

FALL 2019

SPECTRUM HEALTH
Foundation

SPECTRUM HEALTH
Helen DeVos
children's hospital
FOUNDATION

Giving Matters

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



See Gresha Eberly's story, pages 6-7.

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Thank You for Providing a Spectrum of Hope

You are improving health, inspiring hope and saving lives through your kind and generous giving. So many programs and projects are being made possible at Spectrum Health by our donors and we are very grateful that you are by our side in this compassionate work.

The collective kindness of individuals, corporations, foundations and community groups are advancing clinical care, patient and family support services, and research and innovation.

A few examples of the impact of your extraordinary generosity include: the campaign to build a new Surgical Center at Spectrum Health Pennock, endowing the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital School Services Program, providing advanced equipment for the Interventional Pulmonary Program, launching the CAR-T immunotherapy cancer treatment program, creating the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit on the 7th floor, renovating all 37 guest rooms at Renucci Hospitality House, establishing the first wireless pediatric epilepsy unit in Michigan and one of only handful in the nation, advancing children's and adult cancer research, establishing the Adolescent Congenital Heart Transitions Clinic, developing Culinary Medicine, and providing sustaining support for 20 programs at HDVCH.

The list could go on and on.

At Spectrum Health, there is a way for each person to make an impact in an area that he or she is passionate about. If you have questions or would like to talk with someone about your personal goals for giving, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to serve you and most of all, we are grateful for all you do to save and change lives.

Sincerely,

Vicki Weaver

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

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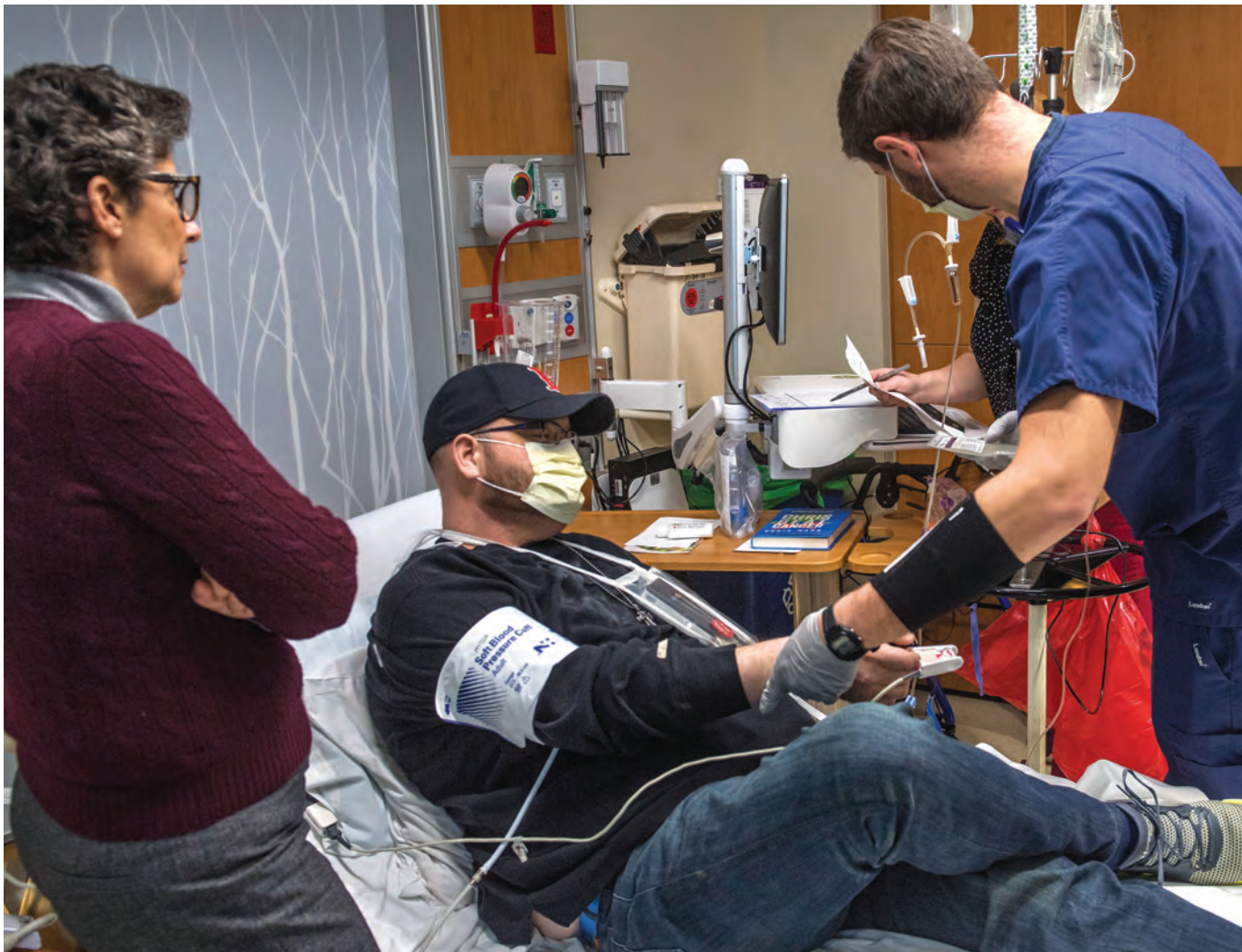


CLINICAL CARE



The Betz Family CAR T-cell Therapy Program

Being part of the Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation family provides special benefits, like learning opportunities and developing lifelong relationships with researchers and physicians supported by donations. When Stephanie Williams, MD, division chief of the Spectrum Health Adult Blood and Marrow Transplant Program, and James Fahner, MD, division chief, hematology/oncology at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, presented the need for launching CAR T-cell therapy, Patti Betz, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation board trustee, knew immediately her family needed to learn more. Cancer touched their lives in many ways and most recently claimed her sister-in-law, Judith Betz, wife of Ken Betz. The family gathered and quietly decided to fund the launch of this lifesaving cancer treatment that was giving hope to and saving lives of patients diagnosed with rare forms of lymphoma and leukemia.



Just one month before his relapse, the FDA approved CAR T-cell therapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, the same type of cancer Jeremy has.

Jeremy Rootes noticed the first signs of cancer eight years ago, when a growth appeared on his neck. He was 32 years old. He had a 3-year-old son and a newborn daughter. And suddenly cancer treatments grabbed center stage in his busy life.

Many chemo treatments, a month of radiation and a stem cell transplant later, the cancer went into remission. But in November 2017, a routine PET scan showed the cancer was back. “He was getting therapy that was holding it at bay, but it was bound to come back,” said Dr. Williams. CAR T-cell therapy was “his best option, and probably his last hope, for treatment.” In his battle with lymphoma, Jeremy had lived through many cancer treatments. He knew both the joy of remission and the panic of relapse. But this was different, this foggy swirl of liquid. In it lay millions of his own T-cells, re-engineered to seek out and destroy cancer cells that stubbornly outlasted the standard weapons in the anti-cancer arsenal.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved CAR T-cell therapy for two forms of cancer in 2017. Thanks to the Betz Family, Jeremy became the first person to receive the treatment through the Spectrum Health Blood and Marrow Transplant Program in December 2018. There have been five others who have received this treatment since.

“I think it’s a very exciting time,” said Dr. Williams. “It’s really a time where the paradigm of treating cancer is shifting. Hopefully, it’s shifting toward a more targeted, rational approach to killing cancer cells.”



Jeremy is optimistic about the therapy for himself and for possibly treating other forms of cancer. “I think we have found the key we’ve been looking for a very long time.”

How It Works
CAR T-cells are created by collecting white blood cells, isolating the T-cells, then modifying them by adding the CAR gene (Chimeric Antigen Receptor). The new CAR T-cells are added back into the bloodstream during a one-time infusion.

Early trials for this type of immune therapy have found high success rates. In a clinical study of patients with non-Hodgkin lymphoma who had failed other treatments, the treatment was shown to help 51 percent achieve complete remission, and 21 percent achieved a partial remission.



Standing from left to right: Ken Betz, Pat Brewer, Karl Betz, Kim Moorhead, Patti Betz, Rajene Betz, Kam Betz, Gregg Betz, Anas Al-Janadi, MD, Stephanie Williams, MD
Seated from left to right: Phillip, CAR T-cell therapy patient, and Annette Wolfe

To learn more about supporting the Betz Family CAR T-cell Therapy Program and this lifesaving work, contact Tara Werkhoven at tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org or 616.391.2069.

Don't Wait to Get Help

After seeking treatment for addiction during her pregnancy, Gresha Eberly shares a message of hope and recovery.

Her struggle with addiction began when she used prescription painkillers to treat back and knee pain. She took a double dose one night, and within 10 minutes, she got out of bed and started cleaning her house. She began taking three or four doses at a time. Doctor shopping, she eventually got prescriptions for Norco, Ritalin and Xanax. Then Gresha would go to Lansing to buy drugs on the street. When money ran low, she snorted heroin. That was four years ago. "I survived something that is killing a lot of people," she said. "A lot more people can survive this if they have the right tools and the right support."

Gresha wraps 4-year-old Pheenyx in her arms. "My little princess. She definitely is what started me on the road to recovery." The fleeting mother-child moment, blooming casually on a sunny summer day, seemed a long way from the early days of Gresha's pregnancy with Pheenyx. Fear hung like a shadow over her life. Fear of telling people she was pregnant—and addicted to drugs. Fear of losing her children. Fear of withdrawal. And fear of seeking prenatal care because she was worried a doctor's appointment would lead to all of her other fears.

In 2012, nearly 22,000 babies were born with the drug-withdrawal symptoms of neonatal abstinence syndrome. That's a fivefold increase since 2000, according to the National Institutes of Health. The issue hits rural areas particularly hard. Maternal opiate use in rural counties was nearly 70 percent higher than in urban areas—per 1,000 childbirth hospitalizations, compared to 4.8 in urban counties.

Cara Poland, MD, an addiction medicine specialist with Spectrum Health Addiction Rehabilitation Program, oversees the Grand Rapids Encompassing Addiction Treatment with Maternal Obstetric Management Program (GREAT MOMS). She has a special interest in working with pregnant women with substance use disorders. She admires the courage of those who seek treatment. "These women often encounter a lot of judgment and misunderstanding of their disease," she said. "We know that pregnancy is a time when people make great changes in their health and great changes in their lifestyle because of the responsibility to that unborn child." As the opioid crisis hits epidemic levels, it affects women and pregnancies across all socioeconomic levels.

“She is a very smart girl,” Gresha said. “I’m lucky to have her.”



Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, women with a pregnancy complicated by opioid addiction are receiving medication-assisted treatment as part of their treatment for addiction. The program is part of the Spectrum Health Maternal Fetal Medicine Program. The comprehensive program embeds addiction treatment in a prenatal care clinic, with the ability to coordinate with other specialties if needed depending on the unique medical needs of each patient. Postpartum support and treatment is also available through the program.

Four months into Gresha's pregnancy, she made her first prenatal appointment. She had an ultrasound,

and when the scan revealed a baby girl, Gresha began to cry. The doctor also told her the baby tested positive for opiates, amphetamines and benzodiazepines. Through treatment, she began to understand how the disease of addiction affected her brain. "It seems like every appointment I had an aha moment," she said. "It gave me a better understanding about myself." Pheenyx arrived five weeks early, at 4 pounds, 10 ounces. Small but healthy, she grew quickly. "She is a very smart girl," Gresha said. "I'm lucky to have her."

Grant funding will ensure more women throughout Michigan can access the type of comprehensive treatment available through GREAT MOMS, which is working to develop a toolkit with key recommendations, resources, checklists and more for general obstetrics practices.

For more on how you can help support this program, contact Molly Stout, senior foundation specialist, at molly.stout@spectrumhealth.org or 616.267.2297.





Weller Family Gift

Harry “Junior” and Dorothy Weller lived lives of generosity and with a love for people all around them, with a strong Christian faith and family values, a passion for hospitality, and helping hands. They instilled all of these traits in their four sons, Skip, John, Chris and Paul, who are passing them along to their children, the fourth generation of the Weller family.

Junior and Dorothy’s examples of selflessness led their sons to make a gift in their honor to Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital to create the pediatric cardiac intensive care unit (PCICU). Just as their parents would have done, the Weller family has provided a gift that is allowing children to flourish.

The PCICU at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital (HDVCH) is just the third in the state of Michigan and the first on the west side of the state. The Wellers’ generosity has proven to be more important than imagined. Every bed is full, and in the first

quarter of 2019. In total, these children spent 456 days in the unit. “The Weller gift fulfilled a need. We will be able to concentrate our nursing and provider expertise into one area and improve familiarity, reduce complications, reduce cost and, most importantly, improve the patient’s experience,” said Marcus Haw, MBBS, pediatric congenital heart surgeon and co-director for the congenital heart center.



On January 7, 2019, Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital Foundation hosted a dedication and ribbon cutting to celebrate the Weller family and their tremendous gift. “Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital is proud to take a leadership role in offering advanced specialized care for pediatric cardiology patients,” said Bob Connors, MD, president of Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. “The Weller family made this possible.”

Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital, the congenital heart team and the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital Foundation are forever grateful to the Weller family for making this dream a reality and for vastly improving the care of children here in West Michigan and throughout the region.

THANK YOU

Thanks to your generosity and support, good things continue to happen for patients with congenital heart conditions. Under the leadership of Dr. Haw, and Joseph Vettukattil, MD, interventional pediatric cardiologist and co-director for the congenital heart center, the center is growing. The adult congenital heart program transition clinic opened in 2019, and it is one of the few centers in the U.S. providing seamless transition of care from unborn babies to adulthood guided by a professional team in one location. The center has been recognized as one of the 50 best children’s hospitals for pediatric cardiology and heart surgery by U.S. News & World Report since 2016, and is one of 11 in the country to receive the highest star rating for excellence in surgical outcomes from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. Your donations mean patients are receiving this lifesaving care close to home surrounded by family and friends.

“It’s hard to put into words the depth of gratitude we have towards the congenital heart team at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital,” said Abby Albers. “From the 20-week ultrasound, where we learned of Otto’s condition, through the open-heart surgery, to the follow-ups thereafter, our heart team has held our hands, encouraged us, taught us, and loved us in ways that words fall short of explaining. Our lives will forever be shaped by their care.”

If you are interested in learning how you can support life-changing programs like this, please contact Tara Werkhoven at tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org or 616.391.2069.





A Home Away From Home

On a cool summer day, a small tour of community members and potential donors walked the halls of Spectrum Health Renucci Hospitality House, seeing firsthand the wonderful service made possible 20 years ago when Peter and Patricia Renucci provided the lead gift and more than 2,000 other community donors came together to build this sanctuary for families of patients at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital, Spectrum Health Blodgett Hospital and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. "We like to say it's a home away from home," said Laurel Viewig, hospitality operations manager.

“It provides respite for these individuals who’ve traveled a distance to seek care here.”

The five-story building has 37 rooms that are full all of the time. In addition to private rooms, there is a large kitchen with three separate setups, common sitting and dining areas, a playroom, a laundry room, a library and a garden. The house even has hypoallergenic rooms for patients with immune system issues. Those served include patients dealing with heart and lung transplants, neonatal intensive care, bone marrow transplants and pediatric oncology. Insurance covers lodging in some cases, but income is not a factor in granting access to stay; **thanks to the generosity of donors, the house is 100 percent funded by philanthropy.** The shortest stay has been one night, and the longest stay has been 16 months. Today, a quarter of the people stay more than 30 days—a very different story than in 1999 when the average stay was about five days. "The valuable quality of the house is the opportunity for families to receive support from each other and the house's 10 staff members, including one who has been with the house since the day it opened," said Viewig. "Unlike a hotel, the reception staff is sometimes here to just listen to guests. Not only are we providing a room, but we provide compassion because no one is here on vacation. No one is here because they want to be here."

Volunteer groups prepare dinners in the Renucci Hospitality kitchen for resident families about 15 days each month. Volunteers also bring baked goods and snacks to the common areas. The house provides daily breakfast. "There are several groups of longtime volunteers for the house," said Viewig. "My parents' church has been preparing meals once every month for 11 years. We are always looking for volunteers and know they will be touched by what it means to our families."

This is where we need your help. The recently renovated main floor lobby provides a perfect welcoming, contemporary and uplifting environment; but the rooms and their furniture have "seen a lot of love" over the years and are in need of updating. Philanthropic gifts are funding the renovation of two or three rooms at a time in 15 or more phases with the goal of having the project done in the next 12 months. Gifts of all sizes are valued and there are many available naming opportunities. With a gift of \$100 or more you will become a Circle of Friends member, and listed on a plaque on the first floor of the house for the year you give.



If you would like to give families a "Home Away from Home" or are interested in a tour, please contact Kaylee Swanson at 616.391.2219, or kaylee.swanson@spectrumhealth.org.



Giving Back Your Way:

Thank you to the Hudsonville High School semester-long University of Giving (UGive) program for encouraging students to identify opportunities to give back locally and make a difference. Renucci Hospitality House was nominated and came in second place to receive \$1,000.



Thank you to Dan Schaaf for giving back through a charity golf outing in Florida. Scotty Watson was a Grand Valley State University Student when he fell ill with some heart issues requiring care at Spectrum Health. Renucci Hospitality House provided a place of comfort to his parents, Scott and Jean Watson, during this unexpected time of need. Scott works with Dan.



Looking for ways to give back? Spectrum Health Renucci Hospitality House has a wish list through Amazon. If you are interested in purchasing a gift, visit give.spectrumhealth.org/RHH-WishList—all purchased items will go directly to the house and help our families in a time of need.

Thank You for Making a Difference

We are incredibly grateful to Dick and Linda Antonini and the following individuals and organizations for their tremendous support of the Dick and Linda Antonini Hospital School Program and the Dick and Linda Antonini Endowed Hospital Teacher/School Liaison at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital.

It is because of your generosity that today’s children, as well as generations to come, can continue their education so that no child’s educational future is limited by their diagnosis. Your support is providing both the teachers and the tools that make learning not only possible but fun while these children are in the hospital working hard to get better and return to their classrooms.



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Dick and Barbara Young
Heather Zak
David and Beatrice Zylstra

1 anonymous
* denotes deceased

Groundbreaking for \$12 Million Baum Family Surgical Center Celebrated

The entire Barry County community is coming together to make the new surgical center a reality. Thank you to the fundraising co-chairs, Maggie Coleman and Dan King, for leading the fundraising efforts and the foundation for pledging \$4.5 million in support of the project. The Baum and DeCamp families were excited to provide the lead gifts. David Baum spoke for his father Larry, who couldn't attend the groundbreaking ceremony. Their longtime support of Pennock Hospital translates to Spectrum Health Pennock because it's about keeping quality health care in the community. "We love Hastings," said Earlene Baum. "We are fortunate to be able to help improve local health care."

With a shift from inpatient to outpatient care, surgeries that traditionally took days to recover in the hospital are now occurring with same-day discharge. The center will expand the depth and breadth of care, increase efficiency, and provide access to laboratory imaging and surgical procedures in one convenient location. A beam signing is taking place this fall, and the center is expected to open as early as spring 2020.



Your funding is still needed to reach the \$4.5 million goal. If you are interested in donating to the surgical center, contact Janine Dalman at 269.945.3651 or janine.dalman@spectrumhealth.org.

It's All About Family

For Sandra Wanzer, it was her friend Kim Olthof and her mother Monique Wanzer who were her first two family members diagnosed with cancer. "They were diagnosed together, and they passed away together," Sandra said. "Since then, I've had two more friends diagnosed with breast cancer. Cancer has a way of bringing people together, and I wanted an event that would bring a community together. This community is our family. Spectrum Health Hospice is our family."

The 13th annual Nighthawk Chili Cook-Off had the most successful outcome in the event's history, raising \$40,367 to benefit Spectrum Health Hospice, bringing the all-time fundraising to \$156,133. "Thanks to Sandra and her personal connection to Angela Kinch, program development manager, Spectrum Health Hospice, our first music therapist was funded on a part-time basis. Throughout the years, we've been able to add a full-time music therapist and massage therapist to serve our patients," said Lisa Vander Wel, director, Spectrum Health Hospice. "They improve quality of life and ensure our patients are comfortable and able to make the most of each day."

Sandra is quick to talk about how it takes a family to put on this annual event.

The community volunteers, Angela and Kristen Redell, community liaison, work tirelessly to secure auction items; Susan Shaw, WOOD TV8 steps in to lend her celebrity and personal support; and numerous sponsors show their support financially and with volunteers. "The outdoor event is held in the early spring, and there is always a possibility of snow or rain, but so far we've been blessed with great weather," Sandra said. "I feel mom is looking down on it and is really pleased."

Thank you, Sandra and the Nighthawk Chili Cook-Off family, for all you do. More than 1,200 patients over the last two years have benefited from therapies you provide. You are an inspiration of hope.





Ethan Takes Flight

If you visit the fourth floor of the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Outpatient Center, you will be greeted by a bright and colorful one-of-a-kind work of art. "Ethan Takes Flight" was commissioned in memory of Ethan DeHoek, who passed away just shy of his fourth birthday after a life filled with adversity.

Ethan was born prematurely at 28 weeks with severe complications, including brain damage, liver failure and a perforated stomach. He was a patient in the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Intestinal Failure Program, where he was treated by Harold Conrad, MD, and Heather LaVigne, PNP. Toward the end of his life, Ethan's care was managed in part by Bradd Hemker, MD, in the pediatric pain and palliative care program.

To honor Ethan, many of those who loved him made gifts in his memory to the Intestinal Failure Program. Heather LaVigne and Jamie Bart, social worker, contacted the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation to discuss ways that the gifts could be used to create a special tribute. After a little brainstorming, this tiny acorn of an idea grew into a

"mighty oak" and West Michigan artist Reb Roberts graciously signed on to create a one-of-a-kind piece of art. He met with Ethan's parents, Lindsey and Brian, to learn about all of the things that made this kiddo so very special.

"Ethan Takes Flight" celebrates the joy that Ethan brought to everyone around him. The painting includes many of Ethan's favorite things—from baseball to Buzz Lightyear to the Five Little Monkeys. To celebrate the completion of this very special piece of art, his parents and his big brother, Parker, were joined by dozens of family members and close friends for an unveiling in November 2018. It is their hope that the painting will brighten the days of parents and children for generations to come.



Today Is the Day to Plan Your Gift

There is a misperception that planned giving is for the mega-rich, when in reality, it's for all of us to consider how we want to make a difference with our lifetime of earning. It adds up quickly, and Ilene and John Magee are a great example of a couple who planned early and selected beneficiaries they felt deserved the fruits of their labor. "They worked hard, lived frugally, made great investments and accumulated wealth," said Carol Roelofs, care provider and owner of New Life Lakeshore. "I am hopeful their gift will be used to benefit others at Spectrum Health Renucci Hospitality House. I know John and Ilene brought meals through their church for several years. They were always grateful for their close proximity to Butterworth and felt sad for people for whom this was not true."

Ilene went to Alexander Elementary and graduated from Ottawa Hills High School. She played violin in the school orchestra and was always a good student. Her father was a local businessman and owned and operated Pastoor Meats near the corner of Franklin and Eastern. She always wanted to be a teacher and was hired by Wyoming Public Schools and taught the fifth grade at West Elementary until her retirement. She met John at church, and it was a match made in heaven. He, too, was a school teacher and taught high school math at Grandville High School. They were married in 1965.

Shortly after their marriage, John was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma and received chemotherapy and radiation at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital. After many years, John received a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer and again chose Butterworth to receive his treatment. He passed away in 2009. Ilene continued in good health for many years, spending winters in Mesa, Arizona. She was diagnosed with vascular dementia in 2013. "Her health declined," said Roelofs. "I was fortunate to care for her through her disease until she passed away in October 2018. They set up their trust in 1998 because they wanted their wishes clearly stated. They were planners and such an example of people serving others selflessly."

To plan your future gift today, contact Kristin Long at 616.486.6590 or kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org.



IRA Charitable Rollover—Make an Impact!

Interested in making an annual or year-end gift that would allow you to make a difference for patients and families at Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, as well as benefit from important tax advantages?

If you are 70 ½ or older, the IRA Charitable Rollover is a special way to reduce your taxable income and achieve charitable giving goals, as well as satisfy your required minimum distribution. It allows you to directly roll over up to \$100,000 from your IRA without having to pay taxes on the contribution. To qualify, the donation of IRA assets must be made to a qualified charity, not a donor-advised fund or grant-making foundation. The assets must also be transferred directly to the qualified charity

from your IRA custodian, such as a bank or mutual fund. There is no charitable income tax deduction for the donation, but you also won't need to count your distribution as income.

Additionally, you may designate your gift to an area or program that you are passionate about. It is an easy and powerful way to make a meaningful impact!

If you would like to learn more about how you can make a difference at Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, through the IRA Charitable Rollover, contact Kristin Long at 616.485.6590 or kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org.

Welcome New Board of Trustees



Jennifer Keyes

Jennifer Keyes has lived in Grand Rapids for the past 12 years. She is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where her family still resides. She attended Ohio Northern University where she studied pharmacy and met her future husband, Rick Keyes. They graduated from Ohio Northern in 1992, were married in 1993 and have two wonderful children, Elizabeth and Patrick.

She and Rick moved to Grand Rapids in 2006 when he was transferred to the Meijer corporate office. Jennifer is a retired registered pharmacist. Although she spent several years staying home to raise their children, she served on many committees and organizations in her church and at Immaculate Heart of Mary Elementary School and Grand Rapids Catholic Central.

Jennifer is actively involved as a volunteer in the NICU at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and a member of the Junior Golden Rule Guild. She is active in her church, a board member of the Grand Rapids Chapter of Legatus, and a volunteer at the Meijer Gardens. In her free time, Jennifer enjoys cooking, gardening and traveling and has a strong belief in serving others and giving back to her community.



Patrick Miles Jr.

Patrick Miles Jr. graduated from Aquinas College with a BS in business administration, majoring in economics. He earned his JD from Harvard Law School, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Harvard Law Record. He resided in East Grand Rapids and is of counsel in Barnes and Thornburg's Grand Rapids office. Most recently, he served as U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan from July 2012 to January 2017, by appointment of President Barack Obama. Prior to his time in public service, Patrick spent 21 years in private practice with a large law firm in Grand Rapids. He also served on more than two-dozen charitable and professional boards and committees, including at Aquinas College, Inner-City Christian Fellowship/Nonprofit Housing Corporation, Hope Network and Spectrum Health Board of Directors.



Sharon Seys

Sharon Seys is retired after working in the legal department of Foremost Insurance Company (government oversight and corporate licensing) and Steelcase Inc. (intellectual property). She grew up in a small town in northern Michigan and moved to Grand Rapids after attending Ferris State University. Sharon has been active in First Park Church (trustees board and other areas) for over 25 years. Wanting to further serve her community after retirement, Sharon became active in the Dorothy Swift Guild of Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital, supporting the Fireside Grille. She has served terms as president of the guild, the Fireside Grille Board and the Auxiliary Board. Sharon has been widowed for 10 years and loves to travel and experience new things. She has two sons, one living in Chesapeake, Virginia (retired Navy, working for the Navy), and the other in Dusseldorf, Germany (working for a German-based holding company), and has six grandchildren.



Mary Watcher

Mary has been married for 50 years to her husband, Dick. Together they have two grown daughters, Drinan and Erin. The girls have blessed them with six grandchildren and all but one live in the Grand Rapids area.

Dick's work took them to Dallas, Clearwater, Louisville, and Gainesville, Florida. They were always active in church, the girls' schools, local nonprofits and their neighborhoods.

After returning to Grand Rapids when their children were in high school, Mary decided to pursue an accounting degree and graduated from Grand Valley State University receiving her CPA. certificate. She worked full time (plus) during tax season and part time the rest of the year until she retired in 2009.

Her volunteer work with Spectrum Health began as a member of the Junior Board Guild at Blodgett Hospital. She was also co-president of the guild and later president of the volunteer executive board. She is proud to be a member of the Spectrum Health Foundation and the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation. And amazed at the advances in medicine that are presented at every meeting. The generosity of philanthropists in western Michigan have made possible care and cures that were unimagined a few years ago.



Andrew (Drew) Wierda

Drew Wierda is a founding partner of and senior consultant with Edify North. Located in downtown Holland, Edify North is an employee benefits consulting firm formed in 2009. Drew's specific areas of expertise include behavioral economics and consumer engagement and the use of predictive analytics. Drew is a graduate of Hope College (2008). Drew and his wife, Lindsey, are the parents of two young children. He serves as treasurer of Central Park Church and has been involved with the Nibakure Community Village in Rwanda.

Wrap-ups

THANK YOU!



Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospitals Charity Ball

Charity Ball 2019 held on February 9 was an AMAZING evening in the spirit of a caring community! It is through the caring hearts of our Charity Ball sponsors, donors and attendees that we raised \$97,803 to combat childhood obesity in Montcalm County. Congratulations to Karen Carbonelli, recipient of this year's Fred and Lena Meijer Spirit of Caring Award.

Foraged Feast

Guests gathered on February 9 for a Foraged Feast at Scottville Optimist Hall. The exciting evening was full of blue jeans, local craft beers, a taste of the wild dinner and a great cause. Over \$40,000 was raised for the new Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital Cancer Patient Wellness Program! This program will now provide on-site complimentary salon and massage services, in addition to other ancillary support services to cancer patients seeking respite, relaxation and support. A big thank you to all of our event sponsors and the hosts of the evening, Joe and Tracy Cooper.



Gala 2019

It was a memorable evening on April 13 at the 2019 Spectrum Health Foundation Gala: Expect the Unexpected. There were more than 2,000 guests in attendance helping to raise over \$825,000 for the Spectrum Health Level 1 Trauma Research Institute. After social hour, a delicious dinner and a heartwarming program, guests were surprised with an exciting after-party that included a silent disco. Special thank you to event chairs, Davey and Carrie Mehney, and our event sponsors. You ensure that world-class trauma care is always available in West Michigan, and we are grateful.

WERQ Your Rack

Bringing together a wildly addictive cardio dance class and vendors from companies that support health, beauty and women, the WERQ Your Rack event surpassed its goal by raising \$10,610 for Betty Ford Breast Care Services. Women of all fitness abilities enjoyed a fierce 90-minute WERQ-out party with lights, a concert stage and multiple instructors. WERQ Your Rack is about educating women, empowering them to take care of themselves and helping them get the resources they need to be successful.



Julep Gala

On May 4, guests stepped back in time at Gilmore Car Museum while placing wagers and cheering on their favorite horses during the Kentucky Derby. The evening included a mouth-watering meal with a derby flair, fine music and great company. Proceeds from the event enable the expansion of the CenteringPregnancy® program coming to Spectrum Health Pennock. This group prenatal care program will help to improve maternal and infant mortality rates and will save the lives of mothers and babies by addressing premature birth rates in Barry County.

Stroke Reduction Golf Classic

On May 20 at Thousand Oaks Golf Club, participants learned how to “reduce strokes in life and on the golf course.” During this fun-filled day of golf, participants learned techniques on how to improve their golf game as well as how to reduce their chances of experiencing a stroke. Over \$49,000 was raised to support Spectrum Health's stroke prevention efforts. A special thank you to event chair Steve Field. Mark your calendars for next year's golf event on May 18, 2020.



Something Spanish

On May 30 CWD and AC Hotels hosted “Something Spanish,” providing a sneak peek at the restored 37 Ottawa building and the Marriott Courtyard Grand Opening. More than 100 people attended and enjoyed Spanish flair cuisine and beverages and admired the view from the second floor. The special event raised close to \$50,000 for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals Golf Day 2019

On Course to Support Local Health Care

On June 11 at Egypt Valley Country Club, 185 golfers came together to raise over \$56,000 for Project ASSERT (Alcohol & Substance Abuse Services Education Referral Treatment). This program coming to the emergency departments at Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospitals is a national evidence-based program providing screening, resources, referral and continued involvement in the patient's recovery. Thank you to all the golfers and sponsors!



Gerber Memorial Golf Scramble

On June 21, 80 golfers gathered at Waters Edge Golf Course for the 19th annual Gerber Memorial Golf Scramble. A highlight of the day included our “mutt mulligans”—hospital therapy dogs greeted the golfers and offered some chipping assistance. Over \$13,000 was raised for Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Community Wellness Programs. A special thank you to all of our sponsors for their support.

P.O.R.T. Light up the Night

In honor of its 25th anniversary, the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.) at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital celebrated with fanfare the impact of P.O.R.T. throughout the years. A panel of individuals who have received services spanning the 25 years shared how important P.O.R.T. has been to them and their families. Through sponsorships, tickets sales and a fast-paced live auction, \$48,634 was raised to help fund initiatives such as Project Dream Room for each bone marrow transplant patient and family care bags for each family upon admission to the hospital. Thank you to the P.O.R.T. board and the Light up the Night committee for making the event a huge success!



5th Annual Stiles Open

It was a great turnout for the 5th Annual Stiles Open to benefit the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The event raised \$5,825 through some unique, out-of-the-box ideas. From the golf-shot air cannon that launches your ball across the course, to a longest-drive contest played with mini golf clubs, the Stiles staff always finds ways to increase the fun factor of their event. Thank you to Stiles Machinery for its continued support!

Upcoming EVENTS

SAVE
THE
DATE

9th Annual D Bar D Ranch Ride for a Cure

An unusual fundraising opportunity is on tap to help area cancer patients on Saturday, September 14, at D Bar D Ranch in Chase. It's the 9th annual Ride for a Cure, and in this case, "ride" means on horseback or in horse-drawn wagons. The \$25-per-person event benefits Spectrum Health's Susan P. Wheatlake Regional Cancer Center at Reed City. Additional donations are welcome, and there will also be a silent auction, pig roast and evening entertainment by the Stolen Horses band. For additional information, contact Laurie Alighire at 231.592.4280 or visit dbardranchmichigan.com.



Spectrum Health Foundation Big Rapids and Reed City Hospitals Festival of Trees

You won't want to miss this festive gathering of holiday cheer and lively bidding to support programs and services at Spectrum Health Big Rapids and Reed City Hospitals. Join us on Wednesday, November 6, to bid on beautifully decorated trees, wreaths and one-of-a-kind auction items. The event will take place at the Holiday Inn in Big Rapids. For additional information, contact Laurie Alighire at 231.592.4280.

Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals Charity Ball 2020

Save the date for the Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals' Charity Ball on February 8 held at Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.



Save the Date

AUTO SHOW

Charity Spectacular

January 29, 2020
DeVos Place
Grand Rapids, MI

Join the Grand Rapids New Car Dealers Association for an exclusive preview of the Michigan International Auto Show. Explore the exhibit floors, filled with more than 300 new cars, trucks and SUVs while enjoying a delicious strolling dinner and live musical entertainment. Proceeds from the event will benefit Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

For more information, contact Nicole Cook at 616.391.2040 or nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org or visit give.helendevoschildrens.org/autoshow.



Helen DeVos Children's Hospital 20th Anniversary Radiothon December 5 and 6

Listen live on Star 105.7, B-93.7 or 107MUS as we encourage the community to come together to support patients and families at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. During the broadcast, you will hear stories from our patients and families that help illustrate the impact philanthropy has made in our community. Funds raised from this event will benefit the many important programs and services throughout Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

For more information, visit give.helendevoschildrens.org/radiothon or contact Nicole Cook at nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org or 616.391.2040.

Spectrum Health Foundation

100 Michigan Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
t 616.391.2000
f 616.391.8752

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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Magnificent Medium Award

Thank you to the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) for recognizing Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and iHeartMedia with the Children's Miracle Network Medium



Market Radiothon Award! Helen DeVos Children's Hospital was one of 40 other hospitals awarded for demonstrating successful partnerships and phenomenal fundraising outcomes for the 2018 Radiothon.

"Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and your partners at iHeartMedia had the overall best event in the CMN medium-size markets," said Mitch Baker, Children's Miracle Network Media Area Director "Everything from the on-air execution to the fun holiday vibe contributed to you winning this award. Of course, it helps to do an awesome job of stewarding your donors, selling sponsorships and having a really solid pair of radio stations as your partner."

Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Radiothon is leading the way for best practices, and it's only possible because of all of your support.

PRSA Gold PProof Award

Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation was honored to be invited to the 2019 PProof Awards, hosted by the West Michigan Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. The PProof Awards recognizes practitioners who successfully used skill, creativity and resourcefulness to address a communications challenge.



This year, PRSA received the most submissions ever, which were then judged by an out-of-state panel to determine Gold and Silver winners. During this exciting night, the foundation communications team took home a Gold award for "Most Effective Campaign on a Shoestring Budget (\$5,000 or less)."

Sending a big thank you to our foundation staff, Spectrum Health System staff and our community for helping make our 2018 Vote For Miracle Campaign a huge success. **With your help, we won \$20,000 for critical programs and services at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.** This is an awesome example of how, when we work together, we can do pretty amazing things!

Contact Us



For comments and suggestions or to opt out of this publication, contact Spectrum Health Foundation at foundation@spectrumhealth.org or 616.391.2000.

Spectrum Health complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. [81 FR 31465, May 16, 2016; 81 FR 46613, July 18, 2016]

ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1.844-359-1607 (TTY: 711).

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