



## What's new?

We have been hard at work during the first half of 2024 focusing on health equity and chronic disease, two of the top issues facing our communities according to the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment.

Through community partnerships and events, we have worked to address workforce and access to care shortages by exposing youths to health care careers, expanding access to care for those with disabilities and continued to support chronic disease prevention through free exercise and wellness classes.

In March, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Leake employees volunteered for Horses for Handicapped. In April, Baptist Health Sciences University HealthCORE hosted the sixth Black Men in White Coats: Building Diverse Health Care Professionals Summit. In May, Baptist supported Junior Achievement of Memphis and its JA Inspire career exploration event at the Agricenter. You can learn more about our involvement below.

We also recently kicked off our health and wellness series at [Shelby Farms](#) and [Overton Park](#). Both programs focus on physical and mental health to help address chronic disease in the community. We hope to see you at one of our fitness classes this summer!

If you know of any events or programs we can support to help improve the health and wellness of our community, please email us at [community.relations@bmhcc.org](mailto:community.relations@bmhcc.org).

**Keith Norman**

Vice President/Chief Government Affairs and Community Relations Officer  
Baptist Memorial Health Care

## Addressing Health Disparities

We invested in a number of initiatives to support health equity and access to care during the past quarter.

### Black Men in White Coats: Building Diverse Health Care Professionals Summit

Baptist Health Sciences University HealthCORE hosted the sixth Black Men in White Coats: Building Diverse Health Care Professionals Summit for more than 200 students, parents and professionals. Activities included speed networking, hands-on demonstrations and opportunities to learn about local resources and financial literacy. Students also had the opportunity to connect with medical professionals to discuss their questions and get advice on pursuing a career in health care.



*More than 200 students, parents and professionals attended the Black Men in White Coats summit on April 6, 2024.*

### Horses for Handicapped

Baptist Leake employees volunteered more than 100 hours to help Horses for Handicapped, a nonprofit organization established in 1981. During four days of activities with horses and games, Horses for Handicapped helped more than 1,900 children and adults with mental or physical disabilities.



*Horses for Handicapped activities included horseback riding, wagon rides, a petting zoo, bouncy houses, games and face painting.*

### JA Inspire - Serving Students in the Mid-South

Baptist was proud to be an exhibitor at this year's JA Inspire hosted by Junior Achievement of Memphis and the Mid-South. The event, held at Agricenter International from May 14 to 16, was attended by more than 1,900 eighth-grade students from across the region.



*Students were invited to try a surgery simulation, walk through an inflatable colon and speak with Baptist Memorial Health Care medical professionals.*

## Stay in Touch

Not on the list for our quarterly newsletter? [Click here](#) to sign up!

Bookmark our [Events](#) and [Resources](#) pages, and check them frequently to find out about free community health events and to access free health resources.