

## "We Feel So Cared For Here"

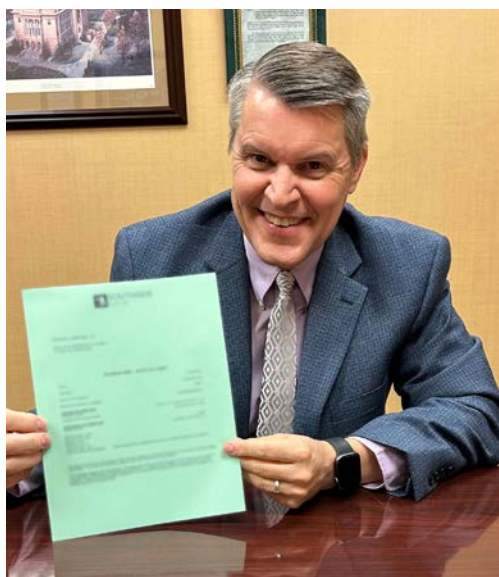
### One Patient's Story of Gratitude.

When Cruz and her husband first heard about Bethesda Health Clinic from a friend, they had no idea how much it would come to mean to their family. Now, three years later, the clinic is more than just a place to get care — it's a place of peace, support, and community.

"We both come here — for dental and medical care. And my children go to Bethesda Pediatrics. I just gave Cristal, my dental hygienist, a big hug today. Every time I come, she remembers what's going on with my teeth — and my life. We've built this bond where I can talk to her about personal things, like my grandson, who was recently diagnosed with cancer in his lung. She told me she would pray for us... and that meant the world to me." Continued on Page 3.



# A NOTE FROM JOHN



With a signature on the title papers, Dr. English sealed the next chapter of Bethesda's mission.



Dear Friends,

This year has already been one for the books. Thanks to your continued support, **we've seen more patients this fiscal year than ever before** – especially with the exciting growth of our pediatric services. Every day, more families are walking through our doors, trusting Bethesda to provide compassionate, affordable care. And we're honored to meet that need.

But that's just the beginning.

We're thrilled to share some exciting news with you:

**Bethesda has officially purchased the old Hollywood Theater building on the West Loop in Tyler!**

This 61,000-square-foot facility will become the future home of Bethesda Health Clinic – a space designed to serve more patients, offer expanded services, and impact generations to come.

In the coming months, you'll begin seeing opportunities to get involved with this transformative project. From naming opportunities to hands-on support, there will be many ways to help us bring this vision to life.

Inside this newsletter, you'll find just a glimpse of **why we must rise to the occasion.**

The healthcare needs in our community are growing – and with your help, Bethesda is ready to meet them.

Thank you for standing with us. We value your partnership more than you know.

With gratitude,  
Dr. John English

Cruz is a certified teacher at The Leadership Academy and a proud mother and grandmother. She knows firsthand how impossible it can feel to afford healthcare on a teacher's salary — even with insurance options. Before discovering Bethesda, when her family no longer qualified for Medicaid, the emergency room became their only option. And the bills piled up.

"I still owe \$16,000 from giving birth years ago. That's after help from the hospital. And we're healthy! I can't imagine how families with more serious issues do it. You're supposed to take your kids to the doctor — that's not a luxury. It's a necessity."

Because of you, Cruz's family now has a dependable, affordable place for medical, dental, and even counseling care — all under one roof. "It gives me peace of mind," she says. "I know we're in good hands. And I can actually afford it."

"I just kept thinking... thank God. I'm so grateful. And I kept asking, what can I do to give back? Maybe I can bake a cake for the staff, or tell my story... just something to say thank you."

**To all our donors — Cruz's story is your impact in action. Because of your generosity, her family doesn't have to choose between groceries and a doctor visit. They can get the care they need and still have hope — for health, for healing, and for brighter days.**

*Thank you* **for helping us care for entire families!**

## PATIENT STORY

Andrew, a missionary with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) based in Lindale, has spent his career mentoring young people and preparing others for international missions, including five years training leaders in North Africa. He's used to giving his all for others — but when he needed medical and dental care himself, he found help at Bethesda.

"Bethesda has been such a huge blessing," Andrew shared. "Every time I come in, I feel seen, cared for, and valued as a person."



Recently, Andrew needed surgery for a painful growth on his finger. What started as a simple visit turned into something much more: not only did the Bethesda team get him the care he needed for his hand, but the dermatologist they referred him to also found a spot on his neck — and it turned out to be cancerous. It was removed in time, and Andrew is now healing and healthy. Without Bethesda, Andrew says he likely would've skipped dental care altogether, and the finger surgery would have caused a serious financial

burden. "It just wouldn't have been an option," he said. "Bethesda made it possible."

**That's what your support does — it makes healing possible for people doing incredible work in our community and beyond.**

Thank you for making stories like Andrew's happen. Your gifts don't just fund medical services. They restore health, preserve purpose, and extend hope to those who serve others.



## PLANNED GIVING

# Leave a Gift in Your Will

## That Heals for Generations.

We believe that healthcare is more than treatment—it's a ministry of healing, hope, and dignity for our hardworking East Texas families. But this work is only made possible because of your generous support.

More and more of our supporters are choosing to make a lasting impact by including Bethesda in their wills. It's a powerful way to ensure that the care you believe in today continues for years to come.

Michelle and Jeff Carr have done just that. Michelle, a dedicated board member, shared, "Bethesda is important to our community and will be in the future. We want to ensure that Bethesda continues to be a light for Christ for decades to come."



Michelle and Jeff Carr

Drs. Grace and John English have done the same, sharing, "this ministry has shaped our lives and touched countless others, and we want to see that legacy continue."

We understand that family comes first—and making a planned gift doesn't change that. Many supporters choose to designate a small percentage of their estate,

like 10 percent, to Bethesda after first taking care of their loved ones. It's a simple and meaningful way to bless others while honoring your family's needs.

Your gift, no matter the size, helps ensure that Bethesda can continue to serve underserved families with medical, dental, and mental healthcare far into the future.

To learn more about leaving a gift in your will, contact Diane Thomason, Chief Development Officer. She'd be honored to talk with you.

**Your legacy can be health.  
Your legacy can be hope.  
Your legacy can be Bethesda.**



### A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Designate a percentage or specific amount to Bethesda after taking care of your loved ones.



### ESTATE GIFT

Leave a portion of your estate – cash, property, or other assets – to support Bethesda's future work.



### GIFTS OF STOCK

Donate appreciated securities to maximize tax benefits and make a meaningful gift.



### IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

If you're 70½ or older, you can give directly from your IRA – tax-free



### BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

Name Bethesda as a beneficiary of your retirement account, life insurance, or savings account.

### Questions?

Contact Diane Thomason, Chief Development Officer  
903-521-6185 • [dthomason@bethesdaclinic.org](mailto:dthomason@bethesdaclinic.org)

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Erica Trammell

### Transforming Smiles, One Patient at a Time.

For Dr. Erica Trammell, volunteering at Bethesda Health Clinic is more than just an act of service – it's a return to her roots and a reflection of her heart.

A proud East Texas native, Erica graduated from dental school in 2020 and now practices in Kilgore, where she's been serving patients for the past five years. But her connection to Bethesda goes back even further.

"When I was a student looking for a place to shadow, I found myself at Bethesda with Dr. Holland," she says. "That experience really stuck with me."

So when she returned to East Texas, and Bethesda asked if she would consider donating her time, her answer was easy: "Of course!"

Now, Erica volunteers once a month in our dental clinic, helping patients who otherwise couldn't afford care. "Working in private practice, I see how badly this kind of clinic is needed," she says. "Not everyone can afford private practice fees, and I'm glad I can give my time to Bethesda and help people who are doing the best they can."

She's seen firsthand how grateful Bethesda's patients are. "They know how hard it can be to get the care they need elsewhere," Erica says. "They're truly appreciative. And I love being able to transform someone's smile," which is also her favorite part of dentistry.



Erica's passion for dentistry runs in the family – her father-in-law was also a dentist, and she admired the flexibility and purpose his career allowed. That flexibility drew her in too, offering a balance her own parents didn't have as she was growing up.

Outside the clinic, Erica is always on the move – literally. She's an avid runner, a devoted reader, and a frequent traveler with her husband. At home, their lively crew of three dogs and three cats keeps things interesting.

***Bethesda is deeply grateful for volunteers like Dr. Trammell – dedicated professionals who choose to give back not just with their talents, but with their hearts.***

## PATIENT STORY

# Still Smiling Through: Sabrina's Story of Hope and Healing

When Sabrina Claborne arrived in Tyler, Texas, she was grieving tremendous loss—homeless, heartbroken, and unsure of what the future held. With her faithful 12-year-old Boxer, Malachi, by her side, she spent nights in her car, trying to figure out her next step.

"I was 50 years old, struggling with depression, anxiety, and health issues," she shared. "And I felt like I couldn't even apply for a job because of how my mouth looked."

A friend encouraged her to call Bethesda Health Clinic, and that single call became a turning point. She walked through the clinic doors with uncertainty—and was met with compassion, prayer, and a receptionist who said, "We have a cancellation tomorrow. Can you come back?"

She did. And she kept coming back.

With your support, Sabrina met dentists that actually cared about her.

Dr. O, Dr. Grace, and Ms. Amy—members of our dental team who welcomed her with kindness and laughter, included her in conversations, and gently reminded her that she wasn't alone.

What they didn't know at the time was that Sabrina was living with a pituitary tumor, high

blood pressure, and a long list of diagnoses. What she didn't know was that healing was about more than medicine—it was about being seen, valued, and loved.



Sabrina with Dental Assistant Amy Connaway

She says she felt like she had a family again—something she lost just eight months before.

"At one appointment, Christian music played softly, and I listened to the dentist and assistant talking like I was part of the conversation. I remember laughing in the chair. It felt grand to just be included."

While her smile isn't complete yet, Sabrina is well on her way. Her teeth are being restored one step at a time—and with every visit, her confidence grows.

"I just want to be able to chew again," she says with a smile.

It has been years since Sabrina has been able to eat any solid foods, something many of us can't even

comprehend. She stays satisfied through applesauce pouches, mashed potatoes and, her favorite, grits -- but longs for comfort foods from her past.

Even amid loss—like saying goodbye to Malachi who had to be put down—Sabrina kept showing up.

And then something beautiful happened; while sharing her desire to get her teeth fixed so she could find employment, she got a job at Hangers of Hope.

It's a true Godsend that she would get employment at Bethesda's thrift store, where every item sold supports patients just like her.

Her story isn't finished—but hope is already winning.

"Bethesda gave me a reason to believe again. I'm healing, I'm working, and I'm looking forward to smiling without hiding."

Sabrina's story would never be possible without your generous support. Thank you for giving her a second chance.



# Bethesda PEDIATRICS

## When Community Shows Up: Savannah's Story

This spring, 8-year-old Savannah faced a diagnosis no child should have to hear: cancer. Her illness hit hard and fast over spring break, and her world quickly shifted from playdates to hospital stays. But even in the midst of this storm, love, support, and joy found a way in – thanks to you.

When Savannah had to spend her 8th birthday in the hospital, we knew we had to make it up to her. So, at one of her recent visits to Bethesda

children to Bethesda Pediatrics, shared, "The doctors are amazing." That care became deeply personal when Savannah got sick.

During those first two critical weeks, Dr. Danny Price checked in with the family daily – sometimes multiple times. He and the team were in constant contact, doing everything they could to help figure out what was going on. Dr. Price even drove to Dallas to check on Savannah in person.



Pediatrics – after she was finally home from the hospital – we threw her a surprise birthday party she'd never forget. With balloons, treats, and a special visit from the Chick-fil-A cow, her smile lit up the entire clinic.

Because of your generosity, Bethesda was also able to step in and help her family with some of the unexpected financial burdens that come with a serious illness. Her mom, who brings all her

*That's not just care. That's family.*

Please continue to pray for Savannah and her family as they walk this road. Your support is what made this kind of care – and that joyful birthday surprise – possible.

**Because of you, hope showed up in the form of cupcakes, cow hugs, and one little girl's smile.**



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