



You gave  
Connie  
so much  
more  
than just  
healthcare!

.....  
*"It is such a blessing  
to have Bethesda"*

*-Connie Reeves*

Connie Reeves had always had health insurance, until a change in jobs left her uninsured and anxious for her health.

Connie was devastated. She thought she could make it and just pay cash, but quickly realized that the visits were outrageous and unpaid medical bills had the possibility to ruin her credit.

She had no idea how confusing it could be to live without health insurance. *Continued on next page.*

"It's a very scary place to be," Connie recalled, who was 60 years old at the time.

"All of my younger life I had insurance so it was really hard," Connie said.

Your generosity gave Connie a bright light of hope in the midst of troubling times.

Her sister, Gail, was a patient at Bethesda and encouraged Connie to apply for services.

"I finally went to Bethesda after getting off a government plan that was terrible," Connie remembered. Her government insurance had cost \$500 per month and wouldn't cover essential visits she needed for primary care.

"I just couldn't keep doing it," Connie said.

Your donations gave Connie all the healthcare she needed, and more than she ever expected.

"I was worried that the application process would take a long time and it would be another cycle of waiting, but I found out I was approved the same day I applied," Connie said. "I was treated with the utmost respect. It takes a lot of stress off of you."

Every six months Connie came to Bethesda for her bloodwork and for check-ups. She quickly grew attached to the clinic and all of the doctors who took the time to listen to her and all of her medical concerns.

"I was treated no different than anyone else," Connie said. "There is a different atmosphere at Bethesda. Everyone treats you so great."

Throughout her journey as a patient, all of her healthcare needs were met, because of your faithful support!

"I loved that I knew what every visit was going to cost me," Connie said. "Now I am 65 years old and on Medicare, but I still go to Bethesda for dental."

While at Bethesda, Connie received all of the preventative testing and procedures, including a mammogram and colonoscopy. When her shoulder started hurting, like it had for years before, social workers at the clinic helped her navigate the process with the Texas Workforce Commission, which resulted in two surgeries where Connie paid \$0 out of pocket.

*Your generosity gave  
Connie a bright light  
of hope in the midst of  
troubling times.*

"It is such a blessing to have Bethesda," Connie said. "It was the best one-on-one care."

Connie has now "graduated" from Bethesda and sees a doctor who accepts her Medicare insurance.

"When I had my first appointment with my new doctor, he couldn't believe all the services I had done at Bethesda," she said. Bethesda is truly a gift.



Dear Friends,

At Bethesda, we go to great lengths to ensure that our mission is our number one focus at all times.

Because of that, we have core values that guide our decisions on everything from patient care to hiring our team. *PAVERS* is our acronym for the core values, which stand for:

Partnership,  
Adaptability,  
Volunteerism,  
Excellence,  
Reverence for Christ and  
Stewardship.

**As we enter into fall and winter, and the peak of the giving season, I want to focus on our core value of Stewardship.**

Stewardship, by definition, is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. We simplify that by saying, "We are thrifty and accountable, and make wise use of our resources."

Just two months ago we hit 663 visits in dental (our highest appointment number ever), when we used to only see

around 330 patients per month! Good stewardship of your donations and the time of our dental staff has allowed 663 lives from all over East Texas to be impacted.

In Matthew 25:23 we read, "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

Your donations – whether they are financial or in-kind or through your time – are a great blessing and received with care. It is our utmost responsibility to make the most of them to glorify God.

We hope the stories you read in this issue will be a blessing, and that you will get a small glance at how you have transformed lives at Bethesda Health Clinic.

Here to serve,  
Dr. John English, CEO

# A NOTE FROM JOHN



Dr. John English, CEO

*/// Your donations – whether they are financial or in-kind or through your time – are a great blessing ///*

*Volunteer  
Feature:*

## **Dr. Seth Goolsbee**



**Dr. Seth Goolsbee learned early in life that fulfillment and joy comes from serving others.**

*He grew up in Tyler, Texas, where his grandfather, who he describes as the "greatest man ever," served as a pastor for over 60 years.*

*"If the church doors were open, I was there," Seth said. "My parents and family instilled a value in me early on to help others."*

Seth knew he wanted to change lives and dreamed of becoming a doctor, but he found out the sight of blood was something he couldn't handle. Not to be deterred, his journey led him to optometry.

"I love to interact with patients so it seems like a good fit," he said. "I am a people person and love developing relationships with my patients."

Seth and his wife, Brittany, made their way to Tyler shortly after Seth graduated from University of Houston College of Optometry.

Seth quickly found a job at Tyler Eye Associates and Brittany continued her career as a registered nurse. They share a common bond of wanting to use their abilities in healthcare to improve the lives of others.

While Seth has only been a doctor for a little over four years, he's not waiting around on retirement to serve.

When asked if he would volunteer at Bethesda, he immediately said "yes!"

"My parents taught me how important it was to live by faith," he said. "I am grateful for them and that's how I am trying to live my life."

Specifically, Seth lives by Galatians 6: 9-10, which reads:

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Seth sees patients who otherwise would struggle to pay for even a basic vision exam. At Tyler Eye Associates, they have access to state-of-the-art equipment and Dr. Goolsbee's expertise, all at the affordable rate of their Bethesda copay - \$20 or \$30.

"As a believer of Christ, I know that you should help others and bless others with the blessings God has given us," Seth said.

Seth sees a wide range of demographics at his office – from very well-off patients to those on Medicaid.

He describes Bethesda patients as being the "most grateful."

"I've had Bethesda patients cry because they couldn't see for years and we can help them see now, or they have had some chronic condition we are getting on top of and can help preserve their vision for years to come,"

**“God has blessed me with the ability to treat people’s vision, and I want to give back every little bit that I can.”**

Seth explained. "If they didn't have this care they would be in a bad spot."

Seth has also worked with an eyeglass company to ensure Bethesda patients have free or reduced-cost eyeglasses, helping patients' vision even more.

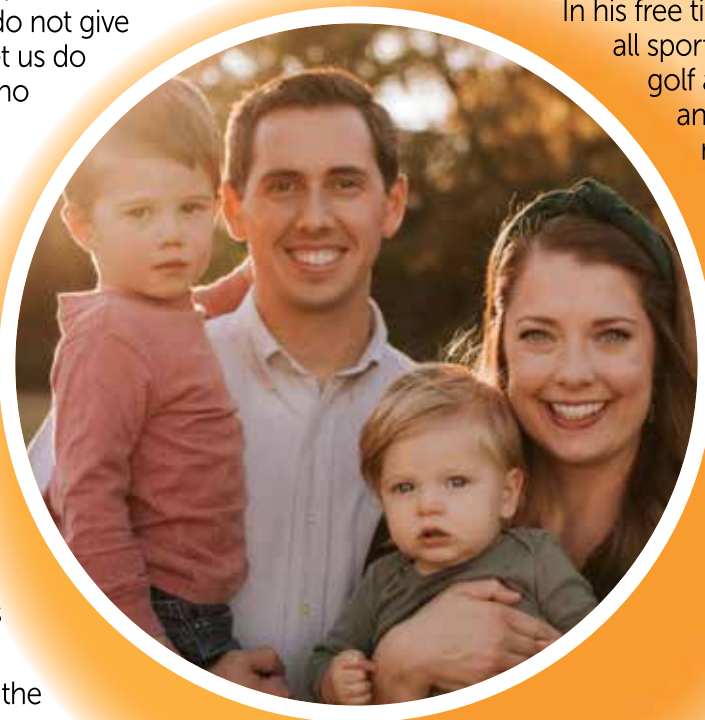
Seth's advice to other physicians is to just say yes.

"I don't feel like it's a huge commitment to see Bethesda patients," he said. "I integrated it into my schedule and it's not a burden. It flows very well and it's easy to do. If you have hesitations about it taking up a lot of your time that is not an issue."

We are so grateful to Seth and Brittany for their love of Bethesda and their dedication to serving others!

Seth and Brittany have two sons – S.J. and Stetson – and a third baby boy on the way.

In his free time, Seth enjoys all sports but especially golf and tennis. He and Brittany are members at Flint Baptist Church.



# Patient Testimonials



Lesa Carroll

## For Lesa, Bethesda has been so much more than just primary care.

After learning about the clinic as a student at Christian Women's Job Corps, she soon learned that she had access to more than she could have ever imagined.

"I was able to get mammograms – several times – for free," she said. "I was also referred to Fit Steps for Life and I just love it. They encouraged me to walk because I have high blood pressure."

Lesa is now a substitute teacher for Tyler ISD and a caregiver for her mom, who is living with dementia.

***Your generosity gives Lesa one less thing to stress about in her busy life that is spent caring for others.***

Thank you for supporting Lesa on her health journey!



Linda Kincaid

## Your generosity has given Linda a smile and part of her life back.

Linda Kincaid went more than 50 years without a full set of teeth and without being able to smile.

After seeing an ad about Bethesda on Facebook, she took the chance to apply and was delighted when they told her that she qualified.

***Because of your support, Linda was able to have her smile fully restored at a rate that she could afford as a senior on a fixed income.***

"In those days, if you had an infection, they just pulled your tooth," Linda said, elaborating on how her teeth had gotten so bad over the years. "I never had the chance to have dental insurance and I couldn't afford to pay to restore my teeth."

"When I started coming to Bethesda I hardly had any teeth," she said. "You learn to adapt. I know I should chew my food on both sides but I was only able to chew my food on one side."

Linda received an upper and lower partial, and her only regret is wishing she knew about the services earlier. Your donations made this service affordable for Linda, who never thought she would be able to smile again.

"They fit perfectly and they look amazing," she said, holding back tears. "I now have to learn to stop covering my mouth." The shame of having so many missing teeth had developed into habits like covering her mouth and missing important events for her grandkids.

"I struggled because I felt I wasn't presentable to people, and I just learned to deal with it," she said. "It made me aware that people noticed and it's not really a good feeling."

Your generosity has given Linda a smile and a special part of her life back. She is looking forward to letting go of old habits and attending all of her grandchildren's special events – and smiling every chance she gets.

***Thank you*** for your continued support!

# Let your legacy provide for a healthy Bethesda.

## Would You Make A Gift In Your Will?

Planned giving is easier than you might think. A gift in your will is one of the simplest ways to provide for Bethesda's future, and to leave a legacy to others.

### You may arrange for Bethesda to receive:

- A specific dollar amount
- Specified assets, such as real estate, stocks or personal property
- All or a portion of the remainder of your estate, after all other obligations are taken care of

"Some people have the notion that planned giving is only for the super wealthy, or for those who have no living family members," explained John English, Bethesda CEO. "We look at things a little differently and want to encourage our donors to consider leaving a legacy to Bethesda through the value of 10."

**"This means if you look at your estate as a whole, could you leave 10 percent of that estate to Bethesda? The remaining 90 percent of your estate would be left to your beneficiaries, allowing you to care for your family and do something for others."**

The most useful legacy gift to Bethesda Health Clinic is an unrestricted gift for the general purposes of Bethesda's mission. This permits Bethesda to use your gift wherever it is needed most at the time.

Some donors wish to designate their estate gifts to support Bethesda's operations at the time the gift is received. Others wish to make a gift to Bethesda's endowment, a permanent fund that will support Bethesda's mission for decades to come.

Whatever your preference for giving to the future of Bethesda, we welcome your gifts and are grateful that you share our commitment to the highest quality care for the whole person, now and for decades to come. We encourage you and your professional advisor to work with Bethesda's development staff to ensure that your gift is structured just as you want it to be and that it will accomplish your goals over time.



*The information listed here is not intended as legal advice. We encourage you to consult with a professional advisor.*



Join us  
**November 29th, 2022 for**  
**#GivingTuesday**

Your donations matched to Bethesda  
**up to \$20,000!**

Set your alarms and give early –  
**GIVING STARTS AT 8:00 a.m.**  
 at **TYLERGIVES.ORG**  
 Help us reach the full match!

All Tyler Gives donations provide medical care and counseling to people struggling with mental health illnesses.

**Thank you!**

**DECORATORS, SPONSORS AND GUESTS FOR AN AMAZING BIRTHDAY BASH!**

**Together you helped us exceed our event goal of raising \$250,000!**

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