

GIVING *Hope*

Miracles happen because of you

Faith, Family and *Positivity*

Your support helps Stacey stay positive as she battles cancer

When you spend more than 30 years in the medical field, you see and experience many highs and lows for patients, but you never expect you will be next. Stacey Schemmel has dedicated her career to the medical profession, and she has seen her share of breast cancer patients. "Seeing patients come in with stage 4 or 5 breast cancer helped me know what I wanted to do," said Stacey, so she scheduled a mammogram at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital to get checked out.

She was meeting with her provider regularly and after her mammogram results were in, she was notified that they found a lump the size of a pea that would need a biopsy. "I knew that if you get a biopsy, there is a 50/50 chance it's cancer," said Stacey. Even though Stacey had worked in the medical profession for her whole career, she was given information she had not heard before. Stacey and her husband Dean have been married for 25 years and adopted two children of their own from the Philippines. Her doctor told her that her risk of breast cancer was increased because she couldn't have biological children of her own.

After the biopsy was completed, it was confirmed that Stacey in fact did have breast cancer. Stacey describes herself as positive and energetic, so she was not going to let this take her down. "I cried when my surgeon told me. With faith, family and friends, I knew I could get through this," stated Stacey. He put her on a treatment plan that would have her receiving six treatments of chemotherapy.



*(Back row, son John (16), Husband Dean, son Roy (21) & Stacey
Front row, parents: Ed and Sandra Metcalf)*

“Due to my age and that I did not want to risk reoccurrence, the best decision for me was to have a bilateral mastectomy,” Stacey explained. Because of the mastectomy, the chances of needing radiation was very small.

Stacey has undergone several rounds of chemotherapy. Because it is difficult to know how the chemotherapy is working, they checked her breast for the pea-sized tumor after three treatments. The tumor was gone, and the other areas were clear as well! “My goal was to be as ‘clean as a whistle,’” said Stacey. “Chemotherapy was really tough, but I was so happy to know it was working for me!”.

While undergoing her treatments, the staff at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital were exceptional. “It was like going to a ‘chemo spa’ because of the attention they give you,” added Stacey. While reflecting on her experience, Stacey shared how every person on her care team rallied around her and her family. Not only did the care team help her get through her chemotherapy, but they also helped soothe her mind, body and spirit.

Stacey gives all the credit for her early detection to her mammogram and staying on top of her appointments. “I encourage everyone to get screened,” said Stacey. “For those who are fighting their fight against cancer, find strength in God, family, friends and a positive attitude. It’s hard to go back to chemo. You just start feeling better and then you must go again. Having a positive attitude goes a long way.”

All the exceptional care that Stacey receives while she battles breast cancer, is only possible because of **YOUR** generosity. Thank you!

Kind Gestures Bringing Compassion and Comfort

Your support brings hope and smiles to cancer patients

For over two years now, the boutique in the Prevea Cancer Center at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital has been offering resources for patients and their families to provide hope, support and comfort in a time of great need.

“A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal.” - Anonymous

When **YOU** support the compassionate care fund, you are providing patients the compassion needed to help them through their journey. Through your donations, patients have access to these free products and services.

The boutique has a vast variety of offerings available to patients and families:

- Natural/organic skin care products and essential oils
- Hats and scarves
- Access to custom-made wigs
- Inspirational reading materials
- Prosthesis-friendly bra and swimwear samples

“We are able to provide patients with support whenever they have that little extra need. Patients who are nervous for their treatment might find the soothing lavender lotion relaxing, those who want to get some fresh air but haven’t found the right summer hat can grab one from our space, and those looking for the right book that eases their soul can find just that in our boutique,” said Angela Quick, Director of Oncology, Prevea Cancer Center at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital.

The Look Good, Feel Better program is a monthly program exclusive to the Prevea Cancer Center at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, available at no cost for participants. Providing hands-on makeup, skincare, wig and head covering techniques. The program helps women manage appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment.

“It is a space where donor dollars can make an impact on a patient’s life and support them through such a stressful time. It’s those small things that improve a patient’s experience and allows them to feel our mission,” added Angela.

These may seem like small gestures to you, but they are so **BIG** to our patients!



For more information or to donate to the boutique, call the HSHS Sacred Heart Foundation at 715-717-3980.



We are overjoyed to welcome **Peggy Pendergast** as our new Major Gifts Officer for the HSHS Sacred Heart Foundation. "I am so excited Peggy has become a part of our team. She lives, eats and breathes the mission. Her years of commitment to this ministry makes her the perfect fit," said Jane Gobler, HSHS Sacred Heart Foundation Director.

Peggy has spent nearly 20 years at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital spending time in several departments, most recently in the Cancer Center. She has two children and four grandchildren. In her spare time, Peggy enjoys traveling, hiking and spending time with family and her animals.

She had the pleasure of working with Father Klimek for several years. "Father's compassion and devotion was instrumental in my personal and professional growth," said Peggy. As the facilitator of the Larry Mathews Mission Outreach Program, Peggy was able to spend quality time with our Franciscan sisters who shared their love and commitment to the mission.

"I am honored to join the HSHS Sacred Heart Foundation. The foundation has always been an important part of St. Joseph's history. I have done my best to support the foundation over the years financially and by volunteering my time through events and committee participations. By joining the foundation team, I feel empowered to share my love for the hospital and the mission with our generous donors."



(Back Row, Left to Right: Kelsey Pendergast, daughter; Jacob Pendergast, son; Katrina Pendergast, daughter-in-law; Bristyl, granddaughter. Front Row, Left to Right: Peggy; Joseph, grandson; Paisley, granddaughter)

Join us in
Welcoming
Peggy Pendergast

Matt and Carol Hubler “One More Day Fund”

Partnering with YOU to help cancer patients receive financial relief



The Matt and Carol Hubler “One More Day” Fund has been helping relieve financial burdens of single parents battling cancer since 2013. The fund was established with the belief that no one should have to second-guess their cancer treatment because of the financial cost – no one should have to choose between their life-saving treatment and their children’s needs.

Carol and her late husband, Matt, former CEO of HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, decided to establish this endowed fund to assist the hospital and its patients in providing lifesaving care. Prior to Matt losing his battle with cancer in 2012, Matt lived and breathed the mission of the hospital. When he was diagnosed, he found himself on the receiving end of the mission he believed in so dearly! With your help, the Matt and Carol Hubler “One More Day” Fund continues to be a lifeline for many families in the Chippewa Valley, allowing them to focus on the most important thing of all – treasuring every day with their children!

Giving Tomorrow Starts Today

Leave your legacy through planned giving

Planned gifts, or legacy gifts, offer a great opportunity for both HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital and you as a donor. These gift arrangements are a way to reflect YOUR values, leave a legacy of giving, and make a significant impact on patients seeking our care.

Planned gifts can be directed to a particular fund or for a particular use. Ways to make a planned gift include

- Will/bequests
- Charitable trusts
- Life insurance
- Stocks and securities
- Retirement plans
- Real estate



If you have a question about planned giving, consult your attorney, accountant or financial planner.

For more information, please contact Jane Gobler, Foundation Director at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, at 715-717-4925 or Jane.Gobler@hshs.org.