

The Hospital that Feels More Like Home

In August 2016, Kris Frisina experienced excruciating pain in the middle of the night. She and her husband, Pat Frisina (Rodgers), rushed to the emergency room at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital – Medical Center (CSRH – MC).

“The ER physician was very thorough and wanted to do a CT scan of my abdomen,” Kris said. “He reviewed the scan results and informed me that I not only had Shingles, but I had an abnormality on my kidney that looked cancerous. We were shocked and terrified by this unexpected news.”

The ER physician acted quickly and contacted the office of Dr. Ian Thompson III, chief medical officer, CSRH – MC.

“I was able to meet with Dr. Thompson the very next day,” Kris added. “From the moment I met him, I knew I would be well taken care of. He was very kind and informative, letting me and my husband know exactly what to expect.”

“Before Kris went in for surgery, I prayed that everyone she encountered would make her feel loved, cared for, and at peace,” Pat said. “God truly answered our prayers because from the first interaction with the nurse at the front desk, we both felt comfortable and at peace. It was truly remarkable, and I will forever be grateful for all of the amazing hospital staff who took care of my wife.”

Kris underwent kidney surgery in September 2016 and has since recovered and returned back to work as a receptionist at St. Bridget’s Catholic Church. Her husband Pat, deacon at the Archdiocese, attributes her healing to the many prayers they received from family, friends, and members of their parish.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and qualified physicians, patients like Kris continue to receive the life-saving care they deserve. If you are a grateful patient of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa, please share your story with us at FriendsFoundation@ChristusHealth.org or 210.704.3108.

**Shortly after this article was written, Deacon Pat Rodgers passed away in November 2016. We are grateful for the powerful impact he made on our community, and we send our heartfelt condolences to his family.*



Deacon Pat Frisina (Rodgers) with his wife, Kris Frisina.

CHRISTUS SANTA ROSA Friends Foundation

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Here for Life

FRIENDS OF CHRISTUS SANTA ROSA FOUNDATION

Friends Foundation Celebrates 20 Years of Service

The Friends of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Foundation is celebrating its 20th anniversary in November 2017. Over the years, the Foundation has been dedicated to raising funds needed to make life-saving advancements in CHRISTUS Santa Rosa hospitals. Twenty years ago, members of the founding board of directors identified the need to draw donors’ attention to adult hospitals.

“We formed the Foundation to provide a driving force of advocates on behalf of the many patients served in our hospitals,” said Ken McClure, executive director, ACTS Missions, and founding board member of the Friends Foundation. “From the beginning, our goal has been to ensure that CHRISTUS Santa Rosa has the necessary means to uphold our sacred promise of serving all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.”

Read more on page 4.



Ken McClure, executive director, ACTS Missions, founding board member, Friends Foundation.

Our Mission: “To Extend the Healing Ministry of Jesus Christ.”

SAVE THE DATE

I AM GRATEFUL.

If you are a grateful patient of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa, please share your story with us and consider making a donation.

Your gift will help save lives and transform care through upgraded equipment and enhanced programs.

www.friendsfoundation.org/grateful

Power in Planning

The legacy you leave behind will make a lasting impact well beyond your years.

Celebrating

20

YEARS

1997 ♦ 2017

GOLF *for* **FRIENDS**

6th Annual Golf Tournament

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017
HYATT HILL COUNTRY GOLF CLUB | 8 a.m.

All proceeds help fund comprehensive health and wellness programs at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospitals.

For more information, call 210.704.2800 or email FriendsFoundation@ChristusHealth.org.

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Here for Life is a publication of the Friends of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Foundation.

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Dynamic New Leadership at Medical Center

Dr. Ian Thompson, Jr. will take on a new leadership role at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital – Medical Center (CSRH – MC), serving as president for CSRH – MC and vice president for the market oncology service line. Alongside Asha Rodriguez, administrator for CSRH – MC, Dr. Thompson will focus on maximizing the greatest opportunity for operational efficiency, leadership for quality, and patient outcomes.



Dr. Ian Thompson, Jr.

He joined the University of Texas Health Science Center – San Antonio (UTHSCSA) in 1998, while on active duty, as chief of urology and then retired in December 1999, joining the Health Science Center as a tenured professor of urology. After taking the division of urology to full departmental status and attaining the highest level of National Institutes of Health funding for a department of urology in the United States, he was appointed to director of the Cancer Therapy and Research Center at UTHSCSA, a National Cancer Institute (NCI) - designated Cancer Center.

Dr. Thompson has practiced urologic oncology for more than 30 years with a special expertise in prostate cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment including surgical care of his patients.

We welcome Dr. Thompson and look forward to the positive impact his leadership will continue to have on our Hospital, our patients, and our community.

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Letters of Gratitude

In 2016, serious respiratory failure caused Father Jack O'Donoghue to spend several days in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital -Medical Center (CSRH – MC) before eventually entering hospice and peacefully passing away.

Father O'Donoghue served as pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church and School in San Antonio for more than 25 years. He has left a legacy of prayer, perseverance, and trust in the hearts of those who knew him.

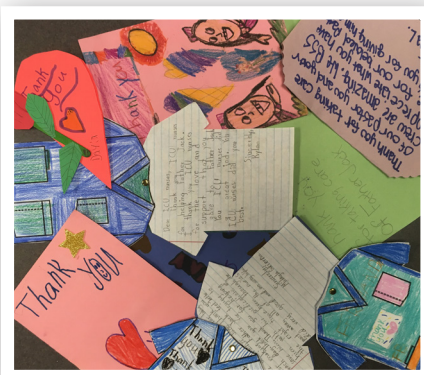


Father Jack O'Donoghue

After his passing, students from Blessed Sacrament School wrote letters of appreciation to the nursing staff who took care of Father O'Donoghue during his last days, referring to the nurses as "angels who helped another angel transition into heaven."

"Our teams of nurses truly live out the mission to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ in their everyday lives," said Miguel Mendez, director of critical care, CSRH – MC. "They provide every patient with the highest quality care and strive to create an environment of peace and comfort."

Your gift supports our nurses by providing vital resources for patient care, allowing them to extend the healing ministry to every patient, regardless of their age, illness, or ability to pay.



Letters of gratitude written by students.

Transformations Driven by Your Support

Senior Care Transformed in 2014



The ACE Center staff members.



Blessing ceremony and news conference introducing the Kingman Center in 2014.

In 2014, the Hazel and Fred Kingman Education and Conference Center was developed to serve as a fully-equipped multimedia education and conference center dedicated to providing pre-operative patient education, patient activities, and team conferences. The center serves as a teaching space for all patients receiving care at The Orthopedics and Neurosciences Center, also referred to as the Acute Care for the Elderly (ACE) Center Without Walls, and is outfitted with special floors, lighting, furniture, and a nursing staff specially trained in the needs of the geriatric patient population, providing specialized care to patients age 65 or older. Your generous donations allowed these important developments to come to fruition.

Mobile Mammography Unit Transformed in 2013



The MMU before its transformation.



The MMU after its transformation.

Women are receiving life-saving breast health care because of your generosity. In January 2013, with philanthropic support, the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Mobile Mammography Unit (MMU) underwent immense technological and aesthetic transformations. The outdated analog equipment was replaced with 2-D digital mammography, nearly doubling the amount of mammograms per month to about 300. Currently, the MMU provides approximately 3,000 mammograms per year, with more than one third provided for free to underserved and uninsured women. This is only possible thanks to you and your support!

Friends Foundation Celebrates 20 Years (Cont.)

Thanks to the generosity of donors, we are able to provide high-quality care at all of our hospitals throughout San Antonio and New Braunfels.

"We rely on the support of our donors and our community in order to be a vital resource for our patients," said Sister Michele O'Brien, CCVI.

"As we reflect on all that has been accomplished in the last 20 years, we eagerly look to the future."

lab developed at Westover Hills, which accommodates 25-30 patients per week, and comprehensive senior care at Medical Center.

"Medical care is always shifting and evolving, but the Friends Foundation's goals are consistent," Ken added. "The Foundation will continue to maintain the mission and the vision of the founding Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word."

Thank you for donating your time and resources to make a difference in the lives of the patients we serve. As we reflect on all that has been accomplished in the last 20 years, we eagerly look to the future.

Your support has recently funded incredible advancements, particularly in women's health and senior care. Some of these advancements include, the Mobile Mammography Unit, which serves thousands of women in San Antonio and surrounding counties annually, the secondary cardiac catheterization

Donor Spotlight



Martha and James Lowry with their children and grandchildren.

Dr. James Lowry, board member emeritus, began his practice as a pathologist in 1959 at Santa Rosa Hospital, which is now known as CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health System. His passion for seeing the Hospital grow drove him to join the founding board of the Friends of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Foundation in 1997.

"CHRISTUS Santa Rosa was and still is a wonderful place, filled with excellent physicians and caregivers," Dr. Lowry said. "As a physician, it was important for me to be an advocate for the Hospital in my day-to-day interactions. In order to sustain growth, I always stressed the importance of providing funding and support in the areas that needed it the most."

Dr. Lowry served on the Friends Foundation Board of Directors until 2012. His hard work and dedication to advancing medical care continues to make a difference today. Dr. Lowry and his late wife, Martha, raised five children and now have eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Their son, James Lowry, Jr., now actively serves on the Friends Foundation board of directors, working to make a difference for our Hospitals and our patients.

Friends Who Think Pink

Local Catholic Schools Make A Difference for Breast Cancer Awareness

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, students and faculty at local Catholic schools raised money to benefit the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Mobile Mammography Unit (MMU). Students at St. John Bosco Catholic School, St. Gregory the Great Catholic School, and St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School sold pink t-shirts to raise money and to spread awareness. We are grateful for the determination of these students to make a difference in the lives of the women we serve.



St. John Bosco Catholic School



St. Gregory the Great Catholic School



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School

HELP SAVE LIVES

Yes!

I would like to support adult health and wellness at hospitals and regional health and wellness outreach programs in the South Texas Medical Center, at Westover Hills and in New Braunfels.

Here is my gift of: \$ _____

Name _____

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Thank you! Please return this form with your tax-deductible gift or use the enclosed reply form and envelope.

To make a gift right now, visit FriendsFoundation.org.



Through the efforts of our donors, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospitals in the South Texas Medical Center, at Westover Hills and in New Braunfels have been able to enhance programs, provide new equipment and support outreach efforts upholding the ministry of this faith-based, non-profit health care organization.

If you are interested in supporting our cause with a monetary donation, you may call 210.704.2800 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. or visit us online at FriendsFoundation.org.

You can now text to donate. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

- 1 Create a text message to 41444
- 2 Text: FRNDS, Your Name, and Donation Amount (ex: FRNDS Mary Donor \$100)
- 3 Send

Should you no longer wish to receive fundraising mail from the Friends of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Foundation, please call our office at 210.704.2800, email us at FriendsFoundation@ChristusHealth.org, or write us at Friends of CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Foundation, 100 Northeast Loop 410, Suite 706, San Antonio, TX, 78216.

Did you know? CHRISTUS Santa Rosa-New Braunfels recently received its baby-friendly certification and is the only hospital in its region to have received the certification.