

HEALTH CONNECTIONS

A publication of Good Samaritan



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE CARE TEAM / BOARD OF GOVERNORS

4

2025 PHYSICIAN and APP OF THE YEAR

5

A RESTFUL NIGHT

6

MEET WENDY HERNANDEZ

8

MEET OUR NEW PROVIDERS

9

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

12

BORN HERE. LED HERE.

13



Welcome!

Welcome to the 65th volume of Health Connections. In this edition, seven-year-old Avery Yager and his mother share their experience with his pediatric sleep study, and how the answers they received have helped Avery rest better at night and stay more focused at school.

In 2025, Good Samaritan was honored to recognize Jane Bridges, MD, as our Physician of the Year. Dr. Bridges received the SAMMIE—the Samaritan Award for Meritorious Medical Care with Integrity and Excellence—for her exceptional dedication to patient care. We are also proud to recognize Robert Lang, PA-C, as the recipient of the Advanced Practice Provider (APP) Excellence Award. Robert demonstrates the very best of Good Samaritan's mission, vision and values through outstanding clinical expertise, compassionate care, and unwavering service to our community.

This year, we also welcomed twelve new providers to Good Samaritan. In this edition, you'll have an opportunity to learn more about each of them and how to schedule an appointment.

As many of you know, I will be retiring at the beginning of 2026. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve Good Samaritan and this remarkable community. Thank you for your trust, your support, and the privilege of caring for you and your families over the years.

In closing, our mission remains centered on providing exceptional health care through trusted relationships. Our commitment extends beyond medical treatment—it is a promise to treat every individual with the warmth and compassion one would expect from family. As we enter a new year, we remain dedicated to being the regional center of excellence in health care, setting the standard for quality, innovation, and patient-centered service.

Thank you for entrusting us with your health. It has been an honor to serve you, and I look forward to watching Good Samaritan continue to thrive in 2026 and beyond.

Sincerely,



Rob McLin
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



Rob McLin
CEO



Adam Thacker
President



Brenda Winkler
Chief Nursing Officer



Matt Schuckman
Chief Financial Officer



Wendy Hernandez
Chief Administrative Officer



Scott Stine, MD
Physician Network
Chief Medical Officer



Molly Weiss, MD
Hospital Chief
Medical Officer



Tara Ellermann
Chief Talent Officer

Board of Governors



Stan Deweese
Chairman



Susan Brocksmith
Vice Chairwoman



Kellie Streeter
Secretary



TJ Brink



Tim Ellerman



Craig Kirk



Lance Payton, MD

2025 Physician of the Year

Good Samaritan Physician Network has named Jane M. Bridges, MD as the 2025 Physician of the Year. This award, also referred to as "The SAMMIE" for Samaritan Award for Meritorious Medical Care with Integrity and Excellence, was created in 2020 to recognize individuals who demonstrate exceptional skills in clinical practice and who uphold the mission, vision and values of Good Samaritan.

"I am so deeply humbled and grateful to receive the Physician of the Year award," stated Dr. Bridges. "My deepest gratitude goes to my staff who support me each and every day and allow me to serve our patients. Many thanks to everyone along my journey that has been a friend, colleague, and guide that has allowed me to grow and evolve as a physician and diabetologist. Finally, thank you to Good Samaritan Hospital and to the selection committee for this award. I'm very proud to be a part of this medical staff and hospital. It has been my pleasure to serve our patients and medical community. Thank you to all."

[Click here to watch Dr. Bridge's nomination video.](#)

 [WATCH NOW](#)



Jane M. Bridges, MD

2025 Advanced Practice Provider of the Year

Good Samaritan is proud to name Robert Lang, PA-C as the 2025 Advanced Practice Provider (APP) of the Year. This award celebrates the exceptional contributions of our Advanced Practice Providers, whose dedication and expertise are integral to delivering compassionate, high-quality care to our patients. By recognizing the instrumental role they play within our health care team, we reaffirm our commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and collaboration in serving our community.

"This is an unexpected and very humbling recognition," stated Robert Lang, PA-C. "In the challenging practice environment that we find ourselves in I am so grateful to be with this organization. Across various departments, service lines, and specialties I sense a common mission to provide high quality and seamless care. I'm honored to work alongside people striving to be Good Samaritans that provide compassionate and loving care to our community. Thank you very much for this kind honor."



Robert Lang, PA-C

[Click here to watch Robert's nomination video.](#)

 [WATCH NOW](#)

A RESTFUL NIGHT: CHELSEY AND AVERY'S SLEEP STUDY JOURNEY AT GOOD SAMARITAN

When Chelsey Yager first learned that her son, Avery, needed a pediatric sleep study, she felt the familiar tug of worry that every parent knows. Avery had always been a bright and energetic child, but the restless nights, heavy daytime fatigue, and frequent awakenings had begun to take a toll. Chelsey knew something wasn't right—she just didn't know what answers they would find.

Walking into Good Samaritan's Sleep Center, her nerves eased almost immediately. The staff welcomed Avery with warm smiles and gentle reassurance, taking the time to explain each step in a way that made him feel comfortable and included. To Chelsey's relief, Avery wasn't scared—he was curious.

"The team treated Avery like he was the most important kid in the world," Chelsey recalled. "They helped him feel safe, and that meant everything to me."

As the sleep technologist applied tiny sensors and explained the equipment, Avery's anxiety turned into fascination. What could have been an overwhelming experience quickly transformed into a night full of calm, comfort, and even a few giggles. The staff dimmed the lights, offered extra blankets, and made sure Avery had his favorite stuffed animal by his side.



For Chelsey, the most meaningful moment came when she saw her son drift off to sleep—peacefully, for the first time in a long time.

"Watching Avery finally rest gave me so much hope," she said. "I knew we were finally on the path to answers."

[Watch Chelsey and Avery's Video](#)

continued on page 7

By morning, the team had collected the information needed to help Avery's care team better understand what was affecting his sleep. But for Chelsey, the night meant more than data. It meant feeling heard, supported, and understood as a mother.

"Good Samaritan didn't just care for Avery—they cared for us as a family," she said. "We walked in with worry, and we left with clarity and comfort. For that, I'm forever grateful."

In the days that followed, Avery's results revealed the cause of his restless nights: he was experiencing allergies that made it difficult for him to breathe smoothly while sleeping. With this clear diagnosis, Chelsey finally had answers—and a plan.

Avery's care team explained his options, helped her understand the next steps, and guided them toward treatment that would help him breathe easier and sleep more soundly.

Now, Avery is getting the care he needs, and his days are brighter because his nights are finally restful. And for Chelsey, seeing her son wake up with energy and joy is a gift she'll never take for granted.



[Sleep Center Tour](#) >>

WENDY HERNANDEZ APPOINTED NEW CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Good Samaritan is pleased to announce that Wendy Hernandez, FACHE, CHCIO, began her role as Chief Administrative Officer in November. She will transition into the responsibilities currently held by Adam Thacker as he prepares to assume the Chief Executive Officer position in January.

Hernandez brings more than 20 years of health care leadership experience in hospital operations, clinical services, and performance improvement. She previously served as System Vice President at Indiana University Health, leading enterprise operations for Information Systems applications and overseeing regional teams in pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, infection prevention, and clinical education.

A strong advocate for collaborative, data-driven improvement, Hernandez has led initiatives that delivered significant systemwide results.

“I’m thrilled to join the Good Samaritan team,” Hernandez said. “I’ve long admired the exceptional care and strong community relationships that define this organization, and I look forward to working together to make a lasting, positive impact.”

In her new role, Hernandez will oversee key clinical and operational areas and help advance the hospital’s long-term strategic goals. Good Samaritan is pleased to welcome her as she begins connecting with staff, physicians, and community partners.



Meet Our New Providers



Sydney Benson, FNP-C

Cardiology

Bachelor's Degree: Vincennes University

Master's Degree: University of Southern Indiana

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-3243

Sydney provides comprehensive cardiac care at Good Samaritan. She began her nursing career in the Intensive Care Unit at Good Samaritan and later gained additional experience as a travel ICU nurse before returning to the organization. With a strong critical care background and a patient-centered approach, Sydney is committed to helping individuals better understand their heart health and improve their overall well-being.



Ashlynn Carson, FNP-C

Family Practice

Bachelor's Degree: Vincennes University

Master's Degree: University of Southern Indiana

Good Samaritan

615 Dubois Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-8980

Ashlynn is a Family Nurse Practitioner providing compassionate, patient-centered care in Vincennes. Before becoming an FNP, Ashlynn served as a Certified Critical Care Registered Nurse at Good Samaritan, where she gained extensive experience caring for complex patients and collaborating within multidisciplinary teams. Ashlynn is dedicated to building strong patient relationships, promoting wellness, and using evidence-based practice to support the health of individuals and families in her community.



Aladdin Dahbour, MD

Hospitalist

Medical Degree: University of Jordan Faculty of Medicine

Residency: Southwest Indiana Internal Medicine Residency

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Dahbour, originally from New Jersey, moved to Amman, Jordan, to pursue a medical career and completed residency at one of the country's most competitive programs. Known for his passion for volunteerism, he actively promoted psychological health awareness through community and academic presentations. He has experience in primary care, medical education, and has worked at a national diabetes center. Beyond medicine, his interests include research, technology, languages, and writing.



Leo Drozhanin, MD

Interventional Radiology

Medical Degree: New York School of Medicine

Residency: NYU

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-6838

Dr. Drozhanin is an interventional radiologist who specializes in minimally invasive and cancer-related procedures. Originally from Russia, he immigrated to the U.S. in the late 1980s, earning degrees from MIT and the New York School of Medicine, and completing advanced training at NYU, Cornell University, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He values interventional radiology for its precision and patient-centered outcomes. Drawn to Good Samaritan's strong reputation and community focus, Dr. Drozhanin is dedicated to expanding its procedural services and delivering exceptional care.

Meet Our New Providers



Mariko Hanson, MD

Neurologist

Medical Degree: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Residency: University of North Carolina

Good Samaritan

812-885-6850

328 N. Second Street, 301

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Hanson is a board-eligible neurologist with fellowship training in adult, pediatric, and neonatal EEG and epilepsy at the University of Miami. She has been recognized for her excellence in teaching and patient care and is passionate about advancing neurological care through clinical practice, research, and community service.



Ben House, CAA

Anesthesiology

Bachelor's Degree: William Penn University

Master's Degree: Indiana University School of Medicine

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Ben is a Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant with a strong background in biology and anesthesia. Originally from southeastern Iowa, he earned his bachelor's degree from William Penn University and a master's in anesthesia from Indiana University School of Medicine. Drawn to anesthesia for its mix of critical thinking and hands-on care, Ben is dedicated to helping patients feel comfortable and informed during vulnerable moments. Outside of work, he enjoys sports, both playing and watching, and spending time outdoors.



Justin Johnson, MD

Psychiatrist

Medical Degree: Indiana University School of Medicine

Residency: Indiana University School of Medicine

Psychiatry Residency at Good Samaritan

Good Samaritan

812-885-8622

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Johnson, earned his degrees from Indiana University School of Medicine in 2016. He completed his psychiatry residency at Indiana University School of Medicine Psychiatry Residency at Good Samaritan, then went on to serve the Veterans Administration in Charleston, SC, where he was promoted to Section Chief of the Outpatient Psychiatry Consult Clinic in North Charleston.



Colton Junod, MD

Emergency Medicine

Medical Degree: Indiana University School of Medicine

Residency: Indiana University School of Medicine

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Junod is an emergency medicine physician and a proud Vincennes native. A graduate of Lincoln High School, he is dedicated to caring for patients in the community where he grew up. His passion for emergency care stems from the opportunity to make a difference in critical moments and to treat patients of all ages and conditions. Dr. Junod first connected with Good Samaritan as a high school volunteer and now returns home to serve the community that shaped him. Outside of work, he enjoys international travel, having visited six continents, and encourages others to prioritize their health with something as simple and effective as daily walks.

Meet Our New Providers



John Robert "JR" Majewski, MD

Hospitalist and Internal Medicine Faculty

Medical Degree: Saba University School of Medicine

Residency: Indiana University Southwest Internal Medicine

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Majewski is a hospitalist at Good Samaritan and a faculty member with Indiana University (IU) School of Medicine. He serves in the Southwest Indiana Internal Medicine Residency program, training future physicians in hospital medicine and patient advocacy, with a focus on holistic, patient-centered care. Dr. Majewski is actively engaged in the Southwest Indiana medical community and is passionate about mentoring the next generation of physicians.



Lindsay Patton, FNP-C

Convenient Care

Bachelor's Degree: Purdue University

Master's Degree: Walden University

Good Samaritan

1813 Willow Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-8941

Lindsay is an experienced Family Nurse Practitioner with a strong foundation as a Registered Nurse spanning over 10 years across diverse health care settings. providers. She is passionate about providing patient-centered care, performing thorough assessments, and creating care plans that help patients achieve their best health. Known for clear communication and a compassionate approach, she is dedicated to supporting the health and well-being of every patient she sees.



John Rogers, MD

Internal Medicine Faculty

Medical Degree: University of Illinois School of Medicine

Residency: U.S. Air Force Medical Center,
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Rogers is a faculty physician in Good Samaritan's Internal Medicine Residency Program, guiding residents in both outpatient and inpatient settings. With over 15 years of teaching experience from the University of Illinois College of Medicine, he is known for his kind, steady presence and focuses on helping patients understand their health to feel informed and at ease.



G. Rex Stroud, MD

Internal Medicine

Medical Degree: Indiana University School of Medicine

Residency: Deaconess Family Medicine Residency

Good Samaritan

406 N. First Street

Vincennes, IN 47591

812-882-1106

Dr. Stroud serves patients across a full spectrum of family-medicine needs — from preventive care, chronic disease management, and acute illness to coordinating referrals. In his role, he prioritizes building lasting patient relationships, focusing on continuity of care and the wellbeing of the whole person rather than treating only individual conditions.

Meet Our New Providers



Marissa Su, MD

Pulmonary Critical Care

Medical Degree: University of Medicine and Health Sciences

Residency: University of Hawaii
John A. Burns School of Medicine

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-3243

Dr. Su is a pulmonary and critical care physician. She earned her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Health Sciences (Saint Kitts) in 2019, completed her internal medicine residency at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine in 2022, and her pulmonary & critical care fellowship at the Medical College of Georgia in 2025.



Jacob Thomas, MD

Hospitalist

Medical Degree: University of Witwatersrand

Residency: Southern Illinois University

Good Samaritan

520 S. Seventh Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Jacob Thomas is a board-certified Internal Medicine physician and Hospitalist. With extensive experience in hospitals nationwide, he brings strong clinical expertise and a commitment to compassionate, evidence-based care. He also founded Ubuntu Med, a medical education platform focused on improving patient and physician learning.



Angela York, FNP-C

Convenient Care

Bachelor's Degree: Colorado University

Master's Degree: Beth-EL School of Nursing

Good Samaritan

1813 Willow Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

812-885-8941

Angela is an empathetic Nurse Practitioner with over 20 years of experience providing high-quality, patient-centered care. She is skilled in diagnosing and treating acute and chronic conditions, performing thorough examinations, and collaborating closely with patients and the health care team. Known for her calm approach and strong critical-thinking abilities, Angela is dedicated to delivering compassionate, effective care.

Share your story with us!

We love celebrating the strength and courage of our patients. If you've had a positive experience with us, share your story through our quick online form—you could be featured in an upcoming edition of our Health Connections Now eNewsletter!

[Share Your Story Now](#)

Good Samaritan
HEALTH CONNECTIONS *Now*



Bridget's Journey: Welcoming Baby Maurice

Good Samaritan
HEALTH CONNECTIONS *Now*



Finding Hope and Support Through Palliative Care

Good Samaritan
HEALTH CONNECTIONS *Now*



Finding Healing and Home at Good Samaritan

Born Here. Led Here. Rob McLin Prepares to Retire After 34 Years

When Rob McLin talks about Good Samaritan, there is a conviction in his voice that can only come from finding a calling he never expected. As he prepares to retire on January 6, 2026, after 34 years with the organization, including 15 as President and CEO, he reflects on a journey that began on a small farm near Bicknell, Indiana and evolved into one of the most influential health care leadership careers in southern Indiana. Born at Good Samaritan in 1963 and raised near Ragsdale as the oldest of four children, McLin never imagined he would one day lead the hospital where his life began. After earning a degree in accounting and management from Indiana State University, he began his career as an auditor for the IRS, first in Indianapolis and later in Lafayette. But when he and his wife Angie, both Knox County natives, welcomed their first child, the pull of home grew strong. A friend mentioned an opening for an internal auditor at Good Samaritan, and McLin took a chance, joining the hospital in 1992.

From the start, he was amazed by all the aspects of the hospital beyond patient care - the financial, operational and technological complexities – and quickly felt drawn to leadership. With the support of then-CEO John Hidde, he transitioned into administration, becoming Vice President of Professional and Support Services in 1995. Two years later, in 1997, he was promoted to Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Finance, a role that allowed him to blend his analytical strengths with his growing vision for the organization's future. Thirteen years later, in 2010, he was named President and CEO. "Terrified and exhilarated," was how he described stepping into the role. "Suddenly you're the one everyone looks to. But I had ideas, and I was ready. My goal was to take what my predecessor, Matt Bailey, had developed at Good Sam and make it better—the same way Matt had done in his 10 years after assuming the role from John Hidde."

Those ideas helped lead Good Samaritan through some of the most transformative years in its history. Early in his tenure, McLin oversaw the acquisition of the Medical Center of Vincennes and the employment of its physicians, an undertaking he once believed would stand as the largest of his career. But soon came the Beacon Project, the hospital's most significant capital investment to date. From 2011 to 2015, he led the construction of the Gibault Memorial Tower and the new energy center, designing them with lessons learned from disasters like the Columbus flood and focusing on resilience, natural light, and patient-centered care.

Growth continued across the organization. Under his leadership, Good Samaritan implemented the Epic electronic health record, established residency programs in internal medicine and psychiatry, purchased the Bierhaus Center, launched its own EMS program, and expanded access to care through the Family Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center. Quality achievements flourished as well, including four Magnet designations and recognition as a Level III Trauma Center. And then came the challenge no CEO could fully prepare for, COVID-19. "There will never be another challenge like that," he recalled. "The dedication of our staff, the way they cared for this community day after day, that stays with you."

continued on page 14

Despite never aspiring to politics, McLin became a respected statewide advocate through his years of service with the Indiana Hospital Association, eventually serving as chairman of the board in 2020. He was also recently honored with the Indiana Hospital Association's Distinguished Service Award for his accomplishments at Good Samaritan and his efforts at the statehouse advocating with lawmakers. "If we don't help lawmakers understand what it takes to run a hospital, who will?" he said. "Being honest, transparent, and educational—it makes a difference."

For McLin, Good Samaritan has never been just an employer. It is where his children and grandchildren have been cared for, where three of his four grandchildren were born, and where he has personally undergone surgeries and treatment over the years. Each experience reinforced his belief in the hospital's mission. "They treat every person like they're the only patient here," he said. "Sometimes the best care comes from people who know you."

As he prepares to step away, the transition still feels surreal. Yet he carries full confidence in his successor, Adam Thacker, the current President and Chief Administrative Officer, and in the leadership team he spent years shaping. What he knows he'll miss most are the people—the everyday interactions, the quick hallway conversations, the moments of collaboration with staff, physicians, and volunteers. What he looks forward to now is a little less stress and the freedom to choose how he spends his days, though he plans to stay connected to health care in some way. "After 34 years, it's part of who I am," he said.

Looking back, McLin feels immense gratitude. "It's been an honor and a privilege," he said. "And I want to thank the Governing Board, who I have been privileged to serve and work beside for the past 15 years. Their foresight and leadership helped drive incredible, positive change over the last decade." As Good Samaritan turns the page, the legacy McLin leaves, built on integrity, service, and a deep love for his community, will continue to guide the organization for years to come.





Health Connections will only be served electronically by email beginning in 2026. To stay up-to-date with Good Samaritan news, scan the QR code below to receive our Health Connections Now e-newsletter on a monthly basis - delivered straight to your inbox.

