

SAINTS

Alive!

Miracles happen because of you



Home is where the heart is

Your investment is bringing top providers BACK to Oconto Falls

Rural hospitals are a crucial part of the health care system. Contributing to overall community well-being, they are a critical component of communities across rural America. They provide services ranging from primary care to long-term care. However, many rural hospitals have closed their doors within the past decade due to financial instability from reduced patient volumes and not being able to recruit or retain quality providers.



That is not the case at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital. Because of YOUR investment, HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital has been able to invest in the community they serve and recruit some of the best providers from right here in their own backyard. Dr. Amy Romandine Kratz and Dr. Stacey Goedel Birr are just two examples of exceptional providers wanting to serve the community they call “home”.

Dr. Romandine Kratz was born and raised in Oconto Falls, at Community Memorial Hospital to be exact, before heading off to UW-Madison’s School of Medicine and Public Health. “It always was the plan, to come back close to home and be able to serve the community I grew up in,” said Dr. Romandine Kratz. Her ties to the hospital and community run deep. She volunteered at the hospital while in high school and her family has a strong presence in the area as well.



Dr. Stacey Goedel Birr has a similar path that led her to where she is today. Dr. Goedel Birr was born in Green Bay but raised in Lena. After finishing medical school at De Moines University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine, she completed her residency in Appleton. “It was always my goal to come back,” said Dr. Goedel Birr. “Being able to look out for the community you grew up around is very rewarding.”

Both doctors could have built their careers in many different places, including nearby Green Bay, but that did not stop them from wanting to return and provide top-tier health care to their own community. As a matter of fact, it made them want to work even harder to show just what HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital can do and what it means to the Oconto Falls community.

continued on page 2

Home is where the heart is,

continued from page 1

“I feel the hospital is thriving here in Oconto Falls. HSHS’s mission has changed the hospital for the better, given all the services they can offer,” stated Dr. Romandine Kratz. HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital allows the residents of Oconto Falls and the surrounding communities to access exceptional care. It gives them the ability to stay close to home instead of having to travel to the city to receive a high standard of care. “We are doing an amazing job here at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital,” said Dr. Goedtel Birr. “Everyone knows everyone here in this community; we have gained the trust of the region.”

Residents of rural communities usually travel long distances to receive quality health care, which makes HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital even more important to the region it serves. “We are bringing the specialists to the patients, not the patients to the specialists,” added Dr. Romandine Kratz.

Because of your investment in HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital, residents of Oconto Falls and the surrounding communities are able to have access to the highest standard of care without having to travel far from home. Dr. Romandine Kratz and Dr. Goedtel Birr are just two of the many exceptional caregivers who strive to make HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital a pillar in the community for years to come.

A CENTURY IN THE MAKING

HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Celebrates 100 Years of Exceptional Health Care

HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital opened its doors in 1921. At the time, it was located at 125 S. Main Street and known as Community Memorial Hospital.

Multiple changes and upgrades have occurred since the hospital’s inception. In 1954, the hospital

moved to the former City Hall, which was remodeled to accommodate a larger facility and provide for more care.

In 1972, the current facility at 855 S. Main Street was opened, and in 2003, a \$9 million donor-supported expansion and renovation of the facility was completed. This renovation was crucial to the community, as it included a new Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, Imaging Department, and Laboratory.

A lot has changed since then, yet so much remains the same. In the fall of 2014, Community Memorial Hospital joined the Hospital Sisters Health System and became HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital. Throughout the entire process, you prioritized health care excellence in the community. Since joining the HSHS family, the hospital and the HSHS St. Clare Foundation have been able to complete exciting renovations, purchase or upgrade vital equipment, and establish new programs and services.

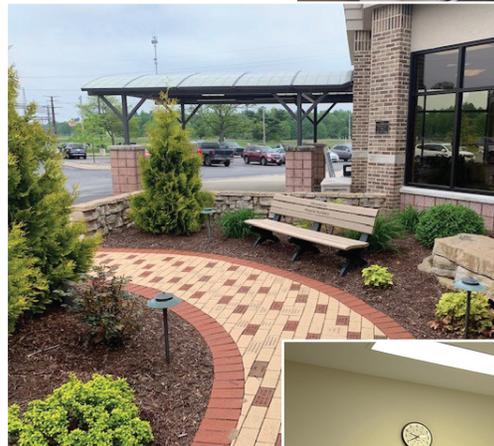


These projects, which total \$968,290, are due to YOUR support and include:





- State-of-the-art MRI
- Digital Mammography
- New Chapel
- Welcome Center Upgrades
- Hyperbaric Chamber
- LUCAS Chest Compressor
- Prayer Garden
- Nurse's Nook
- Eagle Telemedicine Equipment
- Surgical Suite
- Scholarship Program
- Pediatric Dental Program
- Home Sleep Study Monitoring System
- Hana Table for Orthopedics
- Instrument Washer
- Infusion Chairs
- Automated Cell Washer



All these enhancements are vital for the caregivers at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital and ensure that patients have the best care possible. You rallied behind the hospital through remodels, expansions and the transition to the HSHS family. THANK YOU for making this possible. Because of YOU, HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital will continue to be a pillar in Oconto County for the next 100 years!



Your Gift Impacts EVERYONE

100% of YOUR support makes a difference

Did you know that 100% of your donation helps families who walk through the doors of HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital? Your contribution helps our medical professionals stay current with the best medical practices, which ensure their patients are getting expert care during their stay.



12 Months: 12 Gifts of Healing and Hope

Become a monthly donor today

Providing renewed health and hope to patients at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital is now easier than ever. By becoming a monthly donor, you can continually comfort and heal the patients in our care. As a monthly donor, you will contribute/receive:

- Make automatic monthly donations paid from your credit card.
- Designate your gift to a specific need like cancer care or to the area of greatest need.
- Receive an annual acknowledgment letter for tax purposes.
- Elect to change or suspend your donation at any time.

BEGINNING IS EASY!

1. Visit our secure, online donation form at <https://giving.hshs.org/sco/donate>.
2. Select a monthly gift amount or add your own.
3. Check "Make this a monthly gift".
4. Provide your contact info, payment method, and any optional details.
5. Click "Donate Now".

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact us at 920-433-8620 or WI-Foundations@hshs.org.