



**SANCAP CARES 2018**

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Diana Day Valerie Tutor

**Honorary Chairpersons**

Donna and John Schubert

**Hospital Representative**

Jeff Muddell

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**SANCAP CARES 2018 ISLAND CELEBRATION**



Dear Friends of SanCap Cares,

Golisano Children’s Hospital is officially open! Children and their families who otherwise would be forced to travel to Tampa or Miami are now receiving top quality treatment close to home. Support from the Southwest Florida community, including the Sanibel & Captiva islanders, played a significant part in making this dream a reality. But opening the doors is only the first step; more work lies in remaining on the forefront of care, operating the hospital, and continuing the commitment to the health, development & well-being of our children.

This year, Golisano Children’s Hospital will launch its **Pediatric Behavioral Health Initiative**; designed to serve the children of Southwest Florida struggling with mental health and developmental challenges. The critical need for this program cannot be stressed enough. For many of us, this struggle hits painfully close to home. Funds raised at the 2018 SanCap Cares event will help underwrite this program.

You are cordially invited to the **18<sup>th</sup> Annual SanCap Cares Island Celebration on Sunday, April 8, 2018 at The Sanctuary Golf Club**. Please join us for a “Whimsical” evening filled with great food, fun surprises, the popular chance packages, and our Give-To-Give silent auction of wish-list items to support the hospital’s programs. We can’t forget this is Masters Sunday, so for you golf fans, come watch your favorite player vie for that green jacket & enjoy our nod to Augusta; we have some special things in store.

We encourage you to review the enclosed reply card and consider becoming a sponsor or increasing your sponsorship level. Sponsors contribute well over 40% of funds raised each year, so you are vitally important. We hope you will attend the special **VIP Sponsor Party on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at the Captiva Island Yacht Club** as a thank you for your generous support.

We are pleased to announce that our Honorary Chairs for the 2018 event will be Donna and John Schubert. The Schuberts have been friends and supporters of SanCap Cares, Golisano Children’s Hospital and the Lee Health family for the past 16 years. Their dedication and commitment to our islands is clearly evident in their constant willingness to champion the needs of community organizations such as F.I.S.H., CROW, The Sanibel Library Foundation, and SanCap Cares.

Thank you in advance for your support this year. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

*Diana Day and Valerie Tutor*



The new Emergency Department is on pace to see 40,000 kids in its first year of operation – over five times what they saw in 2001!



## Your Children's Hospital: Open for Business, Changing Lives



After years of planning and millions of dollars of support from people like you, **Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida** opened in May 2017!

Through your generosity, a new state-of-the-art 128-bed children's hospital in SW Florida is treating our community's youngest and most vulnerable patients. It is the newest children's hospital in the country, and the only children's hospital between Miami and Tampa. Thanks to you, **more**

**young patients are being treated who previously would have had to travel great distances for care.**

Already, the new hospital is changing the lives of children and families and turning heads in the healthcare industry.

- An average of 110 patients per day visit the pediatric emergency department, named after SanCap Cares and the Sanibel/Captiva Community, on pace **for a whopping 40,000 visits over twelve months.**
- The new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) has 64 beds while the old NICU had 48 beds. Even with room for 16 more babies, the NICU has been **at capacity** several days since opening.
- **A burn program** was created in November to provide care in our community for young burn victims who would have previously been forced to travel out of town for care.
- A new **pediatric dialysis program** is set to open its doors, providing specialized child-friendly care to patients dealing with kidney disorders and disease.
- The Leapfrog Group has named the hospital a **"Top Children's Hospital."** Only 10 children's hospitals in the country earned this prestigious distinction.

While the building is open and the awards handed out, the job is not over. Golisano Children's Hospital needs our ongoing support to create critical new programs, sustain the many services already in place, and provide the finest possible healthcare to all children in Southwest Florida, regardless of their family's ability to pay for care.

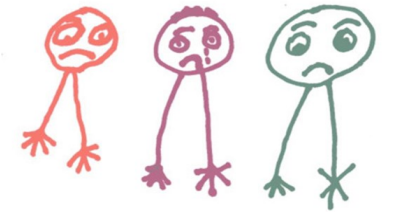


## A New Challenge: Pediatric Behavioral Health

You'll hear much more about this in the coming months, but we are proud to announce that the **2018 SanCap Cares event will benefit a new and revolutionary program at Golisano Children's Hospital to tackle pediatric behavioral and mental health disorders in our community.**

The need is great. Just look at the staggering statistics from the National Institute of Health:

- In Florida, **suicide is the third-leading cause of death** for 10-to-24 year-olds.
- 20 percent of 13-to-18 year-olds, and 13 percent of 8-to-15 year-olds in the United States live with a behavioral or mental health condition. Applying those figures to our community, it's estimated upwards of **50,000 children in Southwest Florida are dealing with behavioral or mental health issues.**
- 50 percent of all lifetime cases of mental illnesses begin by age 14. However, many cases go untreated due to misdiagnosis and/or lack of access to care.



It shouldn't  
hurt to be  
a child.



"There is a tidal wave approaching on the horizon," says Armando Llechu, the new chief administrative officer at Golisano Children's Hospital. "We know we have a serious lack of pediatric behavioral and mental health services in Southwest Florida right now. If we don't treat the tens of thousands of children today in need of that care, we will be inundated in the near future with the negative societal impacts when these children grow into adolescents and adults."

There is hope, and with our support, Golisano Children's Hospital is poised to be a leader. The hospital is in the final stages of unveiling a comprehensive plan to dramatically increase the amount and scope of services in Southwest Florida available to the children of our community.

"We can make a difference in the lives of children right now, and help this community grow and thrive in a healthy way, and lead the way nationally to address these behavioral and mental health issues," says Llechu. "We hope the SanCap Cares community will join us on this critically important journey."