

Raising Funds and Making Friends to Accomplish the Mission of Peterson Health

Peterson Health Physicians Recognized

Peterson takes great pride in acknowledging the exceptional commitment and dedication exemplified by the following doctors. Their unwavering adherence to the highest ethical standards, compassion for their patients, and tireless pursuit of excellence in their field truly embody the essence of what it means to have a calling in medicine. Peterson is privileged to honor their remarkable contributions and unwavering devotion to the noble vocation of healing.

CARING– Dr. Thomas Brown
ACCOUNTABILITY - Dr. David Peters
LEADERSHIP - Dr. Paul Gravel
LEARNING - Dr. Klaus Schroeder & Dr. Tyler Ulmer
INTEGRITY - Dr. Tim Berg & Dr. Steven Walters
NURTURING-Dr. Sharrel Carlson
GOING THE EXTRA MILE-Dr. Edward Erb
DOCTOR OF THE YEAR—Dr. Edward Erb

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The Promise Lives On...Because of YOU!

Dear Hill Country,

There's something timeless about this place. It's in the way the river glistens at sunset, the quiet strength of the oak trees, and the kindness of neighbors who show up—always. You're more than just home. You're our heart. At Peterson Health, we carry that spirit in everything we do.

In the 1940s, Hal and Charlie Peterson saw something special here. They believed the people of the Hill Country deserved more—more access, more care, and more compassion. In honor of their beloved father, Sid Peterson, they funded and founded what would become Peterson Regional Medical Center. Their gift was not just a hospital, but a promise—to care for this community with excellence, dignity, and love.

From those beginnings, Peterson Health has grown right alongside you. We now serve 14 counties across the region, with expanded services and a deeply rooted commitment to providing exceptional care close to home. Through every season, we've remained grounded in the values the Peterson family instilled—generosity, service, and unwavering devotion to our community. **You've stood with us, and because of you, we've been able to continue that legacy.**

So today, we say **Thank You** for believing in us, for investing in your neighbors, and for being the reason we show up every day, ready to serve.

With gratitude,
Your Friends at the Peterson Health Foundation

YOUR IMPACT: Donor-Supported Projects



Surgical Microscope

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to purchase the Zeiss OPMI Sensera S7 Ear, Nose and Throat surgical microscope — a powerful tool that enhances the precision and safety of surgeries. This advanced equipment gives surgeons a crystal-clear, magnified view of tiny structures, making complex procedures safer and more effective.

By reducing the risk of complications and improving outcomes, the Zeiss OPMI Sensera S7 will directly benefit our patients and strengthen the quality of care available to our entire community. We are deeply grateful for the support that made this possible.



Acclarent TruDi Navigation System

Peterson Health acquired its first Acclarent TruDi Navigation System for the Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) program in 2023. This advanced system uses real-time CT imaging to create a precise roadmap of the sinuses, allowing surgeons to navigate delicate anatomy with greater accuracy and safety. As Peterson Health continues to grow, ***the need for a second TruDi system became clear to meet increasing patient demand.*** Funded again by donor support, this second system will ensure even more patients in our community have access to safer, more effective ENT care—close to home.

Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

Donor names listed below reflect all gifts given between January 1, 2025 and March 31, 2025.

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Farewell and Thank You to Curtis Finley

After more than nine years of dedicated service, we extend our deepest thanks to Curtis Finley as he steps down as Foundation Board Chairman. His leadership and commitment have left a lasting impact on our mission and community.

We're also pleased to welcome Mrs. Mindy Wendele as our new Board Chairman and look forward to the future under her guidance.

Please join us in thanking Curtis and congratulating Mindy on her new role.



Wendele presents Finley with a plaque.

Meet our President and CEO

Peterson Health has named John McDonald, FACHE, as its new President and CEO following an extensive national search. Board leaders praised McDonald's leadership experience, healthcare background, and alignment with the organization's mission.



A Texas native, McDonald brings over two decades of healthcare leadership, including roles with Houston Methodist, Texas Children's Hospital, and HCA Healthcare, most recently as CEO of Centerpoint Medical Center in Missouri.

"I'm honored to join Peterson Health and serve the Hill Country community," said McDonald. "My family and I are excited to call Kerrville home."

Departing Director of the Foundation

After four and a half years of dedicated service, the Peterson Health Foundation will soon say farewell to Executive Director Nellwyn Barnett. Nellwyn will be relocating to Spokane, Washington with her husband at the end of May, where she will begin a new chapter in her career with the Salvation Army.



Nellwyn has brought energy, ambition, and a great sense of humor to her work, leaving a meaningful mark on the Foundation and all who had the pleasure of working alongside her. While we will miss her greatly, we are excited for Nellwyn's next adventure and wish her continued success in this new role.

Peterson Health Named a 2025 Best Place to Work in Healthcare for 5th Year in a Row

Peterson Health has once again been recognized as one of Modern Healthcare's Best Places to Work in Healthcare, marking the fifth consecutive year the organization has received this national honor. Peterson Health is one of only 150 healthcare organizations across the country to earn this distinction in 2025.

"I am excited to announce that Peterson Health has been recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in Healthcare for the fifth consecutive year," said Joe Piszczor, COO. "Being part of an organization that has earned this award five years in a row is truly a privilege. It reflects the strong culture we have here at Peterson Health. Our team consistently embodies our values and works together to deliver exceptional, compassionate, patient-centered care. I am confident that what we have at Peterson Health is outstanding and world-class."

Modern Healthcare President Dan Peres added, "This year's winners have shown a deep commitment to creating environments where employees feel supported, heard, and inspired to do their best work. That kind of culture doesn't happen by accident – it's intentional and worth celebrating."

Peterson Health continues to stand out among healthcare organizations nationwide for its employee engagement, workplace culture, and dedication to excellence in care.

For more information, visit www.petersonhealth.com.



To find out more about how your support can help, contact us at 830.258.7411 or visit our website at PetersonHealthFoundation.com.