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Ingalls Impact Fund.

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Ingalls Development Foundation
One Ingalls Drive
Harvey, IL 60426

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Promise of Hope
Fashion Reveal
Thursday, April 7
Odyssey Country Club
For details, visit ingallsfoundation.org/events/promise-of-hope

Ingalls Open
Golf Outing
Monday, July 25
Olympia Fields Country Club
For details, visit ingallsfoundation.org/events/ingalls-open

49th Annual
Benefit Gala
Saturday, June 25
Tinley Park Convention Center
For details, visit ingallsfoundation.org/events/annual-benefit-gala
Q&A with UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial President, Randy Neiswonger

Randy Neiswonger assumed the role of President of UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial and COO, Community Health and Hospital Division in October 2021. Randy previously served as CEO for UP Health System-Portage, which includes Michigan’s first level 3 trauma center and emergency department, a 60-bed senior living community and various physician practices.

With his first 100 days as President now behind him, Randy shares some of things you want to know.

What has been your top priority at UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial so far? What is the priority going forward?

I started in December 2019, right before the pandemic was declared in March 2020. This focus was - and still is for the most part - all encompassing. The biggest stressor for me is to ensure that our providers have the resources they need to help our patients. Our biggest priority is to reinvent ourselves through the people who come here every day to provide care. We need to go far to build back what was lost during the darkest days of the pandemic but together I am confident we will get there and be better than ever!

What attracted you to join Ingalls Memorial?

The eminence of UChicago Medicine coupled with the legacy of Ingalls Memorial Hospital is truly impressive. Historically, Ingalls has been ranked in the top 50 Best Hospitals in the Nation by Healthgrades. That recognition does not come easily. It’s a real testament of what the hospital’s foundation was built on. Joining a team that is driven to be at the forefront of discovery, with an enriched history of being one of the best, my decision was not hard to make.

What is your background in the health care industry?

My background is rooted in hospital operations. I started my career as a porter, a combo of Environmental Services and Patient Transport. I transitioned into Nutritional Services while in nursing school. I progressed from nurse’s aide to floor nurse in the ED and ICU and eventually to Nurse Practitioner in ICU. Administratively, I cut my teeth through the clinical leadership ranks before transitioning into operational-focused roles.

How do past experiences prepare you for this role and bring value to the hospital and its patients?

Having a diverse background allows me to take different perspectives to bring value to discussions. I enjoy being familiar with all aspects of the healthcare delivery system. It is incumbent on us to double down on the patient experience, focusing on what they feel is important, not just what we feel is important.

What type of culture will you build and how will it bring benefits?

I hope to build a culture governed in Servant Leadership. I will work tirelessly to ensure that our people have the tools and resources to be successful. I believe in a flat organization and flat society. No job, task or contribution is insignificant. I certainly would not ask anyone to do something that I have not done or would not do myself. I hope this approach allows us to focus on what is important; delivering the very best care to our patients and having the utmost respect to the folks working alongside one another.

How do you spend your free time?

I love my family. The time I get to spend enjoying them is the fuel I use to get through all aspects of life. I also stay very active running and biking.
Wood Street Community Health Corridor

A grassroots redevelopment effort is emerging with support from corporate donors, community partners, the city of Harvey and the Ingalls Development Foundation to address blighted properties along the primary roadway leading to the UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial campus between 147th and 159th streets in Harvey.

More than $125,000 has been raised to date in support of a community development strategic plan for Wood Street that leverages the hospital’s presence as an anchor institution in an at-risk community. “We have a role to play as an anchor healthcare institution to provide outstanding care inside our hospital while also accepting a leadership role in helping heal our community,” says Ingalls President Randy Neiswonger.

In addition to blight removal, the early Wood Street Community health planning has focused on leveraging community partners such as CEDA, the Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation, Southland Development Authority, Neighborhood Housing services and city leaders to set some guidelines around this work.

Another partner is the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago which has developed a survey tool to gather data from Harvey residents around the social determinants of health, which will help guide decision making around development projects to consider.

Corporate Partner Impact: Elite Ambulance

In July 21, Forbes printed the article The Growing Challenges of Emergency Medicine stating, “There is no imaginable reality where accidents and emergencies cease to exist...Therein lies the value of emergency medicine (EM).”

Mark Vandenburg, president of Elite Ambulance has taken up that challenge. With over 130 years of combined experience on his leadership team, Mark intricately understands the challenges of emergency medicine in our ever changing healthcare landscape.

Elite Ambulance has long been a supporter of the Ingalls Development Foundation’s Ingalls Open Golf Outing. However, Mark wanted to make a bigger impact through an annual donation. He wanted his organization to do more, directly affecting emergency health.

This year, Elite Ambulance made a $20,000 gift to the Foundation to support emergency care as well as the Ingalls Impact Fund.

We appreciate Mark’s and Elite’s passion for the Southland community and delivering superior emergency healthcare.

About Elite: Elite offers a full range of services, including emergency, non-emergency, dialysis and bariatric transport. Ambulance stations are located strategically throughout the Chicagoland area, including the southern and northern suburbs.

Annual Report

Our inaugural Ingalls Development Foundation Annual Report is completed and posted online at: ingallsfoundation.org/annual-report.

The report highlights Foundation events and accomplishments during our fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

Our history as a foundation, your impact as a donor, program and event highlights, financial results and an honor roll of corporate and individual donors are all included in the full color document.

A limited number of hard copies remain. To get your individual copy of the Ingalls Development Foundation’s Annual Report, please email us at foundation@ingalls.org.

2nd Annual Business Breakfast

The Ingalls Development Foundation hosted its second annual Community Impact Business Breakfast on Monday, January 10th. UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial president, Randy Neiswonger gave an update on the current and future plans for UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial.

If you would like to view his presentation go to ingallsfoundation.org/business-breakfast
Giving Tuesday

Thank you to our generous donors who participated in Giving Tuesday this year on November 30th to support cancer patients’ emotional, mental, physical, social, and spiritual needs through the Ingalls Integrative Wellness program.

The Integrative Wellness program offers Oncology patients massage, reflexology, and reiki at no cost. All the therapies help reduce pain, anxiety, stress, fatigue, and depression.

Through our Giving Tuesday Campaign and subsequent gifts to the Integrative Wellness program, more than $5,000 was raised to support cancer warriors and survivors. This will provide a new biomat which increases pain relief and therapeutic sleep, clinical supplies, and holistic therapy for cancer patients.

IDF EDGE Spring 2022 Scholarship

“I have worked for many years at this organization and have never utilized the EDGE Foundation Scholarship because I always felt like someone else might need it more than me. This year has humbled me and made me change my perspective. I experienced the loss of my aunt and biggest cheerleader during the summer. I felt she would always be there. Her loss humbled me… I know, because of this year, that I have endured a great deal emotionally and financially. This made me recognize that I might need a little help to make her dream, my reality.” – Torri Crosby-Martin

Torri’s essay is indicative of the hundreds of Ingalls employees who have benefitted from our EDGE employee giving Foundation scholarship program. This spring, 18 Ingalls employees earned Foundation scholarships to attend a diverse group of higher education institutions including Governors State, Valparaiso, Indiana University and Chicago State.

Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients this spring!

Clinical Impact

Congratulations to UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial Hospital’s newest oncology doctor, Ivy Abraham, M.D. on the recent publication of her research in the American Society of Hematology’s journal Blood.

Abraham, along with a team of 22 doctors, conducted research which revealed structural racism is a mediator of disparities in Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) outcomes.

This was the first study to formally test mediators for observed disparities in AML survival and highlighted the need to investigate the mechanisms by which structural racism interacts with known prognostic and treatment factors to influence leukemia outcomes.

Welcome New Board Member: Linda Conway, J.D.

The Ingalls Development Foundation is delighted to welcome Linda B. Conway, J.D. to its board of directors. Conway is no stranger to UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial as she served as the assistant general counsel for the Ingalls Health System, and worked for the hospital for 12 years. Conway has spent the majority of her professional career working within the Harvey community.

A graduate of Georgetown University, (B.A.) and University of Notre Dame’s Law School, (J.D.) she has spent her career advocating on behalf of others. Currently Conway is a co-founder of The Navocate Group, LLC, a professional healthcare advocate, empowering patients and their families by providing them with resources and options to make the best healthcare decisions possible.

Health Care Heroes

Thank You! Our EDGE employee giving program helped fund the distribution of pizzas and snack carts to front line caregivers at Ingalls who have responded heroically since the first of the year to the surge of COVID-19 patients infected with the Omicron virus. A leadership message expressing support and appreciation from the executive team was also distributed to caregivers. At its peak in January, Ingalls healthcare team treated more than 90 COVID patients admitted to the hospital each day, our highest census total since the start of the pandemic! Fortunately, the patient volumes began dropping dramatically throughout February.

Show your appreciation.

Doctor’s Day

Show your love for your doctor on National Doctors’ Day Wednesday, March 30th. This day is set aside to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices of physicians who not only serve by caring for individuals, but our communities as well. Sometimes their contributions mean fearlessly risking their own lives to save ours and others.

If you have fond memories, kind words or experiences you wish to share with your physician and would like to celebrate their contribution in your life, you may leave a note or make a gift in their honor at iluvmydoc22.givesmart.com.