President’s Council Membership:

- Supports research, nursing, and the recruitment of the most talented researchers, physicians, and educators
- Offers patient care to underserved groups such as young children with cystic fibrosis and other debilitating diseases
- Funds research projects including studies on aging, cancer, tuberculosis, heart disease and stroke, lung scarring, diabetes, and many others
- Helps ensure excellence in patient care and the well-being of the East Texas community and beyond

President’s Council members have exclusive opportunities to meet with the president, senior management, and physicians at special events throughout the year. Members will hear about medical and research breakthroughs and will be able to network with others for the advancement of our community.

Please join us in these efforts on behalf of East Texas.

Myka is a 14-year-old from Oklahoma. She is just like any other teenager — full of life, energy, goals, and dreams. There is one thing that sets her apart, however. Myka has cystic fibrosis.

As a result of her debilitating disease and greatly diminished breathing capacity, she came to UTHCT as a last hope. Physicians in Oklahoma and other areas of the country had given up on her. Health Center microbiologist Dr. Richard Wallace watched Myka’s parents wheel her into his office one day last fall. Dr. Wallace says, “I’ll never forget the look on their faces. We truly were their last hope on earth.” Almost miraculously, Dr. Wallace and his team had just finished developing a new antibiotic for treating patients with lung diseases. He pulled Myka’s parents aside, explained the risks involved, and recommended that the drug be tried on Myka. They agreed and treatment began.

Recently, Myka returned to the Health Center. Instead of being wheeled into Dr. Wallace’s office, she walked up the steps herself! In fact, Myka is back in school, walking daily, and closer to living life like an ordinary 14-year-old.

Hope is being offered, lives are being changed, and dreams are becoming realities at UT Health Center. Please consider partnering with us to continue to offer hope to patients like Myka.

11937 US Highway 271 • Tyler, TX 75708

You are cordially invited to join the President’s Council 2003 - 2004

Office of Development
The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler

Receiving The Gift Of Hope...

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President’s Council supports:

**Excellence in Patient Care and Community Health**

UT Health Center partners with community organizations throughout East Texas. We also collaborate with other UT components like M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, UT Southwestern, UT Medical Branch in Galveston, and UT Health Science Centers in Houston and San Antonio to provide the best in patient care.

UT Health Center is committed to reaching out into the community to provide excellence in care, ranging from our pediatric and cystic fibrosis program for children to our East Texas Center for Rural Geriatric Studies for the aging.

**Comprehensive Education**

UT Health Center’s Family Practice Residency program is just one of the ways we serve our community, in Tyler and beyond. Of the 92 physicians who have graduated since the program’s inception 18 years ago, almost two-thirds are practicing at or have returned to UTHCT as members of the teaching faculty, dedicated to continuing the program’s high standards.

A shining example of the residency program’s success is Dr. Leo Holm, who served as chief resident and graduated in 2000. For the past three years, Dr. Holm has devoted his time and his talents in Overton, where he practices at UTHCT’s Overton Family Practice Center. Dr. Holm proudly carries on the Health Center’s tradition of not only caring for people, but caring about the people we serve.

**Innovative Research**

UT Health Center is the home to East Texas’ first Public Health Lab. UTHCT is the only academic health center in America with one of these labs. Through a partnership with the Smith County Public Health District, breakthrough research performed in the lab will improve the health of East Texans through testing of infectious diseases like SARS, West Nile virus, rabies, anthrax, and other bioterrorism agents.

In addition, the cutting-edge research occurring in our Center for Biomedical Research is bridging the gap between the laboratory and the patient’s bedside. The Health Center has the largest staff of research scientists in the region, working on projects ranging from tuberculosis and heart disease to stroke prevention and cancer eradication. With more than 140,000 outpatient visits per year, this innovative research coupled with the Health Center’s clinic operation is providing lifesaving care to East Texans every day.
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I/we would like to become members of the President’s Council:

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

SPOUSE: ___________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: _________________________________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP: ___________________________________________________

TELEPHONE: _______________________________________________________

HOME _____________________________________________________________

OFFICE ____________________________________________________________

EMAIL: ____________________________________________________________

FAX: ______________________________________________________________

President’s Council Membership Options

(Note: This gift is 100% tax deductible.)

☐ Annual Membership $500
☐ Heritage Membership $2,500-4,999
☐ Life Membership $5,000

☐ Research Annual Membership $200
☐ Research Life Membership $2,000

Payment Options:

☐ Check Enclosed
☐ Credit Card
☐ Payroll Deduction (Full-time employees only. Please send me a payroll deduction form.)
☐ Please charge my credit card in equal amounts quarterly.

Credit Card Information:

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UTHCT President’s Council

President’s Council Coordinator
Candice Nejem Gast
903/877-2895
candice.gast@uthct.edu

Please write to us at our address if you wish to have your name removed from the list to receive future fund-raising requests supporting The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler.