

Legacy of Care

RUSSELL MEDICAL FOUNDATION
2025 YEAR-END EDITION

People

Progress

Philanthropy



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A Letter from our Executive Director



As we welcome 2026, we can reflect on the past year with immense pride. Your generous philanthropic support for Russell Medical, through the Russell Medical Foundation, has allowed us to achieve remarkable milestones in 2025.

Highlights from the year include the introduction of the Panettiere Imaging Suite, alongside two significant technological upgrades in our imaging department: the GE Artis MRI and a state-of-the-art, high-resolution PET/CT scanner.

You may not be aware, as much of it has been happening behind the scenes, that we have begun renovations for the new Henderson Surgery Suite, which we expect to complete by the end of 2026.

Earlier this Fall, in just one day, we held five new room dedications, bringing our total to 40 donor-driven renovations across Russell Medical facilities. None of this would have been possible without your vision and generosity. The Foundation simply provides a way for our community to contribute to improved healthcare in our small corner of the world, and you consistently rise to the occasion.

Thank you for being part of our family. We are truly grateful for your unwavering commitment to Russell Medical and wish you and your loved ones joy and peace throughout 2026!

Tammy Jackson

Executive Director

Our Team



Jacqui Pearl - Manager of Communications and Donor Outreach

Jacqui Pearl is a skilled nonprofit professional renowned for building lasting relationships and highlighting the value of a donor's role. Jacqui's career began as Executive Director of a notable nonprofit in Knoxville, TN, excelling in donation cultivation, event planning, and marketing. Her strategic leadership ensured the organization's growth and sustainability, fostering a supportive community. Jacqui joined the Russell Medical Foundation as Manager of Donor Communications and Outreach, continuing to leverage her relationship-building skills. Her strategic communication ensures messages resonate with donors, reinforcing their contributions' importance. At the Russell Medical Foundation, she is committed to fostering positive change for healthcare in our community.



Emily Williams - Manager of Shepherd and Senior Living Services

In 2018, Emily joined the Russell Medical family as the Foundation-Auxiliary Coordinator, overseeing the hospital volunteer and chaplain programs, providing support to the Foundation and managing the Mill 280 Event Center. As the Foundation continues to grow and expand its support of Russell Medical and its services, Emily's role continues to evolve. Today, she serves as the Manager of Shepherd and Senior Living Services, providing support to donors and the residents of Sterling Gate by helping them navigate Russell Medical, find providers and access the many services Russell Medical offers.



Melissa Edwards - Auxiliary and Mill 280 Coordinator

Melissa Edwards is a lifetime resident of the Alexander City area and has been a dedicated member of the Russell Medical community for years. Prior to taking on the role of the Auxiliary Coordinator in 2022, Melissa worked at Russell Medical for 21 years in the hospital's premier Orthopedic clinic under Dr. Paul Goldhagen. Melissa's love for people is what made her the perfect person to take on the role of managing our incredible network of volunteers.

Russell Medical Foundation Board of Directors

Jim Peace - Chairman

Matt Fisher

Dr. Steven C. Baker

Sherry Henderson

Barry Ingram

Paula Davenport

Hugh Neighbors

Neal Butler

Vaughn Stough



Russell Medical Auxiliary

Our hospital volunteers play a crucial role in enhancing the patient experience and supporting the healthcare staff in various capacities. We have a dedicated team of 95 active volunteers who have collectively contributed over 12,000 hours of service. These volunteers engage in a wide range of activities, from providing companionship and emotional support to patients, assisting with administrative tasks, to helping navigate visitors within the hospital premises. Their presence not only alleviates the workload of healthcare professionals but also fosters a warm and welcoming environment for patients and their families during challenging times. The selfless efforts of these volunteers are invaluable, reflecting the profound impact of community involvement at Russell Medical.



Over a Century of Impact

The 100-Year Scholarship Campaign



Since its inception, the Russell Medical Foundation has championed the next generation of healthcare professionals by providing scholarships to local students pursuing careers in the medical field. In celebration of Russell Medical's 100-Year Anniversary, we launched our 100-Year Scholarship Campaign. Thanks to the generosity of our community, 55 donors have already invested in the mission, including ten new couples this year alone, helping us build a strong pipeline of skilled, compassionate providers right here at home.

As we look to the future, our goal is bold and deeply rooted in the spirit of service that defines Russell Medical: 100 donations of \$10,000 to create a \$1,000,000 endowed scholarship fund. This enduring legacy will support local students for generations to come, ensuring that quality healthcare remains a cornerstone of our region.

If you're interested in becoming part of this historic effort, we invite you to reach out to Tammy Jackson to learn how you can join the Legacy Scholarship Program and help shape the next century of care.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our ten new Legacy Scholarship donors.

- Tyler and Cindy Bullock
- Dudley and O'Neal Lawson
- Kevin Peak
- Jim and Dr. Dell Walker
- Ted and Frances Watts
- Gary V. and Kay Thomas
- Tim Smith and Karla Boles
- The Dupree Family Foundation
- Louie and Susan Holmes
- Brent and Linda Burns



2025 High School Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Benjamin Russell High School

Kathleen Sheffield
Te'Lissia Stone
Anna Michal McCaleb
Katherine Howorth
Alesa Pike
Anabelle Gordon
Madison Hamlet
Macie Knox
Promys Smith
Ryder Mobley
Hanna Dean
Zoey Fields
Ashton Lamberth
Julie Ann Wilson
Sara Jackson

Dadeville High School

Luke Walker
Rylee Jordan

Horseshoe Bend High School

Katie Cotney
Hampton Bowen
Zana McWhorter
Michael Sharpe

Sylacauga High School

Lucas Boozer

Coosa Central

Izabel Whaley

Thompson High School

Jaden Spencer

The Darlington School

Sara Rollins Koon

Connections Academy

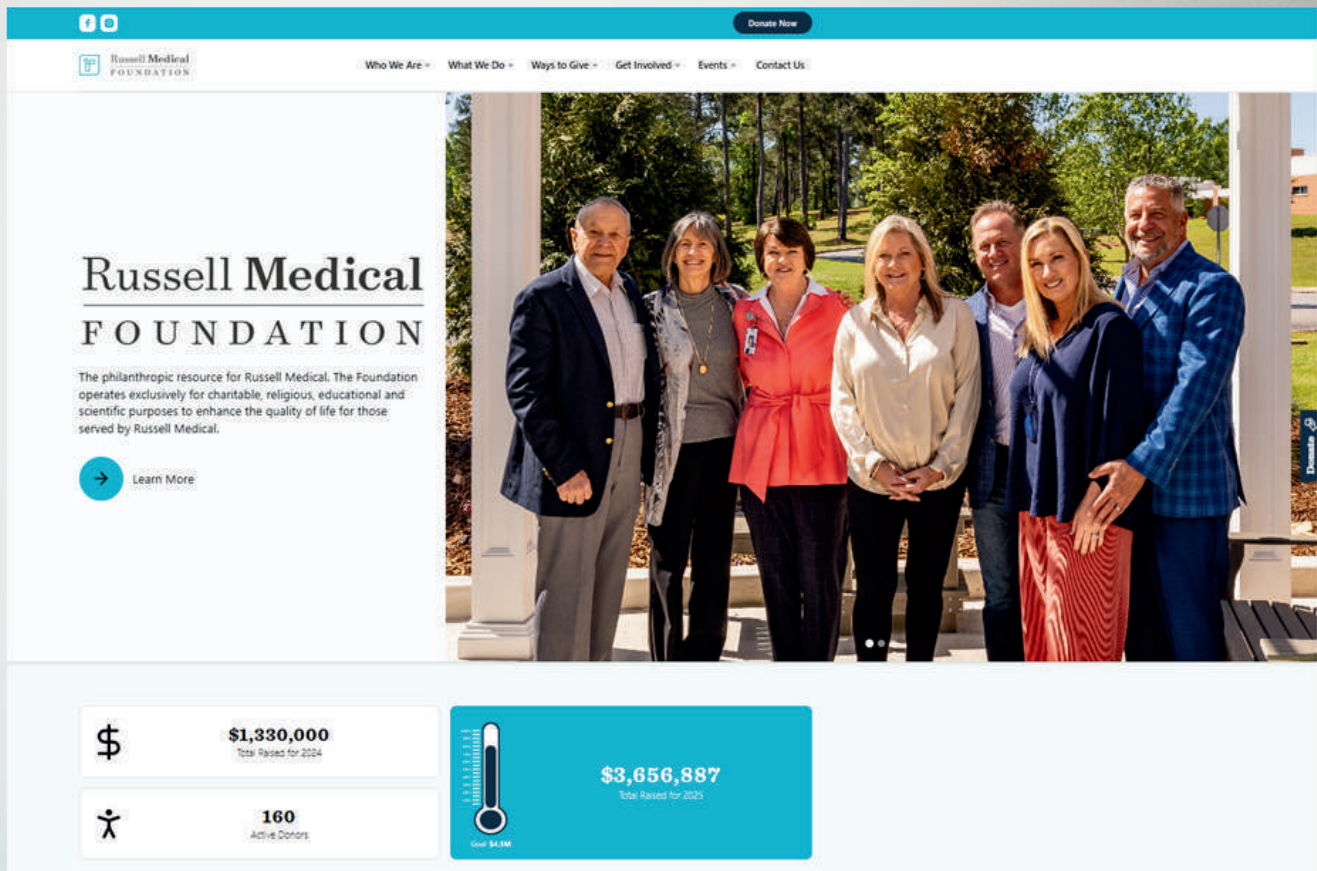
Allie Reams

Central High School of Clay County

Mackenzie Mullins



A New Way to Connect: Russell Medical Foundation Launched Its Website in 2025



In 2025, the Russell Medical Foundation proudly unveiled its brand-new website—an exciting and much-needed upgrade designed to better serve our donors and community.

The new platform offers a true one-stop shop, making it easier than ever to make a donation, learn about upcoming events, track our fundraising progress, and connect with the Foundation in ways that simply weren't possible before.

This enhanced digital home reflects our commitment to transparency, accessibility, and innovation. We hope the new site not only improves your experience but also shines a brighter light on the meaningful work being done to support Russell Medical and the health of our community.

Visit us at www.russellmedicalfoundation.com.

Investing in the Future

The Hendersons Spark Surgery Suite Renovations

Russell Medical is honored to recognize Dwight and Sherry Henderson for their landmark \$1.5 million contribution that launched Phase 1 of our Surgery Suite renovations. Their generosity is paving the way for essential upgrades to both the facility and its equipment.

These improvements will streamline the entire patient experience from check-in to check-out. Thanks to the Hendersons' leadership and commitment to advancing care, Russell Medical is taking an important step toward a more efficient, patient-centered surgical environment that will benefit our community for years to come.



Revitalizing Care Environments: Honoring Donors Through Room Dedications

Throughout the past year, the Russell Medical Foundation has partnered with generous donors to elevate the healing environment across our hospital. Their contributions have supported meaningful upgrades - from modernized technology to enhanced comfort features for families and staff. Each renovated space reflects a commitment not only to exceptional care, but to the people who receive it and the teams who provide it. Through room dedications and targeted enhancements, our donors are helping create a more welcoming, compassionate, and efficient environment for every person who walks through our doors. Their investment is transforming spaces—and lives—with lasting impact.



2nd Floor Room Dedications

Creating Comfort for Moments That Matter

Family Waiting Room

Russell Medical is deeply grateful to Chris and Tina Bodine for their generous gift to renovate the 2nd Floor Waiting Room. Their donation has transformed this important space into a more welcoming, comforting environment for families awaiting news about their loved ones. With thoughtful updates designed to offer calm, comfort, and support during some of life's most stressful moments, the Bodines' generosity is making a meaningful difference for countless patients and families who rely on Russell Medical each day.



Honoring Legacy Through Leadership

Made Possible by Drs. Paul and Michele Goldhagen

Student Lounge and Hospital Emergency Medicine Leadership Office



Russell Medical is grateful to Drs. Paul and Michele Goldhagen for their generous support in renovating two key spaces within our hospital: the Student Lounge and the Hospital Emergency Medicine (HEM) Leadership Office. Their gift enhances both the learning environment for future healthcare professionals and the workspace that guides our emergency medicine team.

The HEM Leadership Office was dedicated in memory of Andrea Stewart-Adams, a cherished CRNP in Emergency Medicine who tragically lost her battle with cancer. Andrea's commitment to compassionate care continues to inspire all who knew her. We were honored to welcome her family at the dedication and to celebrate her enduring legacy.

Thanks to the Goldhagens, these revitalized spaces now stand as a tribute to Andrea's impact and as a renewed investment in the caregivers who serve our community every day.



We were humbled and honored to welcome Andrea's family, who joined us to celebrate her life and see the space that now bears her name. Their presence made the moment especially heartfelt as we reflected on the impact Andrea had on patients, coworkers, and the community she served.

Thanks to the Goldhagens, these revitalized spaces now stand as a tribute to both Andrea's impact and as a renewed investment in the future caregivers who will serve our community every day.

Supporting Those Who Serve

The Clegg's Commitment to Emergency Medicine



Hospital Emergency Medicine Office

Russell Medical extends heartfelt gratitude to Cliff and Sarah Clegg for their generous donation to renovate the Hospital Emergency Medicine Office. This refreshed space provides our Emergency Department team with a quiet, functional area to work, think, and recharge away from the daily intensity of the ED. The Cleggs intentionally chose a project that would directly benefit the staff who care for our community during its most critical moments. Their thoughtful investment strengthens the well-being of our frontline caregivers and enhances the work environment for those who give so much.



Strengthening Teamwork Through Space

The Stoughs' Gift to Nursing

2nd Floor Nurse's Conference Room



Russell Medical is grateful to Vaughn and Peggy Stough for their generous donation to renovate the Nurses Conference Room, a space used daily by our nursing staff to review and coordinate care for every patient in the hospital. Thanks to their support, the room now features a spacious conference table, upgraded Wi-Fi, and a large screen for seamless virtual collaboration with our off-site nutritionist. The Stoughs' thoughtful investment ensures our nurses have a productive, modern workspace—empowering them to deliver the highest level of care to the patients and families we proudly serve.



The Panettieres' Transformative Gift

Panettiere Imaging Suite

Russell Medical is honored to recognize John and Wendy Panettiere and the Panettiere Family Foundation for their extraordinary support following the 2024 Reflections on Lake Martin event. Their generous matching contribution is helping make possible one of the most significant advancements in recent years: the purchase of a new MRI machine and the complete renovation of our Outpatient Imaging Office.

As longtime friends of the Russell Medical Foundation, the Panettieres have played an essential role in shaping the growth of our hospital. Their continued commitment has enabled numerous upgrades across our campus, each one enhancing the care, comfort, and experience of the patients we serve.



This latest gift reflects their belief in the power of advanced technology and patient-centered design. The new MRI and reimagined imaging space will offer faster, more accurate diagnostics in an environment that is modern, efficient, and welcoming.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Panettieres for their unwavering partnership. Their generosity continues to elevate the quality of care at Russell Medical, and their impact will be felt by thousands of patients and families for years to come.



STERLING — G A T E —

A New Standard for Senior Independent Living on the Russell Medical Campus

Nestled on the grounds of Russell Medical, Sterling Gate is redefining what independent senior living can look like in our community. Designed with comfort, convenience, and wellness in mind, Sterling Gate will ultimately feature 26 luxury cottages for lease, offering residents a beautiful, maintenance-free lifestyle with the unique benefit of being connected to a premier healthcare campus.

What sets Sterling Gate apart is its thoughtful blend of independence and support. Residents will enjoy an array of amenities tailored to enhance daily living, including a meds-to-beds pharmacy program, meal delivery service, and a membership to Total Fitness. These offerings ensure that wellness, nutrition, and peace of mind are all built into life at Sterling Gate.

This visionary project was made possible through a landmark donation by Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Luanne Russell, whose generosity continues to shape the future of health and wellness in our region. Their commitment to creating a vibrant, supportive environment for seniors reflects a long-standing belief in investing in community care at every stage of life.

Sterling Gate represents more than cottages, it is a forward-thinking model for independent living, centered around connection, security, and quality of life. As the community continues to grow, it is poised to become one of the most innovative and desirable living options in the Lake Martin area.



For more information or to schedule a tour, please call 256-215-7459.

Introducing Cutting-Edge Technology to Our Community



Thanks to extraordinary donor generosity and vital grant support, Russell Medical is preparing to bring a state-of-the-art PET/CT scanner to our hospital—an advancement that will transform cancer care across our region. PET/CT imaging is now the standard of care for diagnosing, staging, and monitoring treatment for many cancers, yet access has long been limited for patients within our nine-county service area, often resulting in weeks-long delays or long-distance travel for lifesaving scans.

Through the combined efforts of our supporters, the Russell Medical Foundation is proud to contribute 73% of the funding Russell Medical is responsible for, ensuring this project becomes a reality. This remarkable collaboration underscores what is possible when community partners, philanthropic leaders, and strategic funding sources work together to improve patient care.

The new PET/CT scanner will significantly enhance timely access to advanced imaging—allowing patients to stay close to home, receive faster diagnoses, and begin treatment without delay. Russell Medical is deeply grateful to every donor whose generosity is powering this essential upgrade and strengthening cancer care for families throughout our region.

Community Partnerships

Investing in Community Wellness

The Russell Medical Foundation is proud to champion a wide range of initiatives that strengthen community wellness and engagement throughout our region. From supporting local health education and preventive screenings to sponsoring programs that encourage active lifestyles and family well-being, the Foundation remains committed to enhancing the overall quality of life for the communities we serve. Through these ongoing efforts, we continue to build a healthier, more connected future for all.



TigerCHAT

CHAT, for Community Health, Awareness, and Training, is doing just that! The program is seen as an opportunity to partner with rural community schools to initiate health education. The school-based, health education curriculum is aimed toward developing sustainable healthy behaviors, promoting wellness and preventing disease. The Russell Medical Foundation and the Auburn College of Nursing's TigerCHAT recently marked 7 years of collaboration. During this time, the program has reached 10,000 students in Tallapoosa County elementary schools.



High School Athletics

The Russell Medical Foundation, in collaboration with Russell Medical Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine and Total Fitness Physical Therapy, has graciously funded new equipment for Benjamin Russell High School and Horseshoe Bend School athletic events. This support includes medical tents and essential sports medicine equipment, ensuring our on-site staff can deliver quality care if an injury should occur.



Baby Steps

Baby Steps, a program launched in 2025, is a pre-birth education session offered by Russell Medical's Maternal Child Department to help expecting mothers prepare for delivery and beyond. The sessions, held once a quarter, offer the opportunity for pre-partum mothers and families to meet their care team, receive a tour of the birthing suites, and receive necessary education to support them as they welcome their new addition.



AUTLive

The Russell Medical Foundation, has been blessed to be an annual recipient of an AUTLive Cancer Campaign donation. AUTLive, a program started by Coach Bruce Pearl while at the University of Tennessee, was brought to Auburn in 2014 when Coach Pearl was hired. Since then, the Russell Medical Foundation and the UAB - Russell Medical Cancer Center have been able to provide funding to patients who need financial support during their treatments. From medications to transportation, the only fight our patients need to face is the one happening inside their body. We are grateful to AUTLive and the Pearl Family Foundation for their continued support.



CONNECTING COMMUNITY THROUGH EVENTS



While the Russell Medical Foundation did not host a major fundraising gala this year, we were proud to offer a series of meaningful community events that brought people together in support of exceptional care at Russell Medical. From the energetic Tutu 2.2 Fun Run during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to our milestone 10th Annual Golf Invitational, to a captivating evening with a world-class Mentalist, each event provided a fun and engaging way for supporters to make a difference. Every dollar raised directly benefits Russell Medical, helping enhance patient care, upgrade critical equipment, and support programs that serve our community.

THE MENTALIST

An Evening of Wonder

Mentalist Christopher Carter Mesmerizes Alexander City



This fall, the Russell Medical Foundation was thrilled to welcome Christopher Carter, world-renowned Mentalist, to Alexander City for an unforgettable night of entertainment. Nearly 150 friends, supporters, and Russell Medical employees gathered at The Mill 280 to have their minds read, only to leave with their minds completely blown. Carter's high-energy performance, astonishing predictions, and impossible-to-explain feats kept the crowd captivated from start to finish.

Events like this not only bring excitement and connection to our community, but also help strengthen the mission of the Russell Medical Foundation as we continue supporting exceptional care at Russell Medical.



Tutu 2.2 Fun Run

Running for Hope



This year's Tutu 2.2 Fun Run brought together more than 300 participants to raise awareness and support for Breast Cancer and the UAB-Russell Medical Cancer Center. Families, friends, survivors, and supporters ran, walked, and cheered in a powerful display of community unity. One of the event's most inspiring moments came from Erin Dean (pictured above), cancer survivor and Russell Medical CRNP, who delivered a moving address about her journey and the joy of living in remission.

Events like the Tutu Run highlight just how vital it is for our community to stand together—and how fortunate we are to have exceptional cancer care right here at home. Thanks to the Russell Medical Cancer Center, patients can fight their diagnosis surrounded by top-tier medical expertise and the unwavering support of neighbors, friends, and loved ones.



10th ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL

A Decade of Impact



This year, the Russell Medical Foundation proudly celebrated a major milestone—the 10th Annual Golf Invitational, held at the beautiful Wicker Point Golf Club. The event began with a special Donor Appreciation reception the evening before, honoring the supporters who make our mission possible.

Tournament day brought together golfers, sponsors, and friends for a memorable day on the course, all in support of advancing cancer care in our region. Proceeds from this year's Invitational directly benefit the UAB-Russell Medical Cancer Center and played an important role in helping fund the purchase of our new PET/CT machine, a critical tool for early detection and timely treatment planning. For ten years, this cherished event has combined community, camaraderie, and purpose—and its impact continues to drive lifesaving progress at Russell Medical.



Thank you to our Sponsors!



**Team Net Winners
Blue Cross Blue Shield**



**Team Gross Winners
Clegg Boys**



Welcome To Our New Physicians and Clinics

Dr. Blake Pritchett - Podiatrist

Phone Number: 256-414-6210

Location: Benjamin Russell Center for Advanced Care

Address: 3520 Highway 280 Alexander City, AL 35010



Dr. Dwight Baker - Wound Care

Phone Number: 256-215-7450

Location: Wound Care Clinic

Office Address: 55 Allison Drive Alexander City, AL 35010



The Center for Pain

Phone Number: 334-288-7808

Location: Russell Medical Professional Building - Suite 214

Office Address: 3368 Highway 280 Alexander City, AL 35010



Renal Associates

Phone Number: 844-294-1550

Location: Russell Medical Professional Building

Office Address: 3368 Highway 280 Alexander City, AL 35010



Hypertension, Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation Clinic

Phone Number: 256-409-1500

Location: Russell Medical Professional Building - Suite 100

Office Address: 3368 Highway 280 Alexander City, AL 35010

A Letter From Our CEO



Dear Foundation Friends,

As we enter the holiday season, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your support of Russell Medical through the Russell Medical Foundation. Your generosity has helped us save lives in ways only the history books will write. Through scholarships for future healthcare givers to new diagnostic equipment, or the remodel of areas of our facility... others will be blessed from your gifts and kind hearts.

Thank you for believing in our vision, for being a partner to our progress, and for helping us make a meaningful impact for those we serve. From our dedicated staff members to our committed physicians, we are honored you chose to support Russell Medical and acknowledge how blessed we truly are to call you a Friend of our Foundation.

As I end my tenure here at Russell Medical, it's been an honor to serve and a blessing to meet so many of you. From the first year we publicly introduced our Foundation, to the last event held. It has been a joy to serve and one I will always cherish.

Last year we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Russell Medical. It is my hope that next year we celebrate the success of our Foundations first Comprehensive Campaign, allowing our hospital to be better, grow stronger, care for more and successfully become "The Best".

Jim Peace

President/CEO of Russell Medical

Legacy of Care

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