

Fall 2020

BenchMarks

Stories about your impact through Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation

SPECIAL ISSUE:

Caring for
Each Other
Through
COVID



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DEAR FRIENDS,

Earlier this year, I talked to you about the power of moments you bring to our patients. Your support makes moments of joy, laughter and connection possible for our patients and communities every day.

Because of COVID-19, we are now experiencing a very different kind of moment.

This pandemic has affected all of us, and we're doing our part to protect those around us. Doctors, nurses, health care providers and essential staff at Marshfield Clinic Health System are working tirelessly to care for our communities. The people who are most at risk—people battling cancer, sick and injured kids, the elderly and families in financial hardship—are experiencing unprecedented challenges.

I've always been taught to look for the helpers. There will always be people who are helping. **During the COVID-19 outbreak, you've stepped up to help each other in remarkable ways.**

In March, more than 160 of you donated to Care for Our Caregivers in just 10 days, a fund which provided meals, gift cards and other resources to our front-line health care teams. Volunteers throughout Wisconsin and beyond sewed more than 60,000 face masks to help protect Health System patients and employees.

Businesses and organizations donated thousands of boxes of personal protective equipment to combat the national shortage. Individuals and organizations stepped up to give to the COVID-19 Impact Fund to keep our communities safe. Many of you have made gifts to our Angel Funds to offer financial aid to families in need. And, because you know that kids can't wait and cancer doesn't stop, you continued to support those who need it most.

In the midst of so many changes this year, one project became a personal labor of love for me. After the American Cancer Society closed Hope Lodge in Marshfield, cancer patients were left without lodging when they had to travel to Marshfield Medical Center for treatments. Our Foundation took the lead to provide a home away from home for cancer patients. With the help of hundreds of volunteers and donors like you, Cattails Cottage opened in just two months.

COVID-19 has stopped many things, but it hasn't stopped you from caring for each other. We know the pandemic isn't over. In this moment, I invite you to pause and look for the helpers - because you are the helpers.

Thank you and be well,

Teri M. Wilczek, C.F.R.E
Chief Philanthropy Officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation



Teri Wilczek standing outside Cattails Cottage.

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Mission Possible: Masks

Communities mobilize to sew and donate **more than 60,000** face masks to protect health care workers and patients

In March, we were faced with a crisis.

The national shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) during COVID-19 meant Marshfield Clinic Health System did not have enough face masks to protect patients and employees.

Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation immediately posted a message on Facebook, asking our communities' residents to sew and donate face masks. More than 200,000 of you saw that Facebook post and many of you started sewing.

Since then, more than 60,000 sewn face masks have been collected that are still being distributed to patients, health care providers and employees.

"The response was immediate and incredible," said Melissa Darr, Volunteer Services coordinator, Marshfield Medical Center. "Within the first 24 hours we had thousands of people reaching out, asking how they could help and the momentum continued. Businesses volunteered to donate materials and be drop-off sites. So many community members stepped up to donate masks and some rallied additional support, continuing to donate masks for months."

Donated masks have stayed local, used at Health System locations nearest communities where they were donated.

Each mask was sanitized prior to use and distributed to patients and employees at Marshfield Medical Center location entrances. Many masks were sanitized and reused and patients and employees also had the option to take their sewn masks home to use.

At first, donated masks were directed to Marshfield Clinic Cancer Centers, Marshfield Children's Hospital and Marshfield Medical Center hospitals, which have remained open through the pandemic. Sewn masks allowed essential services to continue for patients who needed in-person care during the initial stages of COVID response.

The need for sewn masks grew as Health System services opened up and more patients, family members and employees came through Marshfield Medical Center doors. The goal was to have a mask available for every patient and employee. Because of that, the sewn mask supply was quickly depleted.



Meet the Mask Sewers



Judy Akin

Judy is a teacher from Marshfield who not only sewed masks for Marshfield Clinic Health System but coordinated dozens of other sewers to collect and donate their masks. Judy said, "I was so very happy to help with the mask project. I really enjoyed sewing but also coordinating, organizing sewers, staying connected with the many wonderful people who sewed a multitude of masks and serving as a drop off location and delivery person. The credit goes to all the wonderful people who sewed!"

Thank you, Judy, and all who helped with the mask project!



Melissa Hubing

Melissa Hubing, institutional review board analyst at Marshfield Clinic Health System's Office of Research Support Services, has been making cloth masks since March. Melissa has been using fabric she received from her mother, who was an avid quilter, when she passed away in 2017. At the time, Melissa received more than 50 quilts that her mother was not able to finish. Growing up, Melissa remembers spending time with her mom, grandma and women of their church making quilts for World Relief.

"I knew my mom wouldn't mind her material being used for masks instead of quilts because she had made bandages during World War II. This COVID-19 struggle is sort of a war of our generation - a war against a virus," Melissa said.

Communities continued to answer the call. One sewer from Minnesota, on hearing about the increased need, commented, "I'll keep sewing until I hear there is no longer a need. I got you!" She mailed her masks to the Volunteer Services team to distribute as needed.

Another mask donor in the Marshfield area, teacher Judy Akin, mobilized a sewing team and donated more than thousands of masks.

Employees got involved, too. Melissa Hubing, institutional review board analyst at Marshfield Clinic Health System's Office of Research Support Services, has been making cloth masks since March.

Youth also joined the cause. Several high school students used the mask project as part of their schooling from home. Some took up sewing, while others made mask connectors and ear savers. A few students used 3-D printers to print mask connectors, which were given to health care providers and front-door screeners at Marshfield Medical Centers. Using connectors made wearing face masks all day more comfortable for employees working in patient care.

"Face masks are a part of everyday life here with the COVID-19 pandemic," said Teri Wilczek, chief philanthropy officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. "Wearing a mask is one of the simplest ways to protect those around you and sewing and donating masks is such a meaningful way to show how much you care. Our Health System is committed to protecting our patients, employees and communities throughout this challenging time and mask donations continue to make that possible."

"The mask project really gives people a sense of purpose," said Darr. "It started at a time when people were really looking for ways they could help during the pandemic and it showed the power of people coming together in times of need. Every mask matters."

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



VOLUNTEER SERVICES RESPONDS TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Though volunteers were not able to serve at Marshfield Medical Center locations initially during the COVID-19 response, they found new and meaningful ways to support patients in a time of need:

- Sewing and donating more than 60,000 face masks
- Delivering meals to home-bound patients, following safety protocols
- Writing thank-you notes for care teams to include with Care for our Caregivers donations (see pg. 11)
- Playing and recording music for hospitalized patients
- Sending photos of pet therapy program dogs to share with patients

Volunteers are safely returning as services open up at Marshfield Medical Centers. Become a volunteer: marshfieldclinic.org/giving/volunteer

Moving Forward Together

Your support for the COVID-19 Impact Fund helped us prepare for the pandemic surge and move our communities forward

COVID-19 brought unprecedented challenges to communities served by Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Many families were already struggling with access to health care and financial burdens and because of the pandemic these families were at risk of greater hardship. But, when friends and neighbors needed support, you were quick to help, making it possible to move forward together.

Marshfield Clinic Health System, always committed to providing quality health care in historically underserved rural areas, immediately took action to protect patients, health care providers and staff. Nonessential services were temporarily put on hold or moved to Telehealth delivery. Marshfield Medical Center hospitals, Marshfield Children's Hospital and Marshfield Clinic Cancer Centers remained open through the first few months of the pandemic to care for the most at-risk patients and remain open now. The Health System set up COVID-19

units in Marshfield Medical Centers, screening all patients and staff, training health care providers in special COVID-19 protocols, investing in personal protective equipment (PPE), expanding Telehealth and participating in national COVID research.

These huge changes needed to happen quickly. With local businesses and individuals looking for ways to help, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation established the MCHS COVID-19 Impact Fund in April to support essential relief efforts.



your donations helped fund ventilators, PPE and Telehealth

"Donor support was critical to our early efforts in preparing for COVID-19," said Dr. Susan Turney, Health System CEO. "Our Health System was doing everything possible to prepare for COVID-19, but we knew we had to do more. Community donations helped us expand services for our critical patients while offering new ways to provide care remotely."

The initial goal was to raise \$100,000 for the new fund by May 5, known as Giving Tuesday Now.



our initial goal was \$100,000

This day was launched by Giving Tuesday, a worldwide day of giving which typically takes place on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. Giving Tuesday Now was then created this year as a global movement to support nonprofits through the pandemic.

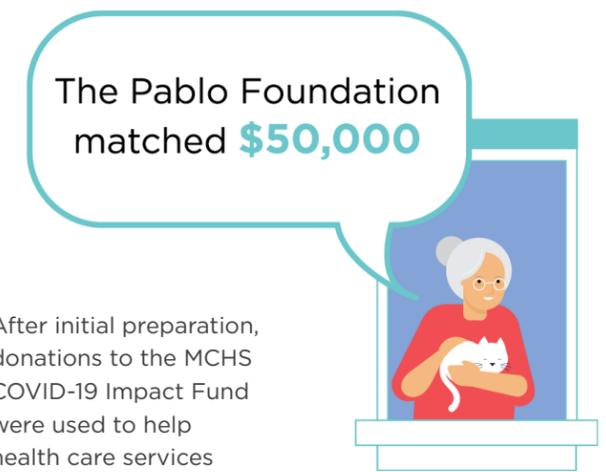
With help of a \$50,000 matching gift from the Pablo Foundation in Eau Claire, more than \$150,000 was raised for the new fund in just a few weeks.

"So many businesses, organizations and individuals joined the cause right away," said Teri Wilczek, chief philanthropy officer, MCHS Foundation. "A lot of people recognize the Health System is an important part of the communities we serve, that we are here for them and because of them. We cannot care for our communities without support from our communities. When we asked for help, they showed up in a big way."



we raised a total of \$150,000

Donations to the MCHS COVID-19 Impact Fund made an immediate impact by helping the Health System purchase ventilators and PPE, expand Telehealth for patients at home and invest in COVID triage and treatment training for health care providers. The Pablo Foundation's matching gift funded an initial stock of PPE and ventilators. This support was important to prepare for a possible surge in central and northern Wisconsin COVID cases - a surge that we are now experiencing.



The Pablo Foundation matched \$50,000

After initial preparation, donations to the MCHS COVID-19 Impact Fund were used to help health care services open up safely. Funding continued to support PPE and provided resources for caregivers, staff and local businesses for safe operating practices. As Marshfield Clinic Research Institute expanded COVID testing and research, the fund supported additional test kit materials.

The pandemic has caused significant positive shifts in health care delivery. Investments in Telehealth have allowed health care providers to reach patients in new and meaningful ways. Many patients in rural areas previously lacked access to Behavioral Health services. Thanks to Telehealth, these services are now provided remotely.

Safety is always a high priority but COVID safety precautions were enhanced. The Health System hired screeners at every center to greet patients and families, take temperatures and run through a brief series of questions to protect against exposure to the virus, along with other infectious diseases.

your donations also helped us **increase testing availability**



“COVID-19 caused all of our lives to change rapidly,” said Wilczek. “Some of these changes are temporary while others are here to stay. Support for the MCHS COVID-19 Impact Fund made it possible to adapt services when our patients needed us most and COVID-19 has challenged our Health System to look at health care differently.”

Thanks to you, we can help patients we serve in innovative ways while providing the same expert, compassionate care. Together, we will continue finding a way forward and caring for each other.

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



COVID-19 IMPACT FUND

COVID-19 brought unprecedented challenges to our rural communities. Because of your support, Marshfield Clinic Health System adapted to care for those who need it most. Your continued support for this fund helps us provide:

- Essential equipment as it becomes available during national shortages. This equipment is vital to keep patients and health care providers safe as more services open and patients enter our facilities.
- Telehealth services to continue offering care to patients who prefer to be seen remotely.
- Increased testing availability for COVID-19 so people can get the care they need.
- Resources for health care providers, staff and local businesses on safe opening practices, mental health and community education.
- COVID-19 units in our Marshfield Medical Centers to keep patients who have tested positive for the virus and others safe.
- Training for health care providers to triage and treat COVID-19 patients.

The COVID-19 pandemic isn't over. Support Marshfield Clinic Health System's local COVID-19 relief efforts:
marshfieldclinic.org/giving#covid-19help

Caring for Our Caregivers

Your support for the Care for Our Caregivers initiative provides relief for front-line health care workers during COVID-19

“Our staff on the front-lines may not have chosen this battle, but I know without a doubt that they’re showing up and giving it their all. Your sacrifice is KNOWN and the appreciation is REAL.”

“Thank you to all our front-line health personnel who are serving our sick during this time of national crisis. You are HEROES!”

“I have saved some money to give to those in need. May this small donation give encouragement and help.”

“Together, we can do anything.”

These are just a few of the messages of support, encouragement and appreciation donors shared when more than 150 of you donated more than \$30,000 in less than one month to support Marshfield Clinic Health System health care workers.

This groundswell of support, called the Care for Our Caregivers initiative, continues to provide encouragement and needed resources to care teams during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Care for Our Caregivers began in March as part of the Health System's initial response to the COVID outbreak. Many care teams shifted their roles and were working tirelessly to help protect their patients and communities while people were searching for a way to show their appreciation.

“Community members and patients were reaching out, asking how they could support people on the front lines,” said Kailey Alvarado, annual giving officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. “It showed how in times of great need, people just really want to help. Care for Our Caregivers gave them a way to make a real difference.”



AbbyBank employees pose with some of the items collected from their staff to thank oncology caregivers at Marshfield Medical Center.



Marshfield Medical Center staff and health care providers receive Care for Our Caregivers donations.

The Foundation set up a fundraising page with the goal of raising \$20,000 by Doctors’ Day on March 30. Donations poured in and exceeded that goal in just 10 days. Within a month, community members raised more than \$30,000 for the initiative.

Donations to Care for Our Caregivers immediately provided gift cards, meals, snacks and drinks to Marshfield Medical Centers’ employees. The Foundation purchased many Care for Our Caregivers items in Health System communities to help support local businesses. Local businesses chose to donate meals or gift cards to the cause. CLIF Bar & Company also donated 20,000 CLIF bars to the Health System as part of this effort.

“Care for Our Caregivers has shown how even a small gesture of gratitude is so meaningful in times of crisis,” said Alvarado. “So many of our staff and health care providers were touched by this initiative. It really shows how people come together to support each other and how every donation of any size makes an impact.”

Physicians, nurses and care teams are not the only recipients of this generosity. Employees in Housekeeping, Food Services, Labs, Building Services along with administrative staff, entrance screeners and research teams benefit from the fund.

Dustin Skaya, System director for Patient Transfer and Placement, Marshfield Medical Center, has witnessed the impact of Care for Our Caregivers during the pandemic.

“Care for Our Caregivers has helped staff get through some really difficult times caused by COVID, provided staff with thoughtful essentials like snacks, meals and drinks and made them easily accessible during long shifts working on hospital units. Hospital support staff was able to benefit in the form of gas cards which was a game changer as staff was getting furloughed. This type of support helped these staff still be able to come to work and work on the front lines.

“Care for Our Caregivers showed our staff how much the community supports them and how much they are appreciated. It’s easy to get caught up in the moment of major stressors and most people would forget the small things. Care for Our Caregivers remembered the small things and it was so meaningful.

“This support came and continues to come at just the right time.

“So many more acute staff now understand what Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation is really about. I personally had misunderstood the Foundation’s role in the Health System and community, but after watching these efforts I began to understand, believe in and support the

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



CARE FOR OUR CAREGIVERS

We see heroes at work every day at Marshfield Clinic Health System. They are the doctors, nurses, Lab staff, Food Services staff, Building Services teams and so many others who have continued to work to protect communities we serve during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your gifts to Care for our Caregivers showed these heroes they are supported and appreciated.

Your gifts to Care for our Caregivers have provided:

- More than 420 gift cards for coffee, gas and onsite Food Services options
- Around 20,000 Clif bars donated and distributed to employees
- More than 400 meals provided for staff throughout the Health System in emergency departments, urgent care centers, hospital units, pharmacies and labs
- 50 boxes of K-Cup® pods delivered to staff breakrooms
- 73 cups of coffee delivered before 8 a.m.
- A team of eight volunteers writing notes of encouragement and gratitude for staff
- 50-plus large snack packs assembled for all staff, both purchased and donated, and an order of snacks donated by a vendor, Infor, specifically for Information Services staff
- Care baskets donated by Forward Bank to EKG, Video Monitoring and Messenger teams
- 300 meals donated to MMC – Marshfield by Papa Murphy’s, ongoing
- Two lunches for 25 people donated by Arby’s
- 1,447 bottles of soda donated and delivered to staff

Our health care heroes need your help now more than ever before. Gratitude is not enough to show them how much you appreciate their sacrifice during this critical time. By donating today, you will give protection, comfort and hope for our care teams through the pandemic.

Help us care for our caregivers: marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate

Foundation’s mission. Now, I give regularly because I want to be a part of what the Foundation is doing. Thank you to the Foundation for everything – what you’ve done has made a huge, positive impact!”

Your donations to Care for our Caregivers continue to support health care providers and staff during the COVID surge and into the holiday season.

“Care for our Caregivers is such a huge boost for employee morale and mental health during a challenging time,” said Alvarado. “Health care providers and staff have taken extra

time away from their families to care for patients this year. It can be exhausting and stressful. We aren’t just delivering meals, coffee or gift cards to these care teams, we’re bringing them comfort.”

This is possible because of your support for Care for our Caregivers. With each donation, you send a powerful message to our care teams in the midst of COVID – “you are not alone.”

KIDS CAN'T WAIT: Meet the 2020-21 Miracle Kids



**Children's
Miracle Network
Hospitals®**

Staying home during the COVID-19 pandemic protects the people you care about most but also people most at risk - those with compromised immune systems or life-threatening conditions, the elderly and sick and injured kids.

Kids couldn't wait for compassionate, expert care close to home during this time of COVID. That's why, with your help, Marshfield Children's Hospital stayed open through the pandemic to care for the kids who need care most. These are kids like Audrina, Amiya, William, Giada, Lucas and Ethan.

These children are just a few of the kids you've stayed safely home for, our Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital 2020-21 Miracle Kids.

Each year, children from northern and central Wisconsin are chosen locally as Miracle Kids to represent young patients treated at Marshfield Children's Hospital. Their stories demonstrate how important your support is for Marshfield Children's Hospital, one of 170 CMN Hospitals in North America and one of only four children's hospitals in Wisconsin.

Marshfield Children's Hospital physicians and staff know nothing is more important than the health and happiness of our littlest patients. For the love of kids, your support of CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital provides specialty care, state-of-the-art equipment and support programs.

Your donations have helped Marshfield Children's Hospital care teams quickly adjust and enhance programs to support kids needing ongoing and emergency care during the pandemic. Child Life and Music Therapy offer online support; new patient education programs are saving lives; families are using live cameras to watch their babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; and so much more.

Thank you for making our Miracle Kids' stories and stories of so many kids possible and positive, improving their health and their future.

Amiya & Audrina 11 Years Old | Marshfield

Twins Audrina and Amiya share a birthday but they're different in many ways.

Audrina is proud of being the oldest by just one minute, while Amiya is taller. Audrina loves animals and is known as the family bookworm. Amiya is a social butterfly who enjoys playing basketball, board games and doing hands-on arts and crafts projects.

The twins are artistic and enjoy expressing their creativity in drawings, paintings and delicious baking projects.

While Audrina and Amiya have distinct characteristics, they share one important quality. They're both miracles with big dreams for their future, dreams that may not have been so possible if it weren't for Children's Miracle Network at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

Their story starts with their mom, Asavari, and dad, Tom, who were surprised to discover they were going to have twins since they were told becoming pregnant would be unlikely. Ultrasounds soon revealed the babies were growing at different rates with potential life-threatening issues for Baby A (Audrina) due to restrictive oxygen and blood flow. In December 2009, Asavari delivered the babies by emergency c-section to give Baby A the best chance to survive.

Audrina weighed just 2 pounds, 1.3 ounces when she was born and spent close to eight weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Amiya weighed 4 pounds, 3 ounces and spent over four weeks in the NICU. The girls were five days old before they could be held or bond with their parents through skin-to-skin contact.

Thanks to support from Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital, Tom and Asavari could finally embrace and nurture their newborns using Kangaroo Recliners there to provide comfort, support and safety for them and their babies.

Today, these sisters are strong, healthy and happy fourth graders. Audrina visits Marshfield Children's Hospital regularly for blood tests, but no longer needs medication for her congenital hypothyroidism.

Every December, the twins look forward to bringing gifts to babies in the NICU and their families. It's one of their ways of giving back and making a difference for families who have children in the NICU, just like they were not so long ago.





Lucas

8 Years Old | Schofield

Lucas lives for spending time outdoors and sports, with a dream of someday playing baseball in the big leagues.

At just the age of 8, life threw Lucas plenty of curveballs and he has hit them all out of the park including a curveball called cancer.

When Lucas was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, his family was overwhelmed and scared. During the week they spent at Marshfield Children's Hospital to confirm the diagnosis, Lucas' care team worked to find answers and helped Lucas feel more comfortable.

Support for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital provided Lucas' family with meal tickets and gave Lucas access to Child Life Specialists who played with him and helped calm his nerves.

Child Life Specialists, pediatric oncologists and the entire care team stayed with Lucas throughout his treatment, becoming like family, and when Lucas rang the bell to signify the end of his treatment, they were all there with him to celebrate.

Lucas never lost sight of his dreams during his cancer journey and now that he's on the other side of treatment he's more determined than ever to make them come true.



Ethan

11 Years Old | Stevens Point

As an 11-year-old child, Ethan likes watching YouTube, riding his bike and scooter, swimming and recently added playing ukulele to his list of talents.

One day in Fall 2018, Ethan was playing in the woods when a strong gust of wind caused a tree branch to break and fall on him. The afternoon adventure suddenly turned into an experience every parent fears. The branch crushed Ethan's skull. He was taken to Marshfield Children's Hospital by air ambulance and immediately taken to surgery to remove part of his frontal lobe.

Ethan spent four months in the hospital recovering from these life-threatening injuries, two of those months in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

Over the long journey, Ethan's family used numerous services and support from Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital. Distraction stations were a help to Ethan for sensory stimulation from his bed, to help calm him when he was agitated, experiencing pain or feeling frustrated from not being able to communicate his needs.

A large help to Ethan's recovery was the Snoezelen room where he could decompress, calm himself and eventually explore all his senses. Through therapies, he relearned how to control his large muscles and his fine motor skills by starting from scratch to play the ukulele with Music Therapy.

Today, Ethan is walking, talking and catching up in school. He continues to participate in therapies to further improve his language, memory and communicative skills. Ethan is also teaching his new puppy, Hedwig, how to do tricks. He hopes that one day Hedwig could become a therapy dog since Ethan looked forward to therapy dog visits during his hospitalization.

Together, his family and care team at Marshfield Children's Hospital continue to help him become all he wants to be. His goal? He wants to become a chiropractor. For now he is proof that if you never give up, there are no limits to what you can do.

Giada

11 Years Old | Tomahawk

Giada wears a “super-girl” cape, likes the color pink, knows a little glitter makes everything better and loves dancing and gymnastics.

All of this means getting the best care possible at Marshfield Children’s Hospital for her juvenile arthritis and uveitis is so important.

Uveitis, which is rare, is the swelling of the uvea, the colored part of the eye. Juvenile arthritis is an inflammatory and rheumatic disease in children younger than 16.

In the spring of 2015, Giada told her mom the tops of her feet hurt and were too swollen to put shoes on. She was referred to Marshfield Children’s Hospital where she was diagnosed with the disorders and began ongoing injections and infusions to manage the condition.

Giada also developed cataracts and had surgery to help slow the uveitis.

Multiple eye drops are given throughout the day and weekly injections are done at home. Thanks to support for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children’s Hospital, Child Life Specialists make the ongoing monthly hospital experience easier for Giada. They let her pick from the prize box, put on fun Band-Aids and give her freeze pops when she comes in for treatments.

Since those treatments began, Giada hasn’t felt any joint pain. Even though she “hates pokes,” she enjoys visiting her friends at Marshfield Children’s Hospital. They make her smile and help her feel better so she can play and dance.



William

5 Years Old | Northwoods

Will is a typical little boy.

He’s strong-willed, fun-loving and active. Being outside is a favorite thing.

Looking at him, you’d never know he spent the first 98 days of his life in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

After Will’s mom developed HELLP Syndrome, a serious high blood pressure complication during pregnancy, Will was delivered at Marshfield Children’s Hospital at just 29 weeks. He progressed well for the first month but then had complications after feedings when he would stop breathing and turn blue. During these episodes, nurses, Child Life Specialists and other staff would rush to his aid and help his parents remain calm. When Will’s parents had to leave the hospital at night or during breaks, they could watch him in his Isolette using NicView camera technology, thanks to donations to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children’s Hospital.

When Will left the hospital almost 100 days after he was born, his care team helped his parents through the transition with specialized equipment and support. And, waiting at home was his older brother who got to meet him in person for the first time.

Today, Will is going places. He may have been a premature baby but now there’s no telling where he’ll go next.



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



CHILDREN’S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS AT MARSHFIELD CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Your support is essential to continue caring for kids through the pandemic. With your help, Marshfield Children’s Hospital care teams have developed new ways to expand services for children and families so they can still get the support they need:

- Child Life and Expressive Therapies are offering live, interactive sessions online to kids so they can engage in medical play and distraction while staying safer at home.
- Music Therapy is offering online sessions to children in the hospital and at home.
- Marshfield Children’s Hospital continues to care for kids who need ongoing treatment, including pediatric cancer patients.
- The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is using NicView cameras so family members can watch their newborns from home.
- New educational resources are being provided to families in the hospital and when they are able to bring their children home.

100% of your donations to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children’s Hospital stay local to support kids in central and northern Wisconsin.

Change kids’ health and change the future: marshfieldclinic.org/cmnh

Essential Service: Cancer doesn't stop and neither does your support

You helped cancer care and research continue through the COVID-19 pandemic, offering access to treatments, compassionate care and assistance for families

In a time of uncertainty when so many things have changed, we know one thing:

Cancer doesn't stop.

That's why, with your help, Marshfield Clinic Health System's cancer care and research teams have continued to provide expert, compassionate care to cancer patients and families through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each year, more than 15,000 cancer patients – children and adults – are treated throughout the Health System.

Because of your donations, these patients have local access to state-of-the-art facilities, support groups, educational resources, healing spaces, new and personalized treatments, clinical trials, financial assistance for families in need and comfort items.

While some Health System services were temporarily put on hold due to the pandemic, Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center locations in Marshfield, Eau Claire, Stevens Point and Minocqua remained safely open to serve people with a cancer diagnosis.

New Telehealth options made it possible for cancer patients to get some care in the comfort of their homes to reduce risk of COVID exposure. Telehealth throughout the Health System allows delivery of the highest quality care by connecting providers to patients virtually. The service, which the Health System has offered since 1997, has expanded to telepharmacy, Interpreter Services and virtual care for patients to connect with providers from the location of their choice, including home, work or school.

Cancer Center care teams continued to offer safe access to support services, new treatment options and clinical trials.

“Brave people fight cancer in our communities every day and they cannot wait for care,” said Jeron Jackson, System Service Line administrator for Oncology “People diagnosed with cancer are some of the most at-risk during this pandemic. Many are already immunocompromised and some are financially stressed. It is vital that we continue treatment with their health and safety as a top priority.”

COVID has created many challenges for cancer patients but thanks to your thoughtful donations, cancer care and research teams have helped them meet the challenges through quick adjustments.



Access to cancer research and clinical trials ensures that patients get the treatments they need.

Clinical trials and access to research

Your support provides patients access to clinical trials close to home through integrated cancer care and research.

More than 120 cancer-related clinical trials are available at Marshfield Clinic Cancer Centers through Marshfield Clinic Research Institute. For patients, this means having access to new treatments and protocols today while helping those who may not otherwise have care options. For researchers, it means gathering important information for future treatments and protocols.

The Health System continues to offer clinical trials to cancer patients at Marshfield Clinic Cancer Centers despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Your donations allow care teams to shift care delivery while still enrolling patients in clinical trials.

“Many people experience a loss of control when they have cancer and COVID has exacerbated those feelings,” said Anna Wilson, research coordinator for the Cancer Care and Research Center, based at the Eau Claire Cancer Center. “By enrolling in a clinical trial, these patients take control of their journey and feel they are helping others at the same time.”

Wilson knows firsthand the importance of clinical trials in a cancer journey. She is a two-time cancer survivor who was inspired to begin a career as a research coordinator after her first battle. Today, she finds meaning in helping people find hope through clinical trials.

The Cancer Care and Research Center relies on your donations to offer clinical trials and additional funding is needed to increase access to cancer-related clinical trials, especially as our communities navigate COVID.

“About \$1 million in donor support is needed each year to continue our current number of clinical trial enrollments for cancer patients,” said Karen Piel, gift planning officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. “With COVID, we know some patients have unfortunately had delayed procedures and are experiencing financial stressors and we need to make sure they have access to treatments. The pandemic has affected nonprofits, too, so our Foundation is about \$250,000 behind in fundraising for cancer care and research this year. For those who are able to donate, you are truly saving lives when you support cancer research.”

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



CANCER RESEARCH

Donations to cancer research support comprehensive, integrated care at Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center locations. Researchers and care teams work together to offer patients personalized care and new treatments. Your gifts to cancer research support:

- Local access to more than 120 cancer-related clinical trials for more than 15,000 cancer patients annually.
- Involvement in nationally-recognized cancer research studies to better diagnose, treat and prevent cancer.
- Partnerships with other organizations to further cancer research in our communities, nationally and globally.

Our cancer care and research teams rely on your donations to fund clinical trials. More than \$1 million is needed annually to continue offering clinical trials to patients. Due to the cancellation of fundraising events this year, the Health System is about \$250,000 short of meeting the need.

*Help brave people fight cancer in our communities:
marshfieldclinic.org/giving/cancer*



Cattails Cottage is now open for cancer patients.

CATTAILS COTTAGE:

New lodging for cancer patients in need

You created a home away from home for cancer patients when it was needed most



Your donations provided new landscaping to create a welcoming entrance to Cattails Cottage.

Because Marshfield Clinic Health System serves rural Wisconsin communities, many cancer patients have to travel an hour or more each way to receive treatment at a Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center.

For those already under financial strain, travel costs can be overwhelming. COVID-19 added to financial pressures for families in need of care.

Since its doors opened in 2003, Hope Lodge in Marshfield was operated by the American Cancer Society (ACS) and supported by the Marshfield community, providing free lodging for cancer patients in need. The Lodge was temporarily closed since March due to COVID, the ACS claimed. In June, the ACS announced Hope Lodge would close indefinitely.

What choices would patients and their families have?

“It was a shock to our communities and Marshfield Clinic Health System,” said Teri Wilczek, chief philanthropy officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. “Hope Lodge was built and maintained thanks to the generosity of our community. People know how important this service is for patients and they reached out right away asking how they could help care for cancer patients in a time of great need.”

The most urgent priority was finding lodging for patients, some of whom had already delayed care.

“We knew we had at least 15 families that needed lodging for cancer care immediately,” said Jeron Jackson, Service Line administrator for Oncology. “The Foundation jumped into action to start fundraising to give them and other families a new alternative to Hope Lodge.”

Patient Story: Sharon and Mike

Sharon and Mike are from Escanaba, Michigan. Sharon was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer in June 2020 and her treatment consists of 12 chemotherapy cycles. Sharon must travel to Marshfield every two weeks for chemotherapy. She usually needs to stay at least one night, sometimes two, depending on tests needed.

Sharon and Mike had been staying at a local hotel since the Hope Lodge closed and the cost was becoming a burden to their family.

Your donations provided hotel accommodations until Cattails Cottage opened. Now that this facility is open, their family can enjoy the support and camaraderie of others on a cancer journey.

Thank you for providing a safe, healing environment for brave people fighting cancer at Cattails Cottage!



Volunteers decorated Cattails Cottage to enhance the healing space.

It's really because of donations to cancer care and research through the Foundation that we continue caring for cancer patients in these difficult times."

The Health System quickly repurposed a facility but refurbishment was necessary. Communities rallied around a campaign to update the space. Seven weeks and more than \$50,000 in donations later, the space was transformed into Cattails Cottage.

"The community response was remarkable," said Wilczek. "Everyone knows someone who has been touched by cancer. So when they heard that cancer patients needed help, they rallied to show support. It was truly a labor of love that donors, volunteers, community members, businesses and Health System staff came together to create the beautiful facility that is now Cattails Cottage."

Hundreds of volunteers took part in the renovations, which were funded by your donations. Patient rooms and common spaces were completely remodeled with new flooring, furniture, appliances and decorations. Volunteers ripped out carpeting, moved furniture, replaced landscaping and decorated rooms.

"When you're in Cattails Cottage, you can feel the heart of every person who helped make this possible," said Wilczek. "It's more than a building. It's a place of healing."

Within the first month of opening, 19 families found this facility a beautiful home away from home. Thanks to you, patients won't have to worry how they will afford a place to stay while they get potentially lifesaving care.

"I was always told to look for the helpers and think that in times of crisis people feel compelled to help," said Wilczek. "Because of the generosity of our communities, we took a dire situation and turned it into a way for people to come together to support those in need."

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



CATTAILS COTTAGE

People diagnosed with cancer and wwho must travel for treatment should not have to worry about affording a place to stay while they get potentially lifesaving care at Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Your support helps fill this critical need so families can focus on battling cancer:

- Refurbishing the new cancer lodging space in Marshfield, including ongoing upgrades like TVs in the rooms, a new washer and dryer and more.
- Supporting an assistant manager who helps families get the information and care they need.
- Providing support services, amenities and a healing environment for cancer patients and families.

The new cancer patient lodging space will need ongoing updates and more families than ever are experiencing financial stress because of COVID. By giving today, you give these families hope in their fight against cancer.

Support Cattails Cottage:
marshfieldclinic.org/giving/cancer-patient-lodging

Cattails Cottage needs volunteers! To learn more, contact Melissa Darr, Volunteer Services, at darr.melissa@marshfieldclinic.org.

MARSHFIELD CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION

MISSION

We enrich lives to create healthy communities through meaningful relationships built on gratitude and philanthropy.

VISION

We will innovate and define the future of health care for generations as the trusted leader in health care philanthropy.

CORE VALUES

Patient centered: We promote a culture of gratitude that serves our patients.

Trust: We earn trust through stewardship, integrity and accountability.

Teamwork: We connect donor, patient and system needs.

Excellence: Through philanthropy, we enrich lives.

Affordability: We effectively manage resources to raise philanthropic support.

Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation
1000 N Oak Ave
Marshfield, WI 54449-5790

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Kids can't wait. Cancer doesn't stop.

Your support matters, now more than ever.

COVID-19 has stopped a lot of things, but it hasn't stopped you from caring for the people who need it most. Thanks to you, Marshfield Clinic Health System is finding new ways to provide expert, compassionate care to those in need. Donate today to help brave people fighting cancer, struggling families and sick and injured kids through the pandemic and beyond.

Care for each other:

marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate



Marshfield Clinic
Health System
Foundation