

*PARTNERS OF WHA is committed to advocating for the health of our communities and advancing the success of local health care volunteer organizations, through the coordination and provision of volunteer education, development resources, and leadership opportunities for health care volunteers and their organizations.*

## A Message from the Partners of WHA President

### Goodbye 2019 – Hello 2020!



Jan Molaska

Once again, we say goodbye to the old year and welcome in a new year full of different opportunities, adventures, and things we have yet to experience. We can utilize the knowledge from the past to forge ahead and create an even stronger Partners of WHA organization.

In the *Reaching Out* article I wrote in May 2018, I stated, “The disharmony within our political system seems more pronounced than ever. Opioid abuse is a national issue that continues to escalate. Health care and Medicare/Medicaid are debated continually with seemingly little progress being made.” Fast forward to January 2020. The disharmony within the political system has intensified greatly. On a daily basis we hear about the opioid epidemic, behavior/mental health issues, gun violence, and bullying that is even affecting our very young children.

We hear about all the “bad” things that are happening in our world, but rarely do we hear about YOU! The fact that you choose to volunteer demonstrates your dedication to making the world a better place. Whether it be in the hospitals, clinics, hospice settings, or in your daily lives, each of you model what care and compassion is all about. Mattie Stepanek, who wanted to be remembered as a “poet, peacemaker, and a philosopher who played,” died at the age of 13. In my opinion, Mattie’s statement: “Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved,” is the cornerstone of Partners. We collaborate, join forces, and work together to generate positive changes at the local, state, and federal levels.

Advocacy Day – Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – is a perfect time to join forces. For those who have previously attended, I look forward to connecting with you again. To those of you who have never attended, YOU DON’T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING! Please make the journey to join the approximately 1,000 individuals who assemble in Madison to demonstrate our commitment to quality health care for all Wisconsinites. Members of the Partners organization continue to be the “grassroots” voice for excellent health care in Wisconsin. Let’s all use our OUTSIDE voices to make our views and concerns known to our legislators.

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## A Message from the President-Elect

### Positions Need Structure

All organizations have structure. There may be a formal organizational chart that maps out who reports to whom, or there may be an informal knowledge of who determines and accomplishes the goals of the group. The formality of the structure is determined by many factors, including the size of the group, the magnitude of the goals, and the amount of external influence. A local volleyball tournament is probably planned by a small, informal group with little structure; the Olympics is planned by a large, very structured group.



Peg Larson

Partners of WHA is a fairly large volunteer organization with formal structure established by our bylaws. That structure establishes a Board of Directors with various committees to accomplish its goals. The role of each position is further defined by a job description, which is a guide for the individual who holds the position to be sure the critical tasks are completed.

In all organizations, preparing individuals to step into new roles is very important. When drafting job descriptions, attention to skills development can be very helpful. For instance, it is difficult to chair an event if you have never participated in it. Commonly, some service on the board is required to be eligible to serve as an officer. This allows the person to become familiar with the operations of the organization before trying to manage all of them.

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### ***A Message from the Partners of WHA President... continued from page 1***

During March and April, the Partners "traveling team" will be visiting the seven districts, introducing a project to address leadership development, answering questions, gaining insights into what the needs are at the local and district levels, and how the state Partners organization can assist.

As in the past, Partners of WHA continues to receive strong support from the Wisconsin Hospital Association for which we are tremendously grateful.

Partners of WHA is like a jigsaw puzzle. Each of us is an individual piece with our own characteristics. Our Partners organization is the catalyst that brings all the pieces together to serve common goals. Thank you to each of you for your dedication and commitment to Partners of WHA. I look forward to providing leadership and advancing the mission of Partners of WHA.

Jan Molaska  
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### ***A Message from the Partners President-Elect... continued from page 1***

When recruiting individuals for a position, a well-written job description is valuable. In addition to listing the tasks, it should provide an estimate of the time commitment required, the skills needed, and any equipment used. If we assure someone the job will be "easy and not take much time," when the reality is that it is time consuming and requires significant effort, we are not respecting the person or the position. A better approach is to explain why the person is going to be the perfect fit for the job and the rewards to be reaped for the individual and the cause. Providing good documentation of the steps required and a good mentor will also help ensure success.

The biggest challenge in the volunteer world is finding the individuals who have interest/willingness to step in to the ongoing leadership roles. There is no magic bullet here; however, one certainty is that if you do not ask, you will not find them. Enthusiasm and pleasure in making positive changes in your community are contagious, so share what motivates you to spend your time supporting the organization. Individuals have many reasons to serve your organization; showing them how leading will fulfill those motives will have a worthwhile result.

Peg Larson  
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## **Happy New Year from WHA!**



Leigh Ann Larson

Welcome to 2020 everyone! I hope this message finds all of you healthy, happy, and ready to take the new year by storm!

### **WHA celebrates 100 years in 2020**

Wisconsin Hospital Association is proud to celebrate its 100-year anniversary in 2020. 100 years of advocating, advancing, and leading our members and partners whom we serve. As was highlighted in a recent *Valued Voice*, WHA was formed in a

September 1920 meeting in the Red Room of the Hotel Pfister, with temporary chairman

Dr. S.M Smith from Hanover Hospital in Milwaukee presiding. There were 28 men and women representing all areas of the state, eager to start an organization that could advocate for hospitals, health care, and the patients they serve. Throughout 2020, there will be acknowledgements and celebrations of this important milestone. Keep your eyes and ears open for these exciting announcements!

### **Advocacy Day! March 18, 2020**

WHA's annual Advocacy Day event brings over 1,000 hospital advocates from across the state to Madison. The event is designed to educate and motivate health care employees, trustees, and volunteers on important health care-related issues and to encourage grassroots advocacy opportunities. Partners of WHA are a key group of individuals who make this annual event a success. We need you! We need your participation, your engagement, your ideas, your questions, and your knowledge. Beginning the week of January 13, you can register for Advocacy Day on the WHA Advocacy Day webpage at: <https://www.wha.org/EducationandEvents/WHAEducationalEvents/AdvocacyDay>. Register today!

In celebration of WHA's 100 years, the Partners of WHA have been invited to have a table at Advocacy Day to promote the work and mission of Partners, as well as the opportunity for more hospitals to have a Partners program. Stop by and say hi!

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## Happy New Year from WHA...continued from page 2

### Looking forward

In this new year, WHA will again be offering a wide variety of educational opportunities to the staff of our state's hospitals and health systems, as well as the volunteers. New this year will be the addition of our On-demand Learning Center, which will be accessed through our website. This resource will provide educational content that is available 24/7. Keep an eye out for more

information on this later in the 1st quarter of the year.

2020 is looking to be an exciting year full of great opportunities for Partners and WHA to continue to work together for the betterment of the health and well-being of our state.

*Leigh Ann S. Larson, WHA Vice President of Education and Marketing, and WHA liaison to Partners of WHA*  
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## Perceptions of Administrators



*Dan DeGroot*

The expressed purpose of the Partners of Stoughton Hospital is to render service to Stoughton Hospital and its clients and to provide ways and means of assistance in promoting the health and welfare of the community.

Our Partners contribution goes far beyond the generous financial donations they regularly make in support of creating our wonderful healing environment. They are an integral part of our Culture of Excellence and serve to remind us all of our commitment to the service of others. Whether it be through their annual Love Light Ceremony, where we honor and recognize those who have served and those that have passed, the countless volunteer hours serving and greeting our patients at our Welcome Center, or providing wonderful ways to brighten one's day in our gift shop, our Partners continually contribute to our culture of caring and service.

Beyond the walls of the hospital, our Partners engage in many community activities such as providing program and services at the Stoughton Senior Center or supporting the Free Clinic which provides health care to those who otherwise couldn't afford it.

Finally, and equally as important, our Partners serve as ambassadors on behalf of Stoughton Hospital throughout our service area. Not only are they advocates for us, they also bring us new ideas and thoughts for new programs and services in order to better meet the needs of our community.

Our Partners' dedication, commitment, and service all serve as an inspiration to us all and are a pillar of our organization's culture.

*Dan DeGroot, President and CEO, Stoughton Hospital, Stoughton, WI*

## Partners Tell Their Stories

The Aspirus Festival of Trees is a Thanksgiving week tradition for the purpose of generating significant funds which benefit Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services for people in our community during their end-of-life journey. 2019 marked the 23rd annual Festival and the 40th anniversary of Aspirus' Comfort Care and Hospice Services.

Each year, our committed volunteers, organizations, and businesses turn Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center into a winter wonderland. Thousands of guests attended the Festival of Trees event. Guests viewed 125 holiday trees, wreaths, mantels, and specialty items which were donated by people in our community. Kalynn Pempek, executive director of Aspirus Health Foundation, says "At the festival there is a tree decorated for everyone's taste. We've got everything from Grinch to gnomes to plaid and cardinals. We have a yeti tree. There's actually a colored pencil tree. There are all sorts of things for people of every decor."

The Festival Gala kicks off the event and includes a variety of local entertainers performing holiday music. Other activities include a senior stroll, Teddy Bear Breakfast (where children can make ornaments, create masterpieces, and have breakfast with Santa), participate in a silent auction, or enter a raffle.

The Aspirus Health Foundation announced that 2019 was another record-breaking year for the Festival of Trees - \$223,000 was raised and will support high-quality end-of-life care for people in our community and two community bedrooms at Aspirus Hospice House for patients with identified financial need.

Kim Smerda, Fund Development Specialist, stated "We are grateful for the support of businesses, individuals, and volunteers who helped make this community fundraising event a success, and we could not do it without them."

*Kalynn Pempek, Executive Director, Aspirus Health Foundation*



# Registration Now Open for Advocacy Day 2020 on March 18!



Each year, the WHA Advocacy Day event grows both in number of attendees and in the impact made on our legislators in Madison. Advocacy Day is one of the best ways hospital employees, trustees and volunteers can make an important, visible impact in the State Capitol. Help make the 2020 event a great success by assembling your hospital contingent for 2020 Advocacy Day, set for March 18, at Monona Terrace in Madison. Registration is now open at <https://www.whareg4.org/WHAAdvocacyDay2020>.

As always, Advocacy Day 2020 will have a great lineup of speakers and sessions, including a keynote address by Frank Sesno, the popular annual legislative panel discussion, followed by a luncheon keynote address from Governor Tony Evers (invited). The highlight of Advocacy Day is always the hundreds of attendees who take what they've learned during the day and then meet with their legislators in the State Capitol in the afternoon. In fact, over 600 visits were made last year that directly impacted the outcomes of priority legislation. Speaking up on behalf of your hospital by meeting with your legislators during Advocacy Day is essential to help educate legislators about your hospital and on health care issues.

Join over 1,000 of your peers from across the state at Advocacy Day 2020 on March 18. There is no cost to attend WHA's Advocacy Day, but pre-registration is required. More information and [online registration](#) are now available. For Advocacy Day questions, contact Kari Hofer at 608-268-1816 or [khofer@wha.org](mailto:khofer@wha.org). For registration questions, contact Sherry Collins at [scollins@wha.org](mailto:scollins@wha.org) or 608-274-1820.

## Call for Nominations

The Nominating Committee of Partners of WHA is seeking candidates to represent all members in the offices of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Information and a nomination form are posted on the Partners of WHA website, [www.partnersofwha.org](http://www.partnersofwha.org).

**Qualifications/Prerequisites:** Candidates must be a member of Partners of WHA, to have served on the Partners of WHA State Board for at least one year, be able to attend two Board of Directors meetings per year, and attend Partners annual convention.

**Process to Reply:** Nominations need to be submitted by **March 21, 2020** to the chair of the Nominating Committee. Elections will be held at the Partners annual convention in October, with the installation at the convention. Nominations must include the [nomination form](#) and a maximum 200-word statement of the nominee's reason for seeking this position.

Consult the Partners website or a member of the Nominating Committee for more information.

Bonnie Rose Olson, Chair  
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### Committee Members:

Phyllis Malin - [phylal@mw.net](mailto:phylal@mw.net)  
Dorothy Revnew - [drevnew@wi.rr.com](mailto:drevnew@wi.rr.com)  
Linda Fish - [rolnfish@charter.net](mailto:rolnfish@charter.net)  
Peg Larson, President-Elect, non-voting member of the committee

## The Purple Hat Campaign

A new program was started with the Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center, Woodruff, called "The Purple Hat Campaign" with volunteers making purple hats to donate to the OB department to help raise awareness of Shaken Baby Syndrome.



The *Period of PURPLE Crying* program is an evidence-based Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma (SBS/AHT) prevention program. The program has two aims: to support parents and caregivers in their understanding of early increased infant crying and to reduce the incidence of SBS/AHT.

The letters in **PURPLE** stand for:

- P** Peak of crying is in the second month
- U** Unexpected crying is normal
- R** Resists soothing: the baby may not stop crying no matter what
- P** Pain-like face: the baby might look in pain while crying
- L** Long lasting: crying can last a long time
- E** Evening crying is common

During the month of November, all newborns at Howard Young Medical Center were given a purple hat with an important message for parents on the Purple Hat Campaign about Shaken Baby Syndrome.

## Greetings from Your State Partners Secretary

Although we are well into our New Year of 2020, I believe extending my wishes for a prosperous, healthy, and joyous beginning to this new decade is still very appropriate.

Recently I took a few minutes to review several past *Reaching Out* newsletter issues and noticed how nonexistent articles were submitted from the State Secretary. Many of us have found ourselves elected to the position of secretary with nary a clue of the proper recording of meeting minutes and the sundry other duties that may be included with this position. Might I be so bold to state, “We follow the format of our predecessor, have very limited knowledge of Robert’s Rules, totally stressed with the need to ‘capture’ every utterance and frequently interrupt the proceedings due to a missed point, and allow frustration to build as we write the formal documents which can be pages long?” Is it no wonder that folks are reluctant to apply for this position?

Fortunately, I was able to attend a Parliamentary meeting shortly after being elected and gleaned a new perspective for proper recording of meeting minutes. I also want to thank our **Parliamentarian Robert Schuck**, who has given me exceptional guidance and confidence to become a better “scribe” – it truly is not that scary and I’d like to share the **POSITIVES** that will help you become a better “recorder” of your business meetings and less reluctant to apply for this position.

### First paragraph contains:

- Type of meeting - regular or special
- Name of the organization
- Date and time and the venue if it isn’t always the same
- Notation of presiding officer and secretary (or name their substitute), names of attending and non-attending members
- Action taken on minutes of previous meeting(s), approval as read or corrected
- Any corrections approved by members are in the text of the minutes being approved; the minutes of meeting currently being conducted will merely state minutes approved “as corrected”

### Body of minutes contain - each a separate paragraph:

- All reports - officers, standing committees, and special committees

### MOTIONS - can be slightly tricky and only the following are recorded:

- Final wording of all motions (includes amendments), whether motion was adopted, lost or temporarily disposed of - NO MOTIONS WITHDRAWN ARE RECORDED.
- All points of order and appeals, noting whether sustained or lost and the chair’s reasons for the ruling.
- Names of maker of motions and seconder DO NOT need to be recorded - once the motion is restated by the chair, motions are the property of the organization.

**Very important reminder - eliminate the “white noise” – record ONLY the business actions that have been conducted during the meeting. The “white noise” is regarded as the discussion conversations both pro and con which may often lend themselves to a biased opinion in the recording of minutes. Additional reminder: the minutes become a legal document of the organization’s proceedings.**

Most certainly I am still honing my skills as your State Partners Secretary. The guidelines are a “road map” and have assisted me in formatting all the documentation of Partners of WHA meetings.

To all the district and local secretaries – please feel free to contact me with any questions/concerns. Both Robert Schuck and I will gladly find an easy solution to any issues.

Sharon Scott, Partners of WHA State Secretary  
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## Strategic Planning Continues to Revise Reports and Forms

Thank you to all who have completed the [survey](#) on the Partners of WHA website. The results are very helpful in reviewing awards, the annual convention, leadership development, and goals. If you have not completed the survey, please do so.

The annual reports and forms, which organizations and districts complete, were revised. The new forms are on the website, and are easier to understand and complete.

We continue to work on the leadership development goal. A leadership sub-committee has been formed to study and make recommendations. Members appointed by Partners of WHA President Jan Molaska include Ron Zahrt, Cindy Hermel, Peg Larson, Jaci Fuller, Bill McCullough, and Jan Molaska. A conference call was held January 10 to discuss how to proceed. The goal is to offer resources to help identify and develop local, district, and state leaders.

I want to thank all the Committee members for their time and effort in completing our goals and making the Partners of WHA an even better organization - already a great organization! Please contact me if you have suggestions, questions, or ideas for the committee.

Jaci Fuller, Chair  
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# Public Policy Education Report



Bill McCullough

WHA's [Wisconsin 2019 Health Care Workforce Report](#) has been issued for the last 16 years utilizing national and state data and studies, and reports from other associations to offer recommendations for action. In the 2019 report, Debra Rudquist, CEO, Amery Hospital & Clinic and chair of WHA's Council on Workforce Development, stated, "High-quality health care depends on a high-quality workforce... The challenges to continue delivering the high-quality, high-value health care for which Wisconsin is nationally known are great."

In the following paragraphs I will attempt to summarize a variety of important facts from the Wisconsin Health Care Workforce 2019 Report as they affect current and future health care challenges and issues.

**Where is the demand for an increased health care workforce?** Demographics are the primary driver of health care demand. From 2017 to 2032 the population age of 75 and older is expected to grow by 75%. Roughly, 50% of elderly Americans have at least two chronic conditions. Chronic diseases account for 75% of health care expenditures in the U.S. every year and 95% of health care spending for older people is attributed to chronic conditions.

As goals are met for improving blood pressure control, curbing obesity, etc., resulting in positive efforts to reduce the demand for chronic diseases management, the population health will improve, and so will longevity, again increasing the need for both volume and variety of medical services.

**The Wisconsin Healthcare Workforce is aging as revealed in this report.** Workforce aging varies among professions. Since 2012, roughly 40% of LPNs exceeded age 55, in 2018, 30%. The percentage of registered nurses during that time period remained under 20% (at present roughly half of working RNs are under age 45), advanced practice nurses 30%, and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) 30%. The percentage of almost all rural health professionals over the age 55 is considerably higher.

Growing and retaining more physicians is not keeping pace with increased demand. The 2018 report from the Wisconsin Council on Medical Education and Workforce (WCMEW), projects a physician shortage of 14% statewide, with rural areas faring the worst. The aging physician workforce is a key factor with a statewide average age in excess of 50. They will retire just at the time Wisconsin's aging population rapidly increases health care demand.

**The WHA Report of 2004 asked, who will care for our patients?** In 2004, WCMEW was formed to raise public awareness and convene experts around Wisconsin's physician workforce issues. Initial steps were to expand the two Wisconsin Medical Schools; the University School of Medicine and Public Health, and the Medical College of Wisconsin. Subsequent WHA reports stated the greatest need for new Physicians were primary care, psychiatry, and general surgery, particularly in rural areas of the State. The 2019 biennial budget for Wisconsin expanded the initial grant funding areas to "provide grand funding to any residency specialty with a demonstrated need." The public-private partnership created by Wisconsin hospitals and clinics receiving WHA-crafted Department of Health Services (DHS) graduate medical education (GME) grants to build nine new Wisconsin residency programs and expand nine existing programs will create and estimated 151 new physicians by 2024.

**Wisconsin has a well-documented and critical psychiatrist shortage and according to DHS,** faces a shortage of 117 full-time psychiatrists. This shortage continues to be a constraint on both outpatient mental health services and the availability of inpatient psychiatric services. WHA-crafted GME grants have led to three new psychiatry residence programs. When the new pipeline is full in 2025, Wisconsin will have eight additional psychiatrists each year.

**The impact of electronic health records (EHR) on the Workforce:** this function has a profound impact on the workflow of health professionals, according to a 2017 study published in the *Annals of Family Medicine*. The study reported, "Primary care physicians spend more than one-half of their workday, nearly six hours, interacting with the EHR during and after clinic hours." Health care professionals, hospitals, and post-acute care providers confront the daunting task of complying with a growing number of regulations. Regulation is intended to ensure that patients receive safe, high-quality care. Not all the rules improve care, and all require time and action by the health care workforce. Patients have less time with their caregivers and face a growing array of regulatory detail. An average size hospital dedicates 59 FTEs to regulatory compliance, and one in four of those engaged is a doctor or nurse.

See WHA's *Wisconsin 2019 Health Care Workforce Report* at: <https://www.wha.org/Reports>.



## Community Health Education Report



Sherry Jelic

Have you ever felt jittery before speaking to a group of people? Did your mouth feel dry when you sat in the dentist's chair? Or how about when you took your driver's test – were your hands sweating? These are all examples of a little anxiety, which helps you cope with challenges or stressors. Occasional anxiety is healthy and a normal part of life. However, if you have an **anxiety disorder**, this normally helpful feeling can disrupt your life. Anxiety disorders aren't just a case of the nerves, they're illnesses.

Anxiety disorders are real. They're the most common group of mental illnesses and medical conditions. These disorders affect about 40 million people overall, and up to 20% of Americans each year (this could be a low estimate due to lack of treatment). Too much anxiety can be paralyzing with fear and worry.

Estimates suggest anxiety disorders affect 1 in 8 children and 1 in 12 teens. Unfortunately, it's often overlooked or misunderstood. Myths about anxiety in kids often mean that they don't get the help they need. Excessive anxiety can cripple a teenager's functioning, have a damaging impact on the routines of daily life in school, as well as in developing friendships and intimate relationships, and undermine their lives going forward. Young people are particularly vulnerable to anxiety as they transition into adulthood. Tragically, a young person with an anxiety disorder may drop out of school, abuse drugs or alcohol, and may attempt or commit suicide.

Anxiety can be related to some underlying conditions. These may include: generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or social anxiety disorder (SAD, also called social phobia). These are usually treated with psychotherapy and/or medications.

Anxiety is not always related to an underlying condition. It may be caused by: stress – from work, school, personal relationships, or a chronic or serious medical condition, emotional trauma, financial concerns, major event, side effect of certain medications, and alcohol or drug use.

**Self-care steps** may be helpful in some less serious episodes. Learn what triggers your anxiety and alleviate it. Exercise daily. Maintain a positive attitude. Get enough sleep. Eat a well-balanced diet. Practice relaxation techniques such as yoga. Stop smoking and consumption of caffeinated drinks.

**See a doctor** if you notice the anxiety is interfering with daily tasks, the anxiety is accompanied by insomnia, or you feel depressed.

**See a doctor immediately** if you notice suicidal thoughts, or are having a panic attack.

Anxiety is highly treatable, but many people continue to suffer in silence because it's not easy to talk to your health care provider. This can lead to more serious issues such as depression, and increasing thoughts of suicide, so these will be discussed in future *Reaching Out* issues.

As we continue our health education focus on mental health in 2020, educate yourself and keep informed of the issues that help or hinder our journey for the best mental health. Remember there is no health without mental health. **BEGIN TALKING – AND STOP THE STIGMA!**

Sherry Jelic, CHE Chair

608-235-9526; Email: [sjelic@msn.com](mailto:sjelic@msn.com)

### WAVE Award to Make Some Changes

I was asked by Jan Molaska to be the Wave Award chairperson for 2020, so am hoping to receive everyone's support for the remainder of the year.

I am now getting in touch with my committee members who are Sandy Gobler, Leigh Ann Larson, Linda Nandory, and Diane Schmidt. The WAVE application and cover letter information are being revised.

I am sorry to say that I will not be able to make the March Spring Meeting in Madison because I have a prior commitment in Milwaukee. However, I will be sending a written report to update.

If anyone has any information or questions for me, please feel free to contact me.

Jeanne Tatro, WAVE Chair

715-219-0945; Email: [jeannemtatro@gmail.com](mailto:jeannemtatro@gmail.com)

## Around the State

### Partners of Gundersen Boscobel Area Hospital and Clinics, Boscobel:

This group is working to meet the needs of its patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other sensory processing needs. Hospital staff have been collaborating with experts from the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the The Learning Center to develop sensory-friendly guidelines and determine adaptations necessary to support a sensory-friendly environment. A sensory menu and toolboxes are being created to best support patients with ASD and sensory processing challenges. To help make this work possible, the Partners donated \$750 to help purchase noise-cancelling headphones, fidget spinners, sunglasses, and other sensory aids.

### Volunteer Partners of HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire:

Eighty years of volunteer service was celebrated November 6, 2019 with an Open House for volunteers, colleagues, and staff, which included refreshments, displays, and a short program. Congratulations!

### Ascension Good Samaritan Hospital Volunteers, Merrill:

November 2019 was a busy time for these volunteers. A new fundraiser, "Bow Making and Wreath Decorating," brought out 58 women on November 19 who also enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, wine, and fun – and the best part was each person went home with their own freshly-decorated wreath! Another "Dough-to-Go Sale" took place November 22, where dough for cutouts, chocolate chip, peanut butter, and oatmeal cookies could be purchased from the hospital cafeteria.

### Ripon Medical Center Auxiliary, Ripon:

Candy Bar Sales began in the gift shop and in less than two months made more than \$550 in sales – no fuss, no muss!

*Kay Lyndahl, Editor*

## Get an Early Start for Best of the Best

Partners of WHA established the Best of the Best Administrative Award in 1994. The BOB award recognizes a top on-site administrator of a Wisconsin hospital who demonstrates a cooperative, supportive, enthusiastic, and well-defined relationship with his or her volunteer organization.

Nominating forms will be mailed to all Partners of WHA presidents in March 2020. They are also available at the spring meetings. Information can also be found online at [www.partnersofwha.org](http://www.partnersofwha.org). Nominees must be in their present position for no less than 24 months as of June, 2020. **THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS IS JUNE 10, 2020.** If you have submitted a nomination in the past but were not successful, please feel free to resubmit after you have reviewed it in light of the criteria.

The 2020 committee includes 2019 award winner Timothy McKeve, president and CEO, Beloit Health System in Beloit; Leigh Ann Larson, WHA; Melanie Miller; Kay Ludwig; and Trudy Wallin.

Please meet with your team. Make sure that your candidate is agreeable. Fill out your form. Submit the form to me by June 10, 2020. **Please have the word BOB in the subject line of your email** so it does not get lost.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

*Beverly Lazar, Chair*

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## Reaching Out Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
May 2020	Sun., April 12, 2020
August 2020	Wed., July 15, 2020
November 2020	Sat., Oct. 10, 2020
February 2021	Fri., Jan. 15, 2021

Partners *Reaching Out* is published four times a year by Partners of Wisconsin Hospital Association, Inc. Visit the Partners website at [www.partnersofwha.org](http://www.partnersofwha.org). Direct questions or comments to:

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