

WINTER 2021



Giving Matters

Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation Magazine



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Dear Donors,

You have made an incredible difference in the lives of others through your kind giving to Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Your generosity makes so much possible, from the breadth and depth of our services to the expert and compassionate care that our dedicated health care professionals provide. Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for all you have helped make possible for West Michigan and beyond. Thank you.

I have been with Spectrum Health 28 years. More than a quarter century—and the time has flown by! I want to share some personal news: I plan to retire in spring 2021. I have been honored to be a part of this life-changing organization, and it has been a great pleasure to serve you as president of the foundation. Each day has been filled with inspiration coming from the extraordinary people on the front line of caring—providing hope, healing and comfort. It has been humbling to see our patients and families so graciously give of themselves by sharing their incredible journeys and gratitude.

Our donors have been awe-inspiring with their kind and generous hearts for making a difference in the lives of others. Together we have accomplished so much, and I am grateful to each of you for being by our side to ensure that adults, children and families have access to the best care possible—as close to home as possible. The dedication and passion of our entire foundation team is amazing. Each one is incredibly dedicated and talented, and gives their all to serving you in supporting the mission of Spectrum Health.

Your gifts have supported the extraordinary growth of the Medical Mile, clinical and family support programs, research, innovation and education. Our donors have been instrumental in major capital campaigns that have shaped the Spectrum Health medical center. You helped make possible the Renucci Hospitality House, Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center, Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and many significant additions at Spectrum Health regional hospitals to meet the needs of local communities. You supported the creation of many advanced programs, such as the Congenital Heart Center, blood and marrow transplant, CART therapy, and heart and lung transplant, to name a few. You have helped transform the health and well-being of patients and families.

Spectrum Health has an exciting future. Like you, I will always be a supporter, and I look forward to being amazed by Spectrum Health's next phase of growth and development.

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude and admiration to each of you for your commitment and kindness as a member of our donor family.

Sincerely,

Vicki Weaver, President
Spectrum Health Foundation
Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation

2020 Celebration of Philanthropy Art of Giving Award

Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation are privileged to present the 2020 Art of Giving Award to Vicki Weaver.

For nearly three decades, Vicki has been a dedicated and selfless servant leader for Spectrum Health. The progress she has achieved through philanthropy is truly remarkable, creating a lasting impact on the health of our communities.

Her most significant successes haven't been the buildings themselves but what happens inside them. Through strong stewardship and relationship building, she has inspired the generosity of others to make a difference in the lives of our patients, families and team members and their access to exceptional care.

Vicki's leadership was instrumental in the capital campaigns for the Renucci Hospitality House, Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center, Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, as well as the creation and advancement of countless programs.

Under her guidance, more than \$500 million has been given by individuals, businesses, foundations and community organizations since Spectrum Health's formation in September 1997.

"Vicki lives our values of compassion, collaboration, curiosity and courage," said Tina Freese Decker, President & CEO, Spectrum Health. "She has been a visionary partner with our clinical teams in the development of programs and services that have broadened our scope and expanded our capabilities, while developing deep and lasting bonds with our donors."



Vicki Weaver
President
Spectrum Health Foundation
Helen DeVos Children's
Hospital Foundation

Robert Louis Stevenson once urged, "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant." Vicki Weaver's relentless focus on planting the seeds of giving and hope has resulted in a bountiful harvest and a stronger Spectrum Health for our teams, patients, members and communities.

In the spring, after 28½ years of service with Spectrum Health, Vicki will retire. We look forward to celebrating her retirement and Art of Giving Award when it's safe to do so.

We are deeply grateful for all that Vicki has done for Spectrum Health and our communities. Vicki's commitment to achieving our mission and vision, along with her unwavering passion for our patients and families, leaves a legacy that will be felt for years to come.

The Art of Giving

It is something to paint
a picture or to carve
a statue and so make
a few objects beautiful.

But it is far more glorious
to paint and carve the
atmosphere in which
we work to affect the
quality of the day.

This is the highest
of the arts.

—Henry David Thoreau



Merritt's miracle

Jordan and Kenan Smith fondly recall the emotions of learning they were pregnant with their first child. A normal pregnancy ended with an emergency cesarean section two weeks past Jordan's due date. Merritt came into the world at 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and because of low oxygen levels, she spent the first 24 hours in The Gerber Foundation Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

"Everything was perfect," said Jordan. "We came home the next day, and the first nine months she was meeting her developmental milestones, holding her head up and rolling over. We noticed between 12 and 18 months she wasn't interested in standing. Her legs were like noodles and wouldn't support her when we tried to help her stand. We still didn't think much of it but talked with our pediatrician." Merritt was referred to Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital for physical therapy, and after just one month there was noticeable improvement.

Then one morning while eating breakfast, they thought Merritt choked on a piece of food and stopped breathing. They did the Heimlich maneuver, and nothing came out, but she started breathing. They continued to monitor her and noticed her lips were a shade of blue. They rushed her to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Emergency Room, and the X-rays and tests were normal. Merritt was referred to a pediatric neurodevelopment specialist, where she underwent several tests. "We were

thinking maybe she had cerebral palsy, spina bifida or muscular dystrophy," Jordan said. "But the tests all came back perfect. She didn't have brain damage, a tethered spinal cord or anything. While we were waiting for those results, we went to wake her up one morning. She was unresponsive and pale. We rushed her back to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital."

By the time they arrived, Merritt's symptoms had subsided. "They told us, based on what we had told them, that they thought she had had a seizure," Jordan said. "They ordered a sleep study and EEG. We did the EEG and found out she has abnormal brain activity. When we did the sleep study, we found out her oxygen was dropping below 60% when she was sleeping."

Seizures occurred a couple of times a week, then increased to a couple of times a day. A ketogenic diet, additional dietitian work with C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and the seizure medication Merritt takes twice a day are making a difference. "She still has a couple every now and then, especially if she gets sick," Jordan said.

But why? Every kid gets fevers. Not every kid suffers seizures. And why were Merritt's muscles so weak that she couldn't take in enough oxygen while sleeping?

They underwent genetic testing in 2017. Caleb Bupp, MD, division chief of genetics at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, said the tests indicate Merritt is missing 7.4% of her ninth chromosome, which is substantial. "This particular condition is quite rare, and it has only been reported in a few cases in Europe," Dr. Bupp said. "We are not aware of another patient in the United States with this chromosome deletion."

From what he's researched, such a chromosome deletion can cause developmental delays, autism, seizures and learning difficulties. "But much of that is difficult to put into context because we do not have many patients to compare her to, so it does make it more challenging to understand all this," Dr. Bupp said. "That is quite common in rare conditions—the uncertainty that patients and families have to deal with."



Dr. Bupp said Merritt continues to make progress with her development. Merritt began walking right around her third birthday, in August 2018, and started school at Ken-O-Sha, a Grand Rapids-area special education center. She also works with therapists at Thornapple Kellogg Learning Center and Hope Network Center for Autism. "They are the ones working with Merritt on a daily basis and making all the difference in her life right now," said Jordan. "She's doing really well. She's walking all



over the place now, something we didn't think was going to happen. She has a handful of words and is starting to talk more. We can understand what she's saying at least. She's progressing very well. It's pretty amazing."

Even though the future is unknown, knowing what has been causing the seizures gives the family a sense of relief. They had so wished it was something that could be cured, but you can't fix a chromosome deletion.

Instead of focusing on the mystery, now they're focusing on the miracle of Merritt.

Through the generosity of Acrisure LLC, the Acrisure Center for Innovation in Children's Health was established at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

The company's \$15 million commitment creates a virtual center to advance programs and services for the future by supporting the dedicated caregivers, physicians and physician scientists in their quest to bring leading-edge care and lifesaving therapies to the young patients at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The gift directly aligns with Acrisure's vision to positively impact West Michigan and other communities in which it operates.

The Acrisure Center for Innovation in Children's Health creates hope for the future by strategically investing in programs that accelerate health solutions for children. The initial focus on genomics and virtual health related to pediatrics personally touched the Smith family. "I work for Acrisure," said Jordan. "I am thrilled they announced the partnership, but when I noticed Dr. Bupp was going to be a presenter at one of the meetings, I realized their investment is making a difference for kids just like Merritt. I told Greg Williams, co-founder, president and CEO of Acrisure, our story and how much this means to us."

Acrisure is moving their headquarters to downtown Grand Rapids. "Beyond the jobs, we intend to make a significant impact on the community," said Williams. "Helen DeVos Children's Hospital embodies our passion for innovation and strategic growth and is a partnership we're intensely proud to be part of. It is my hope the commitment will have a lasting impact on families throughout the community. Jordan is one of many Acrisure employees who are personally impacted by the care provided at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, and this partnership represents meaningful engagement opportunities for all of us."

Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital names childhood cancer program to honor Ethie Haworth



Philanthropy is one of our most powerful tools in advancing hope and healing for patients battling cancer at Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital (HDVCH). Many of our leading-edge solutions and expansions in cancer care have been powered by generous gifts from caring organizations and individuals in our community—individuals like Dick and Ethie Haworth.



Ethie and Dick Haworth

Dick and Ethie have championed the work of our pediatric hematology/oncology team, led by James Fahner, MD, for the past 17 years.

When their grandson, Sam, was diagnosed with leukemia, the Haworth family saw firsthand the compassion and dedication put forth by this team and, ever since, they have been extraordinary advocates for HDVCH. Ethie served as one of the capital campaign co-chairs for the new Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The family established endowments to create the Pediatric Oncology Innovative Therapeutics Clinic and the endowed medical director role for that clinic. Ethie has also been a devoted hands-on volunteer and has provided an ongoing selection of high-quality toys and games for patients and siblings throughout HDVCH.

Now, the Haworths' landmark generosity continues with a new gift that will transform cancer care at HDVCH in several vital and impactful ways.

First, they have provided both startup funding and an endowment to provide sustaining support for a comprehensive Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Services Program (AYA). One in every 165 young people between the ages of 15 and 30 will be diagnosed with an aggressive form



Ethie Haworth delivers toys to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic

of cancer, and because of medical advancements, many more teen and young adult cancer patients are surviving their diagnosis. The AYA program will provide wraparound services that address quality-of-life issues, psychosocial support, fertility preservation options and other long-term health implications of cancer survivorship.

The Haworths have also made a very special gift to establish the James Fahner, MD, Endowed Division Chief for Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at HDVCH in honor of Dr. Fahner's visionary leadership over the years. This is the first endowed division chief position ever created at Spectrum Health. Dr. Fahner will be the first person to fill this role, and this gift will provide support to ensure ongoing leadership, advocacy and program development in the years to come.

In recognition of this magnificent gift and their loyal commitment to children and families in West Michigan, the children's cancer program at HDVCH has been named the Ethie Haworth Children's Cancer Center.

Please join us in thanking the Haworths and celebrating their impactful philanthropy!



The perfect match



Nick Jaenicke had just graduated from Spring Lake High School and finished saving up for a new car.

He'd enrolled at Davenport University for the fall.

The future looked full of promise.

But under the surface, life held uncertainty.

Nick had a congenital heart defect called transposition of the great arteries—at birth, the two main arteries carrying blood from his heart were attached to the wrong chambers.

Years earlier

At 1 week old, he underwent a corrective procedure called an arterial switch. This surgery swapped the aorta and the pulmonary artery, placing them in their normal positions. As a result, Nick enjoyed an active childhood.

Snowboarding, soccer and lacrosse became his passions.

As a high school freshman, though, he felt his stamina fade. Despite his athleticism, he struggled with shortness of breath.

Along with the severe valve leaks he had also inherited his family's predisposition for cardiomyopathy.

So Nick's first high school lacrosse season became his last. At age 16 he had his second open-heart surgery: replacement of the aortic and pulmonary valves.

Even before this surgery, Nick and his family knew it would only buy him time. Eventually, his heart would wear down.

The question was how long his doctors could postpone the inevitable.

"It wasn't certain at that stage how long he would go with the cardiomyopathy before he might need transplantation, but we have seen patients who have

improved with stopping the aortic valve leak," said Marcus Haw, MD, Nick's pediatric cardiac surgeon at the Congenital Heart Center at Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

The valve replacements, along with the placement of an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator to prevent cardiac arrest, got Nick through the rest of his high school years and onto the cusp of his college career.

A family story

A week or two before classes started in the fall of 2019, at a regular checkup with his adult congenital cardiologist, Stephen Cook, MD, Nick learned his heart function had deteriorated significantly.

The time had come to meet with the Spectrum Health Richard DeVos Heart & Lung Transplant team and undergo a pre-transplantation assessment.

Here's where Nick's story intersects with that of his brother Tyler, 26.

Although Nick traveled his own medical path, he ended up in the same place as Tyler, who had a heart transplant in 2016—the same year as Nick's valve replacements.

With a family history of cardiomyopathy, the brothers also have a grandfather who received a donor heart in the late 1990s. Nick was the youngest of the three—and the only one to have been born with a structural heart defect.

And in October 2019 he became the first Spectrum Health cardiac patient to have pediatric and adult surgeons collaborating in the operating room during transplantation.

Before that day came, however, Nick would have a hard month to endure. Nick wouldn't leave the hospital until 54 days later.



Facing end-stage heart failure at age 19, Nick Jaenicke held on long enough to receive a donor heart—just like his brother and grandfather before him.

"When he showed up, he was very sick and decompensated," said Theodore Boeve, MD, who directs the Richard DeVos Heart & Lung Transplant Program at the Spectrum Health Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center.

The team listed Nick for transplant on Oct. 8. He spent the next 17 days in the critical care ICU, fighting for his life and waiting for a donor heart.

As his situation grew increasingly grim, the transplant team got Nick's UNOS urgency level elevated to Status 1 to increase his chances of getting a match in time.

"Honestly, he could have easily not lived long enough to get a good heart," Dr. Boeve said. "Many recipients are pretty stable (in the lead-up to transplant). He wasn't one of them."

Collaborative efforts

Dr. Boeve, Nick's lead transplant surgeon, knew he would need a special plan for this surgery because of Nick's congenital heart anatomy. Doing a transplant on a patient who'd had a switch procedure requires a different approach.

"His vessels were arranged quite abnormally—even though it was the way a commonly accepted switch is done—so we had to have a plan to accommodate that," he said.

Dr. Boeve called his predecessor, Asghar Khaghani, MD, who retired from Spectrum Health in 2017.

Dr. Khaghani, who for years worked with the surgeon who helped pioneer the switch operation in Europe, explained how he handles transplants like these. The trick, he said, is to insert the new heart at a slight rotation rather than in its normal position.

Dr. Boeve also met with Dr. Haw to review the complexities of Nick's case. The two surgeons—representing adult and pediatric cardiology—agreed to work together in the operating room to ensure the best outcome.

With a plan in place, Dr. Boeve and his surgical partner, Marzia Leacche, MD, had clarity and confidence when they accepted a donor heart for Nick on Oct. 25, 2019.

A month after his transplant, just in time for Thanksgiving, Nick achieved his No. 1 goal: to go home. In a post on his Team Nicky Facebook page, he expressed deep gratitude to his "donor family for their selfless gift of life" and the "absolute best cardiac surgeons, transplant doctors and medical team."

Today, Nick is back at Davenport University, having another go at his freshman year. And he's feeling strong. "Every time I used to walk up my stairs, I'd always be short of breath. Now I can pretty much run up the stairs and be fine," he said.

Richard DeVos Heart & Lung Transplant Program Names New Leaders



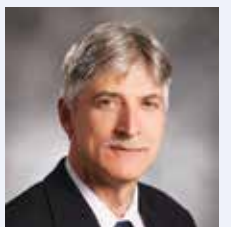
Marzia Leacche, MD

We are thrilled that Marzia Leacche, MD, surgical director of heart transplant and ventricular assist device (VAD) programs, will serve as the Richard DeVos Endowed Chair of Heart Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support, and Ed Murphy, MD, FACS, FCCP, surgical director of lung transplant, will hold the role of the Richard DeVos Endowed Chair of Lung Transplantation.

Dr. Leacche has extensive experience and training in thoracic organ transplantation and cardiac surgery. After completing her cardiac surgical training in Rome in 2001, where she was chief resident in cardiac surgery, she dedicated herself to an additional nine years of fellowship training in cardiac surgery, transplantation and mechanical circulatory support (MCS) at centers of excellence, including the Montreal Heart Institute in Canada, Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville. Between 2010 and 2016,

Dr. Leacche worked as a staff cardiac and associate transplant surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the Cleveland Clinic. She joined the transplant team at Spectrum Health under Theodore Boeve, MD, in 2016.

Dr. Murphy is a board-certified thoracic surgeon and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Chest Physicians. Dr. Murphy earned his medical degree from The State University of New York at Stony Brook. He completed his surgery residency at The University of Vermont in Burlington, and his thoracic and cardiovascular residency at University of Louisville in Kentucky.



Ed Murphy, MD, FACS, FCCP

If you would like to discuss how your giving supports cardiovascular services, including the Richard DeVos Heart & Lung Transplant Program, contact Kristin Long at 616.486.6590 or kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org.



A planned legacy gift impacts stroke patients like Tyrone

Gracia Lou Blanchard was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, only child of Wells and Virginia Blanchard. A graduate of East Grand Rapids High School, she went on to attend Western Michigan University, where she received her bachelor's and master's degrees in teaching.



Gracia passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack in July 2019 and will always be remembered for her passion for living each day to its fullest. Her legacy, along with her parents', will also be remembered through her generous estate gift, which will provide endowed support for programming and equipment needs at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, as well as the neurology team at Spectrum Health caring for adult stroke patients like Tyrone Bell.

Gracia loved teaching and taught for 31 years in the Forest Hills Public School District. She lived within her means and saved for the future. She enjoyed being outdoors and gardening at her home.

Late one night, Tyrone Bell sat on the edge of his bed, ready to get a good night's sleep before going to work in the morning. His left hand began to tingle. The strange feeling spread from his fingertips up his arm. "It's like it

fell asleep, but I wasn't lying on it," he said. "I stood up to try to walk it off." His left leg didn't seem to cooperate. His steps came awkwardly. He realized he had seen someone walk like this before—his mother, after she had suffered a stroke.

Bell was only 35 years old, but the symptoms seemed too similar. He called to his roommate, Sigmund Strickland, and told him he was having a stroke. As he spoke, he noticed his speech became affected, too. Strickland picked Bell up, threw him over his shoulder, carried him downstairs to his car and drove to Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital. "I was scared, but I was so calm," Bell said. "I don't know why. I didn't freak out or panic or anything."

When Bell arrived at the Butterworth Hospital Emergency Department, he received the clot-busting drug tPA, said Nadeem Khan, MD, a vascular neurology physician.

A computed tomography angiogram did not show a large clot that could be removed. Instead, Bell had suffered a lacunar stroke—which occurs when blood flow to the small arteries in the brain is blocked.

Even for those who suffer a lacunar stroke, research shows the clot-busting drug leads to improved outcomes in the long run, Dr. Khan said. Doctors give it to patients who are treated within 4.5 hours of suffering a stroke.

He praised Bell's decision to seek help immediately after noticing his first symptoms, so he could receive the medication.

Stronger by the day

Three days after Bell arrived at the emergency department, he transferred to the Inpatient Rehabilitation Center of Spectrum Health Blodgett Hospital.

On that first day in rehab, he wondered what was in store. He couldn't move his left leg or his left arm. "I couldn't even hold myself up when I was sitting," he said. In physical therapy, he began relearning to move his leg, to stand and walk. In occupational therapy, he learned new ways to manage daily tasks with just his right arm, while also regaining function of his left arm. "Every day I wake up, I feel stronger and stronger, and I get more confident," he said.

Two weeks after his stroke, Bell walked through the Steketee Guild Heritage Courtyard, past blooming flowers and a bubbling pond. He navigated the cobblestones with help from a four-pronged cane—good practice for walking on uneven surfaces.

"We knew from day one that he would do really well," said physical therapist Linda Rusiecki as she walked beside him. "Tyrone has a few factors going for him.

He's lean [so he has less weight to support while standing], he was very active and mobile before his stroke, and he has such good family support. That always makes a big difference."



And because Bell is younger than most stroke patients, his brain has greater neuroplasticity, she explained. His brain can rewire itself more readily, changing and adapting after an injury. "I feel like the therapists make a big difference, too," Bell said as he sat in his wheelchair to rest.

'It's juicing your muscles'

In occupational therapy, Bell sat on a therapy table and performed exercises with his left arm, reaching to the side and forward. He swung the arm from the shoulder, trying to hit a target with his hand. Occupational therapist Holly Omiljan used electrical stimulation to boost his arm function.

Through electrodes placed on the front and back of his forearm, a device delivered electrical shocks that allowed his hand to open and close. With the electrical help, his fingers curled in to grasp a towel, then uncurled to drop it in a pail. Bell also uses electrical stimulation to aid the movements of his foot and leg as he walks.

Back in his room, next to the balloons and cards from his daughter and siblings, he rested after a full day of therapy. He explained his willingness to share the story of his stroke and recovery. Early in his stay at the Inpatient Rehabilitation Center, he met a man whose wife had experienced a stroke. The man told him about the great progress she made with therapy. "That gave me a whole lot of hope and motivation right there," he said. "If his story helped me, then maybe my story can help somebody else and motivate them." With each step forward, he becomes more optimistic about life after a stroke. "I feel confident that I am going to fully recover," he said. "I feel pretty good about it. I've got a lot of love and support. That makes it easier, too."

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving, and how your gift will provide hope and comfort, contact Kristin Long at 616.486.6590 or kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org.

Patrick's personal mission

Patrick Kampf, a local Grand Rapids man, went on a journey of a lifetime. Beginning February 2020, Pat began a 2,193-mile hike through 14 states along the Appalachian Trail. Not only did Patrick complete a great physical feat, but he also raised over \$15,000 for the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.) and neuroblastoma research at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. He blew past his original fundraising goal of \$5,000!

Patrick's mission for this hike is more than raising money for an amazing cause; it's personal. In March 2005, Patrick and his wife, Mary, received news that no parent wants to hear ... "Your child has cancer." Lily, at the age of 3½, was diagnosed with high-risk stage 4 neuroblastoma. This is a rare cancer that develops in the sympathetic nervous system. Lily is now a happy, healthy 19-year-old woman.

"This hike and charitable drive was in honor of our daughter Lily and in memory of Ashleigh Marie Kieliszewski, Molly Allison Cavera and Sarah Danielle Kaper," said Patrick. "All of these beautiful little girls were fighting this terrible disease together. I was able to push on because when I was in pain, I would just think about the kids. My aching was nothing compared with what they went through."

We asked Patrick what words of wisdom he would give to others. "If you set your mind to it and you work with your heart, anything you set out to accomplish will open up."

Constant climbing and descending mountains was like climbing Mount Everest 16 times



Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital's new president is making West Michigan home



Hossain Marandi, MD, MBA, FACHE

Spectrum Health welcomed Hossain Marandi, MD, MBA, FACHE, as the new president of Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in August 2020. The announcement came after a rigorous national search and interview process with a cross section of community members, foundation board members and hospital leaders.

"We found a visionary leader who will engage the talents of Helen DeVos Children's Hospital clinicians and team members, and connect with the community," said Darryl Elmouchi, MD, MBA, president, Spectrum Health West Michigan. "Dr. Marandi has dedicated his career to caring for children and has a passion for excellence and innovation. We look forward to his leadership and guidance at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital for years to come."

Dr. Marandi is a lifelong advocate for children and a physician executive with more than 18 years of leadership experience at two children's hospitals. A passionate and visionary leader, he is deeply committed to patient safety, advocacy, medical education and research, philanthropy, improved access, quality and identifying sustainable ways to deliver exceptional care for children.

Most recently serving as the president of Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, Dr. Marandi guided the daily operations of the hospital and the affiliated medical group. Under his leadership, the organization saw incredible strategic growth, including extension of clinical

services and expansion of the brand across the state. He has previously held the positions of vice president of physician services and executive medical director at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital in Tampa, Florida.

"Grand Rapids has an illustrious history of giving—just look at the buildings with the fingerprint of giving from individuals, corporations and families. Their support is inspirational," he said. "I am grateful and appreciate their warm and genuine welcome. In fact, I was driving into work the other day and had to call my wife and tell her that this is by far the happiest I've been in my career. We already feel at home."

Dr. Marandi earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, his medical degree from University of Tennessee College of Medicine and a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Florida. A general pediatrician by training, his pediatrics internship and residency were completed at Johns Hopkins' All Children's Hospital and University of South Florida, where he also served as chief resident and clinical faculty.



"I am honored to have been selected to lead the nationally recognized Helen DeVos Children's Hospital," said Dr. Marandi. "I look forward to bringing my collective experiences to Grand Rapids and collaborating with other clinical leaders with the goal of continuing to provide exceptional care to families from across the region."

Welcome, new board of trustees

New Directors

Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation welcome the following individuals newly elected to serve a three-year term ending December 31, 2022.



Debbye Turner Bell, PhD is a veterinarian, journalist, corporate trainer, minister, motivational speaker, wife and mother. In addition to her speaking and media work, Dr. Turner Bell is the founder and CEO of Debbye Turner Bell Consulting, through which she provides leadership development training in communications, influence, and diversity to corporate and business leaders, managers and executives.

Over the course of her career, Turner Bell has found time to serve on many local, state and national boards, including the National Council on Youth Leadership, Children's Miracle Network, Missouri Division of Youth Services and Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club, and the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council, which is an advisory council to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, which is an institute in the National Institutes of Health.



Kathy Ellis Lloyd was born and raised in Grand Rapids. She earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Vanderbilt University and began her nursing career at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. After returning to Grand Rapids she worked as a clinical nurse for Thoracic Surgeons Associates for 12 years. Kathy has volunteered in various community organizations including St. Cecilia Music Center, East Grand Rapids Foundation and Academic Boosters, the Student Advancement Foundation of Grand Rapids Public Schools and the Grand Rapids Literacy Center.



Mary Beth Meijer is a community volunteer, serving a variety of organizations in leadership roles, including the board of governors of the Van Andel Institute and the Immeasurably More Campaign of Mel Trotter Ministries. She served on the Butterworth Foundation board and was instrumental in the merging of Butterworth Foundation and Ferguson-Blodgett Foundation at the time of the formation of Spectrum Health. She and her husband, Mark, also served as chairs of the HDVCH Children's Miracle Network Campaign/Telethon in 1998. Mary Beth was a labor and delivery/high risk OB nurse early in her career.



Maurine Sneathen is the outgoing president of the Volunteer Guild at Spectrum Health Blodgett Hospital. For 18 years, Maurine has been diligently serving, volunteering and raising funds for Blodgett Hospital. She is excited to serve another term on the foundation board of trustees after a 10-year absence. She and her husband live in Grand Rapids and have two sons and five grandchildren. "The history of giving before we developed our roots is clearly represented in the guilds."



Jenifer Nelson has lived in Grand Rapids since 1980. She and her husband, Carl, are proud alumni of Michigan State University and have two daughters. Jenifer is employed part time at her church, where she has volunteered for many years, and at her daughters' elementary and high schools. In 2007, she joined the Dorothy Swift Guild at Butterworth Hospital and has served as treasurer of the Fireside Grille and board president of the Dorothy Swift Guild and president of the auxiliary board.

Thank you, Michigan Auxiliary Fraternal Order of Eagles, for supporting Spectrum Health stroke prevention

The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international nonprofit organization. They unite fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice and equality. They give back more than \$10 million annually to various charities. Norma Wooster, a proud member of the Michigan Auxiliary Fraternal Order of Eagles since 1984, is the 2020 – 2021 past president. "I was president June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020," said Norma. "When you become president, you choose a charity to fundraise for during your tenure. I chose Spectrum Health Stroke Prevention Program. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have my husband today."

Norma and David Wooster married in September 1972. They have two children and two granddaughters. Three years ago, David was sick throughout the evening, and by morning, Norma grew worried and convinced him to go to the Spectrum Health Big Rapids and Reed City Hospital Emergency Department (ED) for treatment. He was dehydrated, an IV was started and he received a shot for nausea. "As he rolled from his side to his back his mouth was drooping," she said. "I said 'David' and he started to talk but couldn't." The nurse immediately knew he was having a stroke. They gave him thrombolytic therapy or tissue plasminogen activators (tPA), stabilized him and transferred him to Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital, where a team of 20 was ready to care for him. "When they initially administered the tPA, he couldn't lift his leg or his arm," she said. "By the time we arrived in Grand Rapids the blood clot was completely gone." They did a number of tests to determine where the blood clot started and determined it may have been attributed to an irregular heart rate. He was in the hospital for two days, had a heart monitor inserted in his chest wall and was discharged. He made a full recovery and is living his best life.

"I know that if it wasn't for the exceptional care he received, our life would be very different today," Norma said. "If our year of fundraising can help one family learn what to look for, it's lifesaving. Learn FAST—face, arms, speech and time—and get to the emergency room. I also want to tell people to quit smoking, because it makes a difference. I know our fundraising efforts were cut short due to COVID-19, but I'm really proud of what we accomplished." An enormous and heartfelt thanks to Norma and the 122 different auxiliaries in Michigan for



"I know that if it wasn't for the exceptional care he received, our life would be very different today."

giving more than \$90,000 to provide stroke prevention education to the communities we serve. If you are interested in fundraising for a program that has touched your life, contact Laurie Alighire at 616.391.9125 or at laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org.

Wrap-ups

THANK YOU!



Ferris State University Red Out

Many thanks to the Sports Careers RSO at Ferris State University for donating \$1,110 toward the Spectrum Health Big Rapids Hospital Cardiac Pulmonary Rehab Unit. The funds were raised during the university's fifth annual Red Out event to promote heart health. Students and fans raised money and wore red during the men's and women's basketball games along with the hockey game on February 15.

Baker Holtz Charity Golf Outing

This year has brought many challenges, but it also brought out the incredible kindness and compassion of our community partners, including the team at Baker Holtz who came together for their seventh annual charity golf outing, in support of our front-line workers, this past August. Because of their efforts, team members throughout Spectrum Health were given increased support with child care expenses, resources for their mental health and well-being, and lodging for those who may have been exposed to COVID-19 and wanted to avoid exposing their household. Thank you for your donation of \$12,169.27—you are improving health, inspiring hope and saving lives!



Performance Plus Quick Oil Change

This past August, Performance Plus Quick Oil Change held their first fundraising campaign for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Their 37 locations across Michigan collected donations and gave \$12,511 to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. "We are thrilled to have this new partnership and are incredibly grateful to the team at Performance Plus Quick Oil Change for coming together to help the patients and families who rely on Helen DeVos Children's Hospital for care," said Tamara VanderArk-Potter, director of communications and marketing for Spectrum Health Foundation. If you are interested in becoming a community business partner, contact Devin Gould at 616.391.2461 or devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org.

10th Annual D Bar D Ranch Ride for a Cure

We are amazed each year by the incredible support from D Bar D Ranch as they host their annual Ride for a Cure event in Chase, which was held on September 12, to support the Spectrum Health Reed City Hospital Susan P. Wheatlake Regional Cancer Center. The event celebrated their 10th year with trail rides, camping, a silent auction, good music and great food. This year they raised \$28,116.50 to provide needed programming support for families fighting cancer in our communities. Thank you, D Bar D Ranch and everyone who has participated in this event, for your continued support.



Jenna Steenwyk Memorial Golf Outing

Over 210 golfers hit the links to play nine holes at Saskatoon Golf Club in Caledonia on September 26, a beautiful fall afternoon. A long-standing tradition of the Steenwyk family, the event supports the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital wish list, which provides items such as toys and games to departments that could not otherwise fund them. A last-minute auction item led to spirited bidding and outright gifts that surpassed any prior year of the event. Congratulations, and thank you, everyone, for raising \$73,707 to support pediatric patients.

WERQ Your Rack

On September 26, under the canopy of a medieval castle, the fifth annual WERQ Your Rack dance fitness party took dance workouts to a whole new level. The brisk fall weather provided a great outdoor experience with lights, a concert stage and multiple instructors. Vendors from companies that support health, beauty, women, fitness and breast cancer patients were on-site to provide a shopping experience to attendees. Thank you to everyone who supported Betty Ford Breast Care Services by raising \$5,107.



Stroke Reduction Golf Classic

Even though September 28 started out drizzly, the energy of over 120 golfers helped to dry the weather and create a successful seventh annual Stroke Reduction Golf Classic. \$59,598 was raised to benefit the Spectrum Health Stroke Prevention Team. We would like to offer a special thank-you to each of our sponsors, our committee, and Susan and Steve Field for their leadership and continued support.

On Monday, October 5, Speedway announced the winner of their Jim Hart Memorial Cup award. This award is given to the region that raises the most money for their local Children's Miracle Network Hospital, each year. This past year (August 2019 to September 2020), Region 43 based out of Grand Rapids was crowned the winner, raising a remarkable \$637,113.38.



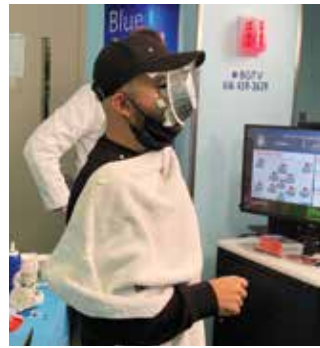
Region 43 is made up of 117 Speedway stores across West Michigan and Northern Indiana. Of those stores, 90 raise funds year-round to support Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. From holiday ornament sales to weekly employee payroll deductions, Speedway always has the kids top of mind. We want to give a huge shout-out to Speedway team members for their continued commitment to the kids! We also want to thank the devoted Children's Miracle Network district captains who champion CMN fundraising for their individual stores.



Photo taken prior to COVID-19 outbreak.



The 32 Walmart and Sam's Clubs in West Michigan raised an astounding \$208,098 for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital through their annual #HelpKidsLiveBetter campaign. This is an increase of 49% over the 2019 campaign. Associates held various in-store fundraising activities and asked customers and members at the register to donate to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Thank you for providing the high-quality, lifesaving care that children need every day.



Game Day GR

On October 10, Extra Life hosted Game Day GR, raising over \$6,400 for programs at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The 12-hour event, streamed by Level Up For Charity on Twitch, included gaming, local celebrity streamers and interviews from Blue Glass Studio inside Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. A big thank-you to our sponsors, Trend Micro and OST, along with all the gamers who made this event happen!

The Groove

Back in March, when two West Michigan entrepreneurs (Jeff Bennett and Michael Ranville) saw our community responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, they had an idea. The Groove—a five-week, app-based mental health strategy disguised as a dance competition—was designed to lift the spirits of our community and support our caregivers on the front line. Every dance was a donation, and recently, Spectrum Health was presented with a check for \$55,000—the same amount donated to Cherry Health, Mercy Health and Metro Health. The Groove is a great example of what's possible when we join as one connected community.



Heroes Among Us

Thank you to CareLinc Medical Equipment and Supply for underwriting and funding Heroes Among Us. Your partnership with Wood TV8 brought the community four different perspectives of front-line team members working through COVID-19. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The \$26,000 will support Spectrum Health through the COVID-19 team member relief fund.

Thank you!

Our community generously donated \$484,372 during the 21st Annual Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Radiothon! Your contributions will help make miracles happen for children and families throughout Michigan.

A special thank-you to our sponsors!

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Topic: Lifestyle Medicine

Speakers: Kristi Artz, MD, and
Leanne Mauriello

Kick off 2021 with Food as Medicine. The Spectrum Health Lifestyle Medicine specialty practice is founded on science-based principles that empower patients to improve their health. Learn how your giving has brought innovative programs to families and businesses in our community to improve their health through food as medicine and other lifestyle-first approaches. Together, we can make West Michigan one of the healthiest regions in America.



Contact Us

Giving Matters magazine is printed two times a year by Spectrum Health Foundation, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation. Comments and suggestions are welcome. foundation@spectrumhealth.org and [give.spectrumhealth.org](https://www.give.spectrumhealth.org)  

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