



# Redefining Care

YEAR IN REVIEW 2025



# Redefining Care

## YEAR IN REVIEW 2025

Message from the CEO	5
Advocate Health Overview	6
The Difference a Year Makes	7
Highlights from the Year	9
A New Era of Innovation	10
Preeminent National Academic Model	12
Close to Home	16
Where Care Meets Community	18
Care that Connects	22
Redefining Where Healing Happens	23
Transforming Health Care Through the Power of AI	24
Creating a Best Place to Care	25
Growing Careers and Expanding Opportunity	28
Rooted in Generosity, Powered by Purpose	30
Nursing	33
Clinical Services	35
National Service Lines	38
Division Highlights	
Illinois	46
Wisconsin	48
North Carolina & Georgia	50
Accolades	60



# Message From Gene



2025 was a year when many of our boldest ideas moved from vision to reality.

It was our first year operating under our unified purpose to *redefine care, for all*. It was our first year delivering on our REWIRE 2030 strategy. And even in this foundational phase, we're already seeing the benefits for our patients, teammates and communities.

This year we made major strides in the **quality and safety of care** — treating each of our patients with the expertise, skill and thoughtfulness we would want for our own family.

We launched national service lines in cancer, neurology and heart and vascular, standardizing the best protocols and connecting experts across our geography. We led Illinois, North Carolina and Wisconsin in U.S. News and World Report “Best Hospital” recognitions. We quadrupled the number of hospitals earning an “A” safety grade by Leapfrog. But what matters most is what these honors mean for our patients. In just one example of our impact, we improved kidney care for 255,000 of our patients this year, reducing the risk of kidney damage or diabetes.

Next, we took leaps forward in our work to transform care through **innovation**.

We became the nation’s largest user of ambient listening artificial intelligence technology, saving our clinicians up to an hour a day — time they are now using to engage with patients instead of typing up notes. We also are now the largest user of medical imaging AI, with 15 algorithms scanning images to detect abnormalities

and alert our radiologists, so we can get treatment to critical patients faster.

In a milestone moment for medicine in our country, we opened The Pearl, home to the second campus of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, the exclusive North American headquarters of IRCAD and many of the leading medtech companies in the world. But we didn’t stop there. We launched the next step of that vision with the National Center for Clinical Trials, the first fully integrated, nationwide clinical trial infrastructure embedded in a health system. It will reach our 6 million patients — from our most urban to our most rural communities — bringing leading-edge treatments to people who, until now, could only read about them.

Speaking of **access**, in 2025, Advocate Health put our investments where our values are.

We gained approval to build our new state-of-the-art hospital on the South Side of Chicago, and already opened our first of ten neighborhood sites bringing care to trusted community locations like churches. In the next state over, after hearing from over 400 community members about their greatest needs, we announced our comprehensive health and wellness hub in the Near West Side neighborhood of Milwaukee, with a groundbreaking coming in the spring.

We’ve also established national leadership in expanding access for the nearly one million rural patients we serve. From bringing virtual behavioral health to every rural primary care clinic to increasing training of rural clinicians, we’re making good on the promise that access to quality care should not depend on the size of your town.

None of this would be possible without

the skill, commitment and resilience of our **teammates**.

I truly believe we have the best team in health care — and we are doing our part to take care of them, the way they take care of our patients. Two of my proudest days in 2025: learning we won the AMA Joy in Medicine Gold award, and when I saw the results of our Culture of Safety and Workplace Experience Survey. 121,000 of our teammates trusted us enough to share their voice. And what they said was powerful: 87% would recommend Advocate Health as a safe place to receive care — 23 points above the national benchmark. 86% of clinicians said practicing medicine here gives them a sense of accomplishment — six points above the national benchmark. And this year we rolled out our new operating model to give the team a structure that aligns with our strategy, alongside the flexibility and faster decision making to deliver on it.

This team has made all of this progress despite the major storms that hit health care this year. In moments like these, many would steer the ship back to safe harbor. But that’s not who we are. We’re sailing straight ahead toward a new kind of health care — one where the highest level of care reaches more people, wherever they are, whenever they need it.

Thank you to everyone who made 2025 a year of profound progress for our patients, teammates and communities. And the best is yet to come.

Sincerely,

**EUGENE A. WOODS**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Advocate Health Overview

# From discovery to everyday moments, we're redefining care — for you, for us, for all

Every number tells a story of how we're redefining care. At Advocate Health, we continue to grow to meet our patients and communities where they are and transform health care delivery with a focus on compassion, innovation and heart.

Our 167,000 dedicated teammates live out our purpose, commitments and strategy every day, working hard to deliver on Advocate Health's FOR ALL promise to our patients, communities and each other.

Today, our organization has a footprint across six states with over 50 million individuals who live in those markets. We have a national presence, while serving local communities across our enterprise landscape. Advocate Health has ambitions to change the face of health care by providing greater access to quality care, underpinned by our teammates and a supportive environment where everyone belongs.

As we redefine care, we are setting the standard nationwide for an improved model of health care. Together, we can achieve our purpose by honoring our Commitments to:

**Lift Everyone Up**

We believe everyone matters and create spaces where all belong and can thrive.

**Lead the Way**

We chart new paths to achieve the extraordinary.

**Think Boldly Together**

We collaborate with humility, turning the best ideas into new possibilities.

**Embrace the Unknown**

We drive change through fearless curiosity and unshakeable optimism.



# The Difference a Year Makes



**39M**

Patient Encounters



**6.5M**

Patient Portal Users  
Connected With Care Teams



**58K**

Babies Born



**562K**

Inpatient Discharges



**507K+**

Continuing Health  
Admissions



**60M+**

Laboratory Tests



**12M+**

Outpatient Visits



Nearly

**2M**

Virtual Care  
Engagements



**50K+\*\***

Newly diagnosed cancer  
patients per year in six  
states



**25K+**

Neuro Surgeries

**150th**

Heart Transplant & First Combined  
Heart/Kidney Transplant



**6K+**

Cardiovascular  
Surgeries



**11.5K+\***

School-based  
Virtual Visits

Nearly

**200**

New first-year medical students enrolled  
at Wake Forest University School of  
Medicine

**1M+**

Patient Rooms  
Cleaned

\*Completed in the 2024–2025 academic year

\*\*Not including patients already diagnosed

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Redefining care — one life-saving virtual visit at a time

*With daily responsibilities often taking precedence, health care sometimes comes last on the to-do list. But delaying checkups, preventive screenings and follow-up appointments until symptoms worsen can lead to health consequences.*

*Despite some health care questions and a family history of thyroid cancer, that was the case for 29-year-old Justin Rathfon. The husband and father of three young children says he was busy with family life and running a construction company. Then Justin learned he could conveniently squeeze in a virtual health care visit from his company's break room.*

*That virtual visit with Brittany Young, a physician assistant with Advocate Health's virtual primary care team, ultimately led Justin to a life-changing diagnosis. During his appointment, Brittany addressed Justin's concerns and recommended further testing. Later, doctors at Atrium*

*Health Levine Cancer Institute discovered a sizable cancerous mass, which they removed from Justin's thyroid in April.*

*Thanks to early detection, the cancer had not spread, and Justin is now in complete remission. He credits virtual health care, along with the rapid response of his in-person care team, with saving a portion of his thyroid — and his life.*

*"Being able to check in with Brittany from home or work made it so much easier," Justin says. "I'm a believer that great medicine doesn't need to be in person."*

*And Justin isn't the only one. We know firsthand that time is just one factor that can present a barrier to care. Removing those barriers improves health outcomes and strengthens trust among our patients. Making safe, high-quality health care more accessible to patients and communities is just one way we're redefining care for all.*

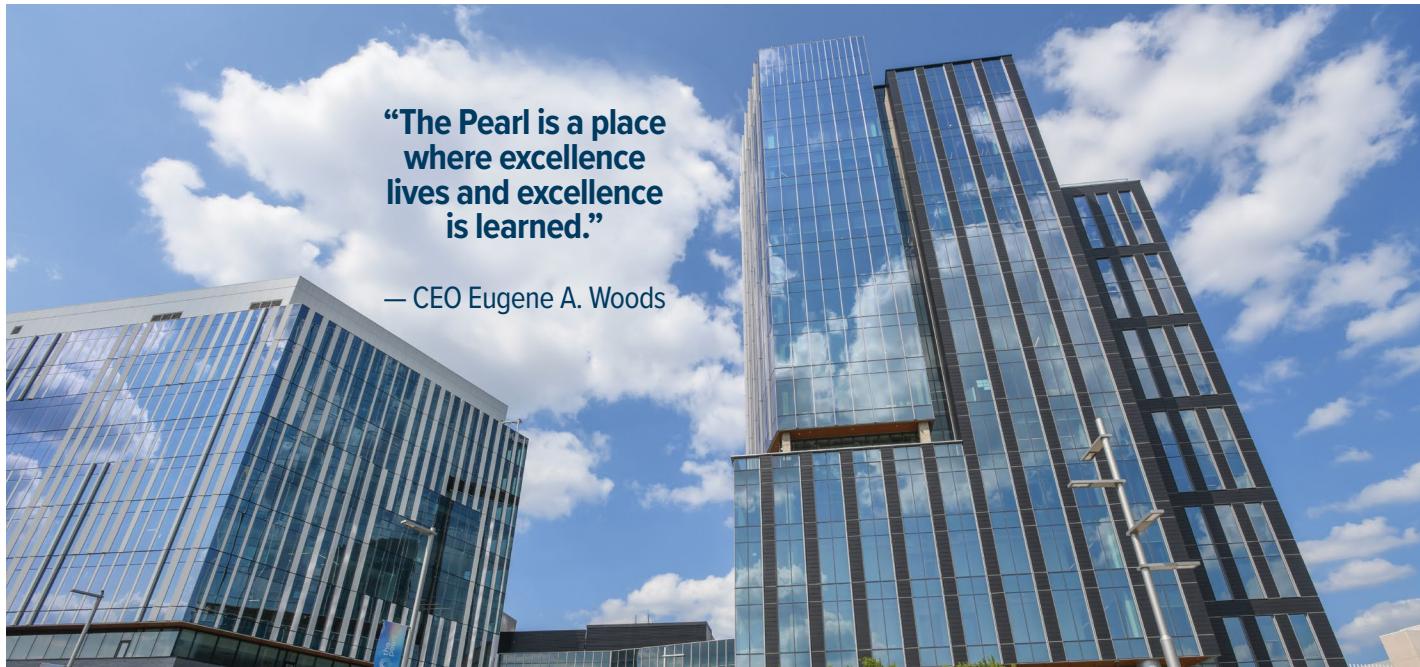


# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



## A NEW ERA OF INNOVATION

# Shaping the future of care through collaboration and discovery



When done right, collaboration between health care institutions, businesses and researchers accelerates medical breakthroughs and stimulates economic growth. Our June opening of The Pearl — Charlotte's first innovation district — not only ignites collaboration, it also serves as a blueprint for health care transformation.

Created by a visionary public-private partnership led by Atrium Health, Wexford Science & Technology, LLC and Ventas, The Pearl is a global destination for medical education and research. It's anchored by Wake Forest University School of Medicine's Charlotte campus, the city's first four-year medical school, and it serves as the exclusive North American headquarters of IRCAD, a global network of advanced surgical training centers. Already, the innovation district has attracted some of the most innovative names in health technology, including Siemens Healthineers, Johnson & Johnson MedTech, Stryker, Medtronic and Boston Scientific.

Located in the area historically known as Brooklyn — once

a thriving African American community that was displaced in the 1960s and 1970s — the district is designed to reflect that legacy of resilience. Over the next 15 years, the district is projected to generate more than 5,500 on-site jobs and more than 11,500 total jobs across the region, making The Pearl a catalyst for economic growth and opportunity. The innovation district already has secured more than \$1.5 billion in investments for research, innovation and more.

The Pearl also is home to Connect Labs by Wexford, a flexible lab infrastructure supporting emerging companies in biomedical engineering, life sciences and medical devices. And it hosts a STEM Lab that's sparking curiosity in K-12 students through hands-on learning, teacher coaching and thousands of unique experiences.

With an estimated annual economic impact of more than \$800 million, we didn't just open a vibrant, amenity-rich campus. We launched a platform for global expertise, local opportunity and the kind of bold thinking that moves health care forward.

## Beyond the districts

Our enterprise-wide strategy is sparking new ideas, forging bold partnerships and backing ventures that move care forward.

### The future of cancer care

We're helping shape the future of cancer care as an anchor member of CancerX, the national consortium focused on accelerating innovation and improving outcomes.

- **29 teammates** from oncology, innovation, IT, research and clinical operations helped evaluate more than 50 startup applications for the 2025 CancerX cohort, aligning selections with our Rewire 2030 priorities
- **8 startups** were mentored by Advocate Health experts across Innovation & New Ventures and the Cancer Service Line
- **160 participants** gathered in Charlotte for the CancerX Innovation Jam, featuring immersive field trips, patient panels and collaborative sessions with stakeholders across the Advocate Health family
- **2 expert-led webinars** advanced our oncology strategy and spotlighted innovation priorities
- Advocate Health and CancerX were featured on **national stages** including HLTH, JPMorgan, HIMSS, ViVE and ASCO — reinforcing our role as a trusted partner in oncology innovation

## Strategic growth

We're fueling progress through strategic support of technologies, partnerships and people that strengthen care and spark innovation across the enterprise.

- Served as a key investor in **Xealth**, a digital health platform used across Advocate Health; the investment helped position Xealth for acquisition by Samsung, connecting clinical care with consumer technology
- Advanced early-stage research through **Commercial Pathway Awards (CPA)**. Small but mighty, these grants — administered by the Tech Transfer Office and Wake Forest Innovations — fuel early-stage research and drive breakthrough innovation across Advocate Health
  - CPA recipients have **8.7 times** more follow-on funding
  - **63.6%** of CPA-backed projects secured additional grants
  - **4 startups** formed based on data generated via CPA support (36% of projects culminated in startup companies)
  - **2 National Cancer Institute grants** were secured by one of the CPA projects
  - **1 National Cancer Institute Small Business Technology Transfer grant** secured by a CPA project

## The Innovation Quarter: Building What's Next

Innovation Quarter in Winston-Salem is stepping into a new chapter, building on more than 25 years of impact. What began as a hub for talent and research has grown into a place where ideas meet opportunity and community connection drives progress.

This year, thousands gathered at Bailey Park for signature events, and the district hosted its first Techstars Startup Weekend, bringing innovators in artificial intelligence and life sciences together in new ways. Sparq Labs opened additional biotech space, now 93% occupied, giving startups and researchers room to grow, experiment and scale.

With 28 acres of new infrastructure complete, the district is ready to rise — literally — as vertical construction takes shape, adding even more space for collaboration and discovery.

The iQ isn't just growing; it's building what's next. Cultivating ideas, expanding opportunities, and shaping the future one breakthrough at a time.



## IRCAD North America

- Exclusive U.S. headquarters of a world-renowned surgical training network
- 2 surgical ballrooms with 26 laparoscopic stations
- Advanced imaging and simulation technologies
- Thousands of medical professionals expected to train annually

## PREEMINENT NATIONAL ACADEMIC MODEL

# The gold standard in medical education and research



With more than 3,500 faculty members, 242 graduate medical education programs and over 3,000 clinical trials, our academic enterprise is shaping the future of patient care and research. From welcoming the first class of four-year medical students to Wake Forest University School of Medicine's Charlotte campus to securing meaningful research funding, we expanded our reach, deepened our impact and grew our national model for academic medicine. At every step, faculty, students and partners turned ambition into action.

### Building the future

We opened new doors for the next generation of clinicians. Wake Forest University School of Medicine welcomed the Class of 2029 to its two campuses, including the inaugural class of four-year medical students to its new Charlotte campus at The Pearl innovation district. The nearly 200 medical students across both campuses benefit from collaborative learning opportunities and access to extensive clinical and research resources available across Advocate Health.

### Transforming medical education from the Queen City

Once the largest U.S. city without a four-year medical school, Charlotte celebrated a milestone in July as students arrived at Wake Forest University School of Medicine's new campus, advancing efforts to expand access to medical education across the Southeast and beyond. With an average age of 24, the inaugural four-year class comprises nearly 50 students — one-third of whom are from across North Carolina. Enrollment is expected to increase to 100 students per class over the next five years. The school anchors the Howard R. Levine Center for Education at The Pearl, a dynamic hub that is also home to the Carolinas College of Health Sciences, Wake Forest's School of Professional Studies and the School of Business.

The dual location of these schools creates a learning environment in which future physicians, nurses and allied health professionals will train alongside each other, preparing them to work as part of care teams caring for patients once they enter their professions.

**“Building on our prestigious work in Winston-Salem, this new campus reflects our commitment to training the next generation of physicians in a way that is collaborative, connected to the community and focused on the future.”**

— L. Ebony Boulware, M.D., Dean of the School of Medicine and Chief Science Officer of Advocate Health

### Did you know?

Historically, about one-third of students at Wake Forest University School of Medicine stay in North Carolina after graduation, and most go on to practice near where they trained.

### Spotlight on research

From regenerative medicine partnerships to Alzheimer’s disease prevention and cancer care, our researchers are reshaping outcomes and rewriting possibilities.

- The Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine expanded translational research with 500+ global partners.
- The PCORI-funded I-MAPP initiative spans 260 outpatient sites across Illinois and Wisconsin, promoting better prescribing practices for respiratory infections.
- Alzheimer’s trial showed promise with nasal insulin therapy for memory.
- U.S. POINTER study confirmed lifestyle changes can protect brain health.
- Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center launched real-time symptom monitoring.
- The Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews, published by Advocate Health, surpassed half a million article downloads, driving global improvements in care.
- The Wake Forest NCORP Research Base leads national efforts to bring cancer clinical trials to local communities. Sites in Wisconsin and Illinois remain top performers.
- Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is leading a global clinical trial of CVA-Flow, a smartphone app that uses AI to assess stroke symptoms through video analysis.

### Strategy in motion

By strengthening the Academic Alliance and advancing CAPTURE, our analytics backbone, we set the stage for faster therapies, stronger partnerships and smarter decision-making.

### Celebrate Research!

Innovation took center stage during Celebrate Research! 2025, a month-long event dedicated to showcasing groundbreaking research and innovation across Advocate Health that featured Nobel Laureate Dr. William Kaelin as a keynote speaker. Throughout March, faculty, students, community partners and patients shared discoveries that are transforming health care and pushing the boundaries of medicine.

### Moments that matter

Behind the milestones are stories of impact. Students cared for communities through DEAC, PATCH and the Mobile Health Clinic. Researchers led trials that gave patients better health and renewed hope. And at Match Day and graduation, hundreds of learners stepped into the next chapter of leadership and service.

### PA pride

Our Physician Assistant program ranked No. 11 in the nation, standing out for academic excellence, clinical rigor and impact. For students, it’s proof they’re learning from the best and helping set the standard for what’s next.

### National Center for Clinical Trials

The first fully-integrated, nationwide model embedding clinical research into everyday care, the Advocate Health National Center for Clinical Trials launched in 2025, with the vision of transforming care and outcomes through a new era for clinical trials. By expanding pathways to clinical trials, removing barriers, improving access to breakthroughs and ensuring real-world evidence-based approaches, we’re making clinical trials a vital part of care for every patient, everywhere.

The Advocate Health National Center for Clinical Trials is going to redefine the pace and precision of clinical trials by reducing legacy barriers — unlocking faster innovation, smarter decision-making and better outcomes for patients everywhere. Through centralized expertise, AI-powered tools and streamlined operations, we’re going to accelerate the future of care.

**Academic Impact****#11**

PA Program Ranking Nationally

**2.5K+**

Peer-Reviewed Publications

**242**

Graduate Medical Education Programs

**3.3K+**

Clinical Trials Conducted

**3.5K+**

Faculty Members

**37.1K**

Participants Engaged In Research

**\$436M**Research Funding with 245% Growth  
Since 2015**Research Rundown****Hematology and Oncology Funding**

More than \$17 million awarded for innovative treatments in leukemia and myelodysplastic syndromes, including pivotal trials that led to new drug approvals.

*Lead: Dr. Bayard L. Powell*

**Rare Kidney Disease Grant**

\$3.3 million NIH grant supports research into Primary Hyperoxaluria, a rare kidney condition.

*Leads: Dr. Todd Lowther and Dr. Terrence Smalley*

**Cervical Spine Injury Study**

\$4.5 million awarded to study spine injuries in military personnel.

*Lead: Dr. Timothy Sell*

**Medical Misinformation Research**

\$3.4 million supports a study on misinformation among older adults.

*Lead: Dr. Zubin Master*

**Faculty Well-being Support**

\$585,000 invested in coaching and wellness programs for faculty. *Lead: Faculty Affairs Office*

**Antibiotic Prescribing for Children**

\$2.9 million awarded to improve prescribing practices for respiratory infections.

*Lead: Pediatrics Research Team*

**Cancer Symptom Tracking Initiative**

\$2.9 million supports electronic symptom monitoring across 44 oncology sites, involving more than 3,500 patients.

*Leads: Dr. Kevin High, Dr. Dianna Howard and Dr. Kathryn Weaver*

**Total Research Costs**

\$436.5 million in total research costs, with 58% federally funded.

*Lead: Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

**NIH Funding Momentum**

\$177.1 million in sustained NIH support from 2023 through 2025. *Lead: Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

**Department of Defense Funding**

\$17.2 million supports ongoing military-related research. *Lead: Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

**Duke Endowment Grant**

\$1.3 million awarded for programs addressing aging, food insecurity and student engagement. *Lead: Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

**Cancer Clinical Trials**

More than 500 active trials underway at Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center. *Lead: Cancer Center Research Team*

**Neuroscience Clinical Trials Expansion**

Community outreach led by the Maya Angelou Research Center for Healthy Communities. *Lead: Neuroscience Research Team*

**Medical Student Research Program**

Celebrating 40 years of NIH-funded MSRP support. *Lead: Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

**Antibiotic Prescribing Study**

New outpatient study launched to improve pediatric care. *Lead: Pediatrics Research Team*

**Clinical Trial Infrastructure Expansion**

REDCap integration and best practice toolboxes enhance trial operations. *Lead: Office of Clinical Research*

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## It's a match! Pediatric resident returns to train with childhood cancer care team

*This year Dr. Kameron Williamson obtained a highly sought-after pediatric medicine residency at Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center. The achievement represents something of a homecoming for the future pediatrician.*

*As a tween, an extremely ill Kameron received pediatric cancer care at Brenner Children's Hospital, which is now part of Atrium Health Levine Children's. When his successful, life-saving treatment ended, Kameron wanted to walk away from the hospital without looking back. But his mother had a different plan.*

*"My mom, in her infinite wisdom, made me go to this camp for other kids who had cancer and chronic illnesses," Kameron says. "Long story short, I ended up really enjoying it. I met a lot of really great people there."*

*Eventually, Kameron became a camp volunteer. Inspired by the camp's mission of helping young, seriously ill patients experience the joys of childhood, Kameron remained active with the camp throughout his high school and college years. Later in his college career, Kameron decided to become a pediatrician and continue his commitment to helping sick children feel better.*

*"I just thought back to the people who really showed me a bit of joy and kindness and goodness when I was really sick," Kameron says. "I decided I wanted to be like them, and they happened to work at Wake."*

*Kameron is looking forward to becoming an excellent physician, just like the doctors who helped him feel better so many years ago.*



## CLOSE TO HOME

# Rural patients gain access to national expertise and innovative, high-quality care

Even with 20% of the country's population living in rural communities, hundreds of rural hospitals have shuttered in the last decade — and hundreds more are at risk of closure. Amid challenges in such areas, we've committed to building an industry-leading model for all, regardless of zip code.

Advocate Health is expanding access to high-quality care through new infrastructure, virtual capabilities and clinical expertise, allowing us to bring more care into homes and rural hospitals. With our academic core of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, we're also making clinical trials more accessible.

In July, Hugh Chatham Health joined Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, bringing more than a century of trusted care in North Carolina's Yadkin Valley into a broader network of innovation and support. This combination is more than a milestone. It represents a commitment to preserving local relationships while expanding access to care for rural patients in six states. With 322 clinics and 21 hospitals in rural areas, we're investing \$3 billion in operational and capital expenses each year to deliver leading-edge care to rural communities, while providing an additional \$600 million in uncompensated care.

For Hugh Chatham Health, joining Advocate Health means more than added resources. It also means a shared purpose. And for Advocate Health, "this is just the beginning," says Dr. Nwando Olayiwola, president of Advocate's National Center for Clinical and Community Impact. "We are energized by the stories of our patients in rural communities and committed to continuing to serve them in the best way possible."

This year, we also scaled our Virtual Services Group to include rural practices across North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The model offers flexible, virtual-first roles for clinicians and streamlines operations across regions. The result is faster onboarding, more consistent care and broader reach.

"Technologies are going to advance and provide more opportunities for our expert doctors and nurses to provide excellent care in rural communities," says Dr. Matt Anderson, Advocate Health's clinical leader for its North Carolina and Georgia Division, and a leader of the system's rural health work. "Our patients come first, and it's our job to keep innovating and putting those new tools to the best possible use for them."

From school-based virtual care to enterprise weight management programs, we are proving that rural care does not have to mean limited care. It can mean innovation, connection and a future where geography no longer defines access.



## Rural reach, real results

- Hugh Chatham Health joined Advocate Health in 2025, expanding rural access across North Carolina
- Virtual Services Group now supports practices across North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia
- Advocate Health's school-based virtual care program facilitated over 15,266 visits across 232 locations in the 2024-2025 school year, with nearly 60% of those visits occurring in rural counties.
- 66% return-to-class rate for students receiving virtual care, reducing absenteeism and lost wages for families

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Growing our rural health care workforce



***“Compared to my urban counterparts, I have been able to get a lot more involved in my clinical rotations, even being entrusted to deliver eight babies with supervision on my obstetric rotations.”***

*– Delaine Anderson*

Delaine Anderson is one of 25 medical students enrolled in the Wisconsin Academy of Rural Medicine, known as WARM. It's a program that's near to her heart after personally experiencing a health problem in a rural area as an undergraduate student.

Under the supervision of Aurora BayCare Medical Center physicians, she and her student colleagues are training to provide much-needed patient care services in anesthesiology, internal medicine, neuroscience, OB-GYN, pediatrics, primary care, radiology, surgery and other clinical services.

Aurora BayCare Medical Center serves as a regional clinical campus for WARM, a program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Following the successful completion of an 18-month in-class science curriculum, medical students like Delaine complete the last two-and-a-half years of their clinical training in rural learning environments.

Delaine, who grew up outside of Los Angeles in Southern California, decided to dedicate her medical career to rural health during her undergraduate years at the University of

Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Back then, Delaine experienced a personal health problem that required specialty care. And when she discovered the closest specialist was over two hours away, Delaine resolved to make medical care easier to access in rural communities.

*“It clicked for me that if I didn't have a car to take me (to the specialist) or the ability to take off work, I would have been out of luck,” Delaine says, adding that the WARM program bridges that type of health care gap through community outreach.*

Delaine has a strong interest in tribal medicine and has completed public health service and clinical rotations with the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. Based on these experiences, she hopes to pursue further training with Native Nations in the final year of medical school and work for Indian Health Services later in her career.

To ensure we have the skilled workforce needed to address each community's unique needs, Advocate Health is preparing the next generation of highly skilled medical professionals who will deliver care in even the most remote areas.

## WHERE CARE MEETS COMMUNITY

# Expanding care access and addressing social drivers of health

Advocate Health has made meaningful strides in expanding access to care, addressing social drivers of health and creating opportunities for patients, communities and teammates. These efforts have come to life through screenings, partnerships, new clinic openings and the everyday actions of our dedicated teammates.

We sharpened our focus on cardiometabolic disease and maternal and infant health, while adding cancer screenings to our enterprise-wide goals to improve early detection. And our mobile health care programs served nearly 4,000 patients across the system by collaborating with faith-based institutions, apartment complexes and other community partners.

Additionally, more than 2 million patients were screened for social drivers of health across five domains — food, housing, transportation, utilities and safety.

Healthy food access remained a top priority. Through more than 100 programs and nearly \$3.6M in investments — from medically tailored meals to mobile markets and agriculture initiatives — we helped more families put healthy food on their tables. Our SMART FARM alone produced nearly 7,500 pounds of food, equating to more than 5,000 meals. We also helped close the digital divide by donating more than 700 laptops, giving patients better access to virtual visits and health education.

Language services addressing communication barriers are projected to grow by 25% in 2026, reaching 4.6 million encounters across more than 200 languages. Such services play a vital role in building trust through strategic partnerships with community engagement teams, supporting outreach and ensuring culturally responsive care.

We also expanded our Coverage-to-Care program, which helps uninsured patients transition from the emergency department to primary care. In its pilot phase, the program reduced emergency department visits by 65% for 630 patients and generated more than \$269,000 in

performance-based payments, a model now being scaled across the enterprise.

## Compassion in action

- Donated more than \$2.2 million in immediate support to our teammates through our Help NOW program and Teammate Emergency Care Fund.
  - When historic floods struck Milwaukee, nearly 300 Aurora Health Care teammates applied for relief. The Emergency Care Fund distributed over \$200,000 to cover essentials like food, lodging and prescriptions.
  - In the wake of Hurricane Helene, teammates came together to implement clinical changes, with some volunteering their time to buy truckloads of powdered electrolyte products and deliver them to hospitals that were running low on IV fluids. They secured 250,000 packets in just 24 hours and nearly 150,000 more in the days to follow, distributing them across Advocate Health's network.
- Generated \$3.5 million in Economic Impact spend through partnerships with 85 active unique suppliers.
- Committed to planting 30,000 trees by 2030 to contribute to cleaner air, improved biodiversity and enhanced community green spaces.
- PORTAL at University of North Carolina Charlotte was recognized as a 2025 Gartner Power for the Profession Award Social Impact of the Year Finalist — a first for Advocate Health. PORTAL is the ecosystem that houses the Center for Business Acceleration & Entrepreneurship (CBAE) and is committed to building a resilient supply chain focusing on the development, growth and sustainability of small, emerging and established businesses.
- Teammate volunteerism drove clinical and social impact through our inaugural Season of Purpose initiative, alongside our new Advocate Health Teammate Impact Center.
- By connecting teammates with local service projects and providing resources to support their involvement, Advocate Health Serves drives both personal and organizational growth while strengthening community relationships and advancing well-being for all.

- The launch of our FOR ALL Ecosystem drives meaningful engagement by enhancing communication and collaboration across our award-winning System Resource Groups, Councils and Committees. Today more than 2,500 teammates have already joined the site and all resource groups have representation from teammates across the enterprise.
- Our 2025 FOR ALL Conference attracted 4,400 teammates with 98% of survey respondents affirming their satisfaction with the educational content. Our Access and Opportunity Learning and Development Center expanded its reach to 160 teammates in our Access and Opportunity Certificate Program. Collectively these programs empower our teammates to lead inclusively and foster a culture of belonging where all talent can thrive.

These efforts reflect a simple truth: health starts with connection. By listening, responding and scaling what works, we're helping close gaps and improve outcomes for the people who need it most, all while building a space where our teammates can thrive.

## **A new chapter for urban health**

In Chicago and Milwaukee, bold investments are transforming how and where care is delivered.

Over the last year, Advocate Health made historic investments in two urban communities — Chicago's South Side and Milwaukee's Near West Side. These efforts go beyond physical buildings. They reflect a deeper commitment to listening and partnering with communities to ensure everyone has the resources they need in their own neighborhoods to achieve physical, mental and social wellness.

On Chicago's South Side, Advocate Health Care committed \$1 billion to reimagine care delivery. This is one of the largest, long-term community-focused health care investments in the nation aimed at closing the 30-year life expectancy gap between individuals who reside on the South Side, and those residing and living longer on the North Side.

The investment includes \$300 million to build a state-of-the-art hospital on the former U.S. Steel South Works site near the lakefront, replacing the current Advocate Trinity Hospital, which has served the community for more than 115 years. We also expanded our Imani Village clinic to bring more doctors and services closer to home, and to open 10 Neighborhood Care locations. These sites offer everyday health services and connect residents with medical and social support in trusted community spaces. The first Neighborhood Care location opened at the New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church in April 2025, setting the stage



for a new model of care rooted in accessibility and trust.

This wellness model — which addresses chronic disease through greater access to preventive services, health management tools and education — is the result of our extensive community input process that included listening sessions with hundreds of South Side residents.

**“We have built a model ... designed to help South Side residents live their healthiest lives. We need to provide the community with the necessary resources to stay well — where we live, work, play and worship — and that takes a comprehensive plan.”**

— Michelle Blakely, President of Advocate Trinity Hospital and President of South Side Transformation

Additionally, the Neighborhood Care site offers expanded primary and preventive services. Alongside the neighborhood-based hubs, a new mobile medicine vehicle now delivers care directly to high-need ZIP codes, while workforce development programs are helping residents build sustainable careers in health care.

In Milwaukee, Aurora Health Care, along with our community partners, is investing nearly \$50 million to create The Beacon, a health and wellness hub at the former Wisconsin Avenue School. The name was chosen because of its powerful symbolism as a guiding light. It also speaks to Milwaukee’s rich history where lighthouses and beacons have long served as crucial landmarks, helping people navigate and find their way safely. It reflects our mission to be a steady and reliable source of support, offering guidance to those in need.

After a series of listening sessions with nearly 400 community members, we heard the desire for neighborhood health care services, resource navigation, ways to access fresh food and more. In the spring we received full municipal approval, and construction is set to begin in spring 2026. Shaped by the voices of Milwaukee’s Near West Side, The Beacon aims to be a place for care, connection and opportunity — a visible sign of what’s possible when a health system and its neighbors work together.

These investments reflect our belief that care begins with trust. By walking alongside our patients and communities, while investing in what matters most, we are building a system that reflects the voices, values and the individuals we are so privileged to serve.



## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Greater access to patient education resources on Chicago's South Side



*The 2025 expansion of Advocate Health Care's Imani Village outpatient clinic in Chicago brings more personalized education, resources and support to patients — helping them better manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. And Rosa Alonso is one example of how such programs can make a meaningful difference.*

*When Rosa was diagnosed with diabetes and high blood pressure, she didn't know that drinking water and walking more could help lower blood sugar levels. But she learned that, among other health tips, through patient education classes prescribed by her primary care physician, Dr. Julie Taylor, at the Imani Village outpatient clinic.*

*First, Rosa worked closely with a nurse and a pharmacist by telephone. The clinicians reviewed Rosa's medications and helped her acquire a blood glucose meter. Then, for several weeks, the team monitored Rosa's progress and discussed strategies for better managing her diabetes.*

*"This program was valuable to me because I came to feel better. And the next time I went to see Dr. Taylor, my blood sugar was lower than it had ever been," Rosa says.*

*To learn more about managing high blood pressure, Rosa joined Advocate Health Care's Food Farmacy, which delivers information along with fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods to patients with metabolic conditions.*

*"I was invited to enroll because the fresh vegetables I get there can help my blood pressure health," Rosa says, adding, "this program brought changes to my lifestyle I never imagined."*

*After her first visit to the Food Farmacy, Rosa signed up to volunteer. Now, every other week, Rosa helps the community health team and other volunteers sort, pack and distribute food to patients around Chicago.*

*In addition to fostering a more active lifestyle, "volunteering makes me feel useful and like I'm giving back to the community that helps me," Rosa says. "I've made lots of friends and I've made volunteering part of my regular schedule. In fact, I've started volunteering at another organization's food distribution program as well."*

*Rosa attended the 2025 preview of the expanded Imani Village construction site. She says she looks forward to seeing more patients have access to the same programs that helped improve her health.*

## CARE THAT CONNECTS

# Delivering consistency, connection and confidence across the care continuum

We continue to make health care more accessible by growing virtual primary care across our footprint. Our Virtual Services Groups connect adults and children with trusted providers for anything from routine checkups to ongoing health management, making care more convenient, consistent and connected.

This year, we recruited and onboarded 16 physicians and advanced practice professionals for the virtual primary care practices in just six months, improving access and strengthening continuity for our patients. In September alone, our virtual primary care teams completed an average of 289 visits per day. That marked a 158% increase over the previous year, with more than 8,300 visits in 2025.

We also introduced one of the nation's first virtual primary care pediatric programs. The model offers hybrid well-child visits and ongoing care through a dedicated team of six pediatricians. Families across Illinois, Wisconsin, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia now have access to pediatricians from home. More than 5,500 visits are expected in the program's first year.

Virtual care also expanded into new environments. At Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist High Point Medical Center, the Virtual Neonatal Hub



allowed more than 35 newborns to remain in their local neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) while receiving expert consultation from neonatologists at Atrium Health Levine Children's Brenner Children's Hospital. This reduced transfers, kept families together and minimized travel time during critical moments.

These virtual initiatives are part of a larger effort to meet patients where they are, whether that's in the NICU, the classroom or the living room.

Virtual primary care is designed for the everyday, helping patients manage chronic conditions, stay on top of preventive screenings and

build lasting relationships with their care teams.

By streamlining credentialing, IT and operations into a single structure, we've made it easier to expand services across Epic platforms and state lines. That means patients and providers can stay connected, no matter where they live or what their health journey looks like.

This isn't just about convenience. It's about consistency, trust and showing up for people in ways that truly matter. Virtual primary care is helping us build a future where care is within reach, and where quality doesn't depend on geography.

## REDEFINING WHERE HEALING HAPPENS

# Transforming the patient experience through hospital-level care at home

Our hospital at home program, the largest in the nation, has continued to make a transformative impact on health care delivery. This year marked a significant milestone for the program. In addition to expanding the delivery of acute-level care in the comfort of adult patients' homes, we launched a pediatric hospital at home program in the Charlotte area.

Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital at Home, the first such program in the nation, delivers multidisciplinary, hospital-grade care to children who would otherwise require inpatient stays. Staffed by pediatric hospitalists, nurses, paramedics and child life specialists, the program provides IV medications, breathing treatments, wound care and post-surgical support in the comfort of home. Families benefit from 24/7

monitoring, daily virtual physician visits and in-person care as needed.

The program "gives parents and caregivers the ability to be home where they are more comfortable and can simultaneously attend to other responsibilities they may have, such as caring for other children," says Callie Dobbins, senior vice president of Atrium Health Levine Children's.

Kids are more comfortable at home, too. So far, 82 pediatric patients have been served through this program, helping families avoid unnecessary travel and stay together during recovery. The model also reduces the likelihood of readmission.

Meanwhile, our growing adult hospital at home program continued to expand, caring for an average of

135 patients each day.

Bringing hospital-level care into more patients' homes is one way we're improving outcomes, easing burdens on loved ones and redefining what recovery looks like at every age.

## Hospital at Home highlights

- First health system in the nation to launch pediatric hospital at home program
- 82 pediatric patients cared for at home in 2025
- 135 adult patients cared for daily through Hospital at Home



## TRANSFORMING HEALTH CARE THROUGH THE POWER OF AI

# Technology designed to work for clinicians

Guided by our commitment to be a leader in responsible artificial intelligence innovation, this year we advanced bold initiatives that aim to reshape care delivery and enhance patient experience across our enterprise. At the center of this progress is our framework for ensuring that every AI solution we deploy is rigorously reviewed to ensure we continue being a best place to give and receive care.

### **Easing administrative burdens**

We scaled DAX Copilot across the enterprise, becoming one of the first health systems in the world to deploy the AI-powered solution that listens to and documents patient encounters. Across the enterprise, DAX Copilot supports more than 775,000 clinical encounters each month, easing administrative burdens and giving clinicians valuable time back for patient care.

### **Enabling more efficient care**

Epic AI tools, including Summaries and Augmented Response, are helping clinicians cut through data overload. With tailored message drafts and concise, actionable electronic health record summaries, providers can gain quicker insights into patient needs. We have implemented these tools at scale, representing the world's second-largest deployment of Epic AI.

### **Delivering more connected care**

Through AI investments, we're redefining patient care, enhancing outcomes and accelerating time-to-treatment. Using Aidoc, which leverages algorithms to assist providers in clinical decision making, our radiologists can more quickly identify pulmonary embolisms, intracranial hemorrhages and other critical findings. Separately, Rad AI, a provider of generative AI solutions for radiology, is supporting faster diagnostics and reducing burnout for radiologists.

### **Strategy in motion**

Big ideas were put into practice this year. We partnered with Hippocratic AI to pilot conversational assistants that help close care gaps, like reaching more patients with high blood pressure. We shared our industry-leading responsible AI framework, FAIR-AI, in *Nature Digital Medicine*. And our data science team built a custom

generative AI tool that helps our investment teams analyze complex financial documents faster and more accurately.

### **Designed for real life**

AI at Advocate Health isn't built in a lab. It's shaped by the realities of care. Spanish-language support was added to DAX Copilot, making it easier for clinicians to connect with their patients. Every teammate now has access to Microsoft Copilot — tools that unlock creativity and make day-to-day work more efficient. And in our Hospital Room of the Future, AI-powered cameras and audio are simplifying communication, boosting efficiency and adding a layer of protection for patients.

---

**“Advocate Health continues to establish itself as a leader in deploying AI for health care administration. Through our AI investments, we’re redefining patient care, enhancing outcomes and accelerating time-to-treatment. When deployed at scale, these tools don’t just make health care more efficient — they make it more accurate.”**

— Andy Crowder, Chief Digital and AI Officer at Advocate Health

---

### **Did you know?**

More than 200 new AI solutions were reviewed through our industry-leading FAIR-AI framework this year, ensuring every tool meets our patient-first standard.

## BEST PLACE TO CARE

# Redefining care for ourselves and each other

When we support our teammates, physicians and advanced practice professionals (APPs), we strengthen the foundation of compassionate, high-quality patient care. That declaration continues to be at the heart of our Best Place to Care initiative, which aims to improve the wellbeing of physicians, APPs and nurses. Anchored by efforts to improve recruitment and retention, onboarding, workflow efficiency and more, we can empower our caregivers and help them rediscover the joy of practicing medicine.

### Gold standard for well-being

We earned the American Medical Association's Joy in Medicine Gold Award, recognizing our enterprise-wide commitment to clinician well-being. In North Carolina and Wisconsin, we were also honored by the Lorna Breene Foundation for removing language that stigmatized mental health from credentialing forms, a change that will soon extend to Illinois and Georgia.

### Expanding to include nurses

Expanding our Best Place to Care program brings our clinical caregivers together in a new and refreshed way. Nurses often are the primary point of contact for patients — offering invaluable insights into patient needs, safety concerns and care coordination. Including them in well-being initiatives ensures that the largest segment of our health care workforce is supported. Now clinical work teams collaborate to identify shared goals and create solutions that build a better way to work.

### Clinician leadership development

We launched a new leadership development site for physicians and APPs, making it easier to access tools for growth and mentorship. We also expanded the Physician/APP Leadership Institute, connecting clinicians with peers and executives during a 10-week learning series. Dr. Chad Scarboro, now chief medical officer at Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital, says the program was pivotal to his professional journey from pediatric emergency medicine physician to CMO.

### Reducing administrative burden

With more than 5,500 active users, clinical documentation

tool DAX Copilot is now available to every physician and APP across Advocate Health. The AI-powered tool automatically creates clinical notes from patient encounter conversations, enhancing direct patient connection and facilitating more personalized, attentive care.

### Spotlight on wellness

We hosted a special virtual session for Mental Health Awareness Month in May, featuring national expert Dr. Wayne Sotile from the Sotile Center for Physician Resiliency. The event offered physicians and APPs practical strategies for navigating stress, building resilience and reconnecting with the meaning behind their work.



## Building community

We expanded family-friendly events in Charlotte and Winston-Salem, giving physicians and APPs a chance to connect with colleagues and their families. In 2026, we'll bring this approach enterprise-wide, creating even more opportunities to gather, laugh and enjoy time together.

## Raising the bar on clinician well-being

According to national benchmarks from the American Medical Association, our physicians and APPs report stronger job satisfaction, lower burnout and deeper alignment with their leaders and care teams. On average, they also spend less time on electronic health records (especially after hours) and more time focused on patient care.

### Outperforming national comparisons in key areas:

- Higher job satisfaction and lower burnout
- Stronger connections with clinical leaders and care teams
- Less time spent on documentation, particularly after hours

### In areas where we've had this initiative the longest, year-over-year we've seen:

- Job satisfaction up 4.8%
- Burnout down 1.5%
- Alignment with clinical leaders up 8.5%

- Intent to leave down 9.6%
- Control over workload up 5%
- "Pajama time" (after hours documentation) down 3.2%
- Work-related stress down 3.3%

## 2025 Culture of Safety & Work Environment Survey

### highlights:

- 21% increase in clinician response rate
- Clinician engagement rose across every division
- Clinician Workplace Safety and Support increased across every division
- Well-being scores jumped an average of +9.4 points
- Voice in decision making increased an average of +9.8 points

**"This is the fourth place I've worked in 35 years, and this was both one of the most useful parts of an orientation I've ever attended and one of the most encouraging! For the first time, I feel genuinely heard and supported."**

—Dr. Robert Sawyer, Internal Medicine Physician in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Best Place to Care orientation



## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Bringing joy back into the practice of medicine

For Dr. Jocelyn Wilson, who treats patients at Atrium Health Levine's Children's Charlotte Pediatrics, every patient interaction is a chance to make a difference — one conversation, one connection, one moment at a time.

However, finding enough time to fit meaningful interactions into her busy day can be challenging, especially given her responsibilities with electronic charting and other documentation needed after every appointment.

But Wilson refuses to let time limitations take precedence over her patients' needs. So, when presented with the idea of enlisting AI to listen,

transcribe and summarize her conversations during patient visits, Wilson seized the opportunity.

*"I welcomed the opportunity to become an early adopter of our medical scribing software. Having access to AI tools like this, that can take some of my administrative work off my hands, is a valuable advantage," Wilson says.*

*Now, at the beginning of each patient visit, Wilson obtains patient consent to record the conversation. She then activates her AI scribing assistant, called DAX Copilot, and proceeds with the patient's exam. Within minutes, the software sends a visit summary to Wilson's computer*

*for her to review and edit.*

*"Now I can give every patient my undivided attention," Wilson says.*

*At the same time, DAX Copilot enhances Wilson's ability to focus on her own well-being and self-care.*

*Since she started using the AI tool, Wilson no longer has to spend her evenings catching up on charting — a practice referred to by clinicians as "pajama time."*

*"I have more time to take lunch breaks and exercise and cook dinner after work," she says. "Plus, I can truly focus on my patients, which brings me joy."*



## GROWING CAREERS AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY

# Lifting up teammates and charting new paths for the next generation

We continue to show up for our teammates in meaningful ways — celebrating who they are, not just what they do.

### Teammate Appreciation Week

Teammate Appreciation Week 2025 was a dynamic, enterprise-wide activation. We honored and celebrated teammates for their everyday excellence, focusing on three core elements: Appreciate someone, have fun and take care of you — reinforcing an organizational culture of gratitude, connection and belonging.

### Enterprise-wide engagement

**132,300+**

total teammate touchpoints across events and activities

**35,900+**

recognition platform engagements (eCards, Kudos, Badges)

**900+**

“You’ve Been Spotted!” cards sent (138% increase over prior week)

**7,200+**

“Simply the Best” store items purchased with teammate discount

**16,300+**

prize drawing entries submitted

### Investing in our teammates

- 68% of eligible teammates made an active election during last year’s Annual Enrollment
- 76% of eligible teammates were enrolled in a medical plan
- 71% of members completed the health questionnaire\*
- 22,300+ teammates benefited from minimum starting increases
- 151,000+ teammates received \$230.3M in annual/merit increases



### Expanding opportunity

**4,900+**

teammates participated in Workforce Development programs\*

**4,800**

teammates engaged in student loan support programs\*

**\$25.9M**

investment in tuition assistance for our teammates\*

**\$11.1M**

invested in loan support programs\*

**21,600+**

teammates taking advantage of Educational Assistance programs\*

\*Through mid-September 2025

## Building pathways

We accelerated workforce development through strategic programs that open doors to health care careers, support internal mobility and strengthen future talent pipelines. From early college initiatives to hands-on internships, our efforts are creating real opportunities for students and teammates alike.

- \$26M Bloomberg Philanthropies grant secured to launch Healthcare Early College at Hawthorne Academy, with 16 Bloomberg students on track to graduate as CNAs in 2025
- 170 ninth- and tenth-grade students enrolled in inaugural Bloomberg cohort
- 8+ Education Assistance Fairs hosted
- 49 students selected for HYPE Summer Academy from 262 applicants
- \$36.3M in active grant funding across workforce programs
- 4,980+ teammates engaged in workforce development in 2025

## Immersive learning

MedXplore offers a five-week summer internship for college students pursuing health care careers, blending clinical shadowing, community service, certification

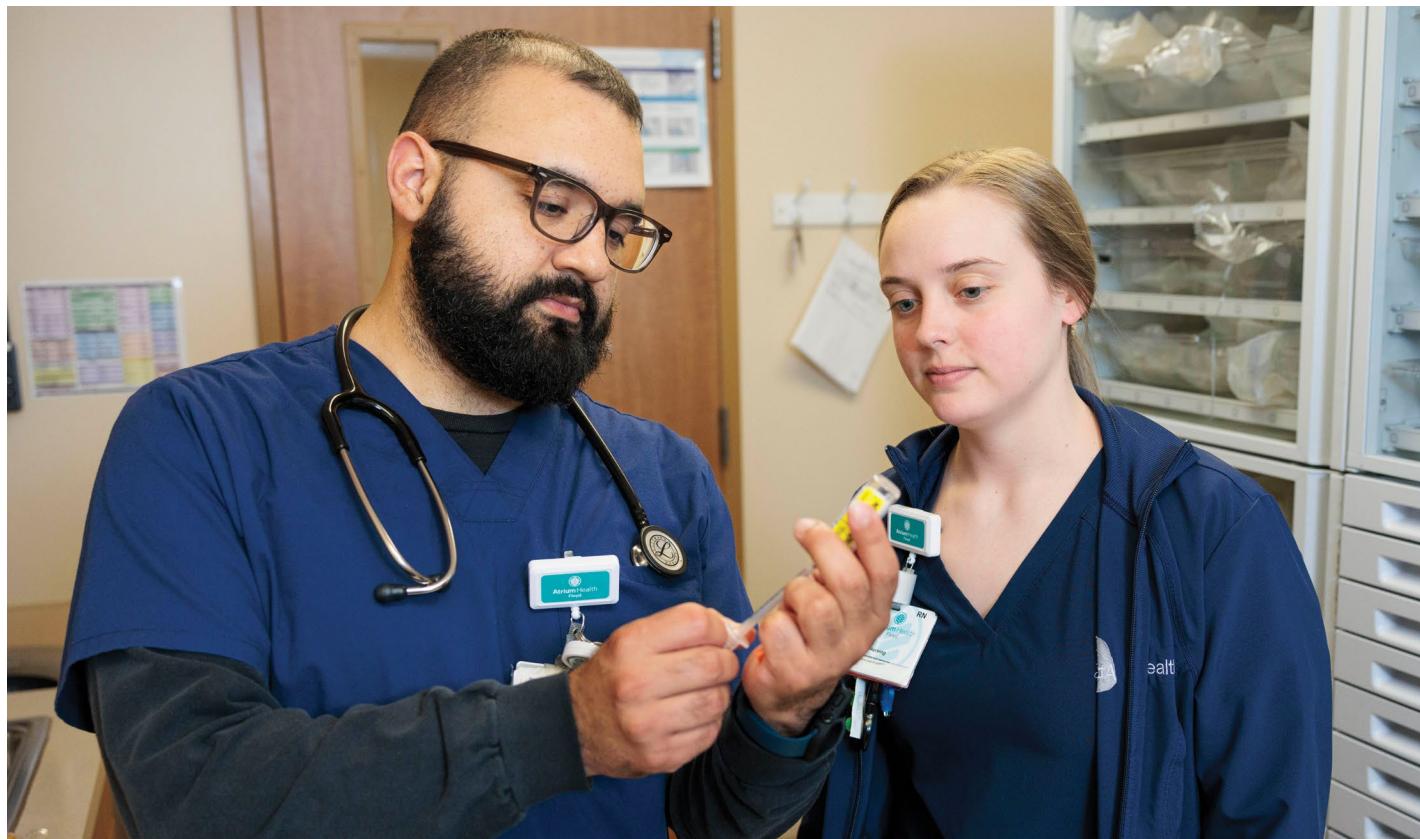
training and professional development. Backed by the HEAL Initiative and Workforce Development, the program emphasizes real-world experience, cross-functional collaboration and sustainable growth through data-driven improvements and strategic funding.

- 15 interns selected from nearly 50 applicants
- 100% program completion rate
- 9.6/10 overall experience rating

## Education, employment, empowerment

Our Rise to Success program helps high school graduates launch health care careers through a powerful blend of education, paid clinical experience and mentorship. The program promotes economic mobility — especially for first-generation college students and youth impacted by intergenerational poverty — while building a strong, diverse talent pipeline.

- 40 participants selected for 2025 cohort from 24 high schools across 7 counties
- 156 active participants across 2023–2025 cohorts
- 18 graduates in 2025: 16 hired into full-time clinical roles, 2 pursuing bachelor's degrees
- Expanded access for rural students through new high school partnerships



## GIVING

# Rooted in generosity, powered by purpose

Like patients of not-for-profit health systems across the country, ours greatly benefit from the generosity of families and community partners who believe in the power of compassionate care.

This year, that support helped us further expand access, enhance patient experience and fuel innovation. From healing spaces and scholarships to mobile clinics and mental health services, these gifts reflect a shared commitment to health, hope and healing. Together, we are shaping a healthier future for all.

### **Addressing barriers to care**

In Illinois, we secured \$580,000 in grants from Delta Dental and the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation to support pediatric dental van outreach. These mobile clinics provide vital oral health services to children in need, addressing barriers to preventive care.

In North Carolina, a \$2.08 million grant from The Leon Levine Foundation is expanding Atrium Health's School-Based Therapy Program to serve K-12 students across five rural counties. Corporate partners EPIC and Ernst & Young

contributed \$100,000 each to help sustain the program's reach and impact.

Also in North Carolina, a \$180,000 grant from CVS Health is enabling Atrium Health Levine Children's School-Based Virtual Care to expand into all three middle schools in Rutherford County, building on its existing presence in elementary and high schools.

### **Transforming care through philanthropy**

Atrium Health's Giving Hope Campaign has raised \$400 million since launching in May 2021. The largest campaign in Atrium Health history, it is advancing community health, education, research and state-of-the-art facilities. The campaign includes funding for 20 new endowed chairs and millions of dollars for programmatic activities.

In Wisconsin, Aurora Zilber Family Hospice received a \$1.4 million gift from the Zilber Family Foundation to fund facility upgrades and support programs including dementia care, volunteer services and teammate well-being. The foundation has contributed \$4.5 million to Zilber Hospice over the past two decades.



In 2025, \$1.5 million was raised to support our academic core, including a gift from The Dickson Foundation for a science lab at Wake Forest University School of Medicine's Charlotte campus at The Pearl. An additional \$1 million in commitments was secured for the new acute care facility under construction at Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center, including \$500,000 from Rodgers Builders and an anonymous \$500,000 gift for the chapel.

### Driving discovery

Launched in November 2023, the ENVISION Campaign is Wake Forest University School of Medicine's first dedicated research fundraising initiative. With a goal of \$100 million, the campaign has raised more than \$122 million as of August 2025, including over \$112 million for research and more than \$9.3 million for scholarships. An anonymous \$5 million bequest intention will help sustain future scholarship efforts. These philanthropic investments are accelerating the Research Plan for Excellence and advancing discovery across Advocate Health.

### Supporting women's and behavioral health

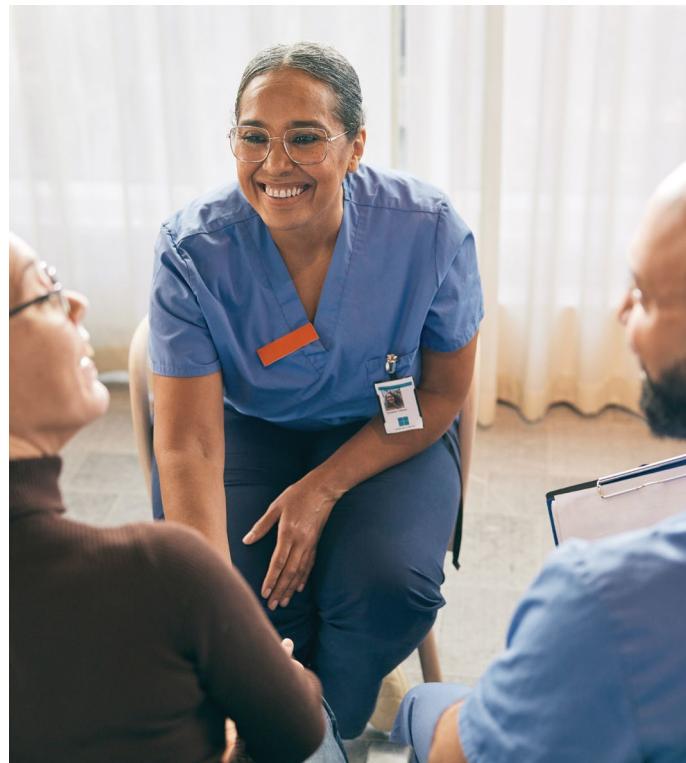
At Aurora Medical Center — Bay Area, behavioral health navigators bridge critical gaps in care by connecting patients in rural communities with long-term resources. Meanwhile, at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist High Point Medical Center, the Family First Campaign has raised \$9.4 million toward a \$10 million goal to renovate and modernize the Esther R. Culp Women's Center. The new 40,000-square-foot space will feature 50% larger postpartum rooms, increased NICU capacity, and a multi-purpose procedural room to support cesarean deliveries. The expansion will enable High Point Medical Center to increase annual births from 1,400 to 2,000, offering the most contemporary birthing experience in the region.

A \$2.1 million grant from AmeriHealth Caritas is advancing women's care across Atrium Health, supporting expanded services and access for patients throughout the region.

Generous support from Lynn Carlson, the Hendrick Family Foundation and an anonymous donor resulted in \$1.15 million to introduce SAINT Protocol — a groundbreaking, FDA-approved approach to transcranial magnetic stimulation — at Atrium Health Behavioral Health Charlotte.

### Advancing cancer care

Atrium Health Foundation announced a \$2 million commitment from longtime partner 24 Foundation to fund supportive oncology at Atrium Health Levine Cancer. Additional donors committed \$3.31 million in major gifts to



advance cancer programs and research, including support for sarcoma (The Paula Takacs Foundation), prostate cancer (Lori and Eric Sklut) and hematology/oncology (Blaire and Jonathan Bancroft).

In August 2025, Atrium Health Foundation hosted Voices of Hope, an inaugural event to raise awareness and support for Atrium Health Levine Cancer. Guests heard from survivors and expert panelists who shared how innovations in research are helping deliver highly personalized care.

### Strengthening community health

In Illinois, the Advocate Trauma Recovery Center launched a partnership with the Cook County Public Defender's Office, placing trauma outreach workers in county offices to connect clients with recovery services. Additionally, Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital received a \$2.5 million gift from Kimberly Duchossois for the smart farm demonstration kitchen.

Atrium Health Foundation received more than \$4 million from the Duke Endowment through five grants — the largest total award we've received from the Duke Endowment to date. These grants will significantly advance Atrium Health's commitments to uplifting communities and expanding rural health initiatives.

## By the numbers

- **\$47 million** raised year-to-date across Atrium Health Foundation
- **\$11 million** in planned gifts secured to support lasting legacies and world-class care
- **\$9.4 million** raised for the Family First Campaign at High Point Medical Center
- **\$5.6 million** gift from the Linda and Mike Mussallem Foundation to expand research and education at the Adult Down Syndrome Center
- **\$4 million+** awarded from The Duke Endowment — the largest total gift to Atrium Health Foundation to date
- **\$1.4 million** gift from the Zilber Family Foundation to support Aurora Zilber Family Hospice
- **\$2.08 million** grant from The Leon Levine Foundation to expand school-based therapy in five rural North Carolina counties
- **\$2.1 million** grant from AmeriHealth Caritas to advance women's care across Atrium Health
- **\$1.15 million** raised to introduce SAINT Protocol for behavioral health treatment
- **\$2 million** commitment from 24 Foundation to fund supportive oncology at Atrium Health Levine Cancer
- **\$3.31 million** in additional major gifts to advance cancer research and programs
- **\$1.3 million+** invested by NCBH Foundation in nursing, pediatrics and FaithHealth initiatives
- **\$580,000** in grants from Delta Dental and Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation to support pediatric dental outreach
- **\$1 million+** raised through Sun and Stars to support maternal care initiatives
- **\$1 million** investment by Lexington Medical Foundation to expand HemOnc services
- **\$285,000+** invested by Wilkes Medical Center Foundation in community health programs
- **2,427** donors received expanded impact reports from Advocate Health Gives

## Gifts from the heart

Across Advocate Health, families gave back in tribute to the care teams who made a difference in their lives.

At the 11th annual Levine Children's Gala, more than 600 guests gathered at Bank of America Stadium to support areas of greatest need at Atrium Health Levine Children's. The event raised over \$3 million, made possible by generous community support, including The David and Nicole Tepper Foundation. Guests celebrated with a "Where hope shines" theme, honoring the hospital's role in shaping brighter futures for patients and families.

In Illinois, after receiving exceptional treatment at Advocate Christ Medical Center, Terri Nairn — a nurse and grateful wife — donated to the hospital's Nursing Research, Education and Wellness fund to honor the team who cared for her husband, Joe.



Jen and Nick Mayerik, grieving the loss of their son Eddie to congenital heart disease, founded the Eddie Mayerik Foundation to continue his light. Their philanthropy supports Advocate Children's Hospital, focusing on the pediatric cardiac ICU, Child Life Program, and Healing Garden — spaces that offer comfort to other heart families facing long hospital stays and financial hardship.

## NURSING

# Leading with skill and guided by heart

With skill, heart and a wide range of perspectives, Advocate Health nursing professionals continue to raise the standard for each other and the communities they serve.

### One team, one vision

As part of ONE Advocate Nursing — a strategic initiative focused on development, professional governance and more — we aligned more than 200 direct-care job descriptions, improved hiring rates and reduced agency use. And our One Advocate Nursing dashboard, which launched in August, enhances data-driven decision making, giving leaders real-time insights to guide their teams. Our data is showing the results of our strategy: We're seeing turnover and vacancy rates well under national averages.

### Research that resonates

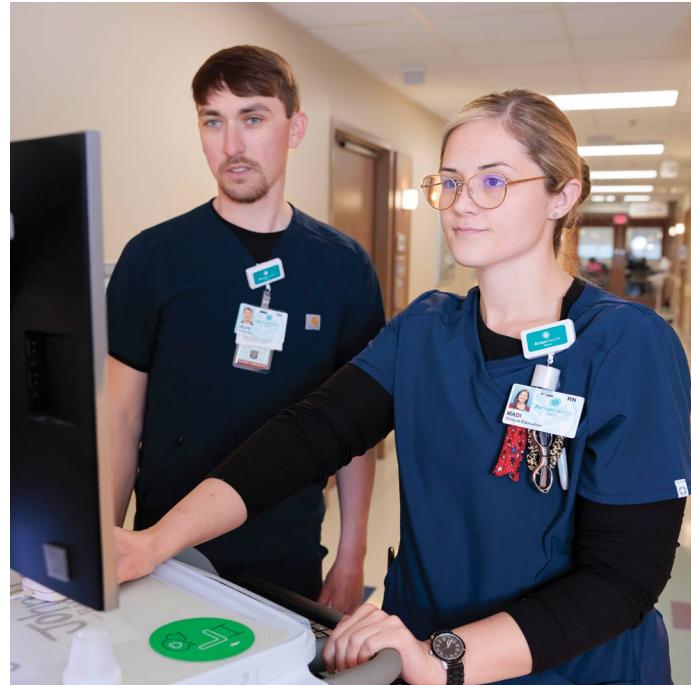
Nurses are sharing their expertise across the enterprise and beyond. With WINS, a new internal database, Advocate Health tracks the scholarly work of our nurses, including research, presentations and other publications, highlighting our expertise in nursing-driven quality improvement and commitment to evidence-based practice. In 2025, Advocate Health nurses led or contributed to:

- 15 peer-reviewed publications
- 51 podium and 50 poster presentations
- 14 active nursing research studies
- 17 webinars, including Advocate Health Nursing Grand Rounds and external webinars
- 17 podium presentations and 200+ attendees at the 2025 Magnet Pathway Conference

### Recognition reimaged

From peer-driven awards to national honors, Advocate Health nurses are celebrated for the difference they make. In 2025, our nurses received:

- 2,000+ Nursing Excellence Award nominations
- 20,000+ DAISY nominations
- 13 Magnet designations recognizing 19 facilities and



7 Pathway to Excellence designations recognizing 10 facilities (a testament to the entire care team's commitment to excellence)

- 4 Pathway sites named national best practice exemplars

### Did you know?

With 17 exemplars cited by surveyors, Advocate Children's Hospital is the first free-standing children's hospital in the world to achieve Magnet with Distinction status from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

### Staying power

Retention starts with belonging, and Advocate Health nurses are showing up, speaking up and staying engaged. This year's results reflect a culture where nurses feel supported, heard and proud to deliver safe care.

- 84% favorability in nurse engagement — exceeding the national health care benchmark
- 76% favorability in nurse satisfaction, with top-decile rankings in 46% of survey questions

- Exceeded nursing excellence benchmarks in all seven nurse satisfaction categories
- 86% favorability for a Culture of Safety, with nurses recommending Advocate Health as a safe place to receive care

## Growing through opportunity

Our newest nurses and our most seasoned nurse leaders have access to professional development that's personalized and purpose driven. Whether it's bedside skill-building, mentorship or academic advancement, we're investing in the growth of every nurse. Because when nurses thrive, so do patients.

- 2,500+ nurses trained through "Well-being for All" Peer Support Ambassador program
- Expanded access to continuing education and certification support
- Enterprise-wide mentorship and preceptor programs in development
- Nurse Leader Relief program launched in Wisconsin resulting in a 28% average reduction in Nurse Manager burden and 20-33% increase in unit-based teammate engagement

## Innovation in action

From smartphones to smart documentation, nurses are leading the way in tech that saves time and strengthens bedside connection.

- 4,000+ smartphones deployed for bedside charting
- IV pump interoperability launched in North Carolina, Georgia and Wisconsin
- 100 nurses piloting ambient listening documentation tool with Microsoft

## Virtual nursing program

Designed to reduce bedside cognitive workload burden, improve patient care and support workforce sustainability, the Virtual Nursing Program exemplifies scalable, high-impact care delivery. Deployed across 38 hospitals, with nine more in queue, the program supports more than 73,000 patients annually with 90,000 hours of bedside care. As a result of our 24/7 nursing model, at one hospital unit we reduced nurse vacancies by 60%, lowered call-bell volume by 56% and increased patient experience scores by up to 80%. The virtual patient observation program supports patient safety and reducing falls all while eliminating 600,000 sitter hours — equating to \$18 million in savings annually compared to in-person sitters. And, thanks to our pilots of all-wired "room of the future"

hospitals, we're continuing to explore how we can use technology to improve care.

## Strategy in motion

We're reducing harm and improving safety through nurse-led innovation, including the development of a real-time dashboard embedded in the medical record. Designed by nurses for nurses, this tool highlights actionable opportunities and tracks nurse-sensitive indicators like catheter infections, falls and pressure injuries. Advocate Health was the first to deploy this dashboard nationally, and it was showcased at a national Epic meeting as a best practice.



## Professional governance that delivers results

When nurses at Advocate Health examined safety during shift hand-offs, they saw an opportunity to make the process more consistent, transparent and patient-centered. The result was COAST, a bedside hand-off tool that ensures teams cover the essentials: Code Status, Oxygen, Access, Safety and Tubes/Drains.

Since launching, COAST has driven hundreds of safety catches and nearly 900 escalated events, helping nurses spot risks sooner, speak up faster and keep patients safer. Now, building on successes in Illinois and Wisconsin, COAST has been enhanced and renamed COAST Plus and is expanding to new areas.

A simple shift with a big impact, COAST Plus shows how nurses at every level are demonstrating leadership and fostering quality, safety and evidence-based best practices.

## CLINICAL SERVICES

# A network of 27,000 physicians and APPs on our active medical staff

This year marked a significant advancement of our longstanding commitment to clinical transformation, launching innovative care models aimed at improving patient outcomes and experiences. With an emphasis on building virtual capabilities and shifting more care to the home, we're fundamentally changing how safe, quality care is delivered.

### Moments that matter

Milestones aren't just measured in markers of physical health, but also in meaningful ways patients and families feel the impact of the care we provide, including:

- **Supporting high-risk pregnancies** at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist with the region's only virtual

maternal-fetal medicine program, giving families faster answers and better care coordination

- **Creating safe spaces for healing** in Wisconsin and North Carolina, where nearly 100 children came together at grief camps to talk, play and process the loss of a loved one
- **Making care more inclusive** with a \$559,000 grant to study how DAX Copilot's Spanish-language transcription tools can help bilingual clinicians more effectively care for patients
- **Keeping families close to home** with virtual NICU rounding at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist's High Point Medical Center, where more than 25 babies received care locally

instead of being transferred to far away facilities

### Diffusing a culture of quality

Our culture of quality is rooted in strategies aimed at engaging teammates, medical professionals, patients and families in planning, goal setting, progress evaluation and change implementation. Key initiatives include:

- **High Reliability Training:** All teammates receive high reliability training, which drives consistency and quality outcomes. Leaders receive additional training to lead safety huddles and maintain standards
- **Annual Learning and Competency Assessment:** Quality is embedded



in education and competency evaluations for all teammates, reinforcing a consistent focus on safety and improvement

- **Weekly “Leader’s Digest” Communication:** This communication includes updates on quality and safety topics such as just culture, high reliability and error prevention skills, all designed for our leaders
- **Daily Department Huddles:** Held across every clinical unit, these huddles incorporate high reliability tactics and continuous improvement elements to ensure safety, improve communication and deploy Plan-Do-Study-Acts, a cyclical quality improvement method
- **Safety Huddles:** Led by leadership at unit, site and divisional levels, these huddles surface safety concerns and support real-time learning
- **Nursing Standard Work:** Evidence-based approaches to device reviews and escalation pathways are incorporated into daily workflows. Nurses use an innovative real-time dashboard in the electronic health record to ensure the delivery of harm preventing care
- **Advocate Health Sharing Day:** This annual event celebrates achievements in safety, health outcomes and patient experience. In 2025, more than 200 improvement projects were submitted, with 10 teams presenting formally and 40 participating in virtual poster sessions
- **Leadership Development Week:** This dedicated week focuses on strategic topics including Just Culture, Change Management, Coaching for Success, Reducing Health Disparities and Artificial Intelligence
- **Shared Governance and Service Line Engagement:** Teammates participate in goal setting and planning through structured models to promote collaboration and ownership
- **Patient and Family Advisory Councils:** Comprised of patients, family members and caregivers, the groups collaborate with leadership to shape quality initiatives
- **Councils for Strategic Advisors:** Community leaders and health care experts guide long-term strategic direction and advise on evidence-based changes

## Strategy in motion

From re-imagining pediatric care to improving outcomes for patients with chronic conditions, our teams showed what progress looks like in practice:

- **Elevating children’s care** by making it an enterprise service line with a unified structure, marking a bold step toward a truly integrated model for pediatrics
- **Honoring clinical excellence** as emergency medicine physician Dr. Sam Bores received the Star



of the Southern Sky award for leading sepsis care improvements that saved an estimated 40 lives

- **Advancing whole-person health** as more than 18,500 patients gained better control of hypertension and diabetes through integrated behavioral health

## Redefining care by the numbers

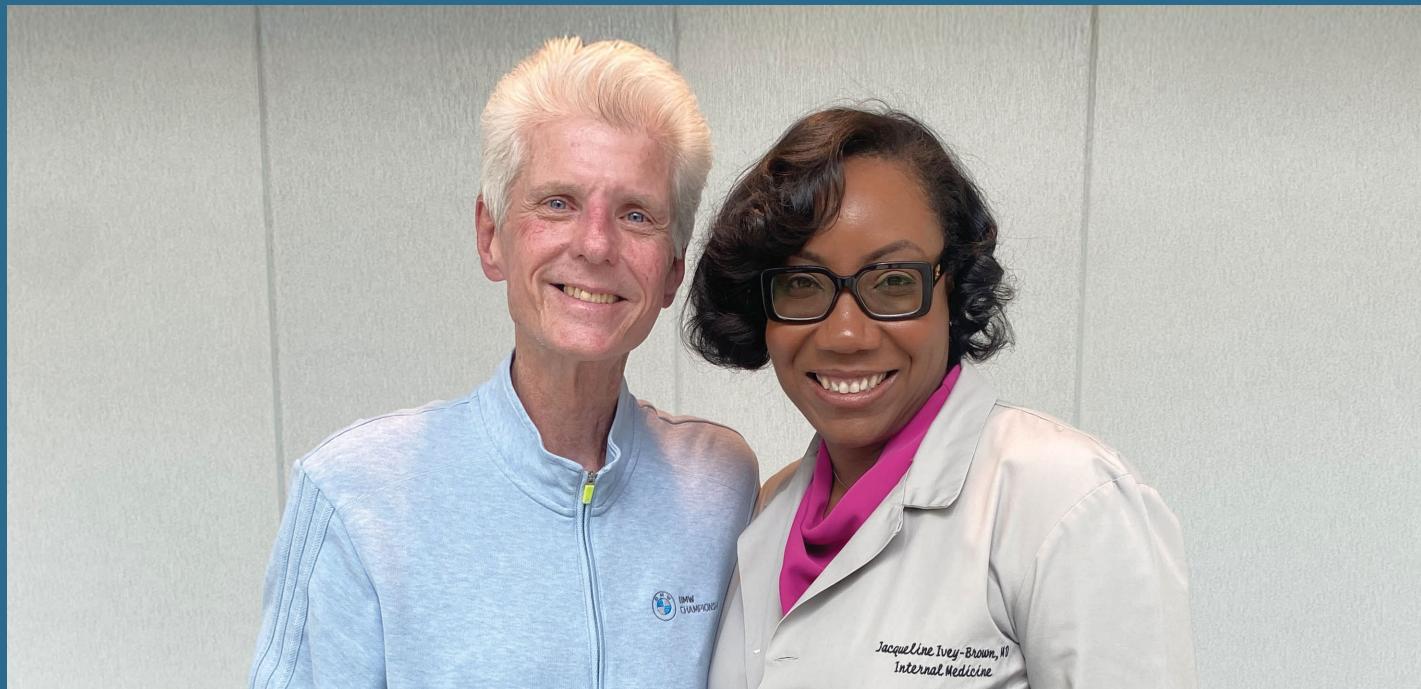
- 1.4% of all babies in the U.S. were delivered by our teams last year
- 27.2% C-section rate — a record low — among low-risk deliveries known as NTSVs
- 24,000+ virtual pediatric urgent care visits projected by year-end
- 18,500+ patients better controlled hypertension and diabetes through integrated behavioral health support

## Shared savings

- Affiliated accountable care organizations generated **\$100.4 million** in savings by achieving strong quality results and lowering costs through the 2024 Medicare Shared Savings Program
- We’ve generated a total of **\$982 million** in savings since 2012 through various CMS programs

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Health care at 30,000 feet



*Larry Stoklosa is alive today because Advocate Health physicians are always ready to help — even during a transatlantic flight.*

*The 73-year-old retired hairdresser was on his way home to Chicago from Germany when he experienced a medical emergency in flight. Fortunately for Larry, returning home on the same flight was Dr. Jacqueline Ivey-Brown, an internal medicine physician and Chief Medical Officer for Advocate Health Care's North Illinois Area.*

*It just so happened that, before takeoff, Ivey-Brown helped a different passenger experiencing a heart emergency. So, when Larry lost consciousness in the air, a flight attendant knew exactly where to turn for help.*

*“I don’t believe in coincidence, I think things happen for a reason,” Larry says. “I believe God put us on the same flight, and I thank Ivey-Brown from the bottom of my heart for taking care of me.”*

*Larry was waking up by the time Ivey-Brown reached him, but he had cold hands and blue fingernails. Working quickly with the flight crew and a certified registered*

*nurse anesthetist also on the flight, Ivey-Brown began providing emergency care. She monitored Larry’s vitals, administered oxygen and treated his dangerously high blood pressure with a beta-blocker medication.*

*“You truly are a doctor 24/7. It’s not a nine-to-five job,” Ivey-Brown says, noting that the plane stocked much of the medication, oxygen and other equipment she needed to stabilize Larry.*

*Ivey-Brown remained by Larry’s side for the remaining six hours of the flight and provided continuous care until the plane landed at O’Hare International Airport, where paramedics transferred Larry to a nearby hospital. There he was treated for double pneumonia.*

*In August 2025, nearly four months later, Larry reunited with Ivey-Brown at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, Ill. The pair shared hugs and laughs. Larry fondly dubbed Ivey-Brown his “BMFF” — best medical flight friend.*

*“I’m grateful I was in the right place at the right time to help Larry,” says Ivey-Brown.*

## SCALING SPECIALTY CARE

# Breaking down geographic barriers to leading-edge care

As part of our strategic framework and driven by our purpose to redefine care for all, Advocate Health this year built a model of integrated, national service lines for cancer, heart and vascular, and neurosciences.

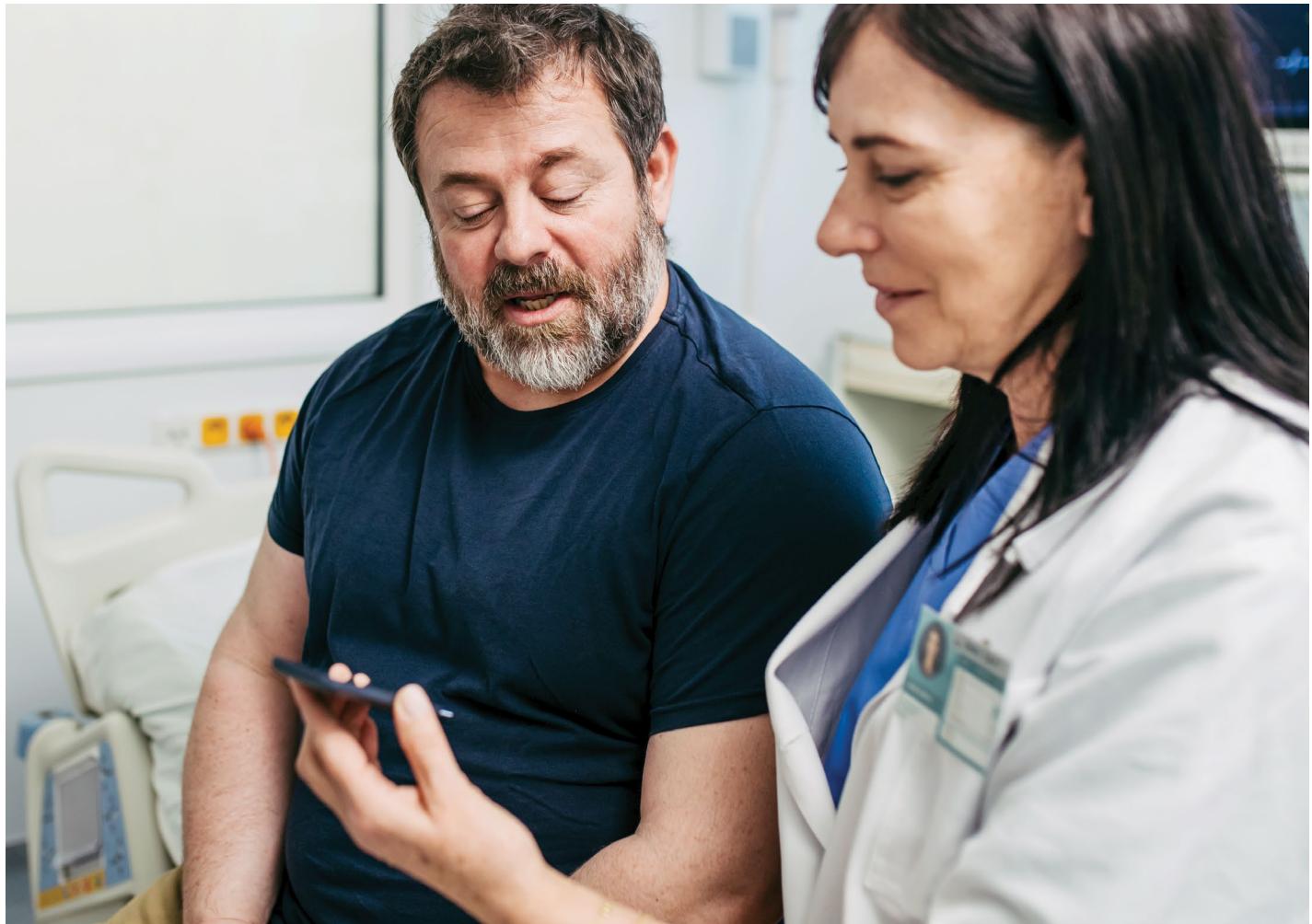
Stretching across our footprint, the model aims to provide coordinated, patient-centric care that leverages clinical research and education, enabling local access to national leading-edge expertise and care anywhere Advocate Health operates.

This innovative model will help ensure that whether you live in our most rural towns or our most urban cities, if

you need treatment for cancer, heart and vascular, or neurosciences, you can receive world-class care closer to home.

“Our national service line doctors are not one of thousands, they are one backed by thousands,” says Dr. Jennifer Sullivan, clinical leader for Advocate Health’s national service lines.

And, thanks to the vision for these service lines, our patients will feel the benefit of those thousands of brilliant minds, no matter where they live.



# CANCER

## Setting a new standard in cancer care

At the core of our national cancer service line is The Loved One Standard, a commitment to treat every patient with the same dignity and compassion we would want for someone we love. Across six states, Advocate Health cares for more than 50,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year, along with thousands more in treatment or survivorship. This year, that work was defined by breakthrough research, expanded access and national recognition.

### Leading-edge research

At Atrium Health Levine Cancer, Dr. Peter Voorhees led the CARTITUDE-1 trial, which showed a 33% five-year progression-free rate for patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma. The findings were presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting and highlighted in The New York Times. Meanwhile, Wake Forest's Organoid Research Center launched the nation's first Certified Cancer Organoid Lab, advancing personalized therapy through tissue organoid technology.

### A network of national expertise

Our physicians, researchers and nurses continue to make a mark nationally, holding leadership positions across the country: Dr. Belinda Avalos served as president of the American Society of Hematology, Dr. Nadine Barrett led the Association of Cancer Care Centers, and Dr. Ashley Sumrall serves as government relations chair of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. And our teams have earned prestigious awards, including the ASCO BJ Kennedy Award for Geriatric Oncology (Heidi Klepin, MD, MS), the Ernest Beutler Lecture and Prize (Ruben Mesa, MD, FACP), and the Oncology Nursing Society's Excellence in Nursing Education Award (Jennifer Mitchell, MSN, RN).

### Redefining local cancer care

While our experts were shaping the future of cancer care nationally, we also focused on expanding access in our local communities. In Georgia, Atrium Health Navicent launched a new mobile mammography clinic on wheels, bringing advanced 3D digital breast imaging to communities that previously lacked access. The PORTrush trial enrolled its first patient, marking a milestone for collaborative investigator-led research. And a \$2 million gift from the 24 Foundation expanded survivorship and supportive oncology programs, adding services such as music and art therapy, yoga, acupuncture and pediatric prehabilitation.

### The Loved One Standard in action

One of the most memorable examples of the standard came when NFL Hall of Famer Randy Moss finished treatment for bile duct cancer. Surrounded by his family and care team at Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute in Charlotte, he rang the bell to celebrate the milestone. "I want to thank everybody at this hospital for welcoming me to be a part of their family," he shared. His story, later featured on Good Morning America, inspired a movement of strength and solidarity: *Let's Moss cancer.*

Through groundbreaking research, expanded access and deeply personal care, we are committed to walking with patients every step of the way — from discovery to recovery and everything in between.

## Cancer Care by the Numbers

**50K+**

Newly diagnosed cancer patients cared for across six states

**33%**

Five-year progression-free rate for relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma patients in CARTITUDE-1 trial

**1st  
in the Nation**

Certified Cancer Organoid Lab launched by Wake Forest Organoid Research Center

**6**

National cancer leadership roles held by Advocate Health clinicians and researchers

**2 days**

Turnaround time for mobile mammography results in underserved areas of Georgia

**4 states**

Recognized by U.S. News & World Report for high-performing cancer care hospitals

**1**

**Translational Center of Excellence**

Established to advance research and host inaugural oncology retreat

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Prostate cancer survivor throws first pitch at Chicago Cubs game



Clark Atwater's victory over Stage 4 prostate cancer is worthy of the big leagues. The 67-year-old lifelong Chicago Cubs fan started experiencing symptoms shortly before his annual primary care visit. Then, to his surprise, a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) screening and other tests revealed Clark had advanced prostate cancer and it had spread to his spine. "It's a sneaky cancer," Clark says, adding that his father passed away from the disease at age 60. "When I finally had symptoms, I was Stage 4."

Under the care of hematologist-oncologist Dr. Sandeep Chunduri at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital

in Barrington, Ill., Clark underwent weeks of radiation treatments and aggressive chemotherapy. By Spring 2025, he was in remission showing no signs of cancer. Energized by his survival, Clark is now passionate about raising awareness and encouraging other men to get regular screenings for prostate cancer.

On Father's Day, Clark joined Advocate Health Care to promote Men's Health Awareness Month and threw the ceremonial first pitch on Wrigley Field, before the Cubs' victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates. He was cheered on by his wife, son, grandson and, of course, Dr. Chunduri.



# NEUROSCIENCE

## New possibilities for neurosciences

The brain is at the center of who we are — how we think, move and connect. At Advocate Health, our neurosciences teams are shaping the future of brain and nerve care with purpose and passion. In 2025, we expanded access to care, pioneered new treatments and earned national recognition along the way.

### Deepening partnerships enterprise-wide

One of the most significant milestones was the expansion of our longstanding collaboration with Carolina NeuroSurgery & Spine Associates, one of the nation's largest neurosurgery practices. Nearly 300 teammates across seven Charlotte-area clinics joined Atrium Health, forming the region's most advanced and comprehensive neurosurgery and spine program. Alongside the practice's more than 70 physicians and APPs, the team now offers seamless, high-quality care — from nonoperative treatments and minimally invasive outpatient procedures to the most complex, life-enhancing surgeries.

### Progress extended to cognitive care

Advocate Health was one of 10 recipients of a \$1 million Alzheimer's Association grant, supporting the systemwide rollout of POINTER clinical interventions. Our Memory Center's diverse enrollment in the U.S. POINTER trial was highlighted in the Journal of the Alzheimer's Association, reinforcing our leadership in inclusive research and lifestyle-based care.

### Innovation remained a hallmark

In Winston-Salem, 44 Focused Ultrasound procedures were completed, and the first Nerve and Spinal Cord Injury Restoration Clinic opened in July. Charlotte launched a first-in-human stem cell trial for epilepsy, offering new options for patients seeking alternatives to resection or ablation. In North Carolina, Advocate Health became one of the first sites in the country to program BrainSense™ Adaptive Deep Brain Stimulation.

### Growth was seen across the enterprise

New chairs were appointed, residency programs launched and multidisciplinary clinics opened, including spasticity and skull base programs in Winston-Salem. And, at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, the team performed its first E-Shunt procedure for Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus as part of the STRIDE clinical trial, while also live-streaming four neurovascular cases to an international audience in Shanghai.

## Neurosciences by the Numbers

**46**

Hospitals across Illinois, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Georgia earned Gold Plus Recognition for Stroke care

**100**

Focused Ultrasound procedures completed in Winston-Salem this year, advancing treatment for movement disorders

**\$1M**

Alzheimer's Association grant awarded to expand POINTER clinical interventions across Advocate Health

**1st**

in North Carolina

BrainSense™ Adaptive Deep Brain Stimulation programmed by Advocate Health clinicians, among the first in the U.S.

**1st**  
in the U.S.

Stem cell clinical trial for epilepsy launched in Charlotte, offering new options beyond surgery

**82**

Research papers published by Wake Forest University School of Medicine neurosurgery faculty and residents in 2025

**2nd**

Behavioral neurologist hired in Charlotte, strengthening enterprise-wide expertise in cognitive health

**Top 10% nationally**

Advocate Health hospitals rated High Performing in Neurology & Neurosurgery, as well as in Spinal Fusion and Stroke procedures, by U.S. News & World Report

**4**

Live-streamed neurovascular cases from Illinois to an international audience in Shanghai, showcasing innovation globally

## Recognition followed impact

Advocate Health hospitals ranked in the top 10% nationally for neurology and neurosurgery by U.S. News & World Report. Multiple sites earned Neurosciences Excellence Awards, and dozens of physicians were named Top Doctors in regional publications. Dr. John Wilson received the Cushing Medal of Honor for neurosurgery, and Dr. Heidi Munger Clary was named a 2025 LAUNCH Finalist for her work in clinical trial data visualization.

Across Illinois, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Georgia, 46 hospitals earned Gold Plus recognition for stroke,

reflecting consistent excellence in outcomes and care delivery. Telestroke programs grew across Charlotte and Wisconsin, improving access to this important care and creating efficiencies.

From groundbreaking procedures to expanded access and national leadership, Advocate Health's neurosciences teams are redefining what it means to care for the brain, spine and nervous system. Most importantly, we are shaping the future of brain and spine care through innovation, access and a deep commitment to healing.

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

# Overcoming a family history of stroke

*Garry Prohuska, 73, vividly recalls his grandmother's struggle with debilitating complications after suffering a stroke. And he still mourns the loss of his mother who died from the same condition at 60 years old.*

*Garry's family history caught up with him in 2024. The Wisconsin father and grandfather suffered strokes on two separate occasions. But thanks to the quick action of his family and the experienced team at Aurora Health Care, Garry is on the road to recovery.*

*Emergency medicine physician Dr. Kristopher Wnek addressed Garry's first stroke at Aurora Medical Center*

*— Grafton, administering a fast-acting medication to dissolve a blood clot in Garry's brain. And neurosurgeon Dr. Thomas Wolfe addressed Garry's second stroke at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee, performing an emergency thrombectomy to capture and remove two blood clots.*

*Although Garry's recovery has not been without challenges, he continues to show progress with dedicated occupational therapy. He is grateful for the time he gets to spend with loved ones, including celebrating his 51st wedding anniversary, being with his kids, playing with his grandchildren and golfing.*



# HEART

## Leading with heart

Across six states, our cardiovascular teams supported patients through every stage of heart care, delivering complex procedures, expanding access and offering the kind of support that transforms clinical expertise into personal healing.

Our clinicians continue to shape the field beyond our walls, holding leadership roles in the American College of Cardiology, the American Society of Echocardiography and the American Heart Association. Meanwhile, outcomes across Advocate Health remain among the nation's best. Multiple facilities earned High Performing status in cardiovascular specialties from U.S. News & World Report, and pediatric heart surgery at Atrium Health Levine Children's ranked No. 7 nationally. Additional honors included the ELSO Gold-level Award of Excellence, the AHA Commitment to Quality Award and Lifetime Achievement recognition for key leaders.

## Life-saving care, close to home

At Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center, teams marked a milestone 5,000 TAVR procedures, placing the hospital among the top four programs in the nation. Advocate Children's Hospital launched its pediatric heart transplant program, giving children with the most complex cardiac conditions access to life-saving care close to home. And at Atrium Health Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, more than 6,000 surgeries, 22,500 invasive cardiology cases, 70 heart transplants and over 165,000 non-invasive tests underscored the scale of expertise across the region.

In Illinois, Advocate Health Care performed more than 20,000 heart procedures, leading the state in cardiovascular care and helping patients get back to everyday life without missing a beat.

Sanger's CT-First Strategy doubled scanner assets and improved imaging efficiency, while clinical research advanced new options in heart failure, electrophysiology, structural heart disease, imaging and cardio-oncology. The institute was also selected as one of just 25 U.S. sites for the STANCE coronary drug-coated balloon trial, expanding treatment choices for patients with de novo coronary disease.

## Greater access to care

In Cleveland County, North Carolina, a new cardiac catheterization lab brought advanced care closer to home. And through expanded virtual programs like Heart Success, Perfect Care and Device Management, patients managing chronic conditions stayed connected to their care teams, regardless of geography.

Advocate Christ Medical Center reached its 1,000th successful implant procedure for atrial fibrillation, giving patients a safer path to heart health.

## Heart & Vascular Care by the Numbers

 **70**  
Heart transplants

**300K+**

Outpatient and inpatient visits across Advocate Health's cardiovascular programs

**3,380**

Projected percutaneous coronary intervention procedures in 2025, with top-decile ischemia documentation

**1.2%**

STEMI/PCI mortality rate, reflecting exceptional outcomes

**2.5x**

Growth in CT imaging volumes since 2019 through the CT-First Strategy

**220+**

Active cardiovascular research projects, including 50+ investigator-led studies

**#7**

in the Nation

Pediatric heart surgery ranking by U.S. News & World Report for Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital

**5**

specialized centers

Focused on women's heart health, cardio-oncology, ACHD, HCM and prevention

**405**

participants

Joined SHVI's educational webinar from 38 states and 22 countries

## 1 Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to Advocate Health heart and vascular national service line leader Dr. Geoffrey Rose by the American Society of Echocardiography

The innovative treatment protects patients from stroke while reducing the need for lifelong blood thinners, allowing them to enjoy everyday activities with renewed peace of mind.

By integrating innovation, clinical depth and human connection, we're not just advancing cardiovascular care. We're helping patients reclaim their rhythm and move forward with confidence.

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

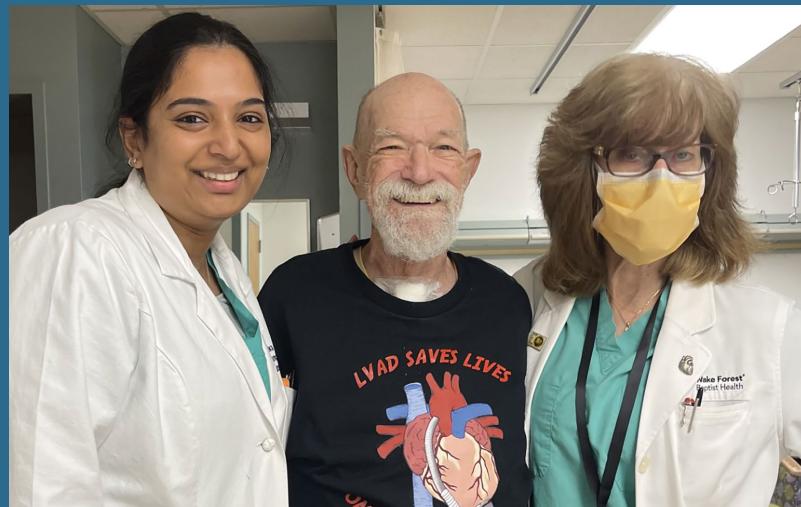
# Accessibility challenge sparks innovative solution for heart patient

*Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center patient Connie Bowling became a pioneer of technology innovation at age 75.*

*Connie survived his first heart attack more than 20 years ago. Then, after years of medical management, he was admitted to the hospital again for mechanical support to help his heart pump better.*

*One year later, his heart failure worsened, and his organs began shutting down. Connie became weak, unable to eat or sleep and he weighed only 110 pounds.*

*The advanced heart failure and transplant team believed a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) — a surgically-implanted mechanical heart pump that helps restore effective blood flow throughout the body — would offer Connie a second chance at life. However, LVADs have not yet been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use with hearing-impaired patients like Connie. Only a handful of hearing-impaired people have received the lifesaving device.*



*LVADs use audio alarms to alert patients to critical issues like low battery or pump problems. Without the ability to receive timely notifications, even minor technical problems could become life-threatening emergencies.*

*The advanced heart care team refused to give up. They pushed forward to innovate, and Connie joined the mission.*

*Led by nurse manager Jeffrey Motes, the care team found a Canadian company that makes audio-to-tactile converters that turn sound into vibrations.*

*They tested several methods of connecting the converter to Connie's LVAD. And finally, the team discovered how to enable Connie to feel his LVAD alarms safely through gentle pulses and respond immediately to any warnings.*

*Connie ultimately received an LVAD with the modified alert system.*

*"The LVAD saved my life," says Connie. "I'm grateful I get to live an extra life — at least five to 10 years. If not for that surgery, I absolutely wouldn't be here today."*

# DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS



## ILLINOIS

# Advocate Health Care

## Serving patients across 11 hospitals and more than 200 care locations

Advocate Health Care is building an ecosystem of health and wellness across the Chicago area, one rooted in access, innovation and community connection. In 2025, the division launched transformative investments on Chicago's South Side, expanded life-saving programs for children and adults, and introduced new technologies to meet patients where they are. From neighborhood clinics to advanced surgical care, the work reflects a bold vision for what accessible, high-quality care looks like.

### \$1 billion investment

Advocate Health Care launched a historic \$1 billion initiative to expand access and close care gaps on Chicago's South Side. Plans include a new hospital, expanded outpatient services at Imani Village and opening Neighborhood Care clinics in trusted community spaces.

### Redefining the patient experience

Illinois Masonic opened its \$645 million expansion, adding private rooms, new mother and baby suites, and advanced surgical and ICU spaces to redefine the patient experience for families.

### Expanding access through ambulatory growth

More than \$150 million in new ambulatory projects are strengthening Advocate Health Care's community presence across the region. New clinics in Westmont, Naperville, Hoffman Estates and Chicago's Webster neighborhood

will expand access to primary and specialty care, helping families get the right care at the right time — close to home.

### Prescriptions at the push of a button

To combat pharmacy deserts, Advocate Health Care introduced prescription vending machines on the South Side, which dispense medications for common and chronic conditions, and connect patients with virtual pharmacists.

### Hyperbaric healing, reimagined

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital opened a new six-person hyperbaric oxygen chamber with reclining seats, entertainment and a calming underwater theme, advancing care for diabetic ulcers, radiation injuries and carbon monoxide poisoning.

### Addressing cancer before it starts

Advocate Sherman Hospital's High-Risk Cancer Prevention Clinic offers personalized risk assessments, genetic testing and proactive care plans for patients with elevated cancer risk, helping bring prevention to the forefront.

### A milestone in kidney transplants

Advocate Christ Medical Center's 300th kidney transplant restored life and hope for 39-year-old Edith Ramirez. Once sidelined by a rare kidney disorder, she can now focus on her children, her career aspirations and the everyday joys she nearly missed.



## 1,000 procedures, countless lives

Advocate Christ Medical Center reached its 1,000th successful implant procedure for atrial fibrillation, giving patients a safer path to heart health. The innovative treatment protects patients from stroke while reducing the need for lifelong blood thinners, allowing them to enjoy everyday activities with renewed peace of mind.

## 500,000 ER visits and counting

Advocate Health Care's emergency departments treated more than half a million patients in 2025, more than

any other health system in Illinois. From critical trauma to urgent medical needs, the state's largest emergency network delivers expert care around the clock.

## Finding talent close to come

Advocate Health Care's Recruitment On-Wheels van hit the streets of Chicago, connecting residents with job opportunities. It's one piece of a larger effort that's already added 300 new teammates on the South Side, with a goal of 1,000 new hires in three years.

## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Cubs for a cure

Advocate Health Care teamed up with the Chicago Cubs for a special game celebrating cancer survivorship and raising awareness for critical research. Clinicians, patients and families enjoyed a pre-game meet and greet, threw the ceremonial first pitch and rang the bell to mark the end of treatment, making it a memorable day at Wrigley Field.

### A courtside celebration for AJ

Sixteen-year-old cancer survivor Ananias "AJ" Clements joined the Chicago Bulls for a VIP trip to Indianapolis, flying on the team plane, meeting players courtside and sharing dinner with Bulls legend Bill Wennington. The experience honored AJ's resilience and reflected Advocate Health Care's commitment to celebrating patient strength in unforgettable ways.

### Care close to home

When Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital president Eric Rhodes mentioned chest tightness during a meeting, his team didn't hesitate. He was rushed to the emergency department, where doctors found a severe blockage and performed a successful stent procedure. Now in cardiac rehab, Rhodes is using the experience to encourage others — especially men — to know their family history and speak up when something feels off.

### A new heart for Nataly

After collapsing at basketball practice, 15-year-old Nataly Paramó became the first patient to receive a heart transplant through Advocate Children's Hospital's new pediatric program. Her story helped launch the program publicly, bringing hope to families facing complex cardiac conditions.

### A bell for the journey

After surviving a severe "widowmaker" heart attack and completing cardiac rehab at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Paul Sheehan wanted to help other patients like him mark the moment. Drawing from his years as a volunteer firefighter, he donated a custom fire bell to the center — a symbol of strength, recovery and the road ahead. Now patients ring it to honor their progress and step into the next chapter of their lives.

### Tiffany's path to motherhood

After years of infertility, Tiffany Weber went into early labor with twin boys at 33 weeks, requiring an emergency cesarean section. Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital's maternity team and postpartum programs like Baby Bistro supported her through a NICU stay and early recovery, offering a sense of community as she entered motherhood.

## WISCONSIN

# Aurora Health Care

**Serving patients across 18 hospitals and more than 300 care locations, including 70 pharmacies**



We continue to strengthen our impact in Wisconsin with investments aimed at expanding access, advancing innovation and elevating care. From facility upgrades to medical firsts, the work highlights our belief that health care is more than treatment. It is connection, compassion and impact that reaches families, neighborhoods and communities statewide.

## Maternity care honors

All of our maternity units — at 11 hospitals statewide — earned recognition on U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals for Maternity Care," with Aurora Medical Center — Bay Area celebrated for bringing vital services to a maternity care desert. Four sites also earned spots on Newsweek's 2025 Best Maternity Hospitals list, with Aurora Medical Center — Summit among the nation's elite.

## Top hospital rankings

Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center earned the No. 1 spot in the Milwaukee metro area and ranked No. 2 in Wisconsin, according to U.S. News & World Report — its third consecutive year at the top. Aurora Medical Center — Grafton was recognized as No. 3 in its metro area and No. 6 in the state. In addition, nine Aurora hospitals received "A" safety grades from Leapfrog, the most of any health system in Wisconsin.

## Emergency department distinction

Aurora St. Luke's, Aurora Medical Center — Burlington and Aurora Lakeland Medical Center received the Emergency Nurses Association Lantern Award for leadership and patient-centered care, an honor achieved by fewer than 100 EDs nationwide.

## Rural care leadership

Aurora Medical Center — Manitowoc County was named Chartis' Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals for the fourth year in a row.

## Care that stays close

Aurora Health Care's family medicine residency trains clinicians to serve rural communities, with rotations split between Milwaukee and Elkhorn. In 2025, 100% of graduates continued their professional journey at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center, strengthening care close to home.

## Health and wellness hub

After a series of listening sessions with nearly 400 community members, The Beacon advanced to final design with full municipal approval. Construction is set to begin in spring 2026, shaped by the voices of Milwaukee's Near West Side.

## Advancing surgical care

Aurora Medical Center — Oshkosh marked its 500th robotic-assisted hip and knee replacement using the region's only Mako system. Aurora Medical Center — Manitowoc County expanded its capacity with a DaVinci surgical robot and larger operating suite. Aurora St. Luke's South Shore introduced minimally invasive spine surgery through a sub-centimeter incision, helping patients recover faster with less disruption.

## Transplant and cardiac achievements

Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center completed its 900th kidney transplant and surpassed 5,000 TAVR procedures, placing it among the top four programs nationwide.

## Prehospital blood transfusion

Aurora Medical Center — Bay Area Ambulance Services became the first EMS in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and the only one in Marinette County to carry and administer blood at the scene.

## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Camille's waterskiing comeback

*For 80-year-old Camille Maduscha, life has always been measured in summers on the lake. When arthritis made even climbing stairs impossible, she feared her skiing days were behind her. Two knee replacements at Aurora Medical Center — Summit gave her another shot. Now Camille is back on the water, chasing records and proving that strength and joy don't come with an age limit.*

### A gift of confidence

*When six oncology teammates at the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic in Sheboygan lined up for haircuts, it wasn't about style, it was about solidarity. Together, they donated 64 inches of hair to be made into wigs for children and young adults experiencing medical hair loss, turning compassion into something tangible and restoring confidence when it matters most.*

### Aurora all-stars reunion

*Six months after a VIP trip to Milwaukee Brewers Spring Training in Phoenix, three pediatric patients reunited at Helfaer Field with Aurora Health Care teammates and Milwaukee Brewers outfielder Sal Frelick. A tailgate, sandlot game and surprise private suite made the homecoming a joyful celebration of connection and hope.*

### Teammate Success coaching program

*In 2025 we launched The Teammate Success Coaching program at Aurora BayCare Medical Center, a 90-day in-house initiative aimed at reducing employment barriers, such as food, transportation, childcare and more. Alongside skill-building and career development, the program assists frontline and entry-level new hires and fair chance hires in high-turnover departments and boasts a 100% retention rate.*

## NORTH CAROLINA

## atrium health

## Serving patients across 20 hospitals and more than 300 care locations

Atrium Health is shaping the future of health in the greater Charlotte region by expanding access, accelerating research and reimagining medical education. This year, patients across rural and urban communities benefited from programs that made care more convenient and affordable, while The Pearl opened its doors as a global destination for innovation and learning. Together, these efforts reinforce Charlotte as a place where world-class care and community connection can thrive side by side.

**National recognition for excellence**

Atrium Health Carolinas Rehabilitation ranked No. 12 nationwide and Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center was recognized among the top 50 hospitals for orthopedics by U.S. News & World Report. Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center also held its title as the Best Hospital in Charlotte for the ninth consecutive year.

**Expanding access in Lake Norman**

Atrium Health Lake Norman opened its doors as a 200,000-square-foot hospital in one of the region's fastest-growing communities. In its first 10 weeks, the hospital delivered more than 200 babies and provided 24/7 emergency and specialty care close to home.

**Transforming rural health**

A \$4 million gift from The Duke Endowment — the largest in Atrium Health's history — is strengthening rural care through virtual nursing, school-based telehealth and AI research that bridges Spanish-language gaps.

**Baby boom**

By the end of August, 12,415 babies were born at Atrium Health hospitals in the Greater Charlotte area — more than any other health system in the region.

**International partnership**

Atrium Health Carolinas Rehabilitation announced the signing of a memorandum of agreement with National Rehabilitation Center UNBROKEN, an organization in



Ukraine. The partnership aims to provide specialized education and training to enhance Ukraine's rehabilitation workforce, addressing the urgent need for rehabilitation services in a region affected by war. It involves hosting clinicians from Ukraine in Charlotte for a series of visits in 2025 to learn about clinical services, education and training, and research.

## Union County's first pediatric emergency department

Atrium Health Levine Children's opened Union County's first and only pediatric emergency department at Atrium Health Union, offering 24/7 child-focused care and seamless connection to Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital.

## Advancing rural mental health support

A \$2.08 million grant from The Leon Levine Foundation is bringing in-person and virtual school based therapy to five rural counties, increasing access to in-person and virtual mental health services for K-12 students. Atrium Health Lincoln was also honored by the American Hospital Association for its leadership in virtual therapy, with participants reporting over 30% improvement in depressive and anxiety symptoms.

## 2,000 robotic bronchoscopies and counting

Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center completed its 2,000th robotic-assisted bronchoscopy in July, reinforcing its leadership in minimally invasive lung diagnostics and treatment.

## Proton therapy for all ages

Atrium Health's Levine Cancer Proton & Advanced Radiation Center treated more than 80 patients as of early September, with nearly 20% of cases involving children, many requiring daily anesthesia, a rare capability among single-room proton centers nationwide.

## LifeShare Carolinas expands organ, tissue and eye donation

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services granted approval for Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist to change organ procurement organizations to LifeShare Carolinas. The change took effect in April and as a result, LifeShare has increased the number of organ donors by 98% and improved the number of organs transplanted by 116%, leading to more life-saving organs being transplanted both nationally and in our local communities.



## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### A pastor's second chance

*After surviving multiple cardiac arrests and a rare dual heart and kidney transplant, Pastor Kelvis Reid returned to the pulpit and even completed a 5K. "I tell my doctors I love them every time I see them," he said. "I wouldn't be here without them."*

### Courage in uniform

*At 28 years old, Charlotte police officer Becca Stanton faced breast cancer with resilience. In July, she marked her final chemotherapy session by ringing the bell at Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute, surrounded by colleagues who cheered her on.*

### Living the dream

*Josh Barnette, who has muscular dystrophy, turned a childhood passion into purpose with the Kannapolis Cannonballers. Once a fan, he now works with the team and was honored during a game with an Atrium Health Winning Moment, celebrating how opportunity can make dreams come true.*

### The dancing queen

*Through the support of her care team at Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute, Lucy Dwindt found healing in movement during her battle with ovarian cancer. As honorary captain at a Charlotte Football Club match, she showed how music and motion can fuel hope, even on the toughest days.*

NORTH CAROLINA

# ATRIUM HEALTH WAKE FOREST BAPTIST

**Serving patients across 8 hospitals and more than 350 care locations**



Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist continues to invest in the health of the Piedmont Triad and Northwest North Carolina region, strengthening services and expanding reach across both rural and urban communities. The addition of Hugh Chatham Health and Alleghany Health deepens its commitment to rural health, bringing new programs and resources to the Yadkin Valley. Anchored by Wake Forest University School of Medicine and the Innovation Quarter in Winston-Salem, we continue to shape the future of research, education and clinical excellence to transform care delivery.

## Reinforcing rural care

Hugh Chatham Health and Alleghany Health joined Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist in July 2025, marking a major step forward for the Yadkin Valley and Northwest North Carolina. Backed by a \$100 million investment, the

partnership is expanding clinical services and facilitating seamless care coordination. Across Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, we're advancing recruitment and retention of primary and specialty care providers to serve our rural populations.

## Progress in practice

Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist opened a \$78 million outpatient surgery center in Winston-Salem, equipped with 12 advanced surgical suites, including robotic and simulation rooms. At the same time, crews broke ground on a \$2.7 million expansion of the hematology-oncology clinic and infusion center in Lexington, expanding key services to rural areas. These investments are expanding access to specialized care and creating hands-on training spaces for the next generation of health leaders.

## A towering legacy

This year we opened the Julie Ann Freischlag Tower on the campus of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center to provide advanced medical technologies, innovative treatments and expanded critical care services. The seven-story, 327,000-square-foot building represents a \$426 million investment by Atrium Health that will further elevate critical care capabilities for the Triad and the entire Northwest North Carolina region. The tower is named for Dr. Julie Freischlag, a vascular surgeon and health care leader who spent eight years as CEO of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist.

## Guilford expansion in High Point and Greensboro

We celebrated our commitment to providing care locally with the expansion of multiple primary care, urgent care and imaging services in Greensboro, including Friendly Center, Irving Park and New Garden. We also celebrated a longstanding pediatric practice in Greensboro joining the Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist family. Meanwhile, we continued to grow across High Point, enabling patients in need of the most complex care to stay local.

## Expanding access to care

Our new outpatient surgery center, multispecialty medical office building and cancer center in northwest Greensboro represents a \$163 million investment in the local community. The 134,000-square-foot, five-story building includes specialty services in cardiology, gastroenterology, general surgery and orthopaedics, along with three operating rooms and two procedure rooms. Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist opened its first Greensboro practice in 2006 and now has more than 35 primary, specialty and urgent care practices in the city.

## Stronger stroke response

Lexington Medical Center advanced its stroke services, allowing more patients to recover close to home. Wilkes Medical Center earned certification as an advanced primary stroke center from The Joint Commission.

## By the numbers

- **1,290 stroke admissions** across Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist as of September
  - 508 virtual neurology consults as of October
- **25 heart transplants** through September, a 56% increase from same period a year prior
- **150 adult kidney transplants** through September, an 11% increase from same period a year prior
- **3,400+ babies delivered** as of August
- **8 consecutive “A” grades** earned by Davie Medical Center from The Leapfrog Group
- **654 drone deliveries** completed through August, cutting lab turnaround times by over an hour
- **257 patients screened** at free skin cancer screening events in Winston-Salem and High Point

## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Generations of hope

*Infertility specialist Dr. Jeff Deaton helped a Winston-Salem couple expand their family, 30 years after helping another family member conceive twins through IVF. His compassionate approach now spans three generations.*

### Heart and soul

*After 27 years as a paramedic, Max Leihenseder found himself on the other side of emergency care. Following a serious car accident, his heart transplant was performed by his own colleagues at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, the region’s only heart transplant program.*

### Game, set, match

*Longtime tennis partners James and Skip proved their strongest match wasn’t on the court. When Skip needed a kidney, James stepped up as a perfect donor. Their successful transplant at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist was celebrated with a ceremonial coin toss at the Winston-Salem Open, where friendship and generosity took center court.*

### Paws and effect

*Trusty, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist’s first facility dog and a beloved member of the Recreation Therapy team, brings joy and motivation to patients during therapy sessions. He even took to the mound to throw out the first pitch.*

## GEORGIA

# Atrium Health Floyd and Harbin Clinic

**Serving patients across 4 hospitals and more than 65 care locations**



Atrium Health Floyd + Harbin Clinic is advancing care across northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama, delivering new services and innovative therapies where they are needed most. This year the division expanded imaging and cancer treatment, deepened school-based health partnerships and accelerated career pathways for future nurses. Together, Atrium Health Floyd + Harbin Clinic continues to build a connected system that supports patients, providers and families across the region.

## Elevated imaging

Cherokee Medical Center opened a \$1 million Women's Imaging Suite, adding 3D mammography and bone density screening in rural Alabama and expanding early detection for thousands of patients.

## Powerful partnerships

The Atrium Health Floyd-Polk Foundation awarded \$1.3

million to 43 local agencies, fueling programs that promote health, education and economic mobility.

## Precision in practice

Atrium Health Floyd introduced radioligand therapy for prostate cancer, giving patients access to advanced treatment close to home instead of traveling hours for care.

## Epic milestone

Harbin Clinic marked one year with Atrium Health and completed its electronic health record transition, streamlining records and strengthening collaboration across more than 65 care sites.

## Heart first

Atrium Health Floyd launched a cardiac CT program, which uses X-rays and computer technology to create 3D

images of the heart and blood vessels, and began developing its first electrophysiology service, expanding advanced heart care for patients in northwest Georgia.

### Mobile momentum

A second Mobile Mammography Coach based in rural Chattooga County and funded in part by federal support expanded the capabilities of The Breast Center to bring life-saving screenings to underserved communities.

### Leadership legacy

Atrium Health Floyd President Kurt Stuenkel received the W. Daniel Barker Leadership Award from the Georgia Hospital Association, honoring his four decades of service and leadership in Georgia health care.

### Room to heal

Atrium Health Floyd added 57 licensed beds in 2025, boosting capacity to 446 beds across four hospitals and expanding inpatient access for families.

### Pipeline to practice

Thirty-two new nurses graduated from the Georgia Highlands Pathway Program in 2025, with 50 more on track for 2026. Since 2023, more than 100 students have benefited from the program, which doubled faculty and added 120 seats. This partnership will increase the number of Georgia Highlands nurse graduates entering the workforce by 100% by 2029.

### Healthy schools, stronger futures

Atrium Health Floyd renewed school health contracts across three districts, ensuring nurses, athletic trainers and emergency coverage for more than 20,000 students — along with career pipeline programs to prepare the next generation of health care workers.



## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Saved by dad

*A Rome-area father used CPR training from Atrium Health Floyd to save his son's life. What began as a routine class became a moment of extraordinary courage and connection.*

### Wonder Woman in scrubs

*When a patient's heart stopped, nurse Quincy Knapp-Weimer sprang into action. Her quick response earned her the nickname "Wonder Woman" from grateful colleagues and family.*

### Tiny breath, big impact

*A neonatal team at Atrium Health Floyd rallied to help a newborn struggling to breathe. Their precision and compassion gave the tiniest patient a fighting chance.*

### Ramp to recovery

*When a patient could not safely return home, Atrium Health Floyd nurses built a ramp themselves. It was a small act with a big message: healing support extends beyond hospital walls.*

### Ringing in hope

*Cancer patient Garry Fisher rang the bell to complete his treatment with such vigor he broke the bell. Now, he volunteers at the cancer center five days a week, assisting patients, offering encouragement and sharing his experience.*



## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## New friendships empower teammate during health care journey

*Molly Horton, an X-ray and ultrasound technician at Harbin Clinic in Rome, Georgia, has experienced her own physical challenges.*

*Molly had two knee replacements over the course of one year. Then, due to complications, she had three additional surgeries that left both her legs in casts. As part of her recovery, Molly spent 16 weeks hospitalized at Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center, before transferring to Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center 30 miles away.*

*But Molly doesn't like to complain about her medical history. Rather, she focuses on praising the excellent clinical care she received. And she tends to brag about the way her newfound teammates — thanks to the recent combination of Harbin Clinic and Atrium Health Floyd — showed up for her through a series of extraordinary efforts.*

*"I will be forever grateful for how kind and helpful everyone was on my journey," Molly said.*

*Throughout her hospital care, Molly's nurses lifted her*

*spirits with encouraging words, friendly conversations and surprise visits bearing her favorite yogurt treat. More importantly, they strengthened Molly's independence by supporting her desire to do things herself, even during their own free time.*

*Registered nurse Leisa McCright transported and installed an adaptive "trapeze" lift over Molly's hospital bed to help her new friend sit upright and position herself independently. And when Molly was ready to be discharged, physician liaisons Elliott Gault and Kenneth Tillery constructed a ramp outside of Molly's home so she could enter without assistance.*

*"We want to support our patients' independence as much as we can. We try to meet their discharge and home care needs," Elliot said. "We just wanted her to be home — and to be safe at home."*

*Today, Molly is back at work caring for patients. Her knee pain is gone and she continues to sing the praises of her teammates.*



## GEORGIA

# Atrium Health Navicent

**Serving patients across 7 hospitals and more than 50 care locations**



From national recognition in nursing excellence to new advances in rural care, our teams are expanding access, elevating quality and building a stronger pipeline for the next generation of health care professionals.

## Nursing excellence

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center earned its fifth Magnet designation, placing it among an elite group of hospitals recognized for nursing excellence and patient care. As of September, only 13 hospitals in Georgia hold Magnet status, and just three have achieved it five or more times.

## Raising the bar

Emergency departments at Atrium Health Levine Children's Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital and Atrium Health Navicent Peach received the Emergency Nurses Association Lantern Award, honoring leadership

and innovation in emergency care. Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital was also designated as a Center of Excellence in Pediatric Sedation by the Society for Pediatric Sedation, giving families confidence that their children are receiving safe, high-quality care.

## 1,300 mobile mammograms and counting

Our Mobile Mammogram Coach brought life-saving screenings to workplaces, schools, churches and rural communities. By October, it had completed 1,300 mammograms, including one that helped teammate Lindsey Bowden detect breast cancer early during a visit near her home in Cochran, Georgia.

## Leading in cardiac innovation

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center became the first hospital in Georgia to perform the FARAVIEW Opal mapping procedure for AFib treatment. This follows the

2025 introduction of FARAPULSE with Opal for Pulsed Field Ablation, a breakthrough therapy that targets abnormal heart rhythms while minimizing risk. Together, these advances signal a new era of precision cardiac care for this community.

### Investing in people and communities

Through the Georgia HEART Hospital Program, Atrium Health Navicent Baldwin and Peach raised more than \$1.7 million to support the two hospitals in purchasing new equipment and funding operations. The Atrium Health Navicent Medical Group also welcomed 62 new physicians and advanced practice professionals in 2025, driving a 12% increase in patient visits. Two new service line leaders — Dr. Lalitha Sivaswamy in pediatrics and Dr. Rogerio Lilienbaum in cancer — are helping shape the future of specialty care across the region.

### Restoring OB-GYN care in Baldwin County

Atrium Health Navicent Baldwin Women's Care OB-GYN opened in Milledgeville, restoring prenatal and obstetric services after a shortage of local providers. The clinic has shown steady growth in patient visits, bringing essential care closer to home.

### Strengthening standards

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center and Atrium Health Navicent Peach successfully transitioned to accreditation from The Joint Commission. This milestone reflects a deep commitment to safety, quality and continuous improvement across the region.

### Reopening critical care, fast

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center reopened an ICU unit that had been closed during the pandemic, transforming it into a decompression space for emergency department patients. The effort came together in just three weeks, thanks to the dedication and coordination of interdisciplinary teams working around the clock.

### Expanding pediatric emergency care to rural patients

Atrium Health Navicent partnered with Colquitt County Regional Medical Center in rural South Georgia to provide virtual and phone consultations for pediatric emergencies.

### Supporting student health

We expanded our student health services to include Gordon State College in Barnesville, Georgia. Located between Macon and Atlanta, the clinic marks the fourth collegiate partnership added since 2023. The initiative reflects a growing commitment to preventive care and meeting students where they are.

### Did you know?

Rural EMS services expanded to Wilkinson County in early 2025, increasing calls for service, reducing refusals for transport and connecting more patients to Atrium Health Navicent Baldwin for trusted care.

## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Feeding families

*At the 2025 community food distribution, 201 volunteers and 15 community partners helped deliver more than 105,000 pounds of fresh produce to 2,000 families.*

### Celebrating community

*We sponsored the third annual Macon Music Half Marathon, a race that draws runners from across the region and celebrates the city's cultural roots.*

### Inspiring hope

*Young patients from Levine Children's Hospital took part in the Macon Bacon baseball team's "Homerun for Life," running the bases as the crowd cheered them on.*

### Saving lives by the river

*Atrium Health Navicent Baldwin teammates partnered with community groups to install a life vest loaner station after responding to multiple river drownings, turning tragedy into prevention.*

# Accolades

**Honored for bold innovation, exceptional care and creating a workplace where teammates feel seen, supported and inspired**

## U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT



**21** hospitals recognized by U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals for excellence in patient safety, outcomes and experience



Atrium Health Pineville and Aurora Medical Center – Grafton recognized as **High-Performing Maternity Care Hospitals**



For the 18th consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report named **Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital a Best Children's Hospital** — the only one in Charlotte to earn this distinction.

The hospital ranked among the **Top 25 nationally in five specialties**, including a **Top 10 ranking (No. 8)** in cardiology and heart surgery, and achieved **Top 50 rankings** in two additional specialties.

**12** **Top 50** national rankings

**31** High Performing designations, signifying top decile performance

**Advocate Children's Hospital** also ranked among the nation's best, earning the **No. 42** spot for pediatric cardiology and heart surgery

## LEAPFROG



**24**

hospitals receive "A" rating for excellence in patient safety on 2025 patient safety report card

**Aurora Health Care** received 11 "A" ratings, most of any health system in Wisconsin

**Atrium Health Union** not only achieved an "A" rating, but sustained the grade for six or more grading rounds, designating it a **"Straight A" hospital**. This select group is made up of 346 hospitals nationwide, representing just 12% of all eligible hospitals.

## NEWSWEEK

### Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals

**6**

hospitals recognized on **Newsweek's World's Best Hospitals** list based on quality of care, patient safety measures and patient satisfaction surveys

### Newsweek's America's Best Hospitals

**48**

specialty rankings, including maternity care, cancer care and pediatrics

## NURSING

Atrium Health Cleveland, Atrium Health Lincoln and Atrium Health University City earned their first **Pathway to Excellence designations**

Advocate Children's Hospital received its second **Magnet designation** and became the first free-standing children's hospital awarded **Magnet with Distinction**

Atrium Health Navicent The Medical Center earned its fifth **Magnet designation**, including its rehab and children's hospital campuses



**23**  
nurses named to the  
North Carolina Great 100

**10**  
nurses honored in the  
**Illinois Nurses Foundation's 40 Under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders** — more than any health system in the state

**7**  
facilities received the **Emergency Nurses Association's Lantern Award**, bringing our total to 13 honorees

## MODERN HEALTHCARE

Advocate Health Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Betty Chu named one of **Modern Healthcare's "2025 Innovators"**

Lindsey Van Gompel, executive director of specialty programs at Advocate Aurora Health, named one of **Modern Healthcare's 40 Under 40**

## TOP EMPLOYER

Designated a **Wellbeing First Champion** by **The American Hospital Association**

Advocate Health earned gold level recognition from the **American Medical Association as a Joy in Medicine organization**, the highest possible level of recognition, affirming Advocate Health's role in shaping a healthy and resilient care environment

## OPERATIONS

**15**

hospitals and 14 non-acute facilities honored with the **ENERGY STAR NextGen certification** that identifies the country's most energy-efficient, low-emissions buildings, and 38 sites received standard ENERGY STAR certification

**75**

facilities garnered 100 **American Society for Healthcare Engineering**

Named **America's Most Admired Workplaces** by **Newsweek**

Named one of **America's Most Trusted Brands** by **USA Today**

Atrium Health Pineville, along with its freestanding emergency departments at Steele Creek, Providence Road and Ballantyne, received the **Pathway to Excellence designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)**, a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association

## CONNECT TO PURPOSE

## Two sisters, one journey: Beating breast cancer together

Physician assistant student Kate Singletary's life changed the night she rolled over in bed and felt a lump in her breast. After an ultrasound, MRI and other imaging, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist doctors determined that the 27-year-old had invasive, Stage 3 breast cancer. And it had spread.

She says she "switched into survival mode."

Under the care of medical oncologist Dr. Katherine Ansley and surgical oncologist Dr. Marissa Howard-McNatt, Kate underwent a double mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiation. But her medical journey wasn't over just yet.

Thanks to genetic testing, Kate discovered she carries a CHEK2 gene mutation, which increases the risk for certain types of cancer. Since it can be hereditary, doctors recommended that her triplet siblings undergo testing, too. While her brother's risk of breast cancer remained low, her sister Elizabeth also was a carrier.

During Elizabeth's initial breast exam, providers at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center in Winston-Salem found no lumps. But a subsequent MRI discovered two masses, resulting in a Stage 1 breast cancer diagnosis.

"I was offered the same care team and (Kate) had already been so happy with them," says Elizabeth. "I knew (my breast cancer treatment plan) wasn't going to be as bad as (Kate's) because we caught it early and, if she went through all that, that I could handle it as well."



The sisters had their double mastectomies five days apart and, today, they are in remission.

Every day our clinicians help families like Kate and Elizabeth navigate unexpected medical journeys.

Motivated by compassion and empowered by leading edge medical

technology, our teammates are equipped to address the unique needs of our patients and build healthier communities.

From discovery to everyday moments, we are redefining care — for you, for us, for all. And for all the Kates and Elizabeths, when they need us the most.



