

# fact sheet

2020 Peachtree Rd. N.W. Atlanta, GA 30309 404-352-2020 shepherd.org



Shepherd Center

## SHEPHERD CENTER

Shepherd Center is a private, not-for-profit, hospital located in Atlanta, Ga. Founded in 1975, Shepherd Center specializes in medical treatment, research and rehabilitation for people with spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, multiple sclerosis, chronic pain and other neurological conditions. Shepherd Center is ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* among the top 10 rehabilitation hospitals in the nation.

### OUR STAFF AND FACILITY

- Our main campus is located at 2020 Peachtree Road in the Buckhead community, about four miles north of downtown Atlanta.
- The facility has 132 beds, including a 10-bed intensive care unit.
- Shepherd Center employs more than 1,200 full- and part-time employees.
- Outpatient facilities house spinal cord and brain injury day programs, a multiple sclerosis center, urology services, a chronic pain center and assistive technology services.
- Shepherd Center has a fitness center, indoor pool, gymnasium, weight room, track and art studio.
- Shepherd Center is one of 14 Model System of Care facilities for spinal cord injury.
- The hospital offers community-based care for people with brain injury through Shepherd Pathways and Spring Creek House, located a few miles from Shepherd Center.

### A SHORT HISTORY

An Atlanta family founded Shepherd Center in 1975, and that family's commitment to people with spinal cord injury and other serious injuries and illnesses continues today. In 1973, Harold and Alana Shepherd had to travel 1,400 miles to find the appropriate care for their son James when he sustained a spinal cord injury in a body surfing accident in Brazil. Afterward, they brought together Atlanta's medical and donor communities to found Shepherd Center. Today, James serves as chairman of the board of the Center. Alana Shepherd continues her work raising funds and welcoming new patients, and Harold Shepherd serves on the Board of Directors.

### PATIENT DATA

- 825 people were admitted to Shepherd Center's inpatient programs in 2008.
- 522 people were admitted to Shepherd Center's day patient programs in 2008.
- 14,274 people were seen on an outpatient basis in 2008.

### MEDICAL AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS

- Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation programs
- Brain Injury Rehabilitation programs
- Medical/Surgical programs
- Chronic Pain
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Neuromuscular Disorders

## OTHER SPECIALTY SERVICES

- Assistive technology (wheelchairs and equipment needed by people with disabilities)
- Neuropsychological and psychological services
- Career planning and job search assistance
- Adapted sports and leisure activities
- NeuroRecovery Network (NRN) – Shepherd Center is part of the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation’s NRN program, which is designed to develop and provide therapies to promote functional recovery and improve the health and quality of life for people with paralysis.
- Beyond Therapy – This program is a rigorous, activity-based therapy program to help people improve life long health, minimize secondary complications and get the most out of any new neural links to their muscles.
- Shepherd Center provides intensive and comprehensive family and patient education and training to learn important information about spinal cord or brain injury and care.
- Marcus Community Bridge Program – Specialists at Shepherd Center track and follow progress of patients after discharge to make sure the skills learned during rehabilitation are applied at home and in the community. They also help coordinate equipment needs, arrange for follow-up care and assist with back-to-work or back-to-school goals.

## POINTS OF DISTINCTION

- Shepherd Center is ranked as one of the top 10 rehabilitation hospitals in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Shepherd is the largest specialized care hospital of its kind in the United States.
- It is the only rehabilitation facility with an ICU and acute medical components on site.
- Shepherd offers specialized rehabilitation programs for adolescents, patients on ventilators, and patients with dual diagnoses and neuromuscular diseases.
- Patient outcomes, such as return-to-home and return-to-work rates, are among the best in the nation.
- The facility is “family-focused” given its unique history and link to the Shepherd family.
- Shepherd provides a friendly, optimistic environment that conveys a sense of hope to patients, families and visitors.
- Shepherd Center maintains a key role in existing and emerging spinal cord, brain injury and multiple sclerosis research.
- Complimentary housing for up to 30 days is provided for families of patients who live more than 50 miles outside Atlanta. Complimentary housing is also available for families of patients during the entire Day Program stay.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Admissions: 1-800-SHEPHERD or 404-350-7345  
Main Switchboard: 404-352-2020

## VISIT SHEPHERD CENTER ONLINE

[shepherd.org](http://shepherd.org) and [shepherdtv.org](http://shepherdtv.org)