Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida is on the move. In addition to construction of the new tower—scheduled for completion in 2017—the hospital plans to expand its services in Coller and Charlotte counties.

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida and Miami Children’s Hospital will collaborate on an urgent care and ambulatory care center in Coller County. It will include the area’s first and only urgent care center dedicated solely to children.

The 17,000 square foot facility will bring coordinated, comprehensive services to the pediatric community in Coller County. “The great part about our collaboration with Miami Children’s Hospital is that it is designed not to send children across the state, but to keep them here in our community,” says Kathy Bridge-Liles, chief administrative officer, Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.

The affiliation provides access to physicians and services at Miami Children’s Hospital, one of the leading pediatric hospitals in the U.S., with a 650-member medical staff that includes experts in pediatric subspecialties not available at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. Children who make the trip to Miami are transferred back to Golisano Children’s Hospital as soon as possible to continue their care near home.

“Miami Children’s Hospital shares Golisano Children’s Hospital’s commitment to ensuring the best possible care in the most appropriate setting for children,” said Armando Llechu, vice president of clinical operations at Miami Children’s Hospital. “We are committed to enhancing convenience for children and families and look forward to offering pediatric urgent care and other treatment options for children in Coller County as part of this collaboration.”

Kathy and the team at Golisano Children’s Hospital are eager for the opportunities available through the Miami Children’s Hospital collaboration. “We are excited to expand our relationship with Miami Children’s Hospital as we continue to develop a comprehensive network of care for our patients,” Kathy adds.

Golisano Children’s Hospital will relocate certain specialty services currently available at its Pediatric Specialty Clinic on Immokalee Road to the new facility when it opens. These specialties include consultations with pediatric hematologists, oncologists, cardiologists, nephrologists, allergists, pulmonologists, neurologists, gastroenterologists, endocrinologists and surgeons. Other services moving into the new center include the children’s rehabilitation center, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology/radiology services. Plans to add more specialty services will be announced later.

Miami Children’s Hospital board-certified pediatricians will staff the urgent care facility and will treat colds, coughs and sore throats, stomach aches, strains and sprains, cuts that need stitches, dog or other animal bites, asthma, earaches and ear infections, and other minor, but urgent, ailments to help parents with sick or injured children avoid a trip to the emergency room. The urgent care clinic—which will be the only one of its kind in Southwest Florida—will also offer X-ray services specifically for children.

Working together raises care delivery to the next level by giving Golisano Children’s Hospital access to premier pediatric cardiac and neurosurgeons through telehealth services for subspecialty consultations. “A phone line has been established specifically for physicians to access the on-call neurosurgeon in Miami 24/7,” Kathy says. “This enables our doctors to consult with specialists in Miami as if they were there with us in the same room.”

This is another opportunity to keep our children close to home. “It’s really a win-win situation,” Kathy says. “In addition to the new clinic, plans are under way for pediatric rehabilitation in the new facility. Pediatric patients will have access to physical, occupational and speech therapy.”

In Charlotte County, plans include the expansion of the Pediatric Specialty Clinic, which currently offers 1,500 square feet of space, to something twice that size. “We did not anticipate the number of patients who needed our services there,” says Emad Salman, M.D., pediatric hematologist/oncologist and Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida medical director. “We currently serve about 2,000 patients at that clinic and there is a need to serve more. We are looking forward to growing in that area so we can meet the needs of the community.”

One of the main drivers of the Golisano expansion to adjacent counties is a need, and a desire to keep children as close to home for care as possible. “We know that when children receive care close to home, it eases the burden on the entire family and helps facilitate the healing process,” Kathy says. “That’s the ultimate goal of our health care providers and everyone on our team.”

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Fetal Echocardiograms Detect Heart Abnormalities Prior to Birth

Echocardiography assesses the function and structure of the heart. For pregnant women whose infant may be at risk for a congenital heart defect (CHD), this technology can detect abnormalities even before the baby is born.

“We have found a number of minor and complex congenital heart defects using fetal echocardiograms,” says Eric Eason, D.O., pediatric cardiologist. “Being able to find CHDs in utero allows us to educate and counsel the family before the baby is born. It also helps us decide whether we can deliver and treat the baby here or whether the baby should be delivered at a referral facility.”

Not all pregnant women require this test, Dr. Eason says. Instead there are situations or circumstances that increase the risk of a baby being born with a heart defect, and therefore, warrant an echocardiogram. Examples include:

- A family history of CHD in immediate family members
- A chromosomal or genetic abnormality discovered in the fetus
- Alcohol or substance abuse by the mother during pregnancy
- The mother’s consumption of certain medications during pregnancy
- The mother has certain medical conditions, such as diabetes or lupus

“Fetal echocardiograms are usually done in the second trimester—as early as 18 weeks gestation,” Dr. Eason says. “This provides time to determine the best plan of care.”

The most common CHDs that Dr. Eason sees are holes in the walls that separate chambers of the heart, which are called septal defects. “Small or moderately sized holes often close by themselves,” he explains. “Larger holes in the upper part of the heart—called atrial septal defects (ASD)—can be closed with open-heart surgery or by cardiac catheterization. We have partnered with our obstetrics and maternal-fetal medicine providers to identify issues earlier in pregnancy, which ensures we deliver the most appropriate care as soon as possible.”

Trainers Provide Immediate Attention to Injured High School Athletes

Youth sports are not just child’s play. Middle and high school athletes experience the joys of winning, but each year, many also deal with sports-related injuries.

Lee Memorial Health System, the Orthopedic Surgeons of Specialty Management Services, Lee County Medical Society, Lee County Public Schools, and Florida Gulf Coast University are partnering to provide a comprehensive sports medicine program that will help student athletes deal with injuries as quickly as possible.

Orthopedic surgeon Abbott “Bo” Kagan and other members of the Lee County Medical Society are part of a Sports Medicine Committee that identified a need to coordinate care for pediatric sports injuries. “Most injuries we see can be treated on the field or in the training rooms,” Dr. Kagan says. “The most common injuries include bruises, lacerations, hand injuries, sprains, dislocations, etc. Some require specialized care, including ligament injuries, fractures and concussions.”

The vision is a comprehensive sports medicine program that includes education, service and research. “We expect to provide a world class program for our student athletes, and then expand it to include all levels of athletes in the community,” says Peter Bohatch, director of Student Services, Lee County School District. “We believe in education for students, teachers, coaches, parents on concussion prevention and symptoms, ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) and other injury prevention programs, nutrition education, training education, performance education, and more.”

The agreement includes:

- Trainers present at games
- Providing training services
- Coordinated and evidence-based, standardized care

“Our first priorities are resourcing the trainers and developing a concussion program, including return-to-play and return-to-educate protocols,” says Alex Greenwood, Orthopedics service-line director, Lee Memorial Health System. “We plan to roll out this education this summer and go-live by the fall sports season.”

Currently, 13 schools are served by the four existing school system trainers. Three additional trainers will soon begin working with more schools and associated sports teams. “Adding the trainers will significantly reduce the responsibility per trainer, allowing for significantly better game and practice coverage in the county,” Alex says.

Remembering Bob Storms

Jan. 15, 1923-Jan. 9, 2015

In January, the Lee Memorial Health System family lost a beloved member. Robert "Bob" Storms created “Palmer the Turtle” for Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Through Bob—and his co-creator Frank Haskell—Palmer and his cartoon friends helped young patients learn about medical procedures and what to expect when they entered the hospital.

“He was a very kind, caring person,” says pediatric hematologist/oncologist Emdad Salman, M.D. “Bob loved to give back and was excited to help create Palmer the Turtle to educate children stricken by cancer and other chronic illnesses. He worked with Disney Studios in the past so we felt fortunate to have someone with his level of talent volunteer for us.”

The team at Golisano Children’s Hospital provided a story line and Bob developed the drawings. The stories are written as adventures. “The children and families who have used the books have given us very positive feedback,” Dr. Salman says.

The books are written at a 3rd to 5th grade reading level. Along with the reading books, Bob and Lee Memorial Health System staff developed coloring books and a Palmer the Turtle plush toy. “These have been welcome additions to the Palmer the Turtle series,” Dr. Salman says. “We continue to work on more books. The legacy that Bob left will continue for years. We plan on continuing Palmer the Turtle books on more medically related topics. We will miss Bob. He was a wonderful man and very generous with his time.”

Palmer the Turtle items are available at the HealthPark Medical Center and Lee Memorial Hospital Gift Shops and the Lexington Country Club Pro Shop.

We’ll Miss You!
Advancements in Cancer Treatments Increase Survival Rates

The word “cancer” is a mere two syllables, but can devastate a family, especially if the diagnosis affects a young child. Hematologists and oncologists at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida are using the latest technology to treat young patients who live with this life-threatening condition.

“The most common type of cancer we treat is acute lymphoblastic leukemia,” says pediatric hematologist/oncologist Craig MacArthur, M.D. “We treat all types of childhood, adolescent and young adult patients with pediatric cancers. “The most common type of cancer we treat is acute lymphoblastic leukemia,” says pediatric hematologist/oncologist Craig MacArthur, M.D. “We treat all types of childhood, adolescent and young adult patients with pediatric cancers. “The word “cancer” is a mere two syllables, but can devastate a family, especially if the diagnosis affects a young child. Hematologists and oncologists at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida are using the latest technology to treat young patients who live with this life-threatening condition.

“Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) starts in the early version of white blood cells in the bone marrow. From there, the cancer can travel through the blood to other parts of the body. Dr. MacArthur and the team of Golisano Children’s Hospital hematologists/oncologists treat this and other cancers to other parts of the body. Dr. MacArthur and the team of Golisano Children’s Hospital hematologists/oncologists treat this and other cancers to other parts of the body. Dr. MacArthur and the team of Golisano Children’s Hospital hematologists/oncologists treat this and other cancers to other parts of the body. Dr. MacArthur and the team of Golisano Children’s Hospital hematologists/oncologists treat this and other cancers to other parts of the body. Dr. MacArthur and the team of Golisano Children’s Hospital hematologists/oncologists treat this and other cancers.

The survival rate for most leukemia and other cancer patients continues to improve, with survival rates ranging from 40-50 percent for the most critical acute myeloid leukemia to as high as 95-98 percent for lesser risk acute lymphoblastic leukemia and 98 percent for stage 1 Wilms’ tumor (kidney cancer).

“Acute lymphoblastic leukemia” is a mere two syllables, but can devastate a family, especially if the diagnosis affects a young child. Hematologists and oncologists at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida are using the latest technology to treat young patients who live with this life-threatening condition.

“We believe that clinical research trials provide the best available therapy at the time of diagnosis, while contributing to stepped clinical advancements that improve outcomes for future patients,” Dr. MacArthur says. “The majority of our patients are treated on clinical research trials through our membership in the Children’s Oncology Group (COG). COG is a clinical cooperative group of children’s hospitals in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand that provides for clinical research trials for it member institutions to provide for their patients. This allows all participating children’s hospitals to provide the same high quality treatment to all patients, no matter where they live.”

In the past decade treatment plans for patients have improved and include:

- Increased use of molecular genetics to better classify and diagnose solid tumors and childhood leukemia
- Chemotherapy dose intensity (increased dose and/or decreased dosing interval) to improve survival in Ewing’s sarcoma
- Increased use of biological therapy; primarily monoclonal antibody therapy (immune system protein that is produced in mice to recognize human tumor-specific targets), in conjunction with chemotherapy, to improve disease outcomes
- Increased use of cytokines (normal human proteins that signal to other cells in the body, but are synthetically produced in the laboratory for medical use) to maintain blood counts and allow for increased chemotherapy dose intensity
- PET scan imaging has become standard and allows better assessment of disease response in lymphomas and some other solid tumors
- Increased use of “focused radiation therapy” to minimize radiation damage to adjacent normal tissue
- Enrollment of pediatric patients in clinical research trials to provide best available therapy at time of treatment, but also to contribute to future improvements in therapy
- Increased use of laparoscopic (small incisions in the stomach), thoracoscopic (in the chest area) and endoscopic (digestive tract) surgical procedures to allow less invasive tissue diagnosis and staging. This allows the patient to receive potentially curative therapy sooner because recovery time from surgery is usually shorter.

The survival rate for most leukemia and other cancer patients continues to improve, with survival rates ranging from 40-50 percent for the most critical acute myeloid leukemia to as high as 95-98 percent for lesser risk acute lymphoblastic leukemia and 98 percent for stage 1 Wilms’ tumor (kidney cancer).

“No child should die of cancer.” For Kassandra and Khamael, the PPEC has been a godsend. “Khamael is getting better and better, and his g-tube is going to be removed after flu season, but I pray that he’s able to stay at the PPEC,” Kassandra says.

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida
Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center
15901 Bass Road
Suite 106
Fort Myers, FL 33908
239-343-6590

Prevalent Types of Childhood Cancer

- Acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- Brain tumors
- Acute myeloid leukemia
- Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Wilms’ tumor (kidney cancer in childhood)
- Neuroblastoma (usually adrenal primary location)
- Ewing’s sarcoma (bone cancer)
- Osteosarcoma (bone cancer)
- Hepatoblastoma (liver cancer)
- Rhabdomyosarcoma (muscle cancer)
Pediatric Sleep Disorders

At every age and stage of life, sleep is vital for our health and well-being. One-third of a person’s life is spent in sleep, and in the pediatric age range, it should be one-fourth of a child’s life. So, for children and teens, sleep is crucial, as it supports brain and physical growth and development. Recognizing sleep issues early and seeking treatment and support helps ensure every family member gets the sleep they need to thrive.

“Due to the obesity epidemic, we are seeing more sleep apnea—where the child snores loudly and his or her breathing stops and starts,” explains Jose Colon, M.D., sleep specialist. “Some kids—about 10 percent of children—have primary snoring, which means they don’t stop breathing while they snore. So, it is important to do a sleep study to determine whether the child has sleep apnea—which affects about 2-3 percent of children and can also be caused by big tonsils. Tonsillectomy is serious surgery, so the sleep study helps us determine which children need the surgery and which don’t.”

Dr. Colon says children with primary snoring usually outgrow it as the airway matures and the tonsils shrink.

Other common complaints that Dr. Colon sees are sleepwalking and night terrors, both of which worry parents. “These happen during the deepest stages of sleep,” Dr. Colon says. “So the child isn’t affected emotionally because they don’t realize it happened—they have no recollection of it. I just remind parents to keep the child’s environment safe, and the sleepwalking is not an issue. But, if the child is going to be in a different environment, like if he or she is going camping, for example, then we can treat the child with medication to ensure the child’s safety from sleepwalking. If snoring is present in the setting of sleepwalking or night terrors, then a sleep study may be helpful, as these can also be seen more frequently with untreated sleep apnea.”

Narcolepsy is another sleep issue that affects children, and one that usually begins between the ages of 7 and 22. Dr. Colon says sleepiness and falling asleep in school can be signs of narcolepsy. “In children, sleepiness usually shows up as tantrums, hyperactivity and fighting sleep,” Dr. Colon explains. “So falling asleep or napping after the child should have outgrown naps are red flags that could suggest narcolepsy.”

Dr. Colon breaks down sleep needs per night in the easiest way:

- 12-month-old needs 11 + 1—11 hours of sleep and 1 nap
- 10-year-old needs 10 hours
- 9th grader needs 9 hours
- Adults who work 9 a.m.-5 p.m., or an 8-hour shift, need 8 hours

Pediatricians commonly refer patients for sleep disorders evaluation, however parents also can schedule an evaluation on their own and the sleep center will coordinate the evaluation with the primary care physician. An overnight sleep study is not always necessary, Dr. Colon says. “We review each patient’s history and discuss sleep issues with the parents,” he says. “If necessary, we schedule an overnight sleep study. We also have an actigraphy band—which is like a Fit Bit—that the patient wears for one to two weeks so we can study his or her sleep patterns. This has really changed our practice because the patient is home in his or her own bed and going through his or her own routine, rather than the artificial environment at the lab. It helps us pinpoint issues and determine the best plan of care.”

Jose Colon, M.D.
Sleep Medicine
Lee Physician Group
13601 Plantation Road
Fort Myers, FL 33912
239-343-0762
www.tinyurl.com/DrColon

Play Areas Provide Fun for Local Children

Lee Memorial Health System Foundation and Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida are proud to sponsor two play areas—places where local children can develop an active imagination.

“Pirate’s Cove” is a 2,000 square-foot play area, located in Market Plaza, near Ron Jon Surf Shop and Bar Louie at Gulf Coast Town Center. The play area features underwater and pirate-themed structures in the shape of an octopus, a large pirate ship and a treasure chest, and are perfect for climbing and playing. The play area is situated on a large, ocean colored floor appropriate for crawling, climbing and playing. In addition to acting as an entertainment spot for kids, the play area provides an oasis for parents—a place where they can relax and watch the action from benches strategically placed around the perimeter, covered by bright yellow, large shade sails.

The “Children’s Play Area” at the Coconut Point shopping center is a covered area with bench seating for adults and a medieval theme for children. The play area features a castle, drawbridge and dragons that are large enough for play and sitting. A center “tree” includes woodland creatures peeking out of a painted cubby and a padded base to prevent bumps and bruises. These interactive play areas inspire fun, exciting, educational, healthy and safe play for children. Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida and Lee Memorial Health System encourage children to develop an active, outdoor lifestyle.
Transporting a tiny infant or a seriously injured child in a car often is not possible or safe. Most often, an ambulance is a better option. But, Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida takes safety and comfort a step further with its kid-friendly, state-of-the-art pediatric ambulances that are manned by specially-trained health professionals.

“Our three ambulances are designed especially for the neonatal and pediatric populations,” explains Niki Shimko, Golisano Children’s Hospital pediatric transport team lead and pediatric intensive care unit clinical coordinator. “Along with child- and family-friendly design features—like blue skies and puffy white clouds painted on the inside, tinted doors to hide supplies, blanket warmers, TVs with DVD players, room for a parent, and an iPad and other distraction tools—the ambulances are essentially mobile ICUs. We can provide vital care while en route to the hospital.”

The ambulances are staffed by the pediatric transport team, which includes registered nurses and respiratory therapists trained in neonatal and pediatric critical care, as well as a licensed EMT or paramedic. The team functions under the guidance of a neonatal or pediatric intensive care physician. The ambulances also are set up for telemedicine, so the physician and care team back at the hospital can see what level of care is provided, as well as the state of the patient.

“Depending on the type of call and the age of the child, either the neonatal or the pediatric team will go on the call,” Niki says. “Each team has their own specific equipment to load onto the ambulance—for example, the neonatal team travels with an isolette—or two if there are twins—that safely and securely incubate premature infants.”

The ambulances pick up infants and children—0 to age 18—from outlying hospitals. Niki says the ambulances have traveled as far as Tampa, Orlando and Miami to transport children to Golisano Children’s Hospital. “We’re running 24 hours a day—we’re always ready to go,” Niki says. “Generally, we average about 3-5 calls in a 12-hour shift.”

The ambulances and the transport teams help kids get the specialized medical care they need and still stay as close to home as possible.

Maternity Benchmark Report

By supplying all the necessary nutrients in proper proportions and protecting an infant from allergies, sicknesses and diseases, breast milk is the most beneficial form of nutrition for infants. Mothers also benefit, as breastfeeding reduces the risk of type 2 diabetes, breast cancer, ovarian cancer and post-partum depression. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Surgeon General of the United States, and most obstetricians and pediatricians recommend breastfeeding for all mothers who can. Lee Memorial Health System set up practices to enable and optimize breastfeeding, and Cape Coral Hospital recently received high marks in a CDC benchmark report.

“Every two years, the CDC administers a national survey of maternity care practices related to breastfeeding, called the ‘Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care Survey,’ explains Nancy Travis, RN, nursing director of Labor & Delivery and Women’s Care at Cape Coral Hospital. “Cape Coral Hospital was one of 2,666 facilities that participated in the survey; and we are so proud that Cape Coral Hospital scored a 92 out of a possible 100. Our score surpassed state and national averages—which were 78 and 75 respectively.”

Cape Coral Hospital has implemented a number of practices and processes in order to provide optimal support to breastfeeding mothers, including:

- Keeping healthy mothers and babies together—not separating them—after birth
- Enabling skin-to-skin contact for mother and baby during the Golden Hour after birth
- Providing gentle cesareans—offering skin-to-skin in the operating room immediately following cesarean
- Delayed bathing so there is time for mother and baby to bond skin-to-skin
- An environment where we can improve, which is key for us as we continue to create an optimal healing environment.”

Lee Memorial Health System offers breastfeeding classes and support groups. Both include the services of board certified lactation consultants. For more information, call 239-343-5271 or visit www.LeeMemorial.org/birthed.
Don’t Miss Wild About Kids

There’s still time—choice sponsorships are available for our unique Wild About Kids event set for March 14 at one of Southwest Florida’s best kept secrets: the NGALA Private Reserve in Collier County. Proceeds benefit Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida through the Gift of a Lifetime capital campaign.

Guests will be transported on a grand safari adventure on 42 breathtaking acres in a setting rivaling the beauty of Africa. You will be treated to lush tropical gardens complete with water features, as well as magnificent, rare and exotic creatures such as giraffe, camel, zebra, leopard, chimpanzee, alligators and a Florida panther.

Don’t miss your chance to enjoy dinner and more in authentic custom-created safari tents adorned with carefully selected artifacts. Truly unique, Wild About Kids is the only benefit scheduled at NGALA in 2015.

Make your reservation today while there is still time. Contact your safari guide Melissa Cunningham at Melissa.Cunningham@LeeMemorial.org or call 239-343-6071.

Celebrity Tennis Event Helps Cancer Patients on March 27 & 28

Come out to The Landings Golf, Yacht and Tennis Club in Fort Myers on March 27 and 28 as Madisen’s Match, a celebrity tennis event with proceeds directed to help cancer patients, returns for its 7th year.

Diagnosed with a brain tumor at the age of 3, Madisen Abramson, now 10 years old, is the namesake for this very special tennis event. Madisen’s battle to overcome her condition has inspired countless other cancer patients.

Stars such as Cliff Drysdale, Jimmy Arias, Tom Guillumson, the Jensen brothers and Mikhail Perelmuter—to name just a few—have taken part in the past. A fantastic line-up also is on tap for 2015 as Barbara’s Friends — Golisano Children’s Hospital Cancer Fund, along with the Regional Cancer Center benefit from their participation.

Please visit www.MadisensMatch.com for complete details or contact Duane Chaney at duanechaney@comcast.net or 239-292-0322 for more information.

Making Children Smile

Minnesota Twins Visit Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida

The Minnesota Twins recently kicked off their Florida Caravan by visiting Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida to brighten the day for young patients. Players, including Twins pitcher Kyle Gibson, autographed baseballs and hats, and posed for pictures. Their visit brought a smile to many faces.

Golisano Children’s Hospital patient Annabelle enjoys the attention from Twins players (from left to right): Steve Gruver, Randy Rosario, Cameron Booser, JT Chargois, Tyler Stirewalt and Kyle Gibson.
Spirit Halloween Hosts Party for Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida

This past fall, Spirit Halloween hosted a special—and not so spooky—party for patients at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. In addition to hosting the party, The Spirit of Children program annually donates revenue from costume and decoration sales to child life programs at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. This year's donation was more than $26,000!

The special Halloween party provided all treats—and no tricks—for scores of Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida patients, including Natasha.

Face painting was a hit with patients, like Elizabeth, during the Spirit Halloween party.

Your Gift of a Lifetime

Thousands of caring people have already stepped forward to make gifts to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida's Gift of a Lifetime capital campaign.

As the campaign moves forward, we invite you to make a donation to support construction of a new 300,000 square foot, 128-bed pediatric medical facility on the campus of HealthPark Medical Center in Fort Myers, Florida. The state-of-the-art facility will provide for expanded specialty and sub-specialty pediatric services in our community.

The new Golisano Children's Hospital, set to open in 2017, will help keep children and their families from Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties close to home while receiving lifesaving medical care and treatment.

Please help us build a bright future for local children by making a gift of any size. Individuals, businesses and civic groups making cash donations or pledges of $25,000 or more may be permanently recognized with naming opportunities commensurate with giving level.

Please consider a lifesaving gift to help build America’s Newest Children's Hospital. Learn more by visiting www.ChildrensHospitalGoal.org, calling 239-343-6053 or emailing Foundation@LeeMemorial.org.

Why A New Children's Hospital Is Needed:

- 28% increase in admissions from 2004 to 2010
- 18-20% of children leave our area annually for health care
- 70% of patients are uninsured/Medicaid
- Current hospital does not have all private rooms to accommodate 24/7 parent/grandparent stays
- 45 adult beds will be recaptured, addressing community-wide shortage
- Receives no direct taxpayer support
- Receives no funding from Children's Miracle Network
- Not a United Way agency

Ways to Give

Thousands of community members have already made gifts to help build the new Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Please consider these ways to make your donation to the Gift of a Lifetime capital campaign.

Cash/Pledge

A gift of cash or a pledge of cash over a defined time frame is the most popular way to give. In the majority of cases, pledges will be paid within five years.

Appreciated Stock

Those who have owned stock for more than one year may be able to deduct the full fair market value of the stock as a charitable donation, not just the original cost, if donated to the capital campaign. This may help bypass capital gains taxes and decrease tax liability.

Honor or Memorial Gift

Help young patients while at the same time honoring a family member, friend or associate who has made a difference in your life. Gifts of all sizes are greatly appreciated.

Wills

Making a gift through a will can allow current assets to remain untouched during the donor’s lifetime while providing significant benefits to patients in the future.

Estate Note

Supporters age 70 1/2 or older may wish to consider making an irrevocable pledge or debt against their estate with the option of paying it off during their lifetime. This instrument binds the donor's estate to the extent not paid during the donor's lifetime and may be pledged for one or two lives.

Trusts

You may want to consider giving through a Charitable Lead Trust or Charitable Remainder Trust. Each offers distinct advantages to both the donor and the charity.

Permanent Endowment

Establish a legacy that will live on beyond your lifetime by making a gift to create a permanent endowment fund for a children's hospital service/department that has special meaning for you and your family.

Be sure to consult your tax professional, financial, legal or other trusted advisor before making a gift to Lee Memorial Health System Foundation.

Visit www.ChildrensHospitalGoal.org for additional information on these and other giving vehicles. You also can call Lee Memorial Health System Foundation at 239-343-6053 for more information about giving to the capital campaign.

Future Newscasters

Golisano Children's Hospital patients, Coliach (left) and Chansen, honed their broadcasting skills during a visit to WINK-TV in Fort Myers. The pair took time from recording promotional radio spots to "fill-in" for television anchors prior to the evening newscast.
We are grateful for the significant support provided to Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida from generous community members. All gifts, large and small, are greatly appreciated. Recent donations include:

## Community Support

**Baycross Christian Family Foundation Presents $75,000 to Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida**

Representatives of the Baycross Christian Family Foundation presented Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida with a check for $75,000 to assist families participating in the hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Parent Support Group. Golisano Children’s Hospital provides premature and critically-ill infants with the most advanced care available in our region.

Parents and family members of premature babies draw upon resources from the support group to navigate the journey to well-being for their tiny loved ones. Emotional support from parents who have already overcome the challenges presented by life-threatening conditions offers hope for others currently dealing with the emotional barriers to recovery.

“We are so pleased to continue our support of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida with this gift to the NICU Parent Support Group,” says ShaHia M. Simpler, executive director for Baycross Christian Family Foundation. “This is where many little ones begin their lives, struggling to survive. The parents of these newborn babies struggle daily with feelings of desperation and fear. These parents have a great need for the comfort and spiritual nourishment provided by the parent support group. We thank the special physicians and nurses who skillfully and compassionately care for these families and give them hope.”

The foundation previously donated more than $1 million to underwrite construction of the NICU’s new family lounge, a lobby in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and a physician office in the Hematology/Oncology Unit.

**Rotary Club of Fort Myers Gifts $345,000 to Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida Capital Campaign**

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers formally presented their capital campaign contribution of $345,000 to Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. The gift was presented in memory of longtime children’s hospital leader Dr. Bob Arnall.

Three key spaces used by patients, families and physicians within the new children’s hospital will be named in memory of Dr. Arnall, including a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit family lounge, a lobby in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and a physician office in the Hematology/Oncology Unit.

The bulk of funds presented were raised through the Rotary Club’s sponsorship of the Fort Myers Wine Festival from 2005-2008. “It is an honor for our club and our members to be able to dedicate these areas of the soon-to-be new Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida in memory of Dr. Arnall,” says Anne Rose, club president.

“As we see the project and building come to life, it is even more meaningful to us to make sure the care given to thousands of children and families here in Southwest Florida by Dr. Arnall be remembered with love and honor.”

**Donation Helps Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Parents**

Those taking part in the check presentation from the Baycross Christian Family Foundation are (from left to right): Dr. William Liu, medical director, NICU; Cindy Mytnik, supervisor, NICU; Marietjie Van Der Hyde, director, NICU; ShaHia Simpler, executive director, Baycross Christian Family Foundation; Nancy Vossler, nurse manager, NICU; Dr. Larry Antonucci, chief operating officer, Lee Memorial Health System; Mary Beth Gardner, clinical educator, Golisano Children’s Hospital; Chrizy Reynolds, critical care, NICU; Lisa Lynagh-Dorcey, supervisor, NICU; and Jim Nathan, president, Lee Memorial Health System.

will help keep children and their families from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties close to home while receiving life-saving medical care and treatment.

Those interested in learning more about the donation and the Golisano Children’s Hospital capital campaign can email ChildrensHospitalGoal@LeeMemorial.org or call 239-343-6950.

**Recent donations include:**

*Lee Memorial Health System Foundation*  
*Baycross Christian Family Foundation*  
*Golisano Children’s Hospital*  
*Lee Memorial Health System*  
*Rotary Club of Fort Myers*

Contact Linda Kelly, senior director of development, at 239-343-6064 or by email at Linda.Kelly@LeeMemorial.org.
Tee-ming Up Fore Kidz Event Raises $92,000; Funds Raised Honor Kayden Sellick

Representatives of the Tee-ming Up Fore Kidz golf event presented a gift of $92,000 to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida in support of the capital campaign to construct a new children's hospital facility. The gift will be used to name a room in honor of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) survivor Kayden Sellick. Stock Development served as major sponsor for the event held at The Club at Olde Cypress in Naples, Fla.

“We sponsored and promoted this event to give back to Golisano Children’s Hospital for what they have given us, and that is a child who now has a fighting chance to lead a long, normal and healthy life,” says Matt Sellick, project manager for Stock Development and father of Kayden Sellick.

Matt, his wife Deborah and their son Kayden took part in the check presentation. “The care Kayden received during the 137 days he was in the NICU, and still receives to this day, is unbelievable,” Matt says. “To have a facility like this in our backyard is fantastic—you can’t help but get involved in raising funds to help build the new children’s hospital building, so that other children, like Kayden, can receive the care they so desperately need and deserve.”

Plans are under way to make the next edition of the event—set for May 16, 2015—even bigger and better. Those interested in taking part are invited to contact Matt Sellick at 239-825-9499 or msellick@stockdevelopment.com.

Youngquist Family Foundation Donates $14,000 to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida

The Youngquist Family Foundation recently presented a check for $14,000 to Golisano Children’s Hospital to help families taking part in the hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Parent Support Group. Funds were raised through a community golf tournament held at Old Corkscrew Golf Club in Estero and sponsored by the Youngquist Family Foundation.

The parent support group helps parents deal with what very well may be the most difficult and overwhelming experience they will ever face with their children. The group provides emotional support and other tools necessary to help parents who must literally stand by and watch as their young sons or daughters fight for their lives. The group gives parents the chance to connect and talk with others who are dealing with, or who have successfully dealt with, the challenges they face on a daily basis.

“Our first child spent over a month here in the NICU and I did not have the benefit of sharing with other families as we went through the frightening experience of watching him struggle to survive,” says Harvey Youngquist, Jr., speaking on behalf of the Youngquist Family Foundation. “When we heard about the NICU Parent Support Group and their needs, we decided to help in any way we could. This gift is just a small gesture of gratitude for what the nurses and doctors did for our son. Hopefully, other families will continue to benefit from the activities provided to them through the parent support group.”

For more information on the NICU Parent Support Group, please contact Linda Kelly, Lee Memorial Health System Foundation, senior director of development, at 239-343-6064 or Linda.Kelly@LeeMemorial.org.
Construction at Full Speed on Golisano Children’s Hospital Tower

Time marches on, and each step brings progress on the new Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. Construction ushered in the new year with a media event in late January. Just a week later renovation began on the future endoscopy suite.

“We are right where we need to be,” says Eric Anderson, senior project manager, Lee Memorial Health System Facilities Management. “We knew when we started this project that it was an enormous undertaking for Lee Memorial Health System, but we also knew we were up to the challenge.”

When completed in 2017, the new facility will feature 300,000 square feet of specialized pediatric care in a 7-story tower adjacent to HealthPark Medical Center. The new space includes renovation of 76,000 square feet of the existing Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. The new tower will also hold 17 separate bays for patients who need emergency care. Currently, pediatric and adult patients share a waiting room.

Upcoming construction goals:
- May — Construction on the hospital tower façade begins
- June — Concrete structure of the new hospital will be complete
- July — Completion of the catheterization and electrophysiology labs and cardiac observation unit renovation

Total cost of the project is expected to be more than $242 million. Dave Kistel, Lee Memorial Health System’s vice president of Facilities Management, says that the new building is designed with children in mind. “We deliberately placed all the windows in patient rooms on the south side so they have a view of the garden and play area outside, and patients on higher floors can see the Gulf of Mexico,” he says. “Everything, even small details, are designed to help patients heal and to have the most positive experience possible when they are in our care.”

Pediatric patients already receive special care, including transport in two pediatric ambulances that went into service in 2014, a dedicated team of social workers, teachers, child life specialists and a music therapist.

“Children are so important to our community and our future,” Dave says. “Everyone who has touched this project—from the planners to the construction workers, and the doctors and nurses who are saving and will continue to save lives—understands the impact of our work on this project and has taken it to heart.”

Updates to Current Hospital Features
- Elevated ramp access for the pediatric emergency department
- 13,000-square-foot expansion of the energy plant for Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida and HealthPark Medical Center
- Additional parking
- Reconfiguration of roads surrounding the facility and underground utilities

Visit www.ChildrensHospitalGoal.org to learn more about the project and to donate to the continued efforts of Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.
LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

CONVENIENT CARE

These walk-in medical centers provide treatment when you have common medical problems or minor, nonlife-threatening emergencies. Lab and x-ray services are available. Most major insurance plans are accepted. No appointment needed:

Ann Boudreaux, M.D.
Karen Carlock, M.D.
Nicole Higgins-Doughty, M.D.
Shaun Shugart, M.D.
Suhail Islam, M.D.
Jeffery Jinks, D.O.
Chris Leuczaehower, D.O.
Tiffani Maize, M.D.
Akil-Natali Lopez, M.D.
Guillermo Prada, M.D.
David Schult, M.D.
Avery Wright, D.O.
Karen Kivric, ARNP
Sarah McIntyre, ARNP
Sonya Powell, ARNP
Cynthia Rinehart, ARNP
Laura Snyder, PA
Samantha Sullivan, ARNP
Laurian Wright, ARNP

Fort Myers
- 4771 S. Cleveland Ave. (North of Page Field)
- 16230 Summerlin Rd., Ste. 215 (Summerlin & Bass Rds.)
- 2776 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901

Cape Coral
- 1682 NE Pine Island Road

Bonita Springs
Bonita Community Health Center
3501 Health Center Blvd.
Urgent Care
7 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat. and Sun.
239-349-1050

Fort Myers and Cape Coral locations are open
7 a.m.-7 p.m., 7 days a week. For information or appointments, call 239-481-4111.

Gulf Coast Medical Center
16601 Doctors’ Way, Fort Myers, FL 33912
(Shiokawa & Metro Parkway)

HealthPark Medical Center
13681 Doctors’ Way, Fort Myers, FL 33912
(Daniels and Metro Parkway)

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida
239-343-4000 (5437)

Lee Memorial Hospital
Blood Center Location
239-343-2000

The Rehabilitation Hospital
239-343-3900

Bonita Community Health Center
239-949-1050

Blood Center Location
3501 Health Center Blvd., Bonita Springs, FL 34135

The “Children’s Play Area” at the Coconut Point shopping center and Pirate’s Cove play area at Gulf Coast Town Center

An outpatient department of Lee Memorial Hospital
Events & Screenings

Positive Parent Support Group
Provided by Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida in collaboration with the Greater Naples YMCA, this support group is for families of children with special abilities. It provides the opportunity for families to connect and establish supportive relationships. Snacks and beverages provided.

**Time and Date:** 6-7:30 p.m., third Thursday of every month
**Location:** Greater Naples YMCA, 5450 YMCA Road, Naples
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-597-3148

Mobile Autism Screening
Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida hosts free autism screenings for children younger than age 5.

**Time and Date:** 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., March 27
**Location:** Outpatient Center at the Sanctuary, 8980 Colonial Center Drive, Fort Myers
**Registration and for More Information:** Appointments are encouraged; call 239-343-6838

Pregnancy/New Baby Childbirth Preparation
Understand the birthing process, choices in obstetrics, birthing fundamentals, breathing, relaxation, cesarean preparation, breastfeeding fundamentals and mother/baby care. This educational opportunity includes access to an online learning program plus a 3-hour Tour and Talk session that is conducted by nurses who are nationally certified by the International Childbirth Education Association. Women and their support person will receive a tour of the birth facilities and birthing beds, which provides the opportunity for women to ask questions and seek additional information about the birthing process.

**Time and Date:** Classes take place throughout the year
**Location:** HPMC and GCMC
**Fee:** $20 per couple
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-343-5271 or visit www.LeeMemorial.org/BirthEd

Partners in Parenting
Parenting classes are presented by Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida and The Child Advocacy Center of Southwest Florida. Classes teach parents how to focus on their strengths and set appropriate expectations for their children.

**Time and Date:** Classes meet once a week for 2 ½ hours, day and evening classes available
**Location:** Vary in Fort Myers and Cape Coral
**Fee:** No charge and free child care available for infants and toddlers
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-939-2808

Breastfeeding
Plan to give your baby the best possible start. Learn about common problems encountered during the first few weeks. All classes are taught by board certified lactation consultants.

**Time and Date:** Classes take place throughout the year
**Location:** HPMC and GCMC
**Fee:** $20 per couple
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-343-5271 or visit www.LeeMemorial.org/BirthEd

Pediatric CPR & First Aid
This course teaches caregivers to respond and manage illnesses in a child or infant in the first few minutes until professional help arrives. The course covers infant/child CPR and First Aid basics.

**Time and Date:** Vary
**Location:** Vary
**Fee:** Please contact us for prices
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-343-5101 or email Lorena.Rodriguez@LeeMemorial.org

Baby Care & Car Seat Safety
This is a one-time class for expectant parents. The class assists parents in becoming more comfortable and confident in their parenting role following the birth of their baby. This class also teaches parents how to properly use and install child restraints.

**Time and Date:** Classes take place throughout the year
**Location:** Vary
**Fee:** $20 per couple, $5 per additional person in attendance
**Registration and for More Information:** Call 239-343-5101 or email Lorena.Rodriguez@LeeMemorial.org

Free Car Seat Safety Inspections
Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida Child Advocacy Program offers free car seat inspections. Discounted car seats also are available.

**For more information** or to schedule an inspection, call 239-343-5803 or 239-343-6199 in Lee County or 239-254-4276 or 239-254-4277 in Collier County.

Safe Pool Parties
Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida Child Advocacy Program hosts pool and water safety programs at various locations throughout Southwest Florida.

**For more information,** call 239-343-5224 in Lee County or in Collier County, call 239-254-4276 or 239-254-4277.

Location Guide
To save space, we have abbreviated the names of our locations. Here is a guide to help you:

- **CCH** – Cape Coral Hospital
- **GCCM** – Gulf Coast Medical Center
- **HPMC** – HealthPark Medical Center
- **LMH** – Lee Memorial Hospital
- **RCC** – Regional Cancer Center
- **WCCC** – Wellness Center – Cape Coral
- **WCFM** – Wellness Center – Fort Myers

www.GolisanoChildrensFlorida.org