

# BETTER

## *Health & Living*

A Biannual Magazine from Scotland Health

Spring 2025

**Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care now open.**

Everything you need to know about Scotland Health's newest primary and urgent care location.

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### Mission and Vision

The Scotland Way defines the culture of Scotland Health. It is the ideal to which we aspire and the way we currently act. We strive to be Better: Better than yesterday, Better than our peers, Better than expected, so that our patients get Better.

### Our Mission:

To serve our communities by providing Safe, High-Quality, Compassionate, and Sustainable health care.

### Our Vision:

To be the premier rural health care system in the Carolinas.

### Our Board of Trustees:

Scotland Health Care System is a not-for-profit, community-owned health care system located in Laurinburg, North Carolina. The System is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of local community members and hospital officials.

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## A Message from David Pope

*Scotland Health President and CEO*

Spring is a time when we encounter new growth: bare tree limbs fill with blossoms and leaves, daffodils sprout from the dormant ground, grass starts coming back green and fresh from a gray lawn. One of the maxims that I try to live by is “seek growth, not comfort.” It’s a challenge to live up to that ideal, and I don’t always do it well.

I’m thankful, though, to be surrounded by the remarkable team that makes up Scotland Health. As a team, we encourage each other to grow, even when it’s not always comfortable. Over this winter we’ve experienced growth in our facilities as we’ve opened Phase I of our Surgical Services and Imaging Expansion Project and our new Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care location. Likewise, we’ve seen growth in the addition of new technology, such as our new Linear Accelerator, MRI machine, 3D Mobile Mammography Bus, and DAX software. We’ve grown as we’ve added new physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. Our affiliate, Scotland Family Counseling Center, has grown into

both a larger building and a new electronic medical record software. A large group of our registered nurses are growing this year as they work hard to achieve their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees through our partnership with St. Andrews University.

As you read this issue of *Better Health and Living*, I hope that you will be proud of the growth that Scotland Health, your community healthcare system, is experiencing. I hope also that the challenges currently facing our small towns and rural communities cause you to think about how our communities might grow to overcome those challenges. Finally, I hope that as you enter this new spring you will seek growth in your own health and life.

The Scotland Way is a commitment to be “better tomorrow than we are today.” Thank you for supporting this commitment as we seek growth, not comfort.



Dr. Shelly Lowery, Scotland Health chief medical officer and Dr. Kathleen Macalalag, ambulatory care clinical pharmacist were some of the many presenters during the National Rural Health Day event hosted by Scotland Health.



# The Power of RURAL

Scotland Health hosts state-wide rural health themed event.

**By Deon Cranford**  
*Scotland Health Marketing*

In a vibrant celebration of community and collaboration, Scotland Health proudly hosted the North Carolina National Rural Health Day in November, in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Rural Health and the Foundation for Health Leadership and Innovation. The event's theme, "Homegrown Connections," shone a spotlight on the invaluable contributions of rural healthcare providers and unique challenges faced by communities across America.

National Rural Health Day, observed annually on the third Thursday of November, is a heartfelt tribute to the "Power of Rural." It honors the dedicated individuals, organizations, and community members striving to enhance healthcare in rural areas. Scotland Health was honored to serve as the host site for this significant event, held at the Dulin Center and made accessible virtually to viewers across the state.

The five-hour event kicked off with a moving address

from Dr. Cherry Beasley of UNC Pembroke and the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. In recognition of National Native American Heritage Month, Dr. Beasley encouraged attendees to delve into the rich history and contributions of Native American tribes in North Carolina, setting a reflective tone for the day.

David Pope, president and CEO of Scotland Health, welcomed the gathering with an emphasis on the power of collaboration in overcoming shared challenges. "This is a great opportunity to meet new friends—friends who share the same challenges that we do," Pope remarked. "It's also a chance to reconnect with old friends and share the partnerships we have in southeastern North Carolina. Today is a moment to be proud of our work while acknowledging the hurdles we still face, with the hope that our discussions will benefit those living in rural areas across the state."

Adding to the day's significance, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper delivered a pre-recorded message, praising the Office of Rural Health for its commitment to advancing health equity.



The agenda was packed with informative panels and discussions, starting with a session on Growing the Healthcare Workforce Pipeline, led by Stephanie Nantz, assistant director of the Office of Rural Health. Panelists tackled the pressing issues of recruiting and retaining healthcare professionals in rural settings, sharing innovative strategies for fostering “homegrown connections” that strengthen local healthcare systems.

As the day unfolded, it became clear that the spirit of resilience and collaboration was alive and well among the attendees. Together, they explored solutions, shared stories, and reaffirmed their commitment to improving healthcare in rural communities. Scotland Health’s role as a host for this pivotal event underscored its dedication to fostering partnerships and addressing the unique healthcare needs of rural North Carolina.

“Today is a moment to be proud of our work while acknowledging the hurdles we still face, with the hope that our discussions will benefit those living in rural areas across the state.”

David Pope  
Scotland Health President and CEO

A compelling keynote address from Dr. Thomas Ricketts, Senior Policy Fellow at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, captivated attendees with a call to action: engage with your communities to truly understand their healthcare needs. As he spoke, the importance of technology in accessing health information became clear, underscoring the necessity for accurate, community-specific resources that can empower individuals to take charge of their health.

The atmosphere shifted as Leslie Wolcott, Operations Specialist with the Office of Rural Health, took the stage to lead an interactive session that delved into the social drivers of health (SDOH). These community-level barriers—ranging from economic stability to transportation—can significantly hinder access to care, even when services are available. Wolcott challenged participants to think critically about how these factors could obstruct healthcare delivery, sparking lively discussions and innovative ideas among the guests.

Following this engaging activity, Dr. Shelly Lowery, chief medical officer and vice president of family medicine at Scotland Health, alongside Dr. Kathleen Macalalag, ambulatory care clinical pharmacist, unveiled the Scotland Physicians Network (SPN) Primary Care Integrated Care Team Model. This groundbreaking approach integrates a diverse team of professionals -



David Reese, President and CEO of the Foundation for Health Leadership and Innovation with David Pope, President and CEO of Scotland Health following the National Rural Health Day event.

including diabetes educators, clinical pharmacists, licensed social workers, and community health workers—into patient care. The model aims to streamline access to essential services, alleviate physician burnout, enhance the patient experience, and tackle the complex challenges faced by patients with multiple health needs.

The day culminated in a thought-provoking panel discussion focused on improving community behavioral health care in rural areas, followed by an informative presentation on Medicaid Expansion. This session aimed to enlighten rural communities about new opportunities for healthcare access, fostering a sense of hope and empowerment.

As the event drew to a close, attendees departed with a renewed sense of purpose and actionable insights to elevate healthcare in their home communities. Scotland Health remains steadfast in its commitment to building partnerships and addressing the unique healthcare challenges faced by rural communities.

For those who wish to revisit the event, it is available online at [www.scotlandhealth.org/ruralhealth2025](http://www.scotlandhealth.org/ruralhealth2025). To learn more about Scotland Health and its initiatives, please visit our website. Together, we can create a healthier future for our communities. ■



# A New Era of Care

New Surgical and Imaging Expansions will help Scotland Health 'Survive and Thrive'

**By Deon Cranford and Tracie Stubbs**

*Scotland Health Marketing*

In a pair of momentous occasions for the Laurinburg community, Scotland Health and the Laurinburg Chamber of Commerce recently hosted Open House and Ribbon Cutting ceremonies to unveil the newly expanded surgical and imaging departments at Scotland Memorial Hospital. These celebrations marked the beginning of enhanced healthcare services, with guest speakers from Scotland Health, the Laurinburg Chamber, the County Commissioners Office, and the City of Laurinburg highlighting the significance of this investment for local patients and families.

The expansion project, approved by the Scotland Health Board of Trustees in April 2022, represents a substantial \$64 million investment in the future of healthcare in the region. This initiative includes the construction of an additional 30,000 square feet dedicated to surgical services and imaging, with Phase 1A focusing on the Imaging Department. This expansion has allowed for the enhancement of Ultrasound and Nuclear Medicine areas, as well as the introduction of a cutting-edge \$1.6 million MRI machine.

Dr. Rick Alexander, an orthopedic surgeon and the chief of staff at Scotland Health and Scotland Memorial Hospital, expressed gratitude for the community's support, stating, "While many surrounding rural hospitals have struggled and even closed, thanks to the leadership of the administration, board, and community leaders, as well as the generosity of this community, we have been able to survive and thrive. We're going to be here for the long haul, and this will allow us to recruit highly talented physicians. It is a desirable place to work."

**Surgical Services Expansion: A Commitment to Excellence**  
The surgical services expansion is a significant three-year investment aimed at enhancing healthcare for the communities served by Scotland Health. This initiative ensures that local patients receive the same high level of service they would expect anywhere else in North Carolina.

The new operating rooms are among the finest in the state, equipped with the latest technology and spacious designs that empower surgeons and staff to deliver unparalleled care. This expansion is not just about facilities; it's a testament to Scotland Health's commitment to the health and well-being of its communities.



## Key Features of the Surgical Expansion:

- **14 New Patient Bays in the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU):** Featuring a centrally located nurses station for easy observation and a new isolation room for patients recovering in isolation, this upgrade significantly enhances efficiency in the operating rooms.
  - **Five Brand-New Operating Rooms:** These state-of-the-art ORs accommodate a wide range of surgeries, including robotic-assisted procedures, and are equipped with three monitors for real-time access to patient films, MRIs, or X-rays during surgery.
  - **Enhanced Central Sterile Clean and Decontamination Areas:** Approximately three times larger than the previous space, this area provides dedicated workstations for team members to monitor and track supplies, along with an instrument tracking system linking trays to patients.
  - **Two Fully Functioning Endoscopy Suites:** This expansion allows for increased patient capacity for procedures such as colonoscopies and EGDs, improving overall efficiency and care.
  - **CleanSuite Technology in Each Operating Room:** This innovative technology maintains controlled humidity and temperature, reducing the risk of surgical site infections while enhancing safety for both patients and staff.
- Imaging Department Expansion: Bringing Care Closer to Home**
- **The Imaging Department expansion is part of Scotland Health's ongoing efforts to provide state-of-the-art facilities and technology that match the expertise of its staff and providers. This initiative aligns with the vision of**

becoming North Carolina's premier rural healthcare system, emphasizing that healthcare should be as local and accessible as possible.

A standout feature of the Imaging Department is the new mobile mammography unit, "Mammo On The Go." Outfitted with advanced 3D technology, this unit will travel to outlying areas, providing essential mammography services through pre-scheduled appointments. The unit has received ACR Accreditation, the gold standard in breast cancer detection, following a rigorous inspection process that evaluates personnel qualifications, equipment quality, image quality, and patient protection.

The investment in the mobile unit, totaling \$532,000, was made possible through the generous contributions of the Scotland Memorial Foundation, along with donations from hundreds of individuals, The Cannon Foundation, the NC General Assembly, and the NC Community Foundation.

As Scotland Health continues to expand its services and facilities, the commitment to delivering high-quality healthcare to the local community remains steadfast. "These services align with our vision to be North Carolina's premiere rural healthcare system," shared Scotland Health President and CEO David Pope. "We hope that the addition of these services, along with the many other active projects, will send a clear message that healthcare should be local and equivalent to urban services."

With these exciting developments, Scotland Health is poised to enhance the health and well-being of the communities it serves for years to come. ■



Scotland Health launched its new mobile mammography services in Wagram on January 29, 2025.

# PIONEERING COMPASSION

In observance of Hospice of Scotland County's 40th Anniversary, the organization's co-founder Linda McQueen explains how it all began.

**By Deon Cranford**  
*Scotland Health Marketing*

**I**n the heart of Scotland County, a simple conversation sparked a transformative journey in local healthcare. Linda McQueen, Helen Evans, and Carolyn Williams gathered to discuss a pressing concern: the lack of local care for friends and family members grappling with life-threatening illnesses.

"If you had cancer, you went to Chapel Hill or Duke," McQueen recalled. "You got your treatment there and came back home, but you didn't return with directions. If you experienced pain or anxiety, local doctors were often hesitant to prescribe medications without a clear understanding of your condition."

In May 1985, the groundwork for a new hospice program began, with Linda McQueen stepping into the role of executive director alongside Dr. David Williams as the Medical Director. Both of these dedicated individuals volunteered their time, driven by a shared mission to provide compassionate end-of-life care.

"There was a lot of education needed in the local medical community about pain medicine and end-of-life care," McQueen explained. "That's where having a medical director came in for us. We would get the information from the hospitals – discharge summaries and so forth. Our medical director knew and understood those medications and needs and was more comfortable making those decisions."

By October of that year, Hospice of Scotland County had achieved non-profit status, operating out of a single room at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church and the trunk of a car.

From these humble beginnings, Hospice of Scotland County blossomed into a thriving healthcare agency.

McQueen, a Winston-Salem native with a nursing career that began in 1966, had moved to Laurinburg in 1976 with her husband, Dr. Jim McQueen. Under her leadership, the organization held its first volunteer training program in January 1986, attracting fifty participants eager to make a difference.

By April 28, 1986, Hospice of Scotland County was licensed to provide end-of-life care services, officially commencing operations on May 5. The organization admitted its first patient in June, caring for ten individuals by the end of the year.

The community rallied around the cause, with the inaugural Eaton Charity Golf Tournament held in March 1987, raising \$12,000 for hospice care. Nearly four decades later, this event, which is held annually, has generated almost five million dollars, significantly benefiting patients and their families.

In 1989, Hospice of Scotland County joined forces with Scotland Health Care System, enhancing its resources and solidifying its role as a vital healthcare provider. After a brief transition in leadership, McQueen returned as executive director in 1990, determined to secure Medicare certification for the organization.

"The process involved upgrading our policies and procedures to meet Medicare standards," she shared. With the support of Scotland Health, McQueen successfully achieved certification on December 4, 1991, paving the way for sustainable growth and expanded services.

As the organization flourished, it relocated to a new office on South Main Street in November 1993, necessitated by its growing staff and storage needs. McQueen also saw the organization implement two community service events: a candlelight memorial service in November to honor hospice patients who



had passed away, and Camp Spinoza, a grief camp for children held in June. Both of these services are still being held annually.

In June 1996, the board approved plans for a new hospice facility, culminating in a groundbreaking ceremony for a 7,500 square-foot office building in January 1998. On May 20, 1999, a crowd of over 250 gathered to celebrate the ribbon-cutting of the new administration building, a moment McQueen likened to her daughter's college graduation ceremony she had recently attended—a significant milestone in the organization's journey.

"The ribbon cutting was another graduation of sorts, representing a meaningful transition for the program and staff," McQueen said. "I was blessed to have watched Hospice of Scotland County grow from its infancy to a larger, better service provider. That ceremony was a reminder of that journey."

The vision continued to expand, with plans for a six-bed hospice house, Morrison Manor, taking shape in 2003. Groundbreaking occurred in January 2004, and by March 23, 2005, the facility opened its doors, further enhancing the care available to the community.

After 21 years of dedicated service, McQueen retired as executive director on July 31, 2007, but her commitment to hospice care did not wane. She remained involved in fundraising efforts for the expansion of Morrison Manor, which increased its capacity from six to twelve beds.

Reflecting on her career, McQueen shared, "It was never about dying; it was always about bringing comfort to those in need. The beautiful stories and special moments shared with patients and their families made it all worth it."

Today, McQueen continues to stay connected with Hospice of Scotland County, participating in activities whenever possible. Her legacy of compassion and dedication lives on, a testament to the power of a simple conversation that ignited a movement of care in Scotland County. ■



Photos: (Top) Hospice of Scotland County co-founder Linda McQueen stands in front of the original office door at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. (Bottom) Attending the ribbon cutting ceremony at the McQueen Wing Morrison Manor expansion are (L to R) Gregory Woods, Harry Yeatman, Guy McCook, Dr. Jesse Brunson, Jim Mason, Dr. Jim McQueen, Linda McQueen, Jane Murray, and Bill Hill.

Dr. Aaron Locklear of Scotland Health's  
Pembroke Family Practice was one of the  
first physicians in the country to use the  
DAX artificial intelligence assistant to  
improve quality of care and increase  
productivity.





# Conversation Piece

New Technology Helps Patients and Physicians Make the Most of Office Visits

**By David Hibbard**

*Scotland Health Marketing*

**A**rtificial Intelligence—or AI—has been a hot topic lately in nearly every sector of society. Naturally, the negatives of AI tend to grab headlines, but look a little closer and you'll see AI's power being harnessed for good, as well.

And you don't have to look any further than Scotland Health for an example.

Thanks to Scotland Health's Information Technology relationship with Charlotte-based Atrium Health, more than a dozen Scotland Health medical providers are using cutting-edge AI technology to assist with documenting patient visits. Called DAX, the technology was first piloted by Atrium Health two years ago. This allowed Scotland to become one of the first healthcare systems in the country to use a tool that helps physicians save time while creating a more accurate record of patient visits.

"Our providers who are using it really like it," says Shelly Lowery, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President. "Most small, rural hospital systems like ours wouldn't have access to this kind of technology."

It works like this: After explaining the tool to the patient and getting their permission to use it, the physician clicks a button on their computer to launch DAX. The program then records the entire conversation between the patient and physician, and with the help of AI technology, extracts regular, everyday conversation while focusing on the parts of the discussion centered around the patient's health to create a chart note of the visit.

For now, DAX is only being used in select Scotland outpatient clinics. But the benefits for both the patient and the physician, Dr. Lowery says, are striking.

"It allows the provider to establish eye contact and really listen to the patient," Dr. Lowery says. "It creates a more satisfying encounter for the patient; their doctor isn't staring into the computer screen, and they may feel like their doctor is more engaged with them. The time the doctor spends with the patient feels like quality time."

For physicians, DAX is able to connect certain voice cues with specific medications and diagnoses. For example, if the conversation includes discussion of the patient's A1C hemoglobin readings and their metformin prescription,

the software is smart enough to realize this is related to a diabetes diagnosis and updates the patient's electronic chart to reflect this.

"When you leave the room, the provider mostly has a complete physical note," Dr. Lowery says.

Like teachers, physicians often take work home with them and historically, documenting a patient's visit, either from a voice recording or from notes typed into a computer, has taken up a large percentage of that time.

"It saves time for the physician and cuts down on the amount of work they have to do at home, after hours," says Dr. Lowery. "One of the biggest factors in physician burnout is the amount of work that's still required after a full day of seeing patients. This is a tool that can help prevent that, to give the physician some of their day back."

While no technology is foolproof—Dr. Lowery emphasizes that physicians carefully review every DAX-generated patient note for accuracy, and that the technology allows the physician full control over the final note generated—DAX is gaining popularity because it's highly accurate and easy to use.

Aaron Locklear, MD, a family medicine doctor at Pembroke Family Practice, attests to the accuracy and timesaving benefits of DAX.

"I've been using DAX for about a year now," Dr. Locklear says. "It's taken my productivity to a new level, and it has given me back time with my patients. It's a great tool that allows me to really listen to the patient, have a conversation with them and not pay so much attention to typing notes into the computer during the visit. It gives me more time to discuss the care plan with the patient, and the patient has more time to ask me questions."

In addition to the extra time with patients, Dr. Locklear praises DAX for preserving his personal time and enhancing patient care.

"Documentation (of patient visits) has always been a limiting step in patient care," Dr. Locklear says. "Before I started using DAX, I would have to stay at the office late or work on weekends to get my patient notes done. But DAX is so accurate and thorough, I can review a note and be confident it's correct in one or two minutes. It's helped me be more efficient and brought more ideas to my assessment plan for each patient." ■

# Keeping the **DREAM** Alive

Forty nurses join the new BSN program made possible by a collaboration between Scotland Health and St. Andrews University



Hospice of Scotland County nurses Melissa Smith and Monique Cayton are two of the 40 nurses participating in the new BSN program.



**By Misty McMillan**

*Scotland Memorial Foundation*

**I**t has taken over 30 years, but a lifelong dream for two of our nurses is finally coming true. Melissa Smith and Monique Cayton recently joined 38 other Scotland Health nurses to earn their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN). This opportunity is afforded by our new Legacy Scholarship in partnership with St. Andrews University.

Both Smith and Cayton knew they wanted to be nurses from a young age. They had plans to earn their BSN in

college, but life, as it often does, had other plans.

Smith started working at Scotland Health as a 17-year-old CNA. She went to Richmond Community College and earned her associate degree in nursing. As a first-generation college student her goal was a BSN. Now as a 55-year-old, her dream is more alive than ever, not only for herself, but for her family including her 14-year-old daughter.



“My daughter is learning a lesson in perseverance through me,” said Smith. “I tell her that if she has a dream to go after it now and not to give up.”

Like Smith, Cayton started working at Scotland Health right after college. After achieving her associate degree in nursing, she planned to take a year off from school before earning her BSN.

“It’s been a really long year,” joked Cayton.

Thirty-five years to be exact – in which she raised three boys while working full time. Much has changed in the world of technology and according to Cayton, they didn’t have computers when she was last in school. The 9-month online curriculum can be daunting for some but to aid in the process of learning, the students have formed what they call a “network of nurses.” They keep each other accountable and aware of deadlines.

The nursing program is nine months online with two classes every eight weeks. Smith had started another program and was weighing the financial cost along with the time commitment which was much longer than nine months.

“This program was an answer to prayer,” said Smith. “I dropped the other program I was in and joined this one.”

The Legacy Scholarship is a part of the Greg Wood Legacy Fund created to honor Scotland Health’s previous CEO, Greg Wood, upon his retirement. Scotland Memorial Foundation seeded the fund with \$150,000 through the generous gifts of donors.

This fund currently benefits nurses and surgical techs, but plans are in place to offer educational opportunities to associates working in other allied health fields in the future.

“One of the ways that we try to be better and take care of our people is by investing in our teammates so they

can further their education and reach their professional goals,” said David Pope, CEO and president of Scotland Health.

The Legacy Scholarship helps provide prepaid tuition, books, and fees up to \$12,000 per year. Additionally, recipients can get paid to go back to school, working a reduced schedule so they can maintain their pay and benefit status.

For each of these students in the program, whether they are just starting as a nurse or continuing a 30-year journey, reaching this next level will help them advance their careers not only in position but in salary.

“Adding three letters behind my name is going to make a big difference,” explained Smith.

According to Dr. Tarun Malik, president of St. Andrews University, the program will elevate skills and enable students to deliver higher-quality care to patients while opening pathways for personal and professional growth.

In a few short months, Smith and Cayton will fulfill their lifelong dream of a BSN along with 40 other nurses. Scotland Health is working now on a future partnership with UNC Pembroke for nurses to pursue their Master of Science in Nursing.

Attracting and retaining talented health care workers continues to be a significant challenge for health care systems across the country, and especially for those in rural areas. Programs like the Legacy Scholarship and partnerships with the nursing programs at St. Andrews and UNC Pembroke address this challenge while offering a realistic, attainable path to a nursing degree for people committed to this region.

“The Legacy Scholarship opportunity can literally change the trajectory of our teammates’ and their families’ futures,” said Pope. ■



Twenty-five of the nurses entering the BSN program met for a special celebration held at the Gregory C. Wood building in December.

# ACCESS GRANTED

Scotland Health's newest clinic, Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care, will increase access to primary care and urgent care services.

**By Deon Cranford**  
*Scotland Health Marketing*

**O**n a bright Saturday, February 1, nearly 200 community members gathered to celebrate the grand opening of Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care, a state-of-the-art medical facility that promises to elevate healthcare services in the region. Located at 101 Plaza Road in Laurinburg, this new practice officially began welcoming patients on February 3, marking a significant milestone in local healthcare.

The establishment of Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care is the result of a strategic merger between the well-respected Wolonick Family Practice and Harris Family Practice. This consolidation aims to enhance medical services available to the community, offering urgent care, x-ray, and lab services all under one roof.

Dr. Glenn Harris, a lifelong resident of Scotland County and a dedicated primary care provider, played a pivotal role in this transition. At the opening ceremony, he expressed his deep commitment to the community, stating, "I'm a Lumbee Indian. Where I'm from, we don't move. We always come back. I'm committed to this community because of the people who are here."

Dr. Harris emphasized the importance of the new facility in attracting more patients and showcasing the quality of care available in Laurinburg. "I have enjoyed where I live. I send my family to this health care system, but I think this will allow us to bring other people in."

Highlighting the collaborative spirit of Scotland Health, Dr. Harris remarked, "A building is nothing without the

people inside. A lot of people have a lot of loyalty here, and I am grateful for that." He also acknowledged the contributions of the board of trustees, whose leadership and insight were instrumental in bringing the new practice to fruition.

Laurinburg Mayor Jim Willis also took to the podium to celebrate the opening, drawing attention to the recent expansions at Scotland Memorial Hospital. He contrasted the growth of healthcare in Scotland County with the unfortunate closures of neighboring hospitals in Hamlet and Bennettsville, "Within 40 miles of where we are standing, two hospitals have closed in the last 15 years. Not only do we have one – a state-of-the-art one... but they've added 100 jobs in the last year." Mayor Willis underscored the vital role of Scotland Health in enhancing the quality of life for residents by providing access to quality healthcare.

The new clinic is designed to be a one-stop shop for patients, with Scotland Health's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Shelly Lowery, advocating for streamlined access to essential services. Patients will find lab work, x-ray, and medications available on-site, along with support from social workers, diabetes educators, community health workers, and easy access to other services as well.

"The upgraded facility stands as a testament to Scotland Health's commitment to providing top-notch healthcare services to its patients," Dr. Lowery stated. "With the recent expansion, Scotland Health is well-positioned to accommodate a growing number of patients while maintaining its high standards of care." Currently employing seven providers, the facility has the capacity to welcome at least three more, further enhancing accessibility for those seeking quality healthcare.





Guests gathered during the Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care opening ceremony.

While the Harris Family and Wolonick Family clinics relocated to the new facility, Scotland Urgent Care Center did not. Its location at 500 Lauchwood Drive on the campus of Scotland Memorial Hospital remains open and the service at Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care will give Scotland Health two urgent care locations in Laurinburg, the system's fourth when along with the urgent care centers in Bennettsville and Pembroke.

"This is going to improve the access to care in our community," Dr. Harris said. "We need more access (to urgent care services) and I think the urgent care here will provide the access we need."

The grand opening event concluded with an opportunity for attendees to tour the new facility, meet the healthcare team, and enjoy refreshments and door prizes. For more information about Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care or to schedule an appointment, call 910-276-6767.

As Laurinburg Family Practice and Urgent Care opens its doors, it signifies a new era in healthcare for this rural community, reinforcing Scotland Health's unwavering commitment to improving access to quality care for all residents. ■

# The HEART of the matter

## Addressing Heart Disease in the African American Community

**By Deon Cranford**  
*Scotland Health Marketing*

**T**he recent observances of Black History Month and National Heart Health Month in February highlighted a critical issue—heart disease risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, and obesity are disproportionately prevalent in the African American community.

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease remains the leading cause of death for adults in the United States, with African Americans facing an even higher risk. While cardiovascular disease mortality has steadily declined over the past decade, the prevalence of these conditions remains alarmingly high among Black Americans. They

not only develop heart failure at an earlier age but also experience worse outcomes compared to their white counterparts.

Dr. Olujide Lawal, a cardiologist at Scotland Health, sheds light on the multifaceted reasons behind this disparity. “There are biological factors that make us more susceptible to cardiovascular disease compared to white adults,” he explains. “However, these biological challenges are compounded by socioeconomic factors—poverty, educational disparities, and limited access to quality healthcare.”

### **Addressing the Barriers**

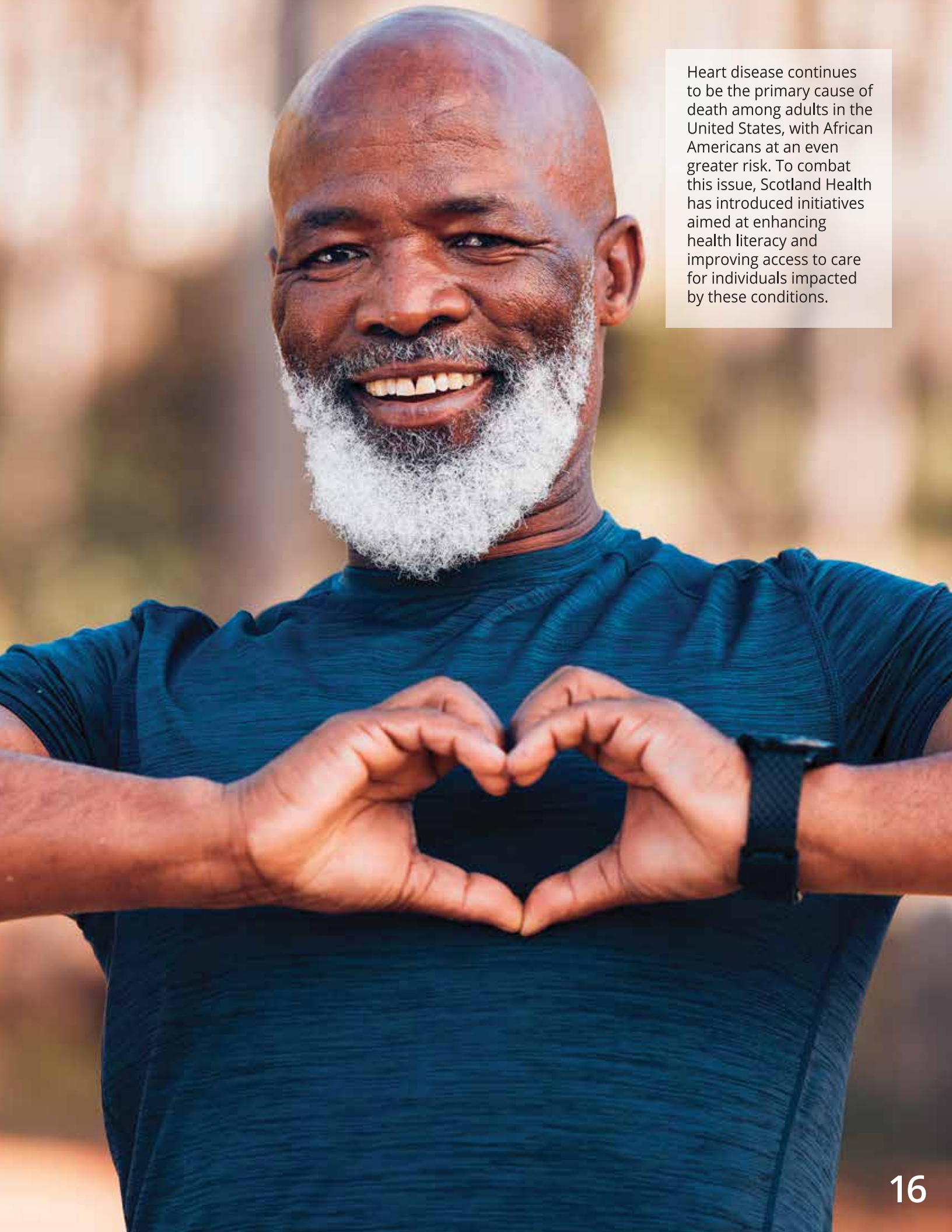
Scotland Health recognizes that effective communication is vital in overcoming these barriers. The organization is committed to

enhancing health literacy and ensuring that existing resources are accessible and understood by the community.

Every three years, Scotland Health conducts a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in accordance with the Affordable Care Act. This process is crucial for identifying the health needs of the community, including significant health priorities and barriers to care. The latest CHNA aligns with Dr. Lawal’s observations, highlighting obesity-related hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease as pressing health concerns in the communities served by Scotland Health.

In response, Scotland Health has implemented strategies to increase health literacy and facilitate access to care for those affected by these





Heart disease continues to be the primary cause of death among adults in the United States, with African Americans at an even greater risk. To combat this issue, Scotland Health has introduced initiatives aimed at enhancing health literacy and improving access to care for individuals impacted by these conditions.

conditions. Initiatives include expanding free community screenings for A1C, lipid panels, blood pressure, and body mass index, as well as ensuring that individuals with abnormal results follow up with healthcare providers.

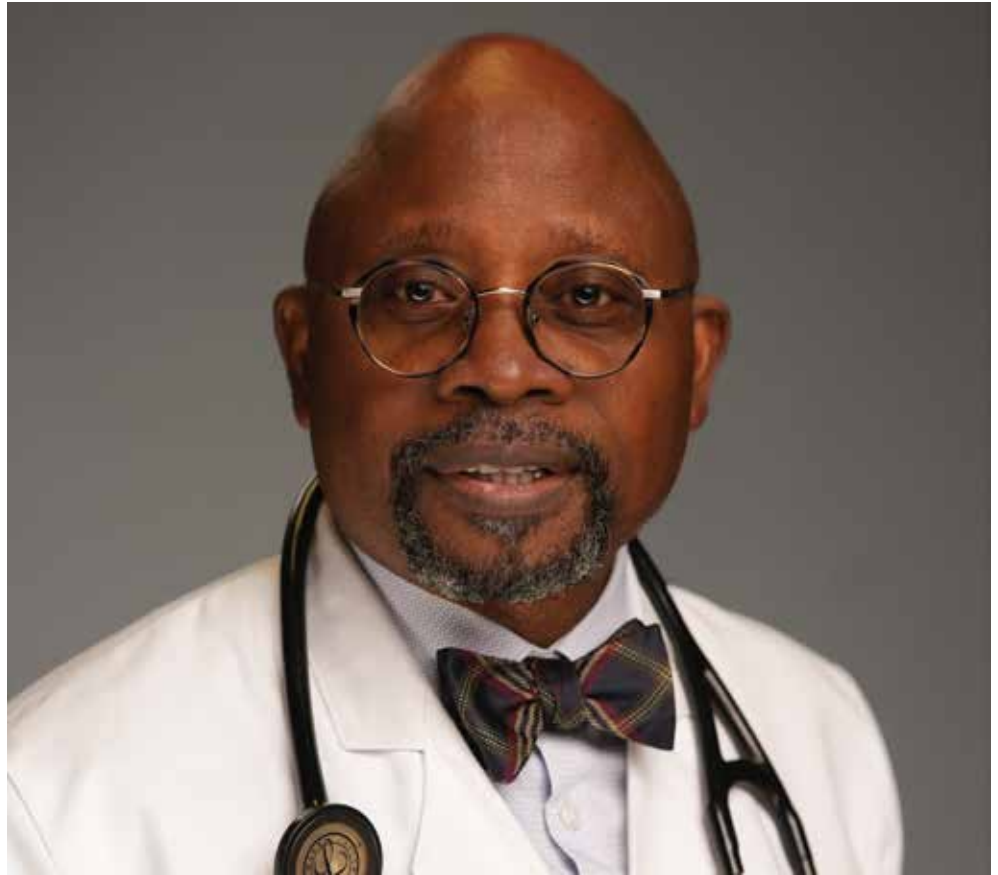
Dr. Lawal emphasizes the importance of regular check-ups and awareness of risk factors. “A great deal of heart disease is environmental,” he states. “It’s about what we do to ourselves. Regular screenings, discussions with your doctor about diet, and maintaining an active lifestyle are crucial for prevention.”

### Reaching Out to the Community

To effectively communicate these messages, Scotland Health is enhancing its outreach efforts through social media, radio, and print media, targeting those who need heart health education the most. A monthly Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) support group has also been established, with its February 2025 meeting drawing the largest turnout yet.

Internally, Scotland Health is fostering a culture of health awareness among its staff through heart health observances and tobacco cessation programs. A special Black History Month program led by local storyteller Tyris Jones served as a reminder of the historical barriers that have impacted the African American community’s access to quality healthcare.

Despite these efforts, many programs remain underutilized. The solution lies in taking information directly to the people. At a recent statewide rural health event, keynote speaker Dr. Thomas Ricketts emphasized the need for healthcare leaders to engage directly with communities. “If you’re in your office, you’re not doing your job,” he asserted, urging a proactive approach to health education.



Scotland Health Cardiologist Dr. Olujide Lawal

Scotland Health has embraced this challenge, offering off-site screenings, vaccinations, and free health events to meet patients where they are. Dr. Lawal advocates for this community-centered approach, particularly in the fight against heart disease. “Prevention is key,” he insists. “As a physician community, we need to do more. We must spread the gospel of primary prevention in the African American community.”

### Building Bridges for a Healthier Future

To amplify its outreach, Scotland Health collaborates with various organizations, churches, and community leaders to develop new health education opportunities or to participate in already existing ones. Its commitment to raising awareness within the African American community is evident through participation in events like the Kuumba Festival and the Voices of Thunder event organized by the Zeta

Phi Beta Sorority. Additionally, Scotland Health supports local initiatives such as the Scotland Youth Development Black History Program and community service projects with Delta Sigma Theta.

As healthcare leaders step out of their offices and into the neighborhoods they serve, they pave the way for a healthier future for all. By building connections and dismantling barriers, Scotland Health is dedicated to improving heart health and fostering a deeper understanding of the historical context that shapes health disparities in the African American community.

For more information on upcoming screening opportunities, educational events, and support groups, please visit [www.scotlandhealth.org](http://www.scotlandhealth.org). However, the quickest and easiest way to begin your heart health journey is to simply schedule an appointment with a primary care provider. ■





# Welcome to the TEAM

Join us in welcoming our newest providers who will help us increase access to care for the communities we serve.



**Santana Ammons, FNP-C**  
**Laurinburg Family Practice & Urgent Care**  
101 Plaza Road  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-276-6767  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/santana-ammons](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/santana-ammons)



**Petros Koutsogiannis, DO**  
**Spine Surgeon**  
OrthoCarolina  
1604 Medical Drive  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-276-4611  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/petros-koutsogiannis](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/petros-koutsogiannis)



**Laura Barber, MD**  
**Scotland Pulmonology and Sleep Medicine**  
601 Lauchwood Drive  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-504-8535  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/laura-barber](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/laura-barber)



**Jonathan Lewis, MD**  
**Radiology**  
Scotland Memorial Hospital  
500 Lauchwood Drive  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-291-7000  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/jonathan-lewis](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/jonathan-lewis)



**Luke Brooks, PA-C**  
**Laurinburg Family Practice & Urgent Care**  
101 Plaza Road  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-276-6767  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/luke-brooks](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/luke-brooks)



**Phoenix Locklear, PA-C**  
**Pembroke Family Practice and Urgent Care**  
412 South Jones Street  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
Phone: 910-521-4462  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/phoenix-locklear](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/phoenix-locklear)



**Kimberly Collins, APRN, FMD**  
**Maxton Family Practice Center**  
1001 W. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Maxton, NC 28364  
Phone: 910-844-4077  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/kimberly-collins](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/kimberly-collins)



**Netsanet Lundahl, MD**  
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[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/netsanet-lundahl](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/netsanet-lundahl)



**Renee' Harvey, CNM**  
**Women's Health Center of the Carolinas**  
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Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Phone: 910-277-3331  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/renee-harvey](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/renee-harvey)



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**Hospitalist**  
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[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/therese-massri](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/therese-massri)



**Aaron Houston, II, MD**  
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[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/aaron-houston](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/aaron-houston)



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[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/john-thompson](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/john-thompson)



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[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/savannah-jones](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/savannah-jones)



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24420 Marlboro Street  
Wagram, NC 28369  
Phone: 910-369-3136  
[scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/mary-ann-todd](http://scotlandhealth.org/provider-profile/mary-ann-todd)

# BRIDGING



## A Campaign for Mental Health Accessibility

**By Deon Cranford and Kirsten Dean**

*Scotland Health Marketing / Scotland Family Counseling Center*

**I**n a world that often feels fast-paced and overwhelming, mental health has become a vital topic of conversation. More individuals are recognizing the importance of mental well-being, which significantly influences overall quality of life. Amidst the expansion of services at Scotland Health, including a new surgical unit and advanced imaging capabilities, the spotlight is also shining on mental health—a crucial yet often overlooked aspect of healthcare.

Scotland Health is dedicated to providing safe, high-quality, and compassionate care that encompasses the whole person—body, mind, and spirit. This commitment is exemplified by the Scotland Family Counseling Center, which has recently relocated from Lauchwood Drive to a new, more spacious facility at 106 McAlpine Lane in Laurinburg. This move allows the Center to better meet the growing demand for mental health services.

The new location features two additional therapy

rooms, a larger play therapy area designed for young clients, a new conference room, and enhanced privacy, situated away from the hustle and bustle of commuters heading to the hospital and nearby clinics.

Since its inception in 2007, Scotland Family Counseling Center has been a cornerstone in addressing the mental health needs of the community. With a team of six licensed clinical mental health counselors, the center offers a wide range of services, including therapy for depression, grief counseling, parenting support, and couples counseling, all tailored to meet individual needs. In 2024 alone, the center provided 3,797 therapy hours, making a profound impact on many lives.

Through the annual fundraising efforts of the Good Samaritan Society (formerly Silent Samaritan), The Scotland Family Counseling Center is currently carrying out its campaign with “Bridging the Gap” as this year’s theme. This year’s campaign is aimed at addressing critical gaps in mental health care within our rural communities. The goal is to ensure that everyone, regardless of financial circumstances, can access the support they need.





Scotland Family Counseling Center's Zachary Bullard (therapist), Donna Kelty (office manager), Amy Dial (therapist), and Tammie Gibson (office assistant) shortly after their move to the new office.

While the center accepts most major insurance providers, including Medicare and Medicaid, it also offers financial assistance to ensure that mental health services remain accessible. “We provide sliding scale fees and utilize client aid funding to assist those who are under or uninsured,” shared Kirsten Dean, executive director of the Scotland Family Counseling Center. “Our community outreach programs connect with underserved populations, helping them find the resources they need and raising awareness for all.”

According to Scotland Health’s recent Community

Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), mental health availability and barriers were identified as priority needs in the communities served. The assessment revealed that many individuals are unaware of where to find care and what services are available. Compounding the issue is the stigma surrounding mental health, resulting in patients not seeking or receiving the care they need.

Increasing mental health literacy and awareness of available services is a key objective of both the CHNA action plan and the Bridging the Gap campaign.

Another focus is on recruiting, retaining, and supporting the professional advancement of licensed counselors to meet the growing demand for mental health services.

“To attract and retain an outstanding counseling staff, we need to offer competitive compensation, professional development opportunities, and a supportive work environment,” explained Dean. “These elements are essential for fostering a dedicated and effective team.”

The campaign also aims to expand play therapy materials for younger clients, creating a nurturing environment where they can explore their feelings and develop coping skills. “Essential play therapy supplies are an ongoing need to help children express their emotions and enhance their emotional well-being,” noted Mary Neil Thompson, therapist and clinical director. “Creating a welcoming space for teens is equally important, allowing them to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and feelings.”

In addition to insurance payments, Scotland Family Counseling Center relies heavily on community support. Charitable giving from local individuals and businesses, the United Way, and various grant organizations, is crucial for expanding programs and providing enhanced, client-centered mental health services to better serve the diverse needs throughout the community.

The Bridging the Gap campaign has a fundraising goal of \$100,000, which will be used to:

- Sustain long-term client aid funding for those who are under or uninsured.
- Help recruit and retain licensed counselors to meet the growing demand for mental health services.
- Support the counseling team through professional development and access to the latest tools and resources.
- Expand play therapy materials for young clients, fostering a safe environment for emotional exploration.
- Create a personalized space for teen clients to feel relaxed and engaged in therapy.
- Increase community outreach efforts to raise awareness of mental health services.

“Philanthropic support helps bridge the gap between the need for mental health services and the resources available,” Dean explained. “It allows us to reach more people, provide higher quality care, and make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve.”

The Bridging the Gap fundraising effort will continue until Thursday, April 3. However, contributions are always welcome throughout the year. “We invite you to join us in ‘Bridging the Gap’ for mental health services,” concluded Dean. “Your donation will have a significant impact and ensure that everyone in our communities has access to the mental health support they need.” ■

## Scotland Family Counseling Center Board of Directors

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Lee Howell  
*Vice Chairman*

Shannon Hamilton  
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Joel Hartwell  
*Treasurer*

Jim Bumgardner  
*Nominating Committee Chair*  
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Kenneth Bethea  
John Campbell  
Rogena Clark Deese  
Margaret Dickerson  
George Ellis  
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Dorothy Tyson

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*Executive Director*

Mary Neil Thompson, MA, LCMHCS, NCC  
*Therapist and Clinical Director*

Amy Dial, MA Ed., LCMHC, NCC  
*Therapist and Assistant Clinical Director*

Charles Wentz, Jr., MA, LCMHCS, NCC  
*Therapist and Chaplain*

Paige Bailey, MA Ed., LCMHC, LCASA, NCC  
*Therapist*

Zachary Bullard, MA Ed., LCMHCA  
*Therapist*

Noran Sanford, MSW, LCSW  
*Therapist*

Donna Keltz  
*Office/Accounting Manager*

Tammie Gibson  
*Office Assistant*

Debbie Quick  
*Office Assistant*

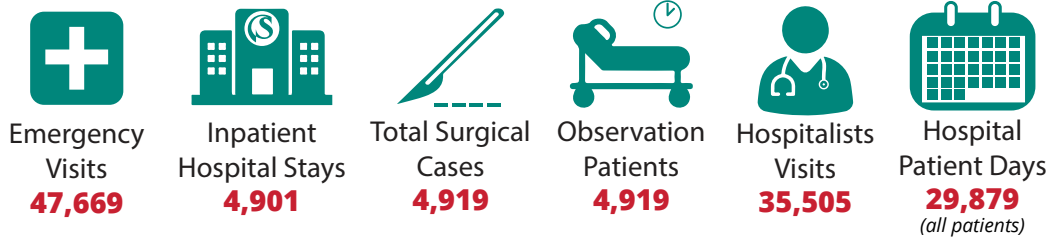


# SCOTLAND HEALTH BY THE NUMBERS

Fiscal Year 2023-24

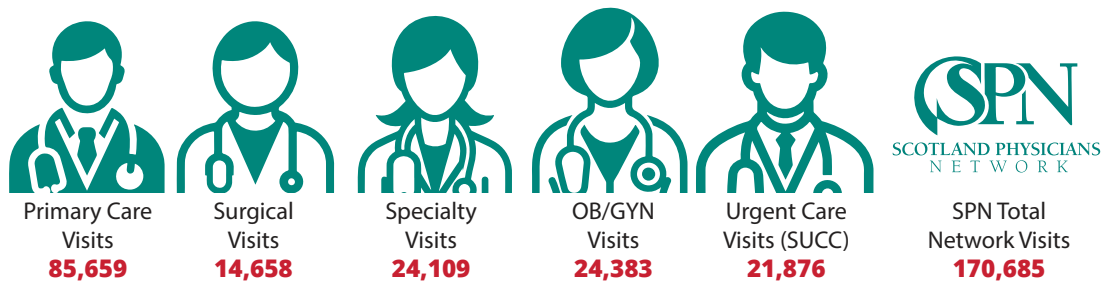
## Scotland Memorial Hospital

October 2023 - September 2024



## Scotland Physicians Network

October 2023 - September 2024



### 2024 COMMUNITY BENEFIT

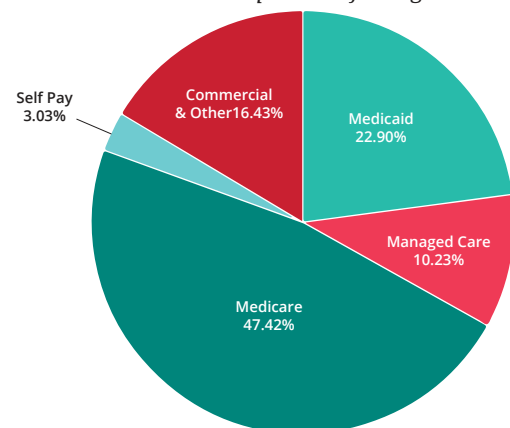
We take care of our patients regardless of their ability to pay.

CHARITY CARE COSTS	\$2,079,000
BAD DEBT AND UNINSURED COSTS	\$10,094,000
BAD DEBT AND UNINSURED COSTS	\$6,285,000
CASH AND IN-KIND DONATION	\$347,000
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT</b>	<b>\$18,805,000</b>

Community benefit as a percent of net operating revenue = 13%  
Standard & Poor's bond rating was upgraded to A-

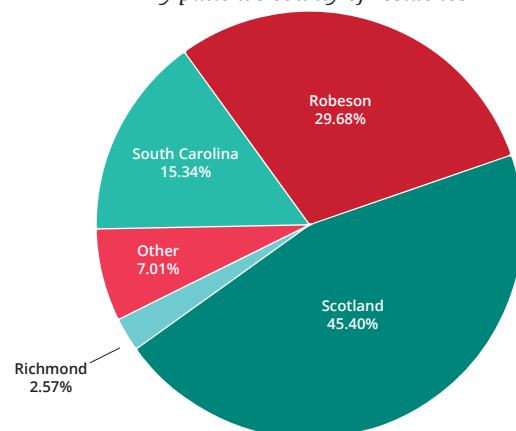
### PAYER MIX

Based on percent of charges



### DISCHARGES

By patient's county of residence





# SCOTLAND MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

## 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

**This year, you helped raise \$1,047,060!**  
That's the second highest grossing year in the Foundation - ever!

### Workforce Pipeline Success



Sherry Hunt Smith, pictured in the middle, has been with Scotland Health for well over a decade. She began working in housekeeping and has continued to grow during her time here. In her heart, she always loved taking care of people. When she heard about the Legacy Scholarship, she saw it as her opportunity to become a nurse. Last year, the Foundation was able to seed the Greg Wood Legacy Fund with \$150,000 because of your generous donations. We've continued to add to this fund over the last year to aid in growing our workforce pipeline. This scholarship pays for education and a stipend to supplement reduced work hours while in school. Three students will graduate from the program this year and seven others will graduate next year. Sherry emotionally told her story to the Foundation Board recently of how this wasn't only a positive change for her but her whole family and their future. Accompanying Sherry are (l) Rachel Moore, and (r) Christi Meggs, VP of HR.



Back in late spring, during Nurses Week, our wonderful nurses gave \$5,000 to the Legacy Fund. Our nurses are generous and caring and truly work to make a real difference in the lives of their teammates and their patients!

### Screenings By The Numbers

**MAMMOGRAM  
SCREENING**  
**124**

Your donations  
paid for 124 mammograms  
totaling over \$25,000

**HEALTH  
SCREENINGS**  
**2,963**

You supported over 63  
community events which  
provided 2,963 screenings  
totaling \$53,374

**COLONOSCOPY  
SCREENING**  
**30**

Almost 30 colonoscopies  
were performed by donations  
totaling \$55,549

### Tartan Club - Employee Giving

Our employees are amazing! Over the last few years, our participation rate in employee giving has soared! In fact, this year, we reached 423 employees who give a payroll deducted gift each month. This effort raised over \$134,000 to help support our internal grants which aids patient efforts, and our CAPE Fund which helps employees who have experienced something catastrophic. These funds helped 23 employees this year.



### The Ritz

Because of you, we raised over \$170,000 to support so many areas across Scotland Health including mammograms, colonoscopies, diabetes, cardiac, support groups, and so much more. We raised almost \$70,000 through our Fund the Need which supports the basic needs of patients including the need

for transportation. Your support is helping remove barriers to health care access for everyone!

### Community Health Outreach

Over the past 2 years, the Foundation has provided over \$250,000 for our "Community Health" program. These funds support our community health workers who help many of our sickest patients with not only access to health care but their basic needs like food, medical supplies, and transportation. These funds also bolster our paramedic partnerships who also provide transportation and wellness checks for our patients.



## Internal Grants

During the year, we have 3 opportunities for departments to apply for grants. Grants are typically awarded based on the greatest patient impact. This year we helped fund things like medication bags to help patients organize their medicines and care packages for patients who may need ear plugs or eye masks to get better sleep. We also helped fund new rehab equipment where a 90-year-old patient regained ease of walking. The Foundation awarded over \$110,000 to these patient-centered areas. During our open application period for outside grants, we also awarded the Laurel Hill Community Center funding for the purchase of equipment to aid in patient rehab and fitness for their community.



## Community Health Events

Each year the Foundation supports numerous health events in each county including our women's health, men's health, cancer center events, pregnancy fair, diabetes, teen fest, Hospice Camp Spinoza, and others. Through your donations, we also provide funding for health screenings at these events. You also support various support groups.



## FUND Run 2024

We expanded our 2024 FUNd Run to include FUNd Fest and you helped us make this the highest grossing race yet at over \$59,000. The proceeds from the run support our cancer patients and our diabetes patients. The Cancer Survivor's Day also partnered with us this year. It was great to have so many people involved and we look forward to celebrating the 20th anniversary of the FUNd Run presented by Service Thread on April 26, 2025.



## Mammo on the Go

In 2023 you helped raise \$532,000 to purchase the new 3D mobile mammography equipment for our mobile bus. Last year, we raised additional funds to help pay for mammograms for those who are uninsured or under-insured. So far 333 mammograms have been completed on our new bus. The Foundation provided financial support for 124 mammograms, 5 of which had findings for additional testing. Your dollars are making a real difference! Thank you to all our partners in our Bling Out competition, especially our winner Michelle Ellerbe of Carolina Solution for raising over \$5,000.



## Jersey Mike's Day of Giving

Each year our supporters in Laurinburg, Pembroke, and surrounding areas show up for Jersey Mike's Day of Giving. In 2024, we raised over \$24,000! These funds support the needs of our cancer patients including wigs, gas vouchers, medical supplies, and more. Special thanks to the Gibson family for always thinking of us on this special day and for the hundreds of you who take time to make a difference with the purchase of a sub. Join us this year on March 26!



## Scholarships

Because of your generosity, we were able to provide \$18,000 in scholarships to local high school students who are entering a health care field as well as employees looking to further their careers.





## Highland Society 2024

The Highland Society was created to thank and recognize those individuals, businesses, and organizations that made significant contributions of \$1,000 or more in the last calendar year to improve and enhance healthcare for the communities we serve. Thank you for giving!

Mrs. Jamie Adams+  
Mrs. Nancy Adcock  
AJ Gallagher Insurance  
Alex Brown - Division of Raymond James  
Ms. Brandy Alfredson+  
Angelo's Care Home, Inc.+  
ApolloMD  
Atrium Health Foundation  
Baker Roofing+  
Mr. David Bales  
Mr. Marc and Mrs. Brandy Baysek  
Bill Evans Company/Trophy World  
Mr. Bruce and Mrs. Katilda Blackmon  
Ms. Sonja Boles  
Mrs. Tracy Bowman  
Brady's Flowers  
Mr. Mark R. Brown  
Cape Fear Valley Health  
Mr. Danny and Mrs. Carolina Caddell  
Ms. Emory Campbell+  
Ms. La'Toscha Campbell+  
Dr. Ralph E. and Mrs. Sandra Carter, III  
Charlie Wallace - State Farm Insurance+  
Charlotte Radiology  
The Christman Company  
Mr. John C. and Mrs. Elizabeth Cooley  
Mr. Steven "Glen" and Mrs. Terri Cowan, PA  
Crothall Healthcare  
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Mrs. Patricia Dial  
Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Margaret Dickerson  
Domtar Tatum Converting  
Mrs. Tina Driggers  
Duke Cancer Network  
Dr. Ronald Dupler and Mr. Blake Howell  
Dysphagia & Voice Therapeutics PLLC+  
Earl's Electrical, Heating & Air Conditioning  
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Mr. LeQuinton Ellerbe+  
Ms. Nancy Ellerbe+  
The Honorable Craig and Mrs. Patricia Ellis  
Mr. James and Mrs. June C. Ellis  
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Firsthealth of the Carolinas  
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Mr. Brian and Mrs. Farrah Foshay  
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Mr. James and Mrs. Claire Graham  
Mr. Tyler and Mrs. Whitney Graves+

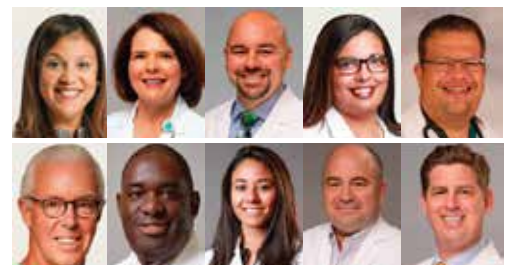
Mr. Jerry Griffith and Mrs. Juanita Swinney-Griffith  
Dr. Debby Hanmer  
Mr. David and Mrs. Ellen Harling  
Dr. Glenn R. and Mrs. Becky Harris  
Hasty Realty  
Mr. Raymond E. and Mrs. Chaty Herring  
Mrs. Donna Hicks  
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Mrs. Tammy Holloway  
Mr. Tim and Mrs. Beatrice "Bebe" Holt  
Mr. Hampton and Mrs. Phyllis Hubbard  
Dr. H.H. "Bear" and Mrs. Rebecca Hughes, III  
Mrs. Karen Jenkins  
Jersey Mike's Subs  
Mr. Allen and Mrs. Meg Johnson  
Mr. Jeremy and Mrs. Bess Johnson  
Mr. Todd and Mrs. Robin Jones  
Mr. Walt and Mrs. Laura Jones  
Lab Corp of America Holdings+  
Dr. Sohail and Mrs. Asma Lateef  
Dr. Olujide and Dr. Gani Lawal  
Mr. Alan and Mrs. Wanda Livingston  
Ms. Crystal Locklear  
Mrs. Judy Locklear  
Mrs. Rebecca Locklear-Ferron  
Mrs. Tamra Lowry+  
Lumbbee Guaranty Bank  
Lumbbee Tribe of North Carolina  
Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Angela Mackey  
Mr. Dwight B. "Bruce" and Dr. Lisa Mansur  
Mabry's Drug and Home Care  
Marlboro Academy+  
Marlboro County General Hospital Foundation  
Marty Wright Home Sales  
Mrs. Lynn Massey  
McCulloch England Architects  
Mr. Beacham and Mrs. Lynn McDougald  
Mr. Allen and Mrs. Jane McLaurin  
Mr. John McLaurin and Dr. Autumn Lauzon  
Ms. Jill McLester+  
Mr. William and Mrs. Misty McMillan  
Mr. Brian and Mrs. Konni McMurray  
Mr. Hubert and Mrs. Christi Meggs+  
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The Morgan Foundation, Inc.  
Moore Floors, Inc.  
Mr. Chris and Mrs. Grace Murray  
Dr. Douglas and Mrs. Kathrine Nederostek  
Mr. Ken and Mrs. Carol Nichols  
Ms. Marcie Nor  
North Carolina Healthcare Association (NCHF)  
NSG (Pilkington North America, Inc.)  
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OrthoCarolina- Scotland  
Mrs. Lillian Owens  
Ms. Caroline Oxendine

Parker, Smith, & Feek, Inc.  
Pinehurst Surgical Vascular Surgery & Vein Care  
Mr. Charlie and Mrs. Sissy Pittman  
Mr. David and Mrs. Jeannie Pope  
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Precision Contractors, Inc.  
Priority One Home Healthcare  
Mr. William R. and Mrs. Terri Purcell, II  
Rhetson Companies Inc.+  
Richmond Community College Foundation  
The Honorable Christopher Rhue and Dr. Jennifer Isenhour  
Robeson Health Care Corporation  
Dr. Jonathan D. and Mrs. Annette Rowson  
Scope Anesthesia of North Carolina, PLLC  
Scotia Village  
Scotland Christian Academy School+  
Scotland County Economic Development Corp.  
Scotland County Tourism Development Authority  
Scotland Health Care System Auxiliary  
Scotland Health Care System  
Scotland Motors, Inc.  
Scottish Pines Rehabilitation and Nursing Center  
Service Thread Co.  
Mr. Wilbur "Chip" G. and Mrs. Evelyn B. Shytle, Jr.  
Dr. John A. Smid  
Mrs. Karen Smith  
Ms. Mary W. Smith+  
Mr. Paul J. Smith, Jr.  
Dr. Tala Parsons Smith  
Southernway Catering  
Mr. Lucien and Mrs. Patricia St. Onge  
Ms. Rebecca Taylor+  
Mr. Charles E. and Mrs. Anne Todd  
Mr. James and Mrs. Julieann Todd  
Town of Pembroke+  
Trinity Schools Leadership+  
Truist  
Mr. William and Mrs. Dorothy Tyson  
UNC Pembroke Athletics Department  
Valley Radiology+  
Mr. Michael and Mrs. Diane Vinson  
Ms. Virginia Voss  
Wade S. Dunbar Insurance Agency  
Mr. Cecil and Mrs. Nancy Walker  
Mr. Matthew and Mrs. Samantha Walker  
Mr. Travis Wallace+  
Mr. Joe Warner  
Ms. Jennifer Wilkes  
Dr. Jeremy and Mrs. Sandra Wilkes  
Mr. Bradley M. and Mrs. Sarah Williams  
Mr. Andrew and Mrs. Emily Womble  
Mr. Greg Wood and Ms. Janet Smith  
Z.V. Pate Foundation, Inc.

+denotes a new member.

### Physicians in Philanthropy

Any Physician who gives \$2,500 or more each year is honored as our Physicians in Philanthropy partner. We celebrate the work they do every day as well as their financial generosity during the Physician and Advanced Practice Provider appreciation social held in the spring. We have amazing doctors and especially appreciate the financial support from these Physicians In Philanthropy Partners: Dr. Ashleigh Freeman, Dr. Jennifer Isenhour, Dr. Andrew LePorte, Dr. Shelly Lowery, Dr. Douglas Nederostek, Dr. Brian Parkes, Dr. Jonathan Rowson, Dr. Tala Parsons Smith, Dr. Theodore Stamatakis, and Dr. Jeremy Wilkes as well as all the Physicians and APPs who support our efforts.





# Scotland Health

# UPCOMING EVENTS

[www.scotlandhealth.org/upcoming-events](http://www.scotlandhealth.org/upcoming-events)



## FREE Pregnancy Health Fair

For decades, Scotland Health has recognized the growing health needs of women of all ages in our community. These issues continue to be a top priority for us and we invite you to show your support for these women as well by partnering with us on May 15, 2025 at 5:00 pm for our Pregnancy Fair located at the Dulin Center.

To register or if you need additional information about the Pregnancy Fair, please call 910-291-7810.



For an up-to-date list of upcoming events, scan the QR code or visit [scotlandhealth.org/upcoming-event](http://scotlandhealth.org/upcoming-event)

## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual HOSPICE OF SCOTLAND COUNTY GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Hospice of Scotland County's 39th Annual Golf Tournament, will take place on April 8 and 9, 2025, at Scotch Meadows Country Club. Each day will act as its own tournament featuring a shotgun start at noon, many in-competition games, meals, and an invitation to the closing ceremony dinner providing an exciting event for all participants. This year, Golf Pride is back as the event's lead sponsor and organizer, a partnership that has been in place since the tournament's inception in 1987. Proceeds benefit patient and bereavement services. For more information, call (910) 276-7176 or visit [scotlandhospice.org](http://scotlandhospice.org)



Join us for the 20th Annual FUNd Run, presented by Service Thread, and support Scotland Memorial Foundation's work to improve health and wellness in the communities it serves! Not only will you be doing something good for your own health, but you'll help raise critical resources to benefit patients and families.

### This includes providing assistance for:

- The Diabetes Education Fund at Scotland Health Care System &
- Scotland Cancer Treatment Center's Patient Support Fund

### Registration:

- 5K - \$35
- 5K (College Student) - \$20
- 5K (K-12 Student Challenge) - \$15
- 1 Mile Walk (all ages) - \$15



## SCOTLAND REGIONAL HOSPICE CAMP SPINOZA



Camp Spinoza will take place from June 6-8, 2025 at Monroe Camp and Retreat Center in Laurel Hill, NC. Camp Spinoza is a weekend of fun, exploration and sharing for kids between the ages of 5 and 13 who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. Offered free of charge, Camp Spinoza allows children to enjoy traditional camp activities with trained counselors, while also providing opportunities to share their emotions and feelings about grief with others who are experiencing the same thing. For more information or to register, please call Hospice of Scotland County at (910) 276-7176 or visit [scotlandhospice.org](http://scotlandhospice.org)





# STILL GROWING

In a significant step forward for healthcare in rural North Carolina, Scotland Health is thrilled to announce the commencement of construction on a cutting-edge facility. Strategically located on Lauchwood Drive, directly across from Scotland Memorial Hospital, this new facility is set to enhance the delivery of healthcare services in the region.

This new facility will also serve as the new home for Scotland Surgical and GI, expanding access and capacity to better meet the needs of local communities. The increased office and procedure space will support the growth of Scotland's advanced gastroenterology team.

Spanning an impressive 16,000 square feet, the new center will feature 20 exam rooms, six physician offices,

and modern procedure rooms designed to elevate patient care and improve operational efficiencies. This investment in infrastructure reflects Scotland Health's commitment to providing high-quality healthcare services tailored to the needs of its patients.

With a projected completion date in late summer 2026, Scotland Health is eager to unveil the enhanced services and opportunities that this state-of-the-art facility will bring to the region. As construction progresses, the community can look forward to further updates on this exciting development, which promises to transform the landscape of healthcare in rural North Carolina. Stay tuned for more news as Scotland Health continues to lead the way in innovative healthcare solutions.