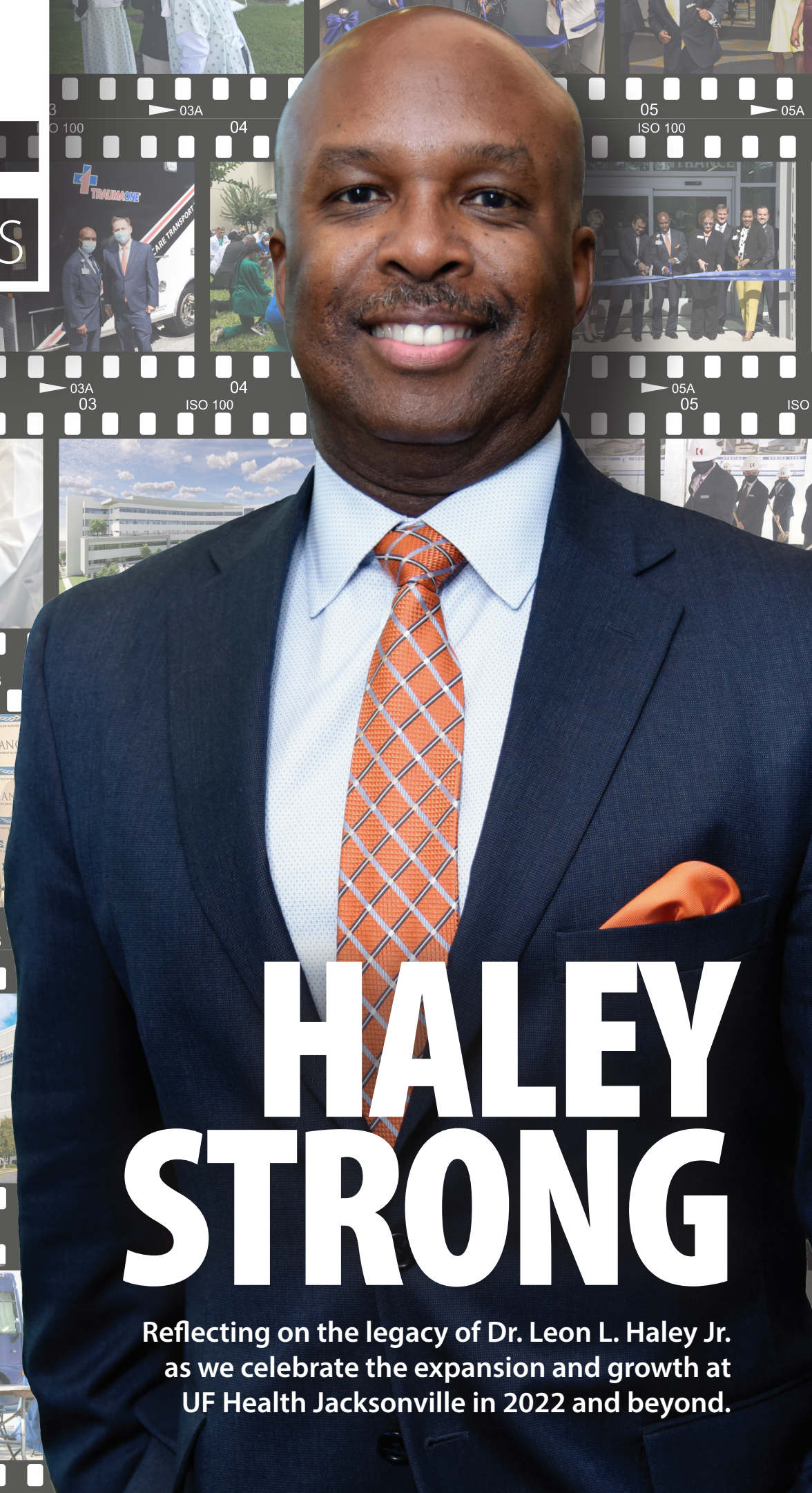


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OPEN LINES



# HALEY STRONG

Reflecting on the legacy of Dr. Leon L. Haley Jr. as we celebrate the expansion and growth at UF Health Jacksonville in 2022 and beyond.



# THE HALEY LEGACY

We are halfway through the year, and we have already accomplished so much in 2022. From receiving \$80 million to upgrade our trauma center and emergency department to approaching the opening of three new hybrid emergency and urgent care centers, there are many exciting things in store for our organization.

The late Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, played a major role in all of the projects we're highlighting in this Open Lines issue. It's difficult to believe it's been one year since his passing, and I want to honor his memory this month by showcasing our growth due to his hard work.

Dr. Haley had a strong vision for the UF Health enterprise during his time as CEO of UF Health Jacksonville and dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville. His vision encompassed expanding across Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia in order to treat more patients and improve health throughout the community. He was passionate about eliminating health disparities and drove many efforts to help achieve health equity. He not only led the organization during one of the

most challenging times due to the pandemic, but he also was focused on fostering a positive work environment and left a lasting impression on everyone he met. He was an inspirational leader, one who is truly unforgettable.

It has been an honor to continue Dr. Haley's legacy alongside Linda Edwards, MD, dean of the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville. We are seeing his hard work come to fruition this year, and you can read about all of the exciting changes and improvements inside this issue.

He was an amazing friend, and I know his mark will undoubtedly be felt on this organization for decades to come. We will always be Haley Strong!

Sincerely,



Russell E. Armistead, MBA  
CEO, UF Health Jacksonville







# UF Health Jacksonville Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, Trauma Center

State funding supports new state-of-the-art trauma center.

UF Health Jacksonville’s trauma center and emergency department will receive an exciting upgrade in the coming future. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis visited the downtown campus in April and announced the approval of \$80 million to build the UF Health Jacksonville Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, Trauma Center. The new center will allow UF Health to continue to lead the way in adult and pediatric trauma care in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia.

Dr. Haley was committed to serving the Northeast Florida population and leading future advancements in health care and trauma services. A new trauma center is a significant step in Dr. Haley’s ultimate vision of growing the campus to be a state-of-the-art hub for medical care, clinical research, innovation and education.



**Top to bottom:** Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis presents the check for the new trauma center to UF Health Jacksonville; Dr. Haley’s parents and Grant Haley, one of his three children were in attendance to celebrate the news; these renderings provide a glimpse at the modern and sleek look of the new trauma center.





## Hybrid Emergency Care Centers Opening Later This Year

UF Health Jacksonville is bringing a unique style of emergency care to Jacksonville with the development of three hybrid emergency and urgent care centers. The project is being developed in collaboration with Dallas-based Intuitive Health.

UF Health Emergency and Urgent Care Centers will have a full-service emergency department open 24 hours a day and an urgent care open in the same building seven days a week. Each facility will be equipped with on-site lab equipment as well as a radiology suite with X-ray and multi-slice CT scanners, and staffed with board-certified, ER-licensed physicians. An emergency medicine physician will examine each patient and determine if the appropriate care is emergent or urgent care. Patients are billed accordingly, paying only for the level of care they need, which eliminates unnecessary emergency room visits.

Dr. Leon L. Haley Jr. led conversations and fostered relationships to make this unique model a reality. He wanted to bring cost-effective, high-quality care options to more residents in the region.

The new UF Health Emergency and Urgent Care Centers will be located on New Kings Road near Dunn Avenue on the Northside, on Lane Avenue south of I-10 on the Westside, and near Baymeadows Road East just off I-295. The locations are scheduled to open in November and December.



**Top:** Located on New Kings Road near Dunn Avenue on the Northside, this location has a planned opening of early November 2022. The other two locations will look similar.

**Bottom:** UF Health Jacksonville hosted a small construction celebration event to mark the progress of this significant project.



# UF Health East Brings High-Quality Specialty Services Closer to the Beaches Area

In February 2021, Dr. Leon L. Haley Jr. and other leaders came together to break ground on UF Health East. Now the new medical office facility, located off Kernan Boulevard at J. Turner Butler Boulevard, is near completion and scheduled to open in December 2022.

UF Health East will offer multispecialty services in part of a new three-story, 54,000-square-foot medical facility. UF Health East will occupy the second floor of the facility, where it will feature its several multispecialty services. UF Health specialists will accommodate their patients with a wide range of outpatient surgery services and MRI imaging on the first floor. Jax Spine & Pain, an independent, pain management services provider, occupies the top floor of the facility.

Visit [UFHealthJax.org/east](https://UFHealthJax.org/east) for the latest information.



**Top:** Aerial image shows UF Health East, which is nearing completion and set to open in December 2022.

**Bottom:** Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, at the groundbreaking for UF Health East.







Renderings show exterior and interior views for the new hospital tower.

## UF Health North Expansion

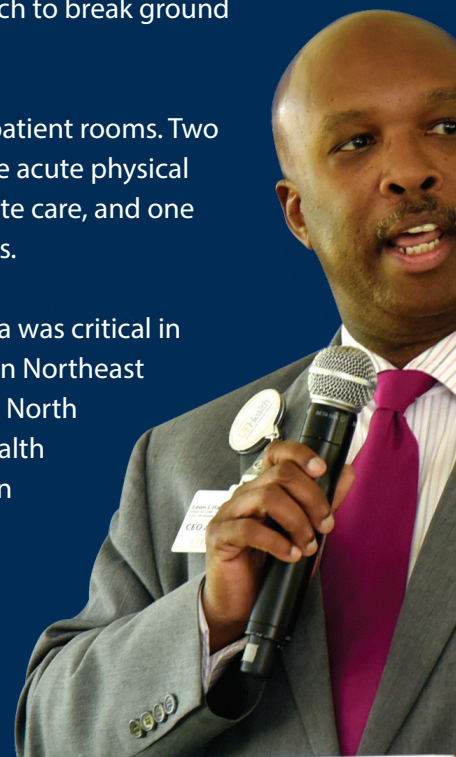
UF Health North is expanding its campus with a second inpatient hospital tower. Construction is underway and completion is planned for early 2024. UF Health leaders and executives joined local government and civic officials in late March to break ground on the facility.

The new tower will include six floors and 124 patient rooms. Two floors will be dedicated to patients who require acute physical therapy. Two patient floors will be used for acute care, and one floor will be used primarily for ancillary services.

Dr. Leon L. Haley Jr. knew expansion in this area was critical in order to meet the growing needs of residents in Northeast Florida. This is the third phase of the UF Health North campus, and Dr. Haley initiated plans so UF Health experts could provide high-quality care to even more patients.



**UF Health leaders present at the groundbreaking from L to R:** UF Health CEO Russ Armistead; UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville Dean Linda Edwards, MD; UF Health President David R. Nelson, MD; UF Health Jacksonville COO Greg Miller; and UF Health North Vice President Wayne Marshall.





# UF Health Jacksonville

## Leon L. Haley Jr., MD, Brain Wellness Program

Dr. Leon L. Haley Jr. wanted to bring “something transformational” to UF Health Jacksonville and set the organization apart with a “big idea.” He wanted to connect UF Health’s leading experts to the large military and veteran population in Jacksonville to help them overcome debilitating conditions. He established close relationships with the Gary Sinise Foundation Avalon Network and other organizations like the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation to bring the program to fruition.

The program was officially named in his honor at the ribbon-cutting and grand opening event on Nov. 19, 2021. The program had its first cohort of graduates in December 2021 and is continuing to see great success.

### About the Haley Brain Wellness Program

The Haley Brain Wellness Program is an interdisciplinary treatment for military veterans experiencing persistent health issues associated with mild to moderate traumatic brain injuries, along with associated behavioral health issues, such as post-traumatic stress, anxiety, depression and substance use disorder.

These conditions are all invisible wounds of war and contribute to a suicide rate of more than 20 veterans per day, a figure that increases every year. Treating these veterans requires a comprehensive approach to care — one that gives service members the expertise they deserve.

The goal of the program is to aid in healing and provide treatment and recovery options using a holistic approach, and to set veterans up for success upon completion. Patients receive intensive outpatient treatment to integrate conventional medicine with complementary and alternative therapies. Patients are also connected to a network of community resources as part of the long-term treatment plan.

In addition to serving veterans, UF Health Jacksonville plans to expand efforts for adults suffering from these conditions, including athletes and first responders.

**Learn more at [UFHealthJax.org/brain-wellness](https://UFHealthJax.org/brain-wellness).**



UF Health leadership, representatives from the Avalon Network and Dr. Leon L. Haley Sr. at the ribbon-cutting in November 2021.



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## OPEN LINES

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

October: July 29

November/December: Aug. 15

January 2023: Sept. 30

Submit your copy and photos via email to [openlines@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:openlines@jax.ufl.edu).

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