

# BenchMarks

A publication of Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation

Spring 2018

**2017 Gratitude  
Report inside!**



## **Striking out cancer**

Friends bowl to benefit  
local cancer patients



**Marshfield Clinic**<sup>®</sup>  
HEALTH SYSTEM  
FOUNDATION



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Cover photo: Susanne Erickson and Maxine Drager, Strike Out Cancer

*A message from:*

**Teri M. Wilczek, M.S., CFRE**

**Chief Philanthropy Officer**



When I returned from Marshfield Clinic Health System's (MCHS) Board of Directors March meeting I was filled with more pride than ever to be part of this organization and play a role in its accomplishments.

One message shared at that meeting was our strategic growth and commitment to patients and communities is possible because of remarkable support from people like you.

An example of such growth is that recently, MCHS and Memorial Hospital, Inc., Neillsville, signed a letter of intent to provide more accessible health care to the Neillsville community through an affiliation partnership. As a farm girl born and raised in Clark County with Neillsville as its county seat, I'm proud to see MCHS in these communities and beyond. Along with expanding services in Rusk County, Minocqua and Eau Claire, this growth will further our mission to enrich lives.

Supporters like you often talk about their pride in being part of MCHS' mission of enriching lives. We're honored you and those featured in BenchMarks partner with us to make lives better.

Organizers of Strike Out Cancer, featured on page 2, share love of bowling and experiences with cancer. Their friendship and survivorship has led them to raise over \$70,000 for Northwoods cancer care through their long-running event.

The Macdonald family shares a similar pride by supporting MCHS youth and behavioral health programs. In their story on page 4, you'll learn about their ties to Wausau and why they invest in health care's future in central and northern Wisconsin.

We proudly introduce Lakken, Isaac, Cameron, Audrina and Amiya on page 8, our first Miracle Kids since Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals programs transitioned to Marshfield Medical Center and MCHS. Their stories of resilience and hope explain why CMN Hospitals is such a vital service for local kids.

Volunteers walk through our doors daily, ready to share their time with our patients. These volunteers, like Courtney Linzmeier featured on page 12, have a pride in their commitment to our organization and people they serve. I am humbled to hear why our volunteers choose to give back.

As you think about what you are most proud of, I hope your commitment to MCHS is on your list because we so often see its impact. We are thankful for your generosity in moving the mission of enriching lives forward and we are proud to have you in our family of supporters.

With heartfelt gratitude,

*Teri*  
Teri





# STRIKING OUT CANCER

Friends bowl to benefit local cancer patients

Bowling balls crash into pins at Eagle Lanes as Susanne “Susie” Erickson settles in to describe how her love of the game transformed her grief, deepened her friendships and helped make her community a better place for healing cancer patients.

“Don’t rush,” she tells a novice visiting the bowling alley, the site of Eagle River’s long-running Strike Out Cancer event benefitting oncology patient care in the Northwoods and breast cancer research throughout Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS). “Your feet can never be too slow. Swing the arms straight, like a pendulum on a clock. All the power comes from the legs.”

Erickson is the only bowler among eight siblings in her family, but many of her closest friends are her teammates and rivals in the Ladies Night Out league in Eagle River. Most of them have been friends for decades, seeing each other through the joys of family life and fun times of the Northwoods recreational scene as well as the sorrows of illness.

The group within the league that makes Strike Out Cancer happen each year includes Maxine Drager, Pat Mayo, Carol Kubiaczyk, Kathy Lyczak, JoAnn Bathel, Caron Stegemann, Tina Lesnick, Kim Schaffer and Carol Numrich.

For many in the group the event is quite personal. Three of Erickson’s sisters have battled breast cancer. Over time, other family members and many of her bowling friends have been diagnosed with various forms of the disease. At least nine of the league’s 31 members are cancer survivors or current patients. Others, including Erickson’s sister Rosalie Enders, have lost the battle.

Just in Wisconsin, more than 33,000 new cancer cases will be diagnosed in 2018, according to American Cancer Society estimates.

“A lot of people come to the event to just watch the dedication ceremony and buy a few raffle tickets because they know someone who has cancer or who died from it,” said Drager. “There’s so much pain everyone has with this disease, it brings us all closer.”

Grieving those losses prompted Erickson to take action 14 years ago. She and a small group of friends created bowling fundraisers that generated money for national cancer organizations. Several years into the effort, however, she felt an emptiness.

“Events like this inspire our providers to do their jobs differently.”

“People I would ask to sponsor or donate to the event would ask me where the money was going and many of them didn’t like that it went away to a national organization,” she said.

For the last seven years, event proceeds have gone to MCHS cancer care funds to purchase wigs, mastectomy bras, other items and services to help make cancer patients’ experiences a little easier. This year’s event sponsors included several local businesses.

“Events like this inspire our providers to do their jobs differently. Because of these donations, our breast cancer coordinators can provide cookbooks filled with recipes that have been tested to appeal to someone going through

chemotherapy, for example,” said Rikki Starich, annual giving manager, MCHS Foundation.

Another example of how funds are used is providing a special gel cream for radiation therapy patients because it is out of reach financially for many patients on their own.

“Having these funds available allows our staff to think, ‘What can I do to make patients feel a little bit better? What is something beyond the normal treatment plan that just makes a patient’s journey a little better?’” Starich said.

Perhaps due to their Midwestern upbringing, Erickson and Drager said they used to keep quiet when someone discounted their fundraiser’s impact. As the event has grown so has their courage, since the group has raised more than \$70,000 for MCHS patient services.

“Now I would say to the doubters that our little fundraiser helps patients with any number of things they really need and use,” Erickson said. “This event means a lot to me because we started it together and it has grown exponentially.”

For Drager, the money raised going solely to local patients makes all the difference.

“Cancer isn’t pretty and these events don’t bring people back who we’ve lost,” she said. “But this money does get used for people we care about and it helps make a very tough time a little better.”

Unlike bowling, the real power of these women comes not from the legs, but the heart.



## YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

### Cancer care

Gifts from people like you provide hope and healing to cancer patients across MCHS. Your generosity supports:

- ★ New technology and treatment equipment
- ★ Patient and family support groups
- ★ Thoughtfully designed treatment and waiting rooms
- ★ Healing gardens
- ★ Educational resources
- ★ Access to new treatments

... and so much more!

**You can help families touched by cancer with a gift to local cancer care. Visit [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/cancer](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/cancer) or contact the MCHS Foundation team at 800-858-5220 to add your support.**



# Accounting for the future

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

— Frederick Douglass, abolitionist and statesman

For Donna and Mark Macdonald, it has always been about the kids.

Whether it was raising their own four children, witnessing how extreme poverty and neglect affected families in Los Angeles or now employing about 70 central Wisconsin youth every summer, the couple lives by the notion that effecting change early leads to the most success.

"If we can get them when they are young and help educate and nurture them in whatever ways we can, they'll grow into healthy human beings," said Mark Macdonald, who grew up in a family supper club and golf course business in La Crosse. His successful career in insurance and investments then took the couple to Oregon and California before they purchased the Wisconsin Woodchucks baseball team in 2012. Together, they also operate the Macdonald Foundation.

The Macdonalds have included Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) in their extensive philanthropic endeavors as members of the Circle of Friends and 1916 giving societies. They underwrite Pediatric Angel Funds that assist patients with non-medical expenses related to their care and take a deep interest in behavioral health, particularly in teens.

"When we first started the Angel Funds we rather quickly became



Mark and Donna Macdonald

a victim of our own success," said Matt Faber, gift officer, MCHS Foundation. "Once Marshfield Clinic physicians and providers started getting the word out to patients that these funds exist, so many people in need came forward and we were spending what we had raised very quickly."

The Macdonalds – who met while both were accountants early in their careers – were ready when the need arose, Faber said.

"Donna and I don't need to see our names on a building, though of course hospital wings and research facilities are vitally important," Mark Macdonald said. "As an investor in pharmaceutical

companies, I fully understand the need to make breakthrough medical advances. But our real passion in philanthropy is in the immediate care of families."

Knowing that generating donors for operating funds can be much more difficult than for a large campaign to erect a facility, the couple jumped in as MCHS donors as soon as they purchased the baseball team.

Underwriting lots of small gifts to help keep families going through the often financially difficult disease process and supporting programs that help address causes of teen depression and suicide are keenly important to the couple.

By developing a strong working relationship with the MCHS Foundation, Mark Macdonald said it has been helpful to work with a team that understands the couple's passions and projects that will be a good fit for their goals.

"Just going through the process of raising kids, you realize how many families are dealing with mental health issues that don't have resources to adequately deal with them" and like good forensic accountants, health providers must dig further to find answers, Donna Macdonald believes.

"Teen depression and anxiety are so often undiagnosed and many college students struggle with mental health issues," she said. "Continued support is needed to address the root of these problems at a young age."

As MCHS grows, particularly in the competitive Wausau market, Mark Macdonald also stressed how important it is for donors to have a vision for sustainable, growing communities by supporting a wide spectrum of high-quality non-profit organizations.

"We have a lot of respect for what Marshfield Clinic does," he said. "It's such a great asset and makes the quality of life here so much better so it's important that it succeeds."



## Your gifts at work

### Behavioral health

Support from people like you provides ongoing behavioral health education in our communities, including:

- ★ Suicide prevention training, which has been provided to over 800 community members
- ★ Annual behavioral health seminars
- ★ Integrated behavioral health care

### Angel Funds

Gifts to Angel Funds support families in need across our system of care, assisting with essential, non-medical expenses such as:

- ★ Utilities and heat
- ★ Gas cards
- ★ Rent and mortgage payments
- ★ Groceries
- ★ Phone bills

Learn how you can support families in your community through behavioral health and Angel Funds by visiting [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving) or contacting MCHS Foundation at 800-858-5220.



# 2017 Gratitude Report

A child undergoing cancer treatment. A scientist searching for a cure. A student training to become a doctor.

These are some of the people you support when you make a gift of any size to Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) Foundation.

As a nonprofit organization, MCHS relies on sustaining support from difference-makers like you to fund patient care, research and education. In 2017, gifts from people like you supported hundreds of important programs.

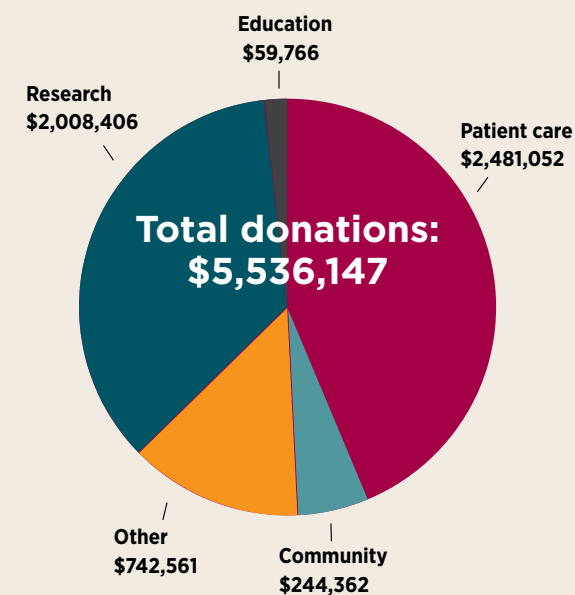
## Here's a snapshot of your impact:

- Three mobile mammography units traveled 111,000 miles and performed 5,779 mammograms.
- 268 children participated in the Youth Net after-school program.
- More than 200 students have now graduated from the Summer Research Internship Program.
- Over \$50,000 was distributed from the Angel Fund to families in need across 28 Wisconsin counties.
- More than 800 community members have received suicide prevention training since the program began.
- 8,154 children and teens received Child Life and Expressive Therapies services.
- 29 patients participated in 2017 Bardet-Biedl Syndrome (BBS) rare disease clinics and 372 patients are enrolled in the international BBS registry.
- Over 14,615 patients visited Marshfield Clinic Cancer Centers to access state-of-the-art, compassionate care.

*Every day, great things happen across MCHS. Thanks to your support, great strides were made in 2017 to provide accessible, affordable, compassionate care in your communities:*

- Acquired the former Saint Joseph's Hospital, now Marshfield Medical Center, in Marshfield.
  - Became a Children's Miracle Network Hospitals partner through Marshfield Children's Hospital.
  - Renamed Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation as Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, a leader in medical research.
  - Opened new cancer centers in Stevens Point and Eau Claire, including thoughtfully-designed consult rooms made possible by donor support.
  - Announced plans to build new hospitals in Eau Claire and Minocqua.
  - Continued important research studies focusing on cancer, cardiology, flu vaccines, blastomycosis, tick-borne diseases, neurological disorders and stroke, farm medicine and more.
  - Began building a new Center for Hyperbaric Medicine and Tissue Repair in Marshfield, set to open in 2018.
- ... and so much more!

## By the numbers: Gifts to MCHS Foundation



### Get involved.

Contact the MCHS Foundation team at 800-858-5220 to add your support or visit [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate)

### Join the conversation.

See more examples of your gifts at work by following us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/marshfieldclinichealthsystemfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/marshfieldclinichealthsystemfoundation)

### Stay informed.

Sign up for our eNews to get monthly updates from MCHS Foundation at [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/contact-us](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/contact-us)



# meet the Miracle Kids



Nationally, 62 children come to a Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospital every minute for treatment. One in 10 North American kids will be treated at a CMN Hospital in their lifetime.

Whether they suffer from common childhood afflictions like asthma and broken bones or fight bigger challenges like birth defects or cancer, CMN Hospitals provide comfort, treatment and hope to millions of sick kids.

Each year, children from northern and central Wisconsin are chosen locally to represent children treated at Marshfield Children's Hospital. This year, our Miracle Kids - Lakken, Cameron, Isaac, Audrina and Amiya - each has a story to share and they all have one thing in common. **Their stories are made possible because of support from people like you.**

*Watch for more feature stories about our 2018 Miracle Kids in upcoming issues of BenchMarks.*



## Lakken Burzynski

**AGE:** 15

**HOMETOWN:** Stanley

**FAVORITE THINGS:** Baking, piano, choir, school plays

Lakken, a past Miracle Child, has been selected to represent Marshfield Children's Hospital as a 2018 National CMN Hospitals Champion.

Lakken had been experiencing headaches and trouble with coordination, so her family made an appointment for then 10-year-old Lakken with a physician specialist in Marshfield. Still, they were not prepared for Lakken's diagnosis of medulloblastoma, a cancerous brain tumor originating at the base of the skull.

Following surgery to remove the tumor, Lakken spent over a year in and out of Marshfield Children's Hospital receiving chemotherapy. With the help of physicians and staff, Child Life specialists, music therapists and support of family and friends, she was declared cancer-free in November 2013.

When Lakken was diagnosed she discovered a quote she continues to live by - "Never let anything dull your sparkle." Today, Lakken continues to shine and enjoys participating in school plays, singing, baking and playing the piano. She still travels to Marshfield Children's Hospital each year for checkups and remains cancer-free.

### **How your gifts helped Lakken:**

Donations provided important CMN Hospitals services for Lakken, including Child Life specialists, music therapy, access to cancer research studies and specialized treatment equipment.





## Cameron Krall

**AGE:** 8

**HOMETOWN:** Spencer

**FAVORITE THINGS:** Fire trucks, watching football and basketball, books, video games

Robin was eagerly awaiting the arrival of her son when an ultrasound revealed something was not quite right. When Cameron was born, he was diagnosed with schizencephaly, a developmental birth defect characterized by abnormal slits in the brain's cerebral hemispheres.

Marshfield Clinic physicians and staff at Marshfield Children's Hospital helped Robin navigate Cameron's care, including multiple surgeries and ongoing therapy.

"People at Marshfield Children's Hospital are like our extended family," said Robin. "It's a comfort to know people truly care about him."

Though Cameron still faces obstacles, he tackles them with determination and a smile. He continues to make progress.

### How your gifts helped Cameron:

Cameron has received special-needs fund grants, including one for a specialized bike several years ago, through CMN Hospitals donations. Gifts also supported Child Life specialists who provide comfort and distraction for Cameron during his medical procedures and hospital visits.



## Isaac Mlodik

**AGE:** 14

**HOMETOWN:** Custer

**FAVORITE THINGS:** Chinese food and all sports, especially hunting and fishing

Isaac is a smart, caring, athletic and competitive child. Looking at him today, it's hard to imagine he is a survivor of osteosarcoma, a common bone cancer.

Throughout his diagnosis and treatment, Isaac's parents said the Marshfield Children's Hospital team treated them like family. Child Life specialists were especially supportive during Isaac's care, helping him get through long days of chemotherapy and radiation with interactive play and distraction activities. The Child Life team also helped Isaac's younger sister, Maria, keeping her engaged and entertained on Isaac's treatment days.

Now cancer-free, Isaac's future is bright and his family is thankful for continued support from Marshfield Clinic physicians and staff at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

### How your gifts helped Isaac:

Child Life specialists kept Isaac comfortable and engaged throughout his treatment with activities such as BINGO, movies to watch, art and music therapy. Donor support also funded meal tickets for Isaac's family on appointment days.

*Learn more about the impact of CMN Hospitals and Marshfield Children's Hospital by contacting Amanda Lancour, program manager-CMN Hospitals, at [lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-387-9246.*



## Amiya and Audrina Krizenesky

**AGES:** 8

**HOMETOWN:** Rhinelander

**FAVORITE THINGS:** Reading, writing, swimming, soccer, playing together

After years of trying to have children, Asavari and her husband Tom received the biggest surprise of their lives when they learned they were going to have not just one baby but twins.

However, the couple's medical care team soon discovered the twins were growing at different rates. After a seven-month pregnancy checkup in Minocqua in November 2009, Asavari was referred to Marshfield Clinic specialists at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

Less than a week later, the smaller baby, Baby A, was showing signs of distress so Asavari underwent an emergency C-section. Baby A, named Audrina, weighed 2 pounds, 1.3 ounces. Baby B, Amiya, was 4 pounds, 3 ounces. Amiya spent over four weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) while Audrina was in the NICU for close to eight weeks.

"While our days in the NICU were filled with so many medical markers, machines and procedures, they were also filled with such comfort," said Asavari. "All the NICU nurses made us feel at home."

Though their lives got off to an early start, the twins are thriving today. They enjoy attending their Catholic school in Rhinelander, sports, reading, writing and playing together.

Audrina still relies on medication for congenital hypothyroidism and visits Marshfield Children's Hospital regularly for blood tests. Her appointments aren't the only times the family visits, however.

"Every year we go back to the NICU and give special presents to the many staff members as well as babies and families," said Asavari. "The NICU and CMN Hospitals will always be a part of our story, a reminder of the power of miracles."

### How your gifts helped Amiya and Audrina:

Gifts to CMN Hospitals funded specialized equipment for physicians and staff to treat Amiya and Audrina in the NICU, including isolettes, special ventilators and Vapo-Therm treatments. Child Life specialists continue to help Audrina through regular checkups at Marshfield Children's Hospital with medical play and distraction items.

## Your gifts at work

### Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

Marshfield Children's Hospital is one of 170 partner hospitals across the U.S. and Canada and one of only three Children's Miracle Network Hospitals sites in Wisconsin, serving a 16-county region. CMN Hospitals are available 24 hours a day to help kids of all ages and backgrounds to overcome every injury and illness. As the region's only pediatric hospital, Marshfield Children's Hospital in Marshfield Medical Center is on the front line of preventing disease and injury through research, education and outreach programs.

### Gifts to CMN Hospitals support:

- New hospital pediatric equipment
- Child Life Services and Expressive Therapies
- Direct assistance to families
- Giraffe Warmers (NICU)
- Infant transport equipment
- Music therapy
- Distraction items including virtual reality goggles and patient puppets
- Trauma services
- MamaRoo
- Fish tank
- NICVIEW cameras

... and so much more!



## Growing up and giving back

### Volunteer experience leads to nursing career

Born and raised in Stratford, Courtney Linzmeier always knew she wanted to remain in central Wisconsin and thanks to the Volunteer program at Marshfield Medical Center (MMC), she found a way to turn her passion into a career right in her own backyard.

Linzmeier, now 24 and a registered nurse in MMC's Birth Center, began participating in the Volunteer program while attending Stratford High School. Her mother, Susan Literski, a Marshfield Clinic medical assistant, encouraged her to get involved.

"I had just gotten my license to drive and was looking for things to do," said Linzmeier. "I was starting to think about life after high school and the Volunteer program seemed like a great way to gain experience."

The Volunteer program at MMC provides high school students the opportunity to learn new skills and help others. Participating students must commit two hours per week of their time for a minimum of one year.

"Our Volunteers serve in a vital capacity throughout MMC which requires dedicated effort, loyalty and enthusiasm," said Keresa Kilty, Volunteer Services manager, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. "Courtney stands out among many of our amazing Volunteers who have discovered a new way of life or career by serving others."

Linzmeier started as a Volunteer at the direction desk, transitioned to the Outpatient Pharmacy and finally served in the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals office focusing on clerical projects for the Child Life program.

"Each of my volunteer assignments taught me something about myself and what I might want to do," she said. "I loved working with Heidi Giese, Child Life Program manager, and the rest of the Child Life staff. They inspired me to pursue nursing as a career."

The Volunteer program also gave Linzmeier the opportunity to receive two college scholarships through the hospital's Partners program. With these scholarships, she completed the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire satellite nursing program at the Marshfield campus and her nursing training at the hospital.

Though she completed the Volunteer program, Linzmeier remains an active MMC volunteer. She has over 600 volunteer hours and that number continues to climb. In fact, she and her younger sister have an ongoing friendly competition to see who can accumulate the most volunteer hours.

"I can think of worse sibling rivalries!" she said.

Linzmeier continues to see the Volunteer and volunteer programs' impact. As a Volunteer, she helped install NICVIEW cameras in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit so parents, family and friends can view their infants in real-time, 24-7, through a secure portal. Many families she cares for today in the Birth Center have used those same NICVIEW cameras she helped install.

"It's amazing to see how our volunteers make a difference in so many ways," she said. "Being a Volunteer gave me a unique perspective so as a nurse I have an appreciation for everything MMC does to care for our patients."

After such a rewarding experience, it's no surprise Linzmeier highly recommends the Volunteer program. "For teens in high school, the Volunteer program is a great way to explore different careers," she said. "Volunteering helps you grow, become more independent and develop as a person. Giving back can truly change your life."



### Volunteer Services: 2017 fast facts

More than 400 volunteers assist throughout Marshfield Medical Center (MMC) at any given time. In 2017 alone, MMC volunteers:

- provided 58,531 total hours
- served in 40 areas of the hospital
- completed work equivalent to 28 full-time hospital employees

**Learn more about the volunteer and Volunteer programs at MMC by contacting Keresa Kilty, Volunteer Services manager, MCHS Foundation, at [kilty.keresa@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:kilty.keresa@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-387-7106.**

#### Courtney Linzmeier

Registered Nurse

Birth Center, Marshfield Medical Center



## New center integrates research and cancer care



Oncology research trials have always been a key aspect of cancer care at Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS), integrated with care for cancer patients and survivors. Now newly—established Cancer Care and Research Center is making this integration even better.

The newest Center in Marshfield Clinic Research Institute (MCRI) joins research efforts in clinical research, genetics, clinical epidemiology, population health, oral and systemic health, biomedical informatics and farm medicine.

“Integrating this new research center with our clinical service lines will improve access to cutting-edge research and simplify care for patients,” said Dr. Susan Turney, MCHS CEO. “This is an exciting new development for our patients and providers.”

“Having care and research in one center makes research we do and answers we find the most relevant to our patients,” said Dr. Adedayo Onitilo, Cancer Care and Research Center medical director. “Simultaneously the care system we offer can more efficiently incorporate cutting-edge research opportunities.”

To facilitate this change, research staff works with oncologists in a team-based model at each of MCHS’ six cancer centers. Dr. Onitilo said having research staff and cancer care intermingled has not always been consistent across MCHS.

“This is important for our patients because some of these trials might be a valuable treatment option for our patients,” said Dr. Amit Acharya, MCRI executive director.

This will allow the Cancer Care and Research Center to focus more on cancer care and delivery research.

With the addition of the Cancer Care and Research Center, research trial participation through the National Cancer Institute WiNCORP grant will continue to be available in cancer centers in Marshfield, Eau Claire, Stevens Point, Rice Lake, Minocqua and Wausau/Weston.

Oncology research trials will provide a range of services to patients, including clinical trials and internationally-recognized cancer research efforts. This ensures patients have access to the latest advances in cancer treatment and a range of support programs helping them navigate the challenges associated with a cancer diagnosis.

“Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the U.S. and first leading cause of death worldwide. Cancer research and treatment trials are sometimes the first and most times the last fighting chance we can give our patients to combat cancer,” said Dr. Narayana Murali, Marshfield Clinic executive director. “As a health system we have been providing as good, if not better, outcomes and care compared to the best cancer institutes in the nation and research is one of our most vital ingredients.”

According to the National Cancer Institute, the most effective model to advance cancer care is one that includes care, research, cancer control and population health in one location. This change will embrace that comprehensive approach.

## Spotlight on Research:

### Dr. Joseph Mazza hits research publication milestone

Dr. Joseph Mazza, with 47 years of service as a Marshfield Clinic hematologist/oncologist, has reached a research study publishing milestone.

This emeritus Marshfield Clinic Research Institute (MCRI) researcher now has had more than 150 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts published in national and international journals. He’s also written three books, one of which has three editions, and 10 chapters of scientific literature.

“We are so fortunate to have such a high-caliber clinical scientist of Dr. Mazza’s expertise and reputation at MCRI,” said Dr. Amit Acharya, Ph.D., MCRI executive director. “It is a proud moment for all of us to celebrate Dr. Mazza’s significant publication milestone. This shows the depth and breadth of Dr. Mazza’s research and his collaboration.”

Dr. Mazza joined Marshfield Clinic in 1970 after a five-year fellowship program in hematology and internal medicine at Mayo Clinic. In addition to caring for patients, he was Internal Medicine Residency program assistant director and directed the Family Medicine/Pediatrics residency program. In 1992, he became Medical Education director. He continues to teach residents and mentor those interested in clinical research.

“Dr. Joe Mazza represents passion for excellence in medicine and love of science,” said Dr. Robert Haws, Clinical Research Center director. “His publications represent thousands of hours of research that have changed and improved medical care for those affected by cancer and other blood disorders. Undoubtedly, his research has saved lives and improved quality of life for many. He has mentored hundreds of doctors who are leaders at Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) and around the world. His impact on medicine and on people is amazing.”

Along with his wife, Ginny Dr. Mazza also is passionate about giving back to his community. Since their first donation to Marshfield Clinic in 1974, they are philanthropic leaders. As members of the Doege Legacy Society, Visionary-level members of the 1916 Society, annual Promise Circle members of the Circle of Friends and Loyalty Society members with more than 40 years of consecutive giving, the Mazzas are part of every MCHS Foundation donor society.

Dr. Mazza’s early career interest in blending patient care with education and research is reflected in the many programs the Mazzas have supported. Their gifts have funded Simulation Lab equipment and manikins to further physician and staff education. They also contribute to student education programs and support the annual Auction of Champions gala, which advances the National Farm Medicine Center work in agricultural health, safety and research.

“The Mazza family has been part of the Marshfield Clinic family for more than four decades and the Marshfield Clinic family has taken very good care of us,” said Dr. Mazza. “We have been fortunate to have been part of the growth and success of this great institution.”



## Your gifts at work

### Marshfield Clinic Research Institute

Marshfield Clinic Health System physicians and researchers published over 160 articles in 2017 in scientific journals worldwide.

Many studies discussed in these articles were possible thanks to the \$2 million donated to support Marshfield Clinic Research Institute (MCRI) last year.

Gifts to MCRI also fund participation in clinical trials for patients throughout MCHS. Oncology, cardiology, neurology, precision medicine and pediatrics are among specialties offering clinical trial treatment options. Donor support also helps fund unique research programs, including Bardet-Biedl Syndrome, other rare disease studies and agricultural and health safety programs through the National Farm Medicine Center.

**To learn more about how you can support research at MCRI, contact Matt Faber, gift officer, at [faber.matt@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:faber.matt@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-387-5901.**



## Radiothon

Dec. 7-8, 2017

Marshfield Children's Hospital and Y106.5 Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals Radiothon raised \$66,425 with additional gifts after the event totalling \$80,000.

More than 30 families shared their stories of hope, courage and inspiration while over 130 volunteers worked the phone bank. Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) employees largely staffed the volunteer phone bank over the two days as Y106.5 broadcasted live.

Amanda Lancour, program manager-CMN Hospitals, said "we are so grateful for the wonderful support from our employees and incredible generosity of our community."

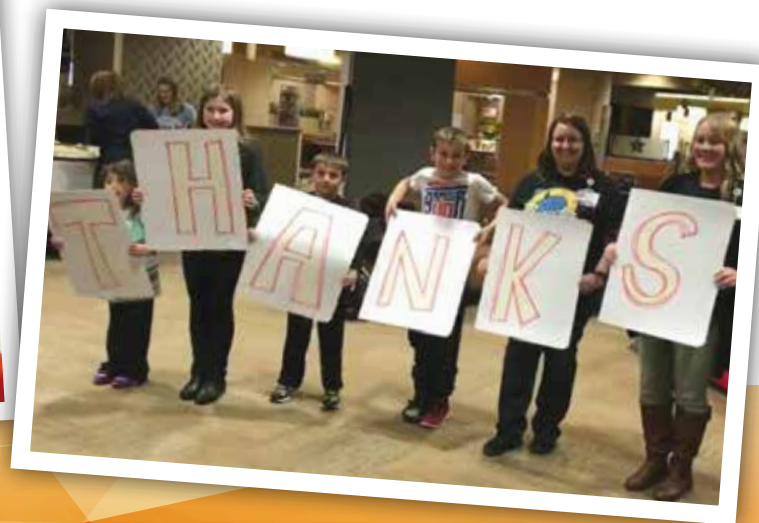
Kaitlyn Schrock, mother of 3-year-old Lincoln, said it's a blessing to see so many people donating to a great cause. Her son is being treated at Marshfield Children's Hospital, diagnosed with stage 4 high-risk neuroblastoma.

"It's stage 4 because it's all through his bone marrow so it is advanced," Schrock said. "As a mom walking through this journey, this Radiothon means so much to me."

CMN Hospitals serves a 16-county region covering central and northern Wisconsin and 100 percent of its funding supports local sick and injured kids. Funds generated from Radiothon will be used to support specialized equipment, programs and services such as Child Life and music therapy as well as helping families in need.

"Thanks to donors' support, thousands of children will continue receiving life-saving and specialized care they need and deserve, close to home," said Lancour.

**Save the date for 2018's Radiothon set for Dec. 6-7. Support CMN Hospitals by contacting Lancour at [lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-387-9246.**



## Comedy Against Cancer

Jan. 31, 2018

The fifth annual Comedy Against Cancer, held at Hotel Marshfield, raised over \$38,000 to enhance Marshfield Clinic Health System cancer care.

Funds raised support the Marshfield campus to revitalize current cancer care spaces and provide funds for new projects. Proceeds will also contribute to patient comfort items including gas cards for trips to appointments; wigs and scarves to embrace beauty and enhance confidence during treatment; blankets and robes to keep patients warm and comfortable while receiving treatment; and bras that fit properly and comfortably after surgery.

Special Events Assistant Taylor Hoffman said 820 people attended the sold-out fundraiser, featuring stand-up comedians Mary Mack and Tim Harmston. MCHS patients Amy Zias and Luanne Prochnow shared their cancer journeys during the event. To hear their stories, visit MCHS Foundation's Facebook page for video and photos.

Comedy Against Cancer was inspired by Drs. Anna Seydel and Jessica Wernberg, both surgeons, and Nurse Practitioner Kelly Noreen. When they began planning the event in 2013, they never imagined the impact Comedy Against Cancer would have on their patients, families and community.

Laughter throughout the room demonstrated that while cancer is not a laughing matter, maintaining a sense of humor during treatment can sometimes be the best medicine.

**Support cancer care at MCHS by visiting [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving) or by contacting MCHS Foundation at 800-858-5220.**

## 'Duel It' Fore the Kids

Feb. 21, 2018

"Duel It" Fore the Kids returned to Marshfield to amuse and entertain while raising over **\$40,000** for Marshfield Clinic Health System youth initiatives.

The annual event at Holiday Inn showcased the Deuces Wild! team of David Charles Eichholz and Ted Manderfeld and their wild, zany comedy, music and improvisation.

"Through dedication and support of sponsors, volunteers and participants, we are able to make a difference in the lives of youth throughout Wisconsin and the Marshfield Clinic service area," said Tracy Faber, donor relations specialist, MCHS Foundation.

**Support youth initiatives at MCHS by visiting [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving) or by contacting MCHS Foundation at 800-858-5220.**



# Special Events



# CALLED TO ACTION

*Volunteer fundraising for MCHS Foundation*

## Voices for Hospice - Lakeview Medical Center

Oct. 14, 2017

Lakeview Medical Center's (LMC) Hospice Care Services participated in the world's largest simultaneous fundraising event, Voices for Hospices, an organization dedicated to increasing local hospice awareness and support.

The Rice Lake event at Lehman's Supper Club had live music, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and raffle prizes.

Forty of LMC's 79 hospice volunteers worked at the event that raised \$47,000 and while attendees celebrated locally, hospices worldwide also participated, creating a 24-hour global event.

Funds raised by LMC's Hospice program benefit local patients and family members who reside in Barron, Rusk, Washburn, Dunn, Sawyer, Burnett, Chippewa and Polk counties.

LMC's first Voices for Hospice event was in 2000 at Rice Lake High School with 300 people attending. Additional events were in 2003, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017.



## Limitless Cancer Fight Boot Camp

Oct. 22, 2017

Cold and rain did not stop 91 runners from participating in the first Limitless Cancer Fight Boot Camp in Stevens Point which raised \$10,000 for Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) cancer research.

The running event had 12 obstacles over the 2-mile course, each representing the battle people with a cancer diagnosis and their families face.

"It's important for participants, volunteers and bystanders to see it's possible to make it through these obstacles when you have support and help you need," said Nate Zuelke, an event organizer.

Zuelke lost his wife to cancer less than a year ago and one of the biggest challenges his family faced was the need for new advances in research and treatment options.

"There are so many forms of cancer, those you hear about often and those you may never have heard of," he said. "There is still so much that needs to be done before science can beat this terrible disease."

Zuelke is already planning the second Limitless Cancer Fight Boot Camp in October.

## Pretty in Pink

Oct. 27-28, 2017

It all started with an idea. A group of women wanted to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer patients in the Wausau/Weston area. They also had a vision for a special, ladies-only event to celebrate women who had been touched by breast cancer. Thus, Tammy Antone, Chandra Kersten, Elain Knab, Laura Hunt and Tarrie Beran joined together as the "Pink Ladies" to host the first Pretty in Pink event in 2013 at the WOWSPACE art gallery in Wittenberg.

Five years later, Pretty in Pink continues to grow and raise support for Marshfield Clinic cancer care in Wausau and Weston. The event, held in October, features an "Artful Creations" show at WOWSPACE on Friday evening, followed by a "Ladies Night Out" on Saturday with entertainment, raffles, a silent auction and the opportunity to light luminaries in honor or memory of a loved one's cancer journey.

Though Antone has since moved, a nurse practitioner from the Marshfield Clinic Wittenberg Center and a cancer survivor, Roslyn McKay, have joined the Pink Ladies who continue to run the event.

"It is so wonderful to see a group of women get together to show their support, some celebrate their survival, others honoring the ones they lost, but all in hope and support for a cure." said Hunt.

Pretty in Pink has raised a total of \$75,000 for Marshfield Clinic cancer care in Wausau and Weston since its inception, \$16,000 in 2017 alone.



## Polar Plunges

Dec. 30, 2017, Minocqua

Jan. 1, Town of Rome

Between two local events, one in Minocqua and the other in the town of Rome, more than 45 people gathered pledges and plunged into icy water while spectators and onlookers cheered.

And, those taking the plunge raised nearly a combined total of \$24,000.

Success was not only due to big-hearted participants but also to continued support of long-time sponsors Woodruff Ace Hardware, The Thirsty Whale, NRG Media and Lure Bar and Grill.

"It's all about the children. At the end of the day, that's all that matters," one of the jumpers said. "A brief moment in the freezing water for us can provide a lifetime of difference for local kids."

All contributions will benefit pediatric services at Marshfield Children's Hospital, all staying in the area to help local kids.







## Dance for Diabetes

Feb. 10, 2018

The third annual Dance for Type 1 Diabetes at Hotel Marshfield raised over \$15,000 to support children with type 1 diabetes.

The dance event was founded by Tina Becker, Dara Luangpraseut, Sheri Meissner and Annette Woller, who've all been affected by type 1 diabetes either as a parent, a person living with the condition or both.

Besides dancing, the event included a Wall of Fame featuring local children and teens as well as celebrities and athletes with type 1 diabetes, educational materials and fun things to do.

Featured were videos of families who've benefited from the Fund and videos of health care providers, school nursing staff and other community members instrumental in supporting children and families living with type 1 diabetes.

Event proceeds go to the Neal Family Pediatric Diabetes Fund, an Angel Fund established by Marshfield Clinic Neuro-Spine Surgeon Dr. John Neal and his wife, Dara, to honor their daughter Fiona Neal's journey with type 1 diabetes. The Fund serves MCHS pediatric patients with type 1 diabetes, whose families experience financial hardship because of their children's diagnosis and need for ongoing diabetes management and care. In 2017, the Neal Family Fund helped 268 patients and their families.

The Fund supports children so they can attend diabetes camp, staffed by volunteer medical professionals and counselors who may have type 1 diabetes themselves. Counselors teach campers to take control of and manage their own diabetes. The Fund also provides lifesaving, child-friendly items such as ID bracelets; diabetes supplies and backpacks; continuous glucose monitors; and medications or medical supplies that are not covered by health insurance.

## Dueling Against Cancer

March 1, 2018

Dueling Against Cancer featured a night of music, comedy and improv with the popular Deuces Wild! Dueling Pianos at SentryWorld, Stevens Point, raising over \$40,000 to support MCHS cancer care.

A record crowd of over 400 attendees - business leaders, community members and donors - had an entertaining evening and for Michael Smith and his associates at Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., Stevens Point, the eighth annual event is a big part of their lives.

While Smith's father was receiving care at Marshfield Center, he spoke with MCHS representatives to see what could be done to get more oncology services in Stevens Point. That's when Dueling Against Cancer was born.

"My motivation came from my dad's experience with cancer, as well as several of our clients," said Smith, a private wealth advisor and owner of Michael Smith & Associates, Ameriprise Financial.

"Marshfield Clinic was doing an event in Marshfield with dueling pianos and we thought, 'let's bring dueling pianos to Stevens Point,'" said Nancy Kaczmarek, officer manager, Michael Smith & Associates, Ameriprise. "We've also had many clients who have been through the cancer journey and wanted to do something to help make it easier on everyone in the Stevens Point area."

Dueling Against Cancer provides funds for Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Stevens Point and WINGS (We Inspire, Nurture and Give Support) cancer survivorship program. WINGS provides patients with educational resources, support and information to help them through cancer diagnosis challenges.

"Dueling Against Cancer helps ensure patients and their families receive the best care possible, while having support and resources needed in the fight against cancer," said Mary Beth Knoeck, volunteer fundraising coordinator, MCHS Foundation.

## Milwaukee Burger Company

Dec. 6, 2017

Milwaukee Burger Company staff came to Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Eau Claire to present proceeds from its annual "Burgers for Boobs" fundraiser in October 2017. The restaurant collected a portion of food and beverage sales along with 100 percent of servers' tips and proceeds from raffles, contests, t-shirt sales and a silent auction. Their efforts raised \$6,458.73 to support cancer patients in Eau Claire.

"This is something we love to do," said Julie Krenz, general manager of Eau Claire's Milwaukee Burger Company. "Our staff really gets into it and we have fun knowing we're helping someone. Our customers get into it, too. A few tipped \$20, \$50 and even a few \$100 bills were given as tips because they know it's going to a great cause. We felt it was important to keep these funds local this year and we're proud to help Marshfield Clinic make a difference in the lives of people in our community who are fighting cancer."

"When local people come together to hold an event, taking their time and effort and contributing their hard-earned money, it makes a really big difference for our patients at the Cancer Center," said Criss Gutsch, regional oncology manager, Eau Claire Cancer Center. "This gift will be used for many things including survivorship programs and comfort items, things that help make our patients a little more comfortable as they navigate through this chapter of their lives."



## More great actions:

- Carmen Duran, a Marshfield Clinic Information Systems employee, had her art featured in the New Visions Gallery Employee Art Exhibit. She has donated proceeds from her paintings for several years to Marshfield Clinic pediatric cancer programs in memory of her daughter.
- Texas Roadhouse locations in Wausau and Eau Claire held "Stompin' All Over Cancer" events in October. Guests made donations and purchased breast cancer t-shirts, caps and bracelets. Proceeds supported gift cards for local Marshfield Clinic cancer patients, \$330 worth donated from the Wausau location and \$750 worth from the Eau Claire location.
- William and Benjamin Krause were honored with the 2017 Youth in Philanthropy Award from the Wisconsin Association of Fundraising Professionals on National Philanthropy Day Nov. 15. The boys support many pediatric cancer programs at MCHS following Will's cancer journey when he was just 6 years old.
- Marie Skowen and her daughter, Kori Printz, brought nine Thirty-One gift bags, gifts included, to Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Stevens Point patients in December.





- Dan and Linda Neve presented MCHS Foundation with a check for \$60,000 in December to support breast and prostate cancer research at Marshfield Clinic and mobile mammography. For the past eight years, Neve has attended Mustang and Ford events nationwide using his Mustang as a mobile billboard to raise awareness and support. In addition to attending as many events as he can, he also hosts and organizes Cruise for a Cause in Wisconsin Dells. This year's event will be Oct. 4-7.
- Terra and Jack Krutter and their three kids dropped off 45 Thirty-One totes at Marshfield Medical Center (MMC) containing gifts for children who spent their holidays in the hospital. The Krutters made similar donations the past five years since their daughter had surgery and received excellent care from Pediatrics and Child Life staff.
- Aimie Eckelberg and her son, Noah, delivered 74 Thirty-One totes to MMC for pediatric patients and families. Each was filled with items Eckelberg and her family know, firsthand, are appreciated and needed during lengthy hospital stays.
- Eau Claire Regis and Altoona High School girls basketball teams hosted a Cancer vs. Coaches game Jan. 23 to support patients receiving care at Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Eau Claire. Teams held activities to help raise funds including a portion of ticket sales, a half-time "miracle minute" when players raced against the clock to collect donations from attendees in the stands and 50/50 raffle proceeds. More than \$1,300 was raised. Both schools' boys teams also participated in more fundraising activities to support the effort. Following the events, the teams toured the Cancer Center to see how their support will impact patient care.
- Bobbi Yach and her daughter, Brilee, 5, stopped

- at the Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Stevens Point to donate 45 Coobie bras for local cancer patients. Yach runs a clothing business, Spark Boutique, out of her home and wanted to give back to the community.
- Colleagues at UnitedHealth Group in Eau Claire donated comfort bags to MMC's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. A UnitedHealth employee's granddaughter spent time in the NICU after she was born so the grandmother knows firsthand what the experience is like for families and wanted to give back. The bags contained snacks, gift cards, toiletries, games and activities for young children.
- University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point athletes, staff, coaches and guests rode stationary bikes in 15-minute shifts in a 36-hour Cardio for a Cause event to support Marshfield Clinic pediatric cardiology.



## Children's Miracle Network Hospitals volunteer fundraising:

- Extra Life unites thousands of gamers worldwide to play games in support of their local Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospital. This year, Team Galaxy Comics hosted a 24-hour gaming marathon event at its store in Stevens Point Nov. 3. Kids and adults played games from 6 p.m. on a Friday until 6 p.m. Saturday to help kids fighting real-life battles.
- Kevin and Jenny Anklam donated a steer from their farm to Tanner Bullman, 13, who raised the steer and showed the animal at the Wisconsin Valley Fair. Matt Bayer, owner of Country Fresh Meats, purchased the steer for \$4,000. Tanner benefitted from \$2,000 of the proceeds and the other \$2,000 was donated to the Child Life program through CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital. The Ankrams and Tanner plan to make this generous donation again in 2018.
- For each test drive taken in December, Scaffidi Motors in Stevens Point donated up to \$5,000 to CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital. The test drive event Dec. 16 featured a visit from Santa, indoor petting zoo, cookie decorating and more.
- Each holiday season, the Nowak family lights up their home and many hearts in their community to raise funds for local kids. Their impressive Nowak Country Christmas Lights display in Wisconsin Rapids, including over 100,000 lights, 18-foot candy canes, a 28-foot dancing tree and a few visits from Santa, raised over \$3,300 this year for CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital. Darci Nowak said her family began putting up lights 18 years ago and the display has grown each year. "People kept saying, 'you should have a donation box' but we really didn't want the money. We do this for fun! So we thought, 'why not give to someone who could really use the help?' We choose CMN Hospitals for several reasons. CMN Hospitals has always been one of our favorite local charities. We listen to the Radiothon each year and have always given then and again for small things that come up. At any point it could be us needing help from CMN Hospitals with one of our girls, their friends or a family member. Kids and their families never asked to be in the position they are in, so why not help?"

- Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association and Log-A-Load for Kids raised \$27,260 for CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital. The association hosts educational harvests for students each fall and generous individuals donate their timber harvests to make sure kids get the care they need.
- Panda Express in Plover and Wausau raised a combined total of more than \$20,000 in 2017 for CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital, \$10,651 from the Plover location and \$10,141 from the Wausau store. A bell was rung each time a customer donated at the register by rounding up or donating a dollar.
- Walmart and Sam's Club associates are helping "put the money where the miracles are" again with a combined fundraising effort of \$84,267 for the Marshfield Children's Hospital in Marshfield following the annual CMN Hospitals campaign. In all, 13 Walmart and Sam's Club locations across northern and central Wisconsin participated to help local kids. These efforts are part of a broader national effort that raised more than \$35 million in support of the 170-member hospitals nationwide. Walmart and Sam's Club have been CMN Hospitals national partners for 30 years.



*Feeling inspired to start your own fundraiser for a cause at MCHS? Contact Mary Beth Knoeck, volunteer fundraising coordinator, at [knoeck.marybeth@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:knoeck.marybeth@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-389-3258.*



## Metal to Miracles

### 'Junkin' for Kids' raises funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

Each morning, Monday through Saturday, 89-year-old Bob Gwidt travels a familiar route through the Wausau community collecting scrap metal, doing this to help local kids.

Gwidt has collected about 5 million pounds of metal in the past 14 years which he has turned into donations totaling over \$124,000 to Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals.

"Junkin' for Kids" all started with a church picnic Gwidt attended in 1990. A local school was trying to raise funds for new computers and he offered to take cans from the picnic and church bingo nights in for cash. With a match from a local business, \$3,500 was raised, enough to purchase the needed computers.

That success inspired Gwidt to keep collecting cans and when the bus company he later worked for chose to support CMN Hospitals his cause shifted. Since 2003, he has visited more than 30 garages weekly in the Wausau area. Relationships he built through working at the bus company and NAPA Auto Parts helped him create his route and find a purpose for metal scraps from those businesses.

For example, Gwidt has five bins at Yaeger's Auto Salvage in Weston which he sorts each day to maximize his donation.

"The most common things I see are shocks, struts and the like," he said. "Every once in a while, though, there is something like an antique cranberry rake, a fruit press for wine making or an old medical scale. I like to sell those special finds to get more donation money than I would from the salvage bin."

Since starting "Junkin' for Kids," Gwidt's contributions have helped support important CMN Hospitals programs.

"Bob's passion and dedication to helping kids in central and northern Wisconsin is truly remarkable," said Amanda Lancour, program manager-CMN Hospitals. "Services like Child Life and Expressive Therapies, equipment like NICVIEW cameras, comfort items like Giraffe Warmers and other programs are possible because of people like Bob who are committed to making a difference."

Gwidt also chooses to give back in other ways. Along with his wife, kids and grandkids, he is very involved in the Wausau community. He supports seven local schools with his hot lunch shortfall project. He is a previous Jefferson Award winner and was named Wausau's South Area Business Association's Citizen of the Year in 1988 and 2015.

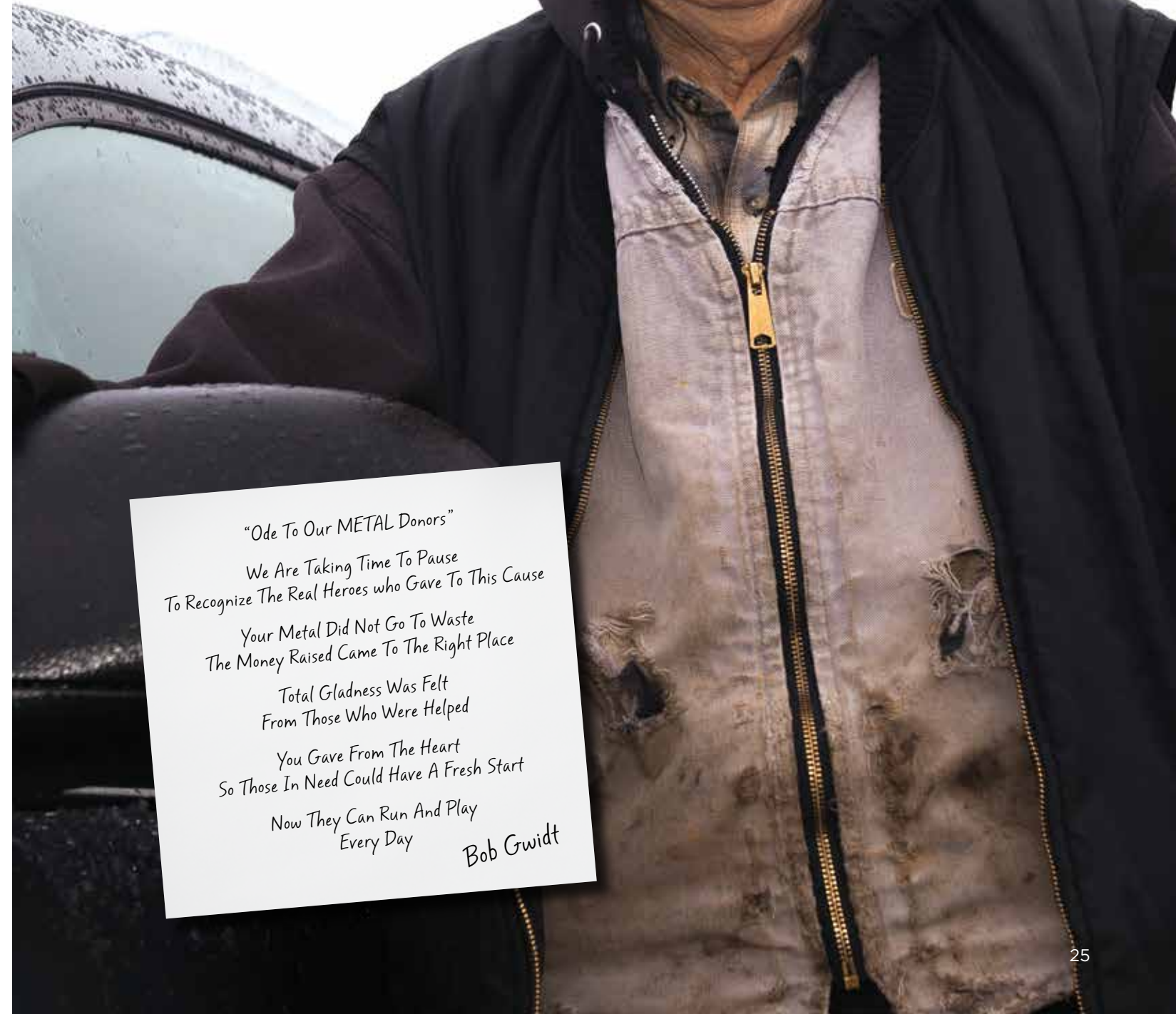
Since undergoing a MitraClip valve procedure for mitral regurgitation at Marshfield Clinic a few years ago, Gwidt said continuing "Junkin' for Kids" keeps him healthy and moving.

"The doctors did a great job," he said. "I felt improvement immediately. That was the best thing. I like to get out and meet lots of great people and I have some good helpers along my route."

For Gwidt, "Junkin' for Kids" continues to be a passion project and an important daily routine.

"It all adds up, penny by penny, dollar by dollar, to make a difference. You can do so little to accomplish so much. I always say it's all for the kids."

**Learn more about the impact of CMN Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital by contacting Amanda Lancour, program manager-CMN Hospitals, at [lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:lancour.amanda@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-387-9246.**



"Ode To Our METAL Donors"  
We Are Taking Time To Pause  
To Recognize The Real Heroes who Gave To This Cause  
Your Metal Did Not Go To Waste  
The Money Raised Came To The Right Place  
Total Gladness Was Felt  
From Those Who Were Helped  
You Gave From The Heart  
So Those In Need Could Have A Fresh Start  
Now They Can Run And Play  
Every Day  
Bob Gwidt





## 2017 Circle of Friends

Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) Foundation's Circle of Friends recognizes those leaders whose dedication to our mission is backed by strong financial support each year. Circle of Friends includes donors whose annual gifts of \$1,000 or more provide the foundation for valuable programs and services offered at MCHS.

All pledge payments, tax-deductible portions of charitable gift annuities and gifts of cash or stock – excluding event purchases or in-kind contributions – are eligible for recognition in Circle of Friends.

**There are four levels of annual support within Circle of Friends:**

### Promise Circle

\$10,000 and above

### Compassion Circle

\$5,000 - 9,999

### Healing Circle

\$2,500 - 4,999

### Hope Circle

\$1,000 - 2,499

### Promise Circle

- Agricultural Safety & Health Council of America
- Dr. Lloyd & Kelly Anseth
- Ashley Furniture
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- Mr. Richard Austin
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
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- E.O. Johnson Charitable Legacy Fund
- Sally M. Ebenreiter
- Edward J. Okray Foundation, Inc.
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- Dr. Robert Kay, Orthodontist
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- Koller Family Foundation
- Betty Jane Koller
- Dr. Kent & Mary Lynn Kretchmar
- Eugene Krutza
- Dr. Patricia Lillis
- Log A Load For Kids
- Louis Sekadlo Estate
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- Dan O'Connell
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- Pedal For A Cure
- Ron & Luanne Prochnow Family
- Raymond & Amella Beilke Trust
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- Roehl Transport, Inc.
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- D. David "Dewey" & Danielle Sebold
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- The Helping Foundation
- The Insurance Center
- Karen W. Thomsen
- Dr. John & Susan Twigg
- United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley
- V & H Trucks, Inc.
- Verlyn R. Scheider Estate
- Wallace Hamann Estate
- Waupaca Foundry
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- Richard Wolding
- Marvin & Audrey Worzella

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- Associated Bank
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- Dr. Efstathios & Vasiliki Beltaos
- Dr. Eric & Emily Callaghan
- Charity Cheese Makers
- Charter Bank
- CliftonLarsonAllen, Marshfield
- Dr. Richard & Wendy Dart
- Dental Clinic of Marshfield, S.C.

- Dennis & Roberta DeVetter
- Dr. Elizabeth Doolittle & Mr. Thomas Schuermann
- Michael & Chryl Dumas
- Eagle River Rotary Foundation Inc
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- Milwaukee Burger Company
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- Sam's Club
- Dale & Annette Schuh
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- Through Nora's Eyes
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- Walmart Supercenter 2813
- WEAU 13-News
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- Wells Fargo
- Wells Fargo Commerical Distribution Finance
- Frederick J. "Fritz" & Mary Ann Wenzel
- Brent & Stacy Wiehle
- Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation

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- Aim for a Cure
- Mr. F. Steven & Elisabeth Bissell
- Blackout Cancer
- Mark & Ann Bradley
- Ralph & Sharon Bredl
- Timothy & Julie Brussow

- Mark & Kate Bugher
- Cargill Cares
- Central Wisconsin Contractors Association
- Dr. & Mrs. David A. Cleveland
- D Q Farms LLC
- Steve & Patricia Diercks
- Doine Excavating, Inc.
- Ronald & Diane Doine
- Dr. Kathleen Dominguez
- Ridin' For a Reason
- Electrolux Major Appliances
- Mr. Quintin Enders
- Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Fox
- Terry & Allean Frankland
- Drs. Gregory Gill & Kathryn Krohn-Gill
- Dr. & Mrs. Robert Haws
- Ms. Nalisee Her
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- Joseph & Irma Parzy Estate
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- Mary E. Kier
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- Lakeland Union High School
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- LG
- Liberty Mutual Foundation - Give With Liberty Match
- Liberty Mutual Insurance
- Limitless Boot Camp
- Greg Loescher
- Dr. George & Anna Magnin
- Jerry & Diane Meissner
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- Mid-State Truck Service, Inc.
- Midwest Communications
- Dr. Donald & Mary Miech
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- NXC Imaging
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- Walmart 1366
- Walmart 1828
- Walmart 1931
- Walmart 2127
- Walmart, Minocqua
- WAOW TV9 - ABC
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- AE Business Solutions
- American Asphalt of Wisconsin
- American Center for Philanthropy



- Ameriprise Financial  
- Cornerstone Advisors LLC
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- Bosch Home Appliances
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- Bull's Eye Credit Union
- Bull's Eye Sport Shop, LLC
- Dan & Cindy Burns
- Mrs. Leslie Burns
- Michele & Rodney Butalla
- Butternut High School
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- Chilli Implement Company, Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Clinger
- CMMA
- Col. L.C. Christensen Charitable and Religious Foundation
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- Richard & Mary Connor
- Contessa Health
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- Do It 4 David
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- Fabick CAT
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- Mary Fochs
- Daniel & Marilyn Follen
- Vincent & Mary Fonti
- Forest County Potawatomi Community
- Forward Financial Bank, SSB
- Forward Investment Services
- Joe & Nancy Fouts
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- Friends and Family of Avis Suda
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- Gamber-Johnson, LLC
- Sydney Gamble
- Mrs. Michelle Gargulak
- GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club
- Mr. Richard Gile
- Mr. Doug Goe
- Mr. Rick Gordon
- Jane M. Gray
- Gross Motors, Inc.
- Drs. Jerry Goldberg & Jody Gross
- Bradley & Bonnie Guse
- Mr. Carl Gustafson
- Robert Gwidt
- Dr. Anna Hackman & David Morris
- Mark & Julie Hackman
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- Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Halan
- Ms. Georgianna Haller
- Michael & Debra Hansen
- Mr. Steven Haws
- Dr. John & Stephanie Hayes
- Mr. Joseph Hebda
- Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Heeg
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- Bill & Sue Heiting
- Herbert's Ripps Bar LLC
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- Aaron & Valerie Homolka
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- M. Lorna Hotz
- Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Huotari
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- Iowa Mold Tooling Co., Inc
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- Burton & Shirley Iverson
- Ms. Marci Jackson
- Mr. & Mrs. Jerard Jensen
- JHL Digital Direct
- Joe's Refrigeration, Inc.
- Dr. David Johnson & Ms. Lee Ann Podruch
- Irwin & Nancy Johnson
- Pat Oberbillig & Nancy Kaster
- Keller Family Community Foundation
- Kendal Bug Shuffle
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- Mr. & Mrs. Ned Wolf
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- Dr. William & Carolyn Yanke
- Brian & Christina Zaleski
- Ms. Carmen Duran I. Zaleski



**Dr. William Melms**  
Regional Medical Director  
Primary Care, Marshfield Clinic



In 2012, the American Red Cross named him a Community Hero for his volunteer stints on the sidelines of local sporting events, helping injured athletes.

“Working in Urgent Care here as a physician, I’ve probably seen just about everyone in this community,” he said. “It’s a place where everyone knows everyone and that’s kind of fun.”

As excitement grows about the region’s expansion plans, Dr. Melms has been a key factor in that exuberance, said Rikki Starich, manager of annual giving, MCHS Foundation.

“I’ve been working in the Northwoods region about five years now and what I’ve seen recently is just an overwhelming pride people have in working with Marshfield Clinic. Folks here realize this is something special,” she said.

Dr. Melms’ Clinic roots run deep. He rotated through Marshfield as a fourth-year medical student, studying at Saint Joseph’s Hospital and Marshfield Clinic, then practiced outside the system in Milwaukee for about 10 years before coming to MCHS’ Wausau Center.

“Longevity matters to patients and to have that continuity of care and consistency helps you create trust in the community,” he said. “That trust is a big deal. Many of our doctors have been here for decades and are bastions of their communities.”

Dr. Melms credits his Board stint for helping him see Marshfield Clinic’s mission more clearly.

“I’ve loved all my roles with the Clinic but as a provider it was easy to get lulled into only focusing on the next day’s patients,” he said. “When I was elected to the Board it gave me tremendous insight into the breadth of what we do. That has really shaped my experience as a donor.”

As an urgent care physician, Dr. William Melms is comfortable with the notion of triaging multiple issues.

That skill has proven handy as he has taken on increasing levels of administrative responsibilities in addition to patient care. He first served on the Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) Board of Directors in 2015 and then came off the Board to begin his current post as regional medical director for primary care.

In this role, he is responsible for a large swath of MCHS facilities including Mercer, Minocqua, Eagle River, Wausau, Mosinee and Weston. It comes at a time when Wausau and Minocqua centers are greatly expanding service offerings including a hospital addition in Minocqua.

“I did the math. This territory is two and a half times the size of Rhode Island,” he said, nodding to the challenges of managing far-flung operations.

Dr. Melms also has been a leader in giving, both as a provider and a donor. He’s a Loyalty Society member through MCHS Foundation; a 2017 Circle of Friends member; and led a successful Giving Tuesday challenge campaign last fall for Northwoods cancer care, matching Minocqua facility employees’ gifts up to \$1,000.

## Celebrating Legacies: Judy and Len Hill

Cancer journey inspires family to invest in research

Anyone who has received a cancer diagnosis likely understands how Judy Hill felt when she first was told she had cancer.

Unfortunately, Hill received a second diagnosis not long after the first.

“Having been diagnosed with two different types of cancer 12 months apart was devastating,” she recalled.

“Knowing that breast cancer ran in the family, I was always conscious of the importance of self-exams and mammograms. I found my first breast lump at age 23 and had the first of five biopsies over the next 46 years. My yearly mammogram is what caught the cancer. The second cancer, chronic myeloid leukemia, was discovered through routine blood tests. So, YES, it is so important to get those routine checkups. They saved my life!”

Fortunately, Hill was able to receive her care close to home.

“It has been such a comforting experience to work with my care team, including Dr. Adedayo Onitilo, nurses and staff,” she said. “In the midst of turmoil and illness, there was a light beckoning at the end of the tunnel in the form of Marshfield Clinic Cancer Center-Stevens Point.”

Hill appreciates knowing her care team is always available to meet with her when needed; they are respectful and compassionate; and demonstrate they truly care for their patients. In gratitude, Hill and her husband, Len, decided to include a gift in their estate to benefit Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS), Marshfield Clinic

Research Institute and cancer research through the Cancer Care and Research Center.

**“Call the Foundation. You will get the information you need and have your questions answered. Just call and make an appointment. I am glad I did.”**  
– Judy Hill

“Giving back is an important way for my husband and me to help others,” Hill said. “We hope our legacy continues to do so. Cancer research will improve the lives of many through better testing, diagnosis and treatment. We have come so far. Let us continue to improve the quality of life for all who are diagnosed with cancer.”

The Hills chose to include a gift in their estate because it was an easy way to support cancer research. They already had other charitable gifts in their estate plan in support of breast cancer, their church and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) where he taught physical education and coached women’s cross-country and track and field teams.

Hill also emphasized the value in contacting MCHS Foundation when she was interested in learning how to make a gift.

“Call the Foundation. You will get the information you need and be able to have your questions answered. Just call and make an appointment. I am glad I did,” she said.

“We are so grateful Judy and Len have included this gift in their estate to help others,” said Karen Piel, charitable gift planning officer, MCHS Foundation. “I am thrilled to have had the chance to meet Judy and understand the ‘why’ behind their legacy gift. I am also thrilled she is doing so well in her battle against cancer.”

Today, you can find Hill, a retired elementary teacher, volunteering at her church or working alongside her husband as track and field officials at UWSP and NCAA cross-country and track and field meets. She also greatly enjoys spending time with her two children, granddaughter and her two cats she affectionately calls “The Girls.” The Hills will celebrate 48 years of marriage this June.

**If you’d like to join the Hills as members of the Doege Legacy Society, please contact Karen Piel, charitable gift planning officer, at [piel.karen@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:piel.karen@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-389-3868.**



**Judy and Len Hill, pictured with Dr. Adedayo Onitilo, receive a special gift in recognition for their membership in the Doege Legacy Society.**



## SHINING STAR

### Physicians and staff members who have recently been honored with gifts through the Shining Star program:

Dr. Chady Abboud Leon  
 Dr. Niels C. Andersen  
 Julie K. Ausbourne  
 LeeAnn M. Auth  
 Denise E. Ayers  
 Douglas A. Bacon  
 Dr. Sakshi Bajaj  
 Tricia L. Baneck  
 Barbara A. Bartkowiak  
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 Dr. Jill M. Dillon  
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 Linda Mae Donnerbauer  
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 Dr. Thomas Gabert  
 Dr. Tae Gardner  
 Dr. Arlene A. Gayle  
 Peggy Gollnow  
 Dr. Marian Greenburg  
 Mindy C. Gribble  
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 Dr. Frank S. Guzowski  
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 Devin Swan  
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 Dr. Wayne Thorne  
 Thora Tollefson  
 Dr. Jason C. Tompkins  
 Dr. Camille Torbey  
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 Eau Claire Oncology Nurses  
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 Marshfield Medical Center Outpatient Cardio Pulmonary Rehab  
 Marshfield Medical Center 8 North Infusion Center  
 Marshfield Center Oncology Staff  
 Mosinee Center  
 Stettin Heart Failure Center  
 Wausau Center Ambulatory Surgery Staff  
 Western Division Maintenance

## Shining Stars

The Shining Star program offers grateful patients the chance to thank physicians and staff who make a positive impact on their Marshfield Clinic experience by giving back. Gifts to the Shining Star program can support funds of your choice in patient care, research and education across Marshfield Clinic Health System. Consider a gift through the Shining Star program and learn more at [www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/shining-star](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/giving/shining-star)

## Birthday surprises

**Bonnie Meyers, patient access representative;**  
**Cindy Lee, R.N., child development**  
**Comfort & Recovery Rehab staff**

“My mom was staying at Marshfield Medical Center following a procedure just days before her 100th birthday. She was an avid walker on Marshfield Clinic’s fourth floor and became friends with Bonnie and Cindy, nurses on that floor. When they found out her birthday was coming up, they took it upon themselves to throw her a surprise 100th birthday party and invited all the fourth floor staff. They also collected birthday cards from local school children for my mom. When she was admitted to Comfort & Recovery the day before her birthday, the staff there also had balloons and a birthday cake waiting for her. They all sang her ‘Happy Birthday.’ Everyone made sure we had everything we needed to enjoy my mom’s celebration.”



**Cindy Lee, R.N. (left), and Bonnie Meyers.**



Every day, friends of MCHS remember and honor relatives and others by making contributions that support the mission of enriching lives through patient care, research and education.

Gifts received October 2017 to January 2018

In Memory of

Zane Allard  
 William "Bill" Allen  
 William H. Allington  
 Robert Altmann  
 Lt. Col. Eldon B Andersen  
 Roger Anderson  
 Jayne L Annis  
 Steven Arendt  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christian Arneson  
 George Ashbeck  
 Clarence Aumann  
 Suzanne Baltus-Zecherle  
 Dale E. Bartkowiak  
 Jacqueline M. Barum  
 Landa Baumann  
 Catherine Benson  
 Jim Benson  
 Nick Beranek  
 Donald Berg  
 Evelyn and Lloyd Berry  
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 Joy Bigelow  
 Michael William Bishop  
 Sarah Blanchard  
 Ben Block  
 Milton Blonsky  
 Gerald "Jerry" Bluhm  
 Christa Boe  
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 Harlan DeVries  
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 Normand Drefcinski  
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 Patricia Grambort  
 Mitchell Graves  
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 Stanley Grzybowski  
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 Eric Hamm  
 Mildred "Millie" M. Hamus  
 Amy J. Hanson  
 George Harrington  
 John R. Harrington  
 Melburn & Verelene Haws

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 Steven Helmke  
 Daniel J. "Dan" Helwig  
 Herb & Irene Henchen  
 Merlin "Buzz" Henkel  
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 David Herrmann  
 Marie Herrmann  
 Aaron J Hetzel  
 Roger B. Hill  
 James "Jim" E. Hinker  
 Heather R. Holden  
 Al Hortop  
 Donald Huber  
 Lloyd & Vera Hutchinson  
 Richard Jacobson  
 Walter & Adeline Janssen  
 Dorothy A. Johnson  
 Nolan Johnson  
 Cheryl Kaiser  
 Elizabeth Kaiser  
 Jack Kaiser  
 Harold G. "Sonny" Kalepp, Jr.  
 Ambrose & Frieda Keller  
 Kathy Kent  
 Clyde Kiddoo  
 Clarice Kieffer  
 Lloyd & Mary Kieffer  
 Mary Beth Kieffer  
 Forrest Kimmons  
 Jeremiah Kitzhaber  
 Joan T Knecht  
 Roger R. Kobs  
 Gayle L. Koderl  
 Thomas Koderl  
 HJ Koester  
 Betty J Koller  
 Erma Kommer  
 Norman A. Kommer, Sr.  
 Bronson Konkol  
 Bernice N Krall  
 Ron Kramas  
 Brendan Joseph Kramer  
 DuWayne Kreager  
 Loretta Krug  
 Tina Krug  
 David Krultz  
 George Kubica  
 Andrew J. "Andy" Kuehnhold  
 Charlotte Kunkel  
 Rev. Dr. Roger M. Kunkel  
 James Kurszewski

Patricia Kurszewski  
 Terrance Kussrow  
 The Honorable Melvin Laird  
 Kenna LaMere  
 Margaret "Peg" Lamkin  
 Pat Langman  
 Richard Lappe  
 Joe E. Larson  
 Logan Jon Larson  
 Raymond C. Larson  
 Rose Lauer  
 Alden "Al" Lawrence  
 Byrl & Dorothy Lawrence  
 Dorothy Lawrence  
 Gary Le Mahieu  
 Margaret Leasure  
 John "Bill" & Mary Lou Leinenkugel  
 Rita Lembezeder  
 Bruce A. Lemery  
 Kenneth LeMoine  
 Gerald E. "Jerry" Lentz  
 Peter Leroy Lingenfelter  
 Gerhard "Gary" E. Lokre  
 Marcella Loonstra  
 Robert Lucas  
 Karen Ludwig  
 Harold L. Ludwigson  
 George MacKinnon  
 Tyler Luke Manthe  
 Ronald Maronde  
 Betty Lou Martin  
 Wilbur D. Mason  
 Joan McClyman  
 Kenneth McGrath  
 Evelyn Medhaug Peterson  
 Jairus E. "Jerry" Meilahn  
 Peter Michaelson  
 George Michels  
 Steve J. Miller  
 Walter R. Minder  
 Byron Moen  
 Alex & Vivian Mroczenski  
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 Judith Mueller  
 Margaret A. Mueller  
 Christine Grace Mullen  
 Brennan Mullins  
 Brian Mullins  
 Martin Natzke  
 Gale Nelson  
 Hildegard "Hilda" Nikolai  
 Timothy Nikolai

Ruth J. Noeldner Machtan  
 Susanne Noeldner  
 Levi Nooyen  
 Rodger Nyberg  
 Jack Nystrom  
 Todd Nytes  
 Vernon Obermeier  
 Mary Oberweis  
 Madelyn A. Odegard  
 Beverly A. O'Donnell  
 Stephanie Ollinger  
 Jace Olsen  
 Jacob Olsen  
 Mildred Olson  
 James Pachal  
 Rodrigo Ramirez Pacheco  
 Neil Parker  
 Sandra Paulsen  
 Mickey Peters  
 Norman E. Peters  
 Karen Phillippi  
 Roger H. Pittsley  
 Andrew Price  
 Ronald Priesgen  
 David J Prissel  
 Jodi L. Prock  
 Donald J. Propson  
 Norman Prosser  
 Suzanne Provost  
 Lorelei Pucci  
 Carla Radtke  
 S. Raghuram  
 Hattie Rahm  
 Todd & Betty Rank  
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 Anthony & Dorothy Rekowski  
 Marjorie Rethman  
 Albert Ricci  
 David Ristola  
 James Allen Robey  
 Jordyn & Derek Roehl  
 Erling Rohde  
 Norman Roth  
 Kelsey Rothamer  
 Charles Ruder  
 Joyce Rueth  
 June A. Runnells  
 Kim Russell  
 Rosie Sauer  
 Rt. Rev. Warren A. Sautebin  
 Todd M. Schalow  
 Robert "Bob" Schiferl, Sr.

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 Bernard J Schmick  
 Ronald & Lillian Schmidt  
 Erwin & Aloisia Schmidtko  
 Mary Kay Schmitt  
 Richard G Schneider  
 Ted Schoenherr  
 Michael Schoetz  
 Eileen L. Schraeder  
 Larry Schroeder  
 Leo Schulte  
 Larry E. Schultz, Sr.  
 Lester K. & Mary S. Schulz  
 Charles Schulze  
 Henry & Vivian Schutte  
 Roger Schwantes  
 Jacquelyn Searer  
 Gwen Sebold  
 Armon (Toby) & Florence Seehafer  
 Florence Seehafer  
 Dorothy Seitz  
 Jeff Severson  
 Elliot Shaw  
 Gerald Allen Short  
 Misty Sines  
 John Joseph Sirek  
 Bud & Gladys Slizewski  
 Grant Smazal  
 Eugene M. & Sally Sexton  
 Snarski  
 Edward Sneen  
 John & Virginia "Gin" Snowbank  
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 Michelle L. Sperberg (Roy)  
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 Timothy Spindler  
 River Jordan "RJ" Stahnke  
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 Ann V Stencil  
 Mary Sternweis  
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 Virginia A Stoltz  
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 Derek Stueland  
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 Avis Suda  
 Elle Sundell

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 Jeffrey TerMaat  
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 Andrew Thiel  
 Ben Thomas  
 Del Toburen  
 LaVerne "Butch" Todahl  
 Willetta Tolley  
 William M. Toyama  
 Norman Tritz  
 Steven R. Vann  
 Joseph & Anna Vargo  
 Pearl A. Vorland  
 Dr. Dieter M. Voss  
 Virginia Wadzinski  
 Darlene "Tootie" Wagner  
 Geraldine Walkowiak  
 Bill Weaver  
 Heather Webb  
 Jerold J Weber  
 Dave West  
 Ruth West  
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 Victor A. Wiesman  
 Maureen R Wilcott  
 Dawn Williams  
 Nancy Williams  
 Cathy Wingert  
 Bonnie Wittman  
 Lawrence Wittman  
 Frank Wojcik  
 Helen Wojcik  
 David D. Wolf  
 Ronald J. Wood  
 Ruth Wood  
 Emily Yager  
 Jorgen Yde  
 Lola M. Yde  
 Marjorie Zahrt  
 Leo F. Zellner  
 Shirley A Zettler  
 David W. Zillman  
 DuWayne Zillmer  
 Harold & JoAnne Zopfi  
 Scarlett Zorn  
 Louis & Gen Zschernitz  
 Dean M Zuck  
 Lindsay Zuelke  
 John R. Zwiefelhofer



**In Honor of**

Ashton Ackman  
 Everett W. Alms  
 Brian M. Bartels  
 Bailey, Madison & Owen Bauer  
 Michael Bluell  
 William Boulieu  
 Crystal N. Braker  
 Lucas Nathan Riley Brown  
 Sue Buehler  
 Landon & Carson  
 Oliver & Charlie  
 Bill Cherek  
 Child life Specialists  
 Conrad Cohen  
 Eloise Dassrath  
 Ginny Detterbeck  
 Ryan P. Dieringer  
 Robin Dietel  
 Rodney & Corrine Dix  
 Kim Dolezal  
 Gary & Barb Draeger  
 Grandchildren  
 Lee A. Dressendorfer  
 Noah Eckelberg  
 Avery M. Faber  
 Sophie L. Faber  
 Alex Fisher  
 Declan Fisher  
 Dale V. Folz  
 Terry & Allean Frankland  
 Alyssa Franks  
 Justin Franks  
 Cater Gadke  
 Elizabeth Gardner  
 Heidi Giese  
 Logan Giese  
 Rusty Griffin  
 Shayla Guralski  
 Pam Haller  
 Miss Hazel Harrison  
 Dr. Leslie P. Harrison  
 Dr. Robert M. Haws  
 Nathaniel Hiatt  
 Nancy Hill  
 John and Sharon Hiller  
 Janet Hoff  
 Hailey Hudson  
 Charles W. "Charlie" Hulbert  
 Dr. Thomas Hupy  
 Sharon Jakobi  
 Janice Janusz  
 Jacob Johnson  
 Jeann Johnson  
 JoAnne Kadow  
 Nick Kempen  
 Samantha Kimmons  
 Charlie & Rainey Kissinger  
 Bronson Konkol  
 Sydney Konkol

Matthew Kopp  
 Ben Krause  
 Will Krause  
 William Krause  
 Amy Kriewaldt  
 Michelle Kultgen  
 Amanda J Lancour  
 Ben Lansing  
 Eli North Leiser  
 Richard & Marilyn Leonhardt  
 Len Luedtke, Jr.  
 Jean Machart  
 Nicole Mack  
 Nancy Marg  
 Donna Martin  
 Maylee, Braysen & Brecken  
 Garrett Metz  
 Diane Meyer  
 Judith L. "Judy" Monje  
 Ashley N. Morris  
 Carly A. Morris  
 Maiya Schowalter and Lisa  
 Mueller  
 Charles Nason  
 Pamela Neises  
 Julie A. Nelson  
 Maureen O'Brien  
 Robert Ochoa  
 Nathanael Ogden  
 Wyatt Olivotti  
 Cheryl Olson  
 Pediatric Oncology  
 Darlene Onarati  
 Marilynn P. Orton  
 Paxton Pagel  
 Palco Resouce Team  
 Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis  
 Patients  
 Carl Pongratz  
 Afton Pumper  
 Mary Queen  
 Molly Redmann  
 Karen Reyes  
 Ridin' For a Reason  
 Dr. Loren A. Rolak  
 Dwain Runnells  
 Drew Schaeffgen  
 Alexander Schmidt  
 Lori Schmitt  
 Charlotte E. Schneider  
 Dennis Schnellling  
 Maiya Schowalter  
 Connie J. Schubert  
 Holden Schuld  
 Zach Stanton  
 Lyle Steffen  
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 Scedra Stoffel  
 Elva L. Storch  
 Agnes Strigel

Faith Stubinski  
 Adam Suchy  
 Logan Suchy  
 Timothy Suchy  
 Valecia Szymik  
 Lisa K. Taylor  
 Rana Krishna Reddy Thappeta  
 Sarala Thappeta  
 Edna & Lewis Therrell  
 Logan Giese  
 Anna Trzinski  
 Dorothy Voit  
 Samantha Wade  
 The Weichelt Triplets  
 Luella Weir  
 Fritz J. Wenzel  
 Ruth A. Wenzel  
 Jennifer Werner  
 Aston Wierzea  
 Karrie Willis  
 Dan & Mary Writz  
 Tomi Younts Hernandez  
 Kelly Zebel  
 Lori Zimmerman  
 Kenneth & Norma Zittleman  
 Norma K. Zittleman  
 Scarlett Zorn

## Charitable giving under the new tax law

**The U.S. Congress passed a new tax law in December 2017 that took effect Jan. 1. Some changes may impact tax benefits you receive for gifts you make in support of Marshfield Clinic Health System's (MCHS) mission. Here are changes to note:**

- Charitable gifts still qualify as itemized deductions. Congress eliminated or reduced some items but charitable contributions were untouched as an eligible deduction. As before, you need to substantiate your charitable gifts so retain any documentation you receive from organizations you support verifying your gifts.
- You can deduct more of your cash gifts. Previously, cash gifts could be deducted in an amount no greater than 50 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Congress increased the deductible percentage to 60 percent of AGI, allowing you to deduct more in 2018 instead of waiting to 2019 for your gift's tax benefit.
- Individual income tax rates were reduced and the standard deduction was increased. For many taxpayers, the amount owing in federal income taxes will

be reduced due to changes in tax rates and a standard deduction increase to \$12,000 for a single person and \$24,000 for married persons filing a joint return. As a result, you may have more discretionary income available to support your favorite causes.

- You may benefit from making additional gifts in 2018. As you get near the end of 2018, you may want to consult with your tax advisor to see if your itemized deductions will exceed the standard deduction. If your itemized deductions are near but do not exceed the standard deduction, you may want to accelerate your 2019 charitable support to take full advantage of itemized deductions in 2018 and then plan to take the standard deduction in 2019.
- If you are 70 ½ or older, make your charitable gifts from your IRA. If you are taking required distributions from an IRA, making charitable gifts and taking the standard deduction, you may reduce your tax bill just by making charitable gifts from your IRA. Gifts made directly from your IRA administrator to a charitable organization like MCHS Foundation have

qualified toward your required minimum distribution beginning in 2006. However, the change in the standard deduction means more people should probably be using their IRAs for their charitable giving.

- Stock that has appreciated in value continues to be an excellent charitable gift. Capital gains tax paid on sale of stock that increased in value did not change. For states like Wisconsin, the tax may have effectively increased because you may not be able to deduct the Wisconsin capital gains tax paid on your federal income tax return if you take the standard deduction or if the total of your state income taxes and local taxes (i.e. real property taxes) exceeds \$10,000. Gifting stock outright to MCHS Foundation or creating a charitable remainder trust may be options to consider.

**As you consider your charitable support this year, speak with your tax or financial advisor to understand how tax changes impact your tax return and what you can do to maximize your tax savings under the new law. ■**



**MCHS Foundation offers assistance with charitable gift planning as a free service to our donors. Contact Karen Piel, charitable gift planning officer, to schedule your consultation at [piel.karen@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:piel.karen@marshfieldclinic.org) or 715-389-3868.**

*This assistance is for educational purposes and does not replace the need to consult with your personal tax and financial advisors. You are welcome to invite your advisors, family members or other trusted individuals to join you.*



## Helping local kids.

Whether they suffer from common childhood afflictions like asthma and broken bones or fight bigger challenges like birth defects or cancer, Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals provide comfort, treatment and hope for kids and their families throughout central and northern Wisconsin.

One hundred percent of your gifts to CMN Hospitals stays local to support pediatric programs and services at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

[www.marshfieldclinic.org/cmnh](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/cmnh)



**Lakken Burzynski, 2018**  
**CMN Hospitals Champion**



**Marshfield Clinic**

HEALTH SYSTEM

FOUNDATION