



WINTER 2023

Almost Home

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Saints Alive! is a quarterly publication, edited by Shane Starr. If you would like to opt out of receiving future fundraising requests, write the HSHS St. Clare Foundation at P.O. Box 11706, Green Bay, WI 54307-1706

Almost Home

YOUR SUPPORT ALLOWS PATIENTS MORE TIME FOR REHABILITATION

Last summer, Kristin Bates of Daggett, Michigan, was preparing to leave to see her endocrinologist in Oconto Falls, when she fell in her yard. The loud crack made her think she had broken her ankle, but she didn't want to miss her appointment, so she got in the car and headed to Oconto Falls.

Once she made it to her appointment and told her endocrinologist what had happened, she was advised to visit the HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Emergency Room (ER). The caregivers at the ER confirmed Kristin fractured her ankle and completely knocked the

long bone out. She had major surgery to fix and reset these bones.

Kristin started occupational and physical therapy while recovering in the hospital, but she knew she wouldn't be able to go straight home. She needed more rehab before she could return to living alone but was worried about going to a traditional rehab facility. Kristen was worried that environment might have higher rates of COVID-19.

She was so grateful to learn about the Almost Home Swing Bed Program at

Almost Home

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HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital. This is an option for patients who cannot go home yet, but do not need the higher level of care a hospital brings. It gives patients the space and assistance needed to recover in a home-like setting.

During her time in the Swing Bed Program, Kristin continued working with physical and occupational therapists who helped her strengthen her ankle after the surgery. "They worked hard with me every day I was there," said Kristin. After a month and a half, her caregivers noticed she had improved her strength enough to go home and get back to her normal routine.

"They worked so hard to help me get home, even helped arrange transportation. They were willing to do anything to get me back to the comforts of my own home," Kristin said while reflecting back on her experience. She recalls all the hospital employees being so positive.

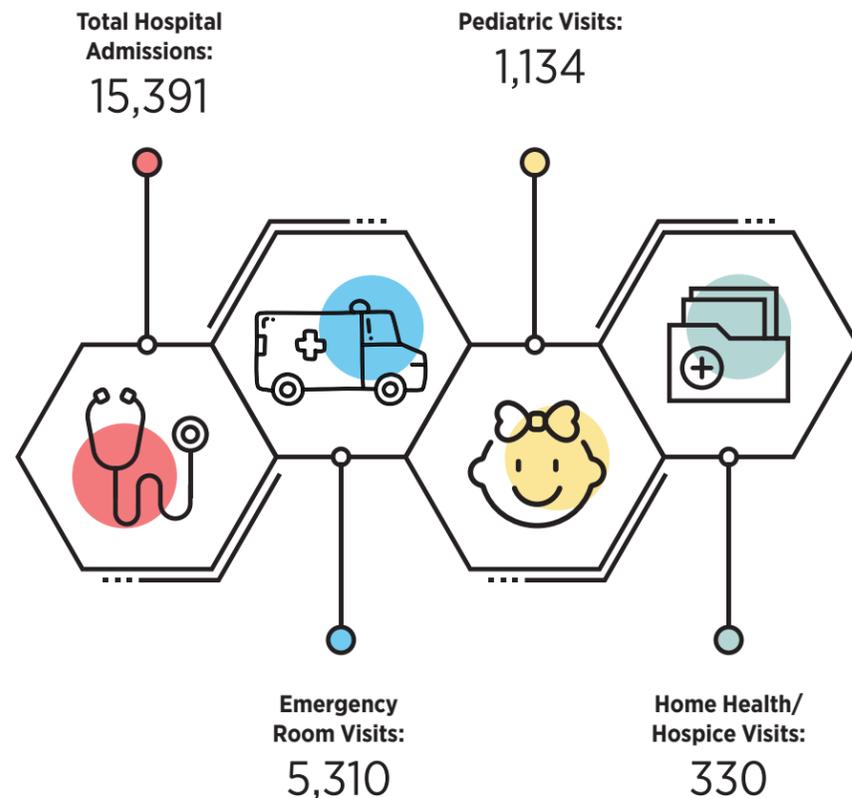
"It was a really good experience. I saw they were dedicated to their patients. I felt that they cared about me; I wasn't just ANOTHER patient in ANOTHER bed," said Kristin. Because of **YOUR** support, patients at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital have a comfortable environment to heal and build the strength they need to go home safely.

You are the Greatest Gift

YOUR SUPPORT IN 2022

Day in and day out, your gifts are hard at work, touching many service areas around the hospital. An elderly man seeking rehabilitation after a terrible fall, a woman giving birth to her first child, or a little girl on her way to the emergency room – **YOUR** support impacts them all!

This is the care we provide each day. Gifts like yours to the HSHS St. Clare Foundation directly and indirectly touch **ALL** patients we serve each year.



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 easier than ever. By becoming a monthly donor, you can continually comfort and heal patients in our care in **YOUR** community. As a monthly donor, you will contribute/receive:

- Make **automatic** monthly donations paid from your credit card, it is easy and convenient.
- It enables you to make a larger impact by spreading payments out, rather than one lump sum.
- Designate your gift to a specific need close to **YOUR** heart or to the area of greatest need.
- Receive an annual acknowledgement letter for tax purposes.
- Elect to change or suspend your donation at any time. You're in complete control. If you need to make changes, please let us know.

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.



YOUR Support Brings NEW Equipment to HSHS St. Clare Laboratory

Over time, HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital saw an increase in patients needing platelet transfusions. Platelets are commonly transfused in patients who are at an increased risk of dangerous bleeding; have a low platelet count; or have platelet dysfunction due to trauma, surgery, cancer treatments (chemotherapy, total body radiation, or targeted therapies); or decreased bone marrow production of platelets.

The goal of a platelet transfusion is to stop or prevent bleeding in those patients. However, the laboratory team at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital needed a new platelet agitator to keep up with the volume. Because of your support, the tumbler platelet agitator that had been used for over 30 years was replaced with a new flatbed platelet agitator with an incubator, to ensure that patients are transfused with quality and effective platelets.

“The St. Clare Laboratory is grateful for the generosity of the donors,” said Katherine Taggart, Laboratory Manager. “This allows us to provide high quality patient care in our rural community!”

