

# Care Giving

STORIES OF IMPACT FROM AUGUSTA HEALTH FOUNDATION

## Meeting People Where They Are

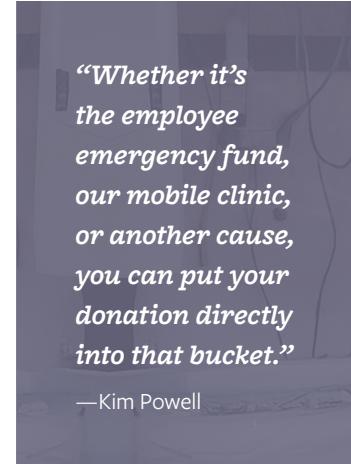
### KIM POWELL'S MISSION TO SERVE

In the world of healthcare, some professionals go beyond simply treating patients. They dedicate their lives to making care accessible to those who need it most. Kim Powell is one such provider. Her journey from aspiring lawyer to passionate physician assistant has been defined by a deep commitment to underserved communities.

Kim's transformation began with a pivotal trip to The Gambia after college. What was meant to be a clear career path toward law was abruptly shifted when she felt a deeper calling to mission-based work. This experience led her to become a physician assistant specializing in family practice at Augusta Health's neighborhood clinics.

"Being out in the community and providing care that people can count on is very important for anyone who can't or won't travel to a doctor's office," Kim explains. Her work focuses on patients who are often overlooked, including people who are unhoused, formerly incarcerated, or otherwise marginalized. These clinics serve as critical lifelines, offering medical care to those who might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Kim understands the profound impact of accessible healthcare. "Having access to care, just being evaluated for routine health issues, can help someone keep their life on track," she says. She often sees how untreated problems spiral into larger physical or mental health challenges, underscoring the importance of preventive and consistent care.



**Kim Powell's journey from aspiring lawyer to physician assistant has been driven by a calling to serve those most in need.**

Her experience with the mobile clinic project also gave her a new perspective on the Augusta Health Foundation. "It's great. Whatever area you want to contribute to, you can," Kim says. "Whether it's the employee emergency fund, our mobile clinic, or another cause, you can put your donation directly into that bucket." She has become a true advocate, and now every member of the neighborhood clinic team has become a donor, reflecting their shared belief in the work.

For Kim Powell, this mission-focused care embodies the calling she felt years ago during her transformative trip abroad. It is a testament to the power of ingenuity, donor support, and the belief that we can achieve more when we work together.

## On the Road to Better Health

**A**ugusta Health's new mobile medical unit is officially rolling, bringing wellness visits, screenings, and routine care directly into neighborhoods across our region. Powered by community generosity, this state-of-the-art clinic ensures that care goes wherever it's needed most.

Neighbors, caregivers, and supporters gathered in Fishersville in June to celebrate something remarkable: the launch of Augusta Health's new mobile medical unit. More than a ribbon cutting, the event marked a milestone in Augusta Health's mission to make care more accessible to the community.



"This initiative is a powerful example of what it means to meet people where they are," said Isaac Izzillo, director of Augusta Health public and primary care services. "Whether someone is unhoused, homebound, or without reliable transportation, this mobile medical unit ensures they don't have to go without the care they need."

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*The medical mobile unit ribbon cutting on June 12, 2025.*

**Continued**

## On the Road to Better Health

### NEW MEDICAL MOBILE UNIT IS ON A ROLL

The road that led to this exciting launch was paved by generosity. Since April of 2024, community donors contributed \$600,000 to Augusta Health Foundation to make the mobile medical unit a reality. Leadership gifts from the Houff Charitable Foundation, Cabell Foundation, Community Foundation of Central Blue Ridge's High Impact Grant Initiative, and Augusta Health Foundation's Women's Giving Circle helped spark the campaign, which was carried forward by countless local donors, volunteers, and team members.

Now officially tacking on miles, the unit brings experienced clinical professionals directly into communities whose residents may never get the chance to receive regular care. "Augusta Health's mission doesn't stop at the hospital doors," says Shirley Carter, executive director of Augusta Health Foundation and vice president of philanthropy. "This mobile clinic ensures we can provide the right care, in the right places, at the right times."

The mobile medical unit is already making a difference in our communities—delivering care, compassion, and connection to our neighbors who need it most.

Learn more about the medical mobile unit at [augustahealth.com/service/neighborhood-clinic](http://augustahealth.com/service/neighborhood-clinic)

## A Word from Shirley

The true measure of a community is found in how we lift up those who need help the most. At Augusta Health Foundation, your support makes that possible every single day.

Because of you, we are able to reach further to fund programs that provide comfort, education, and opportunity across our region. Together, we are transforming generosity into meaningful investments in health, healing, and community well-being.

This inaugural newsletter is designed to keep you connected to that impact. In these pages, you'll see how your gifts are at work, making a difference close to home. Thank you for trusting us to steward your contributions toward the most good.

With gratitude,



*SD Carter*

**Shirley Davis Carter, CFRE**

*Executive Director & Vice President of Philanthropy*

## The Gift of Gratitude

Dear Augusta Health Foundation,

In 2023, I was driving through Johnson City, TN, when everything changed in an instant. Without warning, I blacked out behind the wheel. When I woke up, my car was destroyed, and I was being rushed to the nearest hospital—which, fortunately, was the region's #1 trauma center. They saved my life, but my wife didn't make it.

When I was strong enough, what I wanted most was to continue my recovery at Augusta Health. I spent nearly five months in Skilled Nursing and Rehab, and what I found there went far beyond medical treatment. The team there—the doctors and especially the amazing nurses, in the skilled nursing wing, and the fabulous physical, occupational, and speech therapists, never let me quit—they gave me hope, strength, and a reason to keep going.

The hospital in Tennessee may have saved me, but Augusta Health helped me rebuild my life. That's why I'm making a donation to the Foundation, to honor the people who go the extra mile for patients like me.

With gratitude,  
Bill Aldridge

# Staying Power

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF CARE

**D**r. Alexander Nguyen's journey to medicine began early. As the son of Vietnamese refugees, he grew up in Northern Virginia and became the first in his family to attend college. His passion for healthcare was ignited during trips to Vietnam with his parents to volunteer in orphanages, where he first envisioned becoming a doctor.

After earning his medical degree from Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Nguyen sought a residency close to home. He found a perfect fit at Augusta Health—a hospital known for its supportive culture, rural charm, and commitment to community care. “I always knew residency would be tough,” he says. “But here, when I drive to work at 5:30 a.m. and it’s still dark, it feels like I’m heading to see friends. That culture has made all the difference.”

Augusta Health’s Graduate Medical Education (GME) program is unique for a community hospital. Typically seen in large teaching institutions, GME programs help expand patient access while training future physicians. In just a few years, the program has improved care in the Valley, especially through the residents’ Community Clinic, which has enhanced access for over 1,400 local patients.

Donations to the program through the Foundation have been crucial to this success, providing call rooms, professional growth for residents, and endowed funds for faculty and resident continuing education. “The support from the Foundation is felt daily in very real ways,” Dr. Nguyen says. “It’s a big reason why many of us plan to stay once our training is complete.”



# Full Circle

## THE POWER OF WOMEN GIVING TOGETHER

WOMEN'S  
**GIVING  
CIRCLE**



**W**hen Kathy Denney talks about community, it’s not an abstract idea. Born and raised in Waynesboro, she remembers when the hospital was still Waynesboro Community Hospital—an institution close to her family because her father and uncle both served on the board. From an early age, she understood that a community hospital is more than a building; it is the cornerstone of health and well-being.

So when the concept of a women’s giving circle was introduced in 2017, Kathy immediately saw its promise: a group of women learning about Augusta Health’s impact and pooling their resources to do even more. That year, she joined nearly 20 others as a founding member of Augusta Health Foundation’s Women’s Giving Circle.

From the beginning, the Circle proved that collective generosity could spark powerful change. Their first project funded a Forensics Room in the Emergency Department, creating a safe space for victims of sexual assault. Since then, members have helped bring 3-D mammography technology to the area, supported the Breast Center at the Outpatient Pavilion, and most recently, contributed to the launch of Augusta Health’s Mobile Medical Unit.

Kathy and her husband, Ron, were high-school sweethearts who returned to Augusta County after college, raised two children, and later downsized to Staunton. Today, they enjoy traveling the globe to visit grandchildren. For Kathy, the Women’s Giving Circle is a meaningful way to stay connected locally, blending her lifelong appreciation for community healthcare with friendships and a shared mission.

“Women have a heart for this kind of service,” Kathy says. “And I believe we really are making a difference where it matters most.”

# Funding Futures

## SCHOLARSHIPS THAT SHAPE TOMORROW’S CARE

**E**ach year, Augusta Health Foundation invests in the next generation of caregivers by funding scholarships for students pursuing healthcare careers. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, these awards not only open doors to education but also plant the seeds of a healthier future for our community. In 2025, three Wilson Memorial High School graduates were recipients of Augusta Health Foundation scholarships:

**RILEY STEWART** received the Augusta Health Nursing Endowment Fund Scholarship and plans to pursue a nursing degree at Liberty University with the goal of becoming a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

**IRIS CHEN** received the Kent-Holbert Scholarship and is attending the University of Virginia with plans to become a physician.

**ASIA KNIGHT** is the first recipient of the John B. Davis Scholarship, named in memory of the former Augusta Health Board member and community volunteer. Asia plans to study biochemistry at Virginia Tech and become a dermatologist.



*“This scholarship is motivation to continue to be a determined student throughout my undergraduate career. Thank you!”*

—Asia Knight

## What We Do

At Augusta Health Foundation, we believe in people helping people—working to deliver exceptional community care by raising funds for vital outreach, new programs, and state-of-the-art equipment that ensures everyone receives the healthcare they deserve.

When other resources are unavailable, the Foundation steps in to support important services that aren't funded anywhere else—such as the Mobile Medical Unit, patient transportation, team member emergency assistance, medications, nursing scholarships, and more.

## WHY THE FOUNDATION MATTERS

- We boost the patient experience—from lifesaving equipment to comforting gestures like wigs for cancer patients.
- We empower caregivers—through education, safety improvements, and innovations like mobile care.
- We fill funding gaps to meet practical needs that wouldn't otherwise be met.
- We strengthen our communities by connecting volunteers, donors, patients, family, and team members in a shared mission of care and compassion.

And because Augusta Health covers all administrative costs, **100% of every dollar donated** goes directly to programs that make a difference.

## By The Numbers

AS OF 7.31.2025



**\$1,385,642**

Your dollars given for patient care support

**704**

Team-member  
donors



**\$136**

Average gift size

## GET INVOLVED

Join us in building a stronger, healthier community:



Visit [ahfoundation.augustahealth.com](http://ahfoundation.augustahealth.com)



Or use the QR code  
to learn more



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