

GEORGIA HEART  
HOSPITAL PROGRAM

*Helping Enhance Access to Rural Treatment*

# Annual Report

2022

Helping Enhance Access to  
Rural Treatment

[www.georgiaheart.org](http://www.georgiaheart.org)



[www.georgiaheart.org](http://www.georgiaheart.org)

## Georgia has a HEART for rural healthcare.

The State of Georgia uniquely empowers its citizens with the opportunity to pay their state income taxes through contributing to eligible rural hospitals to improve the financial condition and patient offerings in Georgia's rural communities. Through the Georgia HEART Hospital Program, individuals and business are Helping Enhance Access to Rural Treatment for thousands of Georgians.

# Inside the Report

## Letter from Executive Director

Page 4

Lisa Kelly thanks supporters and provides a summary of what to expect in this year's report, including the inspiring ways in which HEART rural hospitals are using these much-needed funds.

## 2022 Results & 2023 Tax Credit

Page 5

View contribution details and financial results from 2022, and discover information on overall cap and taxpayer contribution limits for 2023, as well as when to apply for your unlimited tax credit contribution.

## List of Participating Hospitals

Pages 6-7

Rural hospitals throughout Georgia are tireless in their efforts to deliver quality healthcare to their communities, oftentimes under challenging financial and demographic conditions.

## Hospital Uses of Funds

Pages 8-12

Through their commitment to promoting access to healthcare for all and their conscientious stewardship of tax credit contributions received, HEART hospitals continue to make this program a success story.

## Business Community Involvement

Pages 13-15

Georgia business owners have played a key role in effecting positive change within the communities in which they do business through their participation in the HEART tax credit.

## Georgia HEART Team

### Leadership

Lisa Kelly, Executive Director  
Ben Saylor, Vice President of Operations  
Allison Saxby, Director of Operations  
Kate Saylor, Director of Marketing & Communications  
Patrick Currie, Director of Accounting & Finance  
Jim Kelly, Founder and General Counsel

### Operations & Client Support

Mary Kathryn Gentry, Program Manager  
Isabel Ugalde, Client Services Specialist

### Accounting

Stephen Cannizzaro, Accounting Senior

# Dear HEART Supporters,

Georgia lawmakers addressed the scarcity of resources for rural healthcare by enacting the rural hospital tax credit law seven years ago. Through this creative and targeted solution, Georgians have embraced the opportunity to sustain and improve hospitals in small towns throughout our state.

## ○ A Message to HEART Contributors

You are the heroes of this program, as your contributions to Georgia's rural hospitals have resulted in countless stories of communities strengthened and lives improved. The results of this program are dramatic and inspiring, as revealed within this report. We are very grateful to you all.

## ○ A Message to State Lawmakers

This efficient mechanism for providing essential, direct funding for Georgia's rural hospitals is invaluable throughout our state. The continuation of this impactful program beyond its current 'sunset' date of 2024 is crucial to the sustainability of our rural communities. Thank you for your leadership in making this a priority for 2024.

## ○ A Message to HEART Hospitals

Your efforts to improve your hospitals and communities through this program are working. By attracting HEART contributors, you are also expanding awareness of opportunities for additional donations and volunteerism. We are proud to be working alongside you.

Thank you all for the HEART you have for improving healthcare, and the HEART you have for Georgia's rural communities!

Sincerely yours,



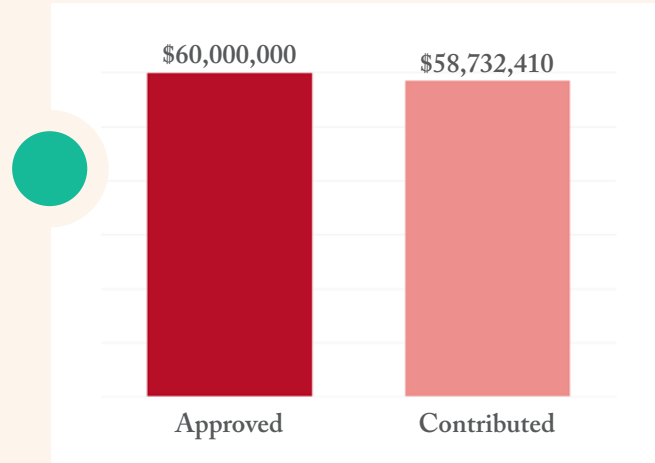
Lisa Kelly  
Executive Director  
Georgia HEART Hospital Program, LLC



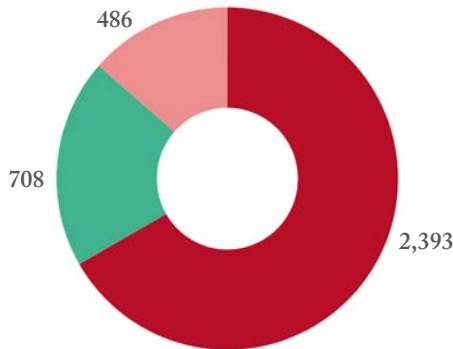
# 2022 Results

In 2022, Georgia Department of Revenue approved \$60,000,000 in rural hospital tax credits, of which Georgia taxpayers contributed a total of \$58,732,410.

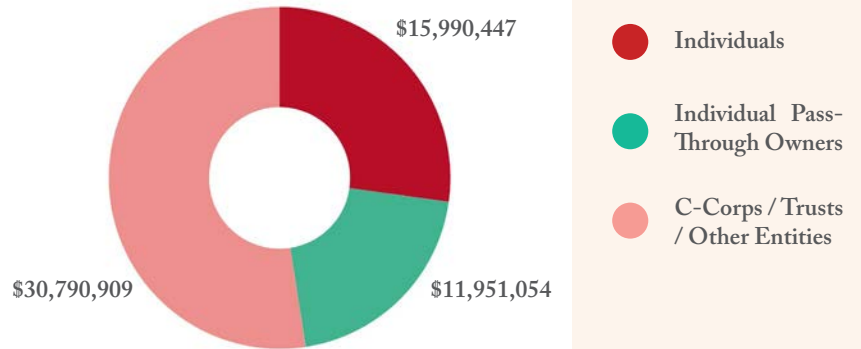
C-Corps, Trusts and Other Entities accounted for over half of total contributions; 342 of the 486 contributors in this category were Pass-Throughs making the HB 149 election. Learn more in the CPA section of HEART’s website.



Number of 2022 Contributions by Taxpayer Type



Dollar Amount of 2022 Contributions by Taxpayer Type



The financial statements of Georgia HEART are audited annually by the independent CPA firm Bennett Thrasher (BT) and are made available in the Results section of HEART’s website. HEART has received an unqualified (clean) opinion from BT without exception (since our initial audit in 2018).

# 2023 Tax Credit

Sign up for your **UNLIMITED 2023 tax credit** on **May 15<sup>th</sup>** at 9am at [www.georgiaheart.org](http://www.georgiaheart.org)

- Beginning on July 1 of each year, as long as tax credits remain available, individual taxpayers may make unlimited contributions to rural hospitals for a corresponding 100% Georgia income tax credit.
- On May 15th at 9 am, Georgia HEART will begin accepting 2023 pre-applications for UNLIMITED contribution amounts on its website and will submit them to Georgia Department of Revenue at 12 am on July 1 in the order in which they are received by Georgia HEART.

# List of Hospitals

Together, these qualified rural hospital organizations and Georgia HEART are Helping Enhance Access to Rural Treatment.

○ Appling Healthcare System

Atrium Health Navicent Baldwin

○ Atrium Health Navicent Peach

Bacon County Hospital

○ Bleckley Memorial Hospital

Brooks County Hospital

○ Candler County Hospital

Chatuge Regional Hospital

○ Clinch Memorial Hospital

Coffee Regional Medical Center

○ Colquitt Regional Medical Center

Crisp Regional Hospital

○ Dodge County Hospital

Donalsonville Hospital

○ Dorminy Medical Center

Effingham Hospital

○ Elbert Memorial Hospital

Emanuel Medical Center

○ Evans Memorial Hospital

Grady General Hospital

○ Habersham Medical Center

Higgins General Hospital

○ Irwin County Hospital

Jasper Memorial Hospital

○ Jefferson Hospital

Jenkins County Medical Center

○ John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital

Liberty Regional Medical Center

○ Memorial Hospital and Manor

Miller County Hospital

○ Mitchell County Hospital

Monroe County Hospital

Participation in the Georgia HEART program is limited to Georgia rural hospitals that meet qualification criteria established in the law, including county population size (50,000 or less, excluding military personnel); tax-exempt status or public hospital authority management; acceptance of Medicare and Medicaid; and minimum annual provision of indigent or uncompensated care. In order to qualify, rural hospitals must file a five-year plan with the Georgia Department of Community Health (“DCH”). Presently, the DCH has qualified 55 RHOs, 55 of which are participating in Georgia HEART.

○ Morgan Medical Center  
Northeast Georgia Medical Center Lumpkin

○ Phoebe Sumter Medical Center  
Phoebe Worth Medical Center

○ Piedmont McDuffie Hospital  
Piedmont Mountainside Hospital

○ Polk Medical Center  
Putnam General Hospital

○ South Georgia Medical Center - Berrien Campus  
South Georgia Medical Center - Lanier Campus

○ Southeast Georgia Health System - Camden Campus  
Southwell Medical

○ St. Mary’s Good Samaritan Hospital  
St. Mary’s Sacred Heart Hospital

○ Stephens County Hospital

○ Taylor Regional Hospital  
Tift Regional Medical Center

○ Union General Hospital  
Upson Regional Medical Center

○ Washington County Regional Medical Center  
Wayne Memorial Hospital

○ Wellstar Sylvan Grove Hospital  
Wills Memorial Hospital



# Hospital Uses of Funds

Because of the flexible uses of funds allowed for health care-related purposes, hospitals are able to utilize HEART donations to best meet the short- and long-term needs of their patients, employees, and facilities. Funds have been used to purchase previously unavailable services and equipment, make building renovations and additions, add doctors and nursing staff, and much more.



## Appling Healthcare System, Baxley

Funds received through the generosity of our Georgia HEART contributors were used to purchase an X-ray detector, a new high-capacity washer and dryer set, and to upgrade to the MEDITECH Expanse unified EHR system. Thank you to the Georgia HEART program and our donors!



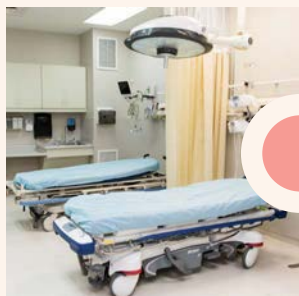
## Atrium Health Navicent Peach, Byron

This year we will celebrate the 10-year anniversary in our beautiful facility. We were able to use our 2022 Georgia HEART dollars toward our long term debt associated with the facility. We are extremely grateful for the donors and their commitment to ensuring our rural communities have access to health care.



## Bacon County Hospital, Alma

2022 Georgia HEART funds allowed our hospital to purchase a Carescape monitoring system. Bacon County nursing staff are pictured here with the new equipment.



## Candler County Hospital, Metter

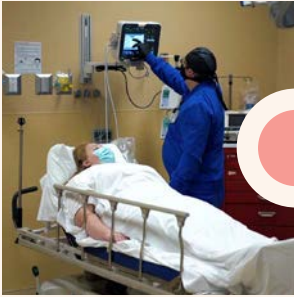
Our hospital was able to improve both patient care and the overall patient experience through projects funded by Georgia HEART funds, including ED renovations, a Dexa scan machine to complement Mammography, and waiting room upgrades.





## Chatuge Regional Hospital, Hiawassee

Through the incredible generosity of our 2022 Georgia HEART donors, we were able to purchase a new state-of-the-art MRI Machine for our Radiology Department. This new machine enhances our patient's experience and their overall well-being during this diagnostic procedure. Thank you to our generous donors for making this investment possible!



## Clinch Memorial Hospital, Homerville

Clinch Memorial is grateful for everyone who participated in Georgia HEART! With these contributions, we were able to fund capital projects and upgrade our computer system. This program continues to make a significant impact on the quality healthcare we provide to our community. Thank you to our contributors for the continuous support!



## Coffee Regional Medical Center, Douglas

CRMC is very grateful for HEART donations received in 2022 allowing us to complete necessary facility upgrades as well as enhancing equipment in imaging services, electronic medical records, and women's health services. We are able to ensure a safe and high-quality environment for our patients and ultimately better health and well-being of our community!



## Colquitt Regional Medical Center, Moultrie

In 2022, we utilized HEART tax credit donations towards constructing a new medical education center which will be used by a number of medical learners, including physicians, nurses, paramedics, and nurse assistants. Residents, in particular, will significantly benefit from hands-on learning experiences in this new, high-tech environment.



## Crisp Regional Hospital, Cordele

Our 2022 Georgia HEART funds are going towards constructing a 23,000 square foot medical office complex, which will include Urgent Care, Retail Pharmacy, Ortho, Physical Therapy, and Labs/Imaging.



## Dorminy Medical Center, Fitzgerald

We used rural tax credit money to purchase 3D Mammogram equipment – the Senographe Pristina™. “As a breast cancer survivor, I know the importance of early detection. By upgrading to 3D mammography, DMC now offers our patients a more advanced and more comfortable method of testing,” said Paige Wynn, CEO of DMC.



## Effingham Hospital, Springfield

In its first six years, our Effingham Pediatrics practice has outgrown its current office. Your Georgia HEART contributions from 2022 are helping to underwrite phase one of the remodeling of an iconic local building to serve pediatric healthcare needs in this fast growing, family-friendly community.



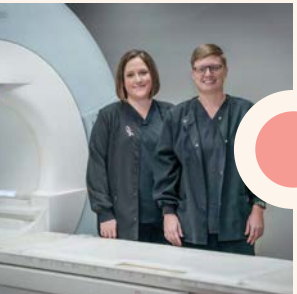
## Elbert Memorial Hospital, Elberton

We are grateful for the 2022 Georgia HEART donors supporting Elbert Memorial Hospital. Georgia HEART funds provided much needed support for operations and enabled us to purchase new equipment and supplies and expand our services lines. Most importantly, we continued to provide quality healthcare to our community.



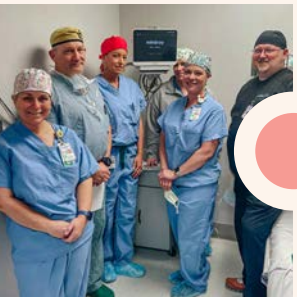
## Emanuel Medical Center, Swainsboro

In 2022, we utilized HEART tax credit donations to upgrade entrance signage to the front of the hospital and nursing home. We also upgraded equipment in our surgery department, with new and improved colonoscopy equipment to better serve our community with the ability to educate and promote awareness.



## Evans Memorial Hospital, Claxton

In 2022, we opened the Doris S. Fries Imaging Center, providing various new imaging services including Breast MRIs, a service that was previously unavailable to our community. Our continued growth depends on Georgia HEART funds as it allows us to provide state-of-the-art care to our community, limiting the need to travel for quality care.



## Jefferson Hospital, Louisville

2022 Georgia HEART contributions allowed us to purchase new anaesthesia equipment and OR telemetry equipment. Through the use of these funds, our hospital remains dedicated to increasing access to quality healthcare services for Jefferson and surrounding counties. We are sincerely grateful for all who support us through the Georgia HEART Rural Hospital Tax Credit Program.



## Monroe County Hospital, Forsyth

Through the generous Georgia HEART contributions, we were able to purchase a new CT Scanner for our hospital. Our patients are given a more comfortable experience with a shortened scan time, while providing better quality images for proper diagnosis. Thank you to our loyal Georgia HEART contributors!



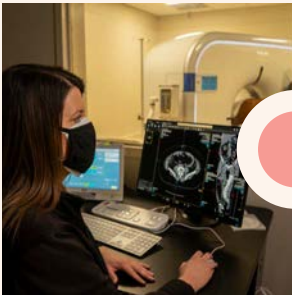
## Morgan Medical Center, Madison

Georgia HEART funds allowed us to expand the healthcare services we offer through hiring a general surgeon and purchasing additional equipment for our surgical suites. Thanks to our generous HEART contributors, patients who had to be transferred previously are now able to get the care they need locally!



## Northeast Georgia Medical Center Lumpkin, Dahlonega

By increasing staffing, our hospital has been able to expand outpatient and emergency services thanks to the Georgia HEART program. We are now able to offer lab and imaging services locally, so patients don't need to travel miles for routine services and testing.



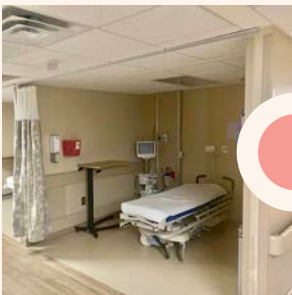
## Phoebe Worth Medical Center, Sylvester

2022 HEART donations provided funding for upgraded imaging equipment, significantly enhancing imaging capabilities. This technology upgrade allows physicians to view amazing levels of definition inside the body to diagnose disease or injury. Additional funding addressed upgraded facility operating system maintenance and campus security technology.



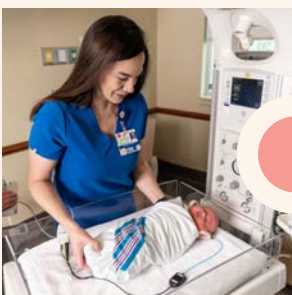
## Piedmont Mountainside Hospital, Jasper

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Georgia HEART donors, Piedmont Mountainside was able to purchase a state of the art Computed Tomography (CT), replacing an aging unit that consistently had outages and issues. This new CT primarily serves our Emergency Department patients and will improve patient wait times.



## Putnam General Hospital, Eatonton

2022 funds were utilized primarily to reduce the losses incurred by taking care of those that have no insurance. We also finalized our upgrade of our emergency room suites. HEART contributions enable our hospital to thrive, sustain staffing, maintain sophisticated equipment, attract better physicians, and provide quality health care to all our patients and the community. PGH is grateful for the generosity and loyalty of our Georgia HEART donors!



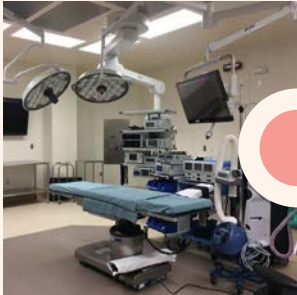
## Southeast Georgia Health System - Camden Campus, St. Marys

Thanks to Georgia HEART funds, we were able to enhance the quality of care we offer our community with a variety of capital equipment purchases, ranging from maternity and newborn care to an operating room surgical table, and cardio workflow software. The new Maternity Care Center equipment includes an infant hearing screening machine which decreases the length of time infants are separated from their parents.



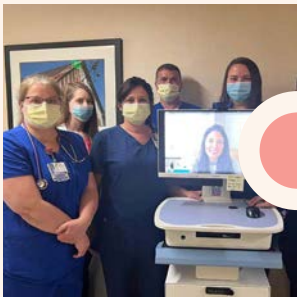
## Southwell Medical, Adel

Rural hospitals like Southwell Medical are shifting to an outpatient-based model to be more effective in the changing healthcare landscape. This includes an emphasis on convenient care, observation beds, and outpatient diagnostic imaging. Donations through the tax credit program have been used to offset indigent care expenditures.



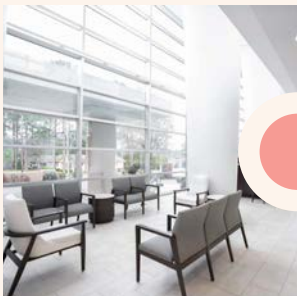
## St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, Greensboro

Funds received through the Georgia HEART program allowed us to upgrade our Stryker equipment in the operating rooms. We are so grateful for our Georgia HEART contributors.



## St. Mary's Sacred Heart Hospital, Lavonia

Through the generosity of Georgia HEART donors in 2022, our hospital upgraded and enhanced equipment and services to better serve our community. These enhancements included the addition of 24/7 Tele-Intensivist Coverage in our Critical Care Unit (pictured) and preparation to begin providing inpatient dialysis services in January 2023.



## Tift Regional Medical Center, Tifton

To accommodate growth in volume, Tift Regional Medical Center continues to work to replace older portions of our existing facility and recently opened an additional tower to include new inpatient units as well as a new emergency center. Funds from the tax credit program were used to purchase furniture and equipment for our newly renovated areas.



## Union General Hospital, Blairsville

The incredible generosity of our 2022 Georgia HEART donors allowed our hospital to invest in a new, highly advanced MRI machine for our Radiology Department. We are so grateful for the outpouring of support from our loyal Georgia HEART donors! You and your support allow us to continue offering high quality healthcare to our patients and our community!



## Upton Regional Medical Center, Thomaston

Georgia HEART funds received in 2022 were used to offset the cost of capital projects. The daVinci Surgical Robot has greatly improved the recovery time for patients. Our helipad has created ease of transport both to and from our hospital, which not only gives our patients peace of mind, but access to the care that they need as quickly as possible.

# Business Community Involvement

We are grateful to these featured business contributors who are partnering with HEART hospitals to improve rural healthcare in Georgia!



GEORGIA HEART  
HOSPITAL PROGRAM





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