

SUMMER 2019

BenchMarks

Stories of your impact at Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation



AGGIE'S STORY

Making miracles happen, one day and one friendship at a time

pg. 4

FEATURE

Miracle Child celebrates his second graduation

pg. 9

CONTENTS

- 3 **FOUNDATION MESSAGE**
- 4 **COVER FEATURE:** Aggie's Story
- 9 **FEATURE:** Miracle Child celebrates his second graduation
- 14 **WHY WE GIVE:** Spirit of Giving 2019
- 17 **EMPLOYEE STORY:** Building bridges to mental health
- 19 **HEALTH SYSTEM STORY:** A team with heart
- 21 **IN THE NEWS:** Collaboration to conquer childhood cancer



FEATURE



COVER FEATURE

Agnes "Aggie" Krause and Lisa Potter, RN

Announcement

Gundersen Health System merger

As a dedicated supporter, we are excited to share important news with you as we expand our mission to enrich lives.

Marshfield Clinic Health System and Gundersen Health System are in discussions to potentially merge our organizations into one, fully-integrated health system.

This does not change commitments we have made to communities we serve. It does not change our strategy or any future plans to invest in health care in our communities.

Our Health System is pursuing this merger with Gundersen because it would allow us to do even more to serve children, families and communities. We are very similar organizations with similar histories and a bedrock commitment to rural health care.

Your support is more important than ever as we grow to provide accessible, compassionate care across Wisconsin. We know we can count on you to continue meaningfully impacting patient care where and when it's needed most.

This is the beginning of an exciting journey. No doubt, you play a vital role as we look to the future and we will keep you informed as the process continues.

On behalf of patients we serve, we are grateful for you. Thank you for all you do.

In gratitude,

Teri Wilczek
Chief Philanthropy Officer
Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation

Mike Schmidt
Board Chair
Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation
Board of Directors



Teri Wilczek



Mike Schmidt

CREDITS

Chief Philanthropy Officer
 Teri M. Wilczek

Major Gifts & Annual Giving
 Brooke Wolff, manager
 Kim Baltus
 Sheri Dick
 Chris Dickman-Loew
 Tracy Faber
 Brit Heymans
 Bobbie Kolehouse
 Jodi Larson
 Karen Piel
 Maree Stewart

Operations & Special Events
 Tiffany Halan, director
 Jody Day
 Cindy Esselman
 Brittnay Fortuna
 Angie Guralski
 Taylor Hoffman
 Mary Beth Knoeck
 Amanda Lancour
 Anna Selk

Volunteer Services
 Keresa Kilty, manager
 Melissa Darr
 Jayme Literski

PRODUCTION & GRAPHICS

Editorial Staff
 Maree Stewart
 Teresa Derfus

Designer
 Brenda Budi

Photographers
 Mac Bailey
 Elizabeth Olson

BenchMarks is a publication of Marshfield Clinic Health System. Please send address changes to:

Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation
 1000 North Oak Avenue, 1R1, Marshfield, WI 54449-5790

Call 715-387-9249 or 1-800-858-5220 or visit marshfieldclinic.org/giving

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/marshfieldclinichealthsystemfoundation

Aggie's Story

Your support makes miracles happen for cancer patients, one day and one friendship at a time

Believing in miracles takes courage, faith and a strong support system. People who believe in miracles understand what they have to lose and choose to find the good in every moment.

But a cancer survivor who's just been told her cancer is back, talking about miracles? Yes, and that survivor would be Agnes "Aggie" Krause.

"I know my time is limited but I have no regrets," said Aggie, a Marshfield resident. "None of us gets to know what the future holds and I do believe in miracles."

Aggie's cancer journey started last summer when she went to Marshfield Medical Center because of pain. After scans and tests, she was told she had two forms of cancer, lymphoma and sarcoma.

"It was very confusing because I had two doctors with me and they were both saying different things, talking about different

cancers," said Aggie. "I was just trying to process this myself with my family and it was overwhelming. That's when I met Lisa."

For Aggie, miracles come in many forms. One of her miracles is having found a friend, confidant, guide and advocate in her oncology patient navigator, Registered Nurse Lisa Potter.

"I know Lisa and I would be friends anyway, even if we hadn't met during my treatment," said Aggie. "We just have a lot in common. We're both overachievers. She is in the exact perfect job because she truly cares about her patients."

Lisa, along with two other oncology patient navigators at Marshfield Medical Center, assists patients with coordinating cancer care, connecting with resources and answering questions. At any given time, Lisa herself works with over 200 cancer patients through this service available to cancer patients and their families throughout the Health System.



Agnes "Aggie" Krause, cancer patient



Aggie shares a laugh with Lisa, her partner Mike and her three daughters.

“
I know Lisa will be there
for me, no matter what,
to help me and my family
through this. I trust her.
”

“Patients like Aggie run through so many emotions,” said Lisa. “My job as a patient navigator is to be there for them. There are some who you meet with and you can tell they don’t want to be bothered, so I don’t need to follow up as much. But then there are others who really need me. It’s my job to be available and accessible to them throughout their journey and assist them with whatever they need.”

Lisa was there every step of the way during Aggie’s treatment last year that included surgery, chemotherapy and a treatment called MAID for her sarcoma. When Aggie came in for treatments, Lisa helped her through the process, talked with her, provided educational materials or played music.

Many resources and amenities available to cancer patients through the navigator program are made possible by donations from people like you.

Throughout the process, Aggie knows she could call Lisa any time of the day or night and Lisa would get back to her. That accountability is important to Aggie during her journey.

“For me it’s the personalization. I can call and lay my problems on her. I know Lisa will be there for me, no matter what, to help me and my family through this. I trust her. If I need something, I call Lisa,” said Aggie.

They formed a special bond over the months, a bond that has become even more important now that Aggie’s cancer has returned.

Aggie’s chemotherapy treatments ended in December but her three-month post-treatment checkup in April revealed the sarcoma had grown. Aggie’s oncologist gave her a four-to-six-month prognosis.

“That news hit me harder than my first diagnosis,” said Aggie. “I’m a person who wants to know what I’m dealing with. I want to be busy and have a plan. I can’t change that I have cancer but I can change my reaction and be a better person today than I was yesterday.”

Aggie has made multiple Shining Star donations to honor her care team throughout her cancer diagnosis and treatment. These gifts started when she was in the hospital and she noticed how some on her care team went the extra mile to help her.

“I always knew cancer was bad but having it really changed my perspective,” said Aggie. “It made me notice the people who go above and beyond. When I was in the hospital, a nurse gave me a foot massage. Some have taken special care of my family. It’s wonderful to have these caring, compassionate people make life a little easier. It gives me something to feel thankful for and it’s important to me to give back for a good cause.”



Staying positive, leaning on family and a strong faith help Aggie through her cancer journey.



Aggie Krause with oncology nurse navigator Lisa Potter, RN

Of course, Aggie made one of her Shining Star donations in honor of Lisa.

Even with her future uncertain, Aggie remains strong. She continues to have a positive outlook and is thankful for those around her. She talks to Lisa often. The two of them easily transition between friendly banter and serious discussions about the future.

“You’re going to be with me through this until the very end, aren’t you?” asked Aggie.

“I’m not going anywhere. I’ll be there for you when there are tough decisions to make,” said Lisa. “I’ll always be honest with you and remind you what’s important.”

“That’s why I love her,” said Aggie, resting her head on Lisa’s shoulder and smiling. “And it could be me and Lisa who beat the statistics. So let’s get going!”

As you watch Lisa and Aggie laughing together, even in the face of cancer, it’s not hard to believe that miracles are possible. ♦

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Cancer care

The friendship Aggie Krause and Lisa Potter, RN have formed during Aggie’s cancer journey is a testament to the importance of the oncology patient navigator program. Thanks to donations from people like you, patient navigators have access to resources they need to guide cancer patients through every step of their journey. Your gifts provide:

- EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
- SUPPORT GROUPS
- HATS, WIGS AND SCARVES
- ACCESS TO NEW TREATMENTS AND CLINICAL TRIALS
- STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT
- HEALING SPACES
- MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES

Support cancer care and research at Marshfield Clinic Health System: marshfieldclinic.org/giving/cancer

Miracle Child celebrates his second graduation

Your donations to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children’s Hospital give kids like Jasen Kracht a chance to choose their future



High school graduation is a time when graduates look to the future and reflect on what they have achieved.

For Jasen Kracht, a Marshfield High School Class of 2019 graduate, this milestone also symbolizes all he has overcome since his first graduation 19 years ago. That's when he, as an infant, got to go home from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

Nineteen years ago, Jasen's parents, Elizabeth and Dr. Curtis Kracht, were awaiting the birth of their son. Just over 23 weeks into the pregnancy, Elizabeth had unexpected complications, was rushed to Marshfield's hospital and gave birth to her tiny son, who weighed just 1 pound 7 ounces.

Because of his premature birth, Jasen's chance of survival was only 15%. He was admitted to Marshfield Children's Hospital and its NICU, a unit in which the smallest and

most vulnerable babies receive care. He had a cranial hemorrhage, or bleeding within the skull; and interstitial emphysema, when air is trapped in tissue outside the lung's tubes and air sacs. He also had a collapsed lung, bleeding in his lungs and needed a high-frequency ventilator to help him breathe. The tiny infant spent his first three months at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

"Marshfield Children's Hospital and it being a Children's Miracle Network Hospital means it's as good as a big-city hospital, but with a personal touch where people remember your name," said Elizabeth.

With your support of specialized equipment, comfort items, Child Life Specialists and Music Therapists, Jasen and his family had the support they needed to help him on his journey. Jasen graduated from the NICU with no lasting limitations.



When Jasen was born, he weighed just 1 pound 7 ounces and had a 15% chance of survival. The NICU's extensive, highly-trained team of neonatologists, nurses, therapists and additional staff helped Jasen beat the odds.



Old photos remind Jasen's family of what he's overcome. Here, Jasen's dad holds him outside of his NICU isolette.

Jasen's mom Elizabeth is grateful for the compassionate, accessible and high-quality care their family received when Jasen was born. She saved one of Jasen's diapers from his time in the NICU as a memento of how far he has come.

Jasen plans to pursue his passion for history and archaeology when he attends the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse this fall.



Central and northern Wisconsin parents and their children have had access to state-of-the-art neonatal intensive care services for 50 years this year through the NICU. Founded by now-retired Marshfield Clinic Pediatrician and Neonatologist James Opitz, M.D., a celebration in June marked this special anniversary milestone.

Since then he's been an inspiration. When he was 6 years old, he was featured as a local CMN Hospitals Miracle Child. Jasen and his family helped at CMN Hospitals fundraising events that year to raise awareness and support for Children's Hospital programs.

"My family, especially my mom, still enjoys talking to other moms with kids in the NICU to encourage them and let them know they're not alone," he said. "It's a big honor to have that kind of impact on people."

Jasen has grown into a thoughtful and self-assured young man. When others his age may spend lots of time on social

media, he prefers reading, studying history and theology and participating in National Honor Society projects. He also gives back by volunteering through local organizations, including Marshfield Medical Center-Marshfield and its Volunteens program.

"I started volunteering through the Hospital's Volunteens program during my sophomore year in outpatient and inpatient pharmacies," he said. "I enjoy being able to give back to the community."

This fall, Jasen will study archaeology at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

"I've always liked history and archaeology is even more hands-on,"

he said. "I'm excited to grow and learn even more. After college, I hope to go to the seminary and get a graduate degree focusing on theology-related archaeology."

That will mean yet another graduation and even more of a chance to serve, thanks to your support. ♦

To get involved as a volunteer, contact Volunteer Services at 715-387-7198 or visit marshfieldclinic.org/giving/volunteer



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

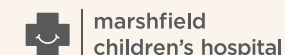


Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital

As one of 140 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals in the country and one of only four children's hospitals in Wisconsin, Marshfield Children's Hospital physicians and staff know that nothing is more important than the health and happiness of our littlest patients. They offer more than 30 pediatric specialties as well as Child Life, Music Therapy and other services - for the love of kids. Many of these services are only possible because of your support:

- **CHILD LIFE AND EXPRESSIVE THERAPIES** helped 9,429 kids in 2018. Though the cost of these programs is over \$650,000 annually, there is never a charge for patients to use the services thanks to your donations.
- **NICVIEW CAMERAS** give parents the opportunity to keep an eye on their babies while in intensive care.
- **GIRAFFE AND PANDA WARMERS** provide the comforting environment children need in the NICU.
- **PEDIATRIC RESEARCH** gives kids access to the innovative treatments they need to heal.
- **THE SNOEZELN ROOM** provides a safe, multi-sensory, relaxing environment to reduce children's agitation and anxiety, as well as engage them in medical play.
- **SUPPORT PROGRAMS** like pet therapy, workshops and more help kids stay connected while they are in the hospital.

Support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital: marshfieldclinic.org/cmnh



Spirit of Giving celebrates enriching lives

Snoopy Pole Classic, Forward Bank and Floyd and Patricia Hamus are honored at the 2019 Spirit of Giving Awards

Supporters, friends and families gathered for the 2019 Spirit of Giving Awards weren't there for the recognition. They were there to celebrate enriching lives in communities we serve.

Each year, the annual Spirit of Giving Awards program honors individuals, volunteer fundraisers and organizations for supporting Marshfield Clinic Health System's mission. With more than 150 attending at Marshfield Medical Center, the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award was given to Snoopy Pole Classic; Outstanding Philanthropic Organization Award to Forward Bank; and Legacy of Philanthropy Award to Floyd and Patricia Hamus.



For the past 15 years, the Snoopy Pole Classic has donated over \$70,000 to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Marshfield Children's Hospital.

"We know you do not give back for awards or recognition. You do it to help our patients," said Teri Wilczek, chief philanthropy officer, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation. "But that's exactly why we have gathered you here tonight, to thank you for enriching lives and inspiring others to do the same. Because that is truly one of the greatest gifts you can give."

The honorees were introduced one by one with a video and introduction highlighting their support.

SNOOPY POLE CLASSIC

Now in its 15th year, the Snoopy Pole Classic has raised over \$70,000.

It all started when fishing guide and Papa Joe's Bar Manager Dave Kinney of Stevens Point gathered friends together to help local kids. A fishing tournament seemed like a natural fit and just to make sure no one took themselves too seriously, they decided to use Snoopy poles, poles typically used by children. Snoopy Pole Classic participants compete in four fishing categories. After a morning on the water, they head back to Papa Joe's to tell tall tales, listen to live music, bid on donated raffle prizes and enjoy refreshments.

"One of the biggest reasons we started this was we wanted to keep money in the community," said Mike Nelson, Snoopy Pole organizer and co-owner of Papa Joe's. "Everybody here has a soft spot in their hearts for kids. They got the hand they were dealt. Anything we can do to help a child, that's pretty special."

The Snoopy Pole Classic group saw the impact of their support firsthand thanks to Miracle Child Amaya. Seven years ago, local child Amaya was prematurely born and spent months in Marshfield Children's Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Thanks to support from the Snoopy Pole Classic, she's healthy and happy and even attended the event last year to thank participants for helping her on her journey.

"It's very rewarding for everyone involved," said Sandy Kryshak, event organizer and Papa Joe's owner. "We're thankful we have healthy children, but knowing we are helping a family that is less fortunate and kids like Amaya makes you feel really good."

FORWARD BANK

Forward Bank received the Outstanding Philanthropic Fundraiser Award for its 30-plus years of support for Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Since the business was founded in 1919, Forward Bank has adapted and expanded to respond to clients' and communities' changing needs. The bank's mission - moving communities forward - reflects its deep commitment to the people the Bank serves.

Giving back is an essential part of Forward Bank's culture. Bank employees help drive decisions on which local nonprofits to support, including the Health System.

When the Laird Center for Medical Research was built, Forward Bank was a leading donor to the capital campaign. It's also been a dedicated sponsor of many Foundation events, including Auction of Champions, golf outings, Duel It Fore the Kids, Comedy Against Cancer, Child Life Bash, ALS Steps for Hope and more. Forward Bank also has donated to the Summer Research Internship Program on behalf of Charitable Money Market Account customers over the past few years.

"We support our communities and philanthropic organizations in our communities extensively, one of those being Marshfield Clinic Health System," said Dave Krause, vice president of commercial lending, Forward Bank,



Moving communities forward guides Forward Bank in its donations to support health care in rural Wisconsin.

who also is a Health System Foundation board member. "We recognize the benefit the Health System provides to Marshfield and all communities we serve."

FLOYD & PATRICIA HAMUS

Floyd and Patricia Hamus were honored with the Legacy of Philanthropy Award.

Both growing up on family farms near Marshfield, the couple built successful V&H businesses from the ground up while raising their three children.

Throughout their lives, they have shared their time, talent and treasure with the community. Notable contributions from the Hamuses to Marshfield include the Hamus Nature Preserve, bear exhibit at Wildwood Park, the new community center and contributions to Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Besides supporting many Health System events and fundraising campaigns, the couple sponsored a children's play area in Marshfield Medical Center Ambulatory Surgery Center. The Hamuses worked with a designer to model the space after their family's Northwoods cabin. Their fond memories of the cabin - playing with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren - will live on for kids who enjoy the space every day.

“We made our lives with people in our surrounding towns,” said Patricia. “We worked all our lives to get where we are. They helped us grow, so now it’s our turn to give back and the Clinic is our priority.”

“If you make some money, you should give some away,” said Floyd. “If you make your living in a community, you should donate if you can.”

Spirit of Giving also highlights philanthropy’s impact across the Health System. Mike Schmidt, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation Board chair, shared how he’s witnessed the difference donors make for patients:

“Whether it be through comfort items, including wigs and scarves for cancer patients; research studies that save lives; community resources like behavioral health seminars; new and upgraded equipment; support for families in need; and programs like Child Life, Music Therapy and more... philanthropy touches every patient throughout our system of care,” said Schmidt. ♦



Floyd and Patricia Hamus give back to the Marshfield community where they’ve made their home and raised their family.



Learn how you can support the Health System’s mission by visiting marshfieldclinic.org/giving

Building bridges to mental health

Your donations fund the first-ever mental health patient navigator at Marshfield Clinic Health System

Living with a mental health condition can be very isolating. It takes courage to ask for help. Even with a strong support system, many struggle to reach out to get resources they need.

Thanks to you, Kristin Gronemeyer, R.N., is breaking down barriers to mental health care as Marshfield Clinic Health System’s first mental health patient navigator.

It all started when a passionate group of community members approached the behavioral health team and the Foundation with their vision. Having felt the impact of mental illness themselves, they wanted to raise funds for a new patient navigator position to help connect behavioral health patients to providers, support groups and programs they need to live a healthy life. But, there was a catch. The new position would need to be 100% funded by philanthropy.

“The mental health system can be scary and confusing for patients, families and medical teams,” said Sandra Bump, director, Behavioral Health and Integrated Care. “We wanted to build a contact to assist with getting the right support at the right time. This may include community services, medical services, behavioral health services or emergent services.”

Recognizing the need for expanded behavioral health services, donors rallied behind the new position. Thanks to generous gifts from the community and private donors, along with events like Fore the Kids and Mike’s Run, funds were secured for this position by the end of 2018 and Gronemeyer was hired in early 2019.



Because of your gifts, Kristin Gronemeyer, R.N. is serving as the region’s first mental health patient navigator.

In this role, Gronemeyer has focused on gathering information about resources available for behavioral health patients and identifying gaps. She works directly with patients, providers and community organizations to develop the best care plan for each patient. Her caseload is focused on patients at Marshfield Medical Center with the possibility of growing the program in the future.

“My job is all about filling gaps,” said Gronemeyer. “I’m connecting the community, the Clinic and outside available resources. People don’t always know resources are there because there are so many and they might not know where to go. I take a step back to learn what people really need.”

The Health System’s integrated care model supports behavioral health patients. Using this model, patients getting care in different departments have access to mental health services as part of their overall health care. Behavioral health providers can talk with these patients and provide care or refer them to the full behavioral health team if needed.

Patients also have access to support groups, behavioral health research, community education, youth programs, suicide prevention training and more offered throughout the Health System, thanks to donations from people like you. Gronemeyer helps identify which of these services are best for each individual and family.

Outside of the Health System, Gronemeyer works with county offices and organizations, particularly case workers that can help behavioral health patients over time.

“It’s important for me to make a plan for our patients’ continuing care,” said Gronemeyer. “It’s a challenge because we are limited on the number of psychiatrists, therapists and providers. The good news is more people are aware of and use mental health services but at the same time that limits availability, which is why I’m looking forward to growing my position.”

Gronemeyer and the behavioral health team are excited to see how this mental health patient navigator position will evolve. With help of donations from people like you, the person in this role will continue to provide support to behavioral health patients who need it most. In the future, the role may expand to other Health System locations to serve patients in other parts of the state.

“There is help out there for mental illness,” said Gronemeyer. “We continue to lower the stigma and more people are seeking services ... adolescents, the elderly, middle-aged people and families. That’s why I’m here, to be a bridge for those patients.” ♦

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Mental health

Someone you know is struggling with a mental health condition. Your donations to behavioral health at Marshfield Clinic Health System make behavioral health programs possible in the communities we serve:

- **247 CHILDREN AND TEENS** participated in social and emotional learning, support groups, skill building, emotional management and regulation from Youth Net, a program of the Center for Community Health Advancement, in 2018
- Nearly **1,600 COMMUNITY MEMBERS** have received suicide prevention training
- **A NEW FARMER MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID PROGRAM** trained individuals to recognize and support farmers struggling with mental health challenges
- **SCHOOL TEACHERS** are receiving training to identify and assist with mental health challenges in children
- **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES** help families understand mental health needs
- **A NEW MENTAL HEALTH APP** is being developed so people can access resources they need at their fingertips

Support mental health programs at Marshfield Clinic Health System: marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate

A team with heart

Your support helps provide holistic care in the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic

There is no cure for heart failure. But, thanks to Nurse Practitioner Diane Joyce and her Heart Failure Improvement Clinic colleagues, there is hope for people with heart disease to live full, happy lives.

Joyce and her team know heart disease is a top public health priority, especially in rural Wisconsin communities served by Marshfield Clinic Health System. Since Joyce started at Marshfield Medical Center-Stettin nine years ago, the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic has grown from two to five nurse practitioners and seven registered nurses who see nearly 1,800 patients throughout central and northern Wisconsin.

“It really became a total team approach,” said Joyce. “Heart patients have many complex health issues. By working together, we can follow them very closely and improve their quality of life.”

Patients referred to the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic first meet with a provider to go over their history, diagnosis and treatment plan. The goal is to help them manage their condition at home and keep them out of the hospital as much as possible. The team works with each patient to manage fluids, change their diet, increase or maintain activity, be mindful of social habits and more to improve overall wellness.

Constant communication is key. After the initial visit, Heart Failure Improvement Clinic staff members talk by phone with their patients at least once a week and meet with them in person monthly. Patients are encouraged to call if their condition changes.

Telehealth technology helps bring the program to patients throughout the Health System since access to the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic is critical for patients living in rural areas. Many would have to travel over 100 miles each way to get heart failure care they need. With the telehealth



Heart Failure Improvement Clinic Nurse Practitioner Diane Joyce has received 11 Shining Stars from grateful patients who made donations in her honor.

program, patients meet with Heart Failure Improvement Clinic staff via a monitor from their local Marshfield Clinic location and schedule phone calls for follow-up meetings.

“Nearly half the patients I treat are using telehealth technology,” said Joyce. “We’ve even reached patients in nursing homes through this technology. I was one of the most skeptical providers about using telehealth but I’ve become the one who really says, ‘this works.’ Patients really like not having to travel.”

The Heart Failure Improvement Clinic team also supports patients with specialized equipment. Last year, donations to heart care from people like you helped patients purchase specialized scales to take home.

“These scales really empower patients to take control of their health,” said Joyce. “We’ve used ‘talking’ scales for persons who are legally blind and scales with a greater weight capacity for some patients. These aren’t scales people can buy locally. Having them available is one of the greatest benefits for our heart failure patients because of donations.”

Research plays a role in caring for heart failure patients as well. Marshfield Clinic Research Institute scientists keep Heart Failure Improvement Clinic staff apprised of the latest studies in heart failure. The research team also alerts the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic if there is a study for which patients may qualify. Heart research at the Research Institute also is supported in part by philanthropy.

The Heart Failure Improvement Clinic system works. Data has shown patients in the program have an 80% less hospital readmission rate and live 52% longer than patients not in the program.

Heart Failure Improvement Clinic staff members form close relationships with many patients they serve, doing everything possible to create a positive experience despite a diagnosis with no cure. This personalized care approach has resulted in Joyce and several of her colleagues receiving Shining Stars, an award presented when grateful patients make donations in their honor. Joyce herself has been presented with 11 Shining Stars.

“I had one patient who made a Shining Star gift and one day he came in and I wasn’t wearing my Shining Star pin and he asked me why I didn’t have it on,” said Joyce. “I often feel like I’m just doing my job and we work as a team. But it wasn’t until he said that when I realized how important it is for patients to share their gratitude by giving back.”

Those donations, in turn, go back to support heart care and research initiatives at the Health System. For Joyce and the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic team, your support helps them enrich lives. ♦

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Heart care and research

Heart health is a top priority for public health, particularly in rural Wisconsin communities. Your gifts to heart care and research fund vital programs and services to keep more hearts beating strong...

- **NEARLY 1,800 PATIENTS** served by the Heart Failure Improvement Clinic
- **RENOVATION OF MARSHFIELD MEDICAL CENTER-MARSHFIELD’S CATH LAB**

- **9 ACTIVE CARDIOLOGY CLINICAL TRIALS**
 - **MORE THAN 270 HEART SURGERIES** and over 256,500 heart patient visits in 2018
 - **PATIENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS**
- Support heart care and research at Marshfield Clinic Health System: marshfieldclinic.org/giving/heart

Collaboration to conquer childhood cancer

MACC Fund support continues with a \$100,000 gift to pediatric cancer research at Marshfield Clinic Health System



The Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-Star players visited Marshfield Children’s Hospital along with the Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer (MACC) Fund in June to see the impact of the MACC Fund’s support for pediatric cancer research.

Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer, Inc. (MACC Fund) leaders donated \$100,000 to Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation in June for pediatric cancer research at the Health System.

Marshfield Clinic Health System’s children’s pediatric cancer specialists treat childhood cancers and blood disorders and staff the region’s only pediatric oncology inpatient unit at Marshfield Children’s Hospital in Marshfield.

With MACC Fund’s help, the Health System continues partnering with the Children’s Oncology Group to access nationwide resources for innovative pediatric oncology research. MACC Fund support has allowed Marshfield Clinic Health System to enroll more than 100 infants, child, adolescents and young adults diagnosed with cancer in clinical research studies and clinical therapeutic studies. Funds also support a full-time clinical research associate, a full-time clinical research nurse working exclusively with pediatric patients and a second Health System pediatric oncology site in Eau Claire to further serve pediatric oncology patients in western and northwestern Wisconsin.

“The MACC Fund’s continued generosity and support is critical to our efforts to move medicine forward through pediatric cancer research,” said Dr. Susan Turney, Marshfield Clinic Health System CEO. “This gift will help us advance cutting-edge research that impacts patients today and into the future.”

MACC Fund and Marshfield Clinic Health System began a partnership in 2017, joining the other long-established beneficiaries of MACC Fund support, namely Medical College of Wisconsin, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center.

“We are impressed with the great work being done in Marshfield to fight pediatric cancer,” said Kevin Steiner, vice chair of MACC Fund’s Board of Directors and president/CEO of West Bend Mutual Insurance Company. “The fact that there have been over 100 children’s oncology enrollments demonstrates the difference the Marshfield Clinic Health System is making in the lives of pediatric cancer families. The MACC Fund is committed to assisting the Marshfield Clinic Health System to provide innovative treatments children need, so they have the best chance of becoming survivors.”

“This partnership is such a fantastic opportunity to bring together these young athletes who are fundraising for childhood cancer research and show them how their support is making a difference here in Marshfield and all of the surrounding real communities,” said Teri Wilczek, Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation chief philanthropy officer. “It’s an honor for these athletes to



The Krause family of Marshfield, Dave, wife Becky and sons Will and Ben, shared how donations to pediatric cancer research and cancer care at Marshfield Clinic Health System have helped their family. Will (second from left) is currently battling cancer for the second time and is receiving treatment at Marshfield Children’s Hospital.

be selected as All-Stars, but it’s a bigger honor to provide hope to children in need. We are so thankful to the MACC Fund for their ongoing partnership and commitment to Marshfield Clinic Health System and Marshfield Children’s Hospital. Our pediatric cancer research program is thriving and providing the best possible treatments to children because of their support.”

The non-profit MACC Fund was founded in 1976 by Jon McGlocklin, former Milwaukee Bucks player and television color analyst, and Eddie Doucette, former Bucks play-by-play announcer whose son Brett was diagnosed with leukemia as a toddler in 1975. The MACC Fund has contributed over \$65 million dollars for childhood cancer and related blood disorder research.

MACC Fund is the beneficiary of the annual Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Boys and Girls All-Star Games, held this year on June 14-15 in Wisconsin Dells. The WBCA’s support of the MACC Fund dating back to 1978 is the second longest-standing sponsor following the Milwaukee Bucks. ♦

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 healthcare for generations as the trusted leader in healthcare 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

We can do so much more for our patients because of you.

Your gifts have a direct impact for cancer patients, sick and injured kids, heart patients, families in need and so many others at Marshfield Clinic Health System. Your support makes important programs and services possible for the patients we serve.



Enrich lives today

marshfieldclinic.org/giving/donate



Marshfield Clinic
Health System
Foundation