2021 Stormont Vail Foundation Annual Report
EDUCATION AND RECOGNITION

Carol Perry is always on the lookout for people she thinks will make good nurses. As Stormont Vail’s chief nursing officer, her passion for the profession has led her to recruit and mentor many who ultimately chose a career in health care. “Everyone needs someone to help shepherd them along the way,” she said. “For me it’s paying it forward, because I know the young people I work with today will be the professionals who serve our community tomorrow and into the future.” DJ Cunningham and Madison Peterson are just two of Carol’s mentees.

DJ, who started at Stormont Vail as a phlebotomist, recently graduated with his BSN and now is a nurse in Stormont Vail’s emergency department. Madison is just starting her journey in healthcare after starting as a door screener. With scholarship support, she has completed her CNA and exploring next steps with Carol while working at Stormont Vail Behavioral Health.

Now, thanks to securing a $25,000 matching gift from former Stormont Vail CEO Maynard Oliverius and his wife, Sarah, more staff will get the support they need through the organization’s new Career Counseling program, aimed at helping staff in entry-level, non-medical positions move into a career in health care.

Donor gifts support nursing education, professional development and recognition of outstanding patient care and service. In 2021, donor gifts helped:

- Award 61 nursing scholarships totaling $99,375, which was matched through our partnership with the Kansas Board of Regents.
- Provide continuing education grants totaling $1,1480 to 19 Stormont Vail Health team members.
- Present Care Champions awards to six employees. Introduced in 2020, Care Champions is a patient driven program that recognizes exceptional care with a gift to the Foundation.
- Co-sponsor the Excellence in Nursing awards along with U.S. Bank, Security Benefit and Polo Custom Products.

PATIENT SUPPORT

When Debra Langley received her cancer diagnosis in December 2020 it didn't come as a surprise. She was well aware of the mass in her left breast and expected the worst. However, while most would have felt devastated by this news, Debra has come to view it as one of the best experiences of her life. “Everyone has been so kind and encouraging,” she said. “I can't thank them enough.” That's not to say there hasn’t been struggles.

Unable to work and with her husband retired, finances were tight. Frequent trips to the Cotton O’Neil Cancer Center from her home in Eskridge, an 80-mile round-trip, only added to the stress. Her oncology social worker, Sam Charay, was able to help thanks to a transportation assistance grant the Stormont Vail Foundation received from the American Cancer Society. In 2021, the program helped 58 patients from 13 counties across northeast Kansas. For Debra, the ACS support made all the difference in the world. “It’s hard to take care of yourself when you are worried about other things,” she said. “Receiving this assistance meant I was able to focus on myself and my health.”

In 2021, nearly 9,000 patients received assistance with 13,276 needs totaling more than $119,000 through the Foundation’s Care Line program and other donor funded patient support initiatives, including:

- Prescriptions and durable medical equipment at a cost of $34,558.
- Transportation assistance totaling $39,570, an increase of 43% over 2020.
- Nearly 3,400 meals for families with a hospitalized loved one.
- More than $19,000 in clothing for patients needing something new to wear when discharged from the hospital or following an appointment.
CHILDREN’S MIRACLE NETWORK

Through its Community Impact Debit Card Program, Azura Credit Union is an “every day” supporter of Children's Miracle Network at Stormont Vail Health. Whenever a member uses their Max Card, as the CMN card is affectionately known, Azura donates five cents to pediatric programs at Stormont Vail. In 2021, Azura stepped up its commitment to CMN with a $5,000 grant to benefit Child Life Services and $2,500 Azura Employee Foundation grant for the Neonatal Intensive Care’s breast pump loaner program. “As a Credit Unions for Kids member, we are proud to support CMN at Stormont Vail and believe these donations will make an impact in the lives of many young patients and their families,” said Katie Beach, Azura Community Relationship Manager.

In 2021, donor gifts, grants, and endowed funds made possible:

- Equipment purchases of $202,000 including a fetal doppler for the Emporia clinic, UV cleaners for the hospital, blanket warmers for the Heart Center and an ultra-low freezer for the COVID-19 vaccine clinic.
- More than $277,268 raised for the expansion and renovation project at the Cotton O’Neil Cancer Center.
- The completion of a $1 million pledge for clinic renovations and upgrades with work completed at the Cotton O’Neil Endocrinology and Diabetes Center.
- Launching Operation Keep the Change in the hospital's Sunflower Terrace cafeteria and Starbucks location to raise funds for items that enhance both the employee and patient experience.

PROGRAM NEEDS

Tracy Duran is the first to admit she doesn’t always deal with stress in a healthy way. On top of working long hours as the director of the hospital’s medical/surgical unit, she’s a mom of two active daughters and co-owns a small business with her husband. The COVID-19 pandemic added a whole new layer of pressure and after nine months she realized she needed to make a change — for herself, her family and her staff. She had already re-committed to a healthier approach when she was offered the opportunity to enroll in a Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction course offered through Stormont Vail Behavioral Health.

The 26-hour course provides training in mindfulness, meditation and methods of non-reactivity. The cost of the program is underwritten by Bartlett & West and Fidelity State Bank & Trust, with gifts made to the Stormont Vail Foundation. While managing the “roller coaster” of emotions brought on by the pandemic were Duran’s initial hope for the training, she says the techniques she learned could have long-lasting effects on patient care. “I think if we can get more staff to commit to this mindfulness approach it will lead to happier staff and better patient outcomes,” she said.

In 2021, donor gifts, grants, and endowed funds made possible:

- Added Club Car Wash as a new regional fundraising partner who has raised more than $14,172.00 since the inception of their partnership in April.
- Received the Ace Helping Hands Grant from the Ace Foundation in the amount of $5,761.43 to assist with upgrades to pediatric cardiology to make the space more inviting for younger patients.
- Welcomed Tinley Benyshek, an Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia patient as our newest Miracle Kid. Miracle Kids and their families serve as the CMN program’s patient ambassadors, participating in fundraising events and thanking our partners.
- Raised more than $8,900 through our Extra Life Gamers who gamed all year long leading up to Extra Life National Game Day, a day dedicated to streaming and fundraising for CMN Hospitals.
OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Foundation assets grew to $36.7 million.
- Received more than $1.5 million in contributions.
- Hosted the 21st Annual BIG HEARTS Golf Tournament via an alternative format, raising more than $187,000 for the Cancer Center’s expansion and renovation project.
- Received more than $447,000 in contributions from 1,827 Stormont Vail Health staff and physicians.