

A.R. “TONY” AND MARIA J. SANCHEZ FAMILY FOUNDATION



**Texas Children's[®]
Pediatrics**

"This clinic is our guardian angel ..."

Since 2008, *Michael has been a patient at the A.R. “Tony” and Maria J. Sanchez Family Foundation Center. He and his mother had come to love and trust the physicians and staff there.

Over time, as Michael was receiving the medical care he needed, the staff noticed that he was showing signs of emotional and behavioral health issues, including depression, anxiety and recurring headaches and stomachaches.

There were a number of stressors in Michael’s family environment, so the signs he was exhibiting were not surprising. With no mental health services available on site at the Sanchez Family Foundation Center, however, the staff referred him to community resources outside the clinic. They hoped he was following the advice of those caregivers but had no way to monitor his progress directly.

That all changed because of a gift from the Sanchez family—in partnership with the John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Foundation—that facilitated the addition of a psychiatrist, Dr. Jesus Martin Maldonado-Duran, and a licensed clinical social worker, Ana Thornton, at the Sanchez Family Foundation Center. Now, Michael could receive medical and mental health services all in one place. Dr. Maldonado-Duran diagnosed him with post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD) and developed a treatment plan, which includes medication and working with him and his family to gain the tools needed to combat negative thoughts.



**Texas Children's[®]
Pediatrics**

"This clinic is our guardian angel ..."

This treatment plan was critical one evening this summer when Michael's mother thought her worst nightmare was about to come true. Michael was having not just negative, but suicidal thoughts. She placed an after-hours call for help to the Sanchez Family Foundation Center.

Ana took the call. Based on Michael's treatment plan, which she was able to access, Ana walked the family through the crisis, directing them to go immediately to the Emergency Center. She also visited with Michael in person at the Sanchez Family Center soon after.

Upon leaving, his mother said, "This clinic is our guardian angel."

Because of the generous support of the Kenedy Foundation and the Sanchez family—and their dedication to supporting children in need—a life was saved that night. There is no way to put a price on such a precious gift, and all of us at Texas Children's are so grateful for your extraordinary philanthropy and partnership.

**The patient's name has been changed for confidentiality reasons.*