

The Promise

For donors, partners and friends of Nemours

Spring 2019

A Family in Crisis, Life-Saving Support

Beginning their new life in America, the Mahosi family found answers and help at Nemours.

DEAR FRIENDS OF NEMOURS



We are excited to share our first issue of *The Promise*. This bi-annual newsletter is intended to connect the Nemours community. Here, we'll bring you stories of patients and families we serve and share the impact your investment is making in the lives of children across northeast Florida. With your support, Nemours is able to do even more for

children. Locally, you help underwrite pediatric specialty care and research, as well as innovative support services delivered at Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville. Perhaps even more importantly, you help Nemours deliver on its promise to help each child reach his or her full potential.

In this edition, we celebrate an important milestone of our amazing and dedicated partner **Child Cancer Fund**, an organization who has helped thousands of Nemours patients and families cope with pediatric cancer. We feature several donors —

individuals and corporate partners — who have been incredibly generous in their support of children and families served by Nemours. We also introduce you to the **Mahosi family** (*pictured on cover and at right*), who received a little extra help through the **Nemours Patient and Family Support Fund** so they could focus on what was most important — their child newly diagnosed with cystic fibrosis — and not incur additional stress during a trying time in their lives.

There are so many ways that you can be part of our promise to children — through gifts of any size, volunteering and participation in events! Please visit Nemours.org/give to learn more.

We hope you and your families have a wonderful spring season!

Thank you for caring about our kids,

Maggie Hightower

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Chief Philanthropy Officer

Nemours Fund for Children's Health

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: CHILD CANCER FUND



The Child Cancer Fund (CCF) was established in 1994 by a group of Jacksonville parents whose children were receiving treatment for cancer at Nemours Children's Specialty Care and Wolfson Children's Hospital. Their mission is to provide emotional, practical, educational and financial support to families of children battling childhood cancer. CCF celebrates their 25th anniversary in 2019 including all the milestones they've achieved to better the lives of patients and families battling childhood cancer.

CCF has built a child life specialist endowment for the hematology/oncology department at Nemours, empowers various support groups related to childhood cancer (i.e. Mothers for Hope and Teenage Survivorship groups), and financially supports families in need while they receive cancer treatment at Nemours and Wolfson. Their commitment and investment in children and their families makes an impact every day and Nemours is thrilled to celebrate their 25th anniversary this year!

NEMOURS DAY OF GIVING: TUNE IN APRIL 15TH ON WJXT-CHANNEL 4



Nearly 30 years ago, Nemours built a special place in Jacksonville dedicated to caring for children. Today, Nemours Children's Specialty Care provides services to nearly 84,000 kids across the First Coast each year.

On Monday, April 15, Nemours is giving our community a chance to help kids, too! You can help in three easy steps:

1. Ensure pediatric care, research and support is available to every child!
2. Tune in to WJXT-Channel 4 from 7 – 10 a.m. and 5 – 7 p.m.
3. Call (904) 348-6022 to make a donation.

Join Our Day of Giving!

Make the Call on April 15!
Call (904) 348-6022 or
Text "Our Promise" to 50155

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: PATIENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT FUND

The Patient and Family Support Fund at Nemours provides assistance to meet the emergency needs of Nemours' patients and families who have exhausted all other resources or are in acute crisis. Our community partners and individual donors make it possible to help patients with taxi rides and bus passes, grocery store gift cards, and essential items such as diapers, car seats, supplemental nutrition drinks and baby monitoring systems. The support fund improves a family's access to care, extends the care they receive in the clinic to their home, and provides families with an amount of relief while caring for their medically complex child.

A few months ago, the Mahosi family moved to Jacksonville from Zimbabwe with their two daughters. Their three-year-old, Charisse, was malnourished and weak from an extended illness. At Nemours, Dr. David Schaeffer diagnosed Charisse with

cystic fibrosis (CF) — a condition impacting the lungs and pancreas, making breathing and digestion difficult. After Charisse was discharged from the hospital, she continued care in the Nemours outpatient CF clinic. New to Jacksonville, Rudo, Charisse's mom, was pregnant with their third daughter and Ngoni, her husband, was looking for work. The Nemours social worker following their case used the **Patient and Family Support Fund** to provide assistance to the family during this turbulent time. In need of basic supplies and transportation, they received grocery store gift cards and taxi rides so they could get to Charisse's appointments at Nemours. Now, the family has found their footing and the treatments have Charisse smiling again. "We are very appreciative of the assistance we received while beginning our life in Jacksonville and for the care we received at Nemours," says Rudo.



Above, left to right: Ivana, Rudo, Grace and Charisse

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Wendy & Hugh Durden

The Durdens' love for children and commitment to providing them with everything they need to reach their full potential is truly the life and legacy Hugh and Wendy have chosen to lead. As Board of Directors for Camp Boggy Creek, past chair of the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, and chairman of the Alfred I. duPont Charitable Trust, their time, talent and treasure are showcased in the organizations they support. Their recent gift will support Nemours' lobby transformation, creating a place for healing, restoration, and education for patients and families. According to the Durdens, "We are excited to support Nemours Children's Specialty Care in its promise to improve the lives of children and their families in northeast Florida."

CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT



A longstanding partner of Nemours, Stein Mart has sponsored *An Evening of Promise* for six years. Their generosity has helped fund key programs related to type 1 childhood diabetes, pediatric oncology and hematology, and the transformation of our outpatient clinic lobby. Stein Mart's core values of hospitality and caring cascade from the top of the organization, led by CEO Hunt Hawkins. "Giving back to the community is a priority within the Stein Mart culture. It is our honor to support their mission and provision of life-changing, world-class pediatric care to children and their families. Our annual giving to Nemours is just one small way we can say thank you for being an important part of our community," says Hawkins. Thank you to Stein Mart for making a difference at Nemours as well as across the entire Jacksonville community!

Volunteer at Nemours! You Can:

- **Help our patients and families feel special** while they wait for appointments.
- **Bring the fun** by reading a story, coloring or doing arts and crafts together.
- **Show off your talents!** Magicians, musicians and clowns — all are welcome!
- **Join our pet therapy team!** If you have a dog you think would help create a relaxing, stress-free environment for our patients, then check out therapyanimalcoalition.org to find the right registering organization for you and your fur family.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities and requirements, email Christie Harrod at jaxvolunteers@nemours.org.



Nemours Fund for Children's Health: Women's Committee

Chaired by Hilary Keeley, the NFCH Women's Committee came to life in 2017 and has since raised \$150,000+ toward the Nemours Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders. Annual events include a daddy-daughter *Princess Ball*, *A Round Fore the Kids* golf tournament and the *Summer Tea Party*. To learn more and get involved, please contact Kacie Smyth at kacie.smyth@nemours.org.



Save the Date

7TH ANNUAL AN EVENING OF PROMISE

Friday, August 23, 2019 | Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Benefitting the Nemours Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders

For more information, please contact at
Kacie Smyth at kacie.smyth@nemours.org.