a nurse. In many ways, the accident strengthened that goal. Before, he understood health care from the perspective of a caregiver. Now he understands it from the other side of the bed—the vulnerability, uncertainty and hope that accompany recovery.

One day, when he cares for patients with their own difficult journeys, he will bring something many nurses can't offer firsthand: the assurance that recovery is possible. As Isaac puts it, "I know what you're going through because I've been there. I've walked the path."



Memorial Hermann Foundation
929 Gessner, Suite 2650
Houston, TX 77024
memorialhermannfoundation.org

VISION

Memorial Hermann Foundation

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JOIN US FRIDAY

October 2nd

26TH ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Continuing our legacy of fighting breast and ovarian cancer in Montgomery County, Texas

THE WOODLANDS WATERWAY MARRIOTT

MEMORIAL HERMANN



Scan to purchase your table

MEMORIAL HERMANN

Razzle Dazzle

Unstoppable
INSPIRED BY RESILIENCE,
UNITED IN HOPE

Save the Date

OCTOBER 8, 2026
at the **POST OAK HOTEL**

HONOREE

Sheridan Williams

CHAIRS

Amy Pierce
Vanessa Sutherland
Elaine Turner

Featuring Jaclyn Smith

Benefitting breast cancer early detection and outreach programs at Memorial Hermann, including the Bobetta C. Lindig Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center.



Scan to purchase your table today!
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