



## **1b** Good Samaritan

## HEALTH CONNECTIONS

HEATHPAYON

A publication of Good Samaritan

Volume 58 | 2022

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# Welcome

Welcome to the 58th volume of Health Connections! We are making our way through the middle of 2022 and a lot has changed since our last publication. Health care is rapidly changing; however, the one constant is the promise that Good Samaritan will remain your number one provider of choice for all your health care needs.

As you read through this edition of Health Connections, you will be introduced to our Executive Care Team and board members. Both groups are filled with highly-qualified, smart individuals who have our patients best interest at heart. Their goals for the future of Good Samaritan align with the direction the state of health care is moving.

The first story you will read is actually about one of our board members, Mary Cay Martin. After years of suffering from knee pain, Mary Cay made the decision to have a total knee replacement at Good Samaritan performed by our Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Gregory Whitsett. She had her knee replacement and was released home all in the same day! The next section details the recent development of Good Samaritan providing EMS services to Knox County. While this is a new venture for Good Samaritan, we want to ensure the community we are dedicated to providing the best emergency response care to every patient.

I want to end this by thanking the residents of Knox and the surrounding communities for allowing Good Samaritan to serve you and your families. It means so much that you trust us with your health care and we strive every day to meet your needs.

Sincerely,

Kent D. more

Rob McLin President & CEO

**MISSION** Provide excellent health care by promoting wellness, education and healing through trusting relationships.

- **VISION** To be the regional center of excellence in health care to support the communities we serve.
- **PROMISE** We promise to treat you like family by delivering compassionate, high-quality care throughout your journey.



#### **Executive Care Team**







Matt Schuckman Chief Financial Officer



Rachel Spalding Chief Nursing Officer

#### **Board of Governors**



Susan Brocksmith Chairwoman



Mary Cay Martin Vice Chairwoman



Stan Deweese Secretary



Adam Thacker Chief Operating Officer



Scott Stine, MD Physician Network Chief Medical Officer



Molly Weiss, MD Hospital Chief Medical Officer



Tara Ellermann Executive Director of Human Resources



Melissa Stearley Executive Director of Physician Network



**TJ Brink** 



**Trent Hinkle** 



**Kellie Streeter** 



**Jim Zeigler** 

# New Knee, Same Day

Vincennes native, Mary Cay Martin, had been living with knee pain for the past decade. But within the last three years, she noticed the pain was worsening and it was keeping her from doing the things she enjoyed. Her knee was even giving out on her causing her more injuries and additional stress. Mary Cay had a decision to make – continue to live in pain and take on a less active lifestyle, or get a knee replacement.

Mary Cay has been a part of the community all her life. She and her husband of 48 years raised three children; Ross, Katie and Craig. She also has four grandchildren and multiple grand-dogs. She enjoys staying active and loves exercising when she can; sometimes walking three to four miles at Foxridge Nature Park or biking on her recumbent bike at her home. But due to genetics and a family history of "bad knees," the amount of time Mary Cay could spend doing things she loved began to diminish. Knee braces and ointments were starting to lose their power and Mary Cay was forced to consider other approaches to decreasing her knee pain.

#### Seeking Help to Be Pain Free

It turns out that Mary Cay had severe primary osteoarthritis of the left knee. Her articulate cartilage, the covering of the bone that does not have nerve fibers, had worn off completely exposing the bone underneath that has nerve endings. She had lived somewhat comfortably before her knee replacement thanks to braces and regular cortisone shots every few months with the help of Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Gregory Whitsett. However, her last cortisone injection in October 2021 did not take away the discomfort like the others in the past. "The last injection I received didn't even make a difference in my knee pain," said Mary Cay. "The pain became unbearable and my activities were limited, even sleeping and tasks of daily life. That was when I knew it was time for a knee replacement."

Since she just received a cortisone injection, Mary Cay had to wait three months before she could safely have surgery. "That was the hardest part," she said. "Everything hurt, I couldn't walk well and actually hurt my back because I wasn't walking correctly. When it was finally time for surgery, I was ready!"

On January 17, 2022, Mary Cay had a total knee arthroplasty. After surgery and a short recovery time, physical therapists began working with her to see if she could bend her knee 90 degrees and taught her to get in and out of a car properly. Mary Cay was slated to go home the same day of her surgery so physical therapy right away was necessary. "I remember thinking, "Wow, this is a first!' I just had surgery that morning and they were already helping me out of bed and taking me through all of these steps. Practicing getting in and out of the car was very beneficial. Everyone was helpful and I was impressed how quickly they started physical therapy."



Mary Cay suffered from severe osteoarthritis in her left knee causing cartilage to wear away and nerve endings to be exposed.



After her left knee joint was replaced, shown in the x-ray image above, Mary Cay can now walk and move without pain or discomfort.

Dr. Whitsett has had success with many patients being good candidates for same day joint arthroplasty. "Those

that we recommend for same day joint replacements are healthy, active and recover quickly," said Dr. Whitsett. "They have pre-operative physical therapy visits to learn exercises to help them recover quickly. Anesthetic nerve block techniques are also used to help control the postoperative pain." Dr. Whitsett also said that overall, healthy patients with home support systems are the ideal candidates for same day arthroplasty.



Mary Cay was surrounded by expert therapists after her knee replacement. Back row left to right: Amberly Klein, Physical Therapist Assistant Certified; Cinda Greentree, Physical Therapist; and Angela Black, Physical Therapist.

#### State-of-the-Art Orthopedics in Your Neighborhood

Although some may venture out of Vincennes for orthopedic services, Mary Cay knew from the beginning she wanted to receive her care right here at Good Samaritan. "We have lived here all my life and I have been a part of this hospital for 22 years," she said. "I know Dr. Whitsett from my church and I am very comfortable with him. I have all the faith and confidence in the world about my care at Good Samaritan and we have a wonderful group of orthopedic surgeons right here in Vincennes."

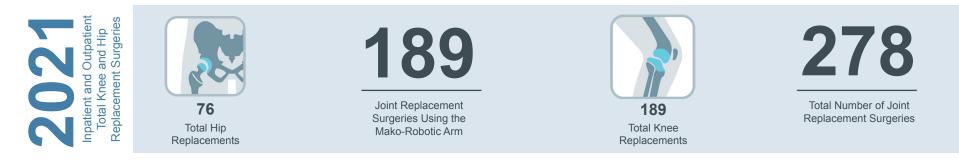
Dr. Whitsett echoed Mary Cay's comments when asked why he enjoys working and providing care at Good Samaritan. "We have a very good program here at Good Samaritan with expert physicians, nurses, therapy and follow-up care," he said. "I have had many patients tell me when I see them in my office after surgery that they are happy with their experience. We have expert care right here at home and there is no need to travel for all stages of health care."

#### New Knee, New Goals

Whether it was her care on the inpatient unit after surgery, or the education she received prior to surgery to prepare her for her knee replacement, Mary Cay was thrilled with her care. Her pain from the surgery was minimal and within three to four days her pain was completely gone and she knew she had made the right decision.

Mary Cay also stays busy with her community involvement and career. She has been a member of the Good Samaritan Board of Governors since 2000 and also sits on the Family Health Center Board. She works alongside her son, Ross, at First Vincennes Savings Bank as the Senior Mortgage Loan Officer / Branch Manager and serves as a Cantor and Eucharistic Minister for St. Francis Xavior Catholic Church in Vincennes.

Having finished her physical therapy at Vincennes Orthopedics, she is excited to return to her active lifestyle. "I am starting to walk around the block for now and plan to walk longer distances in the future," she said. "I have been planting flowers for more than a month now with a lot of mobility and no pain." She plans to return to Fox Ridge Nature Park and resume her daily walks of four miles, if not more. "After my surgery, I thought I would never want to go through this again, but if my other knee does go bad, I wouldn't hesitate to have it done. Time heals all wounds as the saying goes. I can't say enough wonderful things about Dr. Whitsett and the physical therapists at Good Samaritan."



# Good Samaritan Providing EMS Services to Knox County

Good Samaritan is excited to embark on a new journey to provide the Knox County community with compassionate, high-quality emergency medical services. Over the last year, the organization has been working diligently alongside local officials from the county and the cities of Vincennes and Bicknell to find a solution to the complexities with emergency medical services. During this time, many options were presented and discussed with Good Samaritan assuring local community leaders that if they could not find a viable long-term solution, the hospital would step up to ensure adequate emergency medical services are available, as required by the State of Indiana.

As of January 2022, Knox County had not received a response to a request for proposals it sent to various EMS providers. With the lack of third-party interest in providing services, along with the discussions between the county and Knox County EMS being unsuccessful, Good Samaritan continued to develop a plan that would support the EMS needs of the community both now, and in the years to come.

In February 2022, AMR (headquartered in Colorado) submitted a proposal for services. This proposal cost less than the overall cost of Good Samaritan's, but the level of service would be similar to what is provided in Pike County ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of Knox County's population;  $\frac{1}{3}$  total ambulance runs; and approximately 180 square miles smaller). In public meetings regarding EMS, Good Samaritan continued to share its concern that whoever the local government leaders chose as the next EMS provider, the service level must be sufficient to meet the community's needs.



A few of the first employees hired to work for Good Samaritan EMS took the time to be photographed with the new ambulance the hospital received early June. Pictured left to right: Rachel Spalding, Chief Nursing Officer; Kasey Polk, Paramedic; Chris Doll, Paramedic; Shauntri West, EMT; and Tim Benningfield, Director of EMS.

In early April 2022, Knox County EMS withdrew from negotiations and provided notice that it was terminating its short-term contract. AMR updated its proposal to include coverage similar to Good Samaritan's; however, it came with an overall cost to the community of at least \$950,000 more than the maximum cost of Good Samaritan's offer. After careful consideration, local officials determined Good Samaritan's proposal would be the best fit for Knox County.

Good Samaritan will provide the coverage our community needs starting July 1, 2022. During initial launch, the organization will be working side-by-side with, and receiving mutual support from local city and township fire departments until the service is fully staffed. The goal is to have four ambulances in service by January 1, 2023. Two will be stationed at Good Samaritan (one for 911 calls and one for transporting critically ill patients to other facilities), one in the Bicknell area and one in southern Knox County. In the future, Good Samaritan will acquire a wheelchair coach purchased completely separate from any payments it receives from local government for EMS in order to provide services to community members needing medical transport service that does not require an ambulance.



Tim Benningfield, Director of Good Samaritan EMS, said that he wants the residents of Knox County to know that they will be taken care of by compassionate caregivers dedicated to advanced life support. "I want and hope that Good Samaritan EMS becomes widely respected as a highly-qualified ambulance provider," said Benningfield. "This department is being developed upon the same principles articulated by Good Samaritan's Mission, Vision and Values; and even more particularly in the promise statement to "treat everyone like family by delivering compassionate, high-quality care throughout your journey.""

In the coming days, Good Samaritan will be working to get EMS up and running as quickly as possible. This includes hiring experienced, highly-skilled and compassionate individuals. The hospital is focused on hiring the right people who hold up to its core values of Patient, Respect, Integrity, Dignity and Excellence. EMS will be seen as a mobile extension of the emergency department; therefore, great relationships between the EMS crew, ER team and contracted ER physicians will be an expectation. All EMS employees will be receiving competitive pay, health insurance benefits, paid time off and a retirement plan. More than eight employees have already been hired and are

ready to start July 1. The arrival of the first ambulance took place early June and two new chassis are currently on order, along with a gently used ambulance.

Good Samaritan's goal is to ensure the community has the local resources it needs when friends and neighbors need it most. EMS will not generate any new or extra income for Good Samaritan, and any profits that are realized will be returned to local government for use on other public safety initiatives. The money Good Samaritan receives from local government will primarily be used to invest in the local EMS team in the form of wages and benefits.

Throughout this process, and continuing into the future, Good Samaritan has dedicated itself to transparency. As part of this commitment, the organization has engaged a third-party billing company. This company will aide in collecting payment from Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies which will, in turn, reduce the cost of EMS for the community. Good Samaritan has also partnered with local government to create a committee that will review the financial details associated with the service so that appropriate oversight can be maintained.

Good Samaritan promises to treat you like family by delivering compassionate, highquality care throughout your health care journey. With the addition of EMS, this journey will, at times, begin at the patients' homes or out in the community during significant health events or accidents. It is the hospital's commitment to be there when needed. Good Samaritan is excited to enter this journey with the community, and hope that our patients will be proud of this new service we are providing.



#### Good Samaritan at a Glance - 2021

OUR STAFF	ADMISSIONS	OUR SERVICE AREA
1,847 Caregivers	Emergency Room: 29,331	237,489 Residents In Our 11 County Service Area
527 Registered Nurses	Inpatient: 5,614 (Does not include newborn admits)	7 Counties in Indiana
253 Nursing Support Staff	Outpatient: 540,605	4 Counties in Illinois
IMPACT ON HEALTH		
Laboratory Tests & Procedures: 593,095	Screening Mammograms: 5,234	Dayson Heart Center Tests / Procedures: 42,036
-	Screening Mammograms: 5,234 Lung Cancer Screenings: 283	-
593,095		Procedures: 42,036
593,095 Physical Medicine Treatments: 25,461	Lung Cancer Screenings: 283	Procedures: 42,036 Trauma Activations: 987

#### **OUR SERVICES**

Good Samaritan offers more than 100 service lines ranging from primary care to specialists, and outpatient testing to surgery. Our vision of being the regional center of excellence in health care to support the communities we serve means that we are committed to ensuring we provide access to needed service lines. Our wide array of services allows patients in the communities we serve to obtain all of their needed health care close to home. To view all of Good Samaritan's health care services and to learn more about each one, visit gshvin.org/health-services.

#### **Investment in Our Communities - 2021**

Annual Payroll: \$108,366,232

**Cost Per Day to Operate:** \$654,819

Scholarships Awarded: \$30,000

**Donations to Charitable Organizations:** \$245,800

Local Goods Purchased:

\$8,154,945 (This number includes goods and services within our 11-county service area, excluding banks.)

United Way Donations: \$61,907.20

Property Taxes Paid to Knox County: \$87,438

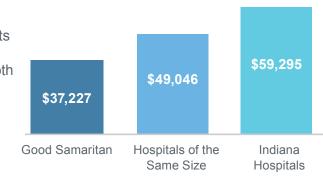
Knox County Option Income Tax Paid By Employees: \$998,833

**Cost to Provide Charity Care:** \$1,342,073

#### Gross Charge per Adjusted Discharge

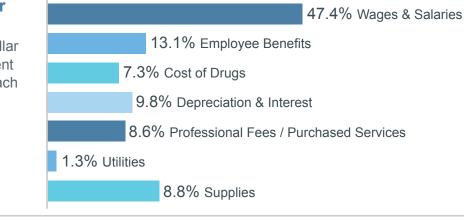
Gross Charge per Adjusted Discharge represents the total charges generated by the number of patient discharges that are adjusted to reflect both the impact of inpatient and outpatient volumes.

Source: IHA Databank Report



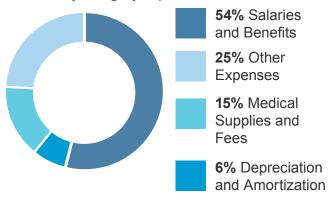
#### Expenditures per Dollar Charged

Expenditures per Dollar Charged is the percent of money used for each dollar spent by Good Samaritan.



#### **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses of Good Samaritan allocated by category expensed.



Total Operating Expenses: \$255,740,086

#### Unreimbursed Costs by Medicare and Medicaid

\$50,389,983

#### Bad Debt

Unrecoverable funds from unpaid patient bills

\$12,830,103

#### Free Medical Care Write-Off Hospital bills that have been written off

\$3,578,861

#### Women's Wellness Fair



Women have a habit of neglecting their own health. This is why Good Samaritan hosts the "Women's Wellness Fair" event every year. In June of 2021, the 16th annual women's health event encouraged 245 women attending to make their own health a priority. Offering a socially-distanced event, health screenings and a few additional hospital departments were available providing education pertaining to women's health.

#### **Men's Wellness Fair**



Men often fail to pay attention to their health. This is why the annual "Men's Wellness Fair" is just for them. The 2021 event, attended by 340 men, offered five health screenings in a socially-distanced environment. Additional hospital departments were also in attendance to provide education and information helpful to the health and wellbeing of men in the community. The 2022 Men's Wellness Fair is scheduled for October 8.

#### **Skin Cancer Detection Training**



In August 2021, Good Samaritan provided a free training to local hair stylists, massage therapists and tattoo artists helping them identify potential skin cancer areas on their clients. More than 30 community members attended and were educated on how to spot the signs of skin cancer. The attendees were also given copies of additional education resources to take with them and contact information for Good Samaritan providers if they had questions.

#### **Stop the Bleed**



Good Samaritan Trauma provided multiple free "Stop the Bleed" classes to the community in 2021. These classes prepare individuals to address traumatic injuries and act fast to prevent blood loss and save lives. In 2021, the Trauma Department offered five separate classes and taught a total of 212 community members these life-saving techniques.

### 12,539 Total number of FREE health screenings provided by Community Health Services in 2021

47% of the 1,886 free blood pressure screens were abnormal

**33%** of the **914** free total cholesterol screens were abnormal

26% of the 904 free blood glucose screens were abnormal

0% of the 1,912 free pulse oximetry screenings were abnormal

**15%** of the **927** free Glomerular Filtration Rate (kidney function) screenings were abnormal **12%** of the **179** free HGB/ A1C (hemoglobin test for diabetes patients) screenings were abnormal Community Health Services and Sports Performance worked together to provide **81** free blood pressure, weight, height and vision screenings to local high school students in the community in 2021



520 S. Seventh Street Vincennes, IN 47591



## Find Your Provider at Good Samaritan

Finding a provider at Good Samaritan is easy! Simply go online to gshvin.org/find-a-provider or call 812-885-8500 to learn which physicians and advanced practice providers are taking new patients near you.