

q&a ...

Nick Evans

Vice President – Chief Development Officer – Genesys Health Foundation

It's a long way from his birthplace of London, England, and just a few miles from where he grew up in Holly, but after five years here, Nick Evans feels very much at home at Genesys. Like any good home, Genesys needs a solid foundation ... or in this case Genesys Health Foundation, which Nick is continually strengthening as our vice president and chief development officer. He has 20 years of fundraising experience, previously serving as associate VP of individual giving at Kettering University in Flint, as well as director of development for Wayne State University's Colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy & Allied Health Professionals. With dual degrees in philosophy and history from U-M Flint, Nick revels in sharing obscure facts that would make him worthy of being a phone-a-friend on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." But he prefers to keep it simple and focused on the mission when it comes to the Foundation's purpose of generating and administering all charitable gifts for Genesys Health System. Here, he shares more of what Genesys and the Foundation mean to him, the community and the future of healthcare.

What attracted you to Genesys?

After five years at Kettering, I felt as though I had reached a certain level and I wanted to keep pushing the limits. I've always had an affinity to healthcare. The Foundation here was solidly in place, and I saw so much potential at Genesys. I wanted to help this organization realize its greater potential. I don't believe there's a limit to what we can achieve here. Those opportunities and challenges are exciting for me.

Speaking of challenges, have fundraising efforts become more difficult during these economic times?

Certainly, it impacts giving levels. But regardless of the economic circumstances here, I've always found a tremendous willingness and capacity for giving in this community. There's a real generous spirit here. The people here may not have the most to give, but they want to give what they can. They want to know they are somehow helping to make a difference. Many of the programs and services we create or help are based on a real need from the community, and would not be possible without contributions to Genesys Health Foundation.

How has the Foundation been meeting those needs?

For starters, the Foundation is 100 percent aligned with the mission of Genesys to improve the health and wellbeing of our community.

Whatever the Foundation pursues is in direct response to community needs. We want it to be tied specifically to something that is needed and will sincerely make a difference. A prime example is the Paul J. "Rocky" Roll Cardiac Rapid Diagnostic Center (CRDC). Heart disease is a number one killer, with especially high numbers in Genesee County. After our community capital campaign that raised \$2 million in 2006, we were able to open the CRDC. From that alone, we estimate that as many as 50 more people per year survive a heart attack when they come to Genesys. Now we're working to address the high risks of infant mortality and morbidity in this region through a capital campaign to expand our Special Care Nursery from a Level IIA to a Level IIB. On June 27, we're presenting the second annual "Party with the Pros" as part of the Buick Open, where all the funds raised will go toward that campaign.

The Foundation also helps Genesys reach out to our community at the most basic and personal levels – whether by touching the lives of cancer patients and their families through the Genesys Cancer Fund, by ensuring that our region's elderly population is properly served with geriatric assessments and elder abuse prevention through a grant from the Genesee County sheriff's department, or by helping dozens of students to pursue their dreams through healthcare scholarships. Now, we're very excited that funds raised from the annual Charity Classic will be going to help the many uninsured patients in the Health Access program. The need is greater than ever; the number of Health Access patients coming to Genesys for care has more than doubled over the last year.

You and your family have seen firsthand the profound impact of Genesys.

Absolutely. My folks were residents at Genesys Convalescent Center, and then Hospice Care was there for my father when he was dying and passed away. I don't know what my mother and our family would have done if we didn't have that level of care and support from Genesys. Seeing the profound influence this organization has, and knowing that it literally touches thousands of lives each day, makes me feel even more vested in wanting to expand its reach and impact.

Somebody recently asked me what job I aspire to. I responded, "I already have it. I couldn't imagine being anywhere else."



What do you think?

If you read the cover story about Dr. Castro, you'll know how he got his nickname of "Happy." His upbeat name led the Callings staff to ask some associates around Genesys:

What makes you happy?



"Most things make me happy ... a freshly brewed cup of coffee, working in my yard, walking my dog, visiting with family and friends, being with my husband. The list could go on forever!"

– Mickey Hill, financial planning assistant WFC

"Blessings and love from our Lord Jesus Christ, family, friends and giving to others."

– Donna Johnson, RN
4 North, GRMC



"I am most happy when I can spend time with my children and grandchildren – preferably on a warm beach someplace."

– Delana Groce, medical assistant GRMC - East Flint Campus

"Watching my two sons grow into honest young men, being healthy and having a good job to provide for my family."

– Brian Engle, inventory control clerk GRMC



"Graduating from U-M with my bachelor of science in nursing, being with my loved ones and living life to the fullest."

– Jessica Zbiciak, graduate nurse 2 North, GRMC

"Good books, orange cupcakes, my sweetie, friends, my work, Disney World and waking up in the morning. Happiness is in the mind and heart. We can only be as happy as we choose to be ... I choose to be easily amused!"

– Bill Shea, technical resources coordinator GRMC



2008 Genesys Charity Classic

16th annual event

Genesys Charity Classic Party

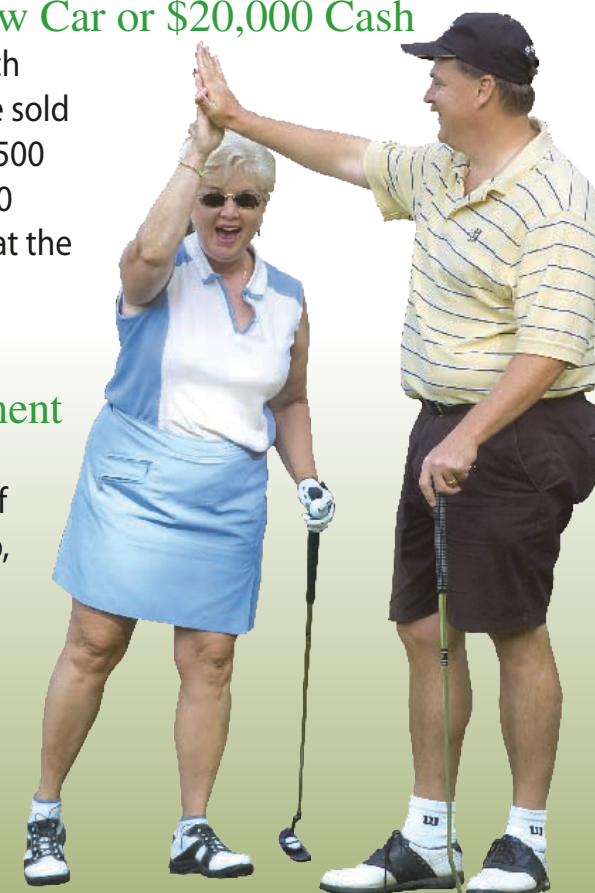
July 12, 6 p.m.
Genesys Athletic Club

Raffle for New Car or \$20,000 Cash

Tickets - \$100 each
Only 1,000 will be sold
Second prize: \$2,500
Third prize: \$1,000
Tickets available at the Genesys Health Park atrium

Golf Tournament

July 14
Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club, Grand Blanc (Home of the Buick Open)



For details or to purchase tickets, call Genesys Health Foundation at (810) 606-6387.

Callings GENESYS

A monthly publication for and about the people of Genesys

On the front cover: Dr. Arturo "Happy" Castro serves Genesys and his country with a smile.

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June 2008

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Dr. Happy Castro

This doctor lives up to his name - Serving his country and Genesys with a smile

Some employees know Dr. Arturo Castro as a physician at Genesys completing a fellowship in pulmonology.

Others know him as Captain Castro of the United States Air Force, who recently returned from a three month mission in Iraq.

Most know this jovial young man as Happy, the name most fitting his personality, and the name he prefers. "If someone calls me Arturo, I know they really don't know me," he says, flashing his widely recognizable winning smile.

In the midst of his fellowship at Genesys, Dr. Castro was called to active duty for the second time. This time, he was sent to the combat zone.

While stationed in Iraq as a flight surgeon, he sat in the cockpit with fighter pilots where he would hang out with them around the clock. "These guys would rather die than admit they are sick. It was my job to find out if they are fit to fly. If they are depressed, if they have something going on in their life that may make it unsafe for them to fly, I need to know what they go through ... what they are thinking and feeling. I'm there for them, always."

Discussing his experience in Iraq was "like living in a small town and I'm the doc. Everything has far-reaching consequences over there, and it is so much more than just medicine."

When he was not airborne, Happy worked in the military clinic caring for war casualties. "The hospital found out someone like me was on the base

and I became the internist/half pulmonologist/half ICU doc/half sleep doc. I treated patients for initial injuries and through their recovery, I did rounds in the morning, and when mass casualties came in, I was called to help in the ER for initial resuscitation. I also treated Iraqi people - usually civilians with chest pain or shortness of breath."

Dr. Castro returned to the states and Genesys in February, and expects to complete his fellowship next year, specializing in pulmonology, critical care and sleep medicine. When he graduates, he hopes to open a free clinic in Arizona for uninsured Hispanics. "I speak Spanish, so I can help the non-English speaking population, too," he notes. "Medicine is my calling."

Happy and his family emigrated from the Philippines to the United States in 1992 when Happy was 19 years old. "My family came for a better life," he reports.

He enlisted in the military because "I wanted to be on my own ... I wanted to pay for my own education and live on my own. By joining the Air Force I'd get some help with my education."

He applied to medical school in 1998 while on active duty in Saudi Arabia, and chose to complete his residency in Michigan because of its "reputation for good training," he learned.

"I'm so thrilled to be a doctor! To help others is such a privilege ... what a gift I have been given. That's why I want to return the gift by offering my services for free to the uninsured."

"Training at Genesys was my first experience in Michigan," he notes. "The people here are my family ... I've cried, laughed and even fought with them. And it's great to hear patients tell me what a great experience they had here. Recently, I had a patient who switched hospitals to come to us because of our reputation here."

And the one question almost everyone wants an answer to is: "Why are you called Happy?"

Of course, most people will answer it this way ... "he is such a joy to be around," or "he has such a positive attitude," or "he brings sunshine to everyone on their darkest days," or "he makes everyone smile just by his presence."

Here's Happy's answer: "I'm called Happy because my middle name is Felix which is Latin for Happy."



Letters home ...

While stationed in a combat zone in Iraq, Happy Castro was able to send a few email letters back to his colleagues at Genesys. Here are a few excerpts:

"There is an incredible sense of teamwork here ... I have never seen people work harder than they do there. Often, I see people in the clinic because of fatigue. Often, they have not taken a day off in 70 straight days, working 12 hour shifts. There's no such thing as a weekend; there is a mission to complete and people depend on them, so no one ever thinks about complaining... what really blows my mind is how nobody, and I mean nobody, complains."

"During my internship year of residency at Genesys, Dr. Husson (Charles Husson, DO) told me that 'if we don't humble ourselves and never think we have it all figured out, medicine will do it for us.' I have found that to be true here as well, encountering those patients who just didn't read the book. It is lessons like those from Dr. Husson, those lessons that aren't in the books, that I find myself recalling and reaching back into during tough situations here."

"Every time I deploy I find and see in the other people I deploy with what I consider to be the essence of being American. Most people I talk to in the states say that the American Dream includes a white picket fence and 2.5 kids; I think the American Dream involves what someone recently called the 'audacity of hope,' that no matter how bad things get, and no matter how difficult the demands on us are, we are eternally hopeful that with hard work and determination we can accomplish anything."

"Guardian Angel" nurse named "Everyday Hero"

ICU float nurse Nancy Arellano-Javor, who was featured in the October 2007 issue of Callings for her heroic efforts to help save the life of a Goodrich high school wrestler, was named a 2007 Everyday Hero by the Genesee-Lapeer Chapter of the American Red Cross for her exceptional courage, kindness and unselfish efforts to lend a hand in an emergency situation. Last summer, Nancy came upon an accident scene where Brad Armstrong and his sister Emily were motionless. She rushed to the vehicle, offering assistance to Grand Blanc Township officer Wes Evans. Emily was able to be removed from the vehicle safely, but

Brad was trapped inside, showing no signs of breathing. Reaching through the car window with one hand, Nancy was able to stabilize Brad's neck while Officer Evans administered CPR. After reviving him, Brad was taken to Genesys where Nancy asked to care for him in the NTICU, and stay at his side until he recovered. Brad and his family think of Nancy as their "guardian angel."



A Classic for the Community



Health Access sponsors Cover the Uninsured Week activities every year that include an expo where the uninsured can receive free food.

In 1993, Genesys announced its first Charity Classic, a fundraising event where business and community leaders worked alongside Genesys to support our efforts to build a healthier future for those we serve. The event raised \$90,000, toward a 10-year, \$1 million commitment from Genesys for Healthy Students 2000, which over time included:

- Providing a mobile immunization van and health education service for infants and children
- Opening the Center for Opportunity at Holmes Middle School in Flint

- Setting up a central immunization registry system to ensure that Genesee County children receive their immunizations by the age of two
- Opening five new clinic sites for easier access to immunizations
- Funding a kindergarten round-up immunization program
- Donating \$350,000 in mini-grants to fund other health education projects in Genesee County schools

The Genesys Charity Classic has since raised more than \$1.8 million. Funds have been used to develop the parish nurse ministry program, an outreach service that enables Genesys to provide nurses in local parishes with the tools and resources to promote good healthcare for parishioners.

Classic funds also have been used to organize an ongoing scholarship program for area students entering healthcare undergraduate and graduate programs, such as nursing, medical technology, pharmacy, physical therapy, respiratory therapy and surgical technology. The Charity Classic Scholarship program has awarded 92 scholarships valued at more than \$155,000, assisted 27 students to complete their degrees and filled 21 positions within Genesys.

For the next five years, proceeds from the Genesys Charity Classic are going to Health Access, a grant-funded program that helps uninsured and underinsured Genesee County residents - whether that's finding a doctor, identifying programs that can help pay medical bills, or connecting clients with resources to improve their health.

For more details about the 2008 Genesys Charity Classic, call Genesys Health Foundation at (810) 606-6387.