

THE HEART of MUSIC CITY

April 9, 2022

NASHHEARTGALA



Middle Tennessee Heart Gala

Celebrating 48 years of generosity and support for the American Heart Association in Middle Tennessee

SATURDAY April 9, 2022 OMNI HOTEL 6PM - MIDNIGHT

HEART GALA CHAIRS Kathy and Victor Giovanetti

MARTIN E. SIMMONS AWARD RECIPIENTS Mrs. Sheila Shields and the late Mr. Nelson Shields





Annie Thornhill

This June, after six years' leading our regional-level community impact efforts for the American Heart Association, I moved with my family to Nashville to take on the honor of leading our efforts in Middle TN as the new Executive Director.

After her second day of school in our new home in Nashville, my 10-year old daughter Amelia brought me a "Getting to Know You" document that she had started for her new teacher. Favorite food: twicebaked potatoes; Favorite past-time: reading. Hero: My mom, because she moved us to Nashville to make it a better place to live.

So after I caught my breath and pretended I didn't have a tear on my cheek, I reflected upon this incredible compliment. It is also a call to action, and at a time when the cost of poor heart health is devastating Nashville and the nation.

In 2020 we saw overall life expectancy drop by two years, and heart disease remained a leading cause of death. In fact, deaths from heart disease and stroke increased during COVID. The risk factors for heart disease (obesity, high blood pressure, low access to health care, etc) are the same drivers of COVID death. The past two years have shined a light on the high cost of health disparities and untreated

poor heart health, and turned a spotlight on the need for stronger community cohesion and trust.

Last year in Nashville we worked with clinics to continue to provide blood pressure care to patients during COVID. Our hospitals participated in a no-cost COVID registry. We converted our STEM courses to digital formats and reached more students. We launched campaigns around going to the ER (after ER visits for cardiac arrests dropped dramatically), why to get vaccinated, the importance of mental health and well-being, and getting back to primary care.

Since we have moved here, I have been so impressed by the hospitality, generosity, and depth of community leadership. Together, we have accomplished so much. Yet every single person I have spoken to acknowledges that we also have so much more to do. Under the leadership of our Middle TN Board of Directors, we have built a strategy to achieve incredible growth and impact by 2024, the 100th anniversary of the American Heart Association and the 50th anniversary of the Heart Gala. We aim to raise millions more for our mission and reach more than one million people through our local work.

Don't tell Amelia this, but she's wrong about the hero here. It's you, the leaders in our community who drive our organization and team to extraordinary accomplishments. Together we can accomplish the goals to raise more funds for our lifesaving mission and reach more than one million people in the community through our impact initiatives.

I know you share the compliment and the call to action to make our community one of the healthiest in the nation.

With heartfelt thanks, Annie





Kathy and Victor Giovanetti

Welcome back to the 2022 Middle Tennessee Heart Gala! On behalf of everyone from the American Heart Association and LifePoint Health, we want to thank you for joining us tonight and for supporting the important work of the AHA.

As a healthcare provider, LifePoint Health is a proud supporter of the AHA mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives as it aligns with LifePoint's mission of making communities healthier, and personally we understand how the work of the AHA has touched so many lives and continues to be a part of ours each and every day.

Kathy and I hold deep appreciation for the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association since my days as a young

emergency responder. My career began in a local fire department as a firefighter and paramedic. I also had the pleasure of serving as an EMS director, a senior flight paramedic for a LifeFlight program and an instructor. During my clinical and instructional years, I remained heavily engaged in the training programs sanctioned by the American Heart Association and served as an affiliate faculty member. The Association's standards for resuscitation are premier, and as a first responder we lived by those standards and kept others alive because of the incredible training that the American Heart Association offered then and continues to provide today to EMS and hospital professionals.

As a family, our appreciation changed dramatically when the work of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association touched our family personally. We are honored and proud to be able to serve the Association by chairing tonight's event and feel that the Heart Gala brings the awareness and funds to this critical mission that we so deeply believe in and support. We hope you enjoy the evening and leave with more understanding and appreciation for the work and lifesaving mission of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association.

With heart, Kathy and Victor

2022 Middle Tennessee Heart Gala Leaders

HEART GALA CHAIRS Kathy and Victor Giovanetti

MARTIN E. SIMMONS AWARD RECIPIENTS Mrs. Sheila Shields and the late Mr. Nelson Shields

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6:00 p.m. LEGENDS BALLROOM PREFUNCTION

Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction Silent Auction will close at 8:30p.m.

8:00 p.m. LEGENDS BALLROOM

Welcome

Dinner

Live Auction

Martin E. Simmons Award Join us in honoring Mrs. Sheila Shields and the late Mr. Nelson Shields for their impact on the American Heart Association.

Open Your Heart An opportunity to make a gift to support education, research, and community awareness

Until Midnight

LEGENDS BALLROOM

Dancing with Bizz and Everyday People

LEGENDS BALLROOM PREFUNCTION

Late Night Lounge



FIRST COURSE

Petite Greens, Toy Box Tomatoes, Radish, Shaved Carrot, Multigrain Crisp, Feta Apple Cider Vinaigrette

ENTRÉE

Braised Short Rib and Shrimp Pickled Radish, Asparagus, Rice Grits, Braising Jus

DESSERT

Black Velvet Cake Dark Chocolate Ganache, Orange Curd

or

Peach Blueberry Cake Peach Frangipane, Corral Tuile, Anglaise

Martin E. Simmons Award

The American Heart Association was inspired to create the Martin E. Simmons Award to honor his legacy of selfless giving and the impact he made on the mission of the association in Middle Tennessee. Simmons, a noted attorney and founder of several law firms in the Nashville area, was active in many community organizations, boards and philanthropic causes. As a volunteer for the American Heart Association, he served as chairman of the large firms division for the American Heart Association's Middle Tennessee annual



fund drive, chairman of the Davidson County Heart Fund campaign and in many other capacities over the years. His leadership and his generosity set the example for others to follow, and advanced the Association's mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer healthier lives.

The Martin E. Simmons Award honors those who have made a significant impact on the mission of the American Heart Association.

In continuing Martin's service to the American Heart Association, his wife Judy and children have remained champions of the mission.





Mrs. Sheila Shields and the late Mr. Nelson Shields

The American Heart Association is honored to present the Martin E. Simmons Award to Mrs. Sheila and her late husband Mr. Nelson Shields, in recognition of their significant impact on the organization's mission.

With more than a decade of volunteer service, their impact is immeasurable as they have inspired countless volunteers and community leaders to join them in investing in the American Heart Association's advancements in research, improved patient care and the overall health of the Middle Tennessee community.

Together, they have served in leadership roles within the organization including co-chairing the Heart Gala in 2014. During this campaign they helped to establish the Martin E. Simmons award to honor the legacy of one of their dear friend's impact on the mission of the organization in Middle Tennessee. Sheila continues to be a member of the Nashville community, along with her daughter Rachel and son in law JJ. Nelson also served on the local Board of Directors until his sudden passing in 2020.

We congratulate Sheila and honor Nelson's legacy this evening as the recipients of the Martin E. Simmons Award and thank them for their years of service to the American Heart Association.

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LifePoint Health is proud to be a presenting sponsor for tonight's Middle Tennessee Heart Gala and proud to support the American Heart Association, which helps advance our mission of Making Communities Healthier® by improving the heart health of people across the country.

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American Heart Association, thank you for being a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.



American Heart Association.



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In 2021-2022, the American Heart Association worked to fight cardiovascular diseases and stroke in Middle Tennessee by...

STEM GOES RED DIGITAL Experience

Hosted Third Annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Go Red Digital Experience in partnership with metro Nashville Public Schools reaching over 500 students.

HYPERTENSION COLLABORATIVE

Enrolled 16 clinics/health systems in our hypertension collaborative reaching over 400,000 local patients.

FOOD DONATIONS

Donated over 650LBs of nutritious food in our partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank.



GET WITH THE GUIDELINES

Awarding Get With The Guidelines recognition to 10 Middle Tennessee hospitals for their proper care of heart and stroke emergencies.

RESEARCH GRANTS

The AHA is a leader in cutting-edge science with \$16.9 million in active research grants, including multi-year grants in Middle Tennessee, with \$2.3 million in new grants. Our community has seen a total of \$91 million in research funding overall throughout the years.

KID'S HEART CHALLENGE

196 schools in Middle Tennessee registered for Kid's Heart Challenge reaching over 116,000 families.

CPR READINESS

Increased CPR readiness by conducting community CPR awareness, equipping schools with CPR in School Kits, and donating over 400 Hands-Only CPR anytime kits.

HBCU SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Currently in Middle Tennessee 4 students are currently enrolled in our HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Scholars Program.





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Established in 2012, Cor Vitae is the American Heart Association's national philanthropic giving society. Latin for the heart of life, Cor Vitae is a unique partnership between the American Heart Association and society members, our dedicated friends.

Members of the Cor Vitae Society help us find new treatments to spare families the devastation of heart disease and stroke. Their ongoing annual support promotes educational programs, advocacy efforts and other initiatives that foster a culture where the healthy choice is the easy choice. Together, we are making a lasting impact for generations to come by giving the gift of knowledge, time and life to so many families nationwide.



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**posthumous *deceased

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