The Good Samarítan Center

"A HEALING PLACE"

Providing a safe, Christ-centered environment that gives our patients quality, coordinated, and affordable health care.



Fall 2018

Writing My Will By John Willome

My wife and I recently redid our wills. After it was all over and the wills were signed, we were talking and wondered why we hadn't made any charitable giving part of our wills. As head of this nonprofit, I can tell you that surprise bequests have really blessed us over the years. Shouldn't I make sure I do the same?

I saw the attorney who produced our wills, and I asked him how hard it would be to add two charities. He said, "Just write up what you want to do and email it to me. I' can work it in there, and it won't cost much."

This week, before writing this column, I sent him an email telling him that I wanted to take a portion of my estate after I die and split it between The Good Samaritan Center and Talitha Koum, the nonprofit where I worked 15 years ago in Waco.

I'd like to encourage you to do the same. Whether it is for The Good Samaritan Center, your church, and/or another nonprofit or cause about which you care, I can tell you first-hand that bequest gifts can make a big difference.

Our clinic experienced three bequests in 2016 and 2017, and they made a huge difference in what we were able to do for our patients in those years. An example of a church using a bequest is Bethany Lutheran Church. They were able to establish a foundation that continues to help thousands through planned giving from one of their members.

Of course, bequests can also be part of good estate planning. If you have securities or commodities on which your heirs would have to pay large capital gains, it might make sense to set those aside as bequests—or it might make sense to donate them now (see *The New Tax Law* article on page 3).

Wills are one of those things most of us think about but never get around to doing. I'm glad I emailed our attorney this week. It feels good to have made that decision. I hope this might be something that can bless you as well.



Hello. Goodbye. Dr. Rachel Myers (above left) is the Good Samaritan Center's new incoming Medical Director and Practitioner. Dr. Jerry Bane (above right) is retiring after almost three years of service to the Center.

A Samaritan's Story

"I just assumed I was going to die." That's what a patient recently told Executive Director John Willome when he came in to talk about an upcoming surgery. The patient was exhibiting scary symptoms, which he had decided to ignore because he assumed that, without insurance or resources, there was nothing he could do but die.

Eventually, his wife successfully prevailed upon him to sign up as a patient in our clinic. We were able to refer him to a specialist who performed a diagnostic procedure to identify the man's real problem. (We are being intentionally as vague as possible about the patient's condition to protect his privacy.)

Happily, the man's condition is absolutely treatable, but it *does* require treatment.

As the patient and his wife sat in John's office talking through how the Center could help facilitate his treatment, the man actually teared up. He said he never imagined there would be help available to him given his circumstances.

The Good Samaritan Center is not as good as health insurance, and there are still some frustrating limitations to the care we can offer our patients. Many of our limitations are driven by the fact that we are in a rural community, and those services are simply not available to people living here, regardless of their resources.

Of course, we are only one piece of the puzzle. Nearly all of the local specialists work with us to help our patients. Then there are our partnerships with Hill Country Memorial, the radiology group that reads the images we order for our patients, the anesthesiologists who participate in the surgeries, and the pathologists who help us screen for cancer.

This year, we will help more than 1,000 individuals in our medical clinic alone. They might be in crisis like this man. They might have an injury that is keeping them from working. They might have a chronic disease like asthma or diabetes. Or they might have a cold or respiratory infection. Some will even have a combination of several or all of these issues.

But thanks to you (our donors and volunteers), everyone mentioned above, and our dedicated staff, The Good Samaritan Center is here to give the low-income, uninsured of our community a medical home and a place to go in times of trouble. Thank you for the role you plan in their lives.

Meet our New Medical Director

This is a bad news/good news article. The bad news is that our medical director of almost three years, **Dr. Jerry Bane**, has decided to retire at the end of September. To know Dr. Bane is to love him. You will never meet a kinder, gentler man. Every patient who saw him felt like he really cared abut them, and his gentle demeanor set a beautiful tone for the whole Center.

Thankfully, we were able to hire a doctor who worked with us for a couple of weeks before we hired Dr. Bane. Her name is Dr. Rachel Myers. Among her professional accomplishments is being the only provider for a Baylor Scott & White medical clinic in Burnet. She is a family practice doctor who grew up in Liberty, Texas, went to Texas A&M for her undergraduate degree, and attended medical school in Guadalajara, Mexico (yes, that means she speaks Spanish!). We loved her when she was with us in 2015 and are excited that she is available now to help our patients and become their doctor.

Dr. Myers will be here Tuesday -Thursday every week, and we still have our female nurse practitioner, Janan Hall, on Mondays to focus on women's health issues.

We love Dr. Bane and will miss him. In the midst of that, we are glad God seems to have provided for our transition in such a marvelous way. Please pray for us as we move through this transition.

Our Wish List:

 ⇒ Five (5) legal-size filing cabinets, \$300/each (or we will happily take used ones)
⇒ Dental flooring, \$500

Please call the Center to verify if someone has already donated your item.

Thank you!

www.goodsamfbg.org

Fall 2018

Following is a listing of gifts received between June 1, 2018 and Aug. 31, 2018. We do our best to accurately list every donation. If you have a question or see an error, please let us know. Thank you.

GENERAL DONATIONS

Anonymous Anita Arnold Lauren Bailey Ginger & Michael Barr Doris & Ronald Bigoness Linda Blalock Stephen Bodnar Rebecca Brickner Leonard Brown Ann & Mike Brunsvold Florine & Alton Bruns Taffy & Curtis Cameron Maxine Cannon Janice & Tom Christofferson Teresa & Jack Clem Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country Barbara & Bob Cooley Dorothy Cunningham Jerry Ďavis Donald Davison Jessica & Mark De Leon Robbyn & Don Dodd Jov Édwards Marlene Emerson William Gary

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CHURCH DONATIONS

Christ Lutheran Church Faith Baptist Church First Baptist Church Fredericksburg United Methodist Church

Greater Life Christian Center Happy Quilters of Trinity Lutheran Church Hill Country Evangelical Church Holy Ghost Lutheran Church

Memorial Presbyterian Church Rio Texas Conference UMW St. Vincent de Paul Society Trinity Lutheran Church

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The New Tax Law, IRAs, Charitable Giving and (Maybe) You By Donna Hugly, CPA

You probably heard a lot about the new tax law Congress passed at the end of 2017, but what does it really mean to you as an individual in 2018? If you are taking required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA account and you would like to donate to your favorite charities, the new tax law provides some possible planning opportunities to reduce your tax burden this year.

The standard deduction for 2018 doubled, meaning many people who were able to itemize their charitable giving in the past can no longer do so. As a result, if you choose to have your IRA trustee send the entire distribution to you and then you write a personal check to the charity, you will have to pay taxes on the distributed amount and may not get a deduction for the contribution.

However, if you have your IRA trustee send funds directly to the 501(c)(3) charity of your choice, that portion of the RMD is NOT taxable income to you and you still get credit for taking the minimum required distribution from your IRA. It's a win-win for you and the charity!

Distributed funds should be sent directly from the IRA trustee to the charity, and the check MUST be made payable only to the charity. This can only be done from an IRA and distributions can be for any amount up to \$100,000. Please note, you have to be at least 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ at the time of the transfer. With that said, you should always consult your CPA/tax advisor first to make certain this strategy will work for your circumstances and that you meet all the criteria.

If you choose The Good Samaritan Center as a beneficiary, you will need to know that the Center's legal name filed with the IRS is Fredericksburg Community Health Center and its EIN is 91-2129853.



Donna Hugly is a new front desk volunteer on Wednesday mornings. She asked if she could share this information for the benefit of those on our mailing list, and we readily agreed. If you have any questions about this content, please consult your tax advisor, and feel free to contact us with any questions you have about the Good Samaritan Center and our work.

A Smiling Face Returns to GSC

In mid-August, the Center welcomed Zuleima Hernandez as our new Office Administrator. We actually welcomed her back. Zuleima worked at the Center for a couple years before leaving in 2010 to become a mother.

Now that her two children (daughter Yulexi, 8, and son Iker, 5) are both in school, she was ready to rejoin the workforce,

In addition to keeping the Center stocked with supplies and its bills paid,



Zuleima handles most of the incoming patient eligibility interviews. As you know, our patients must meet specific financial requirements, and Zuleima has the responsibility of vetting them.

Besides working at the Center, Zuleima helps her husband, Ernesto, with paperwork for his self-owned construction company, and they oversee nine affordable rental properties. "We feel responsible to help those who need a nice place to live." She also serves as a translator for neighbors who have difficulty with written contracts and often drives them to appointments.

Every October, Zuleima hosts a bilingual, community-wide celebration in honor of St. Jude. "I made a promise to him when my son was born healthy to honor him, and so every year for five years, we hold an observance. It is free to everyone in the community, and I hope it helps people solidify their faith."

Zuleima has no hobbies but lest you think she's too good to be true, she does like to shop for decorations for her office.

"We're so glad Zuleima was available to work at the Center," John Willome said. "We are happy to have her back."

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Yes, I want to help!

You are welcome to help us in any way that you feel led to be involved. 70% of our budget comes from private donations so those are important to us. But we need volunteers and "Wish List Items," too. We appreciate any way you want to be involved.

Thank you!

Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	
□ Check Enclosed	
	Exp Date / CVV

Memorials/Honorariums (please circle one):

Name of honoree:

Person(s) to be notified:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

The Good Samaritan Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

Monthly commitment (amount \$)

- One-time donation (amount <u>\$</u>)
- Memoriam/Honorarium (see below)
- Wish List (see cover for list)
- Volunteer (type of activity
- Please make my gift anonymous

The Good Samaritan Center

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John Willome, Executive Director jwillome@goodsamfbg.org

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Medical Director: Rachel Myers, M.D.

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Page 4

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Fall 2018

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man...?" Luke 10:36a Pastor's Daughter, Turned Ragin' Cajun, Currently a Good Samaritan

Catherine Davis started volunteering at the Good Samaritan Center in January 2009, at the insistence of her good friend and fellow Delta Kappa Gamma member Patsy Hejl.

She says she started at the front desk, helping check in patients, and she's been here ever since. "I love seeing, talking with and helping all the patients that come in."

A native of Shreveport, La., Catherine was adopted at the age of 9 months by a Presbyterian pastor and his wife. "When I went off to college, it was like turning the preacher's daughter loose," she laughed. "I turned into a Ragin' Cajun."

Catherine graduated from University of Southwestern Louisiana and taught elementary school in New Orleans for six years. In 1972 she moved to Houston for another teaching job, but the school's administration decided they needed a librarian more than another teacher. That's how Catherine became a "traveling" librarian, dividing her time and talents among three separate schools for three years.

She quit teaching and went to work as a paralegal. While working at a Houston law firm, her boss encouraged her to volunteer. At Crisis Hotline, a suicide prevention nonprofit, is where she met the love of her life. George Davis was founder and director of the organization. Catherine began volunteering and soon she was training others.

Catherine and George married in 1975. For the next several years, they were both heavily involved in educational and support programs. George was director of Ingrando House, a home for troubled youth; Catherine taught GED and ESL as well as GT classes.

One day George announced he was tired and said they needed an adventure. They moved to the Big Thicket Resort in north Texas and ran the campground for several years. "If you want to know about camping or honey wagons just ask me," she said.

They retired to Fredericksburg in 2008. Because both her father and paternal grandfathers were pastors, she was determined to never marry one. "But God has a sense of humor," she said. "Several years into our marriage George began training as a substitute lay pastor. Then our regular pastor had a stroke, and guess who was the commissioned lay pastor for the next 10 years."

In 2010, Catherine suffered a massive hemorrhagic stroke. Today she only has issues of endurance and balance, she said.

George died in 2014; they were married 39 years. Despite health challenges and George's

death, Catherine remains cheerful. "God's grace and all those prayers got me here," she said. "I really feel the Center is a 'God thing.' It was in the beginning and still is."



"I hate to say it's fun being here, because fun isn't the right word. It's just a delight and blessing getting to be part of the solution for so many people who need help."

> Catherine Davis Front-desk volunteer