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## HopeHealth Honored for Community Service with Marion Medallion

HopeHealth was presented the Marion Medallion in February by Francis Marion University and the Morning News at the FMU Performing Arts Center in downtown Florence.

In presenting the medallion to HopeHealth, FMU President Fred Carter said the single criterion for earning the medallion is that the recipient “work to make this world a better place and expect absolutely

nothing in return” for the effort. He went on to note that while HopeHealth began small, it has grown to be a “powerful force for accomplishing miraculous things across our region.”

Each year, two medallions are awarded to individuals or organizations dedicated to serving the community and are presented around Francis Marion Day, Feb. 27. Along with

HopeHealth, Allie Brooks, a revered community leader in Florence, also received the award.

The 6-inch, gold-plated bronze medallions weigh 2.5 pounds and are named for the Revolutionary War general Francis Marion.

Visit [scnow.com](http://scnow.com) to watch the award presentation and read more about the recognition.

## HopeHealth partners with FMU School of Business

HopeHealth has partnered with Francis Marion University’s School of Business on a unique project that provides hands-on learning opportunities for FMU students enrolled in the Supply Chain Management 356 Quality Control and Process Improvement class.

Students in the class observed and participated with HopeHealth employees as they applied Six Sigma techniques and strategies to HopeHealth’s business model this spring. Six Sigma is a world-renown

12-session workshop that uses a set of tools and techniques designed to improve business processes by removing variations and defects.

“This is yet another way for our undergraduate students to have a skill development opportunity outside of the classroom,” said Dr. Hubert Setzler, FMU associate professor of management. “It’s great to have a partner like HopeHealth in this process for our students to understand what it’s like to implement their skills in an actual workplace.”

HopeHealth employees were taught Six Sigma by Dr. Setzler and Nellie Cooke Sparrow, professor of business, last fall as part of an ongoing series of FMU workshops provided to local businesses and executives.

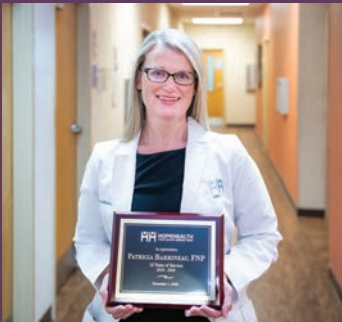
“We’re excited to apply what we have learned to real-world projects at HopeHealth,” said Andrea Mozingo, director of financial strategy at the HopeHealth Medical Plaza. “The Six Sigma strategies will help us make our processes more efficient so we can improve patient access to services.”

## Providers Celebrate 10 Years of Service

Family nurse practitioner Patricia Barrineau and Dr. Brian Hanna, medical director, each celebrated 10 years of service with HopeHealth recently.

Patricia Barrineau is a board-certified nurse practitioner at HopeHealth in Manning. She provides family medicine services, chronic disease management, and wellness visits.

Dr. Brian Hanna played an active role in the patient centered medical home accreditation process. As a board-certified physician and the HopeHealth medical director, he leads the Florence medical team in providing high-quality patient care.



Patricia Barrineau, FNP



Dr. Brian Hanna, right, receives a 10-year commemoration plaque from Dr. Edward Behling, chief medical officer.

# HopeHealth Welcomes New Providers



## Sonam Kuber Cogdill, PA-C

Sonam Cogdill is a physician assistant serving patients at HopeHealth in Manning. From Summerton, Cogdill is an Area Health Education Center Scholar, a fellow for Institute for Primary Care, and a member of the South Carolina Association of Physician Assistants and American Academy of Physician Assistants.



## Brittany E. Hanes, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Brittany Hanes is a nurse practitioner serving patients at HopeHealth in Orangeburg. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, American Nurses Credentialing Center, South Carolina Nurses Association, the American Nurse Practitioner Association, and is fluent in Spanish.



## Laura Howle, PA

Laura Howle is a physician assistant serving patients in Behavioral Health Services at the HopeHealth Medical Plaza in Florence.

Howle has more than 20 years of experience in mental health services.



## Anna Taylor Livingston, RDN, LD

Anna Taylor Livingston is a nutritionist serving patients at the HopeHealth Medical Plaza Diabetes & Nutrition Institute. Originally from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, she is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.



## Sydney Murphy, PA-C

Sydney Murphy is a physician assistant serving patients at the HopeHealth Medical Plaza.

From Darlington, she is a member of the American Association of Physician Assistants and the South Carolina Association of Physician Assistants.



## Pansi A. Patel, FNP

Pansi Patel is a family nurse practitioner serving rheumatology patients at HopeHealth on Palmetto Street.

From Florence, Patel is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and the Association of Rheumatology Professionals.



## Matt Wise, FNP

Matt Wise is a family nurse practitioner serving patients in his hometown at HopeHealth in Kingstree. Wise is a member of Kingstree Presbyterian Church.





Dr. Rami Zebian, MUSC Health Florence Medical Center.



Dr. Heather Leisy, HopeHealth Medical Plaza in Florence.



Dr. Jeremy Robertson, McLeod Regional Medical Center.

## COVID-19 Town Hall Addresses Community Questions

In March, HopeHealth’s director of preventive medicine, Dr. Heather Leisy, joined local leaders and chief medical officers from McLeod Health and MUSC Health Florence Medical Center in a virtual town hall meeting to address concerns regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.

The interactive meeting answered questions previously submitted to HopeHealth, and others posted online during the Facebook Live event. Visit [facebook.com/watch/hopehealthinc](https://facebook.com/watch/hopehealthinc) to watch the archived video.

The town hall goals included:

- encouraging community participation in vaccinations

- correcting misinformation about risks or side effects
- alleviating vaccine hesitation from those who stand to benefit most

The event was presented jointly by McLeod Health, MUSC Health, HopeHealth, and S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, emceed by S.C. Representative Terry Alexander, and moderated by Florence Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin.

The panel included Dr. Rami Zebian, chief medical officer, MUSC Health Florence Medical Center; Dr. Leisy; and Dr. Jeremy Robertson, chief medical officer of McLeod Regional Medical Center.

## compassionate care fund

The compassionate care fund assists patients with unmet needs, such as the cost of vision appointments, eyeglasses, specialty care, surgery, prescription drugs, and emergency assistance.



\$20     
  \$50     
  \$100     
  \$500  
 \$1000     
  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I've enclosed a check payable to HopeHealth.

Please charge my credit card:

Visa     
  AMEX     
  Master Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder Name CVV Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

This gift is in memory of (name of deceased):  
\_\_\_\_\_

This gift is a tribute to (name of individual):  
\_\_\_\_\_

to commemorate \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

HopeHealth is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations to HopeHealth are tax-deductible according to current IRS laws. Mail donations to: HopeHealth Community Relations, 360 North Irby Street, Florence, SC 29501.

Yes, I would like to make a donation to the HopeHealth compassionate care fund.





## HopeHealth Celebrates New Pediatrics Center, Renovations, Expansion of Services

HopeHealth continues expanding access to care with two ribbon cuttings this year and plans for more later in 2021.

The first, held Jan. 21, commemorated the opening of HopeHealth Pediatrics in Florence and CARE House of the Pee Dee at their new location, 1920 2nd Loop Road, Florence.

The second celebrated a newly remodeled facility, expansion of services, and 10 years at HopeHealth at Francis Marion University, 121 South Evander Drive, Florence.

Both events were streamed live on Facebook and videos are available on the HopeHealth Facebook page.

### HopeHealth Pediatrics in Florence

The new pediatrics facility significantly increases access to care for pediatric care in a family-friendly environment.

“The new multidisciplinary pediatric facility expands our services as well as our capacity to accept more pediatric

patients. The relocation of this specialty also creates available space to provide additional services at our Medical Plaza location,” said Dr. Edward Behling, chief medical officer.

HopeHealth’s board-certified pediatricians, Dr. Michael K. Foxworth II and Dr. Camille Montes-Ramos, provide services at the new office. As part of an integrated care model, HopeHealth Pediatrics in Florence also includes an on-site behavioral health consultant, Toni Marie Wilson.

A lactation room and other services and resources are planned in the near future.

### HopeHealth at FMU

HopeHealth at Francis Marion University is a 10-year relationship between HopeHealth and the university.

“Our practice is a unique partnership between two of the most innovative institutions in the Pee Dee, HopeHealth and Francis Marion University,” said Dr.

Paul DeMarco, HopeHealth physician. “Our location on FMU’s campus allows us to both care for our patients and educate a new generation of health care professionals.”

The team has grown from the original four-member team to a 14-member staff including DeMarco, nurse practitioners Meagan Bennett, Regina Stanley, and Sharon Walters, and behavioral health consultant Kelsi Harper Camak.

Renovations have doubled the available office and clinical space, remodeled the facility, and provided space for additional providers and behavioral health services.

### HopeHealth in Lake City

The recent addition of a modular building behind existing HopeHealth in Lake City facilities has expanded access to care. Family nurse practitioner Liza Williams, who served as the practice administrator in Kingstree for many years, has joined Dr. Neena Singh in serving the community.





Lakyn Bendle receives the 2020 HopeHealth Yvonne Van Camp Quality Improvement Award from Mark Warrin.

## HopeHealth Names Quality Award Recipient

Lakyn Bendle is the 2020 recipient of the HopeHealth Yvonne Van Camp Quality Improvement Award in recognition of her work in pain management.

Each year, HopeHealth recognizes a provider who demonstrates dedication to a program and goes above job requirements to help the organization achieve excellence through quality improvement efforts.

Bendle was the first behavioral health consultant in the comprehensive pain management program in Florence and pioneered the processes for integrating mental health into pain management.

“She developed the visit algorithm, including the intake screening and frequency of visits, set up the pain skills classes, and worked with the team to format the curriculum for the sessions,” said Dr. Edward Behling, chief medical officer. “Lakyn worked closely with the counselors in the substance use disorder program to establish processes to transition care for those patients needing these services.”

Sallie Bachman, chief of special programs, praised the award selection saying Bendle’s advocacy on behalf of the patient has been “paramount to improved processes between specialty and primary care departments.”

The award is named for Yvonne Van Camp who worked at HopeHealth in multiple capacities for 15 years and retired in December 2019 as the director of quality.



## HopeHealth Recognized for Innovation, Commitment to Heart Health

Million Hearts – a national initiative to prevent one million heart attacks and strokes in five years – recognized HopeHealth in March for excellence in preventing heart attacks and strokes. The recognition makes HopeHealth the first Federally Qualified Health Center selected for the annual award that focuses on the use of innovative care strategies and prevention and treatment achievements.

The Million Hearts Hospitals & Health Systems Recognition Program acknowledges institutions working to improve the cardiovascular health of the population and communities they serve through the priority areas of:

- 1) keeping people healthy
- 2) optimizing care
- 3) improving outcomes for priority populations
- 4) innovating health

“On behalf of CDC and our Million Hearts team, we are pleased to recognize HopeHealth for their dedication and commitment to improving the cardiovascular health of their patients, employees, and community,” said Laurence Sperling, M.D., executive director of Million Hearts. “HopeHealth is an excellent example of how an institution can work to keep people healthy, optimize cardiovascular care, and focus on priority populations to prevent heart attacks, strokes, and cardiovascular events in America.”

Visit Million Hearts online at [millionhearts.hhs.gov](http://millionhearts.hhs.gov) to read their spotlight on HopeHealth.

The Million Hearts Hospitals & Health Systems Recognition Program provides an opportunity for hospitals and health care organizations to get involved in Million Hearts and to be recognized for the important work they are doing. It also enables participants to identify new areas and ways in which they can prevent cardiovascular events. Some 1.6 million people in the U.S. have a heart attack or stroke each year.