

A PUBLICATION FOR THE FRIENDS OF MEMORIAL HERMANN

ADVANCING THE

# VISION

Memorial Hermann Foundation / Fall 2017

## Spotlight

Setting new trauma care standards nationwide

## Life after Tragedy

Beyond surviving, thriving: three remarkable stories

## Harvey Response

Pulling together in the worst of times



## Dear Friends,

Since joining Memorial Hermann in January, I have had the privilege of touring Memorial Hermann Life Flight® and meeting with its world-renowned crew members several times. Each has been inspiring.



Walter Johnson and Anne on the helipad of the legendary Life Flight

This experience and many others have given me a grasp of the depth and breadth of Memorial Hermann's talent, capabilities and mission. It is extraordinary.

Then Hurricane Harvey plowed through our region.

In the weeks since this horrific event, Harvey has shown the world what makes Greater Houston so special and our Health System so uniquely vital to it. Thanks to lessons learned during Allison in 2001, newly installed floodgates kept Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center safe, dry and open. In response to this state of emergency, staff members at every level performed far beyond the call of duty to protect the health and safety of our patients and relieve weary colleagues.

This unprecedented event makes our work on behalf of the Red Duke Trauma Institute, the crown jewel of our system, even more important. We've seen firsthand the need to be prepared to provide the highest level of trauma and critical care in any emergency. To do so in a metropolitan area growing as fast as ours is an enormous responsibility. But as we've all seen, this is no ordinary metropolis.

I'm beyond proud to work with outstanding community leaders to sustain the finest trauma teams and centers in the country, and I thank you for your continued support and generosity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne".

**Anne E. Neeson**

Executive Vice President and CEO  
Memorial Hermann Foundation





# Setting the National Standard for Level 1 Trauma Care

**Memorial Hermann Red Duke Trauma Institute:**  
A synergistic combination of research, expertise, collaboration and extremely high volume

Why is it that trauma centers around the country look to the Red Duke Trauma Institute for the latest and best innovations in trauma and critical care?

The simple answer: Volume and outcomes.

As Houston's only Level 1 trauma center with an air ambulance fleet and a verified burn center, the Red Duke Trauma Institute sees more severely injured patients than any other trauma center in the country. More importantly, their patients do better, more quickly. And returning more people to their former healthy, productive lives is what it's all about.

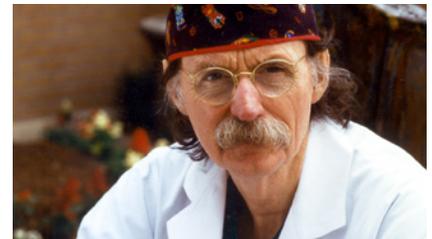
**Of course, there's more to the story, but volume and outcomes set the stage**

After all, a busy, successful trauma center attracts the best and brightest talent. People dedicated to the cause and to participating in a collaborative, research-based environment with a common goal: Doing what's right, most effective and best, not for the doctors, not for the center, but for patients and their families.

## Tomorrow's breakthroughs

The volume of patients treated at Memorial Hermann's Level 1 trauma center, combined with its staff of internationally recognized physicians and clinical experts, makes the Red Duke Trauma Institute uniquely qualified to conduct important clinical research.

Currently, 44 trauma injury studies are underway.



## The legend lives on

The philosophy and the work that began decades ago under the direction of the legendary Dr. James "Red" Duke, Jr., continues, as the Institute that bears his name has become the trauma center to watch and replicate.

# A Day in the Life of the World-Class Red Duke Trauma Institute

---

**The work is grueling, stressful and thrilling.  
This team is up for all of it.**



Hearing the many stories of miraculous treatments and leading-edge medical advances coming out of the Red Duke Trauma Institute, it's clear that the doctors running the show here are a rare breed. They're also a surprisingly down-to-earth group, eager to share their experiences with anyone interested in advancing their cause.



"We're adrenaline junkies," says **Lillian S. Kao, M.D., M.S.**, who directs the Institute.

Named division chief of acute care surgery after a national search in February, Dr. Kao thrives on the pace and daily challenges, deftly darting from the operating room to patient rounds to meetings and research groups.

Continuous improvement is her mantra. "We're early adopters of new, innovative technologies, strategies and ideas, but we're not just using them. We test them rigorously to make sure we're being effective."

Dr. Kao works with teams across all specialties to develop a learning trauma care system to share standardized, evidence-based guidelines with other trauma hospitals and even the public.



Specialists work side by side on the most important person in room: the patient

Events like Hurricane Harvey exemplify the significance of such a system, as the entire Southeast Texas region counts on the Red Duke Trauma Institute as a vital safety net.

"It's important to think about trauma as a system," Dr. Kao explains. "All hospitals are called upon in times of disaster, and the answer isn't to get everyone to our Level 1 trauma center, but to make sure the most severely injured have access."



**Charles S. Cox, Jr., M.D.**, co-director of the Institute, appreciates the advantages of operating one of the country's few Level 1 trauma centers serving adults and children.

## MEMORIAL HERMANN TRAUMA CENTER BY THE NUMBERS

**70,000+**

trauma and critical care patients annually

### The nation's busiest

Level 1 adult and pediatric trauma center

**1st**

Pediatric Level 1 trauma center in Houston

### Trauma and critical care is a team sport

Pre-hospital transport + emergency medicine + anesthesia + ortho/neuro/thoracic/vascular/plastic surgery + face specialists + hospitalist service + nursing + rehabilitation + social work + case management

"I'm interested in patient-reported outcomes...what they experience down the line after the trauma. What can we do to improve those?"

Dr. Lillian S. Kao



"Things we develop in the adult trauma world are more quickly adopted on the pediatric side, and vice versa," he says, citing their recent use of REBOA (resuscitative endovascular occlusion of the aorta) to prevent severe blood loss in pediatric trauma patients after seeing successful results in adult cases.

Dr. Cox runs clinical trials in neuro trauma using stem-cell therapies, and for him, "The things that are most exciting are when a discovery we've been pursuing starts to demonstrate results, and we see years and years and years of work paying off."



As the Institute's trauma chief, **Michelle McNutt, M.D., F.A.C.S.**, specializes in trauma surgery, operating on "everything except bones and brains," and she finds it very rewarding to help patients along the journey from their worst day all the way through to recovery.

She and her highly skilled teams have saved many severely injured patients facing near-impossible odds, and she's certain the Institute was their only hope for returning to a productive life. "Frankly, a lot of patients we treat would die if they were taken anywhere else," Dr. McNutt says.

She credits the teamwork of a vast array of dedicated professionals and the partnership of the esteemed McGovern Medical School at UTHealth, whose faculty staffs the Institute while training rising stars in clinical care and research.

"Without our affiliation between the McGovern Medical School and the trauma center itself, there would be no Red Duke Trauma Institute."



**James McCarthy, M.D.**, chief of Memorial Hermann-TMC emergency services, knew he wanted to work in a "giant, crazy-busy trauma center," and he certainly got his wish.

Trauma care starts with medics, another area where the Red Duke Trauma Institute shines. Dr. McCarthy helps train the famed Life Flight nurses and paramedics, who perform in-flight wonders for patients before his team ever sees them.

Life Flight crews are exceptionally well equipped to provide critical blood tests, blood transfusions, ultrasounds, life-saving early intervention for stroke patients and those with internal bleeding, and so much more.

Once patients arrive, Dr. McCarthy finds his emergency department's teamwork uniquely collaborative, with no time for the "silliness and posturing" he's seen elsewhere. "With our volume, there's no way any of us could do this on our own. We're shoulder to shoulder all night long, so we have to be a great team."

And they are.

As Texas grows by leaps and bounds, the Red Duke Trauma Institute must stay one giant leap ahead. Please help us maintain and expand this vital regional resource. Call 713-242-4400 or visit [memorialhermann.org/donate](http://memorialhermann.org/donate).

Life Flight crews are equipped to provide blood tests, blood transfusions, ultrasounds, life-saving early intervention for stroke patients and those with internal bleeding, and more.

## MEMORIAL HERMANN LIFE FLIGHT BY THE NUMBERS

6

Helicopters

3,725

Life Flight missions  
in fiscal year 2017



Life Flight serves patients within 150 miles of Houston by helicopter, worldwide by plane

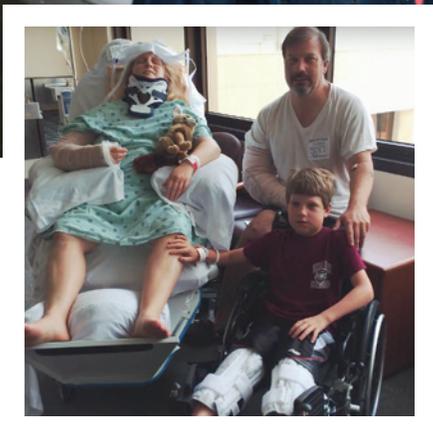
140,000

Life Flight missions flown since the first flight in 1979

**Life Flight**

was the first to provide life-saving blood products to patients in transport

# Life After Tragedy



Suffering from extensive injuries, the family felt lucky to be treated under one roof

## The Flynt family

### Surviving a horrific plane crash

On a beautiful summer evening, the Flynts decided to go flying in their private plane. That turned into a harrowing experience and sparked an amazing journey to recovery.

As they took off on their second flight that fateful night, Gary Flynt, a NASA engineer and flight instructor, was at the controls when the engine quit. Before he could safely land the plane, the right wing of his Skyhawk caught some high-tension power lines, flipping the plane over and causing it to crash-land in a baseball field.

Onboard were Gary's wife Linda and their eight-year-old son, Jonathon.

Miraculously, all three survived the crash and were conscious when Life Flight helicopters whisked them off to Memorial Hermann-TMC, where all their extensive injuries could be treated under one roof.

Jonathon had deep cuts on his knees and needed orthopedic surgery for his jaw. Linda was treated for a neck fracture, crushed carotid artery and intestinal damage. Gary's nose was crushed, and he had dislocated his right elbow.

**"It was comforting that we were all in the same place, not just for myself but for my son and my husband. We owe them our lives."**

Linda Flynt

The family is still recovering from their injuries, but they're alive and grateful that Memorial Hermann was there to provide all the expert care they needed so they could begin their recovery together.



## Steven Fisher

---

### The quintessential comeback kid

Steven Fisher was just two minutes from his home in Spring, Texas when a Ford F250 pickup pulled out of a parking lot in front of his small car.

The 38-year-old hit the truck head on and was partially ejected from his vehicle. His right foot, caught under the accelerator, held him in the car.

Steven was unconscious when he arrived at the Memorial Hermann Red Duke Trauma Institute. He was suffering from a brain hemorrhage and severe orthopedic injuries, including two leg fractures and a hip socket fracture. He was too unstable to undergo immediate surgery.

During his month-long stay in the ICU, traumatologists performed more than 10 surgeries that required collaboration across specialties and departments, from orthopedics to plastic and reconstructive surgery to neurosurgery. One procedure, a skin graft to cover his ankle, was developed at Memorial Hermann.

Fisher doesn't recall his hospital stay or his first few weeks at home, but six months after sustaining so many traumatic injuries, and against all odds, Steven was walking again. He credits the support of his wife and children, the multidisciplinary team at the Memorial Hermann Red Duke Trauma Institute and the handiwork of his orthopedic traumatologist, Joshua Gary, M.D.

## Honoring the Dunn family for their Life Flight contributions



**When Dr. Red Duke first imagined Life Flight emergency air transport service in Houston,** he approached John S. Dunn to, quite literally, get the idea off the ground.

Mr. Dunn, a successful business leader known throughout his life for his philanthropic spirit, generously funded Life Flight's home base atop the Memorial Hermann-TMC terrace.

Earlier this year, Memorial Hermann was pleased to offer his family a personal tour of the James S. Dunn Heliport, named in his honor, and to present them with a memento of their family's extraordinary contributions to the health and well-being of our city.

---

[The John S. Dunn Foundation continues to provide support for the Red Duke Trauma Institute, including Life Flight, which operates as a community service at a cost of millions a year.](#)



## Meet Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center

Memorial Hermann Health System has delivered quality care in the Greater Houston area for well over a century. Over the last 32 years, Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital has brought those high standards of care right to the community, in perfect alignment with our System's ongoing mission.

In recognition of its tremendous growth and award-winning, comprehensive care, the hospital is now Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center, the only regional medical center of its kind.

Without ever leaving their well-loved community, residents have convenient access to exceptional physicians, services and resources, along with some of the world's most promising new treatments.

**In pursuit of Designated Level II Trauma center, with its own Life Flight helipad**

**Mischer Neuroscience Center, with 24 nationally recognized neuroscience specialists, the largest team in Montgomery County**

**The area's first Level III neonatal ICU**

**Dedicated pediatric emergency center**

**TIRR Memorial Hermann inpatient/outpatient care**

**IRONMAN Sports Medicine Institute**

**One of Truven Health Analytics' Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospitals for 2017**

**Canopy, a first-of-its-kind cancer survivorship center**

# A miraculous recovery after a 25-foot fall

## Rosanna Blalock



Myron and Rosanna Blalock with Dr. Mark Prasarn after her complete recovery

On a trip to the Bahamas, Rosanna Blalock got more of an adventure than she bargained for.

To celebrate their 60th birthdays, Rosanna and her husband, Myron, traveled to Harbour Island in the Bahamas with their family. Getting to the island required two flights and a trip by boat. Their journey home was even more complicated.

The house where the family was staying had a widow's walk perched on top. Rosanna climbed the narrow steps to the cupola to find a breathtaking view. On her way back down, she lost her balance and fell 25 feet to a roof below.

After a valiant rescue effort by EMS, Rosanna was taken to a nearby hospital to be stabilized. But with a broken neck, back, sternum and wrist, she needed intensive care.

Five days and multiple ambulance rides later, by water, by ground and by air, Rosanna arrived at Memorial Hermann Red Duke Trauma Institute to get the trauma care she desperately needed.

Today, despite a few metal screws and plates holding some of her bones in place, a very appreciative Rosanna shows no signs of her accident, thanks to the extraordinary care she received at Memorial Hermann Red Duke Trauma Institute.

**"When we arrived at Memorial Hermann, all the doctors were in a row, like a receiving line. It was the most miraculous experience."**

Rosanna Blalock

## Paying it Forward

Rosanna and Myron remain forever changed by their traumatic and ultimately miraculous experience with Memorial Hermann.

Compelled to share their story and introduce others to the exceptional medical talent with whom they've become so intimately familiar, the Blalocks graciously hosted an event where several close friends were fortunate to meet a few of the crew members and physicians who go above and beyond the call every day.

**"Everyone was overwhelmed by the professionalism and lifesaving efforts of these helicopter teams. The air ambulances landed right next to us, and we even had a gorgeous sunset in the background. It was amazing!"**

Myron Blalock



Friends Terry Harmon and Judy Lee meet Life Flight's Damon Sanders



## Memorial Hermann Foundation Board of Directors

For Memorial Hermann to maintain its standing as a leading health care organization requires significant ongoing philanthropic involvement. Securing this vital funding is the mission of the Memorial Hermann Foundation board of directors. Proudly, these community leaders and advocates come together in support of the important work being done to advance health for the people of Southeast Texas.

### Chair

Susan D. Sarofim

### Members

Leslie L. Alexander  
Philamena Baird  
Martin D. Beirne  
Morton A. Cohn  
Joe R. Davis  
John Eads

Jo Lynn Falgout

Martin Fein

Stephen M. Fraga

David Greenberg

Edd C. Hendee

Brenda Love Jones

William E. King

Stephen A. Lasher

Keith Mosing

Harry N. Pefanis

Gary R. Petersen

James J. Postl

Lynden B. Rose

Douglas W.  
Schnitzer

Lisa Simon

Jim R. Smith

Charles D. Stokes

Stephen Trauber

Tony Vallone

Fenner R. Weller, Jr.

Blake Williams

Sheridan P. Williams

### Executive Vice President & Chief Executive Officer

Anne E. Neeson

## Susan Sarofim

The definition of grace



Susan Sarofim with Brian Dean, Senior Vice President and Memorial Hermann Regional President-Central Region with overall responsibility for Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center.

As Susan Sarofim's three-year tenure as our Foundation chair comes to a close in 2017, we gratefully acknowledge her tireless efforts on behalf of our organization. She is truly a class act, generously offering her time, her energy and her leadership, as well as her financial support of Memorial Hermann over the years, with a quiet grace. Many thanks from all to this very special woman.



## Harvey Response

If there was a good side to Hurricane Harvey, it was the restoration of our faith in humanity.

Amid devastating tragedy, those who were unscathed stepped up and banded together to help those whose lives had been completely upended.

We saw everyday people rushing to rescue strangers, using their own boats, kayaks, canoes, even jet skis. We saw volunteers quickly form muck-and-gut crews to aid their neighbors in critical cleanup. We saw stories of there being too many volunteers for some recovery efforts.

We saw Houston Strong in action.

At Memorial Hermann, our responsibility to remain open and ready to provide emergency medical assistance around the clock never faltered, despite the unprecedented circumstances. So engrained is this responsibility in our culture that as the waters rose and rescue calls flooded 911, thousands of

Memorial Hermann employees went to extraordinary lengths to get to the hospitals to help, many staying at their posts for days on end. If they couldn't safely make it to their normal workplace, they reported to the nearest Memorial Hermann location they could.



**Many employees spent night after night in their hospital workplaces; many others reported to work at their nearest Memorial Hermann hospital**

Thank you to all our teams, who rallied to deliver the care expected of Memorial Hermann.

To read more about the inspiring people who define what it means to be a part of this incredible system, please visit [blog.memorialhermann.org](http://blog.memorialhermann.org).

## MEMORIAL HERMANN HURRICANE HARVEY HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 25 – 31, 2017



**9,624** ER visits

**2,589**  
admissions



non-elective surgeries

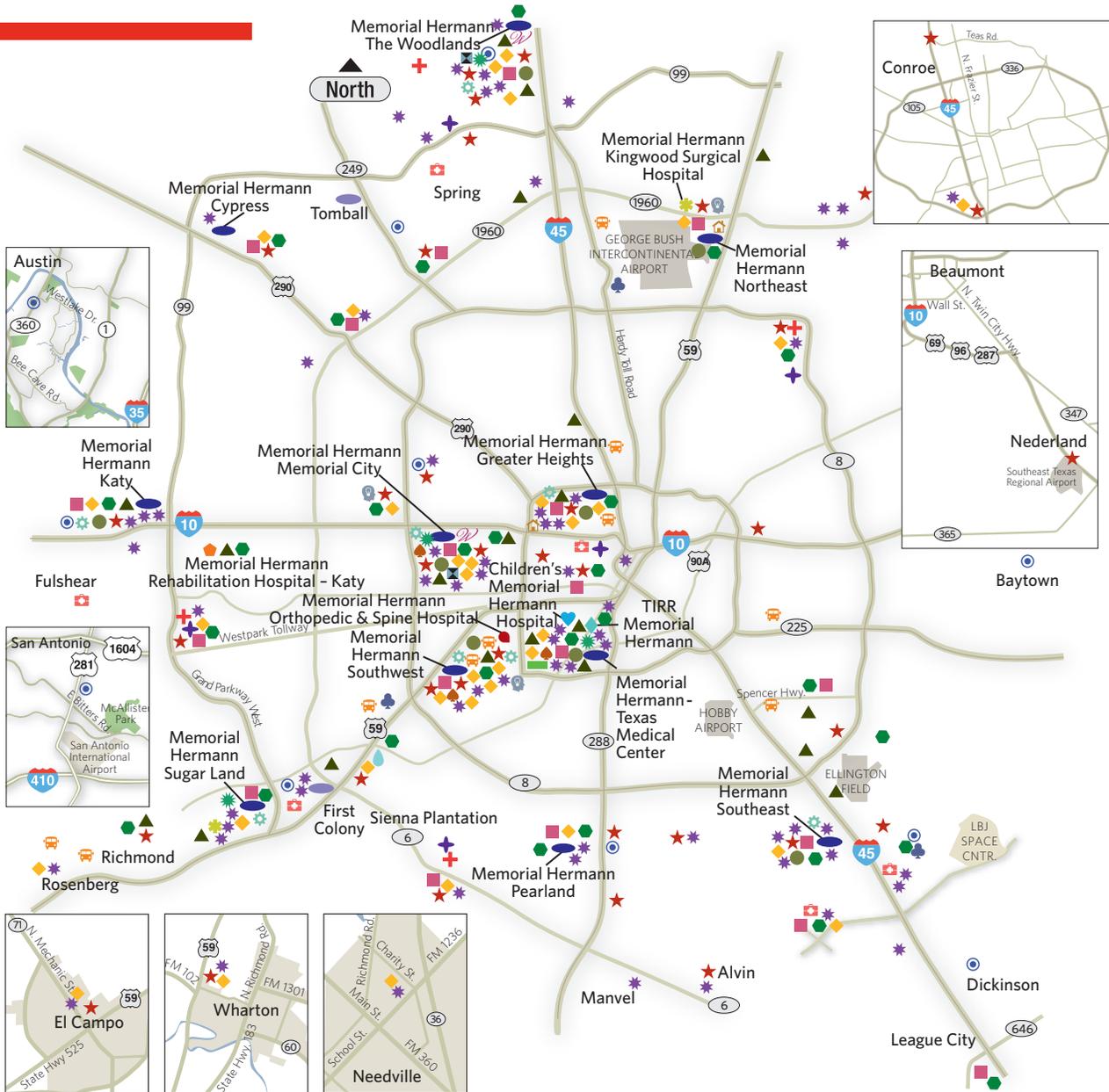
**5,073**  
working staff



**42,000**  
patient meals

**150,000**  
free café meals served  
to employees, families  
and first responders

# Improving the health of this region, neighborhood by neighborhood



## 312 Care Delivery Sites

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> 32 Imaging Centers</li> <li><span style="color: red;">■</span> 19 Breast Care Locations</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">★</span> 45 Sports Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">◆</span> 36 Diagnostic Laboratories</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">▲</span> 20 Surgery Centers</li> <li><span style="color: red;">+</span> 4 Freestanding Emergency Centers</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">♣</span> 3 Home Care</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> 8 Cancer Centers</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">♣</span> 3 Heart &amp; Vascular Institutes</li> <li><span style="color: lightblue;">●</span> 1 Physicians at Sugar Creek</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: orange;">🚗</span> 10 School-Based Health Centers</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">🏠</span> 2 Neighborhood Health Centers</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">+</span> 5 Convenient Care Centers</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">⚙️</span> 8 Joint Centers</li> <li><span style="color: green;">⚙️</span> 3 Mental Health Crisis Clinics</li> <li><span style="color: red;">🏥</span> 6 Urgent Care Centers</li> <li><span style="color: green;">🏃</span> 4 IRONMAN Sports Medicine Institutes</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">♀️</span> 2 Women's Memorial Hermann Hospitals</li> <li><span style="color: green;">🧠</span> 1 Mischer Neuroscience Institute</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">👤</span> 11 Prevention &amp; Recovery Centers (PaRC)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: purple;">★</span> 68 Memorial Hermann Medical Group</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">🏢</span> 2 Executive Health Centers</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">🏥</span> 11 Acute-Care Hospitals</li> <li><span style="color: lightblue;">👶</span> 1 Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">🏥</span> 1 TIRR Memorial Hermann</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">🏥</span> 1 Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation Hospital - Katy</li> <li><span style="color: red;">🏥</span> 1 Memorial Hermann Orthopedic &amp; Spine Hospital</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">🏥</span> 2 Surgical Hospitals</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">🏥</span> 2 Micro Hospitals</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

TIRR is a registered trademark of TIRR Foundation.

For 110 years, Memorial Hermann has worked to bring safe, high-quality health care to the people of Southeast Texas.

We are one of the largest nonprofit, truly integrated health systems in the country, known for world-class clinical expertise, patient-centered care, leading-edge technology and innovation. That means millions of families have access

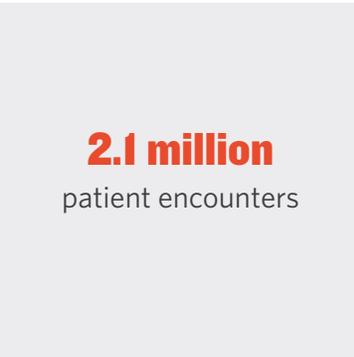
to award-winning Memorial Hermann care, from hospitals and specialty institutes to urgent care and physician clinics, within 15 minutes of virtually any neighborhood in the Greater Houston area.

We are proud partners with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth and The University of Texas MD Anderson.



**2017 Highlights**

**635,001**  
emergency room visits



**2.1 million**  
patient encounters



**165,949**  
inpatient admissions

**15**  
hospitals, plus four joint-venture facilities

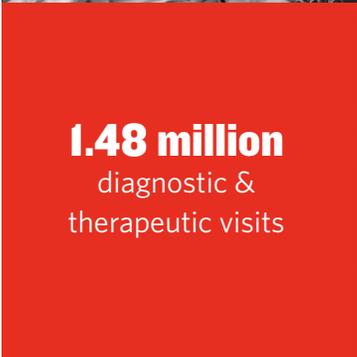


**2,200**  
research studies

**171,526**  
surgeries



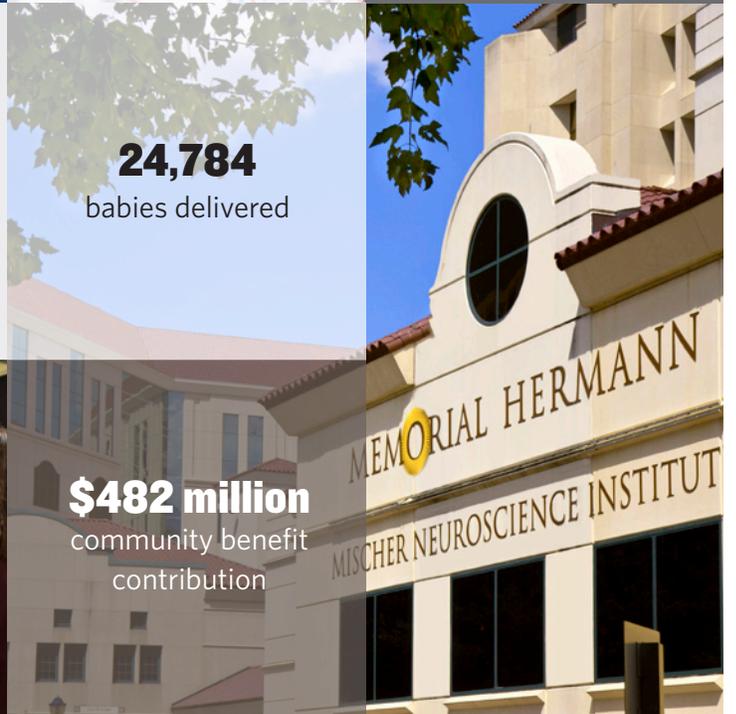
**24,784**  
babies delivered



**1.48 million**  
diagnostic & therapeutic visits



**\$482 million**  
community benefit contribution



**MEMORIAL HERMANN**  
**MISCHER NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE**

# MEMORIAL HERMANN Foundation

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

## VISION

Memorial Hermann Foundation

If you do NOT wish to receive future communications from Memorial Hermann Foundation, you may opt out by emailing [mh.foundation@memorialhermann.org](mailto:mh.foundation@memorialhermann.org), or calling 713-242-4400.

SATURDAY • 7:00 PM  
**04.21.18**  
HILTON AMERICAS-HOUSTON • 1600 LAMAR

*Rise & Shine*  
2018

Memorial Hermann  
**CIRCLE of LIFE GALA**

BENEFITING  
Memorial Hermann Trauma  
& Critical Care Services

CHAIRS  
Anna & Scott McLean

DANCING TO  
Simply Irresistible

For more information, call 713.242.4450 or email  
[Cathleen.fishel@memorialhermann.org](mailto:Cathleen.fishel@memorialhermann.org)

## Mark Your Calendar

OCTOBER 17, 2017

State of Health Care Breakfast

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

Heroes in Health  
TIRR Memorial Hermann  
Interactive Workshop

NOVEMBER 28, 2017

President's Club Reception

JANUARY 31, 2018

CEO's Circle Dinner

FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Heroes in Health  
Sporting Clay Shoot

SPRING 2018

CEO's Circle Lecture  
The Art of Health Care

For more information call 713-242-4400.