



**Caring for Acadiana's Newest Miracles**

*One Gift at a Time*

## *Care for one another, as I have cared for you.* – John 13:34

As I reflect on the past year, I am truly humbled by the difference we've made together in the lives of those who need us most. Volunteers and community donations make these invaluable services possible. Your generosity continues to be the heartbeat of Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation, and I'm excited to share the remarkable impact you've helped create in our community.

This year marked a significant milestone — the 75th anniversary of Our Lady of Lourdes Health. We've grown alongside our community since 1949, and our Level III Surgical NICU at Our Lady of Lourdes Women's & Children's Hospital continues to stand as a beacon of hope for families navigating the most difficult moments of their lives.

Looking ahead to 2025, our vision is to further expand vital services to reach even more members of our community who need our help. The demand for care is growing, and with your continued support, we can meet this need with compassion, innovation and excellence.

Together, we can make an even greater difference in the lives of those we are privileged to serve. It is a blessing to carry out this mission. I invite you to offer a gift toward this transformative growth and thank you for your ongoing support.



**Jeigh O. Stipe**

Executive Director, Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation



**3,200**

Free Medical Visits



**550**

Free Dental Extractions  
& Procedures

## St. Bernadette Community Clinic

Established in 1995 in collaboration with the Diocese of Lafayette, St. Bernadette's provides free non-emergency medical and dental care to the poor and those experiencing homelessness.



**25 Congregations**

## Congregational Health Services

Partnering with 25+ local church congregations, we support health outreach and strengthen community care. Offering vital resources to congregations across Acadiana such as blood pressure screenings, early detection for diabetes, nutritional education and more.



**400+**

Underserved Students  
treated every year

## Northside High School Health Clinic

Acadiana's first school-based health center has served students and faculty since 1996. A collaboration between Our Lady of Lourdes Health and the Lafayette Parish School System, the clinic provides 3,000+ annual visits with a full team of healthcare professionals. The clinic brings our healing ministry to kids where they are, keeping them in school.

## Advancing Care for Acadiana's Newest Patients

When babies are born prematurely or with complex medical needs, they rely on expert, specialized care. With Acadiana's only **Level III Surgical NICU**, we provide comprehensive care to newborns who are born prematurely, have medical conditions or require surgery.

As part of Advancing Acadiana, our bold vision for meeting the growing healthcare needs of our region, we are committed to further improving and expanding our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. This includes 19 family suites designed to provide comfort and support, allowing parents to remain close to their newborns during the most critical times.

By investing in our NICU, donors like you can directly impact the lives of vulnerable babies and their families, providing hope and healing in times of great need. With your generosity, we can continue to grow this vital resource.



Caring for  
**600+**  
NICU Babies  
each year



Private family suite rendering of our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

# One Tiny Miracle at a Time

## Gigi's NICU Journey

Bringing a child into the world is filled with joy, excitement and anticipation. For Andrena Cluse, her journey through all maternity took an unexpected turn when complications arose during pregnancy.

Her daughter, Gianna "Gigi," was born at 23 weeks gestation - 16 weeks and four days ahead of schedule. Gigi was born prematurely with severely underdeveloped organs that needed time to mature. She spent 154 days in our NICU at Our Lady of Lourdes Women's & Children's Hospital. Thanks to the response of the team at Acadiana's only Level III Surgical NICU, Gigi's life was saved as she was able to overcome critical challenges.

Andrena said that during the five months Gigi was in the NICU, she was continually astonished at the care provided by people whom she describes as "angels" who put her baby's needs first every day.



Gianna's mother, Andrena, practicing skin to skin bonding in the NICU with the help of the nursing team.



Gianna during her first days of life weighing approximately 1 lb. 4.6 oz.



NICU nurses celebrating Gianna's first birthday.



Gianna has a personality full of life that can bring a smile to anyone's face.

"It was like God had sent every person who needed to be there," she said. "Gigi got the best care possible. There was not one thing I needed to worry about. I didn't have to ask what was going on or why things were happening. Every doctor and nurse was right there to provide me with updates. They loved on my baby like she was their own. When I saw how strong they were to take care of those tiny babies, I knew that as Gigi's mom, I could show up and be next to her."

Despite the unexpected twists and turns, Andrena is grateful for Gigi's life as an active 3-year-old and the bright future that lies ahead. Their NICU experience, including its challenges, became a chapter in their lives showcasing the power of hope, love and the unwavering dedication of our NICU team.



## Ronald McDonald Family Room

Operated by the Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Louisiana through a partnership with Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation and Our Lady of Lourdes Women's & Children's Hospital, the Ronald McDonald Family Room offers a quiet place for parents and caregivers to get away while remaining close to their child and care team.

Since opening in 2022, all three rooms have been occupied by NICU and PICU families every week of the year.



109

Families served



Naming opportunities for uniquely designed stained glass windows are available. Please contact Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation for more information.

## Future Chapel at Women's & Children's Hospital

To continue our mission of providing Catholic healthcare in Acadiana, our chapel will be a sacred space offering patients, families and team members a quiet place for prayer, reflection and comfort. This new space will be able to seat 50+ people.

## About Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation

We are a hospital-affiliated nonprofit organization that continues the mission established by the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady more than 100 years ago. Contributions from our generous donors and proceeds from our events throughout the year directly support programs extending our mission of stewardship and outreach to those most in need.

We are Catholic missionaries inspired by the Holy Spirit to bring health and hope to our community. We seek and facilitate gifts to provide charitable healthcare programs and services that support the mission of Our Lady of Lourdes Health and are not funded by traditional sources.



**Our Lady of Lourdes  
Foundation**

4801 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy.  
Lafayette, LA 70508  
(337) 470-4610

Your **YES** can make a significant impact on patients and families in our community. Gifts can be made by mail through the enclosed envelope or online gifts will be accepted at **[LourdesFoundation.com](http://LourdesFoundation.com)**.