



Miracles happen...  
Because of YOU!

# Saints Alive!



FALL 2019

## HSHS St. Clare Brings You....The Nurse's Nook

### Your generous support provides comfort and specialized care to children in Oconto County

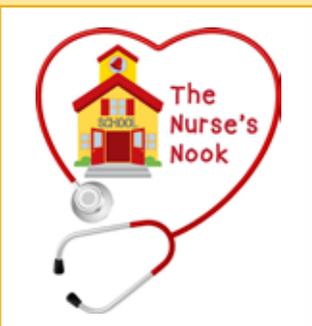
In a few short years, The Nurse's Nook Program has changed the lives of children and families in all five Oconto County school districts.

Designed to address the health risks faced by children living in rural communities, The Nurse's Nook is funded by the generosity of HSHS St. Clare Foundation and many wonderful people like you.

The Nurse's Nook facilitates community partner agencies working together – as a team – to assure that every child has the fighting chance they deserve. A variety of services are made possible to address students' physical, mental, emotional and social health care needs. By meeting these needs, vulnerable students can focus on learning.

Your support of The Nurse's Nook program

has allowed children to "just be kids." Enclosed is a summary of the impact made possible through your generosity this year.



## Every Child Deserves to "Just be a Kid"

### You are making a measurable impact on children's lives

As a rural health care provider, HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital recognizes that Oconto County students are not just local children – they are our patients too! In the summer of 2017, The Nurse's Nook became a program of HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital.

The Nurse's Nook works in collaboration with school nurses, guidance counselors and secretaries to support many children in Oconto County living in poverty. Medical equipment, over-the-counter medications, access to health care and referrals are provided to students in need. Items, made possible through your donations, are kept stocked within each of the school districts throughout the year and given to students free-of-charge on an, "as-needed" basis.

During the 2018-2019 academic school year, The Nurse's Nook was utilized more than 56,000 times! Here's how **your support** is helping kids, "just be kids":

1. For many students, basic needs are not basic. Students are healthier and more comfortable thanks to donations of towels, bedding, clothing, toothpaste, laundry detergent, food, and clothing.



2. Students were provided life-saving and life-improving equipment such as blood glucose meters, wheelchairs, and first aid products.



3. Assistance is available to families who otherwise could not afford transporting their children to medical appointments, which increased access to health care and wellness services for underserved residents in our community.

4. Children in Oconto County are getting the help they need through The Nurse's Nook referrals. This includes referring students for behavioral and substance abuse issues, referring students to the county for additional social service assistance, and working with outside organizations to facilitate housing for displaced students and their families.

## The Nurse's Nook Impact

Essential services are provided to children and families in Oconto County free of charge through The Nurse's Nook.

This is an ongoing program that is funded entirely through financial and in-kind donations.

**2017** 🗨️ **12**

**Schools received The Nurse's Nook services:**

Gillett School District, Oconto Falls School District, Suring School District

**2018** 🗨️ **19**

**Schools received The Nurse's Nook services:**

Addition of Lena Public School District and Oconto Unified School District

**2019** 🗨️ **21**

**Schools received The Nurse's Nook services:**

Addition of Fairview Elementary School and Sunnyside Elementary School (Pulaski School District), location within Oconto County.

## MESSAGE FROM FAMILY



### A special note for you

The number of children supported, winter jackets distributed, schools receiving aid, and the number of families we reach throughout the County – only tell part of The Nurse's Nook story. The real impact of your generosity is in the lives of children and their families who have new hope.

*We have four small children and one adult child at home. I am a nurse by trade, but am currently a stay-at-home mom because we cannot afford childcare. My fiancé is working as hard as he can at a local factory and he has taken a second job to bring in more income.*

*Besides raising our children, I am also the sole-caretaker for my grandmother who is under close medical watch. Every other day, if not every three days, I must transport her to receive her medical treatments. All the driving, cleaning and cooking is provided by me. I am trying my hardest to take care of her while trying to take care of my family too!*

*We moved to the Lena School District in hopes that our children will get the best education they can. I have been fortunate to receive AMAZING resources from our new town, and from The Nurse's Nook program, thanks to my medical provider referring me.*

*We do not qualify for any food stamps or other benefits at this time. I have used food pantries, I hunt and fish, and I have grown a garden at a friend's home.*

*I want to thank EVERYONE who has donated, helped and even prayed for families like mine. Every little thing helps when you are trying to provide for your family – but your efforts still fall short.*

*God bless each and every one of you,  
Grateful Mom*