

American Cancer Society<sup>®</sup> Hope Lodge<sup>®</sup>

WINTER 2019

## THE RICHARD M. SCHULZE FAMILY FOUNDATION HOPE LODGE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The
Home
Stretch

Drumroll please...We are thrilled to announce that construction on the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation American Cancer Society Hope Lodge in Houston is nearing completion! We anticipate that Tellepsen (our construction company), will hand over keys in mid-February 2020 - after the state site inspection later this month. We will then spend approximately six weeks putting on the finishing touches - landscaping, pavers, signage, and final guest room preparation. Our doors will open to guests in the Spring. We are only able to offer this life changing resource because of you.

Please keep an eye out for our new awareness campaign launching soon. In conjunction with the marketing firm of Richards Carlberg, we will be spreading the word about our new lodge through social media and area billboards. We invite you to share these ads with your friends and family to help promote this incredible resource. Additionally, our first Hope Lodge Ambassador, Chef Ryan (see page 2), will be helping promote the lodge and raise awareness to support Hope Lodge operations.

We have had several inquiries and wanted to share that we have a few naming opportunities available and personalized pavers can still be purchased (see page 4.) These are both great options to make a lasting impact and show your support of the lodge for generations to come.

As always, we want to take this opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude for your support of Hope Lodge. We would not have gotten this far without your investment, advocacy, advice, and moral support. We may have encountered obstacles along the way, but you, our closest friends, have stuck with us throughout this journey. We know Houston's Hope Lodge facility has been a long time coming, but we promise it is worth the wait!

From your entire American Cancer Society family, I want to wish you a happy and healthy holiday season. We can't wait to see you at the grand opening next year!

Joseph Mrore

Joseph Moore, Senior Philanthropy Director American Cancer Society, South Region

## Houston Methodist Pledges \$2 Million to Richard M. Schulze Family Hope Lodge

Houston Methodist has pledged \$2 million to help build the American Cancer Society Richard M. Schulze Foundation Hope Lodge. Their gift was announced during the topping off ceremony on June 24, 2019 to celebrate the completion of the building's frame.

Dr. Marc Boom, president and CEO of Houston Methodist said, "As a physician I understand the hardships and difficulties that are sometimes associated with seeking health care. At Houston Methodist we treat many cancer patients who travel long distances. By supporting Hope Lodge we're supporting cancer patients - and their families - as they complete their treatments and hopefully beat cancer."

HOUSTON Methodist LEADING MEDICINE



### **A Recipe For Comfort**

Food is a staple for living, but also a place where we find comfort in the familiar. We are proud that our Hope Lodge community kitchen will be a place for guests to come together and feel warmth and camaraderie. To better serve our guests we know that combining the comforts of home with the love and compassion of a renowned chef are a recipe for success. We are pleased to share that the incredibly talented Chef Ryan Pera has agreed to be our Hope Lodge ambassador.

Chef Ryan is known for his thoughtful approach to cooking, his dedication to sustainable practices, and his generosity. Ryan is chef and co-owner of seven celebrated concepts including: Revival Market, Coltivare, Eight Row Flint, Night Heron, Indianola, Vinny's, and Miss Carousel. When he isn't in the kitchen he is supporting the Houston community, his restaurant colleagues, and friends and family.

Since moving to Houston in 2003, Chef Ryan and his wife have hosted numerous friends and family while they underwent cancer treatment in the Texas Medical Center. It is the cherished memories of those times that inspired him to support and promote Hope Lodge. He knows Hope Lodge will help cancer patients by providing them with a comforting community kitchen, a place to rest their heads, transportation to and from treatment, and a peaceful home away from home. We could not be more grateful for his time and support as our Hope Lodge Ambassador.



#### **VICTORY Gives Hope A Home**



VICTORY, a special branch of the American Cancer Society, is a volunteer organization dedicated to raising funds to help in the fight against cancer. VICTORY consists of 130 active members and a varying number of associates and sustaining members. Through the VICTORY events and members, they have donated over \$4 million to Hope Lodge in an effort to ensure cancer patients and their caregiver have access to the highest level of treatment and a safe comfortable place to stay during their treatments.



Hope Lodge is a place where patients can focus on one thing - getting well. The Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Hope Lodge, located near the Texas Medical Center in Houston, will be the largest hope lodge in the nation. The Lodge will alleviate the financial burden of paying for accommodations. This will save cancer patients more than \$3 million annually in lodging expenses, reduce stress levels, and increase hope.

Thank you to each individual, company, foundation, and group that has supported the construction of this incredible resource in Houston. You truly have hearts as big as Texas.

Jeff Fehlis, Executive Vice President American Cancer Society, South Region (Pictured bottom right)







## Building Hope Naming Opportunities

There are only a few naming opportunities still available. Are you interested in naming an entire floor, a patient suite, or a specific area of the Hope Lodge? Supporters help create a legacy that will impact cancer patients and their caregivers for the foreseeable future. A naming opportunity form has been included with this update.

Please reach out to Joseph Moore at (713) 706-5640 or Joseph.Moore@cancer.org to learn more.

# **Building Hope** The Paver Campaign

Did you know that you can purchase a personalized  $8 \times 8$  or 12 x 12 paver that will be permanently placed in the Hope Lodge's Healing Garden? This is a beautiful and meaningful way to honor or memorialize family or friends.

Purchase your paver today and see it in person at the Hope Lodge grand opening in 2020. A paver order form has been included with this update. You can also order online by visiting cancer.org, search keyword: Houston Paver



### **Welcome Your Hope Lodge Operations Manager**



#### Amber Janichek Senior Hope Lodge Manager

Amber Janichek has been named Senior Manager of the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Hope Lodge in Houston opening Spring of 2020. She brings over five years of management experience, including starting her career with the American Cancer Society as the Assistant Manager during the opening of Hope Lodge in Omaha, Nebraska. Amber has experience acting as a direct caregiver, managing a staff of over 40 individuals, and launching a senior care facility that specialized in dementia care. Amber loves to travel and has lived in four different states. She recently moved to the Houston area and is excited to explore the city and the state of Texas.



To learn more about Hope Lodge, please contact: Joseph Moore, Senior Philanthropy Director (713) 706-5640 or Joseph.Moore@cancer.org