

# Friends For Life

Fall/Winter 2021



## Our Mission

At the Friends of Mercy Foundation, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable. The Foundation generates, receives and administers all philanthropic contributions in support of Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield.

## Our Vision

A healthier future for all, inspired by faith, driven by innovation and powered by our humanity.

## Our Values

### Compassion

Care with listening, empathy and love.  
Accompany and comfort those in need of healing.

### Inclusion

Celebrate each person's gifts and voice.  
Respect the dignity of all.

### Integrity

Inspire trust through honesty.  
Demonstrate courage in the face of inequity.

### Excellence

Serve with fullest passion, creativity and stewardship.  
Exceed expectations of others and ourselves.

### Collaboration

Commit to the power of working together.  
Build and nurture meaningful relationships.

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"I can't thank these nurses enough for all that they've done throughout my labors & deliveries. #angelsofmercysw. My husband and I thank you!" - Veronica

# Dear Friends of Mercy



Geoff King  
Chairman of the Board

As we all have continued to navigate some very challenging times and circumstances, one thing has remained constant; our Friends of Mercy have stayed strong supporting our community and our mission. The amazing resilience demonstrated by our Friends of Mercy, Donors, Foundation staff and our Hospital leadership and employees has allowed us to forge ahead providing the needed healthcare support system being demanded by our community during the pandemic in addition to planning for the future.

The success of any organization is dependent on having a committed and cohesive team and supporting cast of dedicated Board members and Foundation staff. Even more importantly, we have a supporting cast of donors and volunteers who have supported our Foundation with their time and financial resources to help us meet our mission by supporting our community needs and the success of the Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield. The generosity shown to our Foundation and Hospital operations and employees during these difficult times has been phenomenal to say the least.

With the sale of the Karpe Ranch and generous support from our donors and community, construction of the new tower at the Southwest Mercy campus is set to break ground very soon. This addition to our existing facility will allow the Hospital to provide more up to date facilities and improved care to meet the growing demand for healthcare in the area. And, if it had not been for the vision, foresight and leadership of our Hospital President, Bruce Peters, it is unlikely we would have ever gotten this project off the ground, let alone the upcoming groundbreaking.

And as most probably already know, Bruce will be retiring from Mercy Hospital in January 2022. I have known Bruce for many years and had the opportunity to work with him as he took over the reins at Mercy Hospital several years ago. It has been a privilege to serve and work with Bruce on the Hospital Board and as Chairman of the Friends of Mercy Foundation. Bruce's dedication and leadership of the Hospital will be apparent for years to come. While Bruce will eventually ride off into the sunset of retirement, he will be missed, but he will never be forgotten for his contributions and leadership provided to our Hospital and community health care.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors of the Friends of Mercy Foundation, we thank you and are most appreciative that you have chosen to support our mission and that of the Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield.



# Foundation Leadership



Geoff King  
*Chairman of the Board*



Mark Mulkay  
*Vice Chair*



Catherine Gay  
*Secretary*



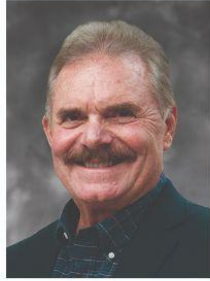
Bruce Peters  
*Hospital President & CEO*



Toni Harper  
*V.P. of Philanthropy*



Ben Locklear  
*Chief Financial Officer*



Steve Anderson



Kevin Andrew  
*Honorary*



Tim Banks, II



Greg Braun



Sharon Bush  
*Honorary*



Michelle Chantry



Simona Dulcich



Janice Froehlich



Montse Garcia-Castell



Joe Hay



Valerie Lallo



Sister Judy Morasci



Timothy Osborn



Carolyn Pandol



Dr. Ravi Patel



Sandi Shepherd



Marcie Soper



Katie Werdel



Joe Whittington

## COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Antonio Beccari  
Pat Campbell  
George Cappello  
Mikie Hay  
Randy Richardson

# A message from Mercy's leadership



Bruce Peters  
President and CEO  
Mercy Hospitals Bakersfield

Dear Friends of Mercy,

As you read this letter I will be in the last few weeks of my career here as Mercy's President, and on my retirement date of January 7, I will have been here two weeks short of 8 years. It concludes a lifetime of work in the healthcare industry that dates back to my early years starting out as a Paramedic in 1976. It's almost hard to believe that 45 years have passed since I cut my shoulder length long hair and joined the working world permanently. In the years between then and now I've had an amazing journey, and a lifetime of memories and people I've met along the way that have enriched my life beyond words.

Several years ago I attempted to write down these memories and accounts of my journey but quickly realized it was an almost impossible task. Trying to remember dates and places other than at a 30,000 foot level became an overwhelming exercise that I soon abandoned. The idea was that I would pass this along to my children and family. I have a friend who journals every day religiously and has been for most of his life. As someone who is attached to heritage and family history, I envy the legacy of memories and the ups and downs of life that he will be able to share with his children and family. Perhaps I will revisit this writing when there is more time in retirement. The point here is how lucky I've been to have the experiences I've had over the years, with the capstone of my career being here with you these last 8 years. I could not be more grateful.


As I reflect on these past years at Mercy, it has been amazingly rewarding throughout, and maybe especially, these past couple years with the pandemic grinding away at our community and world. Healthcare and hospital work is like no other profession. There is literal life and death attached to every moment of every day in what we do. My role was to support the incredible hospital staff and medical staff who are definitely heroes in my mind. The word hero gets thrown around a lot, but by any definition of the word, these great people are most assuredly heroes; before, during, and after whenever this pandemic goes away. I am humbled and forever grateful for their hard work, commitment, and sacrifices they have made.

I may not have accomplished all I set out to do as your President, but I am thankful for the opportunity to pull this organization forward and provide the kind of care our friends and family deserve. The hospitals are in good hands with a dedicated team and staff who are dedicated to the mission of caring for people. The support of you all has been one of the great blessings of my life that I am grateful for every day. I could not in a short letter begin to thank everyone who has been a supporter, a volunteer, and a friend throughout my time with you. Please know that I will carry all of you in my heart and have deep gratitude for all you have done for me and the ministry that is Mercy Hospitals. I wish you all good health, a happy life, and thank you again so much for the honor and privilege of being your President!

# Giving by the numbers

Total dollars raised


This year, our donors came together to realize the power of generosity and gratitude in our community. The results have been inspiring.



\$3,339,000	2021
\$4,420,000	2020
\$2,258,000	2019
\$1,339,000	2018
\$2,005,000	2017

Transfers to hospital


Transfers made by the Friends of Mercy Foundation to Mercy Hospitals show collaboration as monies are transferred only after the obligations of donor intent has been met.



\$1,898,000	2021
\$1,420,000	2020
\$1,956,000	2019
\$1,759,000	2018
\$2,016,000	2017

Total donors

Donors bolster innovation, bring together our community, and serve the vulnerable. Together we accomplish what none of us could do alone.



930	2021
1231	2020
1193	2019
1148	2018
1129	2017

# Mercy Hospitals by the numbers FY 20/21



## Served by Mercy

**111** years serving the community

**11,355** inpatient visits

**93,724** outpatient visits

**65,155** Emergency Department visits

**7,275** surgeries performed

**727** Robotic Surgeries performed

**12,434** babies delivered

**259** Neonatal babies treated



## Beyond the Walls of Mercy

**42** Outreach and Wellness Programs

**116,098** persons served in Outreach, Wellness and Financial Programs

**\$60,387,390** in patient financial assistance, unreimbursed costs of Medical and Medicare



## The Heart of Mercy

**1,531** employees

**628** nurses

**546** affiliated physicians with privileges and allied professionals

**46** medical/surgical specialties



## Friends of Mercy Foundation

**34** years serving the community

**4** employees

**\$0.19** cost per dollar raised

**\$5.37** return on \$1 investment

**\$53,068,980** lifetime funds raised to support critical equipment and programs



# Caring for those beyond our walls

There is a story of kindness behind every dollar donated to the Friends of Mercy Foundation. Here we show you the dollars and cents of serving the common good through philanthropy.

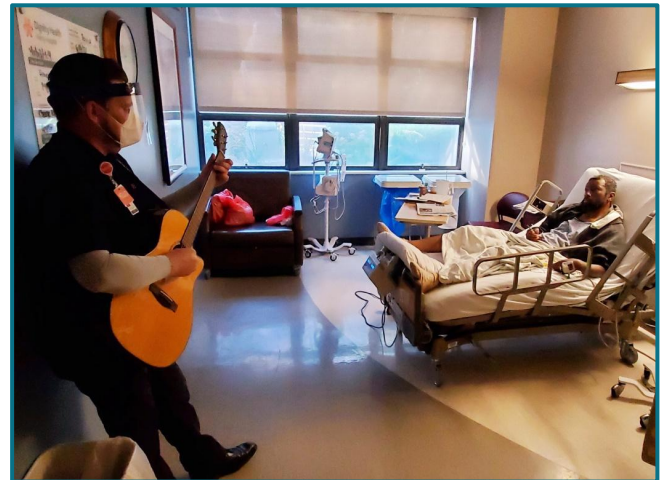


Betty is 96 years old, up-beat, and a hero. She was a welder for the U.S. Army; primarily building ships for WWII!

Betty's children are not near to provide the care she needs, so they reached out to Mercy's Homemaker Care program to help their mom with non-medical assistance. This allows her to remain independent in her home, exactly where she wants to be during her golden years.

The Acoustic Remedies Program at Mercy Hospitals allows trained music specialists to meet with patients, families and staff while using music as medicine for the soul. Clinical outcomes include improved respirations, lower blood pressure and relaxed muscle tension.

Whether in times of pain, sorrow, or joy, the Music Specialists reach beyond language to aid in the journey of healing of body, mind and spirit.



The Dignity Health outreach van is used in the community to reach those who need us the most.

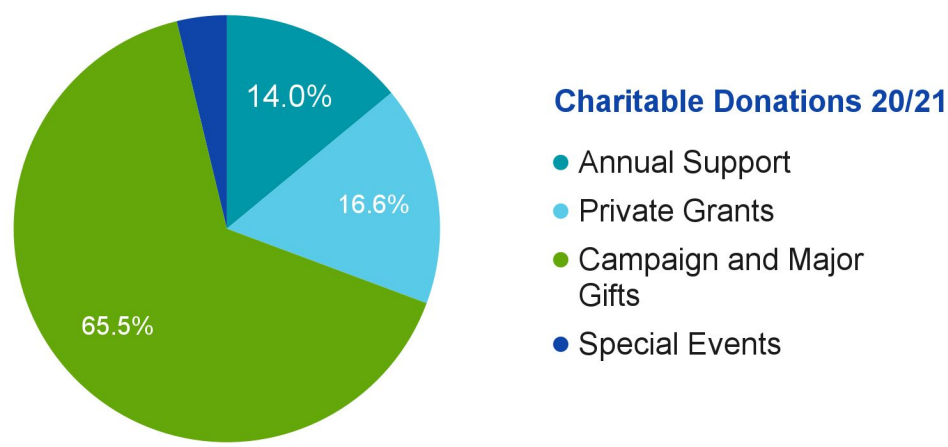
Food distribution, Operation Back to School, Shared Christmas, Operation BBQ Relief and collaborating with our community partners are just a few ways we work to provide food and basic needs to underserved populations in Kern County. Spreading humankindness is our lives work, thanks to your generous support.



# How funds are raised

At Friends of Mercy, a diverse group of donors supports our ministry through a variety of ways — annual donations, grants, planned and estate gifts, and other gifts to establish their legacy, or honor someone they love — we, and the patients we serve, are forever grateful.

Donations, large and small, enable the foundation to provide cutting-edge technology, build and support community outreach programs, and assist those who cannot afford the costs of healthcare. We have a saying in the Foundation that every gift is so special; from the one dollar bills that are carefully folded with a prayer request to the Sisters of Mercy, to those transformational gifts that change the landscape in our community.



## Your Friends of Mercy Foundation Team



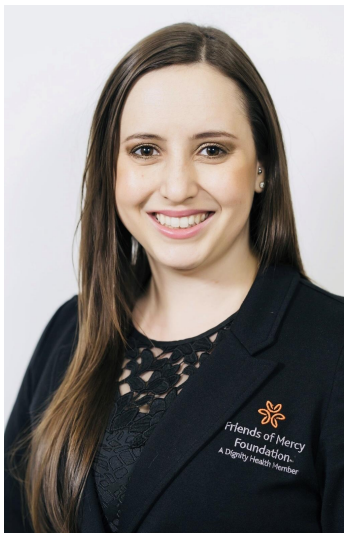
Toni Harper, LCSW, DBH  
VP, Philanthropy



Misty De La Torre  
Director, Operations



K. Samantha Cardenas  
Manager, Annual Giving



Jessica Turrubiates  
Manager, Philanthropy

# Together we heal

Since the inception of the Friends of Mercy Foundation in 1988, your generous support has improved the lives of countless individuals and families — in the hospital and beyond our walls.

General  
Capital



**\$26M**

Community  
Outreach



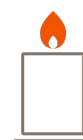
**\$16M**

Cancer/  
Oncology



**\$7M**

Mission  
Services



**\$2M**

Robotic  
Surgery



**\$1M**

Maternal &  
Neonatal Care



**\$930K**

COVID-19  
Response



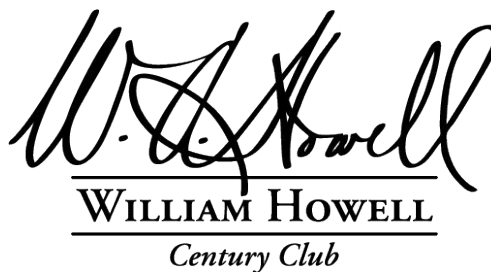
**\$293K**

**It's simple. Mercy is humankindness. The legacy of Mercy is compassion, and investing in compassion has a beginning with no end.** — Morgan Clayton, Chairman of the Board, Mercy Hospitals

# We are better together

At Mercy Hospitals, we have found that gathering like minded individuals creates incredible synergy, where the sums of its parts are greater than the whole. Whether it is the women who are continuing the legacy of the Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy Catherine McAuley, the men who honor William Howell for his enduring commitment to our community, emerging philanthropists of Legacy Circle, or Mercy Hospitals' very own employees through Spirit of Giving -- all see beyond their needs to support those that are underrepresented or have critical needs, and to ensure cutting edge technology right here at home.

Last year, over 700 individuals joined one of Mercy Hospitals' giving groups to raise more than \$400,000 to support projects that are critical to Mercy's mission. **These groups allow members to stay engaged with hospital leadership and the state of healthcare in Kern County, while enjoying the fellowship of other philanthropists.** For younger members, such as the 37 brand new nurses in the Galen Resident class that joined Spirit of Giving, it allows them to stand on the shoulders of the incredible leaders who came before them, and demonstrate commitment to our mission in word and deed.



## Giving Group Gifts

- Trident HD specimen radiography system
- Mercy's Angel Baby program
- Intraoperative radiation therapy device
- Blue light cystoscopy system
- Touchless tonometers
- Digital mobile C-arm
- Vein finders
- Bronchoscope
- Healthy Kids in Healthy Homes program
- Perinatal ultrasound
- NICU incubator
- 25-week premature simulation baby manikin
- BiPAP ventilators
- Intravenous medicine detectors
- Acoustic remedies program
- Homemaker care program dementia training
- Pet therapy program
- Mercy Richards education center expansion



# We remain steadfast in our mission

The light  
shines in the  
darkness, and  
the darkness  
can never  
extinguish it.  
- John 1:5



In 1910, the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Bakersfield to establish Mercy Hospital in a donated house located on 14th & H Streets. By 1912, the 14 rooms and 24 beds in the house were no longer adequate to meet the needs of the growing Bakersfield community.

On November 9, 1913, Mercy Hospital opened its doors on Truxtun Avenue, where it remains today thanks to the generous support of our community. The three story building was considered to be the most advanced hospital of its day, with the city's first passenger elevator and electrical light signal over each patient doorway.

**A massive 70 foot dome topped the building with a gold leaf cross at its apex illuminated by a lantern. The hospital was known as the “beacon of light” with the cross being visible for a distance of 10 miles around the city.**

Now, 111 years later, Mercy Hospitals continues to be a beacon of light in our community, and are once again ready to meet the growing needs of our community. Our expanded Mercy Southwest campus will include the first cardiac catheterization lab west of Highway 99, providing a critical need in the county. We will be the first hospital to have private family suites for the tiniest babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We will continue our commitment to oncology with the only inpatient cancer unit in Kern County. This is the shared legacy and the future of our community and Mercy Hospitals.

Although days have been dark during these unprecedented times, Mercy Hospitals remains steadfast in our mission to ensure every person in our community has access to state of the art care, delivered with compassion and love.

# Founders Circle

The Friends of Mercy Foundation gives special recognition to its donors who have contributed a total of \$10,000 or more. We sincerely appreciate the support and generosity of our Founders Circle members listed on these pages.

## Members Moving To The Next Level Of Giving

*These Founders Circle members have made gifts that qualify them for an individual glass tile at the following levels:*

### Benefactor Level

Tim and Rana Banks  
Ca Coverage and Health Initiative  
Jack and Carolyn Pandol

### Patron Level

Bruce Peters  
John & Chris Romanini  
Dave and Sandi Shepherd

### Sponsor Level

Harper Dougherty Family Trust

## New Members

*We are truly grateful to the following donors, who with their generous donations have recently become members of the Friends of Mercy Founders Circle:*

Joan Papasergia and Arthur Wallace  
Greg & Sheryl Gallion  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Soper  
Mr. & Mrs. Willy Reyneveld  
Larry & Kathy Wells  
Tim J. Banks Family  
John & Keri Gless  
California Health Foundation and Trust  
Mary Ann Rios  
Cassie Wright  
David and Amara Dobbs  
Drs. Kirit and Sujata Desai  
Anthony J. Lazzerini  
Department of Health Care Services  
Sierra Health Foundation  
Timothy M. Osborn

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The Estate of Millie Ablin  
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Jeff and Lisa Andrew  
Kevin and Maureen Andrew  
Gary & Antonette Anich  
†George and Marcelle Ansolabehere  
†Charles L. and Patricia Anspach  
The Honorable and Mrs. Robert Anspach

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†Mr. and †Mrs. Stan Antongiovanni  
American Cancer Society  
Paul and Virginia Arenas  
Ben H. and Gladys Arkelian Foundation  
Bakersfield Condors Professional Hockey  
Bakersfield Memorial Hospital  
Bakersfield Pathology Medical Group  
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†Mr. and †Mrs. James Banducci  
†Mr. John L. Banducci and Sandra M. Banducci  
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Bank of Stockdale  
Tim and Rana Banks  
Louis and Sheryl Barbich  
Barbich, Hooper, King, Dill, Hoffman  
Accountancy Corporation  
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Antonio and Maureen Beccari  
†E.G. and †Frankie Berchtold

Michael and Stephanie Beckwith  
bfgc architects planners, inc.  
Bruce Beretta and Melissa Fortune  
Berry Petroleum Company  
Mr. and Mrs. Domenick T. Bianco  
†Betty M. Bidart  
Bidart Family Foundation  
Leonard and Susan Bidart  
Diana Biswanger  
Glenn and Tricia Bland  
Blue Cross of California  
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Bolthouse Farms  
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Michele and Rex Brown  
Grady & Susan Buck  
Jeffrey and Alissa Buckey  
†Floyd & Anne Burcham and Joanna, Shawana, Tonya & Brett McCane



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 †Mr. and †Mrs. James L. Burke  
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 JoAnn Burris  
 Bill and Sharon Bush  
 Dr. Javier and Laurie Bustamante  
 Greg and Mary Bynum  
 Cabrini League  
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 Mike and Pat Campbell  
 Patricia Durando Campbell  
 Andy Cantu  
 George and Debbie Cappello  
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 †Mrs. Sue Carlisle  
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 Arnold & Sylvia Cattani  
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 The Cauzza Family  
 CBCC Outsmarting Cancer, LLC  
 Central Cardiology Medical Clinic  
 Central California Emergency Medicine  
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 Central California Hospitalists  
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 †Dolores F. and †Victor S. Cerro  
 Jim & Julie Cesare  
 Kirk and Yvonne Chambers  
 Drs. Ramani & P. R. Chandrasekaran  
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 Brian and Cherilee Ezell  
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 Diane S. Lake Family  
 Ron and Valerie Lallo  
 Steve and Dee Ann Lantz  
 †Dr. and †Mrs. Lewis Larson & Family  
 The Laxague Family  
 The Lazzerini Family Foundation  
 †Dr. and †Mrs. William H. Leask  
 LeBeau, Thelen, Lampe,  
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 †Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence O. Leff  
 Ronald R. Lehr/Lehr Brothers, Inc.  
 Howard E. Leventhal, MD



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 Links for Life, Inc.  
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 Mrs. Mayie Maitia  
 Jenny Maitia and †Danny Maitia  
 Dr. and Mrs. Matt Malerich  
 Managed Care Systems, L.P.  
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 John and Christie Masterson  
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 Angelo & Mary Mazzei  
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 Merck & Company  
 Mercy Action, Inc.  
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 †Dr. and †Mrs. Erik W. Michelsen  
 †Louis A. and †Katherine Miller  
 Garrett & Bitsy Ming  
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 †Mr. and †Mrs. William Mosesian  
 †Larry J. Mueller  
 Madan and Dolly Mukhopadhyay  
 Mark and Mary Ann Mulkay  
 Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP  
 Lily and Rodney Nahama  
 Joe & Beth Nahama  
 †Hiroshi and Esperanza Naito  
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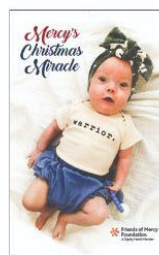
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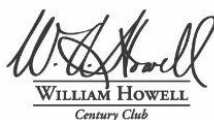
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Stay tuned for the exciting  
 Friends for Life Spring Edition,  
 highlighting the Tower Expansion  
 at the Mercy Southwest Campus,  
 and the generous community  
 leaders supporting this critical  
 initiative.



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VP, Philanthropy

Dearest Friends,

It remains an honor to close another year with the Foundation, joined in the mission of furthering the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy. The adequacy of my words fail to capture the deep gratitude I have for you - our donors, Board Members, patients and staff. The Mercy Spirit remains steadfast in you - ensuring everyone in our community has state of the art healthcare delivered with the highest level of compassion and kindness.

This year, our Hospital President, Bruce Peters, is moving into well-deserved retirement. For years, Bruce has been Mercy's guiding light. He led us to put patient needs above our own, and always embodies our values of justice, compassion, and excellence. He has been a balancing, wise force in challenging circumstances. His authenticity is undeniable which is why he is a trusted advisor, colleague and friend. Thank you Bruce for simply being you. The entire Mercy team is wishing you a retirement full of love, laughter and good health!

I look forward to sharing with you a time of celebration and generosity as we announce amazing gifts and the groundbreaking date for the Tower at Mercy Southwest Hospital early next year. We are on the cusp of changing the landscape of healthcare in our community. Until then, many blessings to you!