

SPRING 2018

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# 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.**

**On the cover: Dylan Odland, Cystic Fibrosis Patient and Pete Odland, Hunt for a Cure Foundation**

## Your Impact



Every day you give us the opportunity to be thankful for your generosity and commitment to Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. You inspire excellence and your kindness fills all of us with joy and respect.

Your gifts have measurable impact. This issue of Giving Matters covers a variety of examples of the difference philanthropy makes in patient support, care and treatment and breakthrough research in cystic fibrosis, neuroscience and genetic testing. Annual gifts, special gifts, endowed funds and estate planning, all play a significant role in making programs possible throughout the communities that Spectrum Health serves.

We are in awe of the many ways that individuals, foundations, businesses, community groups and schools support lifesaving and life-changing care. We sincerely appreciate and recognize the difference you make.

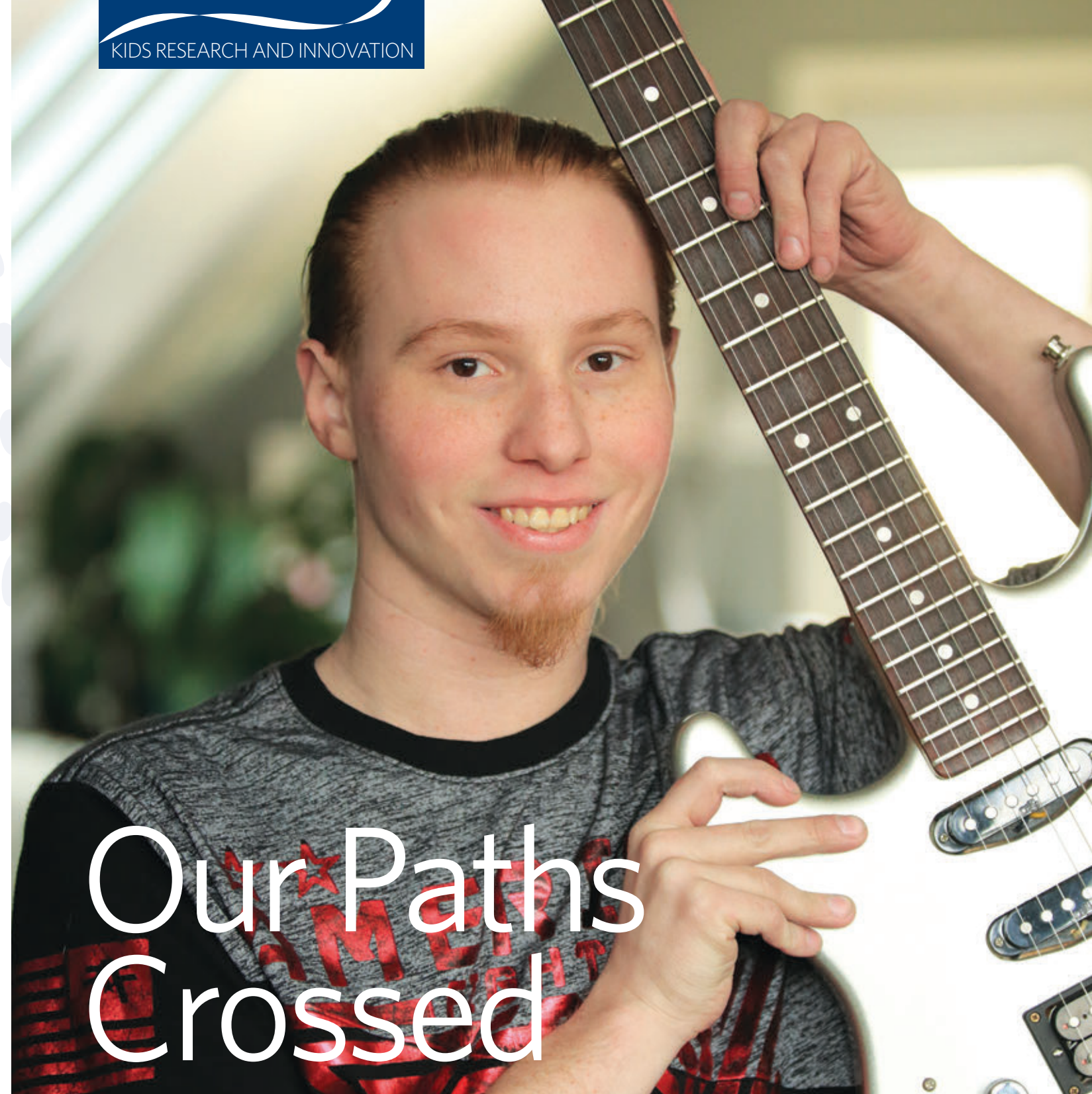
Gratefully,

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

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KIDS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



# Our Paths Crossed

Christopher Chambers, MD, vice president, research, Spectrum Health, and Pete Odland, founder of the Hunt for a Cure Foundation, crossed paths in 2011 at the entrepreneurial roundtable discussion at Spectrum Health Innovations in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There was instant mutual admiration and respect. They shared a hope in the value of scientific research, from Dr. Chambers' medical perspective

and Pete's fatherly perspective. Pete's son, Dylan, has cystic fibrosis (CF), a genetic disease that causes the body to produce abnormally thick mucus leading to life-threatening lung infections. "When I received Dylan's diagnosis, I immediately sat down with my outdated Encyclopedia Britannica," said Pete. "The prognosis was grim, and I literally cried. I knew I had to learn more, and I knew I wanted to find a cure."

continued on page 4



“We don’t meet people by accident. They are meant to cross our path for a reason.” – Unknown

In 1996, Dylan was one of the first patients to be seen in the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital Cystic Fibrosis Care Center by John Schuen, MD, division chief pediatric pulmonary medicine and sleep clinic. “The body of work at the CF care center has been a labor of love. The lives of our young people with CF, like Dylan, have tremendously improved,” said Dr. Schuen.

The Hunt for a Cure Foundation, founded in 2006 and supported by other passionate parents of children with cystic fibrosis, has been funding research in hopes of finding a cure. Fast-forward to 2018: Dylan is 21 years old and an adult living with cystic fibrosis. “Our comprehensive, accredited CF care center provides multidisciplinary care for people with CF from birth and into adulthood,” said Dr. Schuen. “This requires a team approach and we have been blessed with gifted and talented clinicians, researchers, leaders and administrators who have come together for a single purpose: to control and ultimately cure CF.”

Multiple synergies are aligning to launch the cystic fibrosis research program in search of this elusive cure. “It was the ‘perfect storm,’ and I knew this was the direction our path was leading,” said Pete. “Dr. Chambers and I were talking about the future. We looked out the window and down Michigan Street at the future Michigan State Research Center and up the street at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. We discussed how we could work together and pool our resources to help fund the cure for cystic fibrosis right here in West Michigan.”

With the lead gift from the Hunt for a Cure Foundation and a research partnership between Spectrum Health and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, a path that started with Dylan and Dr. Schuen is now leading to hope for all CF patients and their families. “I can’t emphasize enough how moving it is to see Hunt for a Cure Foundation invest in this translational and clinical research program,” said Dr. Chambers. “What Pete has done is above and beyond what most people in similar circumstances can accomplish. I am moved by his dedication, commitment and the money he’s raised for cystic fibrosis.” The research program will take advantage of the large annual clinical base of hundreds of patients through the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital Cystic

Fibrosis Care Center to facilitate gene-specific therapies and accelerate advances in the care of cystic fibrosis as well as other advanced lung disease. “With contributions from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as well as the amazing

West Michigan-based Hunt for a Cure, we can continue to advance the science of CF here in West Michigan,” said Dr. Schuen. More importantly, the program will facilitate and create new opportunities for collaboration between MSU scientists and Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital clinicians. “It is a multidisciplinary model that came to fruition because our paths crossed,” said Dr. Chambers. “Together, we are helping patients and doing everything we can to find a cure. I’m excited and confident in where this path is leading.”

We invite you to cross paths with us and participate in funding research to cure cystic fibrosis. For more information, contact Tara Werkhoven at 616.391.2069 or [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org).



Pete and Christopher Chambers, MD, longtime friends and colleagues



John Schuen, MD, and Dylan.

Dylan was one of the first patients in the Cystic Fibrosis Care Center.



## Sustaining Neuroscience Champion

An active life with pain-free movement is something many of us take for granted. But when an accident or illness occurs, this lifestyle can disappear in an instant. For Kathryn Hobbs, this happened in 2012 after she injured herself in a fall. This accident left her with cervical dystonia, a rare neurological disorder. Cervical dystonia is characterized by involuntary contractions in the neck and head, causing pain, tremors, twisting and uncontrollable movements. “My chin was locked to my chest for over a year, and I couldn’t look you in the eyes,” said Kathryn. “I went from being active to being in unbearable pain.”

Desperate for answers, she spent two years in Ohio with 15 different specialists and a variety of programs, obtaining no answers and no relief. Determined, she came home to Holland, Michigan, and searched for answers closer to home. She found the answer in Spectrum Health neurologist Ashok Sriram, MD. “From the first visit, I knew he could be an answer,” she said. “He respected me and spent time with me. He asked

about my fall before I had an opportunity to mention it. He gave me answers; he enrolled me in clinical trials. He gave me my life back. I call him ‘my miracle man.’”

Overflowing with gratitude, Kathryn is giving back with a planned gift and as a monthly donor through the Spectrum Health Foundation Sustaining Champion Program. Her generosity supports the life-changing work in neuroscience. “Today, I am 90 percent of what I was before I fell. I am walking well, I still struggle with swallowing, but I am back at a healthy weight and it really is a miracle. I love giving, and donating is a way of expressing my gratitude and support for this work. I hope it will assist others in the future.”

If you are interested in learning more about Spectrum Health neuroscience funding opportunities or becoming a Sustaining Champion, contact Kris Palosaari at [kris.palosaari@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:kris.palosaari@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2568.



# Match Your Gift, Save a Life

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, every gift to support the Spectrum Health Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Program (HCM), will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$200,000.

This means your \$25 donation becomes \$50; your \$200 donation is doubled to \$400; and a gift of \$1,000 becomes \$2,000. Your gift will expand educational opportunities and provide testing that will save the lives of patients with the HCM gene.



L to R: Jennifer Baynton (wife of Jeff); Bryton Basch (tested negative for the HCM gene); Jeffrey Baynton (tested positive); Jeff Baynton (tested positive); Jaylee Baynton (tested positive); Kimberly Basch (tested positive); Brandon Basch (tested positive); Mark Basch (husband of Kimberly); Jacob Baynton (tested positive).

Kim (Baynton) Basch and her family learned about the HCM gene and the testing provided through Spectrum Health. This was most meaningful to Kim because that testing wasn't available on June 13, 1987; when her otherwise healthy 43-year-old father dropped dead from sudden cardiac arrest in the checkout line of the local grocery store. He had successfully passed a stress test a few weeks prior to his death. The autopsy revealed her dad had HCM, the most common inherited, single-gene heart disease and can present at any age. It is the number one cause of sudden cardiac arrest. Once diagnosed, a patient requires specialty follow-up, medical management, and

possibly defibrillator implantation or cardiac surgery. "His death was our wake-up call to get tested," said Kim. "Two of my aunts and two cousins tested positive for the gene. In 2009, I tested positive for the gene. In the last few years, my cousin Mark and cousin Michael had significant thickening of the heart and required surgery to correct the condition."

Knowing you have the gene is the first step in the process. Finding a physician with expertise in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is the next step. Kim's local physician in Traverse City recommended follow-up every five years. She was uncomfortable with this

recommendation. Kim decided her kids should be tested, and she worked with their pediatrician. An abnormal cardiology test led them to Jeffrey Schneider, MD, cardiologist at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Dr. Schneider referred them to Ryan Rodarmer, genetics counselor for genetic testing, and then to Richard McNamara, MD, cardiologist and HCM physician. Kim was retested and her sons were tested. Bryton, 24, tested negative and Brandon, 19, tested positive. Within a matter of days, Kimberly was able to consult with some of the top heart doctors in the United States.

"Our disease is minimal and we don't really have any restrictions but we will continue to be monitored," she said. "However, I'm a runner and a total gym rat and I'm always afraid of dying early, like Dad. I did not want to live in fear, and on November 16, 2017, I proactively had an EMBLEM MRS S-ICD System implanted. This is the first and only subcutaneous implantable defibrillator providing protection from sudden cardiac death. I want to live to see my children marry and have grandbabies. My Dad missed all of this."



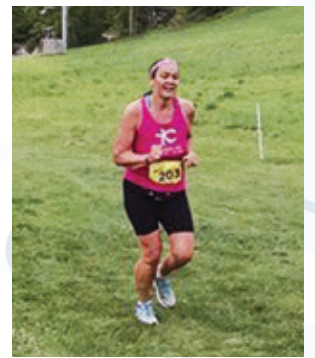
In March 2018, her brother, Jeff, visited the HCM program for the first time. His three children, Jacob, 22, Jeffrey, 24, and Jaylee, 17, tested positive for the gene and will continue with annual monitoring. It does not skip a generation. Kim has one wish, "To get more people tested. My dad loved life! If he had this option back then, he would have done it in a heartbeat." Your gifts will help save lives for generations of patients unaware they may carry the gene. Become part of the transformation experienced by Kimberly and her family.

For more information about doubling the impact of your gift, contact Tara Werkhoven at 616.391.2069 or [tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tara.werkhoven@spectrumhealth.org).

Kim (Baynton) Basch, who has HCM, is pictured at bottom right. **Back row (L to R):** Alfred William Baynton (Kim's dad), who died of HCM; her mom, Marie (Shaw) Baynton; and her brother, Jeff Baynton, who has HCM. **Front row (L to R):** Julie (Baynton) Volk (Kim's sister), who hasn't had genetic testing done; Tammy (Baynton) Haughton, who has a different biological father; Kim.



Jeff Baynton and Kim Basch are two of three biological siblings who tested positive for the HCM gene (holding a photo of their dad, Alfred William Baynton).



Kimberly running at The North Mitten race, 2017





## A Lifetime of Giving and a Legacy for the Future

George and Barbara Gordon have been by our side for more than 50 years. With a special concern for children and families and a desire to ensure we have the best and brightest pediatric specialists for the future, they have honored us with two very special gifts.

Their gift to create the George H. and Barbara Gordon Endowment for the Child Life School Services Program

helps our kids maintain their educational studies and development while they are being treated for serious health issues. This program bridges the gap between school, families and the medical team; reduces future educational concerns due to medical issues; provides educational opportunities during treatment; and helps children maintain involvement in normal activities. Their gift will help fund this program in perpetuity.

We are also grateful for their vision and generosity in establishing the George H. and Barbara Gordon Endowed Education Fund for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital for pediatric fellowship funding and additional school services support through an estate gift.

Funding for pediatric fellowships ensures Helen DeVos Children's Hospital will provide continuous access

to high-quality care and physician specialists. Jessica Foley, MD, and Matt Pridgeon, MD, two previous fellows in hematology and oncology, are examples of this caliber of expertise.



Jessica Foley, MD Matt Pridgeon, MD

"When George and Barbara first asked for my thoughts regarding areas of greatest need and the greatest potential to touch and change lives, I felt so honored," says James Fahner, MD, division chief for pediatric hematology and oncology. "I knew immediately that their generous gift would be a lasting positive impact for our children and their families."

George and Barbara are faithful supporters of Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. They are modest and reverent people with strong beliefs in family values and their faith in God. They are emblematic of servant leadership.

"As much as George and Barbara Gordon have done for this community, our state, and with George's WWII experience and also a Silver Star recipient—the world, they never seek the spotlight or recognition for their generosity or efforts," says Pam Daugavietis, longtime friend and Junior Golden Rule Guild member. "They are as humble as any individual or couple I have ever known. George and Barbara Gordon are committed to the American values of freedom and equality for all."

We are deeply indebted to them. A few examples of their generosity in our community are:

- The chapel at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in the original capital campaign
- More than 50 years as a member of the Spectrum Health Junior Golden Rule Guild and current president
- The gallery at Grand Valley State University, with a priceless collection of Mathias Alten paintings
- The G.H. Gordon Biological Station at Rockwell Lake

George and Barbara are an example of passionate people giving to programs that are meaningful to them and needed at the hospital. Contact Kristin Long at 616.486.6590 or [kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:kristin.long@spectrumhealth.org) for more information on planned giving and other endowment opportunities.



Jaziel Padron, 3, does a science experiment during the back-to-school event at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.



# Beautifully Different



Mallory Hersman and her husband, Jeremy, experienced different journeys with each of their daughters—4-year-old Alsae and 1-year-old Renner.

When Mallory was pregnant with Alsae, an ultrasound showed Alsae's arms were shorter than usual and her fingers appeared different. A prenatal blood test did not turn up any known chromosomal disorders. But further tests raised more concerns and questions.

In those months leading up to Alsae's birth, Mallory said she grieved for the baby she thought she would have. But she also realized nothing would change her love for her child. "I was thinking, OK, my kid's going to have beautifully different hands and arms. She is going to show the world amazing things," she said. "If this is the special baby God has blessed me with, I am going to fully embrace it."

After Alsae was born, her parents learned she has a rare condition called microgastria-limb reduction syndrome, which affects her spine, stomach, lungs, heart, spleen and kidneys, as well as her arms and hands. It has meant a half-dozen surgeries and many procedures in her first years of life, as well as countless visits with pediatric specialists.

But the Hersmans face each challenge with an appreciation for Alsae's lively personality. When she had to wear a halo traction for four months as a 1-year-old, they called the device a crown and decorated it with gems. They marveled at the way Alsae spun and laughed even while in traction.

She wears a brace because of her progressive infantile scoliosis. Her parents chose a removable brace. "We can take it off for an hour to let her swim," Mallory said. In general, they encourage Alsae to do as much as she can on her own, providing support where needed.



Both of Alsae's arms are shorter than average, and she has three fingers on one hand and two on the other. She draws and writes. She is learning to dress herself. "We don't use the word 'can't' here," Mallory said. "We try to encourage her as much as we can."

They also have discovered Alsae's considerable gifts. She is a happy, easygoing girl with a big smile. "She is incredibly smart. She is starting to read small words," her mother said. "She has a heart of gold. She is always concerned about Renner and what Renner might need."

Because a gene has not been identified for Alsae's condition, the Hersmans have not done genetic testing for it. But when Mallory was expecting Alsae's little sister, Renner, she had a noninvasive genetic test done that uses a sample of the mother's blood to screen for chromosomal abnormalities. The test showed Renner has triple X syndrome, which involves three X chromosomes in each cell. The condition occurs in about 1 in 1,000 females. The condition involves a lot of unknowns. It is associated with an increased risk of learning disabilities or developmental delays. Girls who have it may be taller than average. "But some children may show little or no signs of the condition," said geneticist Caleb Bupp, MD. "Doctors believe many people with triple X syndrome never realize they have it."

The Hersmans have not seen any signs with 1-year-old Renner. She is a busy toddler, walking and starting to talk. She loves peekaboo, dancing and playing with the TV remote—and she adores her big sister. "I want people to not look at our story and feel sorry for us or feel sorry for my child," Mallory said. "I want them to look and say, 'They are so blessed. Their kids are amazing.'"

Raising children always involves unknowns—any child can face unique challenges and bring unexpected blessings, even when there is not a diagnosis.

**"Alsae and Renner are both rock stars," Mallory says. "I couldn't have asked for better kids. I really feel like the luckiest mom in the world."**



L to R: Julie Morano, Kyle Schneider, Mallory Hersman and Shannon Bennett, all parents of children with rare diseases

In hopes of helping other parents, Mallory Hersman recently shared



her story at a Rare Disease Day event at Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. She was one of four parents who discussed the emotions, challenges and joys they experience as they nurture and advocate for their children.

"A rare disease is considered one that affects fewer than 200,000 Americans. But in many cases, a child may be just the fifth, 10th or 20th person ever identified with a condition," said Caleb Bupp, MD, the Spectrum Health geneticist who organized the event.



According to Dr. Bupp, "For parents, hearing a doctor say, 'I've never seen this before' can feel lonely and isolating." But he has seen how families often find encouragement and support when they connect with families with similar experiences, even if the diagnosis is different. Many connect through Facebook.

The Rare Disease Day event gave families a chance to meet other parents in person.

To read more about the Hersmans, go to [healthbeat.org](http://healthbeat.org). This life-changing work is in need of your support. To learn how you can support patients like Alsae and Renner, contact the foundation at 616.391.2000 or email [foundation@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:foundation@spectrumhealth.org).





## United and Kelsey Annual Charity Ball

The Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals Annual Charity Ball took place on February 17, 2018, raising more than \$127,000 to support the Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) at Spectrum Health United Lifestyles.

Program supervisor Jennifer Peterman brought the attendees on a journey. We bring this journey to you, our readers.

"Close your eyes and imagine yourself driving in to work on the same path you take every day. Call into your mind the image of the most dilapidated home, and instead of passing it, imagine yourself pulling into the driveway. Imagine getting out of the car, and as you approach the door you notice blankets are being used as window coverings. You hear loud voices coming from within. You step lightly on the mangled wooden steps leading to the front door. Imagine yourself reaching up to knock on the door. What are you feeling? Are you apprehensive, nervous and uncertain about what lies on the other side of the door? These are the homes MIHP staff enter every day.

Our mothers are depressed and often abused. I can tell you from my own personal experience how crippling this is. Luckily, I was able to rise above that situation. Why am I a survivor? I strongly believe I survived that dark spot in my life because of the healthy support system of

friends and family, a solid education, employment at a wonderful organization, the ability to travel places to receive the care I needed, a health care system I could trust, and a community full of agencies to provide the services and connections I needed to heal. I often think and reflect—where would I be without all of this support?

Now imagine yourself back at the front door of that dilapidated house, but this time when you reach to knock on the door imagine the door opens and you can see that on the other side is someone like me. This could be any one of us. One mishap, one loss of a job, one loss of someone who supports us could put us into a situation where we must struggle on a daily basis just to have food on the table.

We, the MIHP staff, are not here to judge but rather to nudge patients into a direction of a healthier state of living, to support and connect them to the services needed most. We do this work because there is hope. Your generosity provides this hope. We are eternally grateful for every donation and every one of you for raising your hand to knock on the door."

If you are interested in knocking on this door and funding this work at Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospitals, contact Shelly Westbrook at [shelly.westbrook@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:shelly.westbrook@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.225.6416.

## Attendees at the 2018 Annual Charity Ball



Congratulations to the 2018 Fred and Lena Meijer Spirit of Caring Award recipients, the Ray and Mary Tower family. The family received several nominations for their generational giving and impact on the Greenville community. The Tower family established the first manufacturing business in Greenville and built its very first fire truck. They have touched every area of philanthropy and are often quiet givers who focus on others and never let social status determine friendships.





## Hansen-Balk Surgical Family Lounge Opens

The Hansen-Balk Surgical Family Lounge officially opened its doors on January 26, 2018, to serve patients and families receiving outpatient surgical, endoscopy and bronchoscopy services at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital.

Thanks to Jim and Shirley Balk, the family lounge was funded 100 percent. They made their gift in honor of the legacy of Jens Hansen, founder of Hansen/Balk Steel Treating Company, mentor and friend. "Jens always had a desire to take care of his employees, customers and community—he was a very generous man," said Martin Balk, son of Jim and Shirley. "When Jim and Shirley saw the vision of this new space, they knew they wanted to be part of making a difference for our patients and their families," said Vicki Weaver, president of Spectrum Health Foundation.



What once was located 677 steps away, requiring a journey down dark hallways, up and down elevators, and through more hallways, is now located 50 feet from the hospital's main entrance and valet parking. What was once dark and isolated is now a bright, uplifting, welcoming environment with private registration and postoperative stations.

"This is more than a space; this is a place for healing," said Reverend Randy Murphy, pastoral care chaplain. "We are so very grateful for the generosity that has risen from such a deep compassion. Here is where the very best of medical science and human need will intersect. The full range of human emotions will occur here—hope, anxiety, relief, disappointment and sorrow—so this space is a sacred space."

"As a not-for-profit hospital, we are grateful for the support of the community to make these projects a reality," said John Shull, vice president of operations, surgical services, respiratory and endoscopy. "This gift will ease the stress of surgical patients and their families as they face one of the most difficult times of their lives. Thank you to the Balk family; we couldn't do this without you."

Bless the ones who have so generously provided this space.

Bless the ones who will come here in hopes of healing and restoration.

Bless the ones who will experience significant change after surgery.

Bless the ones who will anxiously wait when minutes and hours will seem like eternity.

Bless the ones who will lift up prayer and those who do not.

Bless the ones who will receive good news and rejoice.

Bless those who will face disappointment and sorrow.

(Excerpts from Reverend Randy Murphy's blessing)



Martin Balk



Jim and Shirley Balk







## Extraordinary Radiothon

Every Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Radiothon is special, but this year was extraordinary. We welcomed our friends from Star 105.7, B-93.7 and 107MUS, including radio personnel Dave, Tim, Matt, Aly, Tony, Shmittty, Ron, Alyssa, Derek, Amanda, Conrad, Mark and Cathy, who all put their hearts and souls into every moment and gave the listeners a vision of why supporting the children's hospital is so very important. They inspired a community of listeners in unimaginable ways. "This was the right time to expand our listening audience and to include our radio family in making a difference," said Tim Feagan, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation board member and iHeartMedia executive. "Our listeners are the best, and every employee jumped at the opportunity to be involved. All of us were touched by how it came together."

And "come together" it did—a staggering \$338,556.51 was raised; more than 1,200 first-time donors joined the foundation family; and more than 300

individuals volunteered. The atmosphere was festive and energetic with many wearing their best "ugly Christmas sweater." "It takes everyone to make this happen. The families and children sharing their stories remind us why this work matters and why giving matters," said Jim Steenbergen, lead foundation specialist. "A lot of stories come out of this event, from the army soldier dressed in his fatigues dropping off his donations; the group of construction workers taking up an 'impromptu' collection; sponsors including their employees on the phone banks; to droves of patients coming over to share their stories. This is all pretty incredible."

A special thank you to our sponsors and friends at Kessler Diamonds, Robinson Dental, MCPc, Meijer, IHOP, Credit Union One, Creative Dining Services, DFCU Financial, Gun Lake Casino, Wendy's, Culver's, AGO, Best Financial Credit Union, Preferred Chevy, the Gear Group and many more.



300 volunteers



1,600 over-the-phone donations



Staggering  
\$338,556.51  
raised



1,200 first-time donors



3 radio stations

Star 105.7, B-93.7 and 107MUS



# Record breaking Radiothon



# Wrap-Ups THANK YOU!



## Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial's Beards for Babies Beard-off

On November 29, Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial highlighted and awarded the efforts of all the men who participated in the first annual Beards for Babies competition. In addition to growing their facial hair over the month, these men were also fundraising for the Spectrum Health Foundation in support of the Gerber Memorial Family Birth Center. Their efforts helped raise over \$7,300!

## Hallmark Gift of Giving Ornament

The weekend after Thanksgiving marks the unofficial start of the Christmas shopping season, and customers of Di's and Mariellen's Hallmark stores were able to purchase the exclusive "Gift of Giving" ornament for 2017. The sale of these special ornaments raised over \$7,900 for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital! More than \$34,000 has been raised through ornament sales since the inception of this fundraising program three years ago. Special thanks to the customers who add to their collection each year and the staff who tirelessly support this sale.



## Auto Show Charity Spectacular

On January 31, over 1,000 guests enjoyed an exclusive preview of the 2018 Michigan International Auto Show and a stunning up-close reveal of the Million Dollar Motorway. Guests enjoyed live entertainment by Brena and a strolling dinner while viewing the car show. This special evening raised \$83,000 for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.



## Greenville High School Supporting Cancer Patients

On February 2, a crowd gathered at Greenville High School's Ninth Annual Hunt for a Cure basketball games to raise cancer awareness to honor and remember loved ones, and to help local families that are battling cancer. The event this year raised a total of \$6,400 for two different programs—Pediatric Oncology Resource Team, Greenville Fund and the cancer center at Spectrum Health United Hospital.



## Dance Marathons

From February through April, six Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathons took place to raise funds for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, collectively raising over \$376,000. Dance Marathon is a nationwide movement involving college and high school students at more than 300 schools. The entirely student-run programs in our community donate 100 percent of the funds raised to help patients and families right here in West Michigan. Students spend a year learning invaluable leadership and life skills by raising funds in a variety of ways and interacting with Helen DeVos Children's Hospital's patients and families. Thank you to the students at Calvin College, Grand Valley State University, Hope College, Western Michigan University, West Ottawa High School, and Zeeland East High School for your support. To learn more about Dance Marathon, visit [give.helendevoschildrens.org/dancemarathons](http://give.helendevoschildrens.org/dancemarathons)



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

On March 8, guests gathered at New Vintage Place for a special evening raising funds for the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.). P.O.R.T. is a group of volunteer families serving families with a child battling cancer or a life-threatening blood disorder. With a total of \$54,000 raised at the event, P.O.R.T. will be able to continue offering crucial support, activities and pick-me-ups to these families. Special thanks to our Gold Event Sponsor, Pridgeon & Clay, for its continued support.

## Foraged Feast

Guests gathered on March 17 for a Foraged Feast at Scottville Optimist Hall. The exciting evening featured blue jeans, local craft beers, a taste of the wild dinner and a great cause. This event raised \$25,820 for the Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital Cancer Patient Assistance Fund. This fund helps local cancer patients with out-of-pocket costs that are not covered by insurance. A big thank you to all of our event sponsors and the hosts of the evening, Todd and Brad Reed.





# Upcoming EVENTS

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

## Everyone has a wish list

At Spectrum Health, including Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, our wish list is helping patients and their families. Your donation or in-kind gift can help fulfill a wish every day of the year. Browse the online wish list at [give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlist](http://give.spectrumhealth.org/wishlist), or call the foundation office at 616.391.2000 to discuss your in-kind gift.



## You Can Be an Everyday Hero

Give your voice, your passion, your heart and encourage your friends to make a big difference in the programs you care about. The Everyday Hero peer-to-peer fundraising platform allows you to create your own special event and give back to the programs that touch your heart. Do good, and feel good about it.

Visit [give.spectrumhealth.org/everydayhero](http://give.spectrumhealth.org/everydayhero) to get started. Be part of something bigger, and know everything you do matters to patients and families.

## Ride for a Cure

An unusual fundraising opportunity is on tap to help area cancer patients on Saturday, September 15 at 1 p.m. at D Bar D Ranch in Chase. It's the 8th annual Ride for a Cure, and in this case "ride" means on horseback or in horse-drawn wagons. The \$25-per-person event benefits the Spectrum Health Susan P. Wheatlake Regional Cancer Center in Reed City. Additional donations are welcome and there will also be a silent auction. For more information, contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 231.592.4280.



## Lake Michigan RTS 10K

Join us on July 7 for the 20th anniversary of the toughest race you'll ever love! The Lake Michigan RTS combines road, trail and sand to provide a truly unique 10K experience along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Whether you're a road racer looking to mix things up a bit, an avid trail runner or just a running adventurer, this course has something for you. All proceeds benefit the music therapy program and the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. For more information, contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.9125.

**stiles**

## 4th Annual Stiles Open

Stiles Machinery is excited to invite you to the 4th Annual Stiles Open to benefit the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The event will tee off Saturday, June 16, at Boulder Creek Golf Club and will offer an opportunity to partner with business associates and friends. Come prepared to have a great time while supporting a wonderful cause! For additional information, contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.9125.



## Tri-Cities Kiwanis Salmon Fishing Tournament

Join us for the annual Tri-Cities Kiwanis Salmon Fishing Tournament on Thursday, May 24, or Thursday, July 26. Tournament sponsors are assigned to professional charter boats for a morning of exciting salmon fishing on Lake Michigan. Each boat holds up to six participants, and sponsors can invite anyone they wish—family, friends, employees or customers. The tournament also offers fishing opportunities for young patients currently undergoing treatment at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, and sponsorship of patient VIP boats is available. For more information, contact Devin Pierson at [devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2461.

## Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals Golf Day 2018

Join us on the course on Monday, June 11, at Egypt Valley Country Club for the Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals Golf Day 2018 to support local health care. This outing includes contests, prizes, lunch and dinner. The proceeds from this fun day of golf will benefit a new cancer patient assistance program at Spectrum Health Cancer Center at United Hospital. This program will assist patients experiencing financial hardships due to diagnosis, by providing aid for transportation to and from treatments, medication assistance, and other support needs. For sponsorship opportunities or more information, contact Laurie Tissue at [laurie.tissue@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.tissue@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.225.6328.



## 2018 Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Golf Scramble

Come out golfing for a cause on Friday, June 22, at Water's Edge Golf Course. The 18th annual Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Golf Scramble will offer a fun day of golf, contests, raffles and prizes. All proceeds will be designated to the Spectrum Health Cancer Center at Gerber Memorial and will assist with programs, technology and future improvements. For more information, contact Loretta Towne at [loretta.towne@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:loretta.towne@spectrumhealth.org) or 231.924.3681.

## Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Night at Berlin Raceway

Join us for a fun-filled evening on Saturday, June 30, at Berlin Raceway in Marne, Michigan. See the three Helen DeVos Children's Hospital cars in action, meet the drivers and experience the excitement of auto racing at one of the country's best family-friendly facilities. For more information, contact Devin Pierson at [devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2461.





## Ludington Benefit Ball



Mark your calendars for the Ludington Benefit Ball on Friday, August 10, at Lincoln Hills Country Club. Enjoy cuisine specifically designed for the event, open bar service, an array of desserts and several additional surprises. Following dinner, the annual Justus and Paulina Stearns Legacy Award will be presented. Later, guests will enjoy musical entertainment by Orquesta Ritmo. For more information, contact Kaley Petersen at [kaley.petersen@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:kaley.petersen@spectrumhealth.org) or 231.845.2233.

## Positively Warren Golf Classic

In honor of Warren Reynolds, the longtime sports director at WOOD TV8 who helped raise millions of dollars for dozens of causes, and the first recipient of the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award, we present the 19th Annual Positively Warren Golf Classic.

The event will be held on Monday, August 13, at Thousand Oaks Golf Club, to benefit the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital cancer program, including the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team and the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame. This event will feature a shotgun-start four-person men's and women's mixed scramble style of play and includes 18 holes on one of the top courses in Michigan. For more information, contact Laurie Alighire at [laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.alighire@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.9125.



## Spectrum Health Big Rapids and Reed City Hospitals Charity Golf Classic

The Fourth Annual Spectrum Health Big Rapids and Reed City Hospitals Charity Golf Classic will take place on Monday, August 20 at Tullymore Golf Club. Funds raised from this event are going toward the purchase of an ultrasound machine for in-office orthopedic procedures. This will reduce the number of patient visits and out-of-pocket cost. For more information, contact Nicole Cook at [nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2040.



## Gridiron Giving

From August through October, Gridiron Giving is partnering with Wendy's of Michigan and West Michigan high schools to raise funds and awareness for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Gridiron Giving is a fundraising initiative that not only provides a unique leadership opportunity for students, but also allows them to give back to their community. For more information about Gridiron Giving or how to get involved, visit [give.helendevoschildrens.org/gridirongiving](https://give.helendevoschildrens.org/gridirongiving) or contact Devin Pierson at [devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:devin.pierson@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2461.

## Spectrum Health Zeeland Golf Benefit

Join Spectrum Health Zeeland Community Hospital on Monday, September 10, at Sunnybrook Country Club for a day of golf! Proceeds from this event will support the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Injury Prevention Program at Spectrum Health Zeeland Community hospital, which exists to reduce childhood injuries through car seat checks, helmet fittings and safety workshops. For more information, contact Tami Elhart at [tamara.elhart@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:tamara.elhart@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.748.3639.



## Wizard's Ball

This November, Celebration! Cinema Grand Rapids North, in partnership with Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation and Make-A-Wish® Michigan, is excited to host the next Wizard's Ball. Join us for a magical evening to benefit young patients in West Michigan who are battling life-threatening illnesses. You won't want to miss this memorable experience featuring delicious food, live entertainment and the premiere of the highly anticipated movie—"Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald." For more information, contact Nicole Cook at [nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:nicole.cook@spectrumhealth.org) or 616.391.2040.



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Look for a full recap of the 2018 Spectrum Health Gala in the next issue of Giving Matters. Like us and visit us on Facebook at Spectrum Health Foundations to view and share your photos!



## 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. [foundation@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:foundation@spectrumhealth.org) [give.spectrumhealth.org](http://give.spectrumhealth.org) [in](#) [f](#) [o](#) [t](#)

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).

(711): مكملات وفتاه مقر. 1.844-359-1607 مقر لمصا. نأجملاب كل رفاوتت قيوغللا أذعاسملا تامدخ نأف، نأغللا ركذا ثأجتت تنك اذا: موطوالم