

Recognizing

Outstanding Volunteer Programs

Overview of WAVE Awards Programs

The Wisconsin Awards for Volunteer Excellence (WAVE) program was established by Partners of WHA, Inc. to recognize outstanding contributions of organized volunteer programs, and is patterned after the AHA HAVE Awards program.

In addition to acknowledging the value of volunteerism to individual lives and institutions, the awards program is designed:

- To encourage service that greatly exceeds expectations, as a result of innovation, creativity and leadership.
- To promote visibility and goodwill toward the hospital or health care system.
- To increase allegiance among volunteers.
- To promote collaboration among organizations and community service.



Partners of WHA

2012 WAVE Awards

Presented at the Partners of WHA
Annual Convention

October 16, 2012

Marriott Madison West, Madison

Category: *Community Service Programs*

Winning Program: *"Safety Center"*

Winning Organization: *Volunteers of UW Health Partners-Watertown Regional Medical Center, Watertown*

The Watertown Safety Center, staffed by the Volunteers of UW Health Partners-Watertown Regional Medical Center, offers parents and others in the community a place to shop for safety products, learn about proper installation, receive educational material and ask questions. The Safety Center offers a variety of child safety products at below-retail cost, including car seats, gates, bicycle/ski helmets, flotation devices and more, with volunteers trained to answer questions and properly fit helmets. In addition, volunteers from the Safety Center present at a number of community events each year, bringing car seats, helmets and smoke detectors to ensure people know how to use them and where to find the Safety Center. They also provide sleep sacks to each baby born at the hospital and have established a fund for needy families who can't afford car seats.

Category: *In-service Hospital Volunteer Programs*

Winning Program: *"The HEAL Program"*

Winning Organization: *St. Vincent Hospital Auxiliary, Green Bay*

Children who are ill or watching a loved one battle with an illness often don't have the ability to deal with the stress and emotions that come along with illness. The St. Vincent Hospital Auxiliary established the HEAL Program (Helping Elevate thru Art & Love), giving those children a way to communicate, express and understand their feelings through art and interaction with a therapy dog. Participants paint two pictures on canvas with the help of a volunteer art therapist and her dog. The children keep one painting and the other is displayed in the annual art show and sold, with the proceeds benefiting HEAL and the hospital's Child Life program.

Category: *Fundraising Programs*

Winning Program: *"Dancing With the Stoughton Stars"*

Winning Organization: *Partners of Stoughton Hospital, Stoughton*

"Dancing With the Stoughton Stars" is a hospital fundraising event sponsored by the Partners of Stoughton Hospital. A total of 65 volunteers help make this event successful, from the dancers, judges and instructors to the ticket sellers, greeters, and ushers. Six dancer couples from all areas of the community commit to securing sponsorships, dance lessons and costume acquisition. They are judged on audience appeal, costume/music selection and technical difficulty. In 2011, the event caused a buzz around town as the hospital and this event were highlighted in local media and at local businesses. More than 600 people attended the event and net proceeds of over \$23,000 were raised to assist with the purchase of a digital medical imaging archiving system for Stoughton Hospital.

Category: *Community Outreach and/or Collaboration Programs*

Winning Program: *"Lake Wissota Last Chance on the Lake Ski and Snowshoe Race"*

Winning Organization: *Partners of St. Joseph's Hospital, Chippewa Falls*

The Partners of St. Joseph's Hospital sponsor the annual Lake Wissota "Last Chance on the Lake" Ski and Snowshoe Race in an effort to provide outdoor activity to the community in the winter months, promote fitness and healthy fellowship to all ages, and broaden the Partners support base in the community by collaborating with outside groups with similar goals. They offer a 10K and 30K ski course, a classic 10K course, a 10K snowshoe course and a children's race. For the 2012 race, they had over 60 participants skiing and snowshoeing their way through whiteout conditions, with awards and chili handed out after the race.