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What a Difference a Gift Makes

Health-care reform has the entire medical industry talking statistics. Hospitals examine patient visits, insurance reimbursements, operating profits and margins, community benefits – it’s a numbers game. While we realize at Loyola University Medical Center (Loyola) that there are financial challenges to accomplishing our mission, we remain committed to treating the human spirit.

That’s why philanthropic support is so important. The generosity of the Loyola family of philanthropy allows us to focus more on healing and innovation and worry a little less about our bottom line. In this issue of Vision we hear from several donors who have chosen to invest in Loyola for very personal reasons. Whether motivated by receiving life-saving care at Loyola, believing in corporate responsibility for healthy communities or remembering the inspirational life of a former nurse, these donors are choosing to make a difference in the lives of those being treated at Loyola.

The adage “a picture is worth a thousand words” refers to the notion that a complex idea can be conveyed with just a single still image. Or several images in our case – it is hard to pick just one! Step into our spring events through several collections of photos. Find you inner superhero and Spring Into Action at our benefit for inpatient oncology treatment. Sharpen your scissors for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated John L. Keeley, MD Emergency Department and Robert R. McCormick Care-Accelerated Unit. Or lace up your sneakers and dash across the Loyola campus at our inaugural Ronald McDonald® Children’s Hospital at Loyola University Medical Center 5K Race/Walk and Children’s Character Competition, benefiting the neonatal intensive care unit.

The Office of Development thanks the more than 1,500 friends, donors, sponsors, volunteers, patients, families, physicians and employees who supported Loyola this year. Thank you for believing in the importance of health-care and for choosing to support the extraordinary work done at Loyola.”

“At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by ‘I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was naked and you clothed me, I was homeless and you took me in.’”

Mother Teresa

Peggy LaFleur
Interim Vice President
Office of Development
Although Mr. Konitzer, 74, wasn’t speaking about himself when he said it, the former Air Force mechanic, chemistry and mathematics teacher, beer wholesaler, refrigeration specialist and current farmer seems to fit the definition. Add to his list of life experiences husband, father, grandfather, philanthropist and cancer survivor, and he certainly fits the definition.

It was cancer that brought Mr. Konitzer, who lives with his wife, Judy, in Leland, Ill., 70 miles southwest of Chicago, to Loyola University Medical Center. Diagnosed with bone marrow cancer at another institution, his doctor referred him to Loyola where he was treated by Scott Smith, MD. (Although, as he laughingly admitted, “not before I called my accountant and my attorney.”) Now a six-year cancer survivor, he and his wife have recently made two generous gifts to Loyola University Health System—$50,000 to name a nursing station on the hospital’s renovated cancer floor and a $600,000 estate gift supporting cancer research.

For Mr. Konitzer, Loyola provides a great fit for his philanthropy. A lifelong Catholic, he grew up around relatives with religious vocations, attended Marmion Academy and St. Procopius College and met his wife on New Year’s Eve at a social club event for Catholic young people. He is active in his parish, where he teaches a course in world history as it pertains to Church history. But there are plenty of Catholic causes, and he contributes to many of them. Why focus on Loyola? It is, he says, the combination of care he received, the Catholic atmosphere and the research he knows the institution supports. “First, the dedication of the staff is unbelievable. And on my first stay, I talked religion and St. Ignatius with the priest who brought me communion in my room. But research is very important to me. Loyola has the latest and greatest, along with outstanding physicians. I can’t talk any more enthusiastically about the institution,” he said.

As a kid growing up in Chicago, Mr. Konitzer liked to hang out at the neighborhood drug store and read agriculture magazines. He thought that it would be nice to live in the country someday. So, just after they were married, and while he was still a beer wholesaler, the Konitzers bought their first 40 acres with a big rambling house in Oswego, Ill. Today, they manage some 800 acres overall. They grow corn and soybeans, and continue to acquire land. It is a good life. “In agriculture, you do everything you can for your neighbors… in industry it isn’t that way,” he said.

Although he is still susceptible to infection because of his treatment, he feels better every day. Par for the course: after a recent bout with pneumonia, he got up on his tractor to plant some trees he got for Father’s Day. When he is not managing his business interests, he spends a lot of time reading, favoring nonfiction from his collection or borrowed from the library where Mrs. Konitzer works part time. Perhaps it is this contemplative bent, together with a life lived in faith that leads him to observe “We are all in the body of Christ and are working out our salvation. Philanthropy is what you owe because God has given you existence.”

For more information on supporting cancer programs and research at Loyola, contact us at (708) 216-3201 or development@lumc.edu.
Approximately 1,400 runners and walkers, both adults and children, gathered with local team mascots and characters at Loyola University Medical Center for the inaugural Ronald McDonald Children’s Hospital® (RMCH) 5K Race/Walk and Children’s Character Competition on Sunday, June 10. The event, which raised more than $100,000, benefitted Loyola’s neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Participants included patients who spent the first few months of their lives in Loyola’s NICU and their families.

Five-month-old Liam Wilson was on hand with his parents, Matt and Julie. Liam, released from the NICU just two weeks before the race, was born four months early and spent the first 4½ months of his life in the hospital.

Five-year-old triplets Jack, Maeve and Owen Farrell ran the 100-yard dash with their mom, Becca, who endured a particularly difficult pregnancy that included nearly five months of bed rest. A one-time marathon runner, Becca never imagined that she would race competitively again. Although motherhood has added new challenges that made training interesting, she has run another marathon and several other races since the birth of her triplets.

Thirteen-year-olds Kate and Claire Wild spent their first few weeks of life in the NICU after being born two months early. Kate wowed racers with her rendition of the national anthem while Claire sounded the starting gun to kick off the race.

“The race was an overwhelming success. We registered more than double the number of runners and walkers than we had expected,” said Patricia Lekacz, race director and a Loyola Children’s Committee member. “The generosity and support of our participants and volunteers will make a difference in the lives of our smallest patients who receive world-class care in the neonatal intensive care unit.”

The top male finisher was Lars Juhl while the top female finisher was Eileen Skisak. Loyola Hospital resident Bernardino Mendez, Department of Surgery, was the fastest Loyola employee to cross the finish line. He completed the race in 21 minutes and 17 seconds. Mendez, who served as captain of the Department of Surgery’s team, raised $1,565 to benefit the NICU renovation.

2013 Race/Walk
Save the Date
June 9, 2013
Hospital care changes a lot when the patient is a premature infant. Regular bassinets are too big. Temperature and humidity control become essential to protect a preemie’s incredibly delicate skin and lack of body fat. Standard gurneys can’t be used to transport the babies and standard infusion pumps are far too overwhelming for a preemie’s drug, nutrition, or fluid delivery needs.

But a recent $250,000 grant from the Tellabs Foundation will help address those needs for patients in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Ronald McDonald® Children’s Hospital at Loyola University Medical Center.

“The grant request from Loyola for the NICU hit our ‘sweet spot’ as a funder,” said Meredith Hilt, executive director of the foundation. “Education, technology and health care are our funding priorities. Put that together with Loyola’s outstanding reputation in neonatal care, and it was a win/win to award this grant.”

A major portion of the Tellabs Foundation grant will be used to purchase specially designed Giraffe® Omnibeds at a cost of approximately $38,000 each. The beds are the latest incarnation of what was once known as an “incubator.” The Omnibeds provide uniform radiant heat and humidity control that mimics the womb environment; an integrated scale for monitoring weight; a rotating mattress; four portholes that facilitate care while maintaining temperature and humidity, an integrated x-ray cassette tray; and height controls to facilitate both care and nurturing. And they can even be fitted with a battery unit that can run the bed’s electronic systems while the child is transported for tests.

“One of our greatest challenges in caring for preemies is the need for specialized equipment like this,” said Marc Weiss, MD, the NICU’s medical director. “It might seem obvious, but even many medical professionals don’t stop to think about how the patient’s size affects everything. Standard issue just doesn’t work for a child who weighs 9.2 ounces.”

The Tellabs Foundation grant also will fund the purchase of precise syringe pumps at a cost of $3,000 each. These devices allow a large filled syringe to be fitted into a pump that can deliver smooth, accurate infusions of less than .5ml (1/10 of a teaspoon) per hour if needed. Typical infusion pumps designed for larger patients can produce a small “burst” of liquid inconsequential to typical patients, but potentially delivering a larger dose than a preemie needs in an hour, so this equipment is critical.

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“For more information about supporting the NICU at Loyola, contact the Office of Development at (708) 216-3201 or development@lumc.edu.”

Tellabs Foundation Awards Major Grant to Loyola Hospital for Infant Care
At a ribbon-cutting ceremony in June, Loyola University Health System unveiled its newly renovated emergency department, christened the John L. Keeley, MD, Emergency Department. The multimillion dollar renovation was made possible through gifts from the Keeley family, the Robert R. McCormick Foundation and Jim and Sally Dowdle. It was named to honor the late Dr. Keeley, who served as chair of Loyola’s Department of Surgery from 1958 to 1969 and as an emergency department physician until 1982.

“This sparkling, modern space will become a beacon of hope for patients who come here in their most critical times of need,” said Larry Goldberg, president and CEO of the health system, during his remarks at the unveiling. Members of the Keeley family, along with Mr. and Mrs. Dowdle and the McCormick Foundation’s president, David Hiller, with director of special initiatives and veteran’s programs, Anna LauBach, joined Loyola physicians, staff, and hospital leaders to mark the day.

The department, last renovated in the late 1980s, has consistently maintained its identity as a Level I Trauma Center and provided leading-edge care while seeing patient volumes rise from 29,000 to 53,000 patients per year since 1995. Its latest incarnation includes a relocated entrance, new admissions area, patient waiting room, and triage rooms. Behind the doors are 14 new patient rooms, several trauma bays, nursing stations and new imaging and security sections as well as patient and staff restrooms and a nursing station with a radio room for ambulance calls. The final phase will add more nursing stations, a storage room, a bariatric restroom and several additional patient and trauma rooms.

The Rev. Keith Muccino, SJ, MD, concluded the blessing of the space with a prayer: “And might we have the boldness to hope and the faith to believe that in the care we provide our patients in this wonderful new facility they may see your compassionate face gazing upon them and your gentle hands reaching out to heal them... knowing that this place, like all good things, is truly a gift from You.”
Fanchon Knight: Portrait of a Winner

The late Fanchon Knight, RN

Attorney David Kabat often quotes Jimmy Valvano, coach of the North Carolina State Wolf Pack, talking about his battle with cancer: “Don’t give up. Don’t ever give up.” The dedicated care of the late Fanchon Knight, RN, a Loyola oncology nurse, helped Mr. Kabat, and many other Loyola cancer patients like him, accept that challenge.

Although Ms. Knight herself succumbed to a metastatic melanoma in 2005, the legacy of her caring ministry clearly lives on in Mr. Kabat and in every one of the lives she touched. Recently, her parents, Lester and Virginia Knight, had the bittersweet pleasure of seeing the first Fanchon Knight Nurse of the Year Award presented at Loyola’s Nursing Excellence Awards ceremony. Hailing from Danville, Ill, but longtime residents of East Peoria, Mr. and Mrs. Knight are active and energetic grandparents who recently celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. The endowment they created in their daughter’s memory will fund, in perpetuity, a stipend that the awardee will use for educational purposes.

According to Mr. and Mrs. Knight, nursing is the only career their daughter ever wanted, and it is their goal to support others who have chosen this profession. They continue to contribute to the endowment and encourage friends and family to do so as well. In May, many of those friends and family gathered in Loyola’s Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center (CBCCC) to share memories and to dedicate a conference room named in Fanchon Knight’s memory.

“It gave my own mother some grey hair,” said Mrs. Knight, “but Fanchie was the perfect daughter. Even as a child, I could depend on her for anything.” From grammar school on, she was dedicated to her schoolwork, added Mr. Knight, and, though she had to work harder than her brother, to whom study came easier, she always got excellent grades. Highly inquisitive and motivated, dedicated to helping people, she attended Peoria’s Spalding Institute/Academy of Our Lady and went on to graduate from Northern Illinois University in 1975 with her BSN in Nursing.

Ms. Knight spent most of her nursing career at Loyola University Medical Center, first as a neurology nurse and later working exclusively with oncology patients. In that time, she developed a reputation for her extraordinary dedication and generosity to patients, her meticulous ways, and her strong faith. “Fanchon was my expectation of what a nurse should be,” said Pam Rivet, a retired nurse who battled squamous cell carcinoma. “She was knowledgeable, intelligent, patient and kind, but no-nonsense. I’m strong and you can count on me, was always the sense you got from her. Fanchon made you feel brave because you always felt like she had your back.”

Mr. Kabat, on the other hand, found in this nurse something he hadn’t expected to encounter. “I came here [to Loyola] a real skeptic of medical care,” he said, in a voice still slightly raspy from his throat cancer surgery nine years ago. “But Fanchon was extremely caring, compassionate and intuitive. She knew what fears families had and she could reassure caregivers. She really became the quarterback of our care.” Ms. Knight’s colleague at the CBCC, Kathleen Bettis, RN, saw her fierce dedication to patients even in the face of her own cancer diagnosis, recalling that “She could have been angry or depressed, but instead her diagnosis empowered her to walk in her patients’ shoes and work that much harder to ease the burdens they faced.”

Ms. Rivet characterizes this willingness to work closely with patients and their families, opening herself up to their pain, as the willingness on Fanchon’s part to be vulnerable, to always see the person in the diagnosis, rather than the other way around. Her dad says simply, “She had love built into her heart from God and she shared it. She loved helping people.”

For more information about supporting the Fanchon Knight endowment at Loyola or creating an endowment in another area, contact the Office of Development at (708) 216-3201 or development@lumc.edu.

New Melanoma Research Program Started at Loyola

Joseph Clark, MD, worked closely with Fanchon Knight at Loyola, first as a colleague and later as her oncologist. Dr. Clark is an expert in treating malignant melanoma and keenly interested in immunotherapy as one treatment option. He serves as clinical principal investigator in a new project launched by researchers at Loyola’s Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center to battle metastatic melanoma. Michael I. Nishimura, PhD, is leading a team, including Dr. Clark, on a five-year, $16.3 million grant from the National Cancer Institute. The trial utilizes a unique immunotherapeutic approach to treat patients with advanced malignant melanoma using genetically engineered T-cells harvested from the patients themselves. Dr. Clark will be the physician treating and monitoring the patients enrolled in the trial. Their hope is to induce clinical responses to each patient’s disease, if not long-term remissions. It is a relatively new concept, and the first time such treatment has been offered at Loyola. Dr. Clark and his colleagues are cautiously optimistic that they can help control, if not ultimately eliminate, melanoma deposits in participating individuals. “It was just this sort of study Fanchon encouraged her patients to consider enrolling in when available and appropriate, because she knew that the only way to advance cancer treatment is through participation in such trials,” noted Dr. Clark, “and after her diagnosis, she herself was willing to enroll in studies.”

First Fanchon Knight Nurse of the Year Awardee Named

Cinthia LaPorte, BSN, RN, was named Loyola University Health System’s Fanchon Knight Nurse of the Year during its annual Nursing Excellence Award Ceremony in May. La Porte is the nurse manager of the Ronald McDonald Children’s Hospital of Loyola University Medical Center. She has worked at Loyola since she began her career in 1977. As a lifelong pediatric nurse, La Porte has cared for some of the hospital’s sickest children. Her colleagues describe her as a skilled leader, clinician, role model, quality champion, collaborator and patient advocate. “With Fanchon’s legacy, we will continue to make a difference for our patients and their families,” La Porte said.
Benefit Raises Money for Cancer Treatment Facility

As the sun set May 19 on Loyola’s Center for Health at Burr Ridge, superheroes of cancer care gathered for a glittering evening in the transformed space on the building’s third floor. Against a backdrop of exposed concrete and steel rafters animated with colored lights and sleek furniture, Loyola University Health System’s “Spring Into Action” benefit raised new funds and celebrated the donors whose lead gifts set in motion the hospital’s inpatient oncology treatment facility renovation.

Featured speaker Scott Hamilton, Olympic gold medalist, captivated his audience with an inspiring account of his career and personal life, his mother’s death from breast cancer and his own battle with testicular cancer.

Throughout the evening, guests struck heroic poses for photographs, sampled delectable food at individual tasting stations, enjoyed live jazz and sipped Kryptonite cocktails while learning about Loyola’s internationally-renowned cancer program. Loyola’s multidisciplinary approach to treating cancer brings together a wide range of board-certified medical experts who evaluate a patient’s condition and provide a comprehensive treatment plan, often on the first visit.

The “Spring Into Action” event raised nearly $140,000, including $50,000 through a live auction. A $25,000 lead gift from Jim and Jane Miller spurred on the auction bidding, which focused on equipping a planned oncology patient exercise room. The new treatment facility also will have 39 private rooms, each with a fitted HEPA-filtered air system to minimize infections. The rooms will feature a daybed for a family member to spend the night and enough space for visitors. To create a more homelike feeling, the renovation will include a great room, a family activity area and a meditation area.

To see more photos and view a video from the event, visit loyolamedicine.org/heroes.
Bipan Chand, MD was named the director of the Loyola Center for Metabolic Surgery and Bariatric Care in April 2012. He was recruited from the Cleveland Clinic, where he performed more than 2,000 bariatric surgeries and helped hundreds of patients lose weight permanently.

He serves on numerous leadership committees with the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and serves as president of the Ohio Bariatric Surgery from 2010 to 2012.

Dr. Chand lives in Oak Park with his wife of 15 years, Dr. Deepa Chand, a pediatric nephrologist. They have two children, a 6-year-old son and an 8-year-old daughter.

Bipan Chand, MD
Director of the Loyola Center for Metabolic Surgery and Bariatric Care

What do we need to know about obesity?

Obesity is a rapidly growing disease that seriously impacts public health. According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 35 percent of American adults are obese and researchers estimate that in 2008, obesity led to some $147 billion in medical costs. It’s a highly complex disease and needs highly complex solutions. It is more than telling someone to stop eating so much.

Why is obesity such a problem?

Obesity-related conditions comprise some of the leading causes of death and disability, ranging from heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and various cancers. Research shows that even modest weight reduction can dramatically improve health and improve quality of life. We have a wealth of cheap food options in America that have little nutritional value. Americans are bombarded with messages every day to eat to feel better, to eat to be entertained, to eat to have more energy and confidence to actively participate in living a full life.

This, together with a decrease in physical activity, is creating a rise in obesity among all ages. Especially the next generation, which statistics show will be the first to not live longer, or even as long as their parents. Childhood obesity means that adult diseases such as heart conditions, back problems, joint pain and diabetes are creeping our young.

What weight-loss programs are available at Loyola?

The new Loyola Center for Metabolic Surgery & Bariatric Care opened in July in Melrose Park. We offer a multidisciplinary approach, meaning bariatric physicians, surgeons, psychologists, nutritionists and exercise physiologists work as a team to offer individualized care to patients. The new center offers surgical options including laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding, laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy, and Roux-en-Y gastric bypass as well as non-surgical options to achieve permanent weight-loss.

How does the Loyola program work?

Free introductory sessions that explain the program in detail are available at several locations each month. We discuss the benefits and risks of each approach to weight-loss. Patients who enroll in the program receive a thorough physical assessment, including physiological and laboratory tests, sleep apnea screenings and others. We also conduct a psychological assessment to determine readiness and the best option. Loyola partners with each patient for life - these are not short-term fixes. We offer free support groups for as long as needed as well as counseling in nutrition, behavior therapy, and supervised physical therapy to name a few. Each bariatric specialist partners with the patient to change behavior to establish healthy routines for life.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part is when a patient tells me that I not only changed their weight, but their whole life. It’s gratifying when patients are able to eliminate medications, and have more energy and confidence to actively participate in living a full life. Watching patients become the people they want to be and partnering with them to get there is a source of tremendous satisfaction. We can fight the obesity battle with patients and together we are winning.

Cardiology and Heart Surgery Program Among Nation’s Best

U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Loyola University Medical Center 18th in the nation in Cardiology and Heart Surgery. This is the 10th consecutive year Loyola’s heart program has been nationally ranked by U.S. News. Last year, Loyola was ranked 20th.

An additional 11 Loyola specialties were ranked high-performing by U.S. News & World Report. Specialties are considered high-performing if they are among the top 25 percent of hospitals in the specialty. Loyola’s high-performing specialties are cancer; diabetes and endocrinology; ear, nose and throat; gastroenterology; geriatrics; gynecology; nephrology; neurology and neurosurgery; orthopedics; pulmonology and urology.

Study Uncovers Long-Term Benefits of Intensive Cholesterol Therapy with Multiple Medications

For the first time, a study has found that intensive cholesterol therapy involving a combination of drugs for 20 years may be more effective over the long run than taking a single statin medication.

Loyola cardiologist and Director of Loyola’s Preventive Cardiology & Lipid Program, Binh An Phan, MD, FACC, is lead author of the study, which he presented at the National Lipid Association 2012 Annual Scientific Sessions. Previous studies have documented the short-term benefits of taking a combination of two or three cholesterol drugs aimed at aggressively lowering LDL (bad cholesterol) and raising HDL (good cholesterol). The new study is the first to show such benefits are maintained over a period of 20 years.

For his study, Dr. Phan received a Young Investigator Award at the National Lipid Association Annual Scientific Sessions.
News in Brief

Loyola Nurses Join Beauty Salons’ Efforts to Fight Cancer

On May 12, the day before Mother’s Day, sixteen west suburban and West Side salons hosted an innovative “Mammograms for Mother’s Day” initiative sponsored by state Sen. Kimberly A. Lightford (D-Maywood). Joining the effort were nurses from Loyola University Medical Center and Loretto Hospital, along with Lightford’s 4th District Gentlemen’s Committee. A study published in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* found that hair salons “are a potentially important venue for promotion of health behaviors related to breast cancer detection.” Conversely, on June 16, the day before Father’s Day, women from the 4th District visited barbershops to educate men about prostate cancer screenings and prevention. They were accompanied by Loyola and Loretto nurses.

**Device is Effective in Managing Incontinence After Surgery**

A device used to prevent incontinence in women who undergo a common pelvic-floor surgery reduces symptoms but increases side effects in these patients, according to a study co-authored by Kimberly Kenton, MD, MS, FACOG, FACS, director of the Division of Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery at Loyola. These findings were published in the latest issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine.*

Women in this study underwent surgery for pelvic organ prolapse. Prolapse occurs when the pelvic organs fall and cause the vaginal wall to protrude outside of the body. About 1 in 5 women will undergo this surgery in her lifetime. Those who undergo surgery for this disorder are at risk for urinary incontinence following the procedure. As a result, surgeons commonly add a midurethral sling at the time of surgery to prevent this disorder. “One-quarter of women develop incontinence after prolapse surgery, so it is critical that we have an effective option to manage this issue,” Dr. Kenton said.

**Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center Director Named to “The One Hundred” List of Cancer Fighters**

Patrick Stiff, MD, director of Loyola University Medical Center’s Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, was named to “The One Hundred,” a prestigious list of individuals and groups that have advanced the fight against cancer. The list is compiled by Massachusetts General Hospital, which honored Dr. Stiff and other “The One Hundred” members at a June 7 fundraiser.

Dr. Stiff was nominated for the list by Dana Shank, the daughter of one of his patients. Shank noted in her nomination that her father needed a stem cell transplant. When no family matches were found, Dr. Stiff’s team and a blood bank were able to match her father with stem cells from umbilical cord blood that had been donated by a German family.

**Loyola Wins Quality Achievement Award from American Heart Association/ American Stroke Association**

For the fourth year in a row, Loyola University Medical Center won a Get with the Guidelines’ Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

Gottlieb Memorial Hospital, part of the Loyola University Health System, won the Heart Failure Silver Quality Achievement Award. The Gold award is given to hospitals that achieve 85 percent or higher adherence to all stroke performance guidelines and 75 percent or higher compliance with six of 10 stroke quality measures. These measures include aggressive use of clot-busting drugs, blood thinners, cholesterol-reducing drugs and smoking cessation. The measures are aimed at reducing death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients.

Gottlieb won the Silver award for reaching an aggressive goal of treating heart failure patients with 85 percent compliance for one year to core standard levels of care.

**Loyola Recruits Top-Notch Physicians**

In response to community needs, Loyola is increasing its staff by a net of more than 50 physicians. Many of the new physicians specialize in areas that are in especially high demand.

**Christopher Loftus, MD,** is the new chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. Dr. Loftus is internationally known for his research and treatment of cerebral aneurysms and stroke.

**Theodore J. Saclarides, MD,** recently joined Loyola as director of the Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery. Dr. Saclarides was recruited from Rush University Medical Center, where he served as head of the section of Colon and Rectal Surgery. Bipan Chand, MD, was appointed director of Loyola’s new Division of GI/Minimally Invasive Surgery, director of Bariatric Surgery and head of Surgical Endoscopy. Dr. Chand was recruited from the Cleveland Clinic, where he was director of surgical endoscopy and advanced surgical training.

Loyola also expanded its hepatology services with the addition of five new physicians and two researchers, including **Scott Cotler, MD,** director of the Division of Hepatology, and **Jamie Berkes, MD,** medical director, Liver Transplant.

These and other new physicians will strengthen Loyola’s national presence in advanced specialty care and enhance the health system’s performance in its core missions of clinical care, research and education.

**Loyola Part of National Effort to Increase Breastfeeding**

Loyola is among a select group of 90 hospitals nationwide that have been asked to participate in Best Fed Beginnings, a first-of-its-kind initiative to significantly improve breastfeeding rates in states where they are the lowest. The National Initiative for Children’s Healthcare Quality (NICQI) is leading this program with the help of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Baby-Friendly USA, Inc., the national authority for the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative.

Although breastfeeding is one of the most effective preventive health measures for infants and mothers, only half of U.S.-born babies are given formula within the first week, and by 9 months, only 31 percent of babies are breastfeeding at all. Breastfeeding rates are lowest among poor socio-economic populations. This program is intended to reverse these trends and to increase the number of U.S. hospitals with a proven model for maternity services that better supports a new mother’s choice to breastfeed.

This model includes several steps to successfully help mothers breastfeed, including: educating pregnant women on the benefits of breastfeeding; helping mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth; showing mothers how to breastfeed and maintain lactation, even if they are separated from their infants; and eliminating the use of pacifiers for breastfeeding infants.

News in Brief

Loyola Pediatrician Honored by American Telemedicine Association

Kathleen Webster, MD, director of Loyola’s Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and a leader in the growing field of telemedicine, was honored by the American Telemedicine Association (ATA). Dr. Webster is secretary of the ATA’s Pediatric Telehealth Special Interest Group (SIG), which has won the association’s SIG & Chapter Achievement Award.

The award was presented during the ATA 2012 Meeting and Exhibition, April 28 to May 1, in San José, Calif. Winners of the annual awards have demonstrated “a long-term commitment to expanding the quality and accessibility of health care through telemedicine and mobile health-care applications,” said ATA President Bernard Harris Jr., MD, MBA. “Their work has saved and improved countless lives.”

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The award was presented during the ATA 2012 Meeting and Exhibition, April 28 to May 1, in San José, Calif. Winners of the annual awards have demonstrated “a long-term commitment to expanding the quality and accessibility of health care through telemedicine and mobile health-care applications,” said ATA President Bernard Harris Jr., MD, MBA. “Their work has saved and improved countless lives.”

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Loyola University Medical Center and the Office of Development invite you to a new series of educational conversations with Loyola physicians.

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Ann Rudinger, MD, Internal Medicine
Theodore Saclarides, MD, Surgery

**October 10, 2012**
6 – 8 p.m.
Stritch School of Medicine
First Floor, Alumni Center

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Better understand the symptoms and causes of heart disease as well as the leading-edge treatment options offered at Loyola.

**Featuring**
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Ivan Pacold, MD, General Cardiology
David Wilber, MD, Electrophysiology

**November 7, 2012**
6 – 8 p.m.
Stritch School of Medicine
First Floor, Alumni Center

To register:
Phone: (708) 216-8531
E-mail: development@lumc.edu
Online: LoyolaMedicine.org/doctorisin

Attendees at each session will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire!

Bring a Friend! We’d appreciate the opportunity to introduce Loyola to your circle.