

WINTER 2016

SPECTRUM HEALTH  
Foundation

SPECTRUM HEALTH  
*Helen DeVos*  
children's hospital  
FOUNDATION

# Giving Matters

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





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Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation are committed to advancing the health and well-being of the community through philanthropy.

# Happy Holidays

The holiday season is a time for family and friends to gather and celebrate with one another. As we enter this season we celebrate you. Because of your generosity, you have touched the lives of many patients and families. Families who will gather together this holiday season grateful for the hope, support and kindness you have shown.

On behalf of those families, our board and staff, we thank you for your commitment to helping save and change lives. We wish you a joyous and healthy holiday season.

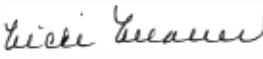
Gratefully,



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KIDS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Funding Big Bone Cancer Research In Little Kids

In the fall of 2014, Cassandra Hill attempted to soothe 4-year-old Alex's leg pain complaints, thinking he was going through growing pains or something that would quickly pass. But after three days, she knew she should have it checked out, and brought Alex to the emergency room at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

"Our lives changed that day. I never ever expected to hear my son had cancer," said Cassandra. "It was like someone stomped on my chest and took all my breath away. I just couldn't believe it."

Alex had a large cancerous tumor in his femur bone which was very close to his hip. He was admitted to the hospital, where X-rays and a surgical biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of osteosarcoma, a very rare cancer affecting one in 1 million children every year. Chemotherapy, radiation and blood transfusions to shrink the tumor followed for the next few months. "I can't thank everyone enough," said Cassandra. "From the oncologist, Dr. Sharon Smith; the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.), who made sure I never went without a meal; to Rhys, the child life specialist; to Dr. Matt Steensma, who was like a father figure to me and immediately had my trust. He held my hand and walked me through the process and the decision to go through the six-hour surgery to amputate Alex's leg."

Today, Alex doesn't see his amputation as disabling. He enjoys playing in the playground at their home and anything to do with Spider-Man. He received his prosthesis in June and is learning to walk with it.

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## Funding Big Bone Cancer In Little Kids continued

Through your generosity, you walk with Alex. Donations to the foundation and community partnerships allow Helen DeVos Children's Hospital to be one of the few hospitals in the country where research is part of the osteosarcoma treatment plan. "We have a partnership with VanAndel Institute, Calvin College and Michigan State University where we can devote time and research," said Dr. Matthew Steensma, section chief for orthopaedic oncology.

**"Funding keeps research going. This very rare cancer is underrepresented and therefore underfunded. The level of care we provide today will train the specialists of the next generation."**

For more information on how you can help support osteosarcoma research, contact Tara Werkhoven at 616.391.2069 or [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org).

## The Jason Houghtaling Memorial Fund Provides Support to Osteosarcoma Research at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital



**Seated from left to right:** Joel Post, MD, orthopaedic oncology; James Fahner, MD, division chief, hematology/oncology; and Matthew Steensma, MD, section chief, orthopaedic oncology  
**Standing from left to right:** Jona (Houghtaling) and Jeremy Gasper; and Carol and Paul Houghtaling

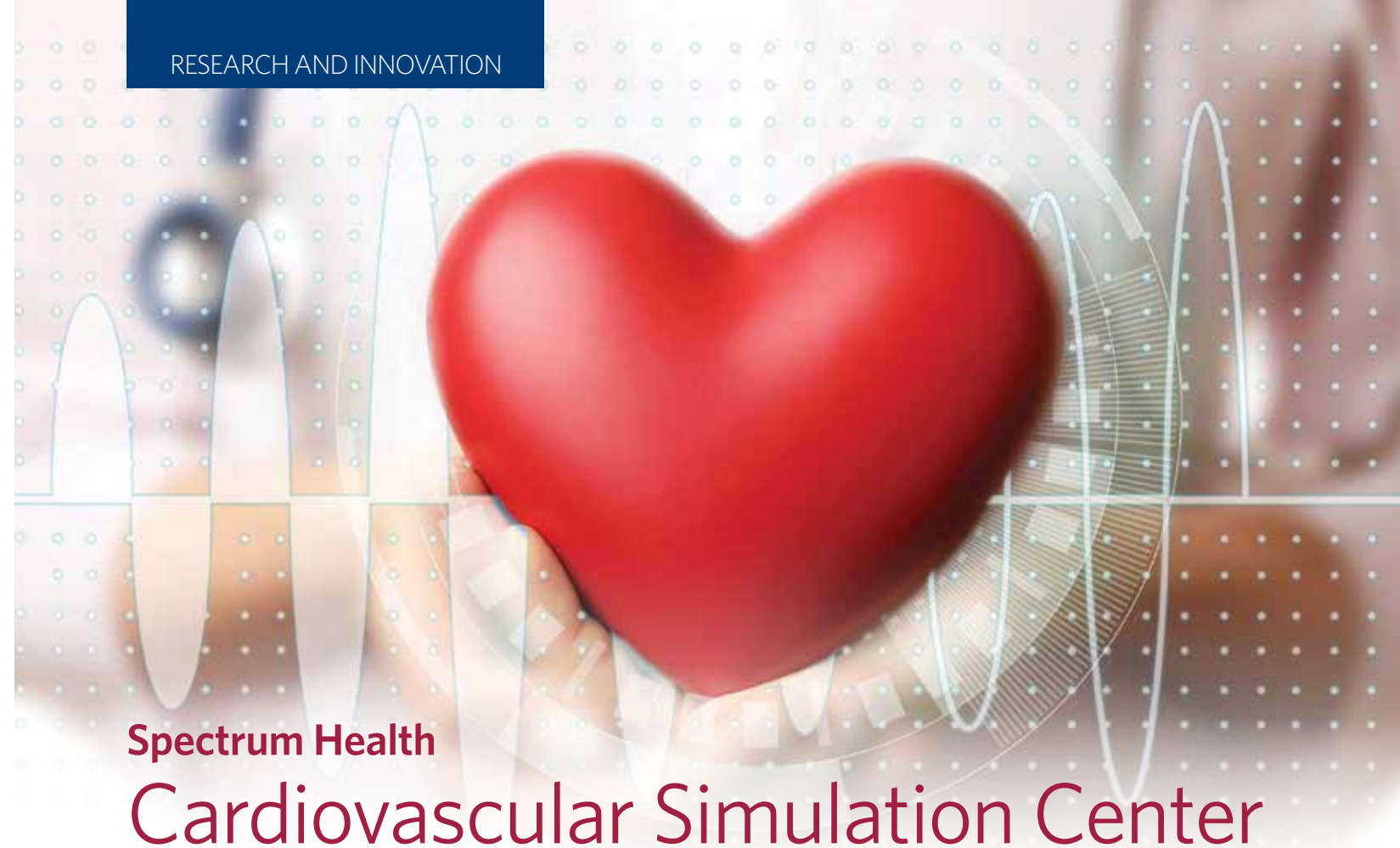
Longtime donors Carol and Paul Houghtaling recently met with fund advisors of the Fremont Area Community Foundation, representatives of the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation, and physicians and physician scientists from Helen DeVos Children's Hospital to discuss current and future osteosarcoma research. The Houghtalings lost their son, Jason, to osteosarcoma—a rare childhood bone cancer—in July 1983.

"It's incredible that Dr. Matthew Steensma has focused his research on the exact cancer that Jason battled and he's right here in Grand Rapids, Michigan," said Paul. "We are just a piece of the puzzle, but with our own grassroots effort and The Jason Houghtaling Memorial Fund at Fremont Area Community Foundation, we are proud to support the opportunity for a potential cure by supporting the work at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital."

The family has dedicated more than 30 years to fighting osteosarcoma. They have provided significant financial contributions toward research for a cure at numerous health care organizations, most recently to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

"The Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation is extremely grateful for the continued support provided by the Houghtaling family," said Vicki Weaver, president of the foundation. "We cannot thank them enough for their ongoing commitment to this important work in finding a cure for osteosarcoma."

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



## Spectrum Health Cardiovascular Simulation Center

The complexity of health care increases every day. With the rapid pace of information and the exponential growth of medical knowledge, our physicians, clinicians, medical staff and research scientists are using advanced technologies in many of our treatment plans.

You have a special opportunity to fund an important initiative and establish a Spectrum Health Cardiovascular Simulation Center.

The center will increase high quality clinical performance, encourage critical thinking by clinicians and physicians and provide important data to research.

You can best understand this simulation center in comparison with pilot training. Computer data modeling and simulations made "Sully" Sullenberger successful. When encountering crises, he had worked through similar situations in computer simulations hundreds of time before performing the real thing. Physicians and surgeons should have the same advantage, and the cardiovascular simulation center will provide that opportunity.

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Here are just a few examples of what your philanthropy and its support of medically integrated technology have meant to patients, their families and the quality of health care in our communities:

- At the Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center with its Frederik Meijer Heart and Vascular Institute, the Richard DeVos Heart and Lung Transplant Program now has the technical capability and capacity to accomplish multiple transplants in condensed time periods.
- The Richard McNamara Cardiovascular Endowed Fellowship program is selecting its first three fellows to begin their training in July 2017.
- The Meijer Heart Center is participating in the nationwide Expand Heart trial by Trans Medics, makers of Organ Care System, which keeps hearts for transplant viable longer. Surgeons used the system for the first time at Spectrum Health for a transplant on April 16, 2016.



### Patient Care

The center will assist in the training of physicians and clinicians through innovative simulations, especially for complex procedures, reducing medical errors and improving patient outcomes.

### Leading Innovation

By providing a high-tech simulation center with a cardiovascular focus, we will become the Midwest's leader in this type of training and practice. Spectrum Health will be viewed by developers of new technology as a principal site in the United States, making new, leading edge treatments and technology available to our West Michigan communities.

### Supporting Community

The center will be an avenue for Spectrum Health to engage with the surrounding community. There will be outreach to local schools through hands-on

experience and on-site workshops. We will partner with local businesses and community organizations for screenings and training of medical professionals.

Our goal is optimal, specialized and safe training for our medical staff, and increased community benefit in the areas we serve.

Your help is needed in raising the \$3.1 million for renovation and equipment. Would you please consider helping to create this innovative center that will impact lives now and in the future? Please consider joining our heart team for this very special 2017 campaign.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Tara Werkhoven at 616.391.2069 or [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org)

## A Look Inside

Located at 330 Barclay, the 2,700-square-foot cardiovascular simulation center will have a flexible design for education, training and outreach. One of the most important features of the space is a 600-square-foot operating room, designed and equipped to simulate an actual operating room environment. The room will house a full body simulator, surgical lights, and imaging equipment to allow physicians and medical teams to practice complex procedures and multi-disciplinary patient care.

The second large space will be a flexible room set up with multiple simulation stations or switched over to a conference room for large training and education sessions. The center will be strategically positioned next to the cardiovascular research department to further collaboration and research projects.



# 2016 Art of Giving Award Recipient: Marge Potter

The 2016 Art of Giving Award recipient, Marge Potter, is unique and authentic as anyone can be. She exemplifies the art of giving in everything she does. She is a passionate, determined and effective leader. Marge understands the intersection of economic development, government, education and innovation. She demonstrates how individual initiative ensures implementation and lifetime results. Marge achieved meaningful success in her public life, and in her community, business and government, receiving statewide and regional recognition.

- Marge was elected as a Kent County commissioner and was chosen chairperson by her peers.
- She served as deputy director of the Michigan Department of Commerce from 1991 to 1993, and subsequently was selected to be director of economic development and advisor to Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer.
- Marge's involvement with our community is diverse—she helped plan Centers of Innovation for Grand Rapids public schools, and is a board member of the GVSU foundation and the Progressive Women's Alliance.
- The Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce awarded Marge the Athena Award, and the Grand Rapids Business Journal recognized her as one of the "50 Most Influential Women" in West Michigan.
- Earlier this year, Crain's Detroit Business named her one of the "100 Most Influential Women" in Michigan.



Marge and Paul Potter

Marge cherishes her work with Spectrum Health and the Spectrum Health Foundation. She says, "The health of a community is many things, and in the case of Spectrum Health, we provide for the physical health as well as the economic well-being of our community. The ripple effect builds to dramatic effect for all of West Michigan."

Marge is also known for the value she adds to all of her personal interactions and is described as trustworthy, inspirational, determined and fun loving. Her husband, Paul, knew the moment he met Marge that she was different, and he wanted to know more. They are partners in every sense of the word, and their mutual respect and love for one another are evident every day.

The 2016 Celebration of Philanthropy Art of Giving Award recognizes all of Marge Potter's contributions, and we note especially Marge's service to Spectrum Health and our foundation.

Congratulations, Marge—your compassion, your leadership and your generosity have made your success a reason for us to celebrate.



Former Art of Giving Award Honorees:

Seated from left to right: Barbara Gordon, Joyce Winchester, Wilbur Lettinga, Richard DeVos, Peter Renucci, Donnalee Holton and Karl Betz  
Standing from left to right: Bob Hooker, Marge Potter, Helen DeVos, Lois Mol, Dick Antonini, Earl Holton and Patricia Betz



# Annual Giving Chairs Lead the Way

Kristin and Chris Duryee bring historical perspective, passion and excitement to the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital 2017 Annual Giving Campaign. Kristin has a depth of experience as a trustee, previously serving on boards for the Butterworth Foundation, Blodgett Butterworth Healthcare Foundation, Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation. She left for a few years to focus on her family, only to return to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation last year. She is that committed.

Kristin's clinical connection begins with the stillborn death of her first daughter, Sarah Joy, on November 11, 1992. "After a long and traumatic labor, delivery and then the death of my daughter," said Kristin, "I was deeply touched that my nurse never left my side. She chose to stay with me even though my doctor was there as well. She stayed long after her shift ended with no breaks. The care I received was above and beyond any medical necessity. It was personal, heartfelt and phenomenal. Through all of the pain and grief, I still left the hospital with a heart of gratitude. Because of my gratitude, I wanted to give something back. During my six-week checkup, I discovered something I could do. I decided to purchase a commercial-grade popcorn maker for the labor and delivery nurses' break area. The very same nurse came in to deliver Elizabeth in 1994. Even after four healthy daughters, the nurses still came to thank me for the popcorn maker!"

The Duryees' passion led to further action. They established a perinatal fund for high-risk pregnancies. They also found time to work on the capital campaigns for the Renucci Hospitality House, the Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center and the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, as well as regularly volunteering to serve dinners at the Renucci Hospitality House. The medical connection continues. Three of their four beautiful daughters work in the medical field, and a newly added son-in-law is pursuing a medical degree.

Their passion resonates with all who meet them. "We didn't have to think twice about leading the annual giving campaign," said Kristin. "We are excited and fired up to be involved. It is such an honor and a privilege to lead the campaign this year. We don't look at it as fundraising; we look at it as 'friend-raising.' When you donate to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, you are a lifelong friend." Chris and Kristin personally invite you to join them by attending an event or making a donation. The annual giving campaign goal is to raise funds to support more than 20 essential life-changing programs at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.



The annual campaign helps support the following programs and services at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital:

## Clinical Care

Center for Child Protection  
Infant Nutrition Support Services  
Maxofacial Surgery/Oral Cleft Program  
Neurodevelopmental Program  
Neuroscience Program Development

## Patient and Family Support

Child Life Services Teacher and Library Support  
Injury Prevention Program  
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Family Support  
NICU Parent-to-Parent Initiative  
Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.)  
Pediatric Pastoral Care and Bereavement Services  
Peter and Joan Secchia CarePartners Program

## Research and Innovation

CHERISH (Congenital Heart Education Research Innovation Fund at Spectrum Health)  
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program for Recruitment, Retention and Educational Support  
Research Scientist for Community Health and Healthy Weight Center  
Science of Healing Scholarships for Nurses and Other Clinicians  
Simulation Program Support

For more information about the annual giving campaign, contact Brad Kaufmann at 616.391.5149 or [bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org).

## Welcome New Board Trustees

Chris Duryee is honored to join the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation board. He is excited for the opportunity to give back to the children of the greater West Michigan community. He and his wife, Kristin, are the annual giving chairs. "Helen DeVos Children's Hospital is personally special to us," said Chris. "I watched it transform from an idea, with Kristin's early involvement, into this magnificent big blue building. We were able to witness and experience one of our family friends take their sick child into the hospital, receive a cancer diagnosis, go through treatment, and recover cancer free because of the great staff, doctors and treatment."



Michael Ellis is the president and owner of Ellis Parking Company. He is active in many community-minded organizations and serves on the executive committee of the Grand Rapids Symphony, is president of the St. George Church Parish Council and is past president of the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM). He also serves on the Grand Rapids Parking Commission, and committed to helping Grand Rapids continue its growth and attractiveness as a place to live, work and raise a family. He embraces the opportunity to serve on the Spectrum Health Foundation board. Michael holds a BA from Princeton University and an MBA from the University of Michigan.



Randy Kimball enjoys serving others and is excited to serve the Spectrum Health Foundation and the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation boards as an ex-officio member. She retired in 2005 from Kentwood Public Schools after teaching for 27 years. She joined the Sallie Bender Guild shortly after retirement. She was guild president from 2010 to 2012 and then president of the Butterworth Auxiliary from 2014 to 2016. "I am honored to join the foundation boards. I am very interested in the work being done to help fight children's diseases in all areas of research," said Randy. "My husband and I value serving the community. He worked for the City of Grand Rapids for 35 years, 22 of those as city manager. As a board member, I will be a cheerleader for this prestigious health system in all of my community interactions and associations."



Jane Meilner is the founder and owner of J. Meilner & Associates, a direct sales and wardrobe consulting company. She is an energetic and devoted community leader and volunteer. She is a member of the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) board of trustees, serving as board president since 2014. Jane is enthusiastic to serve on the Spectrum Health Foundation board.



Jane is a native of Grand Rapids and the community is near and dear to her heart. She and her husband, John, met in college and have been married for 32 years. Jane and her family are closely connected to the medical field—her mother is a nurse, was a professor at the Butterworth School of Nursing and served on the Butterworth board.

Jane is committed to Spectrum Health based on her positive personal experiences as a patient. She recognizes the importance of a strong health care system that attracts the most qualified physicians.

Susan Wold brings both business and board experience to her new role on Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation boards. Her business experience includes both working as a marketing manager and teaching marketing seminars at Northwestern Michigan College.



"My first affiliation with a guild was in the 1960s and 70's when I was invited to become a member of Junior Golden Rule Guild at Butterworth," Susan said. Her professional career brought her to Traverse City for several years. "After my return, I joined the John T. Hodgen Guild at Blodgett," Susan said. "I served two years as the guild president, then two years as president of the Blodgett Volunteer Executive Board, and am excited to serve two years on the Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation boards."

She grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan, and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois. Her husband, Bob Wold, passed away in 2000. Together they have three children and six grandchildren. Sue is a lifelong recreational painter.





# Spectrum Health Women's Health CenteringPregnancy® Program

## Benefiting Mom and Baby

The infant mortality rate in the United States, and even here in West Michigan, has increased over the last 10 years and is just too high.

The CenteringPregnancy® program—our Gala 2017 fundraising beneficiary can improve maternal and infant mortality rates, and save the lives of mothers and babies by addressing premature birth rates here and now. Spectrum Health delivers babies—LOTS of babies. Last year, we had nearly 8,000 births. Yet many moms do not receive appropriate prenatal and postnatal care. Care that will help them have a healthy baby. The CenteringPregnancy® program is a “small group” approach to prenatal care for expecting mothers. By connecting pregnant women with clinicians and other women in the group, participants are encouraged by the staff leaders and their peers to seek proper care when needed, follow recommendations, and engage in activities that will help ensure a healthy birth. Funding for Gala 2017 will be used to enhance and expand the program.

Because the program also addresses health inequalities through greater access to care, we will better serve the mothers and babies at greatest risk. Addressing premature births through the CenteringPregnancy® program is helping us reach our goal of saving lives and improving the health of mothers and babies.



Please join us—your generosity will transform the lives and health of expecting mothers and babies throughout West Michigan.

## Autumn's Story

A single mom, 15 weeks pregnant and experiencing complications, Autumn was skeptical about participating in the CenteringPregnancy® program. Her first baby was born one month premature, and she thought there was little she could do to influence this pregnancy. She was nervous about attending a group meeting with women she had never met. “I brought a friend for support to the first meeting. I am very glad I went. Everyone was friendly and open,” said Autumn. “I learned facts about the development of my baby and how pregnancy affects my body. Every woman is different, and so are our pregnancies.”



Autumn was in a class with five other women with similar due dates. The 10 classes provide health assessments of mom and baby, education and support. Each class is two hours full of information, activity and open dialogue. The program has a comprehensive curriculum covering healthy lifestyle, pregnancy, labor and birth, postpartum, newborn care and parenting. The group discussions address common concerns and questions in a safe, caring and compassionate environment.

“Spectrum Health delivers more babies than anywhere else in Michigan, and a lot of mothers and families have social barriers to care. Surveys of participants in this program show 95 percent of the women prefer this model to the individual care model,” said Courtney Hilbert, certified nurse midwife at Spectrum Health. “One hundred percent of the women in the first three classes delivered full-term babies. This program works. When we improve the health of women, we improve the health of their families and the community.”

Autumn gave birth to her daughter Alyssa on July 20, 2016, weighing 7 lb. 3 oz. and measuring 21¼ inches. “I credit CenteringPregnancy® and the friends I met there for preparing me for delivery and a healthy baby,” said Autumn.

“I knew where I needed to go and the symptoms to look for, and unlike my first pregnancy, avoided using the emergency room. I am happier and know how to deal with postpartum depression. In fact, I stay in contact with my new friends, and we share pictures and talk about our babies. I’m looking forward to our reunion.”

Mark your calendars for

*Gala* 2017  
Saturday, April 22, 2017  
DeVos Place, Exhibit Halls B & C

\$250 per person

Sponsorships available

Black Tie

Benefits the CenteringPregnancy® program at Spectrum Health

For more information, contact Brad Kaufmann at [bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.5149.





## Lettinga Inpatient Cancer Center Rededication

Gift planning that is generational can positively affect patient treatment for more than a lifetime, and allow families to support specific programs and services important to them. During the past two decades, Wilbur (Bill) and Sharon Lettinga and their extraordinary philanthropy have joined with the Spectrum Health Foundation family of donors to give new hope and advanced treatment to patients and their families battling cancer. Both Bill and Sharon know firsthand how cancer can devastate families. Both lost their former spouses to cancer. Nevertheless, from their losses they jointly came to understand the need for the right medical resources for families to maintain dignity and courage to face the future.

Because Bill and Sharon planned their philanthropy over an extended period, they maximize its effectiveness for Spectrum Health and the patients we care for. The Lettingas specifically target cancer by funding family support within the hospital and an endowment

providing ongoing support for more aggressive prevention, treatment and research efforts.

We are honored to recognize the philanthropy of all our donors, but we call your attention to what Bill and Sharon helped us accomplish. As a result, Spectrum Health Foundation and Spectrum Health are most pleased to recognize Bill and Sharon through the rededication of the Spectrum Health Lettinga Inpatient Cancer Center and expansion of the adult blood and marrow transplant program.

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016, the Lettinga Inpatient Cancer Center celebrated their generosity. "Through this expansion and the generosity of Wilbur and Sharon Lettinga, we are able to provide this exceptional level of care to many more patients," explained Stephanie Williams, MD, medical director, adult BMT. "We are proud that patients are staying here for these potentially lifesaving marrow, peripheral blood and umbilical cord transplants for malignant and nonmalignant conditions."



The Lettinga Inpatient Cancer Center is located on the fifth floor at Butterworth Hospital. The new rooms are highly specialized, with positive pressure, HEPA filtration and non-porous surfaces to keep patients safe while in isolation for several weeks. The painted hues of green and blue, with imprinted leaf patterns, create an element of nature and surround the patient with an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. Rooms are large to accommodate family members because their support is essential to the healing process.

The Lettingas are longtime donors to the Spectrum Health Foundation, dedicated particularly to cancer services. The inpatient cancer unit was named in their honor in 1996. We are so grateful for their continued support and faithful planning.



On August 19, 2014, Fatima Mallick's 16-year-old brother, Abid, passed away due to a tragic drowning incident. "For me, that meant I would have to live the rest of my life without my best friend," said Fatima. "Abid was the person who knew me best. He was my little brother; we knew each other so well that we could read each other's mind and finish each other's sentences." Fatima describes the next year as one of constant loneliness and "painful firsts": from birthdays, eating Oreos without him—one of his favorite foods—to experiencing the Eid holidays and Ramadan without her little brother.

Fatima and Abid always looked forward to celebrating Ramadan together. The holy month of Ramadan is a time of fasting and giving to charity. Self-reflection and charity are integral to the Muslim faith. This first Ramadan would be especially hard, and Fatima wanted to find a way to ensure that Abid's legacy continued. She set up an online fundraising page in his memory. For a \$5 donation, individuals received a "pray for Abid" lanyard and for a \$20 donation an Abid memorial T-shirt.

"No one expects or plans on an accident to change their life," Fatima said. "My life will never be the same. The pain is always there. Giving back, seeing people wear the lanyard or T-shirt in memory of Abid, brought my family comfort. I know Abid is remembered, and he would be pleased."

Fatima and the community raised \$5,000 for the pediatric intensive care unit at Helen DeVos Children's

## Grieving and Giving



Hospital. "During the three days Abid was there, they did everything they could to save his life," she said. "They welcomed our entire family with open arms. The doctors, nurses and social workers did so much for us. The hospital was our home for those three days. We have a big family, and they did everything they could to make sure we had a place to sleep and were as comfortable as possible."

**"We will always be grateful for their efforts. Because of their efforts, Abid had such a beautiful death, a memory that will forever be so precious for our entire family."**

Their religious devotion, joined with their charitable donation, is bringing them comfort through unimaginable grief. Fatima stated: "Abid was loved by so many. Family, friends and community came together. No wonder we were able to raise \$5,000."

As one of his teachers said, "It is not the way that he died that made him special, it is the way he lived that made everyone love him and will continue to love him forever." We are grateful to the Mallick family for their generous contribution in memory of their beloved son and brother, Abid. The foundation welcomes them to the community of donor families who have responded to grief with charity.





# The Peter and Joan Secchia CarePartners Program

While the impetus to give varies from donor to donor, the desire to make a difference is universal. Donors give to Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundations with confidence. The needs of the community are real and dramatic. When you give, you become a member of our donor family, and together we make a difference in the lives of our patients and their families.

The Peter and Joan Secchia CarePartners Program is a great example of this relationship. In early 2015, with a telephone call to Bob Connors, MD, president, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Peter presented the idea and possibility of funding for the program. This led to inception of the program in May 2015 and a family lounge dedicated in April 2016.

The CarePartners program helps parents of children with complex medical needs navigate their little ones' health care journey. Appointments are scheduled in a compressed time, and there is a coordinated plan of care across multiple specialties and providers. Families can see several specialists in an efficient manner, reducing travel time and missed days

of school or work. The program also works with patients' families to explain medical jargon, diagnostic information and help patients and families through the course of treatment.

**"This level of care coordination is something we have wanted for quite some time," said Dr. Connors. Peter and Joan have made this dream a reality, and their vision and generosity will make a difference for so many patients and families for years to come."**

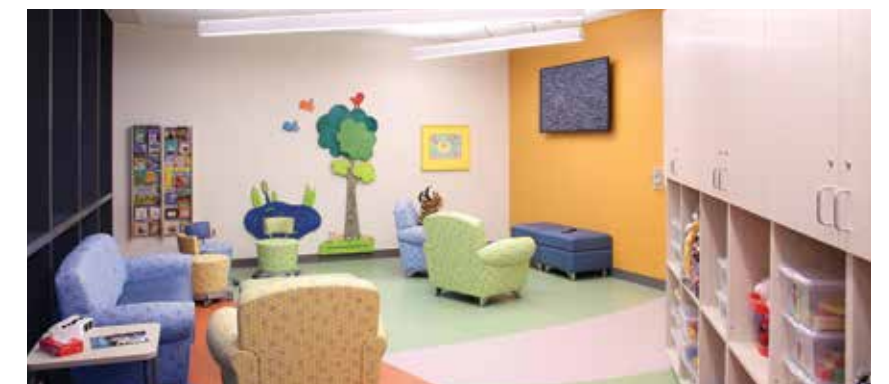
"This is personal to us," said Joan Secchia. "We know Helen DeVos Children's Hospital is the perfect place for a program like CarePartners. When our daughter's family needed assistance in coordinating multiple specialist appointments for our granddaughter, Julia, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital made it happen. We experienced the need, and today, we see so many of the families really touched by the program. The program coordinator, Michelle Lancaster, is our friend, and we look forward to regular updates."



Nick and Jennifer Kamps were overwhelmed by managing nine medical specialists and keeping up with appointments for their 11-month-old baby, Quentin. Then they got help navigating his care. "We were on the phone all day, and back and forth to the hospital before the CarePartners program," said Nick, about their son, born a micro-preemie at 25 weeks on May 24, 2015, with multiple ailments. His twin brother, Connor, died. "Now we have no more than a couple of appointments a day, two days a week. They handle the appointments. The program gave Quentin and our family our quality of life back."



The CarePartners program's new patient lounge for families of children with complex, ongoing medical needs opened April 2016 at 35 Michigan Street in the Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Outpatient Clinic building. The lounge is designed to give families a place to rest between appointments and testing. The location provides a conference room for care conferences, private spaces to allow for napping or quiet time, and lockers to secure belongings during appointments.



Michelle Lancaster,  
CarePartners  
program coordinator

For more information on how you can support the CarePartners program, contact Tara Werkhoven at 616.391.2069 or [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org).



# My Heart Is Full of Gratitude

Janette Tazzia was a patient of Spectrum Health whose gratitude for exceptional medical treatment became the motivation for giving back in a way that benefits many other similar patients. Here is what happened.

On the morning of March 25, 2016, Janette had a stroke. She had no medical history indicating a danger of stroke—she was a fit 59-year-old with a healthy lifestyle.

The first sign of trouble was during a telephone conversation with her brother—Janette’s head drooped suddenly and her speech slurred a bit. She called a nearby friend who thought Janette’s speech sounded “loosey-goosey.” The friend called an ambulance and drove to Janette’s house. Janette realized she could not walk or even crawl. She lay down on her living room floor, placed her driver’s license and insurance card on her chest and waited for help. “I didn’t know I was having a stroke,” she said, “but I knew something was very wrong. It was kind of like I’d sprung a leak.”

The leak was a brain-bleed hemorrhagic stroke. “A hematoma—a collection of blood—formed and put pressure on the area of the brain that controls the left side of the body,” said Amy Jamison, MD, MBA, a physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist at Spectrum Health.

Janette spent five days in the neurocritical care unit at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital. Although the hematoma was not large enough to require surgery, it paralyzed the left side of her body. She could not walk or dress herself. It was a tough situation for an independent woman.



Rehab center therapists pose for a photo with Janette and her partner, Jaye. They all wear “Team Tazz” T-shirts that bear the message, “A stroke of love.”

Janette, a master gardener, is a hands-on, hands-in-the-dirt business owner taking care of the lawns and gardens of 200 clients. She was more used to nurturing plants and people than receiving help. Nevertheless, she tackled her recovery with a single-minded determination, cultivating strength and patience as she gratefully accepted help from a vast support network, starting with her life partner of 22 years, Jaye Van Lenten. Besides her care team, the couple credits an outpouring of support from family and friends for helping Janette through recovery—prayers, cards and food baskets as well as “Team Tazz” T-shirt emblazoned with the logo “Team Tazz” and “A Stroke of Love.” “We are very fortunate,” Jaye said. “It takes a village, and a village showed up in droves.”

Rehabilitation and therapy require hard work and expertise. Janette did the work, and Dr. Jamison provided the expertise. “She made great progress,” Dr. Jamison said. “Her walking came along well and her left arm started to wake up. With five weeks of daily therapy, she progressed from a harness system to a walker to a cane, and at the end Janette walked out of the rehab center without assistance. She continues therapy at home and continues to make progress.”

Today, Janette summarizes her emotions: “My heart is full of gratitude.” But Janette, Jaye, and their network of supporters translated their gratitude into giving back.

Linda Rusiecki, DPT, a physical therapist at Spectrum Health Inpatient Rehabilitation Center at Blodgett Hospital, used a device nicknamed the TRAM in Janette’s therapy. “It was enormously helpful,” Janette said. “It made a huge difference in my progress.” Knowing the TRAM was on loan, she decided to make sure it would become a permanent tool in the rehab toolbox. Janette and Jaye worked with Spectrum Health Foundation to raise the \$5,000 needed to buy the TRAM for the rehabilitation center. In fact, their shared fundraising generated over \$9,000 in donations from family and friends. Janette’s heart full of gratitude resulted in not only a new TRAM but also other valued equipment for the center.

“Now many patients benefit,” says Linda. “I just feel blessed they did that, and it’s amazing that we can use their philanthropy to better the treatment of so many other patients.” Gratitude and philanthropy are connected and contagious.

Read more about Janette and others at [healthbeat.spectrumhealth.org](http://healthbeat.spectrumhealth.org).



Janette’s care team gets together in her room to let her know they believe her recovery has progressed well and she will be going home.



The stroke was caused by a brain bleed that paralyzed the left side of her body. Janette couldn’t walk or dress herself. She couldn’t sit up without help.



Janette walking with the TRAM, at the time on loan to Spectrum Health Rehabilitation.



# Wish List Gifts of Kindness Provide Hope and Comfort

Frank White, a 57-year-old independent and active man who enjoyed fishing, hunting, watching sports, yardwork and creating a new garden, never anticipated the stroke that would rob him of the use of his right side. Admitted to the inpatient rehabilitation unit at Spectrum Health Blodgett Hospital and requiring moderate to maximal assistance to complete everyday tasks, he struggled to find the emotional desire to keep going. "Frank came in depressed and had a difficult time finding motivation for his therapy and recovery, often stating that he wanted to go home," said Jamie Duverneay, recreation therapist for the center for acute rehabilitation. "As we got to know Frank, we discovered his love for gardening and hoped the rehabilitation garden would help boost his spirits." Although he required the assistance of two caregivers to provide support and balance, they brought him to the garden. Frank stood with assistance in front of the waist-high garden, slipped the ergonomically designed garden tool onto his hand and began to push the dirt around. "It feels so nice to do something normal again," he said. "Just to have my hands in the dirt and feel the sun shining on my face gives me the motivation and something to look forward to." This was a turning point. His mood improved, providing the necessary motivation



to participate in his physical therapy, and he was able to see small functional gains. "He looks forward to his recreational therapy sessions in the garden," said his wife, Paula. "I purchased flower planters to help him with short-term gardening goals at home."

According to the American Horticulture Therapy Association, the documented physical benefits of gardening include improved strength, coordination, balance and endurance; and the cognitive benefits include skills planning, problem solving and task initiation. In existence for three years, the garden and adaptive gardening tools are examples of personalized treatment. The inpatient rehabilitation department is requesting the gift of more adaptive gardening tools this holiday season. Gardening tools include telescoping and extending handles to increase range of reach, seated gardening benches, and tools with arm cuffs and velcro to allow patients to maintain their grasp. "I can remember the first time Frank walked around the hemi bar with physical therapy," said Jamie, "and was able to transfer skills he learned to the functional task of walking around the raised garden bed to pull weeds and cultivate the dirt. The accomplishments continued after that—one after the other. By the end of his therapy, he was able to stand and work at the raised garden beds without assistance and was able to incorporate his right arm into the planting process with the use of the adaptive gardening glove to hold the tools. He made excellent improvements."



## Wish List Catalog

Garden tools are just one of several holiday wish list requests throughout Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

The holiday season is the time to share expressions of love, thankfulness and giving. Wish list gifts are a perfect way to comfort the sick and support patients and families in need. You can provide a meaningful, life-changing and lifesaving service otherwise unavailable. At Spectrum Health we are enhancing the patient experience and meeting urgent needs for patients struggling with medical issues.

To view the 2016 holiday wish list catalog, visit [give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlistcatalog](http://give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlistcatalog) or contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.9125.

# The Season for Planned Giving

There are seasons when all of us weigh our outcomes against our goals and objectives. Taking measure of our lives helps us determine our future actions. In the fall of the year, taking measure is often about ordinary events—comparing budgets to expenses, preparing quarterly and annual taxes, making tuition payments for our children and ourselves, and planning family events.

However, the fall is also a season of holidays. There are family holidays like Thanksgiving, and religious holidays for many faiths, including Christmas, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Ramadan, and this year for Catholics, the Year of Jubilee. Regardless of our faith or secular beliefs, family celebrations also cause us to take stock of what is important to each of us. Moral teachings state there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity and every deed.

Because of the season, planning your philanthropy now can maximize the positive impact of your gifts while at the same time maximizing benefits for your family and organizations most important to you. Planned giving is positive and efficient, with long-term advantages to both the donor and recipient.

Here are some examples of planned giving Spectrum Health Foundation donors used that have greatly advanced the life-changing and lifesaving work at Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, while fulfilling the donors' wishes:

- Endowments funded by a single, one-time donation or by a series of donations over a specified period of time
- Gifts from a will or trust
- Gifts from a retirement plan, including IRAs and 401(k)s
- Gifts that pay you income, including a number of types of annuities, such as "charitable gift annuities" and "charitable remainder annuities trusts," which are allowed by the IRS and still stretch your giving ability

Do not be put off by descriptions of planned giving because they sound complicated, and don't assume that planned giving requires significant wealth. Spectrum Health Foundation has trained staff with the expertise to work with you and your financial advisor to create a planned gift that's mutually beneficial and meaningful.

We cannot emphasize enough how important we consider every gift and how grateful we are to have you give to Spectrum Health. Your support helps us pursue our mission and provide the best possible health care to our patients and their families throughout our community.

Planning your estate and legacy for future generations, including your charitable interests, takes careful evaluation. Consulting with the appropriate professionals can help. Discussing your charitable intentions with us can lead to a much better result than going it alone—and will ensure that your gift is used just as you wish.

Contact Tara Werkhoven at [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2069 so we can assist you in taking the steps you need to be a good steward of your resources.



## The Bill Braman Family Diagnostic Imaging Center

Bill Braman was an active member of his community. He believed strongly in Greenville as a great place to live and work. One reason for his commitment to the area is Spectrum Health United Hospital because it brings exceptional health care close to home. Bill, his wife, Jelane, and his family are outspoken advocates and supporters of the hospital.

His and his family's generosity was instrumental in the creation of a diagnostic and imaging center at Spectrum Health United. The center features separate waiting areas for men and women, ensuring privacy, and includes technological advancements such as diagnostic mammography, a stereotactic breast biopsy room, a densitometry machine and a 128-slice CT machine. The Bill Braman Family Diagnostic Imaging Center recognizes the Bramans' continued support through a special annuity. The center fulfills the specific mission of providing excellent care locally, with faster diagnosis and treatment, actually improving health care and saving lives.

The Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals greatly appreciate the philanthropy of our donors—the Bill Braman Family Diagnostic Imaging Center is a wonderful example of what planned gift giving means to an entire community.



# Wrap-Ups

# THANK YOU!

## Hope College Dance Marathon

Congratulations Hope College Dance Marathon on your record-breaking year of raising \$256,323.13, shattering your goal of \$190,000!!! On March 11 and 12, over 970 participants danced the night away for our kids. Not only did Hope College have a record-breaking year, but it was ranked in the top three for total amount raised through Dance Marathons across the country. Thank you to all who made this night an amazing event. Your hard work and dedication are truly making a difference for our patients and families here at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.



## Stiles Machinery Charity Golf Event



On June 18 friends and colleagues of Stiles Machinery grabbed their golf clubs to support the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.) at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. In its second year, the event raised \$7,479—three times more than last year! These funds will help children battling cancer and other life-threatening blood disorders. Thank you to the staff of Stiles Machinery for another great year!

**stiles**



## Lake Michigan RTS

Road racers, avid trail runners, and those looking to test their abilities showed their support on July 8, at the 17th Annual Lake Michigan RTS—a truly unique 10K experience. Along the shores of Lake Michigan, runners pushed it to the limits as they faced water, sand dunes, trails and more. Participants soon learned why the RTS—brought to us by Gazelle Sports—is called “the toughest race you'll ever love!” Thank you to the sponsors, participants and volunteers for helping to raise \$10,448 for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

## An Evening of Magic and Miracles

On the eve of Harry Potter's birthday, July 30, the Evening of Magic and Miracles fundraiser kicked off to celebrate the latest release in the J.K. Rowling saga about a boy wizard. Hundreds showed up to help raise awareness and funds to support the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.) at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in true wizard style by receiving badges and officially becoming members of the Ministry of Magic; letting a wand choose them; getting tips on the care of magical creatures; and being assigned a proper job in the Ministry. In conjunction with Schuler Books & Music, Lake Michigan Credit Union and other supporters, the event raised over \$6,500 for P.O.R.T. families. To quote the Marauder's Map, “Mischief managed!”



## Lavender Out Cancer Benefit

On August 12, the Kent County 4H Horse Leaders in conjunction with the Kent County Youth Fair galloped their way to \$4,000 for the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.) at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Funds were raised through unique events such as the ride-a-buck class and the egg and spoon competition. The benefit was held in honor of Lori Raimer. Our thanks go out to the staff, participants and “horses” for their valuable support.



## Sigma Pi's Mount Marcy Climb for Kids

Members of the Sigma Pi Theta Rho Chapter at GVSU came together for the first annual Climb for Kids hike up Mount Marcy in New York. On September 4, 15 hikers reached the summit of Mount Marcy, raising \$5,195 for the congenital heart center at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Thank you to all who have participated and went on this journey for our kids!



## RacingAwareness Golf Outing



On September 12, RacingAwareness hosted their 7th annual golf outing. With over 180 participants, nearly \$43,000 was raised to benefit the Signatures program at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Giselle Sholler, MD spoke to the group about the work being done on the Signatures program and a patient's family shared how this program has made a difference in their lives. Thank you RacingAwareness and all who helped make this a successful event!

## Jenna Steenwyk Memorial Golf Outing

It began as an event with only 54 participants in 2008, but the Jenna Steenwyk Memorial Golf Outing has quickly grown into a successful event full of fun and fellowship. On September 17 at Saskatoon Golf Course, 164 golfers came together to honor Jenna Steenwyk. With \$19,700 raised for the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Wish List, numerous departments will receive gifts to enhance the patient experience. Thank you to Ann Steenwyk for your continued support of our patients and their families and to all who participated.



## Clays for a Cure

On Thursday, September 29, Kent County Conservation League (KCCL), in partnership with Spectrum Health Foundation, hosted the fourth annual clay shooting event, raising more than \$8,500 to benefit the brain and spine tumor center at Spectrum Health. Nearly 100 participants enjoyed an exciting day on the range, with awards given to the top shooters at each level. A special thank you to our top sponsor, Foremost Graphics. And thank you to the KCCL for hosting Clays for a Cure again this year, and for your support to help make this a successful event.

## Bass Tournament

On the beautiful shores of Muskegon Lake, anglers gathered looking for the next “big catch,” all while raising money for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. MyFishingLogs.com Charity Bass Tournament, held on October 15, was a huge success, raising \$2,250 for the children's hospital. Congratulations to the winners and a special thank you to Al & Bob Sports, as well as the numerous sponsors who made this event possible.





# Upcoming EVENTS

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

## Become a LEAD Member

Learn, Inspire,  
**LEAD**

Ladies Empowering & Advocating for a Difference (LEAD) is a passionate group of women who together are advancing research, innovation and patient care. LEAD brings together West Michigan women who are inspired to help make a difference in health care for patients and families at Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

LEAD fills a niche and engages women of all generations in the power of philanthropy. By becoming members, women have the opportunity for private engagement opportunities to learn more about specialized programs and services taking place at Spectrum Health.

Members are asked to make a donation of \$1,000 annually or \$250 a quarter. For more information, or to join and begin making a difference, visit [give.spectrumhealth.org/LEAD](http://give.spectrumhealth.org/LEAD) or contact Kaylee Swanson at 616.391.2219 or [kaylee.swanson@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:kaylee.swanson@spectrumhealth.org).

## Auto Show Charity Spectacular

Mark your calendar for the 2017 Auto Show Charity Spectacular being held on February 1 at DeVos Place. Join the Grand Rapids New Car Dealers Association for an exclusive preview of the Michigan International Auto Show. Guests will enjoy a VIP automotive shopping experience like no other. Explore the exhibit floor, 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, visit [give.helendevoschildrens.org/AutoShow](http://give.helendevoschildrens.org/AutoShow) or contact Brad Kaufmann at 616.391.5149 or [bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:bradley.kaufmann@spectrumhealth.org).



## 40th Annual Fifth Third River Bank Run

Join us on May 13 for the 40th Annual Fifth Third River Bank Run benefiting Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation as one of its charity partners. Your support and generosity will help make a difference for thousands of lives—one patient and family at a time. For more information or to register, visit [runsignup.com/Race/MI/GrandRapids/FifthThirdRiverBankRun](http://runsignup.com/Race/MI/GrandRapids/FifthThirdRiverBankRun) or contact Shana Weemhoff at 616.391.3452 or [shana.weemhoff@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:shana.weemhoff@spectrumhealth.org).



## Holiday Giving Trees Help Wishes Come True

One of the ways you can make a difference to patients and families is to purchase a wish list item from one of our holiday trees. Spectrum Health Foundation displays giving trees decorated with cards that represent books, equipment, meal vouchers and many other items that contribute to a caring environment.

Look for these trees in the lobbies of Butterworth Hospital, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion and Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center.

Please consider bringing comfort and joy by purchasing a gift item from one of the trees.

For more information, contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.9125.

**Happy Holidays!**

## Honor Someone Special With a Tribute Gift

A holiday tribute gift to Spectrum Health Foundation or Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation will help bring comfort and caring to those who need it most and help ensure access to exceptional care for all who come through our doors. We will send you a special holiday card honoring your recipient so you can present your gift personally.

You can also make your donation by calling the foundation office at 616.391.2000.

**Wishing you and yours a happy and safe holiday season!**

### Holiday Tribute Gift Form

Please Designate My/Our Gift To:

☐ Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Spectrum Health Foundation

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Program Areas \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Donor Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Corporate, this donation is made on behalf of a company

☐ I prefer to make this donation anonymously

### Tribute Information:

I am honoring: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information:

☐ Cash ☐ Check (payable to Spectrum Health Foundation) ☐ Credit Card

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type: ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

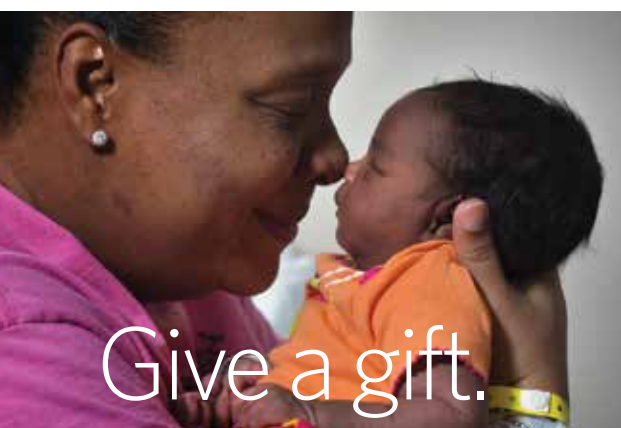
**Please return this form to: Spectrum Health Foundation, 100 Michigan Street NE | MC004, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**



**Spectrum Health Foundation**

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Change a life.



Save a life.

# Give comfort and hope... it's a gift worth giving!



The holiday season is the time to share expressions of love, thankfulness and giving. Wish list gifts are a perfect way to comfort the sick and support patients and families in need. You can provide a meaningful, life-changing and lifesaving service otherwise unavailable. At Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, we are enhancing the patient experience and meeting urgent needs for patients struggling with medical issues.

## Giving is easy.

To purchase a wish from the wish list catalog, visit [give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlistcatalog](http://give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlistcatalog) or call 616.391.2000 to request a copy of this year's catalog.

**Contact Us**

*Giving Matters* magazine is printed two times a year by Spectrum Health Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation. Comments and suggestions are welcome.  
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