# HEARTBEAT



March 2019 VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

# Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center Woodruff, Wisconsin

#### VHYMC 2018 Scholarship Update

Submitted by Betty McCormick, VHYMC Scholarship Chairperson



Left to Right – Hanna Garcia, Hailey Teichmiller, Lauren Rentmeester, Stephanie Balas, Marjorie Weitz: (Vansh Jain, Tarynn Kuchler, Michael Laurence and Greta Saulic were unavailable for the photo) The Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center awarded \$23,000 in educational scholarships in 2018. Funds are provided thanks to the Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center fundraisers: the Great Trivia Quest and sales from the Volunteer Gift Shop.

Juliana Dutcher and Anna Hessler received the Lakeland Union High School (LUHS) VHYMC Annual Scholarship. The two LUHS graduating students are pursuing their studies in health care related fields. Selections of the two individuals were made by a LUHS committee. Each student received

\$1,500. Dave Christensen and Connie Madden, VHYMC members, attended the Awards Program at the high school.

Lindsey Flick and Alexandra Gustafson received the Nicolet College Foundation VHYMC Annual Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to a nontraditional student in a health care related field. Both students are enrolled in the Nursing program. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship. The selection process was completed by a Nicolet College Foundation committee.

In December, the VHYMC Scholarship committee awarded nine \$2,000 Dr. Henry Ashe Continuing Education Scholarships to Lakeland area college students in health care related fields. The selection process was completed by the VHYMC Scholarship Committee according to the VHYMC by-laws. Committee members are: Dave Christensen, Sandy Hilgemann, Connie Madden, Cate Weishapple and Betty McCormick (chairperson).

The Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center have provided \$124,000 over the last seven years to college students, LUHS graduating students and non-traditional students at Nicolet College. The scholarships were awarded based on the number of qualified applications and the funds available for this program.

#### 2018 Dr. Ashe Recipients:

- Michael Laurence, Notre Dame, Science Business-Hospital Administration-Healthcare Consultant
- Vansh Jain, UW Madison, Biochemistry/International Studies
- Tarynn Kuchler, Bellin College, Nursing
- Hailey Teichmiller, Gustavus Adolphus College, Biology
- Stephanie Balas, St. Olaf College, Philosophy and Neuroscience/PreHealth
- Hanna Garcia, Carroll University, Biochemistry
- Lauren Rentmeester, Carroll University, Healthcare Administration/Management and Leadership/Public Healthcare
- Greta Saulic, UW Lacrosse, Exercise and Sport Medicine/Fitness Track
- Marjorie Weitz, Edgewood College, Nursing

#### Volunteer Luncheon, February 19, 2019

Contributed by Cate Weishapple



Cheryl Sell, Clinical Professional Development Associate at Ascension, presented an enlightening presentation and demonstration to the Auxiliary Board prior to the Volunteer Luncheon at Reulands' on Feb. 19, 2019. She talked about the use of mannequins for training purposes offered at Ascension for nurses, paramedics, and other associates. The mannequins provide the staff with an opportunity to practice skills that will be beneficial in real-life situations. On a baby mannequin, she demonstrated what skills could be learned and practiced. The mannequins are available at Ascension to all the area hospitals and approximately 150 Associates benefit from the training.

Minocqua Police Officer Matt Tate, along with his dog, Jennings, gave an inter-

esting and highly entertaining presentation at the February 19, 2019 Volunteer Luncheon at Reulands'. Officer Tate told the group of how he traveled to North Carolina to meet and train with Jennings. He explained their duties and stressed that Jennings is a true working dog and, although friendly, he is not a pet. Officer Tate and Jennings gave a demonstration of Jennings' ability to search and find the drug that had been hidden. The group was able to see the reaction of Jennings when he came close to his target and when he found the drug. Many questions were asked about this German Shepard-mix working dog and Officer Tate was able to provide the group full knowledge of how a working dog and he do their jobs.



Installation of Leadership Team Members

L-R: Kathy Viergutz, Volunteer Coordinator; Addie Halfmann, Secretary; Janet Beitz, Memberat-Large; Laurie Oungst, HY Chief Administrative Officer; Bev Scott, First Year Leadership team member; Bev Gieringer, First Year Leadership team member; Sandy Anderson, President of Ascension Northern Hospitals.



#### Community Health and Education: Contributed by Joan Hauer, Chairperson

#### Area and State Activities Related to Alcohol and Other Drug abuse

The next publicized prescription drug take back day for the local area, which includes Vilas, Oneida and Forest counties is

scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>. The recent one netted 800 pounds of drugs taken in. When one holds a single pill, the idea of 800 total pounds in a three-county area is staggering. It is good to know it is out of access, but still shocking in the amount.

More discussion on the issue of legalization of marijuana for medicinal purposes will be prevalent as it is introduced into the Wisconsin legislature. As more states approve it, there is more information available on the impact. Currently, there is legislation to protect the public. The Food and Drug Administration, FDA, was established in 1906 requiring medicines be labeled and demonstrated effective before being made available to the public. Many will recall the thalidomide tragedy, a medication available outside the US taken by pregnant women for morningsickness, that resulted in significant birth defects. The use was largely averted in the US due to an FDA scientist who saw abnormalities in toxicities she reviewed. The process worked.

Currently there is a lack of scientific studies on the benefit of marijuana. The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NAS) issued a report in January 2017, which was financed by several federal agencies and private foundations. They reviewed 10,700 abstracts from studies since 1999, reported that components are helpful for two conditions; chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting and multiple sclerosis related spasticity. Components of Marijuana have been used in epilepsy and in pain management, as well as other conditions and complaints with no reported body of findings from the NAS review.

There are many issues that will be debated. Sources of additional information include; *The Marijuana Report*, which goes out as a weekly e-newsletter, themarijuanareport.org, *National Families in Action*, as well as reliable news sources.



Lorelai

#### **Donated Baby Hats for National Heart Care Month**

By Kathy Viergutz

HYMC Volunteer Nancy Speich and the Fiber Friends and Twisted Stitchers, an informal group of ladies who meet at the Minocqua library, made and donated beautiful red baby hats for babies born at HYMC during the month of February. The hospital and volunteers have other individuals who donate baby hats to the birthing center, however Nancy and her group thought it would be a nice gesture to make all red hats in honor of National Heart Care Month. They also made nice Valentine gifts for the babies

The fiber artists were kind enough to allow me to give one of the hats to my new granddaughter so she could support National Heart Care Month, also. **Thank You** to Nancy, Fiber Friends and Twisted Stitchers!



# Meet the Newest Members of Our Volunteer Team!

Please join me in welcoming our new volunteers and thanking them for giving their valuable time to our organization!



**Carole Halverson** Carole is joining the HELP program.



**Benjamin McFarland** Benjamin is joining the HELP program.



**Yvonne Morman** Yvonne is a new Eucharistic Minister



Kim Gillis, Membership Chairperson

Membership total count – 169 Active Members – 132 Eucharistic Non Supporter – 1 Life Members – 6 Life Active Members – 2 Patron – 31 Became active – 4 Became patron – 3 Total current hours 2019 – 861



**Bob and Kim King** Bob and Kim are members of the Eucharistic Ministry team from Holy Family church.



**Kim Gillis** Kim is the new membership chairperson.



**Diane Diederich** Diane is considering the gift shop and HELP program.



John and Claire Martin John, Claire and Hattie are the newest members of the pet therapy program.



# Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP)

#### What is HELP?

The Hospital Elder Life Program is a service provided by Howard Young Medical Center to improve the hospital experience of older patients. HELP was developed by Dr. Sharon Inouye at Yale University as a model to prevent delirium in older hospitalized patients. Delirium is a confusion.

#### Who are we?

The HELP team is composed of medical professionals who make sure that older adults get the special consideration they need to get the best results from their hospital stay. A group of volunteers will provide individual attention and interventions to those patients enrolled in the Hospital Elder Life Program.

Elder Life Coordinator: Lori Butkus, RN, BSN Program Director: Jacqui Monge, RN, MSN, MHA Medical Director: Thomas Gabert, MD

#### Why?

Being in the hospital upsets normal routines of mental and physical activity just at the time a person is coping with illness. This disruption can cause older hospitalized people to lose their general mental and physical ability to function. The Hospital Elder Life Program strives to keep the mind and body as active as possible in spite of illness. This benefits older patients and helps speed their recovery.

#### What we do?

To help keep patient as strong and engaged as possible, we provide the following services, free of charge, as part of their hospital care. These services are provided in conjunction with care already provided by physicians, nursing staff and other therapists.

**The Daily Visitor Program:** Daily visits designed to keep patients alert and aware by providing orienting communication and daily schedule as well as answering questions.

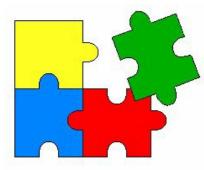
**Mealtime Assistance Program:** Volunteers provide company and assistance with meals, encouraging oral intake to enhance nutrition and hydration.

Early Mobilization Program: Encourages exercises.

Therapeutic Activities Program: Provides stimulating and enjoyable activities to keep minds active and relieve stress.

**Sleep Enhancement Program:** Designed to assist with sleep without use of medications that may have harmful side effects.

We need you to join our team. Call Lori at 715-356-8305 with any interest or questions.



#### Putting the Pieces Together

A message from Laurie Oungst Howard Young Medical Center Chief Administrative Officer

Each volunteer is an essential piece of our - sometimes - complex health care puzzle. Together, we meet the needs of patients and their families with highly favorable quality and patient experience results.

Whether you volunteer as a greeter, provide support to one of the hospital departments, give of your time in support of the Hospital Elder Life

Program, gift shop, art gallery or spiritual services, visit patients as a Eucharistic Minister or bring comfort through pet therapy, serve in a leadership role within the volunteer organization or event support to raise funds for area youth, please know you are valued! I am grateful you have chosen Howard Young Medical Center to give your time and talent.

## **Happy Belated Birthday!**

#### January

Heppe, Geraldine Rabjohns, Margaret Kelk, Ann Baumgartner, Lyn Thompson, Barbara Hilgemann, Sandy Martin, John Grace, Karen Robert, King King, Robert Alfery, Christine Hollatz, Kathleen Behnke, Barbara Kumpula, Joanne Callahan, Judith L Reese, Alice Scovel, Helen **February** Vraspir, Terry Ross, Karen

Ahonen, Patsy

Egtvedt, Alberta

Reichelt, Sandi

Eliason, Jerry

Krull, Larry

Denninger, Barbara

# March

Sparkowski, Virginia Neuberger, Carol Krause, Nancy Lohse, Dianne Johnson, Kayla Gauger, Michelle Weishapple, Cate Mc Enroe, Ruth Schneider, Nancy Bahcall, Joanne Greedy, Pamela Ann Carlson, Karen Taddy, JoAnne Arvold, William Dreger, Mary

April

Duranso, Phyllis Beschta, Barbara Mee, Mary Winger, Fern Granat, Margo Viergutz, Kathy Gieringer, Beverly Wendt, Elaine Nimmer, Beverly Flannery, Christine Morman, Yvonne

# May

**Happy Birthday!** 

Samuelson, Roger Kaminski, Mary Ellen Allen, Jean Scott, Beverly Bobbe, Mary Kelly Hoppe, Mary Jolin, Kathy Joswiak, John Gillis, Kim Travis, Helen Bridges, Robert Koch, Julie Halverson, Carole Rhyner, Kay Kristine McFarland, Benjamin Naasko, Sandra Brown, Nancy Mc Cormick, Betty Dionne, Holly

#### What is Partners of WHA?

By Bev Scott

Some of you know what Partners of WHA stands for, but a few of our new volunteers are not familiar with PWHA. I will briefly explain this organization and its purpose.

Partners of WHA stands for Partners of Wisconsin Hospital Association, Inc. It was founded in 1951 and now has over 9000 members state wide. Partners stresses volunteer organization participation in health education, health career and wellness programs, and volunteer service to hospitals in Wisconsin. It also provides resources, meetings, and seminars to participating hospital volunteer programs. They hold two yearly meetings in each local district as well as one Partners of WHA Convention a year. Through these forums PWHA shares information on a specific health issue facing all Wisconsin hospitals each year. They also share successful volunteer programs and fund raising events. Partners of WHA publishes a quarterly newsletter which you can find on their website (www.partnersofwha.org).

When you became a member of VHYMC you automatically became a member of Partners of WHA. To understand PWHA even better you might consider attending our Spring District Meeting on April 4, 2019 or the Fall District meeting to be hosted by HYMC on September 17, 2019 at The Waters of Minocqua. We trust that many of you will take advantage of being an active member of Partners of WHA!

VHYMC By-Laws and Policy & Procedure updates were approved and are available in the volunteer center for anyone who would like a copy.



#### **Sunshine Needed?**

Please contact Bev Coller if you know one of our members who might need a little "Sunshine". Bev can be reached at 715-356-0029 or email her at junebc@frontier.com.

### SAVE THE DATE

- April 4<sup>th</sup> WHA Partners North Central District meeting, Wisconsin Rapids
- April 17th Advocacy Day, Madison
- June 12<sup>th</sup> VHYMC Recognition Luncheon, White Tail Inn, St. Germain
- September 17<sup>th</sup> North Central District Fall Meeting, The Waters Convention Center, Minocqua Being hosted by your volunteer organization

October 19<sup>th</sup> Third Annual Great Trivia Quest, The Thirsty Whale, Minocqua

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#### Areas in need of Volunteer Services

If interested, please contact Kathy Viergutz, Volunteer Coordinator, at 715-356-8677.

Gift Shop Cashier – Shifts are 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Greeters - Monticello needs greeters for winter months to cover for our snowbirds and Entrance D has a permanent opening. Please check with Kathy V for availability.

HELP – Extremely flexible and rewarding volunteer opportunity, contact Kathy for more information.

Leadership Team & Board of Directors - Please give some thought to taking on a more active role in the leadership and operations side of the volunteer organization. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the organization, meet other members from your organization and other volunteer organizations as well. It is a way for you to be assured that the organization will continue to function and serve the hospital and community. Please contact Kathy if you would like to know more or have an interest.

Nominating Committee – Committee Chair, this individual would be a member of the VHYMC Board of Directors, they would pick their team members and would be responsible to assist with filling vacant positions within the volunteer leadership team and board of directors.

Public Policy Education - Committee Chair, this individual would be a member of the VHYMC Board of Directors and would be an advocate and champion for communication within the volunteer organization to discuss and report on health-related legislation that is pending and how it will affect our hospital.