A SPECIAL DELIVERY

KANSAS CITY’S BIG CAMPAIGN for TINY MIRACLES

TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTERS

Level III Neonatal Intensive Care
This is the story of a very special delivery.

Kim and Nathan expected their first daughter to be born on Thanksgiving Day. But she was an early arrival at Truman Medical Centers Hospital Hill.


Each day, for almost two months, the new parents stayed by their baby’s side. Surrounding them was a staff with a level of experience and a commitment to caring that is second to none in Kansas City.

And at the end of the 55 days, Kim and Nathan brought home a perfectly healthy baby girl.

This is just one story from Truman Medical Centers’ Level III NICU. We can tell thousands of them.

Thousands of moms and dads who come to us in need leave us with hope and healthy babies. Families in crisis – who often cannot afford the care they receive – receive the best care available in the area.

But we have a story of need as well.

A story of the best doctors, nurses, and support staff delivering exceptional care in outdated facilities designed for a prior era in healthcare.

While the majority of Truman’s clinics and departments have been renovated and updated – including the Diabetes Center and Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Center – the NICU has not.

We also have a story of the great positive impact we can make in Kansas City. A story of how people like you found it in their hearts to invest in the lives of people like Kim, Nathan and Baby Elizabeth.

Will you help us tell that story?
Real need. Real Impact.

In 2016, Truman Medical Centers–Hospital Hill celebrated its 40th anniversary. Kansas City’s premier safety-net hospital was built in 1976. And the NICU has not been physically updated since.

Let’s say that again: the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Kansas City’s essential downtown hospital is 43 years old.

The NICU’s 19 state-of-the-art incubators stand in tight rows within the crowded 5,000-square-foot unit. A footprint four times that much would be the standard and expectation for a NICU Truman’s size.

But don’t mistake a small footprint for substandard care. The staff is unparalleled, and the NICU’s medical equipment is state-of-the-art.

Truman’s Neonatal Intensive Care Units treat up to 700 babies a year. In recent years, the demand for Level III NICU services has increased by nearly 20 percent. On any given day, every one of our 19 incubators are required to provide life-sustaining care for the smallest and sickest babies.

We provide this vital care in too-tight quarters, often inches away from staff and family at the next bed over. As medical equipment has grown in complexity and capability over the last 4 decades, it has also grown in size. It makes a too-small NICU even more crowded.

We are embarking on a very special campaign to raise $18.8 million for the overdue expansion and renovation of Kansas City’s only essential Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We have many stories to tell. Stories of need, hope and life. But to tell them, we need you.
For Kansas City’s future.

700

KC Kids Count on Truman
Each year, Truman’s Neonatal Intensive Care Units provide life-saving care for nearly 700 of our community’s most vulnerable newborns.

The Need Is Increasing
The year, close to 60% of our newborn care will be delivered in TMC’s Level III NICU. And the demand keeps growing.

Over the Hill
TMC’s Level III NICU on Hospital Hill was built in 1976 ... and hasn’t been remodeled since. A larger footprint is needed for patient care, family privacy and a new generation of neonatal technology and equipment.

18.8 million

The cost of giving life to Kansas City’s future? Just $18.8 million.

Understanding NICU Levels
All Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) help babies who need extra care. However, depending on a newborn baby’s needs, there are different levels of care.

Level I NICU
Basic Newborn Care

Level II NICU
Advanced Newborn Care

Level III NICU
Level III NICUs care for babies born at less than 32 weeks gestation as well as babies born with critical illness, at all gestational ages. They offer prompt and readily available access to a full range of pediatric medical subspecialties, as well as a full range of respiratory support and advanced imaging.

Level IV NICU
Surgical Repair of Complex Congenital or Acquired Conditions
“Without Truman, thousands of our neighbors in need would be hard-pressed to get the care they need. It’s why we’re here, and why we’re improving our ability to care for our community’s tiniest newborns.”

– Charlie Shields
President and Chief Executive Officer, Truman Medical Centers
Kansas City’s Essential Hospital. That’s not just a saying at Truman Medical Centers. In a metro area with more than 20 hospitals, only Truman exists to provide quality care to all in need, regardless of the ability to pay. One in four of our patients is uninsured. This year, uncompensated care is expected to exceed $148 million.

What that means is we must deliver the best care in the most cost-effective way. And we do.

“We’re the one hospital Kansas City can’t do without,” says President and CEO Charlie Shields. “And every member of our team takes that responsibility seriously.”

There’s a reason that even with the facilities we have now, Hospital Hill earned the prestigious Baby-Friendly designation from Baby-Friendly USA, Inc. Truman was the first in the metro area and only the second in the state of Missouri to do so.

We’re a teaching hospital for the University of Missouri Kansas City, with the fourth-largest community and family practice residency program in the country. More than a thousand of our graduates are serving in Kansas City. We have a staff of nearly 25 on-site interpreters for Spanish, Arabic and Somali languages and a staff trained to be sensitive to the cultural needs and expectations of our diverse patient population.

Kansas City has many hospitals. But there’s only one Truman.

Caring for our community’s most vulnerable
Training tomorrow’s healthcare workforce
Providing comprehensive, coordinated care – medical, dental, behavioral health
Matching/outperforming others in specialized, life-saving care
Together, advancing our community’s health
Delivering miracles with the right plan...

Truman’s $18.8 million NICU campaign will bring our community’s infant health care into the 21st Century.

Incubators are at the heart of a Level III NICU, providing controlled temperature, humidity, and oxygen levels, and with armholes through which the infant can be reached with minimum disturbance to the controlled environment. With our NICU campaign, we will expand our capacity to care for our community’s most vulnerable newborns by increasing the number of licensed incubators from 19 to 29.

The NICU will grow from 5,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet. And it needs every inch.

We will meet the needs for space and privacy and maximize use of our space by creating individual rooms with collapsible wall dividers. This flexible design creates the private space unavailable now while not locking the unit into one configuration.

Using best practices in our design, the Hospital Hill Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit will be a practical, flexible, efficient space, making the most effective use of your support.

Truman is one of only 19 U.S. health systems in the NIH’s Neonatal Research Network, giving our academic medical team access to data and research that allows us to provide the best advanced care for our community’s tiniest and most vulnerable babies.

Every Year. Every Child.

Nearly half of all Kansas City births are celebrated at Truman Medical Centers. Last year, that was more than 3,400 birthdays. And because up to 85% of those are born into poverty, Truman’s patient navigators, nurse educators and social workers help ensure the best start for every boy and girl.
Current Footprint
of overcrowded 5,000 square-foot neonatal intensive care unit.

Layout and renderings for proposed 20,000 sq ft Level III NICU with private family rooms for essential care and bonding.

The blue overlay represents the current, over-crowded open bay NICU, pictured below.
...and the region’s premier neonatology team.

The TMC / Children’s Mercy Connection

TMC Hospital Hill has a Level III NICU, equipped for treating babies born as early as 27 weeks. Our neighbor, Children’s Mercy Hospital, has a Level IV facility, which specializes in neonatal surgeries. The two teams work together to complement each other’s services and ensure all babies – and moms – who come to us receive the best and the most appropriate treatment. In fact, our two NICUs and the Elizabeth J. Ferrell Fetal Health Center at Children’s Mercy are linked by the Gary Dickinson Family Bridge of Hope across Holmes Street. This provides TMC babies rapid access to the special services available at Children’s Mercy and allows mothers from the Fetal Health Center to receive needed adult services from TMC.

The close collaboration fosters seamless, life-saving care for our community’s most vulnerable babies and moms, while also eliminating duplicated services and ensuring the fiscally-responsible use of valuable resources.

Joshua E. Petrikin, M.D., Neonatologist
The Bridge of Hope connects Truman’s Level III NICU to the Level IV NICU at Children’s Mercy. Together, the combined medical teams deliver miracles every day.
It’s time.

Truman Medical Centers doesn’t just deliver miracles for moms and babies. As our region’s largest academic medical safety-net, we promise the miracle of health and wellness to every member of our community, regardless of a family’s income or insurance status. That’s why we are investing $105 million to modernize our facilities and infrastructure, all while continuing to provide excellence in instruction and experience as the primary community teaching hospital for UMKC Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy.

University Health II | Our newest outpatient medical services center will consolidate all outpatient clinics, including women’s health and primary care, into one easily accessible location within the Health Sciences District (Hospital Hill). At a cost estimate of $67 million, this building also frees vital space within our Hospital Hill facility for expanded mother-baby services.

Kansas City’s Premier Labor and Delivery Unit | Recognized as the leader in high-risk deliveries, Truman will invest approximately $19 million in the Hospital Hill birthplace expansion and renovation, increasing our ability to serve moms and families by approximately 38 percent.

Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit | Led by our stellar volunteer chairs, the “Special Delivery” campaign for Kansas City’s essential Level III NICU will raise $18.8 million for expanded services to our smallest and most vulnerable patients.

Campaign Co-Chairs
(left to right):
Leo and Yvette Morton;
Paul and Amy Holewinski;
Peggy and Terry Dunn

“Truman takes care of our community’s most vulnerable, and that makes Kansas City stronger. For our city, our families, our future…it’s time. Let’s deliver miracles.”
TMC is changing the landscape of academic health care in Kansas City. Below: renderings of new specialty clinics, parking structures and bridges connecting exceptional care for our community.
Deliver miracles.

Campaign Contact:
Kirk Isenhour, Executive Director
TMC Foundation | 816.404.3430 | kirk.isenhour@tmcmed.org