

HOAG HOSPITAL FOUNDATION in support of Hoag

# Scanner



Philanthropists  
Julia & George Argyros  
**Largest Gift  
to Nursing  
in Hoag History**



Dear Friends of Hoag:

In May, I had the privilege of attending the annual Nurses Day event during which Julia Argyros presented a historic \$2.5 million check to support nursing education at Hoag. The buzz in the room was palpable as nurses responded with spontaneous cheers and thunderous applause. That reaction was just the beginning of what's developed into a tidal wave of excitement and interest.

The transformative potential of the Argyros' gift hit home as I recently signed a stack of 75-plus nursing scholarship approvals submitted in the span of just a few weeks. Keeping in mind that a normal week yields three to four, it struck me just what a tremendous shift their generosity is making in the hearts and minds of Hoag nurses.

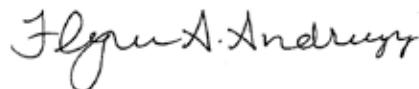
Many nurses, who in the past only dreamed about the possibility of pursuing advanced degrees, are seizing the opportunity presented by the new scholarships. Research has proven that the proportion of nurses with advanced degrees has a direct and measurable effect on patient care. Anything that improves patient care, which is the heart of what we do, raises the bar for the entire organization.

What's less measurable but just as important is the immediate boost to the pride and esteem felt by all Hoag nurses, regardless of whether or not they are participating in the scholarship program. Hoag nurses are expressing overwhelming gratitude in knowing that they are so very valued and supported in their collective mission to provide the best care available anywhere.

We simply can't emphasize enough how much of a difference this gift will make for generations of nurses and patients. By acting on their extraordinary passion for giving back to the community, Julia and George are catalysts for a sea of change in nursing care at Hoag.

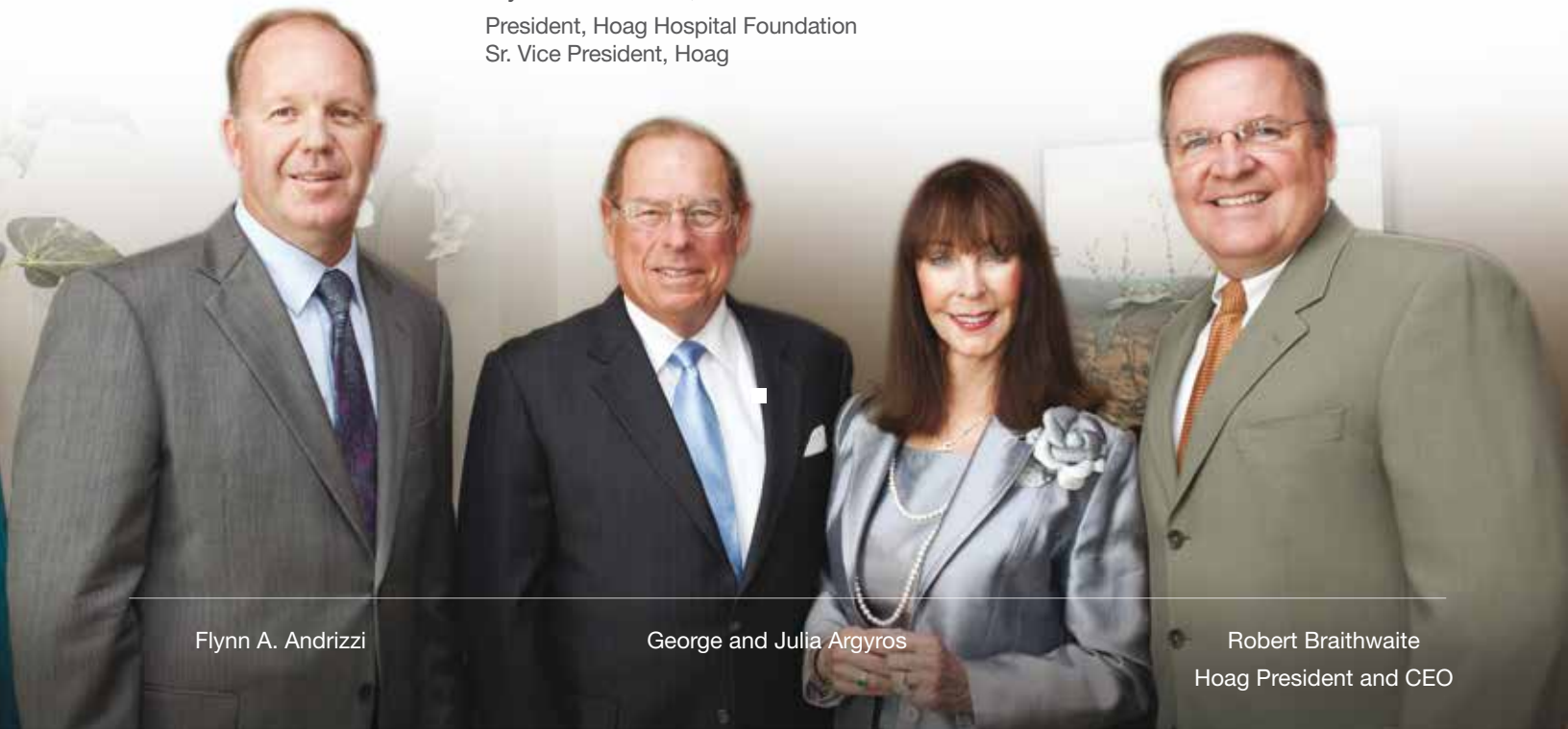
We are deeply grateful for the compassion and inspired action of Julia and George Argyros on behalf of Hoag nurses and the countless lives they will touch.

Sincerely,



Flynn A. Andrizzi, Ph.D.

President, Hoag Hospital Foundation  
Sr. Vice President, Hoag



Flynn A. Andrizzi

George and Julia Argyros

Robert Braithwaite  
Hoag President and CEO



# Nursing 2.0

## The Evolution of Modern Nursing

When Hoag first opened its doors in 1952, nurses in white uniforms and stiff white caps cared for patients who stayed in the hospital for days or weeks to recuperate from surgery. They received a technical education, often in a diploma program, and carried out task-based nursing duties. This picture is as antiquated now as today's nursing model will be in 20 years.

Today's nurses are increasingly well-educated at colleges and universities that focus on care coordination and critical thinking, as well as clinical skills. They care for sicker patients with complicated needs and shorter lengths of stay. Nurses today are technologically savvy critical thinkers who coordinate care across a broad spectrum of healthcare. To be successful, they must be well-educated, well-trained and able to lead patient care.

In 20 years, this picture will have changed again. Nurses will assume ever-greater leadership in response to healthcare reform, increasing numbers of insured patients, an aging population and the projected shortage of physicians. With the support of forward-thinking donors, Hoag is preparing today's nurses for tomorrow's care needs.

### Moving Toward Higher Education

Research supports what we know instinctively. A study released in the May 2008 issue of the *Journal of Nursing Administration* shows a strong link between

RN education level and patient outcomes. Leading nurse researchers found that every ten percent increase in the proportion of BSN nurses on the hospital staff was associated with a four percent decrease in the risk of death.

According to a 2002 article in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, highly educated nurses provide better communication, coordination of care and leadership skills. They have a greater focus on the psychosocial components of care and patient teaching, all resulting in better patient outcomes. By 2020, maintaining Magnet® status will require achieving a ratio of 80 percent of nurses with BSN degrees.

"We are developing Hoag nurses to not only provide the Hoag Experience in the traditional ways we're doing it today but also to prepare them for tomorrow's care delivery models," says Rick Martin, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., Hoag senior vice president of Clinical Operations and chief nursing officer. "Currently, 46 percent of our nurses hold a BSN or higher and, with the assistance of visionary donors, we are actively paving the way to increase that to 80 percent."

If you would like more information on how you can support outstanding nursing at Hoag, please contact Angelina Morano at (949) 764-7217 or [Angelina.Morano@hoag.org](mailto:Angelina.Morano@hoag.org).

# Caring for the CAREGIVERS

## Philanthropists Julia and George Argyros Make Largest Gift to Nursing in Hoag's History

A long-standing passion of Julia and George Argyros is providing support that not only changes lives of individuals but also positively affects everyone touched by those individuals. Knowing the integral role that nurses play in quality patient care, the couple was delighted to make a major gift of \$2.5 million to Hoag through the Argyros Family Foundation. The largest gift to nursing in Hoag's history, the funds will help to significantly enhance and expand nursing education initiatives at Hoag.

### A Life of Service

The philanthropists, who find great meaning in using their resources to increase the sum total of good in the world, are always looking for ways to make an impact. That's why, during a routine visit, Julia was brainstorming with her physician, John Storch, M.D., on ways she and George could support Hoag. Their discussion reminded Julia of a recent encounter with a young working mother who had the desire but not the means to pursue her nursing degree. That, combined with the fact that her younger sister is retired from a nursing career devoted to serving others, sparked a big idea.

"My sister, Connie Jones, was a nurse for over 40 years. I saw how hard she worked, how dedicated she was to nursing and how important it was to her that her patients received the best care," shared Julia. "We wanted to support Hoag's team of committed nurses

in achieving their educational goals and in being the very best for their patients. When people speak about Hoag, we want them to say the nurses at Hoag are the kindest, most professional, dedicated and caring nurses they have ever encountered."

"Ongoing, quality nursing education that equips nurses with the latest knowledge has been proven to result in improved patient care and recovery," Hoag President and

CEO Robert Braithwaite said. "The new educational and professional growth opportunities that the Argyros Family Foundation gift makes possible will positively impact our nursing program across all specialties—and our patients and the community will benefit most of all."

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## Overwhelming Response

Julia announced the gift, and her inspiration for it, to the cheers and audible gasps of nurses attending the annual Hoag Nurses Day event in May of this year. According to Rick Martin, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., Hoag senior vice president of Clinical Operations and chief nursing officer, the Argyros gift has sparked a wave of scholarship applications. In fact, in the first 30 days following the gift announcement, Rick received over 60 scholarship applications with more coming in each day. That compares with an average of 60 applications per year in prior years.

Hoag nursing staff has a good reason to be excited. The Argyros gift, in addition to gifts from other donors, is allowing Hoag to increase nursing scholarships from \$2,000 to \$6,000 per person, per year. “The Argyros’ extraordinary generosity has created a tremendous opportunity for Hoag nursing staff,” Rick said. “This gift has opened the door for people who would not otherwise have the resources to pursue their education. The gift is not something that ends when the money is given. That education will help those who received it as well as the thousands of people they will care for in their working lives—it really is a living gift.”

## Legacy of Love

The Argyros family has made an avocation out of helping others achieve their dreams. Their legacy of giving has directly impacted the quality of healthcare, the arts and education in our community and far beyond,

including scholarships for returning veterans. Their kindness and generosity is much more than the sum of its multiple parts—its ripple effect on countless lives will be felt for years to come.

“I didn’t come from any money, but we always shared what we had,” mused Julia. “Giving is just part of your spirit, part of you. George and I love putting our good fortune to the best possible use by helping others. We enjoy the pleasure of giving and observing how it impacts people, how they progress through their lives. That gives us all the joy we need.”



*Choose Nursing, Choose Hoag*

# Investing in Excellence

Our community counts on Hoag nurses to provide the “Hoag” brand of care during every encounter. *Choose Nursing, Choose Hoag* (CNCH) addresses the challenges facing Hoag in attracting, developing, retaining and providing career advancement opportunities for the best and brightest nurses.

The CNCH initiative, which raised the funds necessary to build the Marion Knott Nursing Education Center at Hoag, also supports Hoag’s annual nursing conferences and provides funds for the latest training technology such as patient simulators. Ongoing CNCH goals include:

## **Nursing Scholarships**

Sponsored scholarships make a significant impact on the educational level of nurses at Hoag and help nurses advance their careers and deliver the best patient care available anywhere. Since the inception of *Choose Nursing, Choose Hoag* in 2004, over 300 Hoag nurses have received CNCH-funded scholarship awards for their continued education, training and advanced degrees, with a record number of 80 awarded in 2012.

## **Nursing Professorships**

As the need to increase the percentage of nurses educated at the BSN level or higher continues to rise, Hoag is assisting to support additional professors at local colleges and universities offering baccalaureate and master’s degrees in nursing.

Thank you to the dedicated CNCH volunteer leaders who work tirelessly to educate our community about the importance of nursing education and to our generous donors who support nursing excellence at Hoag.



## Nurse Practitioners: The Growing Solution in Healthcare Delivery

Increasingly, nurse practitioners are the providers of choice for a range of front-line health services such as primary and preventive care, managing chronic health conditions, teaching patients how to avoid injury and hospitalization and nursing home care. Mounting studies show that the quality of nurse practitioner care is equal to comparable services by physicians, and often at a lower cost.

Graduate nursing programs provide the content, values, skills and competencies necessary to prepare advanced practice nurses. Nurse Practitioners are registered nurses (R.N.) with advanced education and clinical training in primary healthcare. In fact, nurse practitioners can deliver as much as 80 percent of the healthcare services provided by primary care physicians while improving cost effectiveness.

The range of services provided by nurse practitioners includes:

- Taking the patient's history
- Performing physical exams
- Ordering lab tests and procedures
- Diagnosing, treating and managing acute and chronic diseases
- Providing prescriptions
- Coordinating referrals
- Promoting healthy activities in collaboration with the patient

What distinguishes nurse practitioners from other primary care providers is their focus on wellness promotion and illness prevention from holistic, family and community perspectives. In 2012, Hoag implemented an onsite Nurse Practitioner program, funded in large part by philanthropy.

## Specialty Nursing Certification: Raising the Bar

Nursing is a knowledge-based profession, meaning that how much a nurse knows is critical to the work she or he performs. According to research conducted by the *American Journal of Nursing* (2001), certified nurses reported that they experienced fewer adverse events and errors in patient care than before they were certified. These nurses reported feeling more confident in their ability to detect early signs and symptoms of complications, and to initiate early and prompt interventions.

Specialty nursing certification has become increasingly more important, and there are numerous specialty options—each of which has its own education/certification requirements. A few examples include:

- Cardiac Care Nursing
- Critical Care Nursing
- Cardiovascular Nursing
- Diabetes Nursing
- Emergency Nursing
- Hospice/Palliative Care Nursing
- Medical-Surgical Nursing
- Neurosciences Nursing
- Oncology Nursing
- Women's Health Nursing

Hoag encourages, supports and celebrates nurse specialization. Annual conferences and specialty training meet this need.

If you would like more information on how you can support nursing education at Hoag, please contact Angelina Morano at (949) 764-7217 or [Angelina.Morano@hoag.org](mailto:Angelina.Morano@hoag.org).

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## Making a Difference Named Nursing Education Funds

Named Nursing Education funds assist Hoag in increasing the overall education and skill level of Hoag nurses including the number of nurses with advanced degrees and specialized in critical areas of medicine such as oncology, neurology, cardiovascular and orthopedics. There are several types of funds to choose from including:

**Named Scholarship Funds**—supports tuition and books for nurses obtaining advanced degrees

**Named General Nursing Education Funds**—supports nursing conferences necessary for specialty certification and to keep Hoag nurses up-to-date on the latest advances

**Named Nurse Practitioner Funds**—supports Hoag nurses in achieving advanced licensing and designation

If you would like more information about Named Nursing Education Funds, please contact Angelina Morano at (949) 764-7217 or [Angelina.Morano@hoag.org](mailto:Angelina.Morano@hoag.org).

