To develop charitable gifts and resources dedicated to building healthier communities in southwest Ohio.

To be the most respected, responsive and supportive source for health care philanthropy in southwest Ohio.
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Thinking Beyond

Health care is a constantly changing industry.

Every day, lifesaving technologies appear on the horizon. How to pay—and who should pay—for the cost of care is an ongoing debate. In every medical specialty, standards of care are changing. And quality health care organizations, like Atrium Medical Center, must endeavor to meet and exceed those standards.

Understanding the benefits and tyrannies of change, nearly a decade ago our health system set out to think beyond where we were ... and to envision what could be.

Changing our paradigm from the ground up wasn’t easy. But it was well worth it. Just ask the thousands of people who have turned to Atrium Medical Center and Premier Health Campus – Middletown for health services and technologies that did not exist in our region a mere two years ago.

In 2008 we reaped many rewards of thinking beyond. In June, we opened our Heart Center and performed the first of many open-heart surgeries. Over the next few months, we phased in interventional cardiology procedures, such as balloon angioplasty and stent placement—and eventually, emergency interventional procedures (read more on page 20).

In October, Atrium was proud to achieve a top, five-star rating for the quality of its cardiology care from HealthGrades, a national health care ratings company. Atrium received this high rating, indicating statistically significant better patient outcomes, for our treatment of congestive heart failure and heart attack.

Last year our campus grew again with the opening of the Bidwell Surgery Center, Dayton Children’s Specialty Care Center – Warren County, the Atrium Family YMCA, and with the construction of the Avalon by Otterbein senior living neighborhood. The Maternal Child Health Center and Atrium Sports Medicine & Physical Therapy found new homes on our campus in these facilities.

In recounting these achievements, my mind turns to people like you, whose willingness to think beyond has led you to support our hospital and its services. Your generosity fuels our ability to expand and improve care in response to the changing health needs of this region—and for that, we’re deeply grateful.

We hope this report gives you a glimpse of how our Foundation and its donors are thinking beyond what is ... and then working together to get there. The many people acknowledged in this report—each in his or her way—envisioned something better for our community. Our vow at Atrium Medical Center is to turn that vision, along with the financial support you’ve entrusted to us, into the best possible care for you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. McNeill, FACHE
President and CEO
Atrium Medical Center
The Word Is: Momentum

Thinking beyond took on many meanings for the Foundation in 2008.

The first thing you may notice as you read these pages is our new name—Atrium Medical Center Foundation. As the medical center’s fundraising affiliate, with an outreach extending throughout the growing Mid-Miami Valley region, we were well served by our former name, Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation.

Just over a year ago, the opening of Atrium Medical Center marked the beginning of a new era for health care in southwest Ohio. Building on that momentum, the Foundation’s new name introduces our next chapter of service, while more closely aligning us with the medical center and its mission.

We sincerely hope that, just as you have put your confidence in Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation, you will continue to trust in Atrium Medical Center Foundation as stewards of your health care investment.

Speaking of momentum, in 2008 we announced the successful conclusion of our Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign. Raising more than $5.1 million for the new Heart Center, generous donors exceeded all expectations and put us well over our campaign goal of $4.5 million. And now lives are being saved as a result of your giving.

But even as one need was met, members of our health system were looking across our campus to a different kind of need at the Maternal Child Health Center. Due to a difficult economy, more and more low-income families were turning to the center for low-cost pediatric care.

Thinking beyond meant finding creative solutions to the problem—helping to keep the center open an additional afternoon per week, funding free prescriptions for those who could not afford them, and equipping the center with new and better technology. And so we launched the Healthy Kids Campaign to bring excellent, cost-effective care to more children in need.

You’ll read these stories and many others in the pages of this report. And we hope that as you do, you’ll be inspired to catch the momentum of those who are thinking beyond—envisioning better things for the people and community around them. Whether your support comes in the form of a pledge toward a specific project or campaign, a one-time donation, or an estate gift, such as the ones profiled here, we could not be more grateful for your giving. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Baxter  
Executive Director  
Atrium Medical Center Foundation

James B. Kleingers  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Atrium Medical Center Foundation

Jim Kleingers and Linda Baxter
During her 45 years as an Auxiliary member, Mary Jean gave nearly 3,700 volunteer hours working in the emergency room and gift shop.
Remembering Mary Jean Cohen

On July 30, 2008, Atrium Medical Center and the Middletown community lost a very dear friend. Mary Jean Cohen, longstanding patron of our medical center and champion of numerous causes that have improved life in this region, had dedicated her entire life to serving others.

“Mom was always giving, caring, loving and generous,” recalls Kathy Cohen Dumes. “She was always thinking of others.”

Born in Cincinnati, Mary Jean grew up in Avondale, and in 1946, graduated from the Jewish Hospital School of Nursing. That year she married high school sweetheart Wilbur Cohen. For 68 years—5 years of courtship and 63 years as a married couple—they shared a remarkable relationship. Together they raised four children and welcomed eight grandchildren.

Theirs was a true partnership, although Wilbur, a highly respected business and community leader, was sometimes the more visible partner. With unwavering support from his wife, Wilbur led his company, Cohen Brothers, Inc., while presiding over the boards of Middletown Regional Hospital [1972–1980] and the United Care Corporation [1982–1990] during seasons of significant hospital growth.

Though Mary Jean practiced nursing only a short while, she loved caring for others through volunteer service at Middletown Regional Hospital. During her 45 years as an Auxiliary member, she gave nearly 3,700 volunteer hours working in the emergency room and gift shop.

Mary Jean and Wilbur’s generosity was instrumental in creating important new services at the medical center—the Wilbur M. Cohen Family Endoscopy and Laser Center, the Wilbur & Mary Jean Cohen Women’s Center, and the Heart Center at Atrium Medical Center.

Mary Jean had a deep faith that brought her great comfort. Her active Jewish life centered around Temple Beth Shalom in Middletown, where she served as president of the Ladies’ Auxiliary. Mary Jean and Wilbur generously supported the Cedar Village Retirement Community, enabling the community to establish the Religious and Cultural Center, which is used for many activities that promote Jewish culture and heritage.

Known for her love of Middletown, Mary Jean gave countless hours to the community—volunteering with special needs children at Doty House (later known as Abilities First), serving on the boards of Bull’s Run Arboretum and Hospice of Middletown, and rolling up her sleeves to help create Alternatives, a group home for girls.

Most of all, Mary Jean loved people. “She liked hugs,” recalls Kathy. “Even people who weren’t too fond of hugging—well, she always won them over. She loved to connect with people, and she made them feel comfortable.”

As a fitting tribute to Mary Jean’s long life of giving, her family designated Atrium Medical Center Foundation to receive gifts in her memory. Inspired by her impact on their lives and community, family and friends donated more than $5,200—funds that will make a real difference for patients.

Those who knew and loved Mary Jean will always remember her generous spirit and her caring heart for all she met. Her many contributions to Atrium Medical Center and the Foundation will touch lives for years to come.

Wilbur and Mary Jean Cohen at the opening of the Wilbur & Mary Jean Cohen Women’s Center in February 2005.

2008 Annual Report
The Papakirk Family

“The hospital has meant a lot to our family over the years,” remarks Jim Papakirk, a Liberty Township resident who likes to say he grew up “in the shadow” of Middletown Regional Hospital. “The hospital has always been there for us, but it became even more important to us in 1996, when Dad had a massive stroke.”

Stratton Papakirk spent a month at Middletown Regional Hospital, undergoing what his son calls a “pretty aggressive” course of rehabilitative therapy. “Thankfully, we didn’t lose him,” says Jim. “We’re grateful he bounced back.”

Since that time, Jim and his wife, Maria, have demonstrated that gratitude by supporting the Foundation in many ways. Having served on the board of Atrium Medical Center Foundation (formerly Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation) since 2004, he currently serves as both vice chair of the board and chair of the Distribution Committee.

Last year the Papakirk family—which includes Jim’s brothers and their wives, Steve and Toula, and Chris and Christina—made a generous pledge to the Foundation in honor of their parents, Stratton and Georgia Papakirk. The gift was designated for patient care in two vital areas that have touched the family: heart care and stroke.

“Because rehab was a significant part of Dad’s experience, we wanted to do something to help others reclaim their ability to function after a traumatic event like a stroke,” explains Jim. “Atrium has two independent living apartments where patients can practice the activities they’ll need to perform once they return home from the hospital.” As a result of the Papakirks’ giving, one such apartment in Atrium’s Neuro-Rehabilitation Department is now named “The Stratton and Georgia Papakirk Independent Living Apartment.”

“Our family is very onboard with helping the Foundation as an expression of gratitude,” says Jim. “I can’t say enough good things about the Foundation, its staff and my fellow board members. They have a passion for finding new and innovative ways not only to support Atrium, but also to reach out to communities and enhance medical services for everyone in our region. It’s inspiring working with people with that kind of passion for making a difference.”

Shown in the Stratton and Georgia Papakirk Independent Living Apartment are, seated, left to right: Steve, Stratton and Georgia Papakirk. Standing, left to right, are Toula, Chris, Christina, Maria and Jim Papakirk.
The Papakirk family has made a generous pledge to Atrium Medical Center Foundation in honor of their parents, Stratton and Georgia.
Gary and Nancy Gross

When Gary and Nancy Gross came to Middletown—he from Kentucky, she from Missouri—they had big dreams. Settling into their small “starter” home after graduating from the University of Kentucky, they set out to make their dreams happen.

In 1989, they founded Gross & Company, Inc., offering a wide range of accounting and business advisory services. “We’ve been blessed,” says Gary as the firm celebrates its 20th anniversary.

“We started our business as a hobby, when I was teaching at Miami University,” adds Nancy. “We believe in our community, and we’re grateful to the clients who’ve believed in us through the years. We wanted to do something to support the community as well.”

Dreaming about how to achieve that goal brought to mind that dream starter home—the one they’d lived in for 25 years. The one they tried to sell, but the buyers fell through. The one they listed as rental property, even though renting “didn’t feel right.”

“We weren’t happy with any of our options for that house,” says Nancy, “until we asked the question, ‘Why don’t we give it to the hospital?’” A Foundation board member since 2004, Nancy knew the high value the Foundation places on planned gifts—and of the opportunities these gifts create for donors.

And so the couple chose to give the property to the Foundation, enabling them to fund a charitable gift annuity. This option allowed them to make a very meaningful contribution that will touch future generations at Atrium Medical Center, while providing the Grosses a source of income throughout life.

“Because we’re not wealthy people, we liked the fact that when we retire, we’ll have a stream of income from the charitable investment,” explains Gary.

Better still, this type of gift fulfilled their dream of helping others and the community they love.

“Our whole lives, we’ve wanted to make the world a better place,” says Nancy. “We’re passionate about the hospital because it gives hope to both the community and the people in it. Anytime you give to the Foundation, you’re actually saving lives.”

Nancy and Gary Gross donated their “starter home” to Atrium Medical Center Foundation, which allowed them to fund a charitable gift annuity.
This gift fulfilled Gary and Nancy Gross’ dream of helping others and the community they love.
Lazaros also had cancer—an extremely rare type that even the finest medical care could not halt. When he passed away on February 8, 2002, his bigger-than-life personality left an indelible imprint on all who knew him.

And now his legacy will touch lives at Atrium Medical Center’s Maternal Child Health Center.

Inspired by the excellent care Lazaros received during his illness, his extended family co-chaired the Foundation’s Healthy Kids Campaign, in support of expanded pediatric services at the Maternal Child Health Center. The family also made a significant gift in Lazaros’ memory, to help the center extend its hours to better serve the region’s growing number of low-income and uninsured families.

“When asked to co-chair the campaign with Ron and Martha Oches, I requested a tour of the center. Two of my daughters joined me,” explains retired

The Valen Family

Lazaros Retzios, age 5, had a great big personality—the kind that embraced life to the fullest. “He wanted to make people happy, to make them laugh,” says his mother, Angela (Valen) Retzios. “He didn’t try to be the center of attention, but the attention was always on him. He just commanded a room!”

“It’s Lazaros’ legacy to help other children. This is our family’s tribute to him.”
Judge Anthony Valen, Lazaros’ grandfather. “After seeing their facilities and what they were accomplishing—serving children who otherwise would not have proper medical care—my daughters said, ‘Dad, our family should be involved.’”

“No one wants children to go without medical care,” reflects his wife, Carol. “We received such excellent medical care for our grandson and recognized the need of less fortunate children in our community. We wanted all children to have that same level of care.”

Like Lazaros, who lived with constant pain yet loved to make others smile, the Valen family is turning their painful loss into a blessing. “We believe Lazaros’ life has blessed so many people and made us aware of how fortunate we were to have wonderful doctors and friends helping us,” says Carol. “It’s Lazaros’ legacy to help other children. This is our family’s tribute to him.”
As a result of the Condons’ giving, one of Atrium’s high-tech patient rooms has been named “The Vernon and Marjorie Condon Patient Room.”
As the years passed, Vernon progressed within the company. By the early 1980s, as superintendent of the Production Planning Department, he was overseeing the entire Middletown Works. But as his responsibilities increased, so did his stress level.

Still, the couple carved out time for each other—playing golf and enjoying music, especially the Big Band tunes and “oldies” they both loved.

But one day, the music almost came to a stop.

After an unusually stressful day, Vernon suffered what they used to call a “heart spell.” His doctor recommended rest, but six weeks later it struck again—this time with chest pains.

Twenty-eight years later, Vernon’s heart is still ticking, thanks to two open-heart surgeries, including seven bypasses, and three stent procedures. Because such sophisticated heart services were not available in Middletown when Vernon needed them, all of these procedures were done in Cincinnati.

That’s why the Condons were excited to learn about advanced heart care at Atrium Medical Center—and why they chose to designate funds for the new Heart Center.

Their gift to Atrium Medical Center Foundation was made in honor of the couple’s cardiologist, Sandeep Gupta, MD. “He’s been a wonderful doctor,” says Marjorie. Vernon adds, “He’s somebody you can trust. We found we could communicate with him as easily as we could with each other.”

As a result of the Condons’ giving, one of Atrium’s high-tech patient rooms has been named “The Vernon and Marjorie Condon Patient Room.”

“Heart disease is killing people,” says Vernon. “We have never had anything hit home in our lives like heart disease.”

But with the Heart Center just minutes away, “You don’t feel like you’re so far away from care,” says Marjorie. “We’re happy we gave to support it. It’s good to feel that we’re helping a lot of people.”
Non-profits are then invited to present grant requests to the council for projects focusing on area children and youth. "The students review the grant applications, debate them and decide which ones should receive money," says T. Duane Gordon, Middletown Community Foundation executive director. "The primary thing we hope this program does is to encourage students to become lifelong givers. It also prepares them to become leaders in the community."

In 2008 the Youth Advisory Council awarded $3,000 to Atrium Medical Center Foundation (formerly Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation) to complete the children’s play area in the hospital’s Emergency Trauma Center. This grant was one of many gifts totaling more than $400,000 given to hospital projects by the Middletown Community Foundation over the past 10 years.

The funds were used to purchase rocking chairs for parents and sick children, books and more for kids at the Emergency Trauma Center. This
The primary thing we hope this program does is to encourage students to become lifelong givers. It also prepares them to become leaders in the community."

was one project I could tell would really benefit the children in our community,” says Franklin High School senior Rachel Sams.

Seiko Yoshitake, a senior at Fenwick High School, explains, “This was an important project to us because it’s right in Middletown—and Atrium in some ways has become the center of attraction for Middletown lately. Second, although it may be difficult, making children more comfortable in a hospital is important. The more comfortable children are, the better the doctors can do their jobs to make them better.”

Learning about the vital work of Atrium Medical Center Foundation and other organizations “has really opened my eyes to the world around me, especially in Middletown,” Yoshitake continues. “It has shown me all the service that our city does for its children—and children are the future of our community. It has inspired me to participate in serving in any way that I can.”
Middletown Cardiovascular Associates made a five-year pledge to help create the new Heart Center.
Middletown Cardiovascular Associates

Except for the occasional notion that we’d better start eating right, few of us give much thought to the dangers of heart disease—that is, until we or a loved one experience a heart problem.

Not so for Gary Brown, MD, Sandeep Gupta, MD, Atiq Khalid, MD, and Alvaro Waissbluth, MD, cardiologists on the medical staff of Atrium Medical Center. For them, the devastation of heart disease, the nation’s leading killer, is something they see every day.

“I’ve been practicing in Middletown for 11 years, and Dr. Brown has been here 15 years. On an almost daily basis, we’ve had to deal with patients having to be sent out of the service area for cardiac care,” says Dr. Gupta. “Sometimes it resulted in significant delays in treatment, with an outcome that was poor or not as good as possible. It’s an issue we’ve always had to grapple with.”

This is why, long before many saw the need for a comprehensive heart center, the physicians were thinking beyond the hospital’s existing cardiac capabilities and envisioning much more. Advocates for expanded heart services at Atrium Medical Center, they and their practice, Middletown Cardiovascular Associates, made a five-year pledge to help create the new Heart Center.

“We’ve been behind the Heart Center from the beginning,” explains Dr. Gupta. “While hospitals do get financial support from reimbursement, finances are always an issue when you’re trying to expand and build new programs.” Supporting health care, he says, is “an important responsibility and duty for every citizen” since hospitals must constantly broaden and improve the scope of their services.

Now the Heart Center is a reality, and already it’s saving lives. “It used to be when a patient came in with an acute heart emergency, they were transferred out. As a result, the artery stayed blocked another two to three hours. Now when a blockage is found, the patient stays on the table and a cardiologist opens the artery right away.”

That’s good news for patients—and it’s why Dr. Gupta is quick to add, “We’re really proud of what we’re doing at the Heart Center.”
As subcontractors for the Atrium Medical Center construction project, Norvell Landscaping, co-owned by Butch Norvell, son Chad Norvell and son-in-law Matt Higgs, was tasked with transforming the dusty construction site into a welcoming, restorative environment for patients. Campus designs included an employee-funded walking trail flanked by three memorial gardens, also funded by Foundation donors.

With meticulous attention to detail, the Norvell team worked around the clock to make the campus a place of beauty—well in time to impress guests at the Foundation’s inaugural gala and at Atrium’s grand opening festivities.

But the Norvell family wanted to do more for patients at Atrium.

The Norvell Family and Norvell Landscaping

Where others see the dirt and disorder of a construction site, the Norvell family sees beauty. Towering oak trees. Flowering perennials. Lush plantings with rockscapes and waterfalls.
The Norvells’ donations went beyond their generous gift to the capital campaign to include an in-kind gift of enhancing the campus landscape.

“We wanted to give a nice gift to the Foundation as our way of saying thank you to the hospital,” explains Chad. “We’ve been patients all our lives, but on a larger scale, we’ve been grateful to have such a great working relationship with the hospital and Foundation.”

Butch and Molly Norvell made a generous gift to the Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign, and Norvell Landscaping made a corporate gift. But what took their giving over the top was their generous “in kind” contribution to enhance the campus landscape, especially the memorial gardens. “We upgraded the gardens’ overall design, adding large boulders, rock features, more ornamental grasses and perennials,” says Chad.

They also created a special garden bed at their own expense, in loving memory of Matt and Aimee Higgs’ daughter, Isabel, who died at age 1 of childhood cancer. “She was always smiling,” reflects Matt, who with his wife contributed a distinctive pin oak tree for Isabel’s garden. “She never had a bad day until she got sick.”

Once again, the family is thinking beyond what is, to what can be. Says Matt, “That pin oak will be here forever—well beyond when we’re all gone.” Just like the excellent care at Atrium, thanks to friends like the Norvells.

Chad Norvell, left, and Matt Higgs stand in the memorial gardens that they helped to create at Atrium Medical Center.
Capital Campaign Nets $5.1 Million for Heart Center

Thanks to the generosity of supporters throughout the region, Atrium Medical Center Foundation (formerly Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation) raised a record-breaking $5.1 million for the Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign. Exceeding our campaign “stretch” goal of $4.5 million, this total is the most money ever given to support the medical center.

Within weeks of the campaign’s conclusion, these generous gifts were put to use saving lives and improving quality of life for cardiac patients. In June 2008, the Heart Center opened and performed its first highly successful open-heart surgery. In September, interventional cardiology procedures, such as balloon angioplasty and stent placement, were added.

By January 2009, advanced care at the Heart Center had expanded to include emergency interventional procedures. This signaled the end of an era in which many critical patients were sent out of the area for lifesaving cardiac treatment. Now local heart patients are benefiting from receiving the latest care in close proximity to their homes and families.

Campaign dollars raised for the Heart Center, which occupies the second floor of Atrium Medical Center, were used to fund items such as:

- A cardiac catheterization lab with coronary and peripheral angiography for interventional procedures
- An electrophysiology lab for diagnostic and interventional procedures for the heart’s electrical system
- A dedicated, digitally integrated cardiac surgical suite
- A heart-lung machine, special monitoring devices and all necessary support equipment within the surgical suite
- Ten fully equipped cardiovascular surgical intensive care (CVSICU) patient rooms
- Furnishings to ensure patient privacy and convenience
- A walking/fitness trail to promote heart health
- Sculptures and other enhancements to Atrium Medical Center

Nearly 1,300 donors came forward in support of the Advancing Care campaign, many of them first-time contributors to the Foundation. To each one who gave, thank you for making a powerful difference in lives across this region!
**Thinking Beyond With Generous Gifts**

Atrium Medical Center Foundation (formerly Mid-Miami Healthcare Foundation) is supported by caring businesses, community groups and individuals who are thinking beyond to build a healthier community for themselves, their families and their employees.

In 2008, 513 donors contributed $1,360,704 to further the charitable work of the Foundation. These gifts reflect both pledges and cash contributions.

Every gift is used for its designated intent. Every dollar is put to use where it will have the greatest impact “touching lives and improving health.”

**Gifts Received in 2008 – Total: $1,360,704**

- Individuals $ 549,908
- Businesses $ 504,574
- Health System Employees $ 67,076
- Foundations/Trusts $ 163,046
- Middletown Federation of Women’s Clubs $ 16,100
- Atrium Auxiliary Middletown, toward a pledge of $100,000 $ 60,000

Gifts reflect both pledge and cash contributions.

Foundation assets stood at $10.3 million at the end of 2008.

**Investments in Our Community in 2008 – Total: $1,739,776**

- Heart Center $ 1,534,520
- Chapel $ 1,368
- Diabetes $ 2,526
- HEAL $ 11,562
- Children $ 127,024
- Education/Scholarships $ 52,776
- Community Projects $ 10,000
Atrium Medical Center Foundation Leadership

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Thank you to Robert Bedinghaus,

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**Far Right Photograph:** Virginia M. Peters, Jessica A. Woodard, Linda C. Baxter and Michael D. Stautberg.
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Our Donors

Thinking Beyond to Expand and Improve Care

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their support and contributions in 2008. Although this report lists only gifts received in 2008, many generous gifts also were pledged to the Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign in 2005, 2006 and 2007. We are deeply thankful to every donor.

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To some people, giving is a duty. But to others, it’s a lifestyle.

To the 192 members of the Atrium Auxiliary Middletown, the volunteer arm of Atrium Medical Center, giving is something that just comes naturally—day in and day out. Their smiling faces greet us when we enter the hospital, their kind words encourage us when we’re in for tests or treatment, and their willing hands support the healing work of our health care team.

The volunteers also raise significant dollars to support state-of-the-art care and technology at Atrium. In 2008 the Auxiliary made a $60,000 payment toward a $100,000 pledge to the Foundation’s Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign. Raised through Hilltop Gift Shop sales and other fundraisers, their support was used to make cardiac care even stronger at the new Heart Center.

Atrium Medical Center Foundation joins hospital employees, patients and their families in thanking the Auxiliary for their heartfelt commitment to their community and its medical needs. For everything you do, we’re grateful.
Charity Ball Supports HEAL Program

Held November 29, 2008, the 88th annual Charity Ball was another great success. Sponsored by the Middletown Area Federation of Women’s Clubs, each year’s ball helps fund an Atrium Medical Center service in need of community support.

“The Foundation presented us with two options, and we were moved by both of them,” explains Melinda Armbruster, Federation president. “When we heard about the HEAL (Help Endure A Loss) Program, it touched many of us personally. When you sit around a table and start talking about this, it’s amazing how many have lost a child.”

Led by Sheree Young, RN, the HEAL Program helps grieving families recover from the loss of an infant or child. “Sheree really reaches out to people—not just from Franklin and Middletown, but throughout the region,” says Armbruster.

Thanks to the work of chairpersons Jennifer Becker and Kathie Wassenich and their committees, the Federation presented a check for $15,000 to Atrium Medical Center Foundation. “The Federation has supported so many things at the hospital,” Armbruster concludes, “but the HEAL Program has such a human touch to it. We’re pleased we were able to help.”

The Middletown Area Federation of Women’s Clubs supports Atrium’s HEAL Program. From left to right: Dr. Diana Small, Dianna Fisher, Jessica Woodard, Kathie Wassenich, Jennifer Becker, Melinda Armbruster.

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**UP TO $250**

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**Beneficiaries**

- Atrium Medical Center Foundation
- Hospice Care of Middletown
- Family Center for Special Services
- Atrium Nursing Excellence Department
- Women of the Moose – Middletown Chapter 183
They call it “serendipity” when something unexpected and fortunate happens.

Since the opening of Atrium Medical Center, there have been many serendipities—one being an unexpected use of the Arthur R. Harvey Foundation fountain in the hospital’s atrium. The day the doors opened, guests began using the fountain as a wishing well. Around the same time, Foundation staff and the Atrium executive team were grappling with a growing need for funds for prescriptions for low-income patients.

“We’re seeing an average of 50 patients a year coming to us in need of medication,” explains Amy McKenna MSW, LSW, social worker at Atrium’s Maternal Child Health Center. “They are mostly single women and children who have no insurance.”

Now, all the coins tossed in the fountain are designated for the Prescription Assistance Fund at the center. And those coins add up. Last year the fountain raised nearly $1,000.

“It’s been wonderful,” says McKenna. “The need is increasing due to the economy. It’s very difficult to see a family who cannot afford medicine for their child. We’re grateful we can help them.”

So keep that change coming. It’s truly making a difference in our community.
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Golf Tournament Raises $19,500 for Cancer Care

Even when battling cancer, Jim Geran was thinking of others. Throughout his cancer journey, the AK Steel retiree wished for a way to combine two things he felt passionate about—his love of golf and a desire to help others conquer cancer.

On October 9, 2008, his wish became a reality. Golfers teed it up at the first annual Jim Geran Memorial Golf Tournament and raised $19,500 to benefit cancer care at Atrium Medical Center. Held at Wildwood Golf Club, the event was organized by Jim’s wife, Brenda, and many of his friends and family. The eagle sponsors were Skanska Shook ATCS and Signal Point Hematology/Oncology, Inc.

Funds raised were used to equip a treatment room in The Compton Center’s second floor Infusion Center. “The events were for a great cause,” said Albert S. Malcolm, MD, director of the Infusion Center. “Our goal is to make the most advanced cancer care available here in our local area, so that patients and families don’t have to travel for the treatment they need. We’re grateful to the Geran family and friends for embracing that mission and for helping achieve it.”
Heritage Society Members

Members have included Atrium Medical Center Foundation in their will or estate plans.

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Dr. and Mrs. Jack Barnes
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Mary Helen Shetter
West Chester and Liberty Township boast one of the highest growth rates in Ohio—and as the region grows, so does its need for health care, explains Melissa Benedict, vice president of donor services for the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty.

"It’s fascinating to see the growth here," says Benedict, whose organization facilitates philanthropic giving designed to improve quality of life throughout the burgeoning area. "With more services moving into the area, it’s a great place for businesses and families to thrive."

"Of course, health care is a primary concern among many in our community," she adds. "Everyone is concerned about getting the best quality care they can get."

To help ensure that residents have a convenient place to turn for top-quality heart care, the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty made a significant grant to the Advancing Care for a Healthier Community capital campaign. The grant enabled Atrium Medical Center to acquire specialized technology for the new Heart Center. The funds were awarded from the organization’s Community Grant Fund, which is made possible by the Community Foundation’s Golf Classic, Key Event and other donor-supported projects.

"Atrium Medical Center is definitely an advantage for people here—especially with the huge development of its campus, which offers a wide variety of services," says Benedict. "Directing people to Atrium provides a convenient alternative, and we are excited to show our support through our grant award. To have someplace special to turn like Atrium is great for our communities."

The executive board of the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty includes, left to right, bottom row: Patti Alderson, Debbie Boehner and John Shaffner; top row, Dan Orner, Jonathan Theders, Melissa Benedict and Nancy Fister.
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Tax Seminar Educates and Inspires

Every November, Atrium Medical Center Foundation hosts a free professional seminar for tax advisors, estate planners and accountants for continuing education credit.

“We’re pleased to offer a very comprehensive program that has grown consistently through the years,” says seminar chair Bill Keck, an attorney with Millikin and Fitton. “Participants benefit from a range of topics, including new tax law, how to help clients get the most from their retirement investment, and updates on the economy and the market.”

Held in West Chester, last year’s 10th Annual Estate and Tax Planning Professional Seminar drew nearly 200 participants from throughout Butler, Warren and Hamilton counties. Event sponsors included Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.; Johnson Investment Counsel; Key Private Bank; and Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP.

“Presenting a quality estate-planning program goes a long way in encouraging local philanthropy and inspires tax advisors to look favorably on great organizations like Atrium Medical Center Foundation when discussing their clients’ charitable goals,” Keck comments. “We’re grateful to our corporate sponsors, our excellent volunteer speakers and the many people who’ve worked hard to make this program a success.”

Plan to join us for the 2009 seminar on Friday, November 6.

In memory of Brian and Jonathan Duff
Sue and Steve Duff

In memory of Dakota Dunkerly
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Church

In memory of Ferguson
Jan Salyer

In memory of Bruce Einselen
Sheree Young

In memory of Carolyn
Elaine Evans
Elaine P. Sanderson

In memory of Luther Farler
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Mr. and Mrs. Jack D. Totten
Mr. and Mrs. J. Scott Woodard

In memory of Shannon Gill
Debbie and Steve Parker

In memory of the Gillespie / Mulligan Families
Melinda A. Beckman

In memory of Ed Gunderson
Mrs. Geraldine D. Gunderson

In memory of James I. Hall, Sr.
Lori J. Valandingham

In memory of Lawrence G. Haney
Heather and Regan Haney

Representing the sponsors for the 2009 seminar are, left to right, Ron Christian, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP; Jonathan McCann, Johnson Investment Counsel; Candice DeClark Peace, Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.; Mark Meyer, Key Private Bank; and Timothy Rodgers, Key Private Bank; and James Kleingers, Foundation chair.
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In memory of Sharon Loughner
Stacey N. Highley
In memory of loved ones
Mrs. Roberta B. Daly

In memory of Uriah James Lykins
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In memory of Janis A. Maloney
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In memory of Dr. Marvin Max
Dr. and Mrs. Russell Malcolm, Jr.
In memory of James and Reba Mays and George and Faye Krug
Jim and Shelli Cramer and family
In memory of John A. McColgan
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In memory of Madison Beatrice Meyers
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Beta Sigma Phi Sorority – Laureate Beta Kappa
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In memory of Edgar Moore and Larry Fields
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Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Hammond
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D. Brian and Carolyn Fogarty
In memory of Col G. Lee Newell and Douglas Haynes
Judy L. Roth, RN

Brownie Troop Donation Brings Smiles to Kids

Brownie Troop #40597 from John XXIII Elementary School discovered a way to help children at the Maternal Child Health Center while doing their part to recycle.

“Every year our troop likes to do a service project,” explains troop leader Maria Jeffers. “Our girls collected their unused books throughout the month of November. Our December meeting was held at the Maternal Child Health Center, and we took a tour and presented the books. Each of our girls was so excited to go out there, and to learn that her book would be enjoyed by another little person who would take it home.”

Visiting the center was an eye-opening experience for the second-graders. “They explained to us that many kids who come to the center don’t have storybooks at home—and reading is so important,” says Jeffers. “Our girls take so much for granted. It’s good for them to realize that some families are not as fortunate and that we need to share what we have.”
In memory of Zelma M. Nickell
Mr. and Mrs. David Nickell

In memory of Judge David J. Niehaus
The Honorable Kathleen Dobrozsi Romans

In memory of Elijah Owens
Monroe Local School District

In memory of Noah Paterchak
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher A. Paterchak

In memory of Ruth Kidd and Dorothy Peace
Mr. and Mrs. James Peace

In memory of John Perkins
Dr. and Mrs. William Crawford

In memory of my father, Joe Polley
Elizabeth Polley

In memory of Lauren T. Porter
Patti Wilkins

In memory of John Ptaszkiewicz
Mrs. Melissa R. Ptaszkiewicz

In memory of Florence and John C. Quebe, Sr.
Chapel Electric Company, LLC

In memory of Randa Reagon
Rhonda Koenig, RN

In memory of Lazaros Retzios
Tom and Connie Hodson
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Irwin
Tom and Angela Retzios
The Honorable Anthony and Carol Valen
Gus and Kelly Valen
Irene Valen
Anthony and Irene Zalants

In memory of Shirley Ann Robbins
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lewis

In memory of Tristan Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie R. Saunders

In memory of Bette J. Schiller
Mr. Michael C. Schiller

In memory of Kenneth Scribner
Amber S. Montgomery

In memory of Betty M. Shade
Barbara A. Slough

In memory of Mary Kathryn Shetter
Mary Helen Shetter

In memory of Ruey Shetter
Mr. and Mrs. Stratton Papakirk

In memory of Louis Skimming, MD
Dr. and Mrs. Russell Malcolm, Jr.

In memory of Patricia A. Slagle
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Sandston

In memory of Keith Ryan Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Ricky V. Smith

In memory of Lisa Smith
SK Construction Company

In memory of Gladys Stallsmith
Marlene Takach, RN, CMSRN

In memory of Tom Strait
Mrs. Nancy Strait

In memory of Jeannie Sutton
Mikki and David Clancy

In memory of Ted Thomas
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority – Laureate Beta Kappa

In memory of Alma Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Elam

In memory of Jack R. Tillett, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Rolla Eich

In memory of Mary Belle Timmons
Ms. J. Kay Tormey

In memory of Henrietta Triick
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Triick

In memory of Dr. and Mrs. Charles J. Van Horn
Dr. and Mrs. Gregory W. Siewny

In memory of Carolyn Draper Wahl
Mr. Douglas G. Draper

In memory of Ernest Watson
Tammy L. Laine

In memory of Atta and Leroy Weller
Elaine P. Sanderson

In memory of Richard C. Wenzel
Robin Wenzel

In memory of Warren and Ruth Wheeler
Gay Davis

In memory of Nancy J. Wiese
Mr. Carl Wiese

In memory of Jane Wissman
Ryan S. Hutchinson

In memory of John Woodard
Mr. and Mrs. J. Scott Woodard

In memory of Jennifer Wright
Sharon Hardy

In memory of Dot York
Shelly and Ron York

In memory of Mark Edward Young, Jr.
Sheree Young

HONORARY GIFTS

In honor of all children
Mrs. Sally A. Phillabaum

In honor of those living with Autism
Mr. and Mrs. Craig T. Moon

In honor of Linda C. Baxter
Mr. and Mrs. David Durham

In honor of Art and Ann Bidwell
Magnode Corporation

In honor of Orlanda Wayne Breedlove
Darlene Breedlove

In honor of Marlene Brill, RN and Brenda Duff, PCA
Karen Jestice

In honor of Robert R. Caldwell
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In honor of Kala Craft
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In honor of Walt and Wanda Fening
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In honor of Patricia Miller Gage
Ms. Joellen Mechenbier

In honor of my grandchildren, Paige and Trent
Carol Mason

In honor of the Guido family
Linda S. Guido

In honor of Sandeep Gupta, MD
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon L. Condon

In honor of Rebecca Hall
Ginger R. Alley

In honor of Robert and Ingrid Hensley
Julie C. Hensley

In honor of Yudell and Elsie Hightower
Hightowers Petroleum Co., Inc.
When you wish upon a star, great things can happen for cancer patients at Atrium Medical Center! Plan to join us on Saturday, May 22, 2010, for Atrium Medical Center Foundation’s next fun-filled celebration, **When You Wish Upon a Star**. John and Pat Dupps are co-chairing the event, which will be held at the Savannah Center in West Chester. Proceeds will benefit cancer services at Atrium Medical Center. More details will be available soon. Hope to see you there!