



a service of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital

720 West Forest, Jackson, TN 38301 • 731-541-1700 • kirklandcancercenter.org



2024 Annual Report



West Tennessee
HEALTHCARE

Alice and Carl
KIRKLAND
CANCER CENTER

a service of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital



Gregory Franz, MD
Hematology/Oncology

A Message from the Medical Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As the Medical Director of Kirkland Cancer Center, I am proud to reflect on the accomplishments of 2024 and the tremendous strides we have made in serving our community. This has been a year filled with exciting changes and continued growth, and we are incredibly thankful for the ongoing support of our community, as well as those in West Tennessee who consistently show their care for our patients. Whether through generous monetary contributions or thoughtful donations of items that lift the spirits of those facing difficult battles, your kindness continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our patients.

One of the most significant changes we implemented in 2024 was the introduction of a new EMR system,

EPIC. This transition, though challenging, has already proven to be a great benefit to both our staff and the patients we care for. EPIC streamlines our processes, allowing us to provide more efficient, personalized care and enhancing our ability to serve the needs of each individual who walks through our doors.

In our continued commitment to improving access to quality care, we were proud to partner with West Cancer Center in 2024 to bring Gynecologic Cancer Care right here to Jackson, TN. Patients no longer need to travel to Memphis or Nashville for this specialized treatment, and we are excited to offer this vital service in our local community.

Another important milestone for Kirkland Cancer Center in 2024 was the opening of Kirkland Therapy Services on-site, providing our patients with access to Physical Therapy (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) services right here at our facility. This addition ensures that our patients have access to a more comprehensive range of services during their treatment journey, helping them recover and regain strength more effectively. We also welcomed new providers to our team in 2024. This year, we were fortunate to add one new Medical

Oncologist/Hematologist and two new Nurse Practitioners to our Medical Oncology Clinic, as well as one new provider in Radiation Oncology. Their expertise and dedication are invaluable assets to our team, and we are thrilled to have them as part of our Kirkland Cancer Center family.

As always, we are continually humbled by the outpouring of love and support we receive from our community. Your generosity, along with our dedicated team, enables us to provide comprehensive cancer care to patients in Jackson and beyond. We are truly blessed to serve you and your loved ones.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. We look forward to continuing our mission of providing compassionate and high-quality cancer care for years to come.

Henry Adkisson Colon Cancer Survivor

Henry H. Adkisson Sr.'s journey began on October 4, 2023, when a routine colonoscopy turned into a life-changing event. What was meant to be a simple check-up became the beginning of his fight against colon cancer. During the procedure, doctors discovered a polyp that was too large to be safely removed at the time. This discovery marked the first of many steps in a process that would bring him face to face with both his health and the power of early detection.

Following the diagnosis, Henry underwent surgery to remove the large polyp. While this was a crucial step, it was just the beginning. Two weeks after the procedure, his doctor referred him to Kirkland Cancer Center (KCC) to ensure that the cancer hadn't spread to other parts of his body. The uncertainty of those two weeks weighed heavily on Henry, but he remained hopeful as he entered the cancer center for further testing.

The results, however, brought a sense of relief. After extensive testing, Henry received the all-clear from KCC two weeks later. His cancer had not spread, and for the moment, he was in the clear. However, his journey was not over yet. Dr. Franz, his doctor, recommended that Henry undergo iron infusions to help him regain his strength after the surgery.

Henry, ever the optimist, was grateful for the care he received at KCC. "The staff at Kirkland Cancer Center was good. They were encouraging during my iron infusions. They treated me really nice and assured me that everything was going to be alright," he said with a smile.

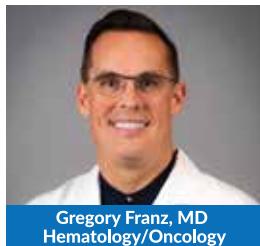
Every three days, Henry received an iron infusion. The process, while taxing, began to show results. After his third treatment, he started feeling better, regaining energy and strength that had been sapped by the previous weeks of uncertainty and recovery.

As he reflected on his experience, Henry's thoughts turned to the importance of screenings. "This reminds you how important it is to be screened," he said, with a sense of gratitude for the doctors and staff who had caught the issue early and guided him through each step of his treatment. For Henry, it wasn't just a victory over cancer; it was a powerful reminder of how critical it is to take proactive steps in caring for your health.

His journey wasn't easy, but it was a testament to the power of early detection, skilled medical care, and the support of a compassionate healthcare team. Through his strength and the encouragement of those around him, Henry H. Adkisson Sr. emerged from this experience with a renewed appreciation for life and the importance of never skipping a check-up.



Meet our Kirkland Cancer Center Providers



Gregory Franz, MD
Hematology/Oncology



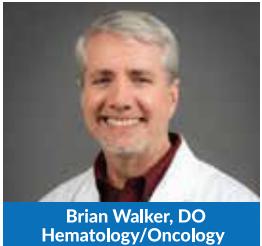
Shuang Fu, MD
Hematology/Oncology



Saira Farid, MD
Hematology/Oncology



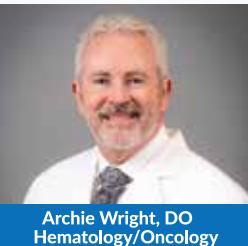
Jessica Davis, DO
Hematology/Oncology



Brian Walker, DO
Hematology/Oncology



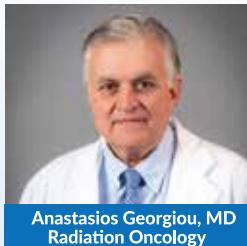
Joseph Fouché, MD
Hematology/Oncology



Archie Wright, DO
Hematology/Oncology



Jeffrey Kovalic, MD
Radiation Oncology



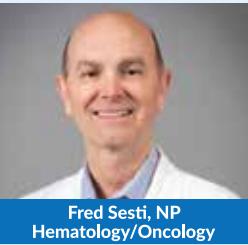
Anastasios Georgiou, MD
Radiation Oncology



Rameses Sroufe, MD
Hematology/Oncology



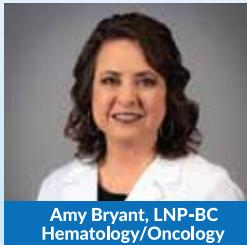
Allison Rasnic, NP
Hematology/Oncology



Fred Sesti, NP
Hematology/Oncology



Worthy Arrington, DNP, FNP
Hematology/Oncology



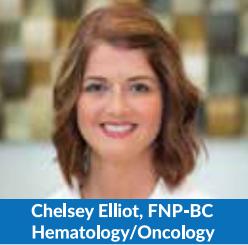
Amy Bryant, LNP-BC
Hematology/Oncology



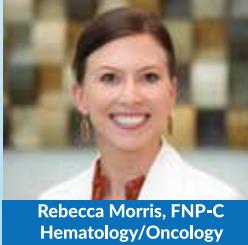
Sydnie Nickell, FNP-C
Hematology/Oncology



Mary McMillin, FNP-BC
Hematology/Oncology



Chelsey Elliot, FNP-BC
Hematology/Oncology

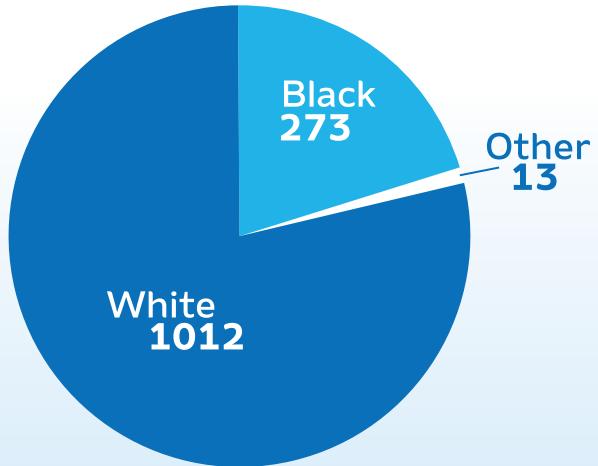


Rebecca Morris, FNP-C
Hematology/Oncology

2023 Kirkland: 1298 by the numbers

By Race

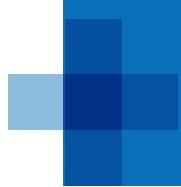
- White: 1006
- Black: 273
- Other: 13



Top 5 occurrences = 1,298



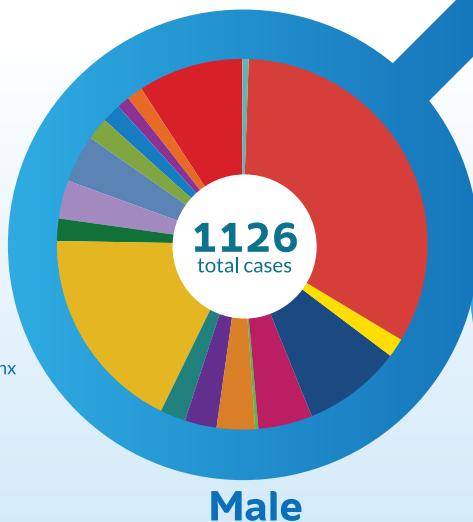
*This chart illustrates the top five most common cancer occurrences, broken down by race and sex. It provides a clear view of how cancer impacts different groups, helping us better understand trends and tailor our approach to care.



total number of cancer diagnoses.

By Sex

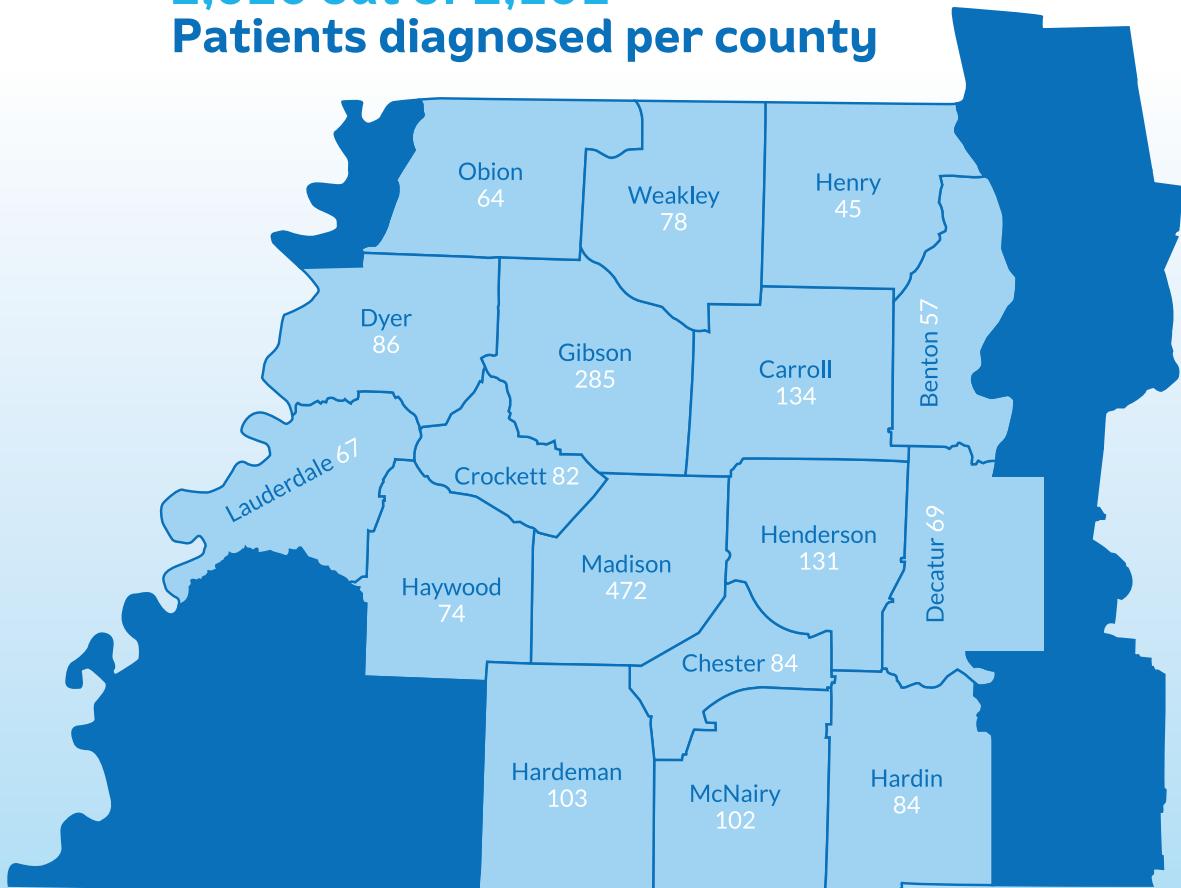
- Brain
- Breast
- Cervix
- Colon
- Corpus Uteri
- Esophagus
- Kidney
- Lip, Oral, Cavity, Pharynx, Larynx
- Lung
- Melanoma - Skin
- Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma
- Other Digestive Organs
- Ovary
- Pancreas
- Prostate
- Stomach
- Urinary Bladder
- All other sites



*This chart displays the total number of cancer diagnoses for 2023, broken down by sex and cancer type. It provides a comprehensive overview of cancer trends, highlighting the distribution across different genders and types of cancer.

2023 Kirkland by the numbers

**2,020 out of 2,101
Patients diagnosed per county**



*This chart shows a breakdown of patients per county. Please note that the numbers reflect the patients treated at KCC, not the number diagnosed here. Some patients may be diagnosed at KCC but receive treatment at other facilities, while other may travel outside of the 19 counties we serve for their care.

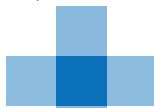
Welcome Dr. Sroufe

Dr. Rameses Sroufe is a highly experienced Radiation Oncologist, and we are happy to have him as a part of the Kirkland Cancer Center team. Dr. Sroufe brings over a decade of specialized expertise, having previously served as the Medical Director of Radiation Oncology at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, where he worked from 2016 to 2021. His clinical practice is further supported by extensive experience in a variety of radiation oncology procedures, including IMRT, stereotactic radiation (CyberKnife and linear accelerators), brachytherapy, and Total Body Irradiation.

Dr. Sroufe completed his residency in Radiation Oncology at SUNY Downstate Health Science Center, where he also served as Chief Resident. His academic journey began at Howard University College of Medicine, where he received the Doctor of Medicine degree and earned numerous awards, including recognition as one of the top two students in his class. He further honed his expertise with a year-long internship in Internal Medicine at Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans.

Board-certified by the American Board of Radiology, Dr. Sroufe maintains active medical licenses in both Tennessee and Mississippi. He is a dedicated member of several professional organizations, including the Southwestern Oncology Group and the American Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology, and is an active participant in multidisciplinary tumor boards for Kirkland Cancer Center.

In addition to his clinical and academic credentials, Dr. Sroufe is recognized for his commitment to excellence, as evidenced by his multiple awards and honors throughout his medical education and career, including the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha induction and numerous academic achievement awards. Dr. Sroufe continues to be a valuable leader and educator in the field of radiation oncology, contributing to the advancement of cancer care and treatment protocols.



Easter Ham Fundraiser

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support of the Milan Masonic Lodge 191 and their dedicated efforts to make a difference in the lives of our patients at Kirkland Cancer Center. For the past several years, with the help of Chip Childers Arlington Lodge 641, they have organized a heartwarming Easter Ham fundraiser, and this year, they raised an impressive \$2,000. The proceeds from this fundraiser go directly to the Patient Needs Fund, which is a vital resource for many of our patients.

These funds are crucial as they help alleviate the financial burdens that so many of our patients face while undergoing cancer treatment. For many, the choice between paying for a meal and affording the necessary treatment is a heartbreak one. But thanks to the Milan Masonic Lodge 191, we are able to offer support in a variety of ways, from assisting with food insecurities and transportation to and from treatments, to covering non-chemo related pharmaceuticals and many other essential needs.

One of the most meaningful aspects of this fundraiser is its personal connection to Kirkland Cancer Center. Tim Curry, a member of Lodge 191, is also a patient at KCC. He shared that it was his own experience at the center that inspired the lodge to begin this fundraiser. "Kirkland Cancer Center has helped me, my dad, my brother and five of my closest friends, and I appreciate what they are doing to help those who don't have insurance, need rides to treatment, and all of the other things they do," Tim said. His story is a powerful reminder of the impact that KCC has on so many lives in our community.

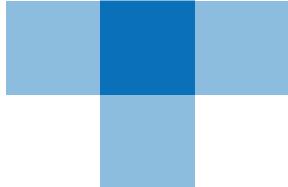
"We all agreed that Kirkland Cancer Center was a worthy place we wanted to donate the funds to," Tim explained. His words reflect the deep compassion and dedication the members of the Milan Masonic Lodge 191 have for our patients. Over the years, they have shown kindness and generosity that is making a tangible difference in the lives of so many people in West Tennessee. All of us at Kirkland Cancer Center, along with our patients, are incredibly thankful for the Milan Masonic Lodge 191.

Their continued support means the world to us. The funds they raise are helping to ease the burdens of many families, and their generosity is felt by all. It's people like the members of Lodge 191 and the Al Chymia Shriners who help make our mission of providing compassionate care and support a reality.

We cannot express our gratitude enough. The Milan Masonic Lodge 191 is truly making a difference in the lives of so many, and we are lucky to have such wonderful partners in our community. Thank you for your kindness, your generosity, and your unwavering commitment to helping others.



Gyn Onc.



In an exciting new chapter for cancer care in West Tennessee, Kirkland Cancer Center and the West Cancer Center have teamed up to bring specialized Gynecologic Oncology Services to Jackson, TN, in August 2024. This collaboration is a huge step forward in providing access to high-quality care for patients in our community who are battling gynecologic cancers and other related conditions.

Dr. Linda Smiley and Dr. Michael Ulm, both experienced Gynecologic Oncologists from West Cancer Center, will be leading this initiative. These two highly skilled specialists are dedicated to the diagnosis and surgical management of cancerous and noncancerous (benign) conditions of the female reproductive system. They are experts in treating conditions such as cervical cancer, endometriosis, fibroids, ovarian cancer, pelvic masses, uterine cancer, vaginal cancer, and vulvar cancer.

Dr. Smiley and Dr. Ulm began seeing patients at KCC North in Jackson two days each month. This arrangement means that patients in the area can now receive expert care close to home, without the need to travel long distances for specialized treatment.

The services they offer include advanced surgical options such as robotic and laparoscopic surgery, which are minimally invasive procedures that can lead to faster recovery times and fewer complications. In addition to these surgical options, patients will also have access to chemotherapy services right here at Kirkland Cancer Center, making it easier for them to receive all the necessary treatments in one location.

Dr. Smiley and Dr. Ulm will perform surgeries at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital (JMCGH) and the West Tennessee Surgery Center, ensuring that patients receive care in well-established, trusted facilities. Their collaboration with KCC allows for a seamless experience where patients can get specialized care throughout their entire treatment journey, from diagnosis to surgery and chemotherapy.

Kelly Stafford, Director of Nursing at Kirkland Cancer Center, expressed her excitement about this new service. "I am thrilled we can offer these specialized services in Jackson so the women in our region do not have to travel as far," she said. "This was a great need for the people of West Tennessee."

This partnership between Kirkland Cancer Center and West Cancer Center reflects a shared commitment to providing patients with the highest level of care, right here in West Tennessee. It means that individuals facing gynecologic cancers no longer have to leave their community to receive the expert care they deserve. With Dr. Smiley and Dr. Ulm's expertise and the comprehensive services offered at KCC, patients can now receive the specialized care they need—closer to home.

We're excited to bring these new services to Jackson, and we look forward to continuing to serve the community with compassionate, cutting-edge care in the months and years ahead.

Taste the Colors Event

This year, we had the honor of hosting our first-ever Taste the Colors event, an inspiring lunch-and-learn designed to educate the community on the vital importance of prevention and early detection of colorectal cancer. The event, which was held in collaboration with the LIFT, was an overwhelming success, selling out quickly and attracting a diverse group of attendees eager to learn and engage.

Guests were treated to a delicious, healthy meal catered by Gourmet Your Way, setting the perfect tone for an afternoon focused on wellness and prevention. But it wasn't just about the food—it was about nourishing both the body and the mind. The event featured three incredible guest speakers, each bringing their unique perspectives and expertise to the table.



Abby Mays, our Registered Dietitian, kicked off the day with a powerful talk about the role of healthy eating and physical activity in preventing colorectal cancer. She explained how making small changes in our diets and daily routines could have a big impact on overall health and cancer prevention. Her insights were a real eye-opener for many, highlighting the ways in which simple lifestyle adjustments can help us stay ahead of potential health challenges.

Next, Rene Hampton, our Colorectal Cancer Nurse Navigator, stressed the importance of regular screenings and early detection. Rene shared valuable information about the process of screening, the different methods available, and why it's crucial to take a proactive approach when it comes to our health. Her compassionate and straightforward approach empowered many attendees to take charge of their own health journeys.

Finally, Henry H. Adkisson Sr., a former colorectal cancer patient, shared his deeply personal and inspiring story. Henry spoke about how routine screenings caught his cancer early, allowing him to undergo surgery that saved his life—without the need for chemotherapy or radiation. His story was a powerful reminder of how critical early detection can be, and how it can truly make all the difference.

As the event came to a close, there was a sense of unity and hope in the room. Attendees left feeling more informed, empowered, and inspired to prioritize their health and well-being.

"We are so thankful to be able to offer events like this to the community," said Elizabeth Vickery, Marketing and Community Outreach Manager. "It is so important to us to spread awareness regarding prevention, screening, and early detection—and what a fun way to be able to do that!" Indeed, Taste the Colors was a day filled with meaningful conversation, valuable knowledge, and shared experiences. We're excited to continue spreading awareness and providing opportunities for our community to learn and grow together. Here's to more events like this in the future!





Kirkland Therapy Services

In August of 2024, a new chapter began at Kirkland Cancer Center—a chapter focused on healing and recovery beyond the treatments of cancer itself. Kirkland Therapy Services officially opened its doors inside the center, offering Physical Therapy (PT), Occupational Therapy (OT), and Lymphedema Therapy as part of a comprehensive approach to cancer care. For many cancer patients, the journey doesn't end when their treatment concludes. The effects of surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, and other treatments can leave lasting marks on the body. This is where Kirkland Therapy Services stepped in—recognizing the critical need for specialized therapy services tailored to the unique challenges that cancer patients face.

Kirkland Cancer Center has long been known for its commitment to providing cutting-edge care and support to its patients, and the addition of full-time therapy services was a natural extension of that mission. The new therapy team—comprising dedicated and skilled professionals—became a vital resource for patients working to regain their strength, mobility, and independence after their cancer treatments. For many cancer survivors, one of

the most challenging and often overlooked aspects of recovery is lymphedema—a condition that can cause painful swelling after surgery or radiation treatment. Lymphedema Therapy is a crucial part of the offerings, providing relief and management techniques to help patients cope with this complication. The PT and OT services also play a pivotal role, helping patients regain lost function, rebuild muscle strength, and learn strategies to navigate daily life with greater ease.

Patients and families alike express their gratitude for the therapy team, as they work together to develop personalized treatment plans that help individuals not only recover physically but also regain their confidence and quality of life. The team's dedication is clear—they are more than just healthcare providers; they are allies in the fight for healing. Kirkland Therapy Services has quickly become an integral part of the Kirkland Cancer Center's overall care model, offering services that patients need to thrive after their cancer treatments. The transition from treatment to recovery is now smoother and more supported, with the therapy team standing by every step of the way.

Lung Cancer Screening

On November 9, 2024, a significant event took place in West Tennessee—one that brought together a dedicated group of healthcare providers with a shared mission: raising awareness about the importance of lung cancer screening. In collaboration with The West TN Imaging Center, The West TN Medical Group Pulmonology, The WTMG, Kirkland Cancer Center, and JRA, the first annual Lung Cancer Screening event was held, marking a powerful step forward in the fight against lung cancer in the community.

The event was organized with the goal of providing easy access to life-saving lung cancer screenings, offering an opportunity for individuals to detect the disease early, when treatment is most effective. Lung cancer, often diagnosed in its later stages, is a leading cause of cancer-related deaths, making early detection a crucial part of improving survival rates.

The screening event was initially offered exclusively to employees and their families at WTH, as a way to give back to the people who serve the community every day. The response was overwhelming, with many employees and their loved ones eager to take part in the screening and learn more about the potential risks of lung cancer.

A week later, the event opened to the greater West Tennessee community, offering screenings to anyone who wanted to participate. In total, 70 individuals across the region were screened for lung cancer—an impressive turnout that highlighted the community's growing awareness of the importance of early detection.

For the team behind the event, it was more than just a day of screenings. It was a day of

education, compassion, and support. The healthcare providers were there not only to administer screenings but also to answer questions, provide guidance, and offer reassurance to those who may have been nervous about the process. The event became a space for people to learn about their health, understand the risks of lung cancer, and take proactive steps in safeguarding their futures.

As the day came to a close, the success of the event was clear. Not only had 70 individuals taken an important step toward their health, but the event also sparked important conversations about lung cancer prevention and the critical role of early detection in saving lives.

Excited by the turnout and the positive impact of the first screening, the team announced that the event would become an annual tradition. Plans for the 2025 Lung Cancer Screening were already underway, with the hope of screening at least 120 individuals and continuing to build awareness in the community.

The first annual screening may have been just the beginning, but it marked a crucial milestone in the ongoing effort to detect lung cancer early and save lives in West Tennessee. With continued collaboration, dedication, and community support, the future is looking bright for those seeking answers and proactive care.



