



SURGEON EXPERIENCES OUR PROMISE OF INTEGRATED CARE

Thirty years ago, a forward-thinking group of doctors and care providers years partnered to form Longstreet Clinic. What they envisioned was precisely the type of outcome and continuum of care like the one breast and general surgeon **Mary Read, M.D.**, has experienced.

When she joined Longstreet Clinic in September 2024, she and her husband Chris were already the proud parents of a healthy daughter named Dorothy. Shortly thereafter, they discovered they were expecting again. It made sense that she would seek care for her family where she now practiced.

During Dr. Read's second pregnancy, she was diagnosed with an Intrauterine Growth Restriction (IUGR). Her care team comprised of perinatology and OGBYN at Longstreet Clinic helped relieve her fears and simplified an otherwise complicated situation. And now that her four-month-old daughter Celia ("CeCe") is here and thriving, she looks back on her providers' care and expertise with both admiration and gratitude.

"The doctors, nurses, midwives, and staff at Longstreet Clinic did everything possible to care for me and my baby," said Dr. Read, whose circumstances

required a C-section birth at 37 weeks. "They coordinated with each other so well that I never had to worry about anything getting left out or me having

and trustworthy, that it really put us at ease. There was zero guesswork for me."

From prenatal diagnosis and care to birth and pediatric care, the Reads received a smooth and comprehensive range of support – from doctors, nurses and staff, whose understanding allowed her to work her own appointments around a busy schedule, which included assisting patients



to do anything beyond showing up for appointments, listening to their advice, and following their instructions after I'd made the decisions. I can't say enough about the level of care. In fact, it's what I strive for in the care that I give to my own patients."

Dr. Read has the unique perspective of being both a provider for and a patient of Longstreet Clinic, and her experience as a patient has further sparked her to meet the highest standards.

"It's scary when you have a complicated pregnancy no matter who you are, but being a provider and knowing all the potential complications, it can be even scarier," Dr. Read said. "But the doctors that cared for me and CeCe were such a calming and reassuring presence, as well as accommodating

right up until the days before she gave birth. (continued on page 4)

[Scan here](#) to watch more about the Reads' story.



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LONGSTREETCLINIC

AROUND THE CLINIC

HealthSmart Wellness Expo

More than 500 people attended the GHCC HealthSmart Wellness Expo, where Longstreet Clinic once again served as a major sponsor, helping provide free screenings to 130 people.



Obesity Walk

Dr. Eric Velazquez and family at the annual NGHS Obesity Walk



LatinoFest

Longstreet Clinic sponsored LatinoFest again in 2025.



Celebrating Munn

Dr. Barry Munn retired after more than 25 years of practice in orthopedic surgery.



Healthcare Day for Leadership Hall was well received, with contributions from general surgeon Dr. Chad Copper, colorectal surgeon Dr. Fernando Aycinena, general/breast surgeons Dr. Geary Bush and Dr. Mary Read and CEO Mimi Collins.



Pink Out

Our annual Pink Out for Breast Cancer Awareness

Back on the Job!

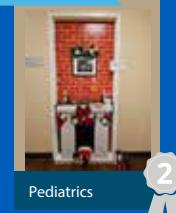
Retired physicians Dr. Alfredo Jaume and Dr. Bill Manus and their wives were some of the judges in our Holiday Door Contest.



Annual Door Decorating Contest

Each year, our incredible team comes up with some truly beautiful creations for the annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. Thank you to all who participated for bringing joy and good tidings to our patients, visitors and staff. And a special shoutout to our judges – Dr. Alfredo Jaume and Dr. Bill Manus and their lovely wives, Kevin Matson with Northeast Georgia Health System, Wendy Jackson of Jackson Designs & Interiors, and Corey Trotman and Barbara Rhodes with The Norton Agency.

GAINESVILLE



NORTHERN OFFICES



SOUTHERN OFFICES



View all the entries on our [Facebook](#) page!

LONGSTREET SURGEONS INNOVATE WITH ROBOTIC JOINT REPLACEMENTS

Longstreet Clinic orthopedic surgeons are excited to offer patients in northeast Georgia access to the latest innovations in robotic surgery. Longstreet Clinic surgeons are now performing robotic anterior approach hip replacements as well as robotic total knee replacements at Northeast Georgia Medical Center. These procedures combine pinpoint robotic accuracy with our own surgeons' vast experience and knowledge to produce optimal outcomes – including increased range of motion and decreased recovery times post-surgery.

Longstreet Clinic orthopedic surgeon

Dr. Christopher Linberg performs robotic knee replacements, while orthopedic surgeon **Dr. David Woodbury** performs both robotic knee and robotic hip replacements. In fact,



Dr. Woodbury is the only surgeon in northeast Georgia using the daVinci Surgical System to perform anterior approach hip replacements.

Learn more about these innovative approaches to care by [scanning the QR code](#).



LONGSTREET REPEATS AWARD AS CARESOURCE TOP PERFORMER

Longstreet Clinic was once again honored by CareSource as a "Top 10 Quality Performer" in Georgia for "exemplifying the highest level of HEDIS quality outcomes" for the CareSource members we serve.

One of the nation's largest Medicaid managed care plans, CareSource is part of the Georgia Families program. And CareSource's Top Quality Performer category continues to highlight Longstreet Clinic's continued commitment to population health – a holistic approach to health care that focuses on preventive care expanding access to resources and clinical interventions that promote health and wellness throughout the entire community.

EXPERTS IN MENOPAUSE/PERIMENOPAUSE CARE

Menopause and perimenopause are natural parts of every woman's life, but that doesn't mean that every woman's body reacts the same to these developments. Symptoms may range from minor to disruptive and can include hot flashes, night sweats, changes in mood, insomnia and many more.



At Longstreet Clinic Obstetrics & Gynecology, our providers are expertly trained to diagnose and treat menopause and perimenopause. Additionally, **Dr. Connie Osorio, FACOG**, and **Dr. Keshma Saujani, FACOG**, also are now Menopause Society Certified Practitioners, which makes them uniquely trained to help those experiencing this life-changing transition.

If you think you may be experiencing menopause or perimenopause or are undergoing discomfort from these conditions, **contact our experts today at 770-297-2200**.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Congratulations to our Employee of the Quarter (Q3) winner, **Ashley James!** Ashley is Clinical Supervisor in the Breast Center and has been with Longstreet Clinic since 2013. Here are just a few of the wonderful things our team had to say about her: "Ashley is the most responsible and kindhearted person I know. She always lends a helping hand when you need it, and she goes above and beyond to make sure everyone is



To nominate, visit longstreetclinic.com/employees

cared for." "A natural leader, she provides guidance, support, and encouragement to her staff...she stays on top of the latest advancements in breast health and ensures that our patients and communities receive the highest quality care." Thank you, Ashley, for your dedication to our patients and our team!

(continued from page 1) "They took the time to work with me and make it easy for me. I'm a working mom with a toddler – so you want everything made as easy as possible," Dr. Read said. "I had to go to a lot of appointments for my own health, and little things like having people really work to make it easy for me is such a big deal."

It also helped that Dr. Read never had to travel far or worry that her providers were uninformed.

"Everyone coordinated my care so that all I had to do was show up – I joke that they lovingly talked about me behind my back," Dr. Read said. "But going to the same building for all my various needs made things simple too. The result was that it really left little room for worry. It really was the whole package, a one-stop shop for care."

CeCe was delivered by OGBYN **Dr. Robert Brett Barger, FACOG**, and,

at 4 pounds, her daughter was right on the verge of staying in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Thanks to diligent care, however, she was able to go home with her parents almost immediately.

"I had my older daughter naturally. Beyond growing at a slower rate, CeCe was also breech – but sometimes babies can flip and you can have natural labor. I was debating those risks, but Dr. Barger made the decision clear for me," Dr. Read said. "It's been that way with everyone we've seen. The personalized touch and access they provide is amazing."

CeCe has since been seen by **Dr. Megan J. Farley, MD**, and **Nancy Quinn, CPNP**, and others as part of Longstreet Clinic's WeeCare for newborns and Pediatrics practice.

"Being born at 4 pounds, she had some growing to do, as you can imagine, but she's really doing well," Dr. Read said. "She even has a sweet little double chin."



Already inspired to serve her own patients, Dr. Read said she's been further encouraged by her colleagues' approach and thinks about the standard they set in her own clinical setting.

"They took care of the baby but also my body and my mind," Dr. Read said. "I cannot say enough about everything we experienced."

For clinic leadership, Dr. Read's and CeCe's story is a humbling reminder that what was undertaken all those years ago was not only attainable – but a standard to be met each day.

"It's so wonderful to hear stories like Dr. Read's – not only because it's heartwarming but because it illustrates that this Clinic continues to provide the integrated, specialized care that was the goal of our founders three decades ago," Longstreet Clinic **CEO Mimi Collins** said. "It's gratifying to hear the Reads share their story and to know that so many great people here have been a part of their story."

CHANGING MINDS. TURNING HEADS. SHARONA'S WEIGHT LOSS STORY

After years of battling weight concerns, Sharona knew it was time to take drastic measures when she needed significant rest after climbing the stairs in her own home. But when she decided to contact the experts at Longstreet Clinic's Center for Weight Management, she never anticipated the amount of pushback she would receive from her friends and family.

Sharona overcame their doubts and negative thoughts, however. Led by bariatric surgeon **Dr. Robert Richard, FACS**, the caring staff at the Center for Weight Management analyzed her particular situation and detailed her prospects for better health. Dr. Richard recommended a vertical sleeve gastrectomy (gastric sleeve) for Sharona.

A naturally petite woman, Sharona had weighed between 95-125 pounds in her early 20s. Yet a busy life, stress, and work abroad took their toll, and Sharona watched as her

weight steadily increased, eventually reaching 240 pounds. It wasn't that she didn't try to lose it, employing a wide range of diets and exercise.

But each success was eventually wiped away and replaced with further gains – and worse: she began to suffer severe pain due to the excess pressure on her joints, bones, and organs. She was also suffering from high blood pressure and sleep apnea – all common side-effects (known as "comorbidities") of obesity.

Those realities helped make up Sharona's mind for her. And so, she underwent a gastric sleeve procedure in 2023. The results have been nothing short of life changing. While not a magic bullet – Sharona continues to work to maintain a healthy post-surgical diet and lifestyle – she can do so in a whole new body after losing (and keeping off) 110 pounds. And not only is she happier with her appearance, but she says she feels like a new person, as all



her joint pain, blood pressure concerns, and sleep apnea have melted away.

"If you're in a situation like I was, you have to know that there will be people that are negative about surgery and will talk bad about it, but you cannot listen to people like that," Sharona said. "You have to make the decision to have surgery for yourself. I am so glad I did, and I am not going back to the way I was before."



Scan the QR code or visit longstreetclinic.com/sharona to learn more about Sharona's journey.