



# CARING FOR PATIENTS. GROWING A CAREER.

While the care of our patients is our primary mission, over the past 30 years Longstreet Clinic has proudly watched the development, growth, and successful career paths of many employees. Longstreet Clinic offers the opportunity not only to care for patients, but a variety of opportunities to learn about yourself, explore new things, grow interests, and write your own story. From nurse to administration, medical assistant to nurse practitioner, or scribe to doctor, the stories already written inspire the ones to come.

**Kingsley Owusu Otoo** and **Crystal Butler, FNP-C**, are just two recent examples of Longstreet Clinic team members who have chased their dreams within the walls of the Clinic. Thanks to their work ethic, commitment to medicine, and determination both Kingsley and Crystal have taken different routes to reach their professional goals, but they are equally impressive, and Longstreet Clinic is proud to have played a key role in each.

Crystal started at Longstreet Clinic as a Certified Medical Assistant (CMA). She is now a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) at **Oakwood Family Medicine**, working in the same office where she began her medical career, after earning her Registered Nurse (RN) and FNP designations. Kingsley, meanwhile, joined Longstreet Clinic as a scribe in the Neuroscience and Orthopedic Center while working his way toward med school and is now getting ready to begin his journey toward being a practicing neurosurgeon after earning acceptance to Georgetown University.



Kingsley says his time as a scribe at Longstreet was instrumental in making that happen.

“Working as a scribe gave me an incredible perspective, and I really got grounded in the idea of what it means to practice medicine,” said Kingsley, a 2019 graduate of Gainesville High and a 2023 graduate of the University of Notre Dame. “Before my time at Longstreet, I didn’t really have my ‘why.’ I didn’t have anything other than a fairly generic response when medical schools asked me why I wanted to practice medicine.”

“Being a scribe really made me focus on the empathy that I think you need to be a good care provider. I cannot imagine my life without this experience, and I think it’s a big reason why I got accepted to med school.”

Kingsley’s commitment and personality made a big impression at the Neuroscience and Orthopedic Center, where he was just named employee of the quarter for the Clinic..

“I remember seeing Kingsley on a local community spotlight webpage and thinking he would do great things, and then when (continued on page 4)

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# AROUND THE CLINIC



## NAMSS picks Stover for post

The National Association Medical Staff Services (NAMSS) board recently voted to appoint LC Provider Relations Director, **Jeanine Stover, CPCS**, as one of nine founding members of its new Mentoring Committee. Jeanine, pictured with our Credentialing/ Provider Relations team, recently celebrated 19 years here.



## Center for Weight Management

**Oteia K. Morris, FNP-C**, Center for Weight Management, spoke to a group of teen girls at Rise Charter School's Career Day. **Dr. Eric Velazquez**, **Dr. Sonali Ganguly**, dietitian **Amy Sabbag, RD**, and practice manager **Jeanine Whitmire** attended the John's Creek.



## Cadet Support

Members of our Orthopedics team, including **Shawn Moore, FNP-C**, and **David Woodbury, M.D.**, attend a recent event at the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega.



## GHCC Business Expo

Our marketing team had a great time sharing all Longstreet Clinic has to offer at the recent **Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Business Expo**.



## Former pediatrician honored at naming ceremony

Within the Emergency Department at of the new Green Tower at NGMC Gainesville is the the Langston Pediatric Emergency Treatment Area focused on the unique needs of children. The space is named in honor of longtime pediatrician, philanthropist and founding member of Longstreet Clinic, **Dr. William T. "Buddy" Langston**.

## Cresswinds Health Fair

General surgeon & hernia specialist **Daniel Mullis, M.D.**, and family medicine physician **Pooja Sampat, M.D.**, along with members of our awesome team, enjoyed meeting residents at the recent Cresswinds Health Fair.





# ADOLESCENT WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM: DR. RICHARD PERFORMS FIRST SURGERY

The Bariatric Weight Loss Center at Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) recently completed its first adolescent weight-loss surgery. Dr. Robert Richard, bariatric surgeon with Longstreet Clinic, operated using the da Vinci robotic system. Adolescent patients as young as 15 years old in northeast Georgia have had access to a comprehensive weight-loss program since July 2023, when NGMC achieved adolescent surgery accreditation from the **Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP)**. The program offers a range of care from nutrition counseling and medical weight loss management to surgical options.

“An adolescent patient’s journey to surgery often takes longer than it would for an adult patient,” said Dr. Richard, who also serves as medical director for the Bariatric Weight Loss Center at NGMC. “We take extra care to ensure our younger patients, and their families, are well-prepared for surgery and committed to lifestyle changes.”



The program is led by an experienced and caring team that includes a pediatrician, bariatric surgeons, dietitians, a pediatric psychologist, and an athletic trainer – all focused on helping adolescents overcome the dangers and long-lasting impact of obesity.

“The real key for parents is to act quickly when they realize their child is struggling with the disease of obesity,” said Dr. Richard. “Research shows us that early intervention is more likely to improve long-term health.”

For more information, scan the code or visit [longstreetclinic.com](https://longstreetclinic.com)



# ROBOTIC SURGEONS ACHIEVE MILESTONE



No one wants to have surgery, but if it is necessary, you want to know you have the absolute best options available in your care. That is why Longstreet Clinic surgeons are committed to incorporating technological innovations such as robotic surgery including the innovative the **Da Vinci 5 surgical system**. Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville became the

first hospital in the state to add the system and our surgeons were among the first to utilize it last June, offering patient benefits like smaller incisions and shorter recovery times.

The Da Vinci 5, which provides the surgeon with 100% control of the procedure and offers more than 150 design innovations, has now been used in more than 500 surgeries at NGMC.

In the Da Vinci system, a surgeon’s hand movements are translated into smaller, more precise movements of tiny instruments inside the patient’s body.



## CLINIC WINS 2025 BEST OF HALL

Longstreet Clinic recently took home several honors as part of the 2025 “Best of Hall” readers’ choice awards. This year’s winners include:

- Longstreet Clinic Neurosurgery – Best Neurosurgery Group
- Longstreet Clinic Orthopedics – Best Orthopedics Group
- Longstreet Clinic Urgent Care – Best Immediate/Urgent Care

“Best of Hall” is an annual contest hosted by GainesvilleTimes.com to highlight businesses and organizations in Hall County, Ga. readers of the publication are asked to make nominations annually in October, with voting occurring during the month of November. Winners were announced at the Best of Hall 2025 celebration on Thursday, Feb. 27, at The Boathouse at Lake Lanier Olympic Park.

This is the third consecutive year Longstreet Clinic Urgent Care received the award and the sixth straight year for Longstreet Clinic Neurosurgery. Longstreet Clinic Orthopedics last won the award in 2020.



# Benefits BEAT

## HR CORNER

What a great time of the year to remind everyone of one of our awesome benefits – our Health Savings Account or HSA. If you signed up for one of our two high-deductible health plans in 2025, you are eligible for the HSA.



### WHAT IS AN HSA?

Simply put, an HSA is a pre-tax "savings account" dedicated for a variety of healthcare expenses. Longstreet Clinic contributes \$450 to your HSA in monthly installments over the year and you can also contribute to your HSA using pre-tax dollars directly from your paycheck. Don't worry, you can change your contribution amount at any time during the year.

The best thing about the HSA is that these contributions roll over from year to year and are always 100% yours! If you haven't already, log in to [my.healthequity.com/ClientLogin](https://my.healthequity.com/ClientLogin) to create an account. You may be surprised how much is already in your account!

(continued from page 1) I met him, I saw how hard of a worker he was and that he was the kindest human being I'd ever met," said Longstreet Clinic neurosurgeon **Betsy Grunch, MD, FAANS, FACS**. "He always shows up early, is a true team player, and he wants to do the best for everyone – he's got that drive to be that person that helps others. He's going to be phenomenal as a physician."

Colleagues saw many of the same qualities in Crystal. They were proud and impressed when they saw where her grit and determination took her. In fact, Longstreet Clinic was the entity that sparked her interest in furthering her career in medicine – a pursuit she juggled all while raising a family.

"I had done my externship at Longstreet Clinic through Lanier Tech and enjoyed it," Crystal said. "It went so well, that after I got my CMA, Longstreet called me when there was an opening for a position at their family medicine practice – and I jumped right in. I really enjoyed working with the patients, and I enjoyed working with the staff and Dr. Gibbs there. If I ever had any questions, she gave me feedback – like why she used certain treatment approaches."



Crystal took that knowledge and put it to good use, focusing on improving her qualifications while continuing to work with the Clinic in various roles – finally rejoining the same family medicine practice with family medicine physician **Marti Gibbs, MD, FAAFP**, in Longstreet Clinic's Oakwood offices. Dr. Gibbs was more than happy to have her back.

"Longstreet, in my opinion, recognized Crystal's potential from the beginning and saw the value that she brought and continues to bring to our organization," said Dr. Gibbs.

"That's the beauty of our organization, recognizing the value that an employee's passion and drive bring to the organization."

The respect and love are mutual, and patients continue to reap the benefits of it in Oakwood. Meanwhile, if Kingsley has his way, he'd love to be able to come back to Longstreet Clinic as a neurosurgeon to practice in a place that his meant so much to him.

"Things rarely work out like you plan. I like to say, 'man plans, but it's God's will that's ultimately done.' But you have to stick at it and keep working toward your dream," Kingsley said. "And Longstreet Clinic has played a big role in help making my dream of getting into medical school come true."

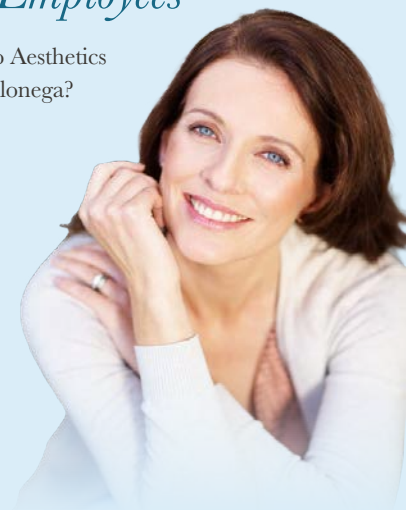
## *Aesthetics Discount for Employees*

Did you know that Longstreet Clinic has two Aesthetics practices – one in Oakwood and one in Dahlongega? Both offices offer a wide variety of skincare treatments, products, and aesthetics services such as Botox, fillers and lasers. In addition, both locations offer discounts to Longstreet Clinic employees!

### Call today!

Oakwood: **770-533-6658**

Dahlongega: **706-867-6505**





# 2025 Healthy Hall Awards

## Meet our winners

The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce presented its annual Healthy Hall Awards at a luncheon on March 13, 2025, and five Longstreet Clinic providers and employees were among the honorees. The Healthy Hall Awards honor those in the healthcare industry who are making a significant impact on our quality of life through excellence in health and wellness.



### VISIONARY AWARD

A dedicated nurse midwife, **Jack McGuire, CNM**, has profoundly impacted the lives of women in our community for over 50 years. His commitment to improving the health of women, particularly those who are uninsured or underserved, has shaped the course of healthcare in Hall County. Thirty years ago, alongside Mimi Collins, Jack co-founded a perinatal program at the Hall County Health Department. This initiative was designed to provide prenatal care to women who lacked access to essential health services. Since its inception, the program has expanded, touching countless lives and improving maternal and neonatal outcomes. He has delivered thousands of babies, offering guidance, support, and compassionate care to families at some of the most important moments of their lives.

### PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

**Chad Copper, M.D.**, a robotic general surgeon with Longstreet Clinic, and **Ron Lewis, M.D.**, a robotic general surgeon with Northeast Georgia Physicians Group and Medical Director of Perioperative Services at Northeast Georgia Medical Center, are the driving forces behind NGMC's nationally recognized Hernia Center of Excellence. As surgeons who've been practicing in Gainesville for more than 30 years combined, they've touched countless lives through their expertise and genuine care for their patients. They are highly respected, high-volume robotic surgeons whose partnership plays a critical role in shaping surgical strategy and expanding robotic access for patients across our community. Together, they advocate for broader marketing initiatives, reaching and educating more patients about the benefits of robotic surgery. Additionally, they speak at numerous conferences, host their own podcast, and provide virtual and in-person trainings where they share their expertise through case studies both nationally and internationally.

