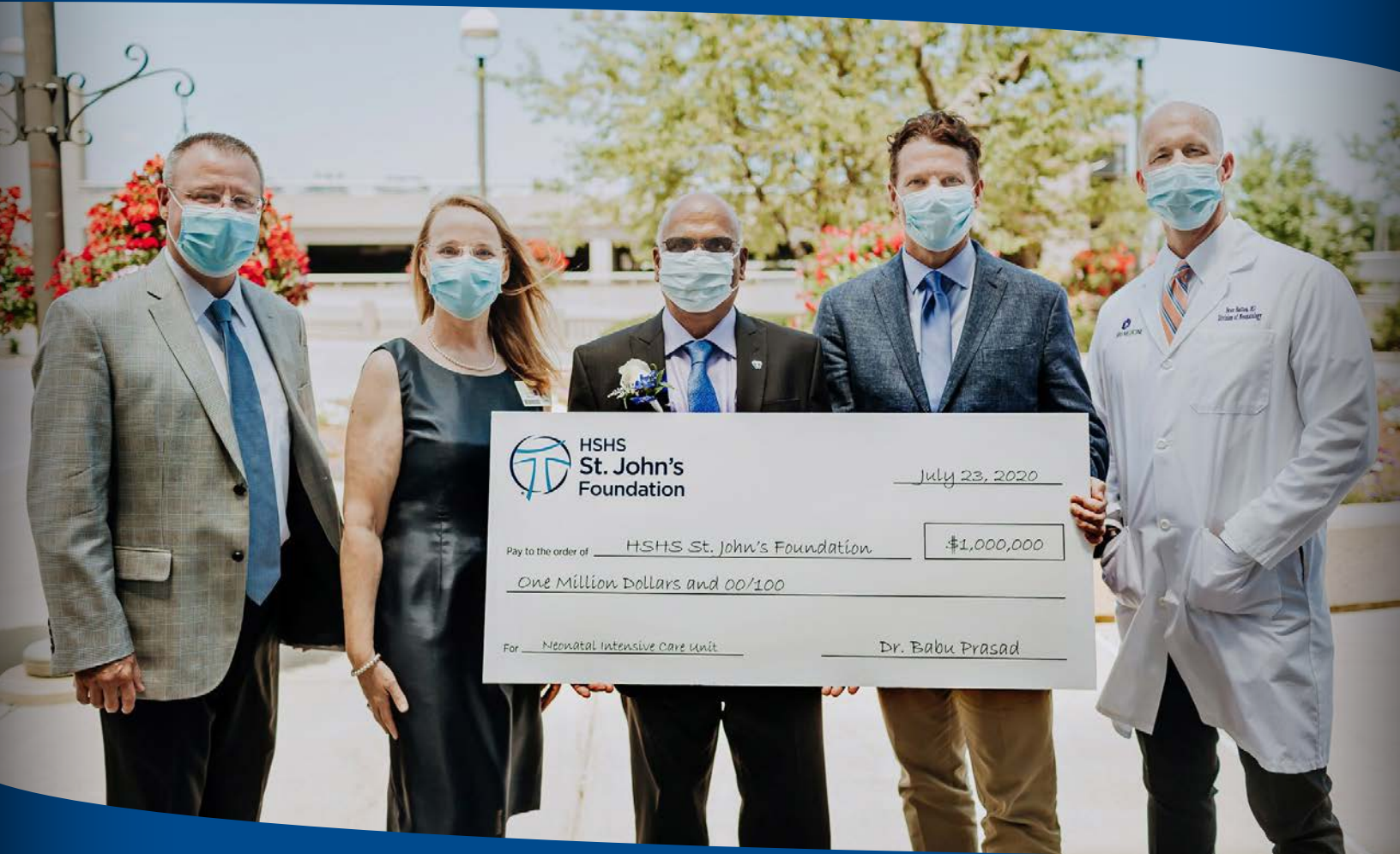


HSHS St. John's Foundation  
**IMPACT REPORT**  
Fall 2020



Your gift *matters.*

HSHS St. John's Foundation received a generous donation of \$1,000,000 for the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at HSHS St. John's Children's Hospital from retired Springfield anesthesiologist Dr. Babu Prasad.



## Dr. Prasad's *generous* gift for the NICU



Dr. Prasad joined St. John's Hospital in 1986 and worked as an anesthesiologist until his retirement in 2004. He now works part-time at a pain management clinic.

"I came to this country from India in 1971. I had no money and only arrived with my plane ticket. I want to give back to a country that has given so much to my family and me. Springfield is a beautiful city and a wonderful place to live," Dr. Babu Prasad said. "I gave this contribution because I want Springfield to continue to grow, bring new jobs here and build upon the excellent medical community and medical services we all enjoy. Children are our future so I wanted to direct my gift to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) to give the babies a healthy start to their lives. By donating this gift to HSHS St. John's Foundation, I am giving back to a hospital, a community and a country I dearly love."

St. John's is currently expanding and updating the NICU to provide single-family patient rooms for the first time in St. John's 78-year history of caring for premature and critically-ill infants. The St. John's NICU cares for approximately 700 babies annually from a 35-county area.

"Dr. Prasad's gift is a beautiful testament as to who he is as a person," said Beverly Neisler, chief development officer at HSHS St. John's Foundation. "He is a generous and kind man who has built a successful life through his hard work, dedication and determination. Today St. John's, and our most vulnerable patients, are benefitting from his generosity. HSHS St. John's Foundation is grateful for this wonderful gift and grateful for Dr. Prasad. He means so much to all of us."

## Pandemic *giving* helped ease shelter-in-place hardships



- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Emergency Colleague Assistance Program. The program, which ended July 31, was funded by donations and the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis Foundation, which includes HSHS St. John's Foundation. It was created to help colleagues who had difficulty covering basic expenses due to COVID-19. This program provided more than 2,100 HSHS colleagues with \$50 food or \$25 gas gift cards — totaling nearly \$500,000. Approximately 1,700 HSHS Illinois colleagues received \$370,000 in gift cards.
- Generous donations to HSHS St. John's Foundation supported a gift of \$7,000 for rooms at the Carpenter Street Hotel for displaced neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) families. The gift also provided County Market gift cards for pediatric and NICU families during the shelter-in-place.
- HSHS St. John's Foundation donors provided funding for the home health team to purchase gift bags for their patients during shelter-in-place. Many of these patients have compromised immune systems, minimal visitors, and/or the inability to leave their homes to get items they need. The bags included snacks, facial tissue, toilet paper, bottled water, puzzle books, lotion, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and more.

## Baby *William* gets better



Generous contributions to HSHS St. John's Foundation purchased three video laryngoscopes and a variety of other important instruments for the emergency department. A video laryngoscope provides a safe, close-up view of the larynx and throat on patients of every age. The device provides real-time video recording and still images for optimal viewing.

William and Katheryn brought their five-week-old son, William, to HSHS St. John's Children's Hospital from White Hall, IL. Baby William was not eating, constipated, dehydrated and his stomach was distended. Dr. Sandra Ettema, an ear, nose and throat specialist and assistant professor of the department of surgery at SIU School of Medicine, used the video laryngoscope and discovered a cyst in William's throat was blocking 80% of his airway. The next day William had surgery to remove the cyst. He was almost immediately feeling better and hungry!

Today, William is a healthy, happy little boy. He loves being outdoors, spending time with his two older brothers and "working" in his dad's shop.

## Pediatric *Healing* Garden renovation

We invite you to be a part of the new Pediatric Healing Garden at HSHS St. John's Children's Hospital. Bring joy to pediatric patients and their families by helping to create a beautiful outdoor space for relaxation, togetherness and reflection. Located on the 5th floor, the pediatric healing garden is easily accessible from the pediatric unit. When it was dedicated in 2009, it was a state-of-the-art area used by patients and their families as a place to unwind and rejuvenate. Today, the garden and play area continue to be a popular outdoor space. However, the modern healing environment calls for more stringent regulatory and patient safety guidelines than what was required a decade ago. These new measures have challenged us to rethink how to best bring the outside world to our smallest patients. With your help, we can update the space to make it more patient friendly and inviting for adults and children alike.



*Planned updates include:*

- Maintenance-friendly landscaping and lighting
- Maintenance-free turf
- Kid-friendly walking and wheelchair surfaces
- Wheelchair-friendly entryway
- Music
- Wheelchair-accessible swing
- Outdoor benches and wheelchair-accessible picnic tables
- Synthetic trees that light up year round
- Festive wall decor

## *Good news!*

AmazonSmile is now available in the Amazon Shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones so AmazonSmile customers can now support HSHS St. John's Hospital - Hospital Sisters of St. Francis! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device.
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'.
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.

(If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app, please update your app.)

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.



*Kaitlyn Couturiaux: far right.  
Photo taken before COVID-19. (We are now masked!)*

## Meet St. John's College *scholarship* recipient Kaitlyn

After graduating from Waverly High School, I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign earning a bachelor's degree in community health with a concentration in health administration. I volunteered through my sorority to help serve the Champaign and Urbana communities through several service events. I was also a student volunteer in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Carle Foundation Hospital. While volunteering at Carle, I saw how passionate and caring the NICU nurses were and was inspired by the compassion they showed the families who spent many hours and days in that unit.

One of my greatest experiences during my time at the University of Illinois was a semester internship at Carle Foundation Hospital with the directors of women and children's services programs. This experience gave me the opportunity to learn more about the administrative side of health care, as I was given the opportunity to sit in on meetings and observe what happens behind the scenes to manage a health center. I was also fortunate enough to be able to shadow nurses in the NICU, labor and delivery and postpartum units.

After graduating from the University of Illinois, I moved to Florida and worked at an interventional pain management facility. I gained significant knowledge of administrative duties and the importance of efficient documentation. These roles also helped further develop my communication and collaboration skills, supplementing my education with practical work experience. During these experiences, I learned that nursing is a very demanding and strenuous career, but also extremely rewarding. The nurses at Carle Foundation Hospital, along with my grandmother and aunt, who are both nurses at St. John's Hospital, inspired me to become a nurse.

Attending nursing school at St. John's College has been one of my best decisions. I have met some of the greatest people, including fellow students, instructors and current nurses. I have grown so much and am thankful for all of the opportunities St. John's provides to student nurses. I look forward to pursuing my nursing career at St. John's Hospital after graduation.

Covid 19 has shown the world that nurses are a very important part of the front line of fighting this pandemic and having well trained nurses is vital to all of us! Contributions to St. John's College of Nursing to help provide scholarships, teaching equipment and training opportunities for students and faculty. - *Kaitlyn Couturiaux, senior nursing student, St. John's College*

### **Thank you to our very generous donors who contributed to establishing new annual and endowed scholarships in FY20!**

- \*Jeannie Marie Hanson Memorial Endowment
- \*The Blanche Martyn Barnes Scholarship Endowment
- \*Mr. Gahanan S. Bhatt Scholarship Endowment
- \*Mrs. Shantaben G. Bhatt Scholarship Endowment
- +Cheryl A. (Christ) Bruder, '66
- +Darlene Collins Maddox, RN, '43

- \*Leahy Sisters Legacy Scholarship
- +St. John's Society for Service and Leadership
- \*Sister Mary Paul Watts, OLC, RN, '54

*The \* is for endowed scholarships.  
The + is for annual scholarships.*