



SAINTS

Alive!

Miracles happen because of you

A Solace for the Soul

Your support helps patients like Kirk find comfort during hard times

We might think we are nurturing our garden, but many times, it's the garden that is really nurturing us. One recent patient and avid gardener found true comfort in the rooftop garden at HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center last spring.



Kirk Becker was considered to many near and dear to him as a master chef and baker, starting his culinary career being trained by his father, and ended up progressing to the kitchen of HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center. After several years he decided

to make a change and pursue his dream of working with technology. It was at the hospital that his computer skills were recognized as he worked as part of the IT department for many years to come, totaling his time with HSHS more than 30 years.

Fast forward 13 years later and he found himself back in a familiar place, but this time he was not cooking or working on computers. Kirk was being treated on the fifth floor of HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center for chronic pancreatitis, an extremely painful disease. After countless tests and cancelled surgeries, his condition was getting worse. Shortly thereafter he lost his ability to digest food, and his condition quickly progressed to gastroparesis. His caregivers at the hospital continued to treat him with kindness and compassion during his long stay.

"The team at St. Mary's did everything possible to bring him back to full health," said Elaine, his sister, who stood by his side as much as possible. After two months in the hospital the nurses on the fifth floor learned a lot about him, his love for cooking, technology and most importantly gardening.

Kirk, in his spare time, was a volunteer gardener, as he lived near Murphy Park where he routinely would take care of the flowers. One of the nurses treating him knew about his love for gardening, and on his last day at the hospital, took him to the rooftop garden on the third floor. "He was so

moved by this gesture, that he cried tears of appreciation and asked that we use some of his assets to support the garden," stated Elaine. A few days later, Kirk passed away at Elaine's woodland home up north, right in his favorite spot, her deck overlooking nature.

Thanks to donors like YOU, Kirk had a space where he could go to escape the pain and discomfort he was going through during his illness, which in-turn allowed Kirk's family to make their decision even easier. After Kirk's passing, his family decided to establish a fund for the rooftop garden at HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center.



"Even though he is gone from this earthly existence, we know his legacy will continue with the rooftop garden, may it be a place of peace for many others that deal with such chronic illnesses," said Elaine.



THANK YOU

The past year has been another challenging one to say the least. Communities all over Northeast Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula trust and rely on HSHS St. Vincent and St. Mary's Hospitals for their health care needs. Your generous contributions to HSHS St. Vincent/St. Mary's Foundation allow our caregivers to provide patients and their families with exceptional and compassionate care during times of great need. Thank you so much for your unconditional support over the past year. You, along with 2,088 other supporters, continue to help our community receive the best care in the region year after year! Thank you!

Last year, your support provided end of treatment gifts for those who beat cancer, continued to supply pillows that bring comfort to heart patients, ensured our caregivers have the best PPE possible to continue to work through the pandemic and so much more.

Thank you for selecting US as your charity of choice. We hope you continue to be inspired and driven by how your donations support patients and their families in a time of great need. I, along with our Executive Leaders, Hospital Board, Foundation Leadership Council, and the entire Foundation team, look forward to so many more bright spots in 2022.

Warmly,



Meggie J Cramer
Foundation Director
HSHS St. Vincent/St. Mary's Foundation



Strength in Numbers

A look back on what YOU made possible in 2021

Every day, people across Northeast Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula come to our hospitals for their health care needs. As a generous donor to HSHS St. Vincent/St. Mary's Foundation, your support provides these patients and families in your communities with the hope and healing they need.

Miracles happen at HSHS St. Vincent and St. Mary's Hospitals because of YOUR continued support. From providing newborn babies in need with breastmilk to continuing to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, you made all that possible and so much more!

Here is a quick look back at the some of the impact you made in 2021:

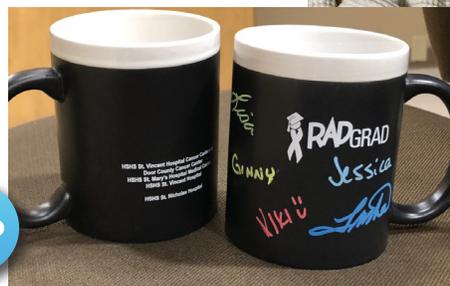


BARIATRIC PROCEDURE CHAIR

Your generous support made visits easier for patients at HSHS St. Vincent Regional Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center. This equipment reduces the struggle for patients who cannot lift their legs up into manual recliner chairs by allowing them optimal positioning for many of their treatments.

END OF TREATMENT GIFTS/PATIENT ROBES

Patients who complete their radiology treatment now receive a "Rad Grad" mug. This may seem like a very small gesture, but to the patient it is a celebration of the completion of their treatment. This would not be possible without your support. Your support brings comfort and healing to patients receiving radiology treatments. New patient robes were provided to the radiology department.



COLLEAGUE SCHOLARSHIPS

You made it possible for colleagues to pursue their health care career dreams. 56 colleagues are advancing their health care degrees and obtaining specialized certifications, to continue to give their patients the best care possible.



GERMBUSTERS/COVID-19

Who you gonna call? Germbusters! You continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. New HEPACART Germbuster 5000 technology was purchased, to continuously disinfects the air in patient waiting rooms or anywhere else those who may be infected are at risk of spreading the virus.

JustGiving™



Inspire others to support your passion!

Create an online fundraiser with Just Giving

Start an online fundraiser with Just Giving and inspire others to join you in supporting HSHS St. Vincent and HSHS St. Mary's Hospitals. It is so easy! Whether you want to honor a loved one or celebrate a major milestone, like your birthday, wedding, or special event – there are endless opportunities to share your passion with your friends and family. Creating an online fundraiser is an **EASY** and **EFFECTIVE** way for you to make a difference in the lives of patients and families being cared for at YOUR hospital.

This is another opportunity to give back to a program or service that means the most to you! To create your fundraiser, visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/svsm> today!

Need help? Contact Shane.Starr@hshs.org