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Giving Hope is a quarterly publication, edited by Shane Starr. If you would like to opt out of receiving future fundraising requests, write the HSHS St. Joseph's Foundation at 2661 County Highway I, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

In Six Months' Time!

YOU MAKE SPECIALIZED TREATMENTS AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Every November, Tony Mocarski goes to his garage and gathers the Christmas decorations to bring into the house. While walking through the garage in 2021, what had always been a simple task for him quickly became a life-threatening situation.

The next day he felt ill. "I didn't want to eat, I just wanted to stay in bed," said Tony. He also began having minor foot pain, but just attributed it to his arthritis. Later that day his wife noticed bloody footprints through their house. It was at that moment that Tony realized what had happened.

Tony had stepped on a furniture tack

while gathering his decorations in the garage. The tack went through his slipper and into his toe. "I am diabetic and have neuropathy, so I didn't feel the tack go into my foot," he said. After taking off his sock, they saw his skin was a reddish color, from his foot all the way up to his knee.

Shortly after calling 9-1-1 Tony was taken to another local medical center where they explained he had necrotizing fasciitis, a rare bacterial infection that spreads quickly in the body and can even be life threatening. They amputated his toes and a portion of his foot to stop the bacterial infection from spreading further.

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Now, the healing process could begin, but six months went by, and the wound wasn't healing. Tony asked about hyperbaric treatments, but his doctor told him that was not an option and to continue with the wound vac. "It seemed like it was never ending; I was just not healing," he said.

Another six months went by with no progress, and his doctor approached him about hyper baric treatments. Tony jumped at the chance to receive a new treatment regimen, and he was transferred to the HSHS St. Joseph's Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine.

"St. Joseph's is where I wanted to go!" said Tony

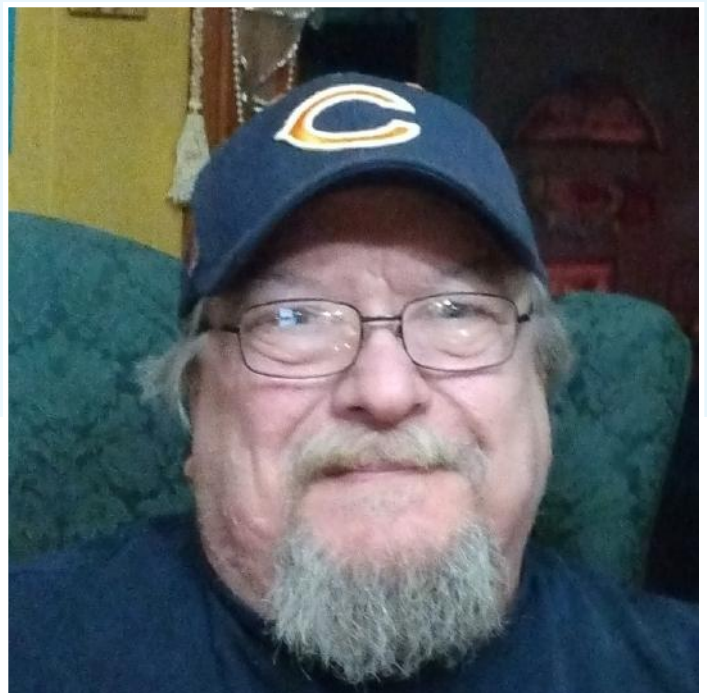
When Tony arrived at HSHS St. Joseph's Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine, he was amazed that they had a specialized department just for cases like his. "My caregivers on the first day were fantastic! It was like an army came in, cleaned out my foot and I knew I was where I was meant to be," said Tony.

In December of 2022 he started his hyperbaric treatments, doing 60 dives over the next six months to help heal his wounds. He spent an hour and a half, in the glass chamber every day, Monday through Friday. "The staff was so sweet. They were always by my side to talk if it got claustrophobic in there," added Tony, "It was an awesome experience." He completed his last dive the end of May 2023.

Hyperbaric treatments help the lungs collect more oxygen, in turn getting more oxygen to the tissues that need it to heal and fight infections faster. Patients lie in a glass chamber filled with pressurized, 100% oxygenated air. This is called a "dive" and usually lasts one to two hours.

Tony waited more than 12 months for his foot to heal while seeking care at another medical facility before arriving at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital. Six months after his hyperbaric treatments, his wound was fully healed thanks to the specialty treatments made possible by donors like you.

"The people at HSHS St. Joseph's Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine are angels from heaven!" exclaimed Tony. "Dr. Emily Mason, her team, and the hyperbaric treatment is the reason I am healed." When you support the HSHS St. Joseph's Foundation, **YOU** help patients like Tony have access to life altering treatments that may not be readily available.



You Shape the Future of St. Joseph's Hospital

2023 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Thanks to your support, the HSHS St. Joseph's Foundation awards developmental and educational scholarships to colleagues each year! Educational scholarships assist colleagues with tuition expenses while they work at St. Joes and attend school to further their education. Development scholarships allow colleagues to seek outside education through seminars, conferences, and other skill development activities.

The HSHS St. Joseph's and HSHS Sacred Heart Foundations are proud to announce that this year a total of \$36,706 in scholarships were awarded to 32 colleagues. This included 21 colleagues receiving development scholarships and 11 received educational scholarships.

For more information on scholarships, contact Jane Gobler at 715-717-3996 or jane.gobler@hshs.org.

Giving Tomorrow Starts Today

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY THROUGH PLANNED GIVING

Planned gifts, or legacy gifts, offer a great opportunity for both HSHS St. Joseph's 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, HSHS St. Joseph's Director, at 715-717-3996 or Jane.Gobler@hshs.org.

Directors Cut with HSHS St. Joseph's Foundation Director, Jane Gobler



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I want to thank everyone that was able to attend the 50th Annual Charity Ball. The event was amazing, and it was so nice to see so many people in our community come out to celebrate HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital. We are blessed with many wonderful volunteers. Thank you for all your hard work.

I am delighted to share with you the immense excitement and enthusiasm surrounding our philanthropic endeavors for fiscal year 2023 at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital. As the Director of Philanthropy, I am fortunate to witness firsthand the profound impact that our mission has on the lives of countless individuals in need. Our commitment to providing compassionate care and healing to all, regardless of their background or means, is the driving force behind our philanthropic initiatives.

Here are some of the projects that we funded in fiscal year 2023:

- School-based mental health counseling.
- Alcohol and Narcotic Big Books.
- Transportation assistance for patients.
- Higher education scholarships for colleagues.
- Development scholarships for colleagues.
- QPR – Question, Persuade, Refer training for suicide prevention.
- Teddy bears for pediatric patients.
- Ethnic hair products for patients.

I am genuinely inspired by the dedication and generosity of our donors and supporters, whose contributions make these projects possible. Together, we are truly making a difference in the lives of countless individuals, upholding the healing mission of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital. I invite you to join us in our endeavors as we continue to advance the cause of compassionate care and service.

With deep gratitude and anticipation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane".

Jane