



SAINTS

Alive!

Linda is Free to Move Because Of You

Your generosity made her surgery possible

Last summer, when more and more people took to the great outdoors in search of safe socially-distanced activities, Linda Schrevens was stuck in bed. She had been there more than six months with a pressure wound that would not heal. Using her wheelchair was painful and would only make the wound worse, so she was confined to her bed with no end in sight.

What she really needed was surgery, but her doctor wouldn't perform the procedure until he knew Linda had access to an air-flow bed during her recovery. This specialized bed was vital because it eliminates the pressure a person's body experiences while lying on the bed. It would give her body the best chance to fully heal. Unfortunately, her insurance wouldn't cover the cost of the air-flow bed. Her condition after surgery would not require the specified level of skilled nursing required for them to authorize the bed's use.

Linda was in a catch-22 and that's where you stepped in.

With your donations to HSHS St. Clare Foundation, the hospital rented an air-flow bed for the Almost Home Swing Bed program at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital. This rehabilitation service didn't exceed the level of care the insurance company would approve and it had everything her surgeon wanted for Linda's successful recovery. She went in for surgery on Sept. 25, 2020 and spent the next five weeks laying in the air-flow bed healing.

Linda is incredibly grateful for the caregivers at St. Clare. "After several weeks of pretty intimate care, you get to be like family," she shared. "Some of the staff ran off word puzzles for me and others would visit with me when they had some free time. I miss them all."

Thanks to donors like you, Linda is back in her wheelchair and mobile again. "That surgery allows me to be back out in the world," she explains. "I was bed-bound for over a year and now I can visit friends (with COVID-19 precautions) and do all the things I love again. I'm so grateful."



Scholarship Recipient Finds Her Calling

Jennifer cares for more patients because of you



“When a nun says to do it, you kind of have to,” jokes Jennifer Brzezinski as she recalls her decision to become a nurse. She started her career with Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) as a transcriptionist at HSHS St. Mary’s Hospital in Green Bay. As part of her training, she took the Meyers-Briggs personality test and was surprised when the results showed she would make a good nurse. She shared the recommendation with Sister Annice McClure, OSF, the human resources representative hosting the training, and explained that her mother and grandmother told her the same thing when she was growing up. That was all Sr. Annice needed to hear. “You need to do this,” she told Jennifer.

With encouragement from nurses she knew at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital, Jennifer became a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and fell in love with caring for others. She enjoyed the work and especially enjoyed the people she cared for, but soon it wasn’t enough. “I can do more,” she thought. “I want to do more for my patients.”

Jennifer was nervous about going back to school. She wondered if she would be good enough, but her husband reassured her. He saw her passion and how eager she was to care for each of her patients to the best of her ability. “I was so worried that I didn’t tell anyone for a whole year,”

Jennifer shared. “But when my coworkers at St. Clare found out, everyone was really encouraging and they asked why I hadn’t done it sooner.”

These same coworkers told Jennifer to apply for a scholarship through the HSHS St. Clare Foundation – a scholarship funded by donors like you. “I had applied for so many other scholarships and none came through,” she said. “I didn’t want to get another rejection letter, but my friends wouldn’t give up until I applied.”

Jennifer calls her scholarship award letter the “biggest surprise of her life.” She cried tears of joy when she opened it. “This means a lot to me and my family, but it means so much more because of the friends at work cheering me on. They are my inspiration and I learn so much from them every day. I am so fortunate to have so many people supporting me and pushing me to succeed.”

Thanks to donors like you, scholarships are awarded every spring to HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital colleagues who want to do more to help the patients they care for every day.



Double or Triple Your Giving Employer Gift Matching

Many employers encourage their employees to support nonprofits by offering a matching gift program. Sometimes they even double or triple your gift to our hospital! Many companies also match gifts from retirees and spouses.

Every employer’s program is different, so ask your HR representative if your company has a matching gift program today.