

foundation focus

● Spring 2017 ●



Donor Support Helps Contribute to Patients' Well-being

Transportation assistance for a woman battling cancer, who was unable to work and traveled 110 miles daily for treatment is just one of the more than 8,800 patients helped thanks to donors to the Care Line in 2016.

"Every day our donors make an immediate and direct effect on the lives of some of our most vulnerable patients," said Jane Mackey, president and executive director of the Stormont Vail Foundation. "Without their support, many patients may make the reluctant choice to compromise their health because of an inability to pay for a prescription or travel for treatments or appointments."

Mackey said Care Line requests increased significantly during the 2016 fiscal year, to 14,001 from 9,873 in 2015, a jump of 4,128 across all categories.

"It's difficult to predict from year to year what the needs will be," Mackey said. "For instance, in 2016 there were more parents with children in the neonatal intensive care who requested meal, temporary lodging and

Visit www.stormontvail.org/make-a-gift to support the Care Line.

transportation assistance as compared to the previous year."

Prescription assistance makes up more than half of Care Line expenditures. Costs, particularly for patients with diabetes, the flu or those needing psychotropic medications, can sometimes run into the hundreds of dollars, Mackey said.

"We've worked with physicians to identify generic medications and lower cost options," she said. "However, these are not always available or may not be the right

treatment for a particular patient."

Looking ahead, Mackey predicts a continued reliance on the Care Line to help patients in the greatest need.

"Uncertainty about the future of Medicaid expansion in Kansas and the Affordable Care Act, along with rising out-of-pocket costs are factors," she said. "But a bigger factor is Stormont Vail Health's commitment to expanding services across northeast Kansas, bringing quality care close to home, which is a good thing."

Item Requested	FY2015 Requests	FY2016 Requests	FY2015 Expense	FY2016 Expense
Prescriptions	1,704	2,298	\$62,735	\$88,631
Durable Medical Equipment (walkers, crutches, etc.)	54	110	\$2,572	\$7,430
Transportation	2,253	2,874	\$24,386	\$30,588
Meals	1,984	4,431	\$11,778	\$26,475
Temporary lodging	31	105	\$657	\$3,210
Clothing*	3,847	4,063	\$17,274	\$12,189
Blankets**	NA	120	NA	\$360
Totals	9,873	14,001	\$119,402	\$168,883

*Average cost per item decreased from \$4.49 to \$3 with new vendor.
**Blankets were first requested for overnight family stays in FY2016.

Golf Fundraiser for Children Tees Off Sept. 18

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the 2017 BIG HEARTS *for little hearts* Golf Tournament. Set for Monday, Sept. 18, at the Topeka Country Club, the event benefits the Children's Endowment at Stormont Vail Foundation.

"Our sponsors are what makes the BIG HEARTS tournament such a success year after year," said Tina Long, development officer with the Foundation. "Their generous support

means children in our region can get the care they need close to home, limiting disruptions to family, school and activities."

Shawn and Olga Smith are the honorary co-chairs for the 17th annual event. The tournament's presenting sponsor is Hospital Assistance Program, with Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds and Palmer LLP and Lockton Companies serving as title sponsors.



For sponsorship opportunities and event information, go to www.stormontvail.org/foundation or call Tina Long at (785) 354-5995.

Stormont Vail Foundation Honor/Memorial List

October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

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Dr. Rohit Aswani	Donna Eckrode*	John H. Johnson*	Eldon Mulroy*	Roy Sewell*
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				<i>*Deceased</i>

Exercise, Outdoor Space Key to Patient Success

Treating the whole person – body, mind and spirit – is the approach taken by the Stormont Vail Behavioral Health Center in treating its patients. Funding from the Stormont Vail Foundation for exercise equipment is helping the clinic better practice this method. And now, staff are turning their attention to a new project to benefit its youngest patients.

“You can’t separate the mental from the physical,” said Brad Chapin, director of clinical services at the center. “When you don’t feel good physically, it can cause stress which can lead to depression and anxiety. Similarly, those with untreated mental health conditions are more susceptible to some physical conditions, including heart disease, stroke and obesity.”

With Foundation funding, the clinic recently purchased a new treadmill and stationary bike for its gym.

“Our patients absolutely love the new equipment,” Chapin said. “It really helps them get moving on those days we can’t get outside. Plus, these items provide low-impact, simple solutions for many of our patients

who want to start, or re-start, a basic exercise routine as part of their plan for success after leaving our inpatient program.”

With the new exercise equipment in place, Chapin is now focusing on making the children’s courtyard at the clinic a more therapeutic and recreational space. Currently, the courtyard only has an outdoor play set, a picnic table and a basketball court in need of resurfacing. The area has little shade, limiting summer usage. Chapin said revitalizing the children’s courtyard will benefit patients in many ways.

“The kids we see tend to isolate themselves,” he explained. “When you don’t feel good, you may not want to be around other people. We do our best with the space we have to get kids out of their rooms and interacting, but that’s not always easy with 20 children of varying ages and needs.”

In addition, Chapin said, a renovated

courtyard will also open up treatment options, such as horticultural therapy, which can help kids develop self-esteem and give them a sense of purpose during their stay. He also foresees sensory play equipment, a revamped basketball court and plenty of seating and shade for kids and staff to comfortably have group or individual sessions.

“Play is also integral to treating kids with behavioral health challenges, Chapin said. “You can learn a lot about a child by observing them at play, such as how they interact with others, solve problems and deal with adversity.

The Foundation is seeking partners to help complete the children’s courtyard. For information on how you can help, contact Tina Long at (785) 354-5995. For a copy of the Behavioral Health Center’s children’s wish list, visit www.stormontvail.org/foundation.

“Play is one way we can help kids develop strategies that they can then apply to the rest of their lives. Sensory play equipment can help teach skills like cooperation and collaboration.”

The center also needs equipment and materials, such as balls, games and books, to engage and entertain children in its care.

Foundation Presents Clyde Clifton Leadership Award



Salena Gillam

Salena Gillam, administrative director, medical, post-surgical and critical care, is the 2016 Clyde Clifton Leadership Award recipient. Recognized for her efforts to help others grow in their roles at Stormont Vail Health, Gillam is credited for helping the organization

achieve Joint Commission certification and multiple re-certifications for Joint Replacement and Advanced Primary Stroke Center designation.

Sponsored by the Stormont Vail Foundation in honor of

Clyde Clifton, who served as Stormont Vail’s chief financial officer for more than 40 years, the award recognizes managers, supervisors, charge nurses and directors who demonstrate exemplary leadership characteristics.



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Event Creates Comfort for Patients

More than 150 community volunteers, high school and college students, and Stormont Vail Health volunteers and staff joined together on Feb. 18 to help Stormont Vail Health’s youngest patients feel comfortable and secure during a hospital stay.



Members of Washburn University's Alpha Phi Sorority display their blankets.

Participating in the first ever Warm Fuzzies for Kids Day, the volunteers made 80 no-sew fleece blankets for pediatric patients to use and take home after discharge. The project is a joint effort between the Stormont Vail Health Auxiliary and Stormont Vail Foundation.

“Blankets are frequently requested for pediatric patients to provide comfort and cheer,” said Ben Broxterman, supervisor of child life services at Stormont Vail. “Just days after the Warm Fuzzies event staff had

already given out several blankets and the kids absolutely loved them.”

“We were very pleased with the response to our first Warm Fuzzies event,” said Jane Mackey, president and executive director of the Foundation. “So many who participated expressed interest in a future event, we’ve already scheduled a second set for November 5.”