

OPEN LINES SPECIAL EDITION

150 Years

AT UF HEALTH JACKSONVILLE

1870 – 2020

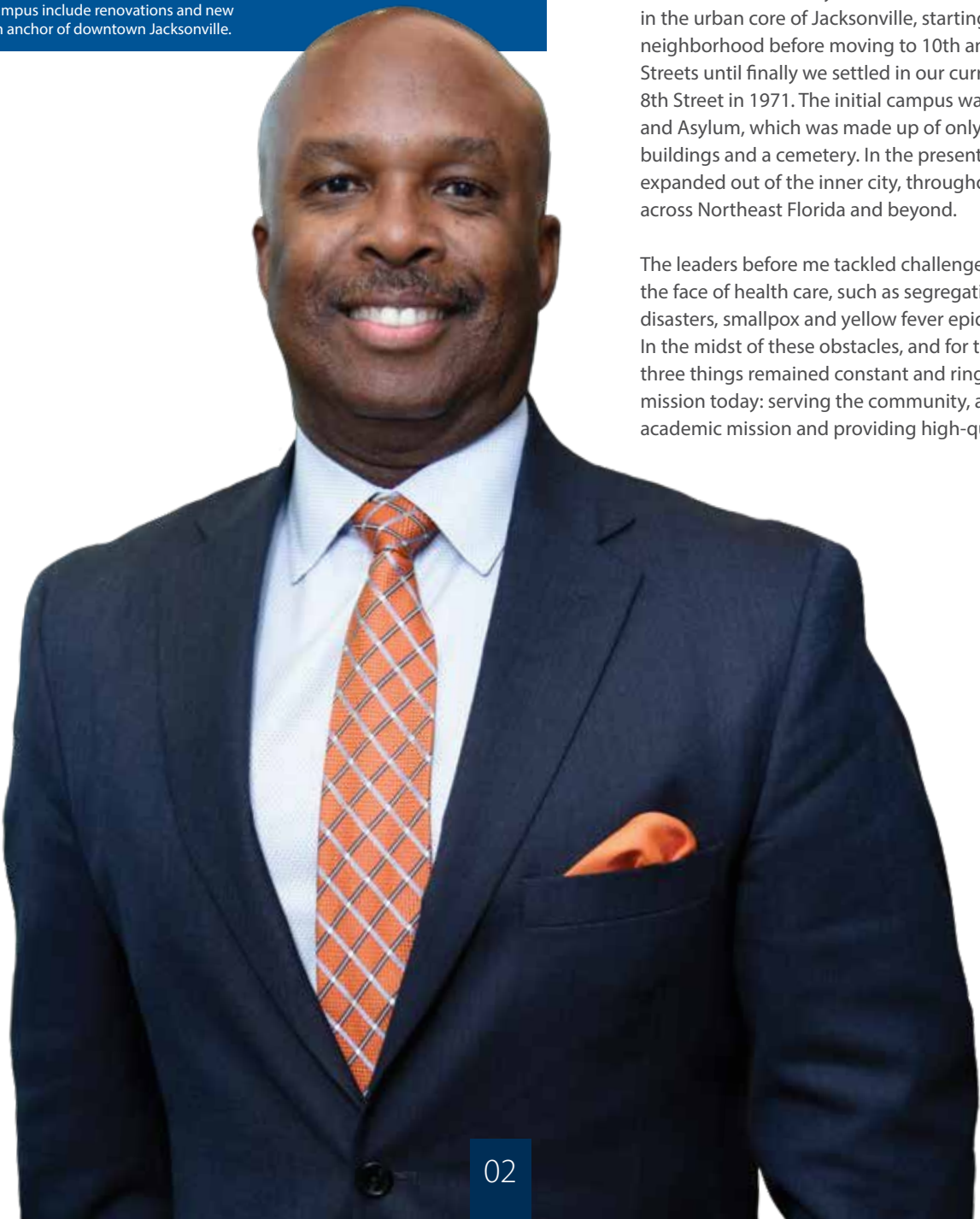
Celebrating more
than a century
of innovative and
compassionate care.



LETTER FROM THE CEO: 150th ANNIVERSARY



Plans for the downtown campus include renovations and new construction to become an anchor of downtown Jacksonville.



Reflecting on the past

As 2020 comes to an end, it will be remembered as a challenging year for our enterprise. It will forever serve as proof of our ability to adapt and evolve even in the most difficult circumstances. COVID-19 took us by storm, but one day at a time, we found ways to address obstacles in our path. Never before have the words of our mission — to heal, to comfort, to educate and to discover — been so true.

While 2020 may be marked as the “Year of the Pandemic,” we cannot forget that it was also UF Health Jacksonville’s 150th anniversary.

For most of our history, UF Health Jacksonville existed in the urban core of Jacksonville, starting in the Oakland neighborhood before moving to 10th and Jefferson Streets until finally we settled in our current location on 8th Street in 1971. The initial campus was Duval Hospital and Asylum, which was made up of only three small buildings and a cemetery. In the present day, we’ve expanded out of the inner city, throughout Jacksonville, across Northeast Florida and beyond.

The leaders before me tackled challenges that changed the face of health care, such as segregation, natural disasters, smallpox and yellow fever epidemics, and more. In the midst of these obstacles, and for the past 150 years, three things remained constant and ring true to our mission today: serving the community, advancing the academic mission and providing high-quality patient care.

Looking to the Future

As we reflect on our history, we must also look toward the future. Our vision is to be the region’s most valued health care asset. This means patients know and trust us beyond Jacksonville city limits, providers from around the globe want to work here, groundbreaking research that advances patient care is conducted here, and we improve the well-being of the community by tackling social determinants of health.

There are four strategic pillars in place that serve as the core of the work we do every day to help us achieve this vision.

Advancing Health Care Excellence

- Develop a unique regional, integrated health care system for the future that is nimble and provides high-quality patient care.
- Construct leading-edge campuses, including renovations and significant new construction to the 8th Street campus so we become the northern anchor for a new science and technology corridor that is part of downtown Jacksonville.
 - Build a second bed tower at UF Health North to meet the growing need for patient care in the surrounding area.
 - Enhance strategic health care alliances at Wildlight.
 - Develop and implement an emergency care network to augment market presence, increase access to care and reach more patients.
 - Partner with Flagler+ Health to expand the network in St. Johns County, creating a strong UF Health presence along the I-95 corridor.

Accelerating Discovery and Reimagining Education

Be a recognized leader in academic excellence.

- Establish a “true” regional medical school campus with dedicated medical students for the third and fourth year of medical school.
- Pursue and conduct groundbreaking studies to help advance patient care. Currently, we are conducting more than 550 studies.
- Increase alliances with the UF colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy, as well as our hospital-based allied health programs.

Improving Health through Community Connection

Improve the health and well-being of our community.

- Develop and collaborate on new programs and initiatives to help reduce gaps in health disparities.
- Establish and leverage strategic alliances to collectively reach and impact more community members.

Building Tomorrow’s Workforce

Have the very best health care workforce.

- Train and prepare the next generation of diverse and inclusive health leaders.
- Offer top internal training and education programs and leadership opportunities.

The vision lies with you and the work you do every day. The successes and advancements of this organization over the past 150 years have set us up to move medicine forward with every patient we serve.

We will work to achieve this vision together as One UF.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, MHSA
CEO, UF Health Jacksonville
Dean, UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville

Future plans include building a second bed tower at UF Health North.



Developing an emergency care network throughout Jacksonville will offer increased access to care.

BUILDING A 150-YEAR LEGACY

The Evolution of UF Health Jacksonville from 1870 to 2020

BY ENNIS DAVIS



04

During the late 19th century, asylums were commonly built in areas outside towns and cities to remove highly contagious tuberculosis patients from their home environments, and to provide fresh air in a rustic setting. In a once-rural area of Jacksonville, the first of several medical institutions that would eventually combine to form UF Health Jacksonville was born.

A New Hospital and Nursing School

On June 4, 1870, land was acquired in the community of Oakland to build the Duval Hospital and Asylum for those who were incapable of working. The medical campus — consisting of three small buildings and a cemetery to serve the county's aged, infirm, indigent and mentally ill — was located at Jessie and Franklin streets. Seven years later, a new, spacious one-story building was completed at the hospital. The facility housed a kitchen, a chicken house and an isolation building for tuberculosis patients.

With new railroad lines reaching the region and clustering around the African-American suburb of LaVilla in the early 1880s, Jacksonville emerged as a Gilded Age resort for tourists from the North. Outbreaks, such as the smallpox epidemic of 1883 and the yellow fever epidemic of 1888, along with a growing African-American population, resulted in the expansion of medical facilities to serve the local area. This included the 1883 construction of an isolation pavilion, an 1888 renovation and the hiring of a full-time physician at Duval Hospital and Asylum.



The Boylan Industrial Training School for Girls by the Women's Home Missionary Union Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established in 1886.

Additionally, the Boylan Industrial Training School for Girls by the Women's Home Missionary Union Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established in 1886. Located at the intersection of Davis and Duval Streets in LaVilla, the school was named after benefactor Ann Boylan DeGroot, created with the purpose of educating young Black women to become missionaries and tend to the needs of the sick.

Recognizing a need for continuing medical services for the city's Black community, the Women's Home Missionary Union Society acquired property adjacent to its Boylan campus to establish a nurse training program and hospital through a donation made by Matilda Cutting Brewster of Danielson, Connecticut. Named in honor of her late husband, the George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training opened in January 1901 as a one-room treatment unit consisting of a cot, a table and a few chairs.

The Great Fire of 1901

A few months later, life in Jacksonville and the impact on its medical community would change forever. On May 3, 1901, a small fire at LaVilla's Cleveland Fiber Factory spiraled out of control, leading to one of the worst disasters in Florida's history. By the end of the day, more than 146 city blocks had been destroyed by the fire, leaving 10,000 residents homeless. The Great Fire of 1901 would go on to become the third-largest urban fire in U.S. history, behind the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

In the following decade, a post-fire redevelopment boom transformed the city into a modern metropolis of 57,699 structures built of brick, concrete and steel. With African-Americans being the largest demographic within the increasingly congested city, both LaVilla and Oakland densified, resulting in space constraints for the once-rural campus of Duval Hospital and Asylum and the George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training.

In 1910, the Boylan Industrial Training School for Girls relocated across town to Oakland, after completing construction of a new, four-story brick structure adjacent to Duval Hospital and Asylum. With Boylan's original campus being redeveloped into multifamily housing, Brewster Hospital also relocated to LaVilla.

In 1914, St. Luke's Hospital relocated to what is now the main campus of UF Health Jacksonville, opening a new, larger hospital on an 8.5-acre site bounded by Boulevard, 8th, Jefferson and 10th Streets along Hogans Creek, just west of Springfield. This section of town eventually became known as the prestigious African-American community of Sugar Hill.



The George A. Brewster Hospital opened in 1901.



The Brewster School of Nurse Training.

05



Brewster Methodist Hospital.



Groundbreaking ceremony for Plaza Tower I in 1973.

Duval Medical and Brewster Methodist

Nearly a decade later, in 1923, a new, 50-bed general hospital, originally intended to replace the tuberculosis center on county grounds, opened at the intersection of 10th and Jefferson Streets. A referendum was passed in 1916 to fund the project, but construction was delayed due to World War I. Three years later, the hospital was expanded to 200 beds, replacing Oakland's Duval Hospital and Asylum. Designed by the famous architect Henry John Klutho, the \$400,000 Duval County Medical Center was called the "most modern and best-equipped hospital in the South."

Following a 1915 relocation from LaVilla to 1001 W. Union St., Brewster Hospital became the third hospital to open a larger, modern facility. Overlooking Hogans Creek and Springfield Park, Brewster's \$300,000, 95-bed facility was Florida's largest for African Americans. It was dedicated on March 29, 1931, and operated until 1966.

Over the next 33 years, Brewster incrementally expanded from an initial 75-bed to a 163-bed medical facility overlooking Springfield Park. During this time, the hospital was renamed Brewster Methodist Hospital.

When the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson, it became illegal for hospitals to remain segregated, or to discriminate against minority groups. This set in motion changes that led to the closure of Brewster Methodist as a segregated hospital on Sept. 30, 1966.

The medical institution reopened on Oct. 1, 1967, as an integrated acute care general service hospital called Methodist Hospital. With its closing, conversion and reopening under a new charter and board, the 134-bed Methodist Hospital became the first all-private room, private bath hospital in the state.

Becoming Part of The Gator Nation

Through the Hogans Creek Redevelopment Program, adjacent residential areas of Sugar Hill gave way to the continued expansion of the medical district. In 1968, ground was broken on a new, eight-story hospital for

Duval County Medical Center. Dedicated on Aug. 14, 1971, the 485-bed medical center was renamed University Hospital due to its affiliation with the University of Florida. It was subsequently renamed University Medical Center in 1989.

Across the street, ground was broken in 1973 on the 10-story Methodist Hospital Plaza Tower I. Completed in 1975, a twin 10-story building, Methodist Hospital Plaza Tower II, opened June 29, 1980, with an enclosed shopping mall tying the two high-rises together.

Expansion at Methodist Hospital continued with the 1984 acquisition of the neighboring St. Luke's Hospital campus, which would eventually relocate to the Southside.

In 1988, ground was broken for a new medical facility for Methodist Hospital, known today as the Pavilion on the UF Health Jacksonville downtown campus. Opening in December 1988, Methodist Hospital was renamed Methodist Medical Center.

From Shands Jacksonville to UF Health Jacksonville

In 1999, University Medical Center and Methodist Medical Center merged, becoming Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, an affiliate of the University of Florida and Shands HealthCare in Gainesville. For the first time in 129 years of operation, what had originally begun as the Duval County Hospital and Asylum and George A. Brewster Hospital had become a single health care institution.

In 2013, Shands Jacksonville was renamed UF Health Jacksonville to strengthen the medical center's affiliation with the University of Florida. UF Health has continued to expand its presence with the opening of a new hospital, UF Health North, a new medical office building, UF Health Wildlight in Nassau County, and a network of more than 60 primary care and specialty practices throughout Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia.



The main entrance to the Methodist Medical Center, now known as the Pavilion.



The Davis Family Walkway opened in 1997, connecting the Pavilion to Tower II.



In 1999, University and Methodist merged to form Shands Jacksonville Medical Center.

THEN & NOW

The field of nursing has changed quite a bit over the years. See how things, such as tuition costs and uniform requirements, have evolved since the early 1900s.

FUNFACTS



THEN

JOB DUTIES

NOW

Nurses in the early 1900s were required to do a wide array of duties, including:

- Changing and laundering linens
- Housekeeping (scrubbing the floors)
- Preparing meals
- Ordering supplies
- Caring for patients
- Studying to advance knowledge in the field

Today, modern nurses have hundreds of career opportunities that didn't exist 100 years ago. Nurses have other options outside patient care, including leadership roles or training in a specialty area, such as developmental disability nursing, home health nursing, informatics nursing, psychiatric nursing, triage nursing and more.



THEN

EDUCATION AND TUITION

NOW

In 1904, tuition costs were \$1.50 per student. By the 1930s, nursing school tuition cost about \$35 per year, and training lasted three years. The cost covered room and board, laundry services and medical care. Students were required to attend daily classes and religious services, provide care to patients and work rotating eight-hour hospital shifts.

Modern nurses can pursue higher education, depending on the career paths they choose. Nurses can earn their R.N., bachelor's, master's or even a doctoral degree. Tuition costs vary, based on the program and school. On average, nurses in Jacksonville earn \$25 – \$30 per hour, with the opportunity for overtime throughout the year.



THEN

UNIFORMS

NOW

Nurses at the Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training wore white, cotton caps that were stiffly starched to stand on their heads. Graduate nurses had wide black velvet bands on their caps. Student nurses had different bands on their caps to distinguish their classifications.

Today, nurses have much freedom in their uniform choices. Depending on work assignments, departments or organizations, nurses may wear traditional hospital scrubs or something a bit more personalized. It's not uncommon to see nurses in scrubs with fun patterns as well, ranging from floral prints to cartoon characters. The strict requirements to wear white caps and no makeup are a thing of the past.



1

Brewster Hospital and the Brewster School of Nurse Training were established as two of the most-needed institutions in Jacksonville in the early 1900s. It was the first hospital for Blacks in Florida, and one of the two schools of nursing for Blacks in the Southeast.

2

The Florence Nightingale Pledge pays tribute to Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. It was written in 1893, but has been updated throughout the years to reflect modern times. It is often recited at graduations or special programs and events.

3

In 1916, the Florida Legislative Nurses Registration Act took effect. This required nurses in the state with the appropriate training and experience to take an examination to qualify for registration. They became what we know today as a "registered nurse," or R.N.

4

Nurses have incredible tools that didn't exist more than 100 years ago, which have helped make their jobs safer and more efficient, from latex gloves, protective gear and disinfectant to smartphones, tablets and internet access.

5

During World War II, the Brewster School of Nurse Training began participating in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps. The purpose of the Cadet Nurse Corps was to recruit and train young women in nursing, and to increase the number of nurses willing to serve their country, while ensuring there were still enough nurses to serve the civilian population. Participants were given a stipend, assistance with books and tuition, and special U.S. Cadet Nurses Corps uniforms.

6

Today, nursing is a field appealing to both men and women. It's a career that attracts professionals of all races, religions and creeds. It even attracts returning students who may have had gaps in their education or those who want to make a career change.

7

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment Projections 2016 – 2026, registered nursing is listed among the top occupations in terms of job growth through 2026. The Bureau projects the need for an additional 203,700 new R.N.s each year through 2026 to fill new positions and to replace retiring nurses.

8

Technology has transformed how modern nurses work.

- RFID-enabled devices make monitoring hospital assets easier, ranging from drugs and equipment to records and patients.
- High-tech equipment and web cams that can monitor vital signs make caring for multiple patients much easier, and have changed how hospitals operate.
- Electronic records are easily managed, accessed and maintained through tablets and wireless workstations.
- Applications like Zoom and Skype can be used in place of some in-person training sessions.

9

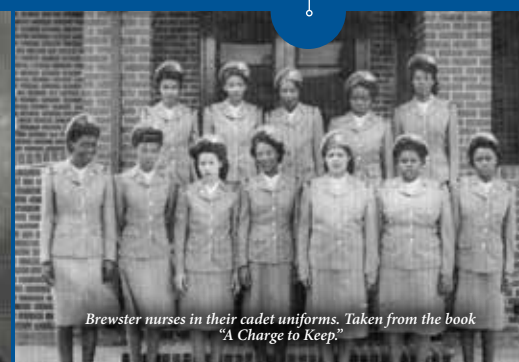
Nurses in 2020 have increased flexibility in their work schedules, compared with those in 1901. For example, nurses in some areas may work longer shifts but fewer days.

10

The majority of the workforce in most hospitals is composed of nurses.

11

On average, nurses walk four to five miles every 12-hour shift they work.



Brewster nurses in their cadet uniforms. Taken from the book "A Charge to Keep."



Celebrating

150 Years of Caring for the Community.

1870 – 2020

Our roots in the city go back to 1870. From our humble beginning as Duval Hospital and Asylum to making history with new health care breakthroughs as UF Health Jacksonville, our unrelenting goal to provide high-quality patient care has not changed. In this timeline, follow along on our 150-year journey and learn more about our growth.

1870

1870

- ▶ On June 4, 1870, land was purchased in the Oakland community to build Duval Hospital and Asylum, making it Florida's first non-military hospital. It originally consisted of three small buildings before a more spacious one-story building was constructed in 1877. This new facility housed a kitchen, a chicken house and a small back building for the asylum, where tuberculosis patients were isolated.



1915

- ▶ Brewster Hospital relocated to 1001 W. Union St., putting the hospital closer to the growing African-American population.



1901

- ▶ Land for the George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training was acquired at 915 W. Monroe St. in Jacksonville's LaVilla neighborhood. Brewster was the only institution treating and training African Americans at that time.
- ▶ Recognizing a need for medical services for the African-American community, the Brewster School of Nurse Training opened a small, one-room treatment unit in a cottage on Lee Street. Equipment consisted solely of a cot, a table and a few chairs.
- ▶ After the Great Fire of 1901, the Brewster School of Nurse Training became the relief center for African-American victims of the fire.



1925

- ▶ The first surgical residency program in Florida was established at Duval Hospital.



1926

- ▶ Duval Hospital and Asylum moved to a 230-bed facility in Jacksonville's Springfield area and was named Duval County Hospital.



1948

- ▶ Duval County Hospital was renamed Duval County Medical Center on June 23, 1948.



1969

- ▶ The Jacksonville Health Education Program, based at Duval Medical Center, became an extension service of the UF College of Medicine.

UF College of Medicine –
Jacksonville
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

1931

- ▶ As a leader in treatment and training, Brewster Hospital built a new facility at 1640 N. Jefferson St. in Springfield, just a few blocks from Duval County Hospital.
- ▶ The new 95-bed facility was dedicated on March 29, 1931, and named Brewster Methodist Hospital. It was Florida's largest hospital for African Americans at the time.



1966 – 1967

- ▶ In 1966, Brewster Methodist Hospital closed, following the passage of the Civil Rights Act two years earlier. The new law allowed African-American patients to go to any hospital they chose, causing Brewster Methodist to lose business.
- ▶ A year later, Brewster Methodist reopened as Methodist Hospital, featuring 134 all-private rooms.





1971

- ▶ Duval Medical Center was renamed University Hospital after a new affiliation with the University of Florida. The 485-bed facility, located on 8th Street across from Methodist Hospital, was dedicated on Aug. 14, 1971.



1980

- ▶ Methodist Hospital opened Plaza Tower II, which is known as Tower II today. Plaza Tower II had exceptional amenities for a health care facility, including physician offices, Florida's first comprehensive hospice program, the Methodist Pathway Center for recovery from addiction, and offices and meeting rooms. The facility also included gift shops, restaurants, a bakery, pharmacy, bank, florist and cafeteria.



1989

- ▶ University Hospital was renamed University Medical Center.



2013

- ▶ Shands Jacksonville was renamed UF Health Jacksonville.



2017

- ▶ UF Health opened a 92-bed inpatient hospital on the UF Health North campus.

2020

1975

- ▶ Methodist Hospital opened its first medical tower, Plaza Tower I, which is now known as Tower I.



1988

- ▶ Methodist Hospital was renamed Methodist Medical Center after the Dec. 1, 1988, opening of its new hospital on the former site of the old St. Luke's Hospital.



1999

- ▶ Shands Jacksonville was created when Shands HealthCare, University Medical Center and Methodist Medical Center joined forces to establish one health care institution in Northeast Florida.



2015

- ▶ The new UF Health North medical office building opened on Jacksonville's Northside. The facility includes an emergency room, physician offices and diagnostics services.



Compiling photos, articles and other materials that tell our 150-year story has been a large undertaking, to say the least. It has taken a small village to piece it together — and we are still adding more items to the website timeline. Please visit history.UFHealthJax.org to read more about the rich, diverse history of UF Health Jacksonville.

Celebrating
150 Years of Caring for the Community.
1870 – 2020



Photo 1: Cecil Wright was born at Brewster Hospital, and is now celebrating 59 years as an employee at UF Health Jacksonville.

Photo 2: Cecil Wright attended Edward Waters College while working at Brewster Hospital.

Photo 3: Cecil Wright with Marcus Drewa, the hospital administrator and CEO for three decades, beginning in 1966.

UF Health Jacksonville employee who was born at Brewster Hospital celebrates 59 years with the company.

Brewster Baby Cecil Wright

BY MARY HARVEY

Employees at UF Health Jacksonville know Cecil Wright as a hard worker with a vibrant and giving personality. What they may not know is that her journey with the organization dates back to her birth.

"When I was born at Brewster Hospital," said Cecil Wright, "my family lived in a house on 13th Street, and I learned my brother was also born at Brewster."

In addition to being a "Brewster baby," Wright later worked at Brewster for a number of years.

"I started when I was a student at Edward Waters College. I'd be at the hospital and the school a half day each," Wright said.

She continued to work at Brewster in the Medical Records department through the transition to Methodist Hospital and eventual change to UF Health Jacksonville.

"It's like working with family," Wright said.

One thing she remembers about Brewster is how beautiful the hospital was, with its big, green lawn and azaleas in bloom around the building.

Cecil recalled the year there was a rumor that

Brewster Hospital, then part of Methodist Hospital, was closing. She started to look for another job, and when she found one, she went to Marcus Drewa, the hospital administrator, to submit her resignation. Drewa told her he didn't want her to leave, and persuaded her to stay.

"I'm glad I stayed," Wright said. "Mr. Drewa was like family to the employees."

In addition to her work, Wright enjoys many types of volunteer work. She has been a Girl Scout leader and a Sunday school teacher for many years.

"I believe in a daily walk with God and maintaining your faith," Wright said.

She passed this passion of helping others to her children. Both her daughter, Sabrina, and her son, Sam, volunteered at the hospital in their youth. They were both recipients of the "12 Kids Who Care" award and they also received scouting honors for their volunteer work.

In 2020, Cecil celebrated 59 years as an employee, the longest tenure of anyone in the organization.

Visit [history.UFHealthJax.org](https://www.ufhealthjax.org) to read more stories like this one.





The Remarkable, Humbling and Inspiring Nature of Research

BY MARY HARVEY

Physicians and other key faculty members discuss the evolution and importance of research at the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville

Investigators at the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville have been at the forefront of medical discovery in this era of COVID-19. Their involvement, which includes goals to sufficiently address health inequities, is part of a legacy of research that has spanned well over 20 years.

However, research at the college can trace its roots back to 1925, when the first residency program in the state launched — a surgical residency at what was then Duval Hospital. Over the intervening years, the campus' academic endeavors came to affiliate with UF in Gainesville. In 2002, it became an independent campus in the UF system and the College of Medicine – Jacksonville was created.

“At that time, a benefit was that we could attract more research funding for our independent campus,” said Robert C. Nuss, MD, who served as the first dean of the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville.

“We frequently had multi-institutional clinical trials for the effectiveness of estrogen and progesterone replacement therapies, many led by Dr. Andrew Kaunitz,” Nuss said, referring to the longtime professor of obstetrics and gynecology. “And there were studies in cardiology, emergency medicine and pediatrics, many of them funded by the National Institutes of Health, with some of our research receiving grants from other sources.”

Dominick Angiolillo, MD, PhD, a professor of medicine and director of cardiovascular research at the college, says more recent research has been conducted to assess genetic profiles to individualize treatment in cardiology. His investigations are impacting the way patients are treated around the globe.

“We’re in an urban setting with a variety of patients across different age, ethnic and socioeconomic groups,” said Alexander Parker, PhD, the college’s senior associate dean for research. “Our research teams, past and present, are extremely important. Our deep commitment to conducting research that will advance care for the most vulnerable members of our community is remarkable, humbling and inspiring.”

“This is an area of great interest, not only to our physicians and patients, but also to professionals at health care systems throughout the world,” Angiolillo said. “We test the DNA of patients who require cardiac stent procedures and integrate this information with other clinical variables to make better-informed decisions about prescribing blood-thinning medications.”

BUILDING A RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

Mobeen Rathore, MD, a professor and associate chair of pediatrics who specializes in pediatric infectious disease, led the launch of a program in 1991 to provide clinical services to children with HIV/AIDS and their families. It was part of the first NIH grant for the UF Health Jacksonville campus and became the largest clinical research program at the college. Rathore said that development necessitated the creation of a research infrastructure on campus.

Phyllis Hendry, MD, a professor and associate chair of research for emergency medicine, said building an infrastructure for emergency medicine research was her initial goal when she formally started the division in 2008. That included creating a multidisciplinary team of physicians, coordinators and other personnel.

“This infrastructure led to the first NIH KL2, K23 and R01 awards for our college and millions of dollars in new funding. We have improved sepsis, COVID-19,

post-traumatic stress and pediatric care and developed new nonopioid approaches to pain management at the local and national level.”

In addition to a solid research infrastructure, stakeholders cite the college’s location as a key feature.



AN EDUCATIONAL EVOLUTION ON 8TH STREET

Surgery residents in 1979 gather for a group photo in front of what was then known as University Hospital. They trained under the Jacksonville Health Education Program, which preceded the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville.

The Jacksonville Health Education Program preceded the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville as the provider of graduate medical education on campus.

BY JESEF WILLIAMS

Graduate medical education on the UF Health Jacksonville campus has come a long way, from having just a handful of programs to nowadays featuring a dynamic roster of programs that combine to stand as the region’s premier provider of physician training.

Decades ago, the Jacksonville Health Education Program, or JHEP, was the sponsoring entity that provided training via residency programs. It began in 1969 at what was then Duval County Medical Center and operated as an extension service of the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville.

Back then, there were only eight residencies on campus: internal medicine, surgery, emergency medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopaedics, pathology, pediatrics and radiology. Years later, the oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program was introduced, as were fellowships in cardiology and gastroenterology.

Linda Edwards, MD, who completed her residency in internal medicine through JHEP, recalls how different things were back then compared with today.

“The size of the internal medicine residency program was about half the size it is now,” said Edwards, who today is senior associate dean for educational affairs at the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville.

“All faculty offices were in the hospital and the number of faculty was probably a dozen or so,” she said. “Call quarters were scattered throughout the hospital, as well as through conference rooms, given that the Learning Resource Center had not been built yet.”

There were fewer departments, as well. For instance, neurology was a division of medicine and emergency medicine was a division of surgery. However, those dynamics and much more began to change in 1985 when University Hospital was designated an affiliate of the University of Florida. That move strengthened the existing educational relationship between the hospital and university and established the UF Health Science Center Jacksonville.

Over the years, other key strides and feats have included:

- The establishment in 1983 of UF Health TraumaOne, which

remains the region’s only adult and pediatric Level I trauma center. That designation is an attractive feature for several of the residency programs, including surgery.

- The college receiving accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in 1995. Louis Russo, MD, and Ann Harwood-Nuss, MD, were instrumental in that effort.
- Designation of University Hospital in 1988 as the metropolitan campus for Gainesville’s UF Health Science Center. All faculty physicians based in Jacksonville became UF faculty.

Over time, other residency programs were added, with the most recent being urology and ophthalmology. Today, the college offers 16 accredited residency programs and 23 accredited fellowship programs. In addition, it offers nonstandard fellowship programs in 13 subspecialties.

That roster makes the college an attractive destination for prospective trainees. Each year, nearly 400 medical residents and fellows train on campus, coming from all throughout the United States and from several different countries.

Christopher Schwan, MD, who completed his residency in anesthesiology in 2019, is glad he chose the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville. “The combination of quality hands-on clinical training and didactic education prepared him well for practice.

“Medical school lays a great foundation to continue building a solid body of medical knowledge in residency,” Schwan said. “However, the skills that you master in residency are truly invaluable.”

Looking forward, Edwards and other leaders want to find ways to make the college an even more desirable destination. For instance, championing greater diversity will further strengthen an educational infrastructure that has enjoyed dedication from department chairs and program directors and years of consistency among key staff in the Office of Educational Affairs.

“While we have a diverse group of residents and faculty, our goal is to further enhance our diversity and be a more inclusive academic health center,” Edwards said.



Thank you to our contributors

As you might imagine, pulling together 150 years of history is a challenge. Materials become damaged as they age, or get misplaced during moves. Some are thrown out because, at the time, they didn't seem to have historical significance. With the help of two prominent Jacksonville historians, we have been able to fill in many of the gaps.

"The History Project," as it came to be known, began in December 2018. Over a period of two years, a group of 20 people spent hundreds of hours researching online archives; interviewing historians, current and former employees, physicians and allied medical professionals; and sifting through boxes of photographs, letters, newspaper clippings and other materials, to piece together the 150 years of UF Health Jacksonville's history. All of this hard work included writing the articles you see in this issue, designing printed materials and ads, and building a dedicated history website featuring a 150-year timeline and many photographs.

If you see something we missed, and you know where we can find the information, email us at openlines@jax.ufl.edu, so we can make revisions to the history website, history.UFHealthJax.org. After all, this history belongs to all of us.

Images were taken prior to national guidelines of face-coverings and social distancing.

Special Thank You

We would like to offer a special thanks to historians Ennis Davis, AICP, trustee for the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation and American Planning Association, Florida First Coast section chair; and Emily Retherford Lisska, president of the Florida Historical Society, who supplied and verified information for us; as well as the Hoffman Agency, which produced our anniversary videos and advertising; and Marcus E. Drewa, for donating boxes of old photos, newspaper clippings, typed and handwritten letters, journals and more, to assist our efforts.

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THE FOUNDING OF THE GEORGE A. BREWSTER SCHOOL OF NURSE TRAINING

BY SUSAN MARTIN

When the George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training in Jacksonville were founded in 1901, it was to serve the medical needs of the African-American community and to train Black women and girls to be nurses. The establishments of both the hospital and the school are due to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The church focused on helping to educate the illiterate by founding several institutions for Blacks in Jacksonville, including The Cookman Institute, the Boylan Industrial Home and School of Negro Girls and George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training.

Miss Hattie E. Emerson, the cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the noted essayist and poet from Massachusetts, was a white missionary from the North, who was determined to lead her church's mission. In 1886, she established the Boylan Industrial Home and School for Negro Girls, serving as principal in a six-room cottage at the corner of Davis and Duval Streets.

Emerson faced challenges in her role, including when the Florida Legislature passed a bill threatening to dismantle the work that she and the Woman's Home Missionary Society had spent nine years on. Specifically, the law prohibited white teachers from instructing Black schools, and white and Black students from being taught in the same class or building together.

Emerson's response to this law? She called it "unChristian," and issued a statement reassuring all students they would be cared for as conscientiously as they had been in the past. School continued as normal, and additional

classes were added to Emerson's school, based on community need, such as Bible classes for the city's Chinese and Syrian residents.

One training course that showed an increasing demand was the Boylan Industrial Home's nurse training course.

The course served a pressing need in the Black community — that of having trained nurses available to attend Blacks in their homes, since there was no hospital available at that time.

Continuing her work to establish a hospital and nurse training school, Emerson obtained a small room in Whetstone College, which was adjacent to the Boylan Industrial Home and School. It was sparsely furnished with two cots, a table and a few chairs.

After Matilda Brewster of Connecticut generously donated \$1,500 to secure land and build a hospital, the George A. Brewster Hospital and School of Nurse Training opened in 1901. Named in memory of Matilda's late husband, it was the first Black nursing school in the state of Florida, with 18 students enrolled and a tuition fee of \$1.50.

Through the Great Fire of 1901, the Great Depression and other significant challenges, Brewster Hospital survived. And it expanded as well, based on a need from students traveling the Southeast searching for a nursing degree.

The hospital was eventually renamed Brewster Methodist and remained operational until 1966.

Source: "A Charge to Keep" by B.J. Sessions



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