

FRIENDS & Family

Miracles happen because of you

A Message from our New, HSHS Wisconsin CEO, Andy Bagnall

Dear Friends,

I want to take a moment to address you directly, to share with you our hospital's journey with Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). But first, I want to extend my deepest appreciation for your support and friendship. This year, donors like you have lifted the spirits of our colleagues and our patients many times over. Whether you made masks by hand, sent a donation to the Crisis Response Fund or prayed for our health care workers, our hospitals were better for it.

As the COVID-19 cases appeared in our community this spring, our operations shifted dramatically. Necessary at the time was limiting visitors to the hospital, distributing vast amounts of PPE to health care workers, and canceling all elective procedures - all of which had a huge financial impact on our hospitals. This was done, of course, to keep our patients safe.

The effects of COVID-19 on our employees were equally challenging. Our colleagues made the decision to come to work every day to care for the sick and vulnerable - something they are called to do. Colleagues were faced with tough choices - some had to isolate from their families, others were met with long hours and tough assignments, and everyone experienced the uncertainty of this pandemic.

And while there were challenges, I cannot overstate how proud I am of our colleagues, our physicians and our community. What I witnessed was the goodness of people like you surrounding our health care professionals with love and support. Your care and generosity were truly inspiring.

As we build back and recover from the effects of this pandemic, we will stay focused on the needs of our patients and the families we serve. Please know, your gifts will continue to make this care possible.

You are an integral part of our future and I thank you once again for your support.

Warm regards,
Andy Bagnall



Accomplishing more together

A look back on what you made possible in 2020

Every day, people across Northeast Wisconsin trust our hospitals with their health care needs. As a generous donor to HSHS St. Nicholas Foundation, your gifts enable HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital to provide these patients and families with the health, hope and healing they need.

Your generosity this past year made a BIG impact in 2020! From upgrading life-saving dialysis equipment to helping us prepare for the coronavirus pandemic by helping with critical supplies and resources for colleagues, patients and visitors, you made all of this and so much more possible.

Here's a quick look at the impact you made:

TENDING TO DIALYSIS PATIENTS

Life-saving care, close to home

Patients whose kidneys are failing or damaged need regular dialysis treatment to stay alive. At HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital, these patients now benefit from

two brand new donor-funded dialysis machines, which filter out the impurities, waste and water building up in one's body.



LIGHT THERAPY FOR NEWBORNS

Upgraded equipment brings comfort

Thanks to your support, our tiniest patients are benefitting from upgraded bilirubin lights, light therapy used to treat newborn jaundice. With this technology, newborns can have the best resources to get home sooner.

COLLEAGUE SCHOLARSHIPS

Colleagues pursue their health care dreams

Multiple colleagues were given the opportunity to pursue advanced health care degrees and specialized certifications as a direct result of your support to **scholarships and educational opportunities.**



EX3™ STEPPER

Advancing prostate cancer detection

Your support enabled HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital to put the EX3™ Stepper in the hands of our radiation therapists and oncologists. When in position, this technology works in conjunction with software to detect and treat prostate cancer.

ARTHREX KNEE SCORPION

New tool aids physician during knee repairs

Patients with a torn meniscus can now get back to doing what they love because of donors like you. Saving time, the Arthrex Knee Scorpion, allows surgeons to suture in the small spaces of the knee.

COVID-19

Strengthening our preparedness and response

Your gifts have helped us prepare and respond to the evolving demands of the COVID-19 pandemic. From generous donations to hand-written notes and deliveries of **coffee, flowers, masks and more**—your generosity knows no bounds.





“The staff were very kind and treated me with respect and dignity.”

~Steve

You Gave Steve a New Lease on Life

Surgery during COVID-19

Preparing for surgery can often be nerve-racking and scheduling one in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic can heighten that anxiety. For Kiel resident, Steve, 74, delaying his surgery would leave a profound impact on his day-to-day life.

“I was nervous anytime I left the house. I was afraid to cast my fishing rod. I was afraid to volunteer. The slightest bit of pressure would make the hemorrhoids bleed. It was the worst feeling ever.”

After two years of sporadic episodes, the problem got worse. Steve shared, “My wife and I had just gotten back from a 7-day trip to Florida when I said, ‘I need to have this looked at.’”

Eager to find relief, Steve connected with Dr. Christopher Garces, general surgeon at Prevea Health, who determined surgery would be needed. Because of COVID-19, Steve was initially told surgery would be three to four months out, but his stars aligned, and Steve was able to have surgery in under three weeks’ time.

The pre-screening process for Steve was different than previous experiences, given the precautions for COVID-19. He was tested in Sheboygan for the virus and quarantined himself until the day of the surgery.

On May 19, Steve walked through the doors of HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital for surgery with Dr. Garces. Nervous at first, colleagues quickly put him at ease with their laughter and jokes. “The staff were very kind and treated me with respect and dignity,” shared Steve.

Surgery was performed and the hemorrhoids were removed. “When I woke up, I was informed everything went well.”

Upon discharge from the hospital Steve thought recovery would take time. “I was amazed at how the symptoms subsided,” recalled Steve. “I went for a care-free walk in my neighborhood the next day.”

Thanks to HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital, Steve has never felt better.



Stay Tuned!

23rd Annual St. Nicholas Eve Gala

The must-attend St. Nicholas Eve Gala, hosted by the HSHS St. Nicholas Foundation, will look much different this year. While the evening will not feature a red carpet due to the coronavirus pandemic, there is an exciting plan in the works for you to have a lovely evening to celebrate the spirit of St. Nicholas, and the work being done at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital.



Spoiler alert: You won't need to shop for an evening gown, but you might want to wear something that allows you to roll up your sleeves.

Stay tuned for the 2020 version of this wonderful event! If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please reach out to snfoundation@hshs.org.



Sharing your impact

Newsletter receives fresh, new look



You, our faithful supporters, our dear friends and family, make miracles happen every day. We in philanthropy want you to know how important your generosity is to our patients, their families and our caregivers. This quarterly publication highlights the meaningful impact you make on our hospital.

Most recently, the Foundation's Friends & Family newsletter received a full makeover. While the overall content remains the same, the look incorporates a new design theme. We hope you like it!

The HSHS St. Nicholas Foundation raises much-needed funds to support the future care provided at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan.

Do you have a story to share?



Let us know at snfoundation@hshs.org and you could be featured in a future publication!