CARILION CLINIC FOUNDATION

MAY 2026

Building Hope:

ADVANCING CANCER CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY



$1 Million Gift Establishes Carilion's First Endowed Chair

In a milestone moment for the future of pediatric care in our region, the Carilion Clinic Foundation celebrated a $1 million endowment from Children's Miracle Network of Southwest Virginia—establishing Carilion Clinic's first endowed chair. The CMN Endowed Chair in Pediatric Medicine honors Dr. Andrew Herman for his leadership and lasting contributions to clinical care, research, and medical education.

An endowed chair creates sustained, long-term support for research, education, and clinical innovation. That Carilion's first endowed chair supports pediatric medicine is a testament to Dr. Herman's work in opening new pediatric clinics and expanding specialty care for patients throughout the region.



Andrew C. Herman, MD
Chair, Pediatrics

“This endowment allows us to invest in our clinicians and staff to elevate the care we provide for children across Southwest Virginia by strengthening specialty depth through advanced training, expanding original research and quality improvement initiatives, and fostering innovation in pediatric medicine,” Dr. Herman said.

“The creation of the endowed chair reflects both Dr. Herman’s leadership and the strength of our partnership and shared commitment to helping kids receive the best possible care close to home,” said Macy Ware, CMN program director for Carilion. “We are proud to support pediatric medicine today and for generations to come.”

Children’s Miracle Network raises funds to support pediatric programs across North America, with every dollar in Southwest Virginia directly benefiting Carilion Clinic’s pediatric services. This investment strengthens care for children in our region.

Jeff Johnson: Helping to Bring Proton Therapy Closer to Home

At nearly 70 years old, Jeff Johnson had lived a healthy, active life.

“I’d never spent a day in the hospital, never broken a bone. I was just very blessed with good health,” Johnson said. “Then one day, a guy in a white jacket walked through the door and said, ‘Mr. Johnson, you’ve got cancer.’”

Those words changed his perspective on life.

After researching his options for treating prostate cancer, Johnson decided proton therapy would offer the best outcome and quality of life after treatment. But living in Carroll County meant traveling far from home to receive it.

Johnson explored proton therapy centers as far away as Florida and California before choosing one in Tennessee.

“Three and a half hours away was the closest location I could get to,” Johnson said.

The treatment required a major commitment: 39 consecutive sessions. Johnson and his wife were fortunate to be in a position where they could spend weeks away from home to complete treatment.

“You’re scheduled for what amounts to about a 15-minute session once a day,” Johnson said. “You get up, you walk out,



Jeff Johnson
Cancer Survivor, Philanthropist



From left to right: Kim Blair, Senior Director Principal Gifts, Carilion Clinic Foundation; Jeff and Sharon Johnson, Philanthropists

your treatments are done, and you are assured with a very high probability that your problem has been taken care of."

More than two years later, Johnson still reflects on how manageable the experience was.

"The thing that stands out the most, if you talk to anybody who's been through this, is how painless and effortless it is," he said.

When Johnson learned the Carilion Taubman Cancer Center planned to bring proton therapy to Southwest Virginia, he immediately wanted to help. He knows how fortunate he was to have access to proton therapy and believes others should not have to leave their communities or face financial stress to receive that same care.

"It's a proven technology. There's no disputing it," Johnson said. "To bring proton therapy closer to home, where people don't have to walk away from their jobs or distance themselves
from their families, it's going to change a lot of lives."

Johnson hopes others will join the effort to make proton therapy a reality for the region. "I've got such a strong belief in
this that it's become a priority for us," Johnson said. "We want
to help make this happen."

WATCH MORE

When Care Is Close to Home, Families Stay Strong







Bob Whitman, Pediatric Cancer Patient

A year ago, Bob Whitman's days looked like any other toddler's. Today, much of his time is spent at Carilion Children's, where treatment has become part of his routine and the care team feels like family.

He was just 2 ½ years old when he was diagnosed with high-risk leukemia after his family noticed unusual bruising, bleeding, and a sudden loss of energy.

What followed was a whirlwind of clinic visits, rounds of

home, and the added strain of distance during an already difficult chapter.

The Carilion Taubman Cancer Center is changing that. When it opens, the seven-story facility will have more than six times the space dedicated to cancer care and double the patient capacity. It will bring together comprehensive services so that patients can receive everything from diagnosis through recovery care in the same place. For pediatric patients like Bob and the families who walk alongside them, that means easier

chemotherapy, and long weeks adjusting to a new normal.
Through it all, Bob has remained, at his core, a kid, finding joy in small moments along the way thanks to the comfort of having his family nearby.

The comfort of receiving specialized care close to home, surrounded by the people who matter most, is not something every family can count on. For many facing a diagnosis like Bob's, treatment means long drives, time away from

access to the expert care and wraparound support.

With continued donor support, more families will have access to the advanced, compassionate care they need close to home—just like Bob has today.

DONATE TODAY



Susan and Eddie Amos, Philanthropists, with Nancy Agee, CEO Emeritus, Carilion Clinic

Carilion Clinic in Franklin County

Friends of the Carilion Clinic Foundation gathered at Smith Mountain Lake for an evening focused on the future of healthcare in Franklin County.

For many in Franklin County and the surrounding region, access to specialized cancer care often requires significant travel. Events like this bring together supporters who are helping shape what comes next for cancer care in our region.

The evening sparked thoughtful conversation and reinforced a shared vision: expanding access to advanced cancer care close to home for Southwest Virginia communities. With continued support from partners and donors, that vision is steadily becoming a reality.

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