

From Heartache to Hope

Marshall Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery welcomes pediatric surgeon Peter Ray, MD.

When Peter Ray, MD, decided to become a pediatric plastic surgeon, he wasn't in a state-of-the-art operating room or in the hallways of medical school. He was serving with the Army in the hills of Afghanistan, performing surgeries not only on soldiers, but also on injured children from nearby communities.

"Where I was serving, if we didn't provide the children with care, there was nowhere else they could go to get it," said Dr. Ray, a board-certified and fellowship-trained plastic surgeon with Marshall Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. "Here in the U.S., we have the technology and the infrastructure to care for children and their families,



Dr. Ray said he felt called to pediatric plastic surgery after serving in Afghanistan and performing surgeries on soldiers, as well as children from nearby communities.

but there are so many other constraints — whether it's time, resources or the availability of specialists. There is a great need in our country for physicians who make kids their priority."

With residency training in plastic surgery and postgraduate research experience in microsurgery, Dr. Ray obtained a fellowship in pediatric plastic surgery, specializing in cleft and craniofacial surgery. He is trained and experienced in the latest surgical techniques and procedures for a wide range of conditions, including cleft lip and palate, congenital ear deformities, finger and toe anomalies and various asymmetries. He also performs craniofacial surgeries for deformities caused by facial fractures, burns and other injuries.

"Plastic surgery may not be life-saving, but it is definitely life-changing," said Dr. Ray, who joined Marshall Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery in May 2015. "When children look 'different' from their peers, whether because of an injury or a condition they've had since birth, they are treated in ways that can have a lasting impact on their self-perception and behavior. Because of that, it's incredibly important to get to know each patient, to get to know their parents and to partner with the family as a whole in deciding the right course of action."

Dr. Ray works closely with nearly every department at Cabell Huntington Hospital — orthopaedics, neurosurgery, pediatrics, general surgery and burn surgery, among others — and regularly treats patients in the Burn Intensive Care Unit as well as the adult, pediatric and neonatal ICUs. To address his patients' long-term health needs, he partners with pediatric psychologists and highly trained speech therapists to provide truly comprehensive care.

"It's so rewarding to hear from parents of former patients — they're playing sports, entering dance competitions, winning beauty pageants," Dr. Ray said. "There's a real relationship there, and it all starts with recognizing how unique each patient is and being willing to work with the patient's entire support system to see how we can help."

At Marshall Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Dr. Ray sees patients of all ages, using his advanced training in craniofacial trauma and surgery to provide outstanding care to his adult patients as well. The practice, which includes Adel Faltaous, MD, and Farid Mozaffari, MD, leads the region not only in skill and experience but also in its commitment to patients.



Adel Faltaous, MD
Plastic Surgeon



Farid Mozaffari, MD
Plastic Surgeon

"From simple cosmetic treatments to advanced facial reconstruction, we are all completely focused on our patients' needs and concerns," Dr. Ray said. "We are problem-solvers. Whether the problems are related to appearance, injury, birth defects, cancer or countless other circumstances, we're educating patients about the latest treatments in our field and helping them navigate through a problem that may not require surgery, we are all of the same mindset: patients are our highest priority."

For more information about Marshall Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery or to schedule a free consultation with Dr. Ray, call 304.691.8910. ☘