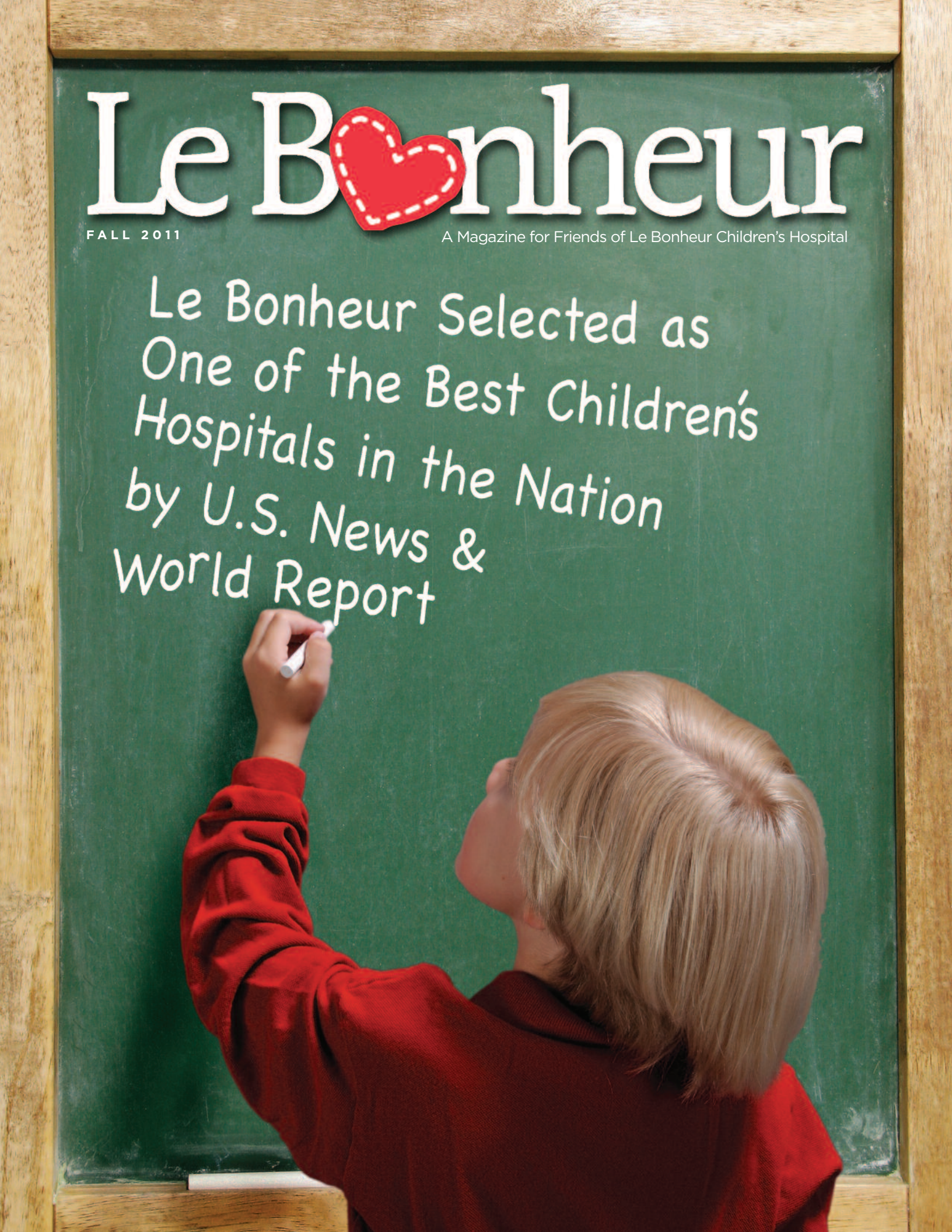
Le Bonheur

FALL 2011

A Magazine for Friends of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Le Bonheur Selected as One of the Best Children's Hospitals in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report



Heart of the Matter

Dear Friends,

When we first embarked upon establishing Le Bonheur among the nation's top children's hospitals, our strategic plan included building a new $340 million facility and creating programs of distinction. Since 2007, we have focused on creating multi-disciplinary programs and implementing quality improvement initiatives. We have also recruited some of the nation's most respected pediatric specialists and invested in research and technology to ensure that all children in our region and across the country have access to excellent health care.

When *U.S. News & World Report* ranked four of Le Bonheur's subspecialties among the best in the nation, we were elated because the dreams and visions we held for so long are now becoming realities.

The question was never one regarding Le Bonheur's ability to be named among the top pediatric facilities in our country; it was whether we dared to declare this as our goal. We wanted to step out of the pack and be something special so others would see us as a trusted source.

Your gifts and support were instrumental in helping Le Bonheur become recognized for its expertise and for helping to make us one of the nation's best. By working together, we can continue to make sure that kids get what they need and we can provide the most exceptional care and healing available for current and future generations of children.

On pages 4 through 14 of this issue of *Le Bonheur* magazine, we are delighted to share with you how we achieved the rankings which set us among the top pediatric hospitals in the United States. You'll learn why children from all over the world seek our nationally recognized care in neurology and cardiology and you'll discover why our orthopedic and nephrology services are ranked among the best in the country.

Excellent programs cannot be achieved without the support of our donors. Your gifts have helped make this national recognition possible and together we will continue to provide hope and healing for future generations.

We are most grateful for your continued and generous support.

With Great Enthusiasm,

Meri Armour

Meri Armour, M.S.N., M.B.A.
President and CEO
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Le Bonheur Foundation Board of Directors

Larry Bryan, Chairman
Meri Armour
Robert Baird
Kavanaugh Casey
Wei Chen
Lauren Daughtry
Keith English, M.D.
Lynn Field
Barry Gilmore, M.D.
Susan Graf
Tony Graves
Denise Henning
Hampton Holcomb
Gail Kimball
Joel Kimbrough
Al LaRocca
Chris McLean
William E. Orgel
Kim Pitts
Amy Rhodes
Trish Ring, Ph.D.
Steven Sansom
Bill Shopoff
Larry Spratlin
Susan Springfield
David Stevens
Charles L. Treadway
Floyd Tyler, Ph.D.
Abbie Williams
Steve Wishnia

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Kavanaugh Casey
Executive Director

Kini Kedigh Plumlee
Editor
Le Bonheur Foundation

Eddie Tucker
Art Director
Eddie Tucker Design

Larry Kuzniewski
Photographer
Kuzniewski Productions

On the Cover:
William Gooch, son of Molly and Robert Gooch of Memphis, Tenn.

Le Bonheur Designated Level 1 Trauma Center

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital has been named a Level 1 trauma center by the American College of Surgeons. With this distinction, Le Bonheur becomes the only accredited pediatric Level 1 trauma center within a 400-mile radius of Memphis and joins the ranks of only 33 pediatric ACS Level 1 trauma centers in the country.

Achieving this designation is both an important distinction and a guidepost for improving the hospital's standard of care. By achieving this distinction, Le Bonheur has become the first accredited pediatric ACS Level 1 trauma center in the region. The closest pediatric centers are in Lexington, Ky., and Dallas.

Sam Sheppard, Dr. Trey Eubanks, Kathryn Stewart and Keri Scott of Le Bonheur's Level 1 trauma center

"Being designated a Level I pediatric trauma center means that Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is capable of providing the highest standard of trauma care for all the children of our community," says Dr. Trey Eubanks, trauma medical director.

While Le Bonheur is already designated as a children's trauma center on the state level in Tennessee and Arkansas, the ACS accreditation is a national designation that requires both highest-quality trauma care and research in the field of trauma with continued innovation. In June, an on-site review was conducted by a team of reviewers experienced in the field of trauma. The ACS committee on trauma's verification program confirmed that Le Bonheur has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest-quality trauma care for all injured patients.

"As an educational resource for emergency medical personnel, hospitals and to health-care providers throughout the region, Le Bonheur's trauma unit continually monitors the quality of care provided to all patients until they resume normal activity," says Dr. Eubanks.

CONTENTS

5 **Le Bonheur Children's Ranked Among BEST** For the first time, Le Bonheur is named to *U.S. News & World Report*'s Best Children's Hospitals list.

15 **For the Love of Le Bonheur** Brittany and David Spence turn their tragedy into blessing for others.

16 **Time & Talent** For Le Bonheur volunteer Marva Johnson, it's all about the babies.

17 **Corporate Kudos** McCall family's gratitude inspired corporate philanthropy.

18 **Kids Caring for Kids** Lemonade from Lemons: A Mother's Story By Jan Lungsford Sawyer

19 **Giving From the Heart** Donors Marie and Ed Roberson believe in Le Bonheur's mission.

20 **A Champion for Children** Cynthia Milk Fund provides healthier lives.

IN EVERY ISSUE

2 **Heart of the Matter**
21 **Around the Halls**
22 & 23 **Fun Raisers**

Le Bonheur magazine *has been recognized* with multiple awards from local, state, regional and national organizations. In 2011, the magazine received a Clarion Award for best overall internal publication from the Association for Women in Communications; Gold and Silver Aster Awards for best internal publication from *Marketing Healthcare Today* and a Silver Healthcare Marketing Report Advertising Award.

Advocate for Le Bonheur
If you would like to sign up for Le Bonheur's grassroots network, go to Le Bonheur's home page at lebonheur.org and click on "Join our Grassroots Advocacy Network." You'll receive information on how you can make your voice heard and support legislative issues that affect children's health care.

Are you on Facebook? If so, please become a fan of Le Bonheur to receive news, updates and exclusive information right to your Facebook account.

Tweet Tweet
Le Bonheur is using Twitter, a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What's happening? Just go to twitter.com/lebonheurchild.

Watch Us
You can see Le Bonheur's new patient videos and more on YouTube. Visit youtube.com and type in Le Bonheur Children's.

Connect with Le Bonheur
Send us your e-mail address to receive announcements and *For Kids Sake*, the Le Bonheur Foundation e-newsletter. Just drop a note to Lori Dale at lori.dale@lebonheur.org.

Le Bonheur Children's Ranked Among BEST Children's Hospitals

Named for the First Time by *U.S. News & World Report*

For the first time, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital was named to *U.S. News & World Report*'s Best Children's Hospitals list. Four specialties were recognized for their excellence: neurology and neurosurgery; orthopedics; nephrology; and cardiology and heart surgery.

"We salute Le Bonheur Children's Hospital," said health-rankings editor Avery Comarow. "The goal of the Best Children's Hospitals rankings is to call attention to pediatric centers with the expertise to help the sickest kids and Le Bonheur is one of those centers."

The 2011-2012 rankings recognize the top 50 children's hospitals in 10 specialties: cancer, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology, neonatology, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology and urology. Seventy-six hospitals are ranked in at least one specialty.

"Distinguished programs cannot be achieved without the support of our donors," says Le Bonheur President and CEO Meri Armour. "All of our programs are made possible through donations and contributions from our benefactors which enable us to surpass and outshine other pediatric centers. With this support, we can provide our patients with world-class care and have earned national recognition. Our supporters have enabled us to develop a road map for what it means to be the best and this will continue to guide our strategic plan and allow us to focus our program development accordingly."

Establishing Le Bonheur among the nation's top children's hospitals has been a vision since 2005. The hospital's strategic plan included building a new $340 million facility and creating programs of distinction. Le Bonheur has focused on creating multi-disciplinary programs and implementing quality improvement initiatives. By recruiting some of the nation's most respected pediatric specialists and investing in research and technology, the hospital has ensured that all children in our region and across the country have access to excellent care.

"We are happy to have this recognition but what really counts is that our patients are getting world-class care," says Armour.

The hospital used the survey as a benchmarking tool in 2007 and completed the survey for the first time in 2008. Last year, Le Bonheur completed the survey in four categories: neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, nephrology, and cardiology and heart surgery and was ranked in all four categories. By measuring the hospital against a national standard, Le Bonheur identified areas of excellence and opportunities for improvement.

Other factors considered in the overall ranking that helped put Le Bonheur on the list were: patient and family services; implementation of electronic medical records and order entry; patient satisfaction scores; and staff training. The opening of the FedExFamilyHouse residential facility, along with the Family Resource Center located in the hospital and the addition of family support staff, contributed greatly to our final score.

Le Bonheur Neuroscience Institute Ranked Among Top 25 Programs Thanks to Support from Donors Like You

The Neuroscience Institute at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is ranked among the top 25 pediatric neuroscience programs by *U.S News & World Report* because of donors like you who care about our children. The Institute is a regional hub for the evaluation and treatment of neurological disorders in children and adolescents.

Your gifts have helped more than 7,000 patients with neurological problems who are treated every year at Le Bonheur. Our team of neurosurgeons and neurologists — including four pediatric neurosurgeons and 10 pediatric neurologists, five of whom are pediatric epileptologists — are recognized for their expertise, research and patient care. The Institute provides ongoing support for children and adolescents with neurological problems such as birth defects, degenerative neurological diseases, learning and behavior disorders, seizures, spasticity and traumatic injuries.

Other programs within the Neuroscience Institute that have been built on the generous spirit of our donors include: the only pediatric and adolescent sleep disorders clinic in the Mid-South that is accredited and available to children from infancy to 18 years of age; Tuberous Sclerosis Regional Referral Center; Dravet Syndrome Center of Excellence; spina bifida clinic; spasticity clinic; pediatric neuropsychology; spine program; and a craniofacial program.

Le Bonheur Children's, in conjunction with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, is home to one of the nation's largest pediatric surgical brain tumor programs in the country. This program is a key component of the aggressive surgical approaches and groundbreaking treatments of brain tumors in children and adolescents. Children travel from across the country to be treated at the Institute and approximately half of all brain tumor patients who receive neurosurgery at Le Bonheur have been told at another children's hospital that their situation was inoperable.

The Institute is also home to one of the most comprehensive epilepsy programs in the United States. In the Level IV Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, our neurologists are changing the future of treating pediatric epilepsy with new approaches and are leading national efforts to advance research in pediatric neurology. The 10-room Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) has 24-hour video/EEG monitoring which helps clinicians pinpoint seizure activity in children and includes a playroom with padded flooring and video monitoring capabilities. All patients have a private room with space for their family to stay. This too is thanks to gifts from supporters like you.

We're among the best because you have helped put us there with your generous gifts!

Neuroscience Institute Key Facts

Since partnering in 1985, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital support one of the largest pediatric surgical brain tumor programs in the U.S.

Le Bonheur's comprehensive Epilepsy Monitoring Unit is designated a Level IV center, the highest designation available.

Le Bonheur is the first pediatric hospital in a five-state area (TN, AR, MS, KY, OK) and the third pediatric hospital in the U.S. to have state-of-the-art magnetocephalography (MEG) technology.

Le Bonheur's Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) Clinic has received national credentialing by the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance to provide care for patients who are affected by the genetic disorder which causes tumor growth in organs throughout the body.

Le Bonheur has a 3T intraoperative MRI, the most powerful magnetic resonance imaging technology available, to provide high resolution images before, during and after an operation.

Le Bonheur Brings Hope to Epilepsy Patient

Jacob Meek is a typical 12-year-old. He'd rather spend his days fishing for trout and redfish than working on his English vocabulary lessons in his seventh grade class at St. Aloysius Catholic School in Baton Rouge, La. Yet there was a time when Jacob's future was seriously threatened.

Shortly before his first birthday, Jacob had a seizure. Doctors thought it was an isolated incident, but after several months, the seizures became more frequent and lasted longer. Then, physicians found a lesion on Jacob's brain and his seizure activity worsened despite medication and dosing changes.

"We were desperate to find a solution!" say his parents, Tiffany and John Meek.

By now, Jacob was taking three different medicines daily with no improvement. "It was heart-wrenching to watch him," says Tiffany. "He was afraid to leave my side and he fell frequently."

When Jacob was referred to Dr. James Wheless, his seizures were lasting up to two minutes several times every day. Dr. Wheless explained to his parents that Jacob needed brain surgery to remove the mass or he would never get well.

In March 2002, Jacob underwent a successful lesionectomy to remove the mass causing his seizures. Speech and occupational therapies followed, becoming a part of Jacob's weekly schedule for the next few years.

In January, after Jacob's visit to Le Bonheur's Epilepsy Monitoring Unit, Dr. Wheless recommended Jacob be taken off of all anticonvulsants. He has had no seizures since then. "Miracles do happen!" says Tiffany.

"I am not quite sure how my grandson would be functioning today had we not discovered Dr. Wheless," says Joe Quinlan. "We believe that Dr. Wheless and his knowledge and experience resulting from his vast research is why Jacob is doing so well today."

Joe and his wife, Suzanne, honored Dr. Wheless with a gift to begin an endowment fund that will help further research in epilepsy.

"As I reflect back on the difficult time when we were desperately seeking answers and solutions related to Jacob's condition, I recall the fear and hopelessness we often felt," says Joe. "It is not only our privilege but our moral responsibility to financially contribute to Dr. Wheless's work at Le Bonheur's Neuroscience Institute in hopes that it will help countless other children who may need these critical services in the future. We recognize that there are parents and grandparents today who are faced with the same questions and fears we once were and we pray that they are fortunate enough to be guided to Le Bonheur."

Shainberg Fund Supports Research

The Herbert and Mary Shainberg Neuroscience Research Fund at Le Bonheur was established in 1996 to support the research of Le Bonheur's Neuroscience Institute which provides ongoing support for children with neurological problems. To date, the fund has provided more than $360,000 to help children with neurological problems including birth defects and degenerative neurological diseases; learning, language and behavioral disorders; traumatic injuries and head trauma; seizures; spasticity; cerebral palsy; and spina bifida. The fund has also sustained the publication of guidelines for the treatment of pediatric epilepsy that have been disseminated worldwide.

The Brains Behind Our Program

James Wheless, M.D., is director of Le Bonheur's Neuroscience Institute, director of Le Bonheur's Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, and clinical chief and director of pediatric neurology for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He holds Le Bonheur's chair in pediatric neurology at UTHSC where he is also a professor and chief of pediatric neurology. His special interests are in epilepsy and tuberous sclerosis.

Frederick Boop, M.D., is medical director of Neurosurgery for Le Bonheur's Neuroscience Institute and is on the surgical team at Semmes-Murphey Neurological & Spine Institute in Memphis. He is also chairman and professor of the Department of Neurosurgery at UTHSC.

Le Bonheur Orthopedic Program Ranked Among Top 30 Because of Donor Support for Children

The orthopedic program at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is nationally ranked among the top 30 best children's orthopedic programs by *U.S. News & World Report* because of donors like you who care for and support children.

Our multi-disciplinary team of pediatric orthopedic and spine surgeons and specialists, along with advanced diagnostic resources, offers comprehensive treatment options for a variety of injuries and anomalies in children — everything from broken bones and fractures to hip disorders, dislocated knees and shoulders, complex spinal surgeries for tumors and deformities, as well as scoliosis, spina bifida and life-threatening accidents.

Le Bonheur Children's has more pediatric orthopedic surgeons and specialists than any other orthopedic program in the region. The pediatric orthopedic and spine services at Le Bonheur Children's are provided by world-renowned Campbell Clinic. We have partnered with Campbell Clinic for nearly 60 years to care for the children of this region for such problems as clubfoot, scoliosis and limb length discrepancies.

Children from across the U.S. visit Le Bonheur for treatment in our spine program. We bring together specialists from all aspects of care — surgery, neurosurgery, neurology, oncology and physical therapy — to provide evaluation, diagnosis and treatment for infants, children and adolescents.

Additionally, Le Bonheur provides a full complement of rehabilitation services to the program including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language pathology and audiology. The hospital has a dedicated inpatient floor for orthopedic patients and O-arm surgical imaging technology provides real-time intraoperative CT imaging in both 2D fluoro and 3D multi-planar reconstructed orthogonal images.

Our team is nationally recognized as experts in the field and is known for pioneering new treatments for children across the United States. They frequently lecture and train other pediatric orthopedic surgeons from around the country and contribute to and edit *Campbell's Operative Orthopedics,* the definitive orthopedic surgery reference textbook.

Drs. Beaty, Warner, Kelly and Sawyer

Orthopedic Team

James Beaty, M.D., is a professor in the University of Tennessee-Campbell Clinic Department of Orthopedic Surgery and immediate former chief of staff for Campbell Clinic. He specializes in pediatric orthopedics and pediatric trauma.

William Warner, M.D., is a professor in the University of Tennessee-Campbell Clinic Department of Orthopedic Surgery. He serves as division chief of orthopedics for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and is chief of orthopedics for Mississippi Crippled Children's Services. Dr. Warner is former chief of surgery at Le Bonheur.

Derek Kelly, M.D., is a clinical instructor at the University of Tennessee-Campbell Clinic Department of Orthopedic Surgery and serves as the primary physician for the Clubfoot Clinic at Le Bonheur.

Jeffrey R. Sawyer, M.D., is director of the pediatric orthopedic fellowship program at the University of Tennessee-Campbell Clinic Department of Surgery, where he also serves as an assistant professor.

Partnership Between Le Bonheur and Campbell Clinic Results in Successful Outcome Following ATV Accident

During a trip to his family's Mississippi farm, 12-year-old William "Drews" Andrews was riding in the woods with friends when the dirt bike he was driving collided head-on with an all-terrain vehicle. A helmet might have saved Drews's life but it didn't save him from serious injury.

"When we got to him, we could tell his left arm was mangled," says his mother Maureen Andrews. "We couldn't see how badly his leg was hurt because he was wearing jeans."

His parents rushed him to the nearest emergency room in Oxford, Miss. Immediate surgery was necessary and Drews was airlifted to Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. Once at Le Bonheur, X-rays revealed multiple broken bones and fractures. Drews underwent four surgeries to repair his injuries.

Drew spent four months in rehabilitation while his fractures healed. Because of the severe injuries he suffered, it was uncertain whether Drews — from a family of tall men — would grow to reach his full height potential. Now 15 and a high school freshman, Drews is already 6 feet tall, has no physical limitations from the accident and is a star on the school's basketball team.

"The level of care we got at Le Bonheur was exceptional," says Maureen. "His outcome is truly a testimony to the care provided at Le Bonheur."

Key Facts

Le Bonheur has partnered with Campbell Clinic for nearly 60 years to provide advanced orthopedic care to children with problems such as clubfoot, scoliosis and limb length discrepancies.

Le Bonheur cares for thousands of trauma cases annually and serves as the region's only pediatric resource for these patients.

More than 100 children across the U.S. had spinal surgeries at **Le Bonheur** in 2010.

Le Bonheur has more pediatric orthopedic surgeons and specialists than any other orthopedic program in the region.

Le Bonheur's EOS imaging system captures head-to-toe X-ray images of children in an upright position in less than one minute with ultra-low radiation and 3D modeling. LeBonheur will be one of only a few hospitals to have this technology when it is installed in 2012.

New Orthopedic Clinic Honors Smith & Nephew

A generous gift from Smith & Nephew to Le Bonheur's capital campaign will be honored through a new orthopedic clinic to be opened by the end of this year. The new dedicated orthopedic clinic suite is twice the size of the former clinic on the first floor of the Outpatient Center (formerly the Physician's Office Building) and will provide ease of access for patients, especially those on crutches or requiring wheelchairs.
A parking garage is adjacent to the clinic.

There are 18 exam rooms with space for the multi-disciplinary nature of the clinic including a rehabilitation room for patient evaluation. The clinic is also adjacent to a full outpatient diagnostic imaging center with two X-ray rooms and rooms for fluoroscopy and ultrasound. State-of-the-art technology includes EOS, a low-dose X-ray imaging unit used for spinal anomalies such as scoliosis. Le Bonheur is one of the few pediatric hospitals in the U.S. to have this technology.

"We are proud to have made a gift to the capital campaign and support Le Bonheur's important work," says Bill Shopoff, president of trauma and extremities, Advanced Surgical Devices Division for Smith & Nephew. "We share the common vision of helping people, both children and adults, heal their bodies and improve their lives and to be able to demonstrate that vision so clearly right here in Memphis is extremely important to us."

Le Bonheur's Pediatric Nephrology Program Ranked Among Top 40 Through Your Support

The Nephrology Department of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is ranked among the top 40 pediatric nephrology programs by *U.S. News & World Report* because of support from donors like you.

Le Bonheur's Division of Pediatric Nephrology serves as the only resource within a 100-mile radius of Memphis for the evaluation of children with kidney disease and hypertension and has active pediatric dialysis and kidney transplant programs. The division maintains an accredited pediatric nephrology fellowship-training program and has active clinical and laboratory research programs.

Le Bonheur's nephrology team sees about 1,600 outpatients annually and approximately 50 dialysis treatments are given weekly in the hospital's dialysis and intensive care units. Although dialysis is basically the same treatment for adults and children, there are certain major differences that only a pediatric medical center, such as Le Bonheur, can offer these young patients.

Many of the kidney patients Le Bonheur cares for have developed kidney disease due to a genetic condition or have had abnormal kidney development and have been treated by our physicians from birth. Kidney disease can also develop from a variety of other disorders, including FSGS (focal segmental glomerulosis) that can lead to kidney failure later in life.

Additionally, Le Bonheur cares for patients being treated at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital because some chemotherapy treatments can lead to renal damage. When the loss of kidney function is permanent, as in end-stage kidney failure, dialysis must continue on a regular basis. The only other treatment is a kidney transplant. Le Bonheur has one of the most successful pediatric transplant programs in the U.S. and thanks to donor support is on the leading edge of nephrology research. Le Bonheur's kidney transplant program averages about six transplants a year. It takes anywhere from six months to two or more years to receive a donor kidney, depending upon blood type.

At Le Bonheur, finding new and better ways to create healthier futures for children is always at the top of our list. With support from donors like you, we can continue planning for future generations.

Noel Delos Santos, M.D., is a pediatric nephrologist at Le Bonheur and an assistant professor of nephrology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. He is director of the hypertensive program.

Nephrology Team

Russell Chesney, M.D., is an internationally recognized investigator in pediatric nephrology and former chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (1988-2011).

Robert Wyatt, M.D., is medical director of Le Bonheur's kidney transplant program who joined the team in 1984 and became division chief in 2000. Dr. Wyatt also is the program director for the pediatric nephrology fellowship.

Kidney Transplant Saves Ryan's Life

Nephrology Key Facts

Le Bonheur opened the first pediatric kidney dialysis unit in the southeastern United States in 1974. It was one of only five in the entire country at that time.

Le Bonheur's Division of Pediatric Nephrology is the only resource within a 100-mile radius of Memphis for the evaluation of children with kidney disease and hypertension and the only facility offering pediatric dialysis and kidney transplants.

At Le Bonheur, the nephrology team sees approximately 1,600 outpatients annually, with 500 patient visits to the pediatric kidney transplant clinic.

Approximately 50 dialysis treatments are given weekly at Le Bonheur.

Le Bonheur's kidney transplant program averages about six transplants a year.

Soon after his birth, Ryan Tashie was clinging to life in the neonatal intensive care unit at the hospital where he was born. After spending eight days in the NICU, the second son of Chrissy and Dino Tashie was airlifted to Le Bonheur Children's Hospital by Pedi-Flite.

Within 24 hours, Le Bonheur's neonatal specialists had taken Ryan off the ventilator and he was beginning to show signs of improvement. Over the next month, Ryan was moved first to the intensive care unit, then to the special care unit, then on to his own room and finally home.

Yet his story wasn't over. For the next three years, Le Bonheur's physicians continued to monitor his health every month because eventually Ryan would need a kidney transplant.

In 2007, when he was just 3 years old, Ryan received a new kidney at Le Bonheur. His father was the donor. Interestingly, 24 years earlier, Ryan's uncle, Pete Tashie, had also been the recipient of his father's kidney and the very same surgeon, Dr. Santiago Vera, performed both transplants.

The surgeries went smoothly and Ryan was back home six days later.

Today, Ryan is a sweet-hearted, baseball-loving 7-year-old who began first grade this fall. "He has a way about him that makes everyone who meets him love him," says his mother.

Like most little boys, Ryan loves movies, playing video games and spending time with his family.

In grateful appreciation of Le Bonheur's care, the Tashie family participated in the 2008 A Family Affair fundraiser for Le Bonheur. Their efforts raised nearly $20,000 for the hospital. They also make a monthly gift to Le Bonheur.

"There are no words to express how grateful we are for Le Bonheur," says Chrissy. "Our son was slowly slipping away and we were desperate. We never would have dreamed that we would have needed Le Bonheur to save our son's life. In the past seven years, Le Bonheur's Nephrology Department has been just a phone call away for us and without the special care he received from them, he might not have survived.

"The doctors, nurses and staff are like family to us. They not only cared for Ryan's health but cared also for him and for us. We are so grateful to have them in our lives and to have Le Bonheur in Memphis."

Bettina Ault, M.D., is a pediatric nephrologist at Le Bonheur. She completed her nephrology fellowship at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in 1989 and has been with Le Bonheur's nephrology program since 1997.

Le Bonheur Heart Institute Ranked Among Top 50 Programs Thanks to Generous Donors

Since 2002, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital's cardiac program has evolved with the ambition of becoming one of the top pediatric heart programs in the country. This year, it was ranked among the top 50 programs nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* for 2011-2012, thanks to generous support from donors like you.

Cardiovascular disease is the second leading cause of death in the United States in children up to the age of 14. Heart defects are among the most common birth defects in children and are therefore one of the most frequent diagnoses seen at Le Bonheur. Eight out of every 1,000 children in the U.S. are born with a heart defect and in 85 to 90 percent of cases, there is no known cause.

Having a top-tier pediatric cardiology program has enabled us to serve patients from 95 counties in six states. With your help, Le Bonheur is able to offer a complete spectrum of care to the high number of children — more than 400 in 2010 — who come to us with congenital and acquired heart disease annually.

Your gifts have elevated Le Bonheur among its peers as the resource for pediatric cardiovascular care in our region. With your support, Le Bonheur is building a Heart Institute where no child will have to leave the area for care.

Traveling out of the region for treatment is often a huge financial and emotional burden on families. By providing the most recent and sophisticated technology and procedures available, Le Bonheur has created an institution that not only treats the problem but also advances science and develops the care to give children the best chance for living full, productive lives.

Advancements in Technology Put Le Bonheur Among Best

Keeping current with advancements in imaging technology was key to the high ranking received by Le Bonheur's Heart Institute and with your help, we can remain among the best.

Le Bonheur's 10-bed cardiovascular intensive care unit is designed around the specialized needs of critically ill neonatal and pediatric patients with congential heart defects and cardiac-related problems. It is staffed by our specially trained team of physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists who provide 24/7 in-house pediatric cardiology care.

Le Bonheur has two operating suites for cardiothoracic surgery with improved visualization and communication technology. During heart surgery, a camera system mounted in the surgeon's headlight projects the operative field to a monitor, enabling everyone in the room to watch the procedure and adjust their actions accordingly.

Le Bonheur's catheterization lab features a hybrid room, which combines the technology necessary for both catheterization and open-heart procedures. A hybrid room allows for situations where a procedure requires both a pediatric interventional cardiologist and a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon. It can also function in situations where a catheterization procedure is planned but during the procedure, it is determined that an open-heart surgery is needed.

Your contributions have helped put us where we are today and where we will be tomorrow.

Heart Institute Is a Gem for Memphis Family

Matthew Abis was born with a congenital heart defect. He also has Down syndrome. The infant son of Caren and Barney Abis of Memphis underwent a surgical procedure when he was only four days old to help him survive until he was older and could handle open-heart surgery to repair the hole in his heart. By the time he had turned 6, Matthew was recovering from surgery for Tetralogy of Fallot, the most common heart defect in children.

All was fine with Matthew's heart until 2008, when he began experiencing heart pains and other symptoms. At age 23, he had seen numerous adult cardiologists and had received treatment at least a half-dozen times at adult hospitals, yet his heart and health issues continued to worsen. Matthew got pneumonia and developed a severe infection. A family friend suggested his parents contact Le Bonheur Children's Heart Institute. Within 45 minutes after Matthew arrived at Le Bonheur, his heart problem had been diagnosed.

The good news was Le Bonheur had found the cause for Matthew's heart pain. The bad news was the diagnosis: Matthew required another open-heart surgery to enlarge his pulmonary artery.

"Our son went into Le Bonheur on a Tuesday, had open-heart surgery on Wednesday, and came home on Sunday like a new person," says his father Barney. "Le Bonheur's Heart Institute is a Memphis jewel."

Today, Matthew, 26, is back at Madonna Learning Center where he attends school. He enjoys swimming, summer camp, movies, PlayStation, his iPhone and Facebook. He volunteers at Le Bonheur and participates in special events such as the annual 5K Pumpkin Run.

"You never want to be in the hospital but if you have to be there, Le Bonheur is the place to go," says Barney. "Le Bonheur's Heart Institute is host to a world-renowned pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr. Christopher Knott-Craig. This is something that everybody should support. You may not need it now but one never knows. Down the line it could be your grandchild, a niece or a nephew. To have a facility like Le Bonheur with physicians of such high caliber is among our most precious assets.

"Le Bonheur is as good as it gets."

Grateful for their son's health, Barney and Caren made a gift to Le Bonheur to thank the Heart Institute's medical team for the care and compassion Matthew had received while in their care.

"Le Bonheur was a very positive experience for all of us," says Barney. "It always feels good to support an organization that is worthy of being supported. If we can help other kids through our gift, then that's the name of the game."

Heart Institute Key Facts

Le Bonheur's Heart Institute employes three of less than 250 pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons in the country.

Le Bonheur's Heart Institute performed invasive procedures on 400 children in 2010, the largest volume ever experienced at Le Bonheur.

The first pediatric open-heart surgery in the region was performed at **Le Bonheur** Children's in 1959.

Le Bonheur's cath lab is unique in that it performs both cardiac and interventional radiology procedures.

Kenneth Wurzburg, Matthew Abis and Jason Abis at 2010 Pumpkin Run

The Team with Heart

Christopher Knott-Craig, M.D., is co-director of the Heart Institute and professor of surgery and division chief of pediatric cardiothoracic surgery at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). He specializes in neonatal heart surgery and has successfully operated on thousands of infants and children.

Thomas Chin, M.D., is co-director of the Heart Institute and professor of pediatrics and division chief for pediatric cardiology at UTHSC. His clinical interests include non-invasive cardiology and fetal echocardiography.

Glenn Wetzel, M.D., Ph.D., is director of the pediatric cardiology fellowship training program at Le Bonheur and professor of pediatrics at UTHSC. His area of expertise is electrophysiology which focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmia.

Vijay Joshi, M.D., is medical director of the non-invasive cardiology lab at Le Bonheur and associate professor of pediatrics at UTHSC. He leads the Heart Institute's image quality improvement efforts and the incorporation of the latest imaging techniques and modalities.

Umar Boston, M.D., is a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon and associate professor of surgery at UTHSC. He is leading our ventricular assist device program and the surgical care for adults with congenital heart disease.

Steven Goldberg, M.D., is a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon and assistant professor of surgery. He is leading the development of Le Bonheur's heart transplant program.

Drs. Chin, Wetzel, Goldberg, Figueroa, Boston and Knott-Craig

B. Rush Waller, M.D., is a pediatric interventional cardiologist, associate professor of pediatrics and medical director of Le Bonheur's catheterization lab. He performs non-surgical interventions on patients of all ages.

Mayte Figueroa, M.D., is medical director of Le Bonheur's cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU) and oversees the quality and delivery of family-centered care in the CVICU. She is an assistant professor of pediatrics at UTHSC and is currently involved in a national quality improvement effort focusing on high-risk cardiac patients.

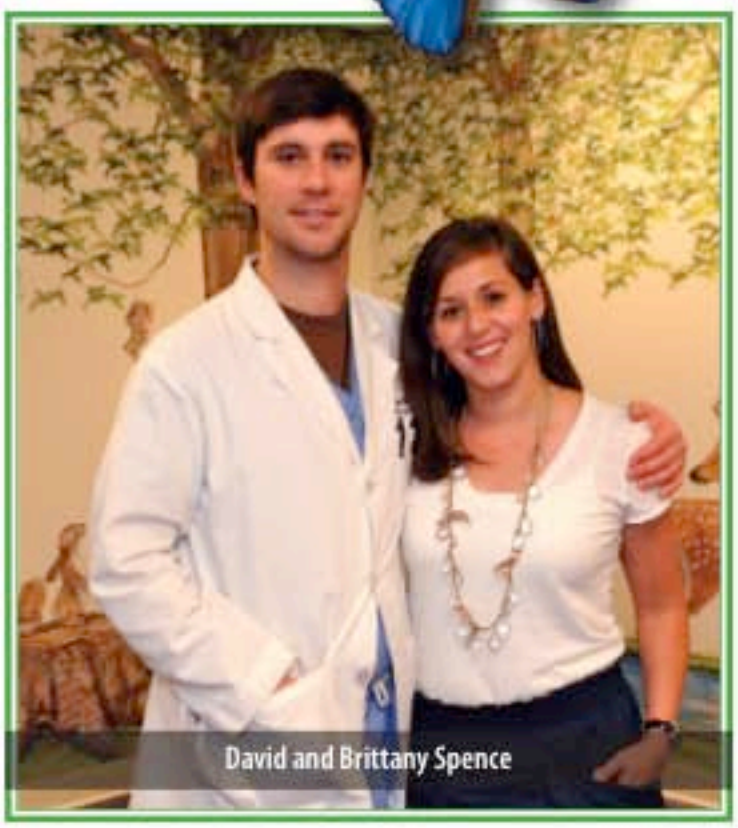
Heart-Healthy Camping

Each year, Le Bonheur sponsors Cardiac Kids Camp for children with heart conditions. The week-long camp, staffed by cardiac experts, is held at Camp Lakeshore in Eva, Tenn., and enables heart patients to have fun while learning about their cardiac-related diagnoses, teaches patients ways to practice heart-healthy habits and is a chance for them to meet other children with heart problems. To send a kid to camp, call the Le Bonheur Foundation at (901) 287-6308.

Tragedy Turned into Blessing for Others

Siblings of Le Bonheur patients now have their own playroom thanks to a grateful Le Bonheur family.

The Forrest Sibling Playroom on the ground floor of Le Bonheur Children's Pediatric Research Center is named for the infant son of Brittany and David Spence who died in 2007. The playroom was made possible through the Forrest Spence Fund established by his family to assist with the non-medical needs of critically or chronically ill children and their families. The sibling playroom enables parents to attend to their sick child by providing them with a secure, supervised environment to leave their other children.


David and Brittany Spence

The walls of the Forrest Sibling Playroom are filled with woodland creatures hand-painted by Memphis mural artist Elaine Pacello. Upon entering the room, children will spy a bear cub climbing a tree, a fish jumping in a river, colorful butterflies and birds, rabbits and raccoons. The natural forest setting is welcoming, calming and reassuring to children who are scared and unsure of the hospital surroundings. A framed photograph of Forrest hangs among the trees.

Elaine Pacello

"In many situations, the only way a parent can visit an ill child in the hospital is by bringing other siblings along with them," explains Brittany, a volunteer teacher in Le Bonheur's Parent Mentor Program who helps train others to love, support and encourage parents dealing with sickness and loss. "Now, these children can play and interact with Child Life specialists and have their own space which is important when their parents are caring for another child, especially during long hospital stays."

The playroom is open weekdays to children ages 18 months to 11 years and is staffed by Child Life assistants and hospital volunteers. Families are referred to the playroom by medical staff.

"It can be an extremely stressful situation for a family when they have to bring a sibling along with the patient to the hospital," says Thomas Hobson, director of Child Life. "Their attention must be completely focused on everything health-care related without the worries of caring for other children. The playroom helps families focus on the care of their sick child."

Robert Forrest Spence spent 55 days in Le Bonheur's pediatric intensive care unit battling for his life against an infection which ultimately claimed his life. Even though they never got to take Forrest home, Brittany and David wanted to make life better for other families who followed in their footsteps.

In the past four years, the fund has provided care baskets, arranged and funded counseling, financial grants and built the playroom.

"As I treat patients, not a day goes by that I'm not reminded of my own experience," says David, an orthopedic surgery fellow at Children's Hospital in Boston who will return to practice at Le Bonheur next year. "Le Bonheur depends upon people in the community to make contributions of their time, talent and money for special family needs, and the Forrest Spence Fund is our way of remembering our son and giving back to the amazing doctors and nurses who fought valiantly for his life."

To learn more about Forrest's life and the fund established in his name, go to www.forrestspencefund.com.

It's All About the Babies

"When I first meet people, I tell them I have 780 children," says Marva Johnson, principal of Altruria Elementary School in Bartlett, Tenn. It usually takes folks a minute to realize that she is referring to her students. However, this number doesn't include Johnson's "babies" — infants in the neonatal intensive care unit at Le Bonheur — that she counts among her kids. It's these children that she has become most passionate about since first volunteering at Le Bonheur in 2008.

Every Saturday (and even on Christmas), you'll see Johnson at the NICU. She arrives around 7:30 a.m. to "spoil the babies rotten," she explains. She can't wait to feed them and sing to them. She reads to them and rocks them to sleep. "It is the highlight of my week because I love them dearly." says Johnson.

"Marva means the world to us and to our families, especially those who can't be here because of work obligations or taking care of other siblings," says NICU nurse Jamie Earnheart. "Just knowing that someone is here to sing and read to their baby means so much to a parent who is unable to be with their child. She just brightens everyone's day."

Jackie Smith, Baby Josh and Marva Johnson

Johnson's passion for Le Bonheur's babies has inspired the teachers, students and parents of Altruria to also get involved.

At the very first PTA meeting of each school year Johnson explains that education extends beyond the walls of the classroom and asks them to support Le Bonheur.

Support it they do!

Staff and parents drop monetary donations for Le Bonheur's NICU into a green basket that sits on her desk. She tells about the day when a jar of $100 in quarters was left with a handwritten note reading: "For the babies." To this day, she has no idea who left the money.

Additionally, students get involved each year by contributing change from their allowances to the school-wide "Pennies for Babies" program held every fall.

"I really want it to be the children's money and not their parents,' " says Johnson. "I want them to learn they can make a difference and also that it is important to learn what giving of yourself truly means. By participating, they begin to think beyond themselves and learn how to brighten someone else's life. I want to influence them to reach out to others. As a society we've all become so self-oriented that we've got to teach our children it's about all of us, not just about 'me.'"

Johnson talks about a tiny kindergarten student who came running up behind her in the halls early one morning before classes started. The child was calling out her name and when she turned around, the little girl's tiny fingers unfolded from her tightly fisted hand to reveal 10 shiny pennies. "She said, 'Miss Johnson, these are for the babies.' I'm sure she got those pennies out of her piggy bank."

Another student spent her spring break making and selling yarn bracelets. When the student returned to school, she gave Johnson $21 — money she had earned from selling bracelets for the babies. Johnson instilled so much love for Le Bonheur's NICU in her staff that they purchased age-appropriate books to stock a mobile library cart that Johnson now pushes from room to room. Worried and stressed mothers now have a chance to put their fears aside for a few moments by reading to their babies from a book off the cart.

Looking for still more ways to serve the NICU, the Altruria team also hosts monthly home-cooked meals for the hospital staff.

Johnson's mission was inspired by members of her church, Highland Church of Christ, who have also adopted Le Bonheur's NICU. Johnson first became aware of Le Bonheur when the church's women's minister, Lawana Maxwell, selected the NICU as the recipient of their HUGS Ministry program. Since then, Sunday school classes and other church members have purchased crib mobiles and speakers for the NICU rooms, hosted pampering days for NICU parents and cookie parties and lunches for NICU staff.

"The greatest gift you can give is to give," says Johnson. "I didn't realize until I started volunteering here what a difference each of us can make. Every person is important and every person can make a difference. Each of us must find out where we can serve and then do it. I'm not just a volunteer anymore. I'm a person who helped. And there's no greater reward than helping a child."

For information on volunteering at Le Bonheur, call (901) 287-5225.

Corporate Philanthropy Inspired by Family's Gratitude

Within the first 24 hours of the birth of their second child, Stacy and Chris McCall knew something was wrong. Call it a mother's intuition or a father's hunch, the young couple who lived in the Mississippi Delta took their concerns to their pediatrician and on his advice brought their newborn son Benjamin to Le Bonheur Children's Hospital for immediate care.

Little Benjamin was born with craniosynostosis, a congenital (present at birth) defect that causes one or more fibrous sutures on a baby's head to close earlier than normal. (Sutures are connections that separate individual skull bones and the early closing causes problems with normal brain and skull growth, often resulting in an abnormal head shape.)

Ashley, Caleb, Benjamin, Stacy and Chris McCall

During the first two years of his young life, Benjamin underwent a series of surgical procedures at Le Bonheur to help correct and eventually repair his head. Throughout Benjamin's ordeal, his parents always knew they were at the right place for their son's treatment and care.

When Benjamin turned 17 on June 1, Stacy remarked, "You would never know that we almost lost him."

The McCalls are deeply grateful for the specialized care Benjamin received from Le Bonheur's neurosurgeons and brain specialists. His successful outcome is a blessing they have never taken for granted. In gratitude, they have given back to the hospital in numerous ways to ensure that other children who needed Le Bonheur would also be able to receive the best care available.

Their early philanthropic efforts started with the purchase of Le Bonheur holiday cards to honor their family and the friends who had supported them during Benjamin's treatment. "Giving to Le Bonheur was the first time we had ever made a charitable gift outside of our church," says Stacy.

As their family grew and their business expanded, the McCalls eventually moved the headquarters for their ServiceMaster Clean franchise from Columbus, Miss., to Memphis. For them, it was a natural progression to begin to make contributions to the hospital through their company, ServiceMaster by Stratos, a contract janitorial company that provides cleaning solutions to business and industrial clients in Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama. Their business made a significant gift to the capital campaign.

"We never thought we would be given the opportunity to give back to the hospital that has given us so much," says Stacy. "We are inspired to give to Le Bonheur not only for the blessing in seeing Benjamin today and for what Le Bonheur did for him, but what Le Bonheur does for so many children throughout the region. Memphis is blessed to have such a wonderful children's hospital in its backyard. As a parent who had to travel three hours to receive the care my son needed, I understand what it means to have a local presence and this should be comforting to everyone in the community.

"Le Bonheur is a community asset and as corporate stewards, one of our roles is to be an advocate to make everyone we come in contact with aware of how important Le Bonheur is," Stacy continues. "It is truly a blessing to know we can make a difference for our community and for our employees by giving to the hospital we have benefited so much from. We are proud to say we play a small role in the hospital and our employees wear it like a badge of honor."

If your company would like to get involved, call Michelle Connors at (901) 287-4599.

Lemonade from Lemons:

A Mother's Story

By Jan Lunsford Sawyer

The lemonade stand was small, just two tiny purple chairs and a blue table. My daughter, Ellie-Dot, wanted to decorate it so we broke azalea twigs off the bushes and she planted them in buckets. We made a Martha Stewart-style sign, borrowed a juicer and learned about dollars and coins so the kids could sell. Most of all, they learned what the stand was all about.

"It's for the children at Le Bonheur," they told customers.

For our children, the lemonade stand was a great adventure. For us, it was an opportunity to fulfill a promise we made to ourselves when we took Ellie home from Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. We are convinced that she might never have made it without the incredible care she received at Le Bonheur. And, much to our surprise, it was also a study in human kindness.

Ellie and Nolan Sawyer

We met John, the sweet, retired telephone salesman who invited us to sit under his tree so we didn't get too hot in the summer sun. He didn't even mind when the media showed up and commandeered a corner of his yard to shoot video. And we met Mary, a nationally acclaimed artist who lives across the street from the stand and cares for her ill husband.

People stopped and did the darnedest things, things that continue to remind me that people are strong and good and loving. They stopped just to put money in the box and encourage our children to learn how to run a business. They stopped and paid a dollar for a cup of lemonade and then gave tips because they knew their money was going to help Le Bonheur's kids.

Our whole neighborhood of friends stopped and bought lemonade — cable television installers, bug sprayers, friends from church, my sweet, 71-year-old mother, Dorothy, who drove from Olive Branch, Miss. — all bought a cup of lemonade for Le Bonheur.

Some saw the wonder in our children and wanted to help save it, just like Joe Priestley who wrote a $1,000 check. My son, Nolan, was amazed at how many zeros there were.

These are people who know their priorities. They know what matters and when it matters. In such random acts of kindness and generosity, they found that teaching two little kids a lesson in business and giving a Le Bonheur child a chance at life are the most important things.

Lemons happen all the time. What we choose to do with those lemons is within our own power. When we chose to make lemonade in hopes of changing another child's life, we found that instead it was us who were changed.

When Nolan and Ellie-Dot are grown up, they will tell the story about Generous Joe and will remember the $100 that another businessman contributed. I will remember the faces, the stories and, mostly, all the humanity found in one tiny lemonade stand.

On the day we dressed our children in their finest clothes and put a respiratory mask on Ellie-Dot to make the drive to Le Bonheur to deliver their lemonade contributions, we realized we had delivered on our promise to honor the doctors and nurses who had been not only exemplary in professionalism but were excellent examples of humanity as they helped our little girl.

Here's to lemons!

Donors Believe in Le Bonheur's Mission With Planned Gift for Hospital's Future

Ed and Marie Roberson have literally taken Le Bonheur to heart.

As a member of the Le Bonheur Club, Marie has sewed toys for the patients and gone room to room to visit with and serve coffee to anxious parents whose children are undergoing life-saving treatment. She is also a former chairman of the Bunny Room — a Le Bonheur Club project that provides a toy for every child before they have surgery.

Marie and Ed Roberson

Ed has participated in the hospital system's leadership for more than 15 years, first as an appointed member of Methodist Hospital's Board of Trustees and then on the Methodist Le Bonheur Board of Directors, which he chaired from 2007 to 2010.

Making a difference is why the Robersons have made a planned gift and have named Le Bonheur Children's as a beneficiary of their estate. They have also made gifts to Le Bonheur's capital campaign and sponsored art in the new hospital as part of their overall giving plan.

"Giving is something you need to do and should want to do," says Ed. "Le Bonheur Children's Hospital is a top-quality health care institution. People should give because they believe it's the right thing to do and, for us, Le Bonheur is the right reason. We know our donations will be used in the best manner possible and we want to leave the fruits of our life where it matters most to us."

The Robersons have been married for 43 years. They grew up in Lilesville, North Carolina, and were high school sweethearts. Memphis became their home after arriving here in 1982 when Ed was a partner with KPMG, a global audit, tax and advisory services firm. He later joined a client and retired in 2008.

Today, Ed finds himself a full-time volunteer. In addition to his current work with the Methodist Foundation Board, Ed serves on several corporate and civic boards, including the Boy Scouts of America Chickasaw Council and the Rotary Club of East Memphis's Gift of Life Mid-South, a program sponsored by Rotary Clubs International to provide logistical, moral and financial support to bring young heart patients to Le Bonheur Children's for treatment.

"Most people don't realize the reach Le Bonheur has in the entire community, other than just taking care of sick children," says Ed. "Having worked behind the scenes and seen what goes on at Le Bonheur has been a real eye-opener for me."

"When you actually meet the doctors and see their faith in action and the passion of the entire hospital team, it really moves you," says Marie. " Le Bonheur is something the people of Memphis can take great pride in. Driving across the bridge into the city or driving down Poplar and seeing the big Le Bonheur heart in the sky is such a significant part of Memphis."

The Robersons realize that with the new hospital Le Bonheur needs the community's support now more than ever.

"The real work has just begun," Ed says of the new hospital. "We've only laid the foundation and now we've got to build upon it. We can only do that with the support of the entire community."

The Rewards of Giving Wisely

Your gift will make the difference in improving the health and well-being of every child in our region. Please consider a bequest, which is a simple provision in your will, to provide future support for Le Bonheur. A bequest can reduce your estate taxes, be revoked at any time and allow you to retain control over your assets. We ask for your support on behalf of your children and grandchildren and all children. Please contact Roberta Matthews, J.D., Director of Gift Planning, at roberta.matthews@lebonheur.org or (901) 287-5575 or visit www.lebonheur.org/giftplanning.

Cynthia Milk Fund Provides Healthier Lives for Young and Old

It was a winter day in 1914. A call came in to the city desk of the *Memphis Press-Scimitar,* the city's afternoon newspaper. The caller was concerned about the faint wailing of a baby coming from a deserted tenement downtown. The editor sent Memory McCord, one of Memphis's earliest women reporters, to investigate.

What McCord found when she arrived at the building would soon make headlines that appalled the community.

McCord found the crying baby in a one-room apartment and the mother was frightened and cold. The baby was hungry but there was no wood for the apartment's pot-belly stove and there was no food or milk in the icebox.

Clint Trusty

Writing under the byline of Cynthia Grey, *The Press- Scimitar* published McCord's touching story of hunger, hopelessness and desolation that she had found only blocks away from the newspaper's office and our city's Main Street commercial district.

Within days, the newspaper office was flooded with contributions and offers of housing and food for this lonely, desperate mother and her child.

As the community's generous outpouring of gifts arrived at the office, the newspaper's editors pondered what to do with the surplus. McCord knew what to do.

From what she had seen, there had to be other hungry, needy babies in the city, just like the poor child she had found only days earlier. Thus began the Cynthia Grey Milk Fund, created to help needy infants get a healthy start in life. Incorporated in 1933, the fund became a tax-exempt organization and shortened its name to the Cynthia Milk Fund.

What began as a simple reporting assignment is now one of Memphis' oldest charities, with thousands of individuals from Memphis and across the Mid-South leading healthy, productive lives because they were helped by the Cynthia Milk Fund.

When the *Press-Scimitar* closed in 1983, sponsorship of the program was taken up by *The Commercial Appeal,* the city's morning newspaper, and the program was expanded to meet the nutritional needs of children at risk because of specific medical problems. That's when Le Bonheur Children's Hospital entered the picture. Additionally, the Memphis and Shelby County Health Department had a nonprofit partnership with the fund years before federal nutrition intervention programs were available in the city and county.

Today, the Cynthia Milk Fund is stewarded by a joint partnership between Le Bonheur, the Shelby County Health Department and *The Commercial Appeal.* The program helps some 475 children and adults annually — including nearly 300 patients at Le Bonheur — by providing specialized formulas, therapeutic nutritional needs for ailing elderly citizens and breast pumps to mothers of medically fragile infants.

How to Support the Cynthia Milk Fund

Children with kidney failure, diabetes, cystic fibrosis and seizure disorder are among Le Bonheur patients who require special diets provided by the Cynthia Milk Fund. Your gift to the fund will improve the health and well-being of hundreds of children and adults who need the services of this program.

To support the Cynthia Milk Fund, contact Liz Salton at (901) 287-4440, or e-mail elizabeth.salton@lebonheur.org, or use the enclosed reply envelope by designating Cynthia Milk Fund.

Family Advocates in D.C.

Shane Casey shakes hands with U.S. Congressman Steve Cohen

Five-year-old Shane Casey of Cordova, Tenn., was among a group of children who made a special trip to Washington, D.C., to advocate for children's health care. Shane and his family met with U.S. Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker and Tennessee Congressmen Steve Cohen and Marsha Blackburn.

The annual National Association of Children's Hospitals' Family Advocacy Day offers a chance for patients and their families to share their stories with lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Shane, who traveled with his mother, grandmother and 4-year-old sister, was diagnosed with infantile spasms, a rare form of epilepsy, as an infant and received treatment at Le Bonheur.

"Shane delivered his message with all the gusto a 5-year-old could muster," says his mother, Tiffany. "I'm glad we live in a democracy where a 5-year-old can sit with a leader in the nation's capital and be appreciated and heard."

Maureen O'Connor, director of Public Policy at Le Bonheur Children's, adds: "It is crucial for our elected officials in Washington to hear from families about their experiences. Their stories are powerful and help give all children a voice about the need for access to high-quality, affordable health care."

A Day with the Docs

The 2nd annual A Day with the Docs will take place on Nov. 6. This unique program is hosted by physician spouses and friends and offers a behind-the-scenes view of Le Bonheur Children's. This year's event promises attendees will be inspired and entertained during the evening of learning, sharing and networking on behalf of Le Bonheur Children's. In 2010, this event was named tops in the country for physicians relations by Creative Images, Inc. and *Marketing Healthcare Today* magazine. Pictured (from left) are event organizers Sirella Joyner, Angela Eubanks, Susan Langham, Susan May, Keith Headley, Lee Ernst, Robin Hanna, Donna Pendergrass, Annette Wheless, Liz Gilmore. Not pictured: Susan Warner.

Volunteers Awarded for Service

Le Bonheur volunteer Clint Trusty (pictured) was recognized with a 2010 Lifetime Service Award for his years of dedicated service to Le Bonheur at the annual Methodist Le Bonheur Hospital Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. Syrethia Jones was named Le Bonheur's 2010 Volunteer of the Year and the Le Bonheur Club was named Volunteer Group of the Year. Presenting Trusty with his trophy is Volunteer Services director Dalene Wilson.

Gurus of Golf

Le Bonheur Children's hosted Gurus of Golf in June. Sponsored by Lexus of Memphis, the golf event and the Par-Tee pre-event sponsored by Ring Container Technologies the night before raised an impressive $247,000 for the hospital. Gurus of Golf pairs teams of four players with a Top 50 *Golf Digest* or Top 100 *Golf Magazine* teaching professional. The pros observe and take notes on the first nine holes, then offer players tips to improve their game over lunch. Teams then put their skills to a new test on the back nine. Event sponsors included Thomas & Betts, Johnson Controls, Wright Investment Properties and KPMG. Pictured at right are members of the Lexus of Memphis team at the 2011 event.

Nucor Tees Off

The 2011 annual golf tournament hosted by Nucor Steel Arkansas Hickman Division raised $164,000 to benefit Le Bonheur Children's. Sam Commella, vice president and general manager (center), presents Le Bonheur Foundation executive director Kavanaugh Casey with the proceeds while Nucor team members look on.

Toyota Truck

Le Bonheur Foundation board member Richard Robinson learned that Le Bonheur needed a new truck and volunteered to fill the need through his company, Robinson Toyota Scion in Jackson, Tenn. When his staff learned that he was donating a 2011 Toyota Tacoma to the hospital, they wanted to participate and joined him by making personal donations toward this gift. The Tacoma truck — complete with a custom tailgate wrap that reads, "Generously donated by the employees of Robinson Toyota Scion" — can now be seen around Le Bonheur's campus. Pictured with the truck are (from left) Facilities Services manager Mark Hammons and administrative director of Support Services Rick Kanschat.

Jackson Radiothon

This year's 10th anniversary radiothon hosted by WWYN-FM 106.9 in Jackson, Tenn., raised $79,000 for Le Bonheur. Over the past decade, the station has encouraged nearly $1 million in radiothon pledges. Pictured at the event are radio personnel Phil Hickerson (left) and Shane Connor with Le Bonheur heart patient Sara Grace Hill.

Memphis Le Bonheuroo

Le Bonheur summer interns (from left) Mac Armour, Henry McGehee, Philip Overton, McCulloch Cline and Evan Sousoulas (not pictured) wanted to show their appreciation to the hospital once their work was done, so the four got together and produced Le Bonheuroo, a local music fest which raised nearly $2,000 for the hospital. About 200 young people turned out to support the event and danced to music provided by Of Phrase and Fable, Taller than Giants, The Impeccable Miscreants, Joseph Barrios and the Ne'er-do-wells, Swimmingly and Philadelphia.

Enchanted Forest

Opens November 19

For more than 50 years, the Enchanted Forest has marked the beginning of the holiday season for many Mid-South families. This year, from Nov. 19 through Dec. 31, children of all ages will again be captivated by the sights and sounds of Christmas during the annual holiday event at the Memphis Pink Palace Museum.

With the help of TWIGS of Le Bonheur, the museum will be transformed into a winter wonderland for the holidays with animated characters and over 50 illuminated Christmas trees sponsored by area businesses and organizations. Santa arrives by helicopter at 9 a.m. on Nov. 19 on the front lawn of the mansion. He will be visiting with children and making his list daily through Dec. 24.

Stroll down a snowy lane to the Gingerbread Village where the enticing creations of local chefs, artisans and children are showcased. Visit Holidays Around the World to learn how other countries celebrate the season. Stop by the Penguin Pond to recognize the many individuals who help make the season brighter for Le Bonheur patients. Because of their generous contributions, patients who are hospitalized over the holidays receive a plush penguin pal just like those skating in the pool.

It takes 25,000 volunteer hours every year to produce the wonders of the Enchanted Forest. If you or your company would like to sponsor a tree in the Enchanted Forest, contact Erin Duncan at (901) 287-6101.

The Enchanted Forest Festival of Trees will run Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. During December, the display will remain open until 9 p.m. on Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23.

Entrance fee is $6 for adults, $5 for seniors and children ages 3 to 12. Children under 2 are free. Group rates are available. For more information, call (901) 525-TREE or visit www.TheEnchantedForest.org.

Greetings from Le Bonheur

Touch your family and friends with an extra dose of good cheer this year by sending a holiday greeting card designed by patients at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. This year's collection features a jolly Ho-Ho-Ho Santa, Cardinals in the Pine (pictured), Covington Greetings (a snow-covered town), Happy Hearts (a heartfelt snowman), Heavenly Lights (a snow globe) and Season of Love (a heart-topped Christmas tree).

Your purchase of these cards helps Le Bonheur provide for the health-care needs of more than 130,000 children throughout our region.

Holiday honorarium cards are available for a $10 donation per card. Packaged cards of 10 are $12. Electronic greetings are available for a $10 donation for five e-mails. Corporate and large-order discounts are available.

To view all the cards, and read about each artist, visit our website at www.lebonheur.org/holidaycards.
To order, call Liz Salton at (901) 287-4440 or e-mail elizabeth.salton@lebonheur.org.

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital
50 N. Dunlap
Memphis, TN 38103

www.lebonheur.org
Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Memphis, TN
Permit No. 3093

New Home
New Heart
New Hope

Looking at this picture you would never know that Mary Quay and Ann Wilson are two of nearly 130,000 children served by Le Bonheur Children's Hospital each year. The cost to provide medical treatment and care to families like the Wilsons is ever increasing, yet we are committed to help each and every family who comes to Le Bonheur in need, regardless of their ability to pay.

That's why we're asking you to help us help these children by going to www.lebonheur.org/donatenow and making a gift to honor Le Bonheur's kids.

Help us exceed our goal to receive one gift in honor of each child we care for in 2012. With your help, all patients who enter Le Bonheur's doors will leave smiling and hopeful next year!