

# GUNDERSEN PARTNERS

ENHANCING CARE THROUGH SERVICE AND GIVING

Gundersen Partners Membership Update  
January 2023

Happy New Year Valued Partners Members!

I hope your 2022 left you with a heart full of wonderful memories to keep you warm this chilly winter!

As your current Gundersen Partners President through 2023, one of the enjoyable parts of my role is helping to select your next president. Partners is very fortunate and will be stewarded well in 2024 and 2025 by Jill Blackbourn, our next Partners President. She is already an invaluable asset on the board, and she will be sharing more about her goals and ideas with you next January!

A new year brings new changes, new goals, and new roles. We would like to deeply thank Jill Blackbourn for accepting the president-elect role, Jane Rada for accepting the co-treasurer role, and retiring board member Sue Bugge for her valued contributions. I would also like to welcome our new members:



(L to R) Chris Lau, Lisa Biondo, Judy Olson, Peggy Miller, Mary Robinson, Jill Blackbourn, Linda Gillette

**New Partners Board Members:** Jim Bugge, Peggy Miller, Judy Olson, Mary Robinson.

In addition, I wish to thank our current board, DAC and team members for their continued support and service to Gundersen Partners:

**Current Partners Board Members & Team:** Linda Gillette (past president), Jill Blackbourn (president-elect), Linda Arentz (co-treasurer), Jane Rada (co-treasurer and secretary), Sarah Havens, Chris Lau, Max Heckman (Community Health Educator), Marilyn McElligott (Historian), Eileen Wiltinger (Past Gift Shop Manager and currently new Manager of Volunteer Services), Shannon Hulett (Director of Patient Experience), and our AMAZING Sheila

Erickson (Senior Office Assistant).

**Current Donation Allocation Committee (DAC) Members:** Linda Arentz, Linda Gillette, Peggy Miller, Sally Miner and Jane Rada.

The successes mentioned below are because of those listed above and because of you. Thank you.

In 2023 it is our continued goal to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our programs and resources to make sure they are put to their best uses, and we will update you through these membership letters throughout the year.

As we reflect on 2022, it is because of the generosity of our members and the success of our fundraisers, that Gundersen Partners was able to help our community in some very wonderful ways.

Here are just some of the ways Partners helped spread joy and goodness to our community in 2022:

- Adult and Teen Challenge donation to support those struggling with addiction.
- Restorative Ink donation to assist people with tattoo removal so they can heal from abuse or human trafficking situations.

Jon and Greg loaded up and ready to deliver Giving Tree items to Hamilton School



- HorseSense for Special Riders contribution so those with special needs can experience the connection of horseback riding.
- Provided warm clothing and food to the Warming Center for our unsheltered population.
- Sponsorship of an Angel Eyes camera so families can monitor their precious little ones in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) from home when they can't be there.
- WeCare Packages. Partners donated 200 nylon backpacks as well as a monetary donation for personal items and other necessities for our area school children in need.
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace donation which will help provide beds and bedding to local children sleeping without.
- Warming Center and theExchange! donations to assist those struggling with homelessness.
- Pediatric Social Services donations of diapers, wipes and baby items for our youngest patients.



Linda Arentz, Partners Co-Treasurer (L) with Jen Linse, Pediatric Social Services (R)

These donations are above and beyond our continued annual contributions to: “Wrapping the Community in Warmth” annual blanket drive, Children’s Miracle Network, New Horizons Shelter and Outreach, scholarships for children of Gundersen employees, endowed scholarships at UWL, Viterbo and WTC, The Parenting Place Diaper Bank, REACH Resource Center, Coulee Region Humane Society, Hunger Task Force, local food drives, Gundersen Social Services, Pediatrics and Hospice, and the Hamilton School Giving Tree . . . so much help given!

Partners board members greeted folks in the clinic lobby with snacks, Christmas cookies and beverages at the 2022 Love Lights open house.

We look forward to another successful year of enhancing patient and family care, healthcare education and community well-being through our service and giving . . . and we genuinely thank you for your role in achieving this. Stay well.

Sincerely,

Lisa Biondo, President  
Gundersen Partners



2022 Love Lights Open House