





# **A NOTE FROM JOHN**



**//**Your support creates growth and change at Bethesda and in the lives of those we serve.

Dear Friends,

At Bethesda Health Clinic, growth and change are the constants of our ministry.

Each year brings new challenges and opportunities, and while we are always focused on meeting current needs, we must also keep an eye on the future and the growth and change that will inevitably occur.

Your support over the past 20 years has allowed us to grow and meet the changing needs of our community. On the following pages, you will see the rapid growth we have experienced, just this past year, with an expansion into pediatric services, a new location in Lindale, and finally, a third Hangers of Hope store.

While healthcare is always changing, what doesn't change is Bethesda's need for your support.

Statistics make it clear that the number of people in our community who are either uninsured

or underserved has continued to grow, and most likely will continue to do so. Our patients are your friends and neighbors, and their stories throughout this newsletter share the life-changing hope they received at Bethesda, because of you.

We hope you are just as excited as we are about welcoming Dr. Danny Price and his team to the Bethesda family, and to help fund pediatric services with our new Hangers of Hope store.

Your support creates growth and change at Bethesda and in the lives of those we serve. We are grateful for your support today and for sharing our vision for the future.

With Gratitude, Dr. John English





DR. DANNY,

Bethesda

BETHESDA PEDIATRICS MEDICAL DIRECTOR



The Price Family: Benjamin, Dr. Danny, Lori & Abigail

Dear friends:

I am honored to bring our kids and babies into the Bethesda fold and become part of your family.

I have loved being a part of the services at St. Paul, from pediatric care to the food pantry, for the past fifteen years, but I am so excited about the future and to be able to focus exclusively on medical care.

The community has done an amazing job of growing and nurturing Bethesda. Our team is small, but we bring lots of energy, and we are all excited to get to know each of you better.

God took me on quite a path to bring me to this clinic. In 1996,

I joined as a new doctor at a pediatric clinic in Tyler, where the other doctors were already volunteering every other Friday at St. Paul. It was natural for me to join in. But it was just an "I did my good deed" thing for me, so God had to take me to India to see the needs of the poor all around us. My wife, Lori, and I took our 1-year-old daughter Abigail, and began a four-year journey in India where our son, Benjamin, was born. There we lived in a village where many people survived on just \$1 a day.

On returning to Tyler in 2007, I found my way back to St. Paul, where I was able to care for underserved kids full time. Today, Lori and I lead a class of young adults at our church, Grace Community (UB Campus). Travel is still a love of ours, but we also enjoy clearing brush and briars, and listening to coyotes at night in our new home out in the country near Lindale.

If I haven't met you, I hope to see your smiling face and shake your hand soon.

With Gratitude, Dr. Danny

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Bethesda Pediatrics was born in 2023 after coming together with St. Paul Children's Medical and Dental Services. Because of your support, we are able to extend our ministry and offer services for kids ages newborn and up.

Services will continue at the former St. Paul location, on E. Richards St., close to Bethesda! Your generosity will help us serve the whole family, as we have seen that most of our patients have children or grandchildren at Bethesda Pediatrics.

### Bethesda Pediatrics Services:

- Health and nutrition education
- Immunizations
- Minor acute care
- Prescription assistance
- Preventive checkups
- Referrals to specialists
- Sick visits
- Foster kids care
- Medical home for
- special needs children
- Full-service dental

Scan the QR code for a special video from John and Danny about Bethesda Pediatrics.



### Meet KT Helgesen, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC

Kathleen "KT" Helgesen is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, certified in primary care. She completed her nurse practitioner degree from Duke University in 2008. She also completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from California State University, Fresno in 2017.

She completed her undergraduate degree at Point Loma Nazarene University. She has a passion for missions, children and travel! She has been to 39 countries across 6 continents.

She is bilingual in English and Spanish. She brings experience in patient care, leadership, and education, having taught at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels.

She strives to find opportunities to not only meet patient's physical needs, but also to check in on their emotional and spiritual needs, too.

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# BETHESDA PEDIATRICS-CARING FOR A Whole Famil

Carrie & Kason's Story

Carrie knew she wanted to be a foster mom but never expected, after six months of prayers, that she would gain her 2-yearold nephew through kinship placement by the state.

She graciously looked after her nephew, Kason, as a baby and thought about how special and extraordinary he was - created in the image of God. She knew he was special but had no idea in just a few years, she would become his adoptive mom.

Carrie gained temporary custody of Kason within six months of him being in her home. She often worried, as she watched her brother and sister-in-law continue down a self-destructive path, for Kason's future and well-being if they ever got him back.

On August 25, 2022, Carrie became Kason's legal mother, and for the first time, she became a mother. She was ecstatic but also anxious. She had no "Both clinics helped so much in praying over me, helping with depression and anxiety," she said. "They helped us get through our season of growth and change."

idea where to start, and suddenly, she had someone else depending on her. Her health was now a priority.

At the time, as a foster/kinship mom, Carrie looked to St. Paul Medical and Dental, now Bethesda Pediatrics, for Kason's medical needs. Once Carrie became Kason's adoptive mom, she knew she needed to take better care of herself. Panicking because she didn't have health insurance, she sought out Bethesda Health Clinic. "Both clinics helped so much in praying over me, helping with depression and anxiety," she said. "They helped us get through our season of growth and change."

One of the first places she took Kason was to see Dr. Danny (Price), the lead pediatrician at Bethesda Pediatrics.

"Dr. Price has helped a lot with Kason throughout the last few years," Carrie said. "It was a wonderful experience the first time I took him there, and Dr. Danny was so patient and understanding and gave us a lot of grace."

Dr. Price helped Carrie ensure Kason's developmental needs were met, and the doctors at Bethesda helped Carrie with her anxiety.

At both clinics, the doctors offered a prayer for her and her son, which was one thing she said that set them apart.



When Bethesda Pediatrics started, it was already a designated **"foster care center of excellence."** There are currently only nine clinics in Texas with this designation, with the next closest one in Houston.

Bethesda Pediatrics staff and providers are trained to treat children with multiple adverse childhood events (ACEs), including trauma, abuse, neglect, and other issues. Bethesda Pediatrics provides trauma-informed care that meets the physical and emotional needs of their patients. They currently serve many foster families, as well as two local group homes for boys.





## Congratulations Bethesda & Hangers of Hope!

# WINNER OF Best Christian Workplaces!





## Kerwin McMonigal no longer allows his past to define his future:

Because of your generosity, he has a new smile to match the transformation of his life.

Kerwin spent five years learning from his mistakes in prison. Once he was released for parole, he knew that he needed to make a change. He wanted to completely start over

Kerwin was accepted as a student at the Calvary Bible Institute.

"I wanted to go somewhere where I could grow spiritually and get connected to the Lord," Kerwin said. "I was accepted there and it allowed me to grow in character. It gave me a good work ethic to transition into the free world, and it has been a blessing to be saturated in the word of God."

But one thing was holding Kerwin back -- his smile.

He had six teeth missing; some from extractions when he couldn't afford a root canal, and a few in the front were kicked out from a fight.

Kerwin went to one dental clinic and was quoted \$12,000 just to replace the



front two teeth. After that, he found Bethesda.

Your kindness gave Kerwin a dental home, caring staff, and an affordable dental treatment plan.

He was able to get a partial denture to replace his missing teeth, just in time for his Calvary Commission graduation and his wedding!

> Kerwin says the experience at Bethesda was "amazing" and he is no longer ashamed or depressed because of his inability to smile.

Because of you, Kerwin is now thriving. He has been out of prison for 18 months, graduated with a diploma in Biblical Studies and is now running his own carpentry business. An even bigger blessing was that Kerwin had a new smile for his wedding this past August!

Thank you for giving Kerwin a new start, a new smile and new hope!

Kerwin after



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### Nurturing your legacy for a healthy future.

# Your story. Your values. Your Legacy. Your gift to Bethesda Health Clinic.

Many of you have supported Bethesda Health Clinic for years, if not decades. You are our friends, and your story is a part of the Bethesda story. You share the values of Bethesda, our commitment to excellence, reverence for Christ, our deep and sincere caring for our friends and neighbors. Our life-changing mission is important to you, and your annual generosity is important to Bethesda.

You can create a legacy of your commitment to Bethesda by making a gift in your will.

By planning today to give tomorrow, you can support Bethesda's mission forever.

There are many ways to make a gift to Bethesda in your will. After planning to care for your family, you may wish to make an outright gift of cash or securities or a percentage of your estate. You may want to consider donating a house or piece of property.

You can make a general gift or designate your gift for a specific program at Bethesda. You may want to consider a gift to Bethesda's endowment.

A gift in your will is a way to tell your story, share your values, and create a legacy at Bethesda Health Clinic that will live forever.

For more information on planning today to give tomorrow, contact Diane Thomason, Chief Development Officer, at dthomason@bethesdaclinic.org.

### Legacy Givers: Susan and Steve Smith

"We believe in what Bethesda does and want to see them grow. We want the organization to have a lot of long-term stability and this is a great way to help."

> Susan & Steve Smith, pictured with their new granddaughter, Mary Eleanor



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# Your support has been life-saving for Tammy Moore.

A single mom with a big heart, Tammy loves her "career with a purpose," as she calls it, at Rahab's Retreat & Ranch. She has worked there for five years and loves her job, but as a smaller nonprofit, health insurance is not provided.

Tammy came to Bethesda for women's health, and was worried when her pap smear results came back abnormal.

Without Bethesda, Tammy says, "I probably would have gotten cancer," because of the expensive fees to do further testing without insurance.

Your generosity gave Tammy the ability to have the procedure done at Bethesda for just \$100 - something that would normally cost \$3,000.



"They don't treat you like you're low-income, and I love that," she said. "I feel like I have a normal insurance plan. I have always had to have more than one job and I still can't afford health insurance."

Tammy calls Bethesda a "blessing," and is able to refer graduates from Rahab's Retreat to Bethesda so that they can also receive medical care.

Tammy was thrilled when she was able to have a cyst removed that had been bothering her for years.

### "I love Bethesda," she said. "They are just amazing."

Thank you for being the light for Tammy!

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Partnership is one of our core values and we love partnering with other nonprofits to provide care for their clients and staff. **Rahab's Retreat & Ranch** is a voluntary, faith-based program serving victims of sex trafficking and women in the sex industry. They serve women of all socioeconomic backgrounds as well as women who have children. Rahab's also serves those who face a combination of life-controlling issues such as self-harm, drug and alcohol addictions, depression, unplanned pregnancy, and homeless and broken women.



# With Bethesda, Elizabeth Huerta took control of her life again.



Nine years ago, Elizabeth Huerta went into the emergency room in Tyler and was treated by Jerry Brown, a physician's assistant.

He was so nice and explained everything. After that experience, she always wondered about him, and if he was practicing somewhere else. As luck would have it, she ran into him again at a different clinic, and was thrilled.

Jerry, a volunteer at Bethesda Clinic, suggested Elizabeth (and her husband) become patients at Bethesda. She was uninsured

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and could benefit greatly from low-cost, affordable co-pays.

Jerry became her provider at Bethesda and, with his help, Elizabeth began to truly understand how to improve her health.

"I have been borderline diabetic for years, and he would tell me what I needed to do to avoid it, but I wouldn't do it," she said. "Eventually it caught up with me."

Elizabeth realized she needed to make a change. With your support, she received the tools needed to get healthier. "Without Bethesda, it would be very bad because they have helped me so much," she said. "I wouldn't be able to afford my insulin, period. I have to have one syringe a week and the cost, without insurance, is around \$800. At Bethesda, I get it for free."

Elizabeth has lost close to 90 pounds since her diagnosis and feels better than ever!

"The scale used to be my worst enemy and now I can't wait to see how much I have lost," she exclaimed.

Because of you, Elizabeth has gained her life back and is able to continue to perform her job operating a lawn-care business with her husband.

Elizabeth is grateful to have the ability to continue to work and says thank you to Bethesda donors for being a blessing!

# **Opening soon!**

# Help us celebrate our THIRD Hangers of Hope location!

2125 S Broadway Ave, Tyler, TX 75701 (former Stein Mart location)



NPFNING

### Have larger donations that need a helping hand?

Our pick-up services are here to make the process a breeze. Simply schedule a pick-up, and our friendly team will come right to your doorstep. It's convenience and kindness rolled into one.

Receive an exclusive coupon in your email every month and access to special events



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OPENING





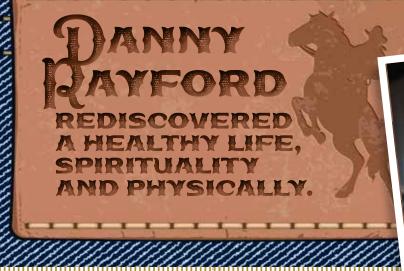


Christmas

**EXTRAVAGANZA** 

Shop for tons of Holiday decor and more at the WSW Loop and Troup Hwy locations only!







At first glance, Danny Rayford looks like your average cowboy. He lives a humble life, spending most of his time working at Cross Brand Cowboy Church, mentoring others and "cowboying," but below the surface lies a testimony about how God redeemed his life and saved him from the throws of addiction.

Danny reveals his demons were "Budweiser, drugs and wild women," but today, his life has completely changed. He says,"That's not me anymore."

Danny grew up in East Texas and graduated from John Tyler High School in 1976.

"I started using drugs at age 16," he said. When he turned 19, he advanced to using harder drugs.

He started hanging out with the wrong crowd and eventually landed in prison, where he spent 22 years reflecting on the decisions he had made, and how to move forward.

In 2010, right after he got out of prison on parole, his mother became very ill and almost died.

"I got down on my knees, gave my life to Jesus and begged him for my mom's life," he said. "He saved her and now Jesus has a good hold on me."

Although Danny started a new life with Christ, his physical health was in shambles.

A friend told him to go to Bethesda Health Clinic, a place Danny had never heard of before. Without insurance and without much money, he had few options.

Your support helped Danny start over, and provided medical care that saved his life.

After years of drug abuse and rough living, Danny had major health issues, including Hepatitis C, high blood pressure and teeth that were in pain.

Hepatitis C is an infection caused by a virus that attacks the liver and leads to inflammation. Danny most likely contracted the virus by sharing



needles or from unsterile tattoo equipment used in prison.

At Bethesda, your support gave Danny access to treatment for Hep C. The injections would have cost him \$300 per week for one year, but he was able to get it at Bethesda for free.

Danny was met with open arms at Bethesda, and he was grateful for the treatment. But there was another thing he desperately desired: to be able to smile.

With only three teeth, he could barely eat and never wanted to smile. He only had one tooth on the top.

"I had to eat soft foods," he said. "I brushed my teeth a lot, but with the fighting and the drugs, they were destroyed. One time in prison I had 12 teeth pulled at one time. The dentist didn't even numb it."

At Bethesda, Danny received dental work that reconstructed his mouth and gave him a completely new smile.

You helped Danny become whole.

Danny tells people to go to Bethesda because they helped him and they're "good folk." Having the ability to smile has helped him "tremendously."

"I never smiled before, and I talked with my mouth shut," he said. Now he smiles all the time.

Danny works with lots of people at his job at Cross Brand Cowboy Church, where he serves as the Stephens Minister, groundskeeper and runs a group called Mending Fences, similar to the program known as Celebrate Recovery. Twenty years ago, he would have never imagined the life he has now.

"I told the Lord to take my addictions, and it's become part of my testimony," he said. Danny has recently turned 65 and no longer uses Bethesda's services, but he is forever grateful for the role Bethesda played in his recovery. "They treated me just like everybody else," he said.

### "THEY READ MY CHART AND KNEW MY HISTORY, BUT THEY TREATED ME LIKE A HUMAN."

Your generosity has transformed Danny's life and impacted many others through his testimony.



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Her passion and faithful service are the backbone of our new clinic in Lindale.



We are open limited hours. Please cell 903-303-5910 mati info@bethesdaclimc.org for more information. <image>

After spending 21 years as a missionary in Haiti and Dominican Republic, Cheryl Shipley wanted to do something impactful in her own community.

One day at her church, Grace Community, she learned about Bethesda Health Clinic and made the decision to volunteer.

Cheryl is an RN and has now volunteered for Bethesda for over 14 years! She lives in Lindale, where she assists with the Bethesda satellite clinic and serves her community.

"I really believe in what Bethesda is doing to help people who would otherwise fall through cracks," Cheryl said. "I want to make healthcare possible for them, and by volunteering I can help cut the costs for the clinic to make the service possible."

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Cheryl's passion and faithful service to help others was a tremendous help in relocating the Lindale clinic to its new location in The Journey Center.

The Journey Center is a multifaceted community ministry resource facility committed to equipping people to grow, change, and become everything God created them to be.

Bethesda joins other nonprofits in the facility to serve members of Lindale and the surrounding communities.

At this new facility, Bethesda will be able to see more patients and expand within East Texas.

Cheryl explains that many patients need Bethesda, not just for the occasional illness, but to help manage ongoing chronic conditions. "The patients are thankful that they find such good medical care," she said. "We provide high-quality medical care, and that's one reason why I am supportive."

Cheryl, along with many other Lindale churches and donors, contributed significantly to make Bethesda's new location possible. We are so grateful to Cheryl for her years of committed service to our patients!

# THANK YOU!

To all the volunteers that helped make the Bethesda Clinic in Lindale possible.

Band of Brothers Grace Community Church Ann Hossley Knights of Columbus Lindale Council 12711 Point Men of ChristPoint Methodist Church Rose Heights Church Rotary Club of Lindale Jon Sagarsee Cheryl & Brian Shipley Shipley's Moble RV Service Society of St. Stephen Phil Wilson



# WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR LINDALE CLINIC!

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Contact Ann Hoppers, volunteer coordinator, at ahoppers@bethesdaclinic.org or call 903-871-0938.

Bethesda Satellite Clinic located inside The Journey Center 215 W Margaret St, Lindale, TX 75771 903-596-8353



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TylerGives.org

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