Saints Forward

Saints Employees Reach for the Stars

Saints Ball 2024: *Advance to GO!*

Healing Through Collaboration

Saints Employees move the Mission *Forward*

An Update from Joe Hodges



Scholarships Allow Nursing Students to "Reach for the Stars"

After many years of following her passion to serve others by working in SSM Health Behavioral Health, Kristina Godwin started her BSN, but life somehow kept getting in the way. Thankfully after a late-in-life pregnancy, and some encouragement from **Dr. Chittranjan Verma**, she decided to finish her nursing degree. However, going back to school is financially challenging and Kristina didn't want to take financial resources away from her family to get a degree. But then a miracle occurred. Kristina learned about the "Reach for the Stars" scholarship program which is designed to help meet the demand for nurses by assisting those already working in heath care. The Reach for the Stars scholarship covers the full cost of a nursing degree including tuition, fees, books, and includes a stipend to help alleviate the financial burden of additional educational costs. Kristina applied but said she didn't think she would get the scholarship. "When I learned I was chosen as a recipient, I was shocked and very, very thankful! The scholarship made it so much easier to pursue my dream without negatively impacting my family." Kristina was one of the first SSM Health's recipients of the Reach for the Stars scholarship and completed her Bachelor of Nursing degree from Southwest Oklahoma State University in summer 2024.



Now Kristina tells everyone she knows to work at SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital and to apply for the "Reach for the Stars" scholarship. She says the opportunity to finish her degree is something she hadn't received at other organizations. "I feel so blessed by God to be working in an environment where you are appreciated and encouraged to pursue your dreams. SSM Health St. Anthony values you, and it is my favorite place to be a nurse!"



Kristina continues to follow her calling to serve others by working in the SSM Health Behavioral Health's Adult Day Treatment program. She "can't imagine working anywhere else" and is confident God has placed her in this role. She is deeply grateful to the Reach for the Stars organization, SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital, and the SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation for providing an opportunity to train more nurses. "Thank you so much for doing something in this community that no other hospital system is doing."

Up to thirty scholarships will be offered to SSM Health employees annually through this program and they are open to any employee at any health ministry in the Oklahoma region. If you, or someone you know wants to pursue a career in nursing, please contact SSMOK-RFTS@ssmhealth.com to learn more!

A Message from SSM Health Oklahoma Regional President JOE HODGE



At SSM Health St. Anthony, we are continuing our steadfast commitment to our Mission. Since my last update to you, our **Saints in Action physicians and team members have been busy on projects that serve to expand our exceptional health care services to more Oklahomans.**

Our Saints family is feeling the tremendous loss of our dear friend and longtime supporter, Judy Love. Judy's connection to St. Anthony Hospital spans decades, and we are grateful for her generosity and leadership, not only for Saints, but also for philanthropy throughout the Oklahoma City community. I invite you to read more in this issue about her legacy and the impact she has had on furthering our Mission that will benefit generations of Oklahomans to come.

On July 1, we finalized the purchase of The Clinic Pharmacy in Shawnee, Okla. Now re-named SSM Health Pharmacy, it provides more convenient services to our patients and employees in Shawnee and surrounding communities in its location adjacent to the SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee campus. The Clinic Pharmacy has deep roots in the Shawnee community and a proud history with the hospital and our medical group.

We are also expanding the number of primary care providers and specialists in our SSM Health Medical Group, introducing new providers in Midtown, Downtown and North Oklahoma City, Midwest City, Mustang, Blanchard, Harrah, Shawnee, Okemah, Seminole and Purcell. An additional 17 physicians and 6 advanced practice providers started in the third quarter. The specialty areas of rhinology, urology, nephrology, and interventional neurology now have improved access for patient appointments.

I was excited to see so many of you at the 2024 Saints Ball, as we came together to make the event a resounding success. Your support is vitally important for us to continue our Mission.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday season, and best wishes for the New Year.

Joe Hodges Regional President SSM Health, Oklahoma

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A Legacy of Love

The Love Family's connection and devotion to SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital spans decades. Tom's parents, F. C. and Margaret Love, instilled a tradition of community service into their family. Margaret modeled this service as a long-time volunteer at St. Anthony and by serving on the Foundation Board in 1983. F. C. and Margaret started supporting the St. Anthony Foundation in 1981 and made donations for 23 consecutive years, including a bequest when Margaret passed away. The Love Family contributed to the Margaret Vessels Love Surgery Center in her honor and funded the "Margaret's Garden" on the hospital's 5th floor.

A Catholic family, all four of Tom and Judy's children were born at St. Anthony Hospital. Judy joined the St. Anthony Foundation Board in 1988 and was a dedicated servant leader on both the Foundation and the SSM Health Care of Oklahoma Board since that time. Her roles have been many and her devotion immense, but her leadership and success in raising funds for the hospital was the hallmark of her involvement. She created and chaired numerous special events benefitting the hospital including Heavenly Evening, Masquerade Ball and Saints Ball; hosted many hospital and foundation events at her home; and provided leadership for multiple hospital fundraising campaigns over the years. She co-chaired the highly successful Saints Vision Campaign, and not surprisingly, she surpassed the goal - early.



Judy and Tom Love enjoying the Saints Ball.

Throughout the years, Judy and Tom have been generous in their giving, including their most recent \$5,000,000 gift to support the Love Family West Entrance. Judy was so excited for construction to begin and thankful for the recent gift The Chickasaw Nation made to the project to honor her husband, Tom. Other SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital projects supported by the Love Family include the Frank C. Love Cancer Institute, the afore mentioned Margaret Vessels Love Surgery Center and Margaret's Garden, the inpatient Cancer Patient Floor, the Love Scholar's program, and the renovation of SSM Health's St. Anthony's Chapel.

> Judy Love and family at the blessing of the St. Anthony chapel renovation in 2015.

Judy touched many patient areas of the hospital. She brought inspiration, enthusiasm, ideas - plus comfort and beauty. She tackled each project with incredible energy, focus and determination to make it the best. Understanding the stress and worry of patients and their families, Judy brought art to grace the walls of St. Anthony's Frank C. Love Cancer Institute, the Oncology Floor, the Heart Hospital waiting room and the Margaret Vessels Love Surgery Center. Judy was known to walk through a patient or visitor area and return later with a new piece of art to beautify the area. She was a leader, a visionary and was always willing to lend a helping hand. SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital and the Foundation were blessed to be recipients of her and Tom's generosity and devotion, but our patients will continue to be the true beneficiaries.



Judy Love with her mother-in-law at the dedication of the Margaret Vessels Love Surgery Center and Garden.



James Pickel and Judy Love at the Foundation's 50th Anniversary "Golden Saints Ball" in 2013.



Tom and Judy Love at Love's Travel Stops corporate headquarters.



Healing through collaboration:

Oklahoma City's First Mobile Street Medicine Team

SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation is thrilled to share about Oklahoma City's first **Mobile Street Medicine Team (MSMT)**, a transformative initiative designed to provide on-site medical and mental health care to individuals experiencing homelessness in the urban core through partnership with Mental Health Association Oklahoma (MHAOK). With 1,838 people without homes in Oklahoma City, this program addresses a critical gap in health care access and aims to uplift a population that often feels invisible and isolated.

For many individuals facing homelessness, the challenges are multifaceted.

They are frequently trapped in a cycle of poverty, paralyzed by the fear of large institutional settings, and hindered by language and cultural barriers. This sense of isolation can exacerbate physical and mental health conditions, leadingto escalating symptoms and repeated reliance on first responder services or hospital emergency rooms. Unfortunately, these interventions often result in high costs and poor long-term outcomes. Failing to provide the sustainable care needed to help individuals regain stability.

Our partnership with key organizations enhances our capacity to provide integrated care. These collaborations enable us to offer telehealth services, medication assistance, and a spectrum of wraparound social services that are crucial for addressing the diverse needs of this population. Inspired by the Mission of our founding Catholic Sisters, our Vision is rooted in the belief that every person deserves peace, hope, and health, especially those most in need. The partnership with MHAOK not only reinforces our commitment to improving access to care but also aligns with our strategic health ministry plans identified through our Community Health Needs Assessment. This assessment highlighted Access to Care and Access to Healthy Food as critical areas for intervention, guiding our efforts from 2022 to 2024.

Since its inception, the MSMT is already demonstrating a significant impact.

In the first two quarters of 2024, our team has served 341 unique individuals and successfully diverted 104 participants from emergency room visits. Operating three days a week out in the community and one day each week at MHAOK's Lottie House, the Street Medicine Mobile Team embodies our Vision of healing through collaboration, demonstrating the power of community partnerships in creating lasting change. As we move forward, we remain committed to refining our approach, gathering insights from those we serve, and adapting our services to meet their evolving needs. By prioritizing dignity, respect, and holistic care, we hope to foster an environment where individuals can begin to rebuild their lives and reclaim their health.

We invite you to join us in this important journey. Together, we can make a profound difference in the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors, ensuring that access to quality health care is a reality for everyone in our community.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to uplift those in need and work toward a healthier, more inclusive Oklahoma City.

Grateful patient recognizes care team

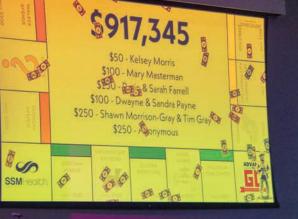
Doctors, nurses, and countless other caregivers and support staff make a difference in the lives of our patients every single day. Recently, the staff of 6N at SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital were blessed by a patient who wanted to show his appreciation in a big way.

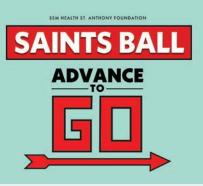
Russell Perry had such a positive experience with staff during his time in rehab that, on the day he was discharged, he wanted to throw a "going away party" to recognize the team who provided him exceptional care. Not only did Mr. Perry generously provide lunch for the unit, but he also invited his family and friends to personally thank the staff, and among his friends was former Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating.

We appreciate wonderful patients like Mr. Perry and our Saints in Action for providing an exceptional patient experience!



A record breaker!





Saints Ball raises \$939,266 for SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital

The SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation held its annual Saints Ball on Friday, November 1, at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Saints Ball 2024: Advance to GO! raised a recordbreaking **\$939,266** toward establishment of the SSM Health St. Anthony Comprehensive Digestive Care Center. Event co-chairs were Dr. Tauseef and Ammara Ali, and Kim and Joe O'Connor.

The colorful, Monopoly-themed event was attended by 750 and featured live and silent auctions, assorted raffles, and even an onstage jail to which attendees could dispatch other guests "without passing GO!" all in the name of fundraising fun.

The highlight of the evening was delivered by McCall McCarty, a recent University of Oklahoma graduate who shared her compelling story of a young life once mortally threatened by Crohn's Disease who was dramatically saved by Dr. Ali and the health care team at SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital. "A few years ago, I almost lost hope," said McCarty. "Thanks to the expert and compassionate care I received at St. Anthony, I have been able to reclaim my life — and it is better than I could have ever imagined!"



SSM Health St. Anthony Digestive Care will provide much-needed specialized care and resources for individuals suffering from digestive diseases, and their families and caregivers. The center will incorporate the latest medical technologies and research, including state-of-the-art diagnostic tools and advanced treatment options.

At the event, Dr. Ali passionately stated, "Tonight, we are here to advance something truly life changing. And tonight's theme reminds us that in life, as in Monopoly, it's important to strategize, invest wisely, and most importantly, advance together."















THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS







Saints Employees moving the Mission *Forward!*

SSM Health St. Anthony employees do more than just carry out the Mission each day – they fully support it with their gifts as well. Our Saints in Action donated a total of **\$621,806** to the Foundation over the 12-month period of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024 – the most ever in an annual **Employee Giving Campaign**!

A total of **1,506** employees contributed to the campaign and **46** SSM Health coworkers received assistance from the Employee Relief Fund, one of many fund options employees can support through the campaign.

The Foundation celebrated the close of the 2023 iCare, iGive Campaign and the tremendous start of the 2024 campaign with T-shirts, colorful badge ribbons, and treats for employee donors.

We love our ever-generous Saints in Action!



Leadership Spotlight: Robert Rader, MD

Regional Chief Clinical Officer, SSM Health Oklahoma

What drew you to health care?

I became interested in science very early on, especially the scientific method. The natural progression of this interest coupled with my drive for improvement and helping others led me into health care. The more I learned about health care and medicine, the more I wanted to learn and become involved in direct patient care.

What does the patient experience mean to you?

Patients having an interaction with the SSM Health health care system that is convenient, timely, courteous, coordinated and of exceptional quality leading to improved health and well-being. Patients should feel cared for, important, informed, and empowered with every interaction.

How does your leadership style align with Saints Mission and Values?

My nature is pacesetting and collaborative. The Saints Mission is one of service and exceptionalism which requires highly reliable teams and accountability. I really enjoy working with highly functioning and collaborative teams to foster improvements and ultimately deliver exceptional care and patient experience.

What excites you most about the future of health care?

Health care technology and information is advancing exponentially. The promise of having the ability to diagnose and manage problems for which we don't currently have successful solutions is very exciting. It is very difficult to watch patients suffer from debilitating illnesses when there is little we can do to help. It is very gratifying when we have solutions to help patients we once could not help. The commitment of SSM Health to making these diagnosis and treatment options available to all patients as a part of the Mission makes being a part of SSM Health very rewarding personally and professionally.

What is the best thing about working at Saints?

The culture. I fell in love with the culture and Mission and the people that embody the Mission way back in 1997 as a medical student and have looked for ways to stay in that culture since. Working in a culture of compassion and exceptionalism with the Mission to reveal God to our patients is something I never take for granted and treasure dearly.

What would you like others to know about the SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation?

The work of the SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation has a direct impact on our patients every day in very meaningful ways. I get the privilege to be able to watch the very personal ways in which our patients get care and resources that they would not have access to without the foundation. Every gift matters and makes a difference. I can attest to the fact that every single resource that is received by the foundation has a very real impact on the care of our patients and furtherance of our Mission. I honestly believe that God has a special way of blessing the gifts for even greater impact than the monetary face value. Through the SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation, everyone has the opportunity to be the hands and feet of God and help care for others in a time of need.

Thank you for your generosity!

Philanthropy plays a vital role in continuing our Mission of providing exceptional, compassionate health care in our communities. You are a part of our lifesaving work, and we are grateful for you. We are honored to recognize your generosity here. The list below reflects donors who made a tribute gift between January 1 and June 30, 2024.

For the full list of donors, visit **givetossmhealth.org/SaintsDonors** or scan the QR code.



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In memory of Theodore W. Violett, MD Dr. Richard Greyson & Dr. Marlene Magrini-Greyson

In memory of Jack Wear The Pathology Group, PC

Estate Planning Awareness

We encourage you to take the first step in creating your estate or another step in updating your will and trust. These are the most important legal documents you can own. Estate planning legislation changes impact the inheritance value to your heirs. With the help of a good estate planning attorney, this may be easier than you think. A simple provision in your will or trust can make a big difference and show your family how important supporting our mission is to you. By giving to SSM Health St. Anthony Foundation, you give the gift of HOPE to families when they need it most regardless of their financial ability

to pay, and this HOPE is present with them in times of need.



DON'T FORGET—many individuals choose to give from their assets, stocks, gifts from their IRA funds, and grants from their Donor-Advised Funds to see even larger tax savings.

- In 2024, the qualified charitable distribution (QCD) gift limit will increase to \$105,000 for individuals. You can use a QCD to establish a CGA up to \$53,000.
- An IRA balance payable to your estate is subject to the entire IRA income tax rate in the year of death. An inherited retirement plan is fully taxable to heirs as ordinary income when withdrawn. Accordingly, a testamentary gift from retirement plans is a tax efficient way to give to charity.

• The Federal standard deduction for non-itemizers will increase to \$14,600 for single filers and \$29,200 for joint.

Please consult with your tax advisor on these changes to learn more about these tax benefits.





Recognize a Guardian Angel

The Guardian Angel program lets you honor a physician, nurse, tech, housekeeper, volunteer, or other caregiver for exceptional service.

If the dedication, expertise, and compassionate care of a SSM Health St. Anthony physician or staff member has touched your life or the life of someone you love, we invite you to recognize that person as a Guardian Angel.



Say thank you to any member of your health care team – from your doctor or nurse to the housekeeper who kept your room comfortable or made you smile. Simply go to **givetossmhealth.org/OKCGuardianAngel** and complete the form.

The person will receive special recognition and will be presented with a Guardian Angel lapel pin to wear with pride as a reminder of the difference they made to you.

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