



FRIENDS & Family

Miracles happen because of *you*.



WINTER 2023

No Place Like Home

You help us provide compassionate care at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital

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You are the Greatest Gift

Your support in 2022

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12 Months: 12 Gifts of Healing and Hope

Become a monthly donor today

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Friends & Family is a quarterly publication, edited by Shane Starr. If you would like to opt out of receiving future fundraising requests, write the HSHS St. Nicholas Foundation at 3100 Superior Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

No Place Like Home

YOU HELP US PROVIDE COMPASSIONATE CARE AT HSHS ST. NICHOLAS HOSPITAL

“A hospital is just an ordinary structure, until it’s staffed with EXTRAORDINARY people – and that is what I found at St. Nick’s.” Bonnie Miller lived most of her life in Illinois, raising four children and working 25 years in Chicago. “I moved to Wisconsin when I blew out 80 candles on my cake,” said Bonnie. Her children wanted to have her closer to them as she continued to blow out her candles.

At 86 years old, Bonnie is very active. Leading up to last year, she loved to cut her own lawn and landscape, and she continues to do all of her own housework. However, Bonnie realized something was not right as she began to have pain

in her lower back and hip. She was later diagnosed with sciatica, a common condition in which pain radiates along the sciatic nerve (running down one or both legs from the lower back).

Bonnie’s doctor thought there was more to her pain than just sciatica, so he ordered an x-ray. “The x-rays were frightening,” said Bonnie. Her doctor noticed the opposite hip was even worse and she would need a replacement. Shortly after, in January 2022, she began physical therapy (PT) to help reduce the pain from sciatica and strengthen the hip before replacement.

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Bonnie battled cancer twice and has had heart problems, so she is no stranger to hospital visits. Several weeks before the procedure, Bonnie took a class to help prepare for the surgery. She received a manual, notebook and a list of what to prep the house with after surgery.

On Sept. 27, 2022, Bonnie arrived at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital for her hip replacement procedure. "I'd only been through the doors of St. Nick's twice before," stated Bonnie. "I didn't know anything about St. Nick's, but I sure do now."

When Bonnie walked into the hospital, she was bent at the waist and holding one leg. Feeling frightened about this major procedure, what happened next was unexpected. She was greeted by the receptionist with a big smile, "It was so delightful, this stranger met me with a smile at the door. It meant the world to me and set the tone for the whole day!" exclaimed Bonnie.

From there, she was wheeled to her room by one of the nurses. Bonnie recalls the nurse smiling, laughing, and talking all the way. "I just loved her to pieces," said Bonnie, "I needed a friend to hold my hand at that time, she did that." Shortly thereafter, Dr. Scott Haskins, orthopedic surgeon, came into the room and let her know they were all ready to go.

Following the procedure, two PTs were waiting in Bonnie's room to assist her with walking. "I didn't expect to walk so soon," said Bonnie. After working with the PTs, she was walking up and down the hall a few hours later. Bonnie was ready to go home and in no pain.

*"If I had red shoes...
I would have clicked them,
because there is no place like home."*

After a few weeks of PT, Bonnie completed her therapy and is still active to this day. "Where would I go if I hurt myself today? I'm going to St. Nick's!" Because of **YOUR** support, patients like Bonnie find comfort and confidence in every caregiver at HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital.

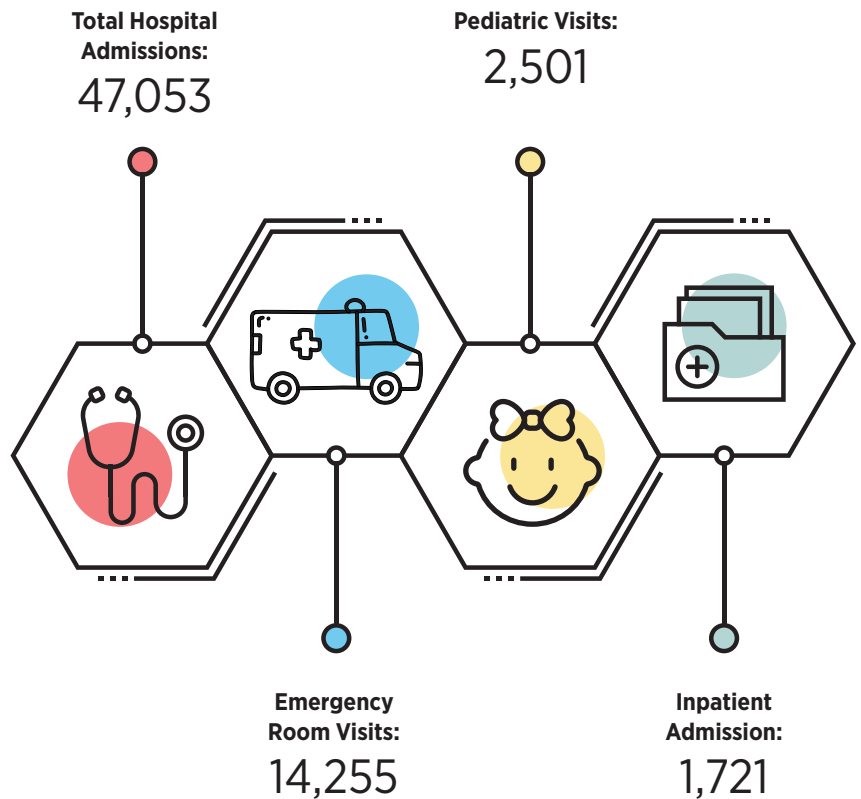


You are the Greatest Gift

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. Nicholas 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. Nicholas 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/sns/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.

St. Nicholas Eve Gala

The 25th Annual St. Nicholas Eve Gala was a wonderful success! This Christmas tradition for HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital celebrates the man and the mission to inspire generosity to care for all. This year, we hit record numbers of guests and dollars raised, all to be used for Charity Care to impact our community. We are grateful for the successful event and the generosity of so many!

