



**North Carolina Baptist Hospital/Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center  
2018 Report to Baptist Associations in North Carolina**

**North Carolina Baptist Hospital – A Mission to Care. A Mission to Cure**

Since the founding of the medical school in 1902 and North Carolina Baptist Hospital in 1923, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center has grown into a nationally recognized academic medical center and health care system, operating since as an integrated enterprise of educational and research facilities, hospitals, outpatient clinics, emergency and urgent care centers, diagnostic units, physician practices and a commercialization division to bring innovative technologies to the bedside.

With more than 14,000 employees, the Medical Center is the largest employer in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County and one of the largest in the Piedmont Triad region. Wake Forest Baptist provides adult and pediatric health care services to the residents of 24 counties in central and northwest North Carolina and southwest Virginia.

The 88 bed hospital opened in 1923, following the vision and financial investment of the Baptist State Convention of NC, began a legacy to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ that continues to be exhibited today through the core values of expert medical care and compassion for patients and families. Dr. Julie Freischlag, who became the CEO of the Medical Center in 2017 says of the partnership between the Baptist State Convention of NC and the Medical Center:

*“ I’ve had the honor to serve as a surgeon and administrator of some of the great academic medical centers in the world, but this is the first time I’ve experienced the practical blessings of blending spirit and science in such a systematic way at such large scale. I simply don’t know of another partnership like this anywhere and grateful for the way it extends beyond our walls into the neighborhoods and communities of your thousands of congregations. I have come to know and be amazed at the extraordinary quality of medicine and technology the people of North Carolina have long come to expect. You have much to be proud of. But what I value most is the way patients and families trust us, partly because they trust you.*

*We are in a time of radical uncertainty in healthcare, but I am confident that the communities we both serve together will continue to trust that you and the medical center you established will never look away.”*

Today, in addition to the main campus in Winston-Salem, the Medical Center system includes **Wake Forest Baptist Health – Lexington Medical Center; Wake Forest Baptist Health – Davie Medical Center; Wake Forest Baptist Health – Wilkes Medical Center.** In September of 2018 **Wake Forest Baptist Health – High Point** will join our system. Clinics, diagnostic centers, outpatient surgery centers and other primary and specialty care facilities serve our 24 county area. **Wake Forest Baptist Health** includes **North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Brenner Children’s Hospital, Wake Forest Innovations, and Wake Forest Innovation Quarter.**

**FaithHealthNC – A Partnership of Compassion**

**FaithHealthNC** has been a grateful recipient of Cooperative Program funds to support our ongoing work among NC Baptists and our growing partnership with the General Baptist Convention of NC.

This partnership with the General Baptist Convention is a crucial part of our ministry as we develop ways to work with the Divinity School at Shaw University, co-sponsor our Annual John Hatch FaithHealth

Lecture series, and work together to help churches address the emerging developments in health care, particularly to the most vulnerable.

- **FaithHealthNC** has 40 Connectors serving across the state. These Connectors are local, trusted individuals who relate well to churches, medical providers, and community resources to improve health in their communities. They work closely with volunteer caregivers from churches to assist individuals before, during and after hospitalization. The Connectors are a vital part of our ministry to help persons find the **Right Door** for healthcare at the **Right Time** helping them to be **Ready to be Treated** and assuring them that they are **Not Alone**.
- **FaithHealthNC** appreciates the ministries of Baptist Associations and their impact on their communities. They are a vital partner in the FaithHealth movement and strategically placed to impact health in their communities. We will be working closely with Associations and placing Connectors in Associations in the Hospital's catchment area.
- **FaithHealthNC** works with associations and churches to improve health in their communities that touches the spiritual, behavioral, social, and physical needs of persons. New commitments are developing as we anticipate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hospital and our long-standing partnership with the Baptist State Convention.

### **The Mother's Day Offering – A Source of Hope**

The theme for the 2018 Mother's Day Offering was, *"And so, as those who have been chosen by God...put on a heart of compassion."* Colossians 3:12. North Carolina Baptists have been putting on a heart of compassion for patients who face financial burdens due to hospitalization since 1924. These gifts make a life-changing difference in the lives of patients and their families as they experience the generosity of North Carolina Baptists in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Patients like Holly Beasley who was struggling to breathe while most high school seniors were enjoying those last few weeks before graduation. What had happened only two or three times in her life as a person with cystic fibrosis was now happening two or three times a year – hospitalization for recurrent lung infections. It was a difficult time for her family as the hospital bills increased and she was preparing to go to college. Holly explains that she felt bad that it was because of her that the family was spending all their money. Then she and her family received the good news that the Mother's Day Offering was going to help them. Holly's mother, Vickie, stated, "Paying off that bill was huge. We felt defeated as parents. We felt so thankful when we got the call. Today Holly is in college and focused on her studies. "Sometimes when you have a chronic illness, you can feel alone", she said. "This made me feel people are there for me."

Thank you for giving to the Mother's Day Offering in the name of Jesus Christ to change lives like Holly's.

Please visit [www.mothersdayoffering.org](http://www.mothersdayoffering.org) to see her full story and those of other recipients.

### **CareNet, Inc. Lifting Spirits. Holding hope.**

Since 1972, the Baptist State Convention has pioneered a unique partnership with a mental health ministry that reaches across 80 counties in North Carolina. Since its beginning it is estimated that over 250,000 individuals and families have been impacted by this ministry of hope, growth, and healing. The care of the mind, body, spirit and community is a hallmark of the division of Faith and Health Ministries of which CareNet is a part and witness to the extraordinary vision of the BSCNC to attend to the whole life of the disciples of Jesus. The following is a snapshot of this past fiscal year and the unique work being done by CareNet counselors supported by the generosity of the Convention. It highlights how this shared ministry continues to innovate and go where we think healthcare is going:

**Greenville Region** – We are partnering with a non-profit school and a community center in two of Greenville's most vulnerable neighborhoods by placing a counselor in both the school and center to work

with children and their families. Up the road in Edgecombe County you will find a CareNet counselor at a homeless shelter sponsored by local congregations.

**Fayetteville Region** – The CareNet center in Fayetteville (Fayetteville Family Life Center) is the oldest CareNet network center (1974) outside of Winston-Salem. Since its inception, it has had a supporting relationship with the New South River Baptist Association. In 2017, the Fayetteville CareNet center offered 686 pastoral counseling sessions to 33 local Southern Baptist churches. Of all of the Fayetteville center's clients, 30% are military families, so CareNet gets the added privilege of serving those who have made such great sacrifices for our country. The Fayetteville center has a strong ministerial outreach also, as it cares for many Southern Baptist pastors and their families (through free group and individual pastoral counseling sessions). Southern Baptist ministers and their families come to the CareNet center in Fayetteville from all over southeastern NC.

**Lumberton Region** – The CareNet center of Robeson County has always had a strong relationship with the Robeson Baptist Association. The Associational office has helped CareNet tremendously by letting the community know of its services through its monthly newsletter. In 2017, the Robeson CareNet center offered 191 pastoral counseling sessions to 27 Southern Baptist churches from the Robeson County community. The CareNet center in Robeson County has continued to strive to reach out to families stuck in the trauma of the flooding from Hurricane Mathew.

**Harnett County** – CareNet of Harnett County has had a strong connection with the Little River Baptist Association since its beginnings. The Little River Baptist Association graciously features CareNet's services on its website. In 2017, the CareNet Harnett center served 19 Southern Baptist churches, offering a total of 252 pastoral counseling sessions. The CareNet Harnett center also offered outreach to the community, by partnering with a local funeral home to care for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

**Winston-Salem Region** – Our largest region spanning Mt. Airy, Kernersville, Mocksville and Winston-Salem and the counties surrounding those locations. This growing region locates counselors in pediatric and primary care clinics, as well as in two churches. Within the last two years this area conducted several Soul Shops, an education program for faith communities focused on suicidal desperation and education. This is a growing problem for many age groups in all of the communities served. Partnerships with local churches and businesses allowed this region to hold an educational panel discussion about opioid misuse this year titled "Amazing Grace". The goal was to educate faith leaders and laypersons on the facts behind this burgeoning crisis in order to offer grace, mercy and support to all who have been affected.

**Wilkes County Region** – The town where our newest Wake Forest Baptist hospital is located, North Wilkesboro, this center is ground zero for trauma associated with substance use in North Carolina. We have a counselor in a free health care clinic providing integrated care, are working with local primary care physicians providing shared medical appointments, and have plans to further integrate counselors in local primary care offices along with a closer alignment with the local hospital that is now part of our family. We have trained more than 300 persons in Mental Health First Aid, and in the fall we will begin training persons in resiliency.

**Mooreville Region** – CareNet of Lake Norman and Statesville provides over 4500 counseling hours per year to the families in Iredell County. We work closely with the churches in our area. First Baptist Church in Mooreville provides space for our office, rent free. They and several other churches in our county provide financial support to the CareNet budget. We continue to be an outreach of pastoral counseling to those struggling or grieving. Our Employee Assistance programs for the Iredell Memorial Hospital and two large medical group systems have seen increased utilization this past year. Our newest clinician is a staff psychologist who works with many families who have children with disruptive behavioral concerns. We see individuals, couples and families at CareNet.

**Marion Region** – Since the opening of our Marion center, we have served over 204 individual adults, adolescents, and families from McDowell, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, and Rutherford Counties with over 50% of these recipients of spiritually integrated counseling care demonstrating some form of financial need. Nearly 50% of our clients who identified as persons of faith in 2017, claimed a Baptist church as their worship home. In addition, our strong partnership with First Baptist Church of Marion and Clinchfield Baptist Church has been especially invaluable in nurturing the conditions for hope and healing in our community. Outside of the counseling office, we have partnered with these churches to facilitate Wednesday night classes on Soulful Wellness, to host a Mental Health First Aid Training in FBC's family ministry center, and to learn alongside older adults about therapeutic lifestyle changes that can support neurobiological resilience.

**Wilmington Region** – Our Wilmington Region has offices hosted by three southeastern North Carolina Baptist Associations. The main Wilmington CareNet location has been in the Wilmington Baptist Association, (now the Cape Fear Network of Baptist Churches), building for over twenty-five years, while the Brunswick Baptist Resource Center has hosted a CareNet site for about twenty years. Through our Jacksonville location housed in the New River Baptist Association office we have expanded care of our nation's military and their families. Torn by trauma, grief, marital discord, depression, anxiety and children with behavior problems our CareNet center is a welcome place of hospitality and hope for those who sacrifice their lives in service of our country.

In a turbulent policy environment where behavioral health is already reimbursed well below its cost the partnership with the Baptist State Convention is a beacon of hope and a welcome respite for tired and weary souls who cannot incur the full cost of services. We are confident our mission of mental health which impacts one out of five Americans will continue to thrive as we develop new and innovative forms of care that touch the mind, body, spirit and community. Thank you North Carolina Baptist for standing with and for the broken, despondent, tired and hopeless who are given the opportunity through sensitive and compassionate care in 35 CareNet locations to reclaim life, love and hope.

### **Chaplaincy and Clinical Ministries – Combining Ministry with Education**

The Clinical Pastoral Education program allows Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center chaplains to provide spiritual and supportive care to patients, their loved ones and staff of the Medical Center. Chaplains serve in several capacities, including a 24-hour, on-call ministry within the hospital, and helping people with a range of medical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The CPE educational program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation, and offers a variety of programs, including some in community-based settings.

### **Center for Congregational Health – Opening Doors to Hope and Wholeness**

Congregations are experiencing unprecedented changes and with these changes strategic opportunities. Since its inception, the Center for Congregational Health (CCH) has sought to assist churches. However, just as congregations have experienced great change so has the CCH. As a self-supporting ministry of the Hospital, CCH has refined and refocused its role in the FaithHealth strategy.

The CCH plays a key role in supporting, encouraging and strengthening congregations and thus extends the Medical Center's mission of health and healing beyond the hospital's walls. During the past fiscal year, the Center has provided a variety of consulting, coaching, and training ministries supporting clergy, lay leaders, congregations, and the FaithHealth movement itself. Faith communities and the volunteers from those communities form the backbone of the FaithHealth movement.

CCH staff and professional coaches in the Center's coaching network provided over 1200 hours of coaching and consultation to congregations and over 250 hours of training events for congregations and their leaders. Consultants work with congregations in the areas of re-visioning/strategic planning, conflict management, pastoral and staff transitions, church mergers, and the challenges of financial sustainability.

CCH staff work directly with the FaithHealth congregations and clergy in the 24 county service area and beyond. As part of the FaithHealth Ministries Division, we provide service and training to the Clinical Pastoral Education residents and interns. The CCH staff often refers clients to CareNet or other Medical Center services.

### **Additional Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Highlights:**

**Wake Forest Baptist** holds the coveted Gold Seal of Approval from The Joint Commission, and in 2017 was ranked nationally in six adult medical and surgical specialties by U.S. News & World Report. Wake Forest Baptist also was ranked as High Performing in four other categories by the magazine.

**The Medical Center** is the region's only Level I trauma center, renowned for handling the region's most complex medical cases.

**Wake Forest Baptist** continues to be a major research and innovation center, making important contributions to biomedical and health science research nationally and internationally.

**Wake Forest Baptist** is the first hospital in the Southeast and just the second in the world to own a device that allows operating room staff and medical students to see in 4K (ultra-high-definition) 3-D.

**Brenner Children's Hospital** has once again been listed among the best children's hospitals in the country by *U.S. News and World Report*. Each year Brenner Children's Hospital has about 5,000 admissions, 57,000 outpatient clinic visits and 36,000 pediatric emergency department visits.

Thank you North Carolina Baptists for partnering with us since 1920 to carry out the health care mission envisioned in the minds of those who believed there should be a Baptist hospital to extend the healing ministry of Jesus in North Carolina. We are blessed by you and grateful for your financial and prayerful support.

As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hospital a key component of that event and celebration will be recognizing the significant impact of our partnership with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. This partnership has contributed to not only our care for patients but the broader impact of extending ministry to the most vulnerable and needy in the same communities where the congregations of the Convention are located.

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