

Advancing Health...

Caring for People

Annual Report 2016



Gift from Couple Honors Heroes and Helps People with Heart Disease

On November 1, 2016, a surprise gathering was held to reunite a local couple with the physicians and nurses who cared for them at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Don and Connie Huehnerfuss experienced wonderful care at Aspirus when Don was in need of emergent heart and vascular care.

Don Huehnerfuss remarked, "I would like to honor several persons of Aspirus. I'm compiling this with the help of my dear wife as I don't remember many of these 'happenings' but will be forever grateful for the actions of a few.

On Monday, November 23, 2015, I was rushed to Aspirus Wausau Hospital after collapsing from leg numbness. Because of a quick thinking emergency room doctor, Dr. Tom Koepke, and a CAT scan, Dr. Jamie Costa was called in. At 1:00 a.m., Dr. Costa immediately set up a surgical room, a surgical team, and told my wife I could very possibly lose my legs or my life. Dr. Costa performed miracles that night. He didn't finish until after 5:00 a.m. and saved my life and both my legs.



Pictured L to R: Dr. Jamie Costa, Don Huehnerfuss, Connie Huehnerfuss, Holly Trembath, RN, Erin Dennis, RN, and Dr. Tom Koepke. (Not pictured is Deanne Webster, RN)

Because of the severity of my illness, I was in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) for almost a full month. Two nurses stand out in my mind who helped continuously with caring and attention that helped me and my wife through this whole ordeal. I am so appreciative of the care and concern from this team. I cannot thank Dr. Costa or the nurses, Holly Trembath and Erin Denis, and Dr. Koepke enough. I feel I owe them my life.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gift from Couple Honors Heroes and Helps People with **Heart Disease**

Additionally, the night I collapsed I had been at my brother-in-law's funeral during the day. He had also been in the same ICU for ten days before this. I really want to thank nurse, Deanne Webster, for standing in and helping me and my wife through the difficult time of making decisions, donating the gift of life, and finally staying with my brother-in-law as he passed on.

All three nurses and Drs. Costa and Koepke have left memorable, pleasant experiences in our lives. We want to thank them with this special gift for the Aspirus Hero program. These five people are my and my wife's heroes."

This generous \$10,000 gift from the Huehnerfuss's will be used to support people who suffer from heart disease and heart failure.

Gift from B.A. & Esther **Greenheck Foundation Protects Babies' Lives**

On July 19, 2016, a special gathering was held in the Anya Marie Jackson Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Aspirus Wausau Hospital, to celebrate a gift of \$27,571 from the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation. This gift helped advance the level of care provided to babies and families at Aspirus by providing the following:

- Advanced Neonatal Simulator Manikin and training for health care professionals who provide specialized care for critically ill newborns.
- High Intensity Bili Blanket Unit to help reduce the amount of bilirubin in the baby's skin to assist the liver in regulating the level of bilirubin in the blood and prevent jaundice, a common condition in babies born prematurely, and potential brain damage from high bilirubin levels.
- Portable Neopuff Infant Resuscitation Units to protect babies during resuscitation to ensure the safety of their lungs and delivery of the appropriate amount of pressure needed to give a baby a breath.

Sarah Walder, APNP, shared that "the advanced neonatal simulator manikin, which we've named Halle, is used to train countless health care professionals, students, and community groups who can help protect babies' lives. The NICU team is grateful for the support of the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation to help make this technology and training possible!"

Gifts from Champions Improve Our Community

On October 13, 2016, the Aspirus Health Foundation held its annual donor appreciation event at the Jefferson Street Inn in downtown Wausau. The event is a special celebration of the many donors, volunteers, and partners who support the Foundation's work to advance health and improve quality of life for people in our region.

Gary Freels was recognized as the 2016 Community Champion for his commitment to supporting programs and initiatives which have significantly impacted the lives and health of people in our community.



Matt Heywood, Gary Freels, Haresh Modi, M.D., and Darrell Lentz.

Stu Carlson, who received the Community Champion award in 2015, shared that, "Gary served on various Aspirus boards of directors and committees over the course of 16 years and was an advocate for patients and the community. He brought a keen insight into physician partnerships, strategic business decisions, best practices in business and governance (both public and nonprofit), community needs, business needs, and economic drivers.

He always challenged Aspirus to provide the best care, focused on high quality at the lowest cost, and he always asked the difficult questions that helped Aspirus strive for excellence.

Gary remains devoted to making our community a better place to live."

Dr. Haresh Modi and Dr. Carlos Torres were honored as 2016 Physician Champions for their outstanding contributions to neonatology and the Anya Marie Jackson Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Aspirus Wausau Hospital for the past decade.

Dr. Modi and Dr. Torres were instrumental in helping bring the vision of a new Anya Marie Jackson NICU to life, which today, is a premier 14-bed, private room, state-of-the-art NICU designed for the optimal care of infants. It is recognized as a Level 3 regional NICU capable of the highest level of neonatal care and transport.

Dr. Modi and Dr. Torres are proud of the community's confidence and partnership with Aspirus to create this state-of-the art facility, which allows them to provide the best care possible, around the clock, by a team devoted to giving every infant the best start possible in life.

Sarah Walder, Nurse Practitioner, remarked, "Dr. Modi and Dr. Torres have been committed to providing excellent care to the families in our community. This has been such a blessing to so many families. Being in a NICU is such a stressful time for parents and their extended families.

I think it has been a comfort to know that quality care is provided to their babies right here in the Wausau area. This way they do not have to be separated from their infants and/or their social supports.

Both Dr. Modi and Dr. Torres have spent numerous hours keeping our staff educated ensuring that all babies receive the best care possible."



Haresh Modi, M.D., Traci Parlier, R.N., and Carlos Torres, M.D.

Gifts from Physicians Help People in Our Community



Chris Platta, M.D. Radiation Oncologist

In fall of 2016, the Aspirus Health Foundation Physician Advisory Council decided to have some fun and promote the ways that gifts to the Foundation help people locally. "Instead of the traditional posters and flyers that rarely get people's attention, we decided to create something that would make people laugh

and learn about giving opportunities at the same time," said Dr. Steve Weiland, general surgeon and council member. So we launched a campaign featuring 80's icon, Mr. T, from the A Team television show and his catch phrase, 'I Pity the Fool,' and it worked. Council members received a multitude of questions and comments from other physicians who in turn made their own personal gifts to the Foundation.

When asked why he feels it is important to support the Aspirus Health Foundation, Dr. Chris Platta, radiation oncologist and council member, shared, "I see first-hand the way that gifts to the Foundation help people who have cancer by providing them with extra resources, comfort items, assistance with their individual needs, and even medical equipment to enhance the level of care they receive."



Dr. Steve Weiland is featured in a Mr. T Foundation awareness campaign poster.

Gifts from Hardel's HOPE Helps Patients and Families

Thank you to Hardel's HOPE and the Hardel family and friends for visiting patients who were hospitalized at Aspirus Wausau Hospital during the holidays. Nearly 100 patients and their families received a special visit and gift of HOPE, which stands for "Help Offer Prayer and Encouragement." Their special gifts included devotionals, snacks, activity books, lotions/lip balm and other essentials to let them know they are not alone and that people care about them.



Front Row, L to R: Eli Gustafson, Jen Nieuwenhuis Hardel, Carmen Ghidorzi, Jenna Drews, Jace Drews, Marcus MacDonald, Jaxson MacDonald, and Jaiden Drews Back Row: L to R: Jeff Hardel, Margaret Ghidorzi, Jamie MacDonald, Brad MacDonald, Kim Boesl, RN, Fernando Riveron, M.D., Kris Rabenold, RN, and Bill Wessels, M.D.

Aspirus & Community Partners Invest in Future Medical Providers

In 2016, Aspirus announced the creation of a program and community collaboration to address the national physician shortage and meet the needs of people and communities in north central Wisconsin and Upper Michigan today and for future generations.

The Aspirus Scholars Program will provide generous scholarships to medical students and advanced practice provider students – such as physician assistants and nurse practitioners – and connect them to Aspirus and the communities served by Aspirus during their training. In return, students will commit to future employment at Aspirus in the areas of primary care, psychiatry, or general surgery.

Scholarship amounts will vary based on the cost of tuition, and employment commitments will range from three to five years. The inaugural class of Aspirus Scholars included the following medical student and physician assistant students who accepted scholarships in return for five-year employment commitments with Aspirus:

- Christopher Zeman, Medical Student Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin Campus. Interests include primary care and general surgery.
- Kristin Erickson, Physician Assistant Student - University of Wisconsin-Madison Wisconsin Physician Assistant Community-Based Tract (wisPACT) program. Interests include primary care and general surgery.
- Hayley Schanen, Physician Assistant Student University of Wisconsin-Madison (wisPACT) program. Interests include primary care and general surgery.

"Our inaugural award recipients already have strong ties to north central Wisconsin and are passionate about medicine and caring for patients," said Kalynn Pempek, executive director, Aspirus Health Foundation and Volunteer Services. "Each will be a tremendous addition to the Aspirus family and the communities we serve."



Kristin Erickson, Hayley Schanen, and Chris Zeman celebrate their Aspirus Scholars awards at a special gathering at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

"The local, state and national provider shortage is real, and the Aspirus Scholars Program was designed as an important approach to meet the needs of our communities for access to high-quality health care for future generations," said Sid Sczygelski, chief financial officer, Aspirus, Inc. "Aspirus and our community partners are proud to invest in the students who will care for our patients and communities as physicians and advanced practice providers in the future."

The Aspirus Scholars Program is made possible through contributions from the following community partners: The Legacy Foundation of Central Wisconsin; Judd S. Alexander Foundation; Dwight and Linda Davis Foundation, B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation; Dudley Foundation, Molinaro Family, and individual donors.

Vital investments were also made by Aspirus Grand View Hospital (Ironwood, Mich.); Aspirus Iron River Hospital (Iron River, Mich.); Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital (Laurium, Mich.); Aspirus Langlade Hospital (Antigo, Wis.); Aspirus Medford Hospital; Aspirus Ontonagon Hospital (Ontonagon, Mich.); Aspirus Riverview Hospital (Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.); and Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Gifts Honor Parents' Legacy to Help **People Locally**

With a generous gift to the Aspirus Health Foundation in 2016, the Slayton family established the "John A. and Elizabeth "Betty" D. Slayton" Endowment Fund to honor the legacy of their parents to make life better for others locally and regionally.



John and Betty Slayton

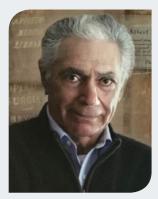
John Slayton founded the Aspirus Health Foundation (formerly the Wausau Health Foundation) as a public charitable organization in 1971 to advance the health of our communities and increase health services for people in north central Wisconsin.

Slayton, (community leader, philanthropist, and former president of Marathon Electric Manufacturing Corporation), guided the work of the Health Foundation from 1971 until 1998. He helped pave the way for the Health Foundation to serve as facilitator of major funding for critical health care projects and services.

He served on the Aspirus Wausau Hospital Board of Directors (formerly Wausau Hospital Center) and several hospital committees in the late '70s and early '80s. During this same timeframe, Betty served as president of the Aspirus Volunteers and on multiple hospital committees. They were both instrumental in ensuring a strong local hospital and excellent regional health care system.

"It is a privilege to continue the work that John and Betty Slayton started in our community 45 years ago," said Kalynn Pempek, executive director of the Aspirus Health Foundation. "The Aspirus Health Foundation Board of Directors is grateful for this gift to carry on the legacy of the Slaytons in advancing the healing mission of Aspirus through philanthropy."

Gifts Honor Father's Legacy As Passionate and Beloved Surgeon



Albert John Molinaro, M.D. General Surgeon

Dr. Albert John (A.J.) Molinaro, general surgeon, cared for patients in our community for over three decades. He was a beloved surgeon, and his medical expertise and surgical skills and care paved the way for the highquality health care

and exceptional medical providers that are available in the greater Wausau area today.

Dr. A.J.'s passion for medicine and dedication to his patients were second only to the love of his wife, Marilyn, their 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren.

After Dr. A.J. passed away on August 3, 2016, his family wanted to find a special way to honor their father's legacy.

When they learned of the Aspirus Scholars Program, which provides scholarships to medical, physician assistant, and nurse practitioner students in return for service at Aspirus, they decided to make a gift to establish the "Dr. A.J. Molinaro Endowment Fund" as a meaningful way to honor their father's legacy and help meet the health care needs of patients in our region for future generations.

Gifts from 2016 Community Events

Festival of Trees 2016



Together with our community, \$220,721 was raised! This is the most raised in the 20-year history of the Festival of Trees, with proceeds supporting two community bedrooms at Aspirus Hospice House for patients with limited ability to pay, as well as an interior renovation project to rejuvenate the 18-year-old Aspirus Hospice House. We're grateful for those who shared special gifts this year to celebrate the 20th anniversary of this important community fundraising event.

Aspirus Women's Golf Classic 2016



Thank you to the many sponsors, golfers, caddies, volunteers, donors, physicians, and staff for their generosity and partnership with the 10th Anniversary Aspirus Women's Golf Classic on Monday, August 1st! Together with our community, \$120,000 was raised to support two important needs:

- Supporting children and adult victims of sexual assault and abuse by advancing a nurse examiner program at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.
- Helping children develop healthy brains through a novel, interactive, and fun approach using books through the Reach Out and Read program at Aspirus Clinics.

RED Event 2016



Thank you to the many sponsors, volunteers, donors, and physicians for their generosity and support of the RED Event, which was held on Friday, February 12, 2016, at the Jefferson Street Inn in downtown Wausau. Our community helped raise \$44,274 to help support heart and vascular research, community education, and patient assistance for people in our region.

Announcing Thrivent Choice Participation

We are pleased to announce Aspirus Health Foundation is now a participating organization for Thrivent Choice Dollars[®]. If you are an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars[®] available to direct, please keep us in mind. For more info or to direct Choice Dollars®, call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice".

Your Gifts in Action – Thank You!

The Aspirus Health Foundation regards your charitable gifts as a vote of confidence in our mission. We could not advance health for our friends and neighbors in north central Wisconsin without your help. We thank you and more than 3,000 partners, donors, and volunteers for your generosity last year and for your continued support in 2017.

Aspirus Health Foundation 2016-2017 Board of Directors

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Steve Weiland, M.D.

A. Brenda Davis, Emeritus Director

Aspirus Health Foundation Team

Kalynn Pempek, Executive Director Kim Smerda, Fund Development Specialist Lori Artz, Database Specialist Mary Dobeck, Executive Assistant

Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2016

ASSETS

Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$420,423	
Current portion of assets limited as to use	605,605	
Prepaid expenses and other	25,696	
Total current assets	1,051,724	
Investments	5,228,185	
Noncurrent assets limited as to use	17,935,470	
Property and equipment - Net	0	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$24,215,379	

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities: Current portion of long-term liabilities -	
Donor-imposed	\$384,765
Accounts payable	1,466
Other accrued liabilities	54,108
Total current liabilities	440,339
Long-term liability - Donor imposed liability	4,606,242
Total liabilities	5,046,581
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted:	
Designated by Board for Scholars Program	7,895,183
Undesignated	5,618,730
Temporarily Restricted	312,326
Permanently Restricted	5,342,559
Total net assets	19,168,798
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$24,215,379

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Changes in net assets: Support and revenue: Total amounts raised Less - Amounts designated	\$6,329,823
by donors for specific organizations	(637,211)
Total contributions Investment income Grant revenue	5,692,612 (42,308)
Other income	59,812
Total support and revenue	5,710,116
Expenses:	
Contributions - Community programs	92,926
Program support	199,495
Administrative and general	184,243
Fund-raising	93,841
Total expenses	570,505
Increase in net assets	5,139,611
Net asset transfers	7,895,183
Net assets at beginning	6,134,004
Net assets at end	\$19,168,798

This is a summarized financial statement presentation.

The complete audited financial statement is available upon request.

Your Gifts Support Our Community's Health

Your generosity helps the Aspirus Health Foundation fulfill our mission to advance the health of our communities and increase health services in the region. We are grateful for the support of donors and partners who played an important role in developing community partnerships to advance health and care for people.

Thank you for making a difference through your gifts to the Partners in Health Giving Society and for your memorial and special gifts in 2016.

Partners in Health Giving Society (January 1 – December 31, 2016)

Compassion (Gifts up to \$99)

Bill and Liz Abell George and Helen Ackerman Darlene Albrecht Ronald Alexander Gertrude Alfuth Lawrence Allard Alisa Allen Thomas Altman Charity Anderson Judd and Laura Anderson Camille Anderson Dale and Pat Anderson Ralph and Cindy Andren Stephen and Mary Andrus Tania Andrys Barbara Anklam Anonymous John Arannon Wendell and Teresa Armstrong James and Jodi Aron Wendy Aspinwall Athens Elementary School David and Ellen Baese John and Mary Ann Baker Philip and Linda Bandow Richard and Paula Barnes Mary Barr Robert and Maria Barrett

Craig Barta Kevin Barttelt Renee' Barwick Dawn Baumann Catherine Baumann Lylas Baumann Patrick and Kathleen Baumann Bernice Baumann Leslie and Phyllis Baumer James and Kim Becker

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William and Amy Benson Penny Berg Karen Bergmann Jennifer Bergner

Big Powderhorn Lodging Assn Walter and Jeanne Binder David and Carol Bittner

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Anonymous Bob and Lee Borneman Kimberly Borski Molly Borski

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Julie Bricko Mary Jo Brinker Patricia Briquelet Kelly Brown Mark and Kathy Brown Barb Brown Bruner Financial Services Inc Heidi Brunkow Ralph and Elnora Buechler

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Sharon Harder

Ben and Claudette Harring Noreen Hartleib Stephen and Mary Harvey Randy and Kathleen Head

Agnes Heil Glenn and Pamela Helminiak

Sandra Hengel Robert and Yvonne Henning

Dawn Herbst Leah Herdrich Oren and Cindy Hermel Randall and Patrice Hermes

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Kirby and Kristine Kesterson Kevin and Nancy Kieffer

Rebecca Kilgas Anonymous

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Peter and Christine Knitt Mary Ann Knoblock

Lois Knope Connie Knutson Charles and Carol Knutson

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Mike and Pam Kohnhorst Florian Kolbe Brenda Kollmer

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Sandra Krueger Arden and Paula Krueger Kevin and Anna Krueger

Mary Krueger Mary Kruse Merriel Kruse Cheryl Kubnick Billie Kucil Dale Kuck Kathleen Kuehl Nancy Kurszewski Joyce Kurth

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May 13

5K run/walk or 10K to support hospice

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Aspirus Women's Golf Classic to support our community's health October 5

Annual event to celebrate our donors and the difference they make to advance health and quality of life for people in our region November 21-26

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