

12 eaching Out

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

COVID-19 Changes Lives



Recently, my four-year-old grandson asked, "When is this virus gonna end?" I'm sure he is not the only person asking that question. Together, we are facing a truly unprecedented crisis. By now we are all aware of the severity of COVID-19. This global pandemic is affecting each and every one of us and our way of life.

Jan Molaska

Not only are we faced with the pandemic, but also racism and protests, violence and political discord have intensified. News broadcasts are filled with violence and

negativity. The disrespect and hatred demonstrated by some individuals toward others is criminal and immoral.

Only focusing on the negative will get us nowhere. For every low there is a high, and yes, even this deadly disease that we are presently facing has a positive side. Groups across the country have joined together to provide food for those in need. Individuals have sewn hundreds of thousands of masks and donated them to hospitals. We have been forced to slow down and find new ways to connect with families and friends.

Self-isolation is providing a new sense of appreciation and gratefulness. We are developing deeper appreciation for teachers, doctors, nurses, janitors, bus drivers, grocery store workers, and all the essential workers who are the foundation of our communities. COVID-19 has offered us new insights into what we have taken for granted.

COVID-19 has brought limitless amounts of unpredictability to the health care industry. Volunteers have been a vital member of their hospital organizations. As such, it is important to realize that the configuration of our hospitals will not return to what they were pre-pandemic.

As volunteers you are very aware of giving and caring. Where there is a need, without hesitation, you step up. Several volunteers I have spoken with have said they are anxious to get back to their hospitals. Many hospitals are working on establishing protocols for the return of volunteers, being cognizant that safety of the individual is the main concern. Until it is safe to return to your hospitals there are things you can do. You can call a neighbor or someone you know that does not have family to connect with. You have the power to boost the spirits of seniors in hospitals and nursing homes by simply sending a note or card. You can write a note to people you have lost touch with or to your doctor or others that are on the front lines. Do *(Continued on page 2)*

A Message from the President-Elect

Building an Airplane While Flying It

Humans learn by watching others. Babies watch parents walk and try to figure out how to do that. New volunteers watch the experienced ones to determine what to do in each situation. When a new challenge



Peg Larson

arises, we look at how it was handled the last time it came up. We may call people who have experience to ask for suggestions. We are living through an unprecedented time. Only a handful of individuals have any experience navigating a pandemic of this scale, and they were very young the last time.

An educator described converting to online learning as "Building an airplane while flying it." I suspect from my experience with the Warbirds area of the Experimental Aircraft Association that the pilots in WWII were familiar with that feeling. I suspect that our health care workers are feeling that same disoriented stress. Most of the volunteers have been less able to assist actively during this time. The Partners leadership has been working hard to "build our airplane" so we are ready to fly it. Bill McCullough and Jaci Fuller have been developing a toolkit to provide resources for you to use to develop leaders in your organizations.

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In the workplace, good leaders look at succession planning to ensure there are individuals prepared to step into an open position. One of the most important processes in volunteer leadership is to develop the skills of other volunteers. The progression of officers from District Chair-Elect to District Chair allows a person to learn more of the details of leadership so they are prepared and familiar with the responsibilities of the position before they are in the position. The job descriptions have been carefully thought out to familiarize members with the mechanics of the

A Message from the President...continued from page 1

your own gratitude journal or every day write down five positives in your life.

Hopefully, with social distancing, wearing masks, avoiding large crowds, and lots of prayers, this nightmare will end and we can all go back to what we love to do – VOLUNTEER.

Until then, **stay safe!** With gratitude and prayers.

Jan Molaska 715-359-9303 (H); 715-581-9304 (C) Email: <u>imolaska@gmail.com</u>

organization. As an individual gains experience, they feel comfortable moving into a position of leadership.

Mentors help less experienced individuals develop their skills so they are successful in their roles. Partners of WHA has used informal mentoring for a long time. A few years ago, we created a list of individuals who are available to mentor members. If you have skills in an area that you are willing to share or if you would like some help in an area, please let me know. The list is available on the website if you have a question on a specific topic.

Thank you for all of your efforts to support your local community's health.

Peg Larson 920-231-3005 (H); 920-420-1482 (C); Email: <u>pegvoluntr@hotmail.com</u>

It's Time to be Resilient



Leigh Ann Larson

I was just re-reading my column from the May *Reaching Out* newsletter. Frankly, it seems like a lifetime ago since then. So much has changed and we all have had to refocus and adjust to yet more uncertainty that has been thrown our way this year due to COVID-19.

While there are things we can control (masking, not joining large gatherings, etc.), there are definitely things that are beyond our control. In those cases, it is easy to worry and be concerned about the future. Our ability to either stay in that state of worry or to adapt depends greatly upon our resiliency.

The science of resiliency has been greatly studied, especially over the last couple of years. Being resilient is a strong indicator of our future success and happiness. I recently read a great article about

resiliency that I wanted to pass on to you. It is titled <u>The Positive Impact of Resilience in Older Adults</u> and was published along with a collection of online resources titled *A Senior Living Resource*. Click on the title above and you will be brought to the article. I hope you find it informative and useful.

This year, being resilient has been important for us at WHA. We have cancelled all in-person events through February of 2021. This has been unfortunate, as I know you can relate with the cancellation of the Partner's Annual Convention. I've come to realize that two very opposite emotions can live together side by side – understanding and supporting cancellations that protect the health and safety of all of us, while feeling disappointed that we can't attend events with one another that we have found to be informative, fun, and enjoyable.

On behalf of WHA, please accept my appreciation for your resiliency and ability to adapt to changing times. I know that the Partners of WHA Board of Directors has been working very hard to keep the good work going, despite volunteers still not being allowed in the hospitals. And while things like the Annual Meeting in October might look and feel a little different from years past, the value will still be there and I'm excited to be a part of it all with you. Thank you for a great first year (August 6 – one-year anniversary with WHA)! I look forward to many more.

Take care and be safe!

Leigh Ann S. Larson, WHA Vice President of Education and Marketing, Executive Director of the WHA Foundation, and WHA liaison to Partners of WHA 608-274-1820; Email: <u>llarson@wha.org</u>

Updates and Future Plans

2020 is proving to be a year like no other. In terms of Partners of WHA, all spring tour meetings were cancelled. The Board meeting scheduled in March and the "in person" convention scheduled for October were also cancelled. Because of the unprecedented events of 2020, please understand that "normal" processes for meetings, convention, and voting will not occur.

After multiple phone calls, emails, Microsoft Teams conferences and extensive conversations, tentative plans have been made to address the main topics, which are the election of officers and the passage of the budget.

Each district chair has been asked to provide the names of the two delegates from each of their local organizations by August 15, 2020 to Peg Larson. Additional voting members will be added to the list to receive ballots.

As of now, a virtual annual meeting will be held. Anyone can participate but the two delegates from each organization and special voting delegates will need to be a part of this call. Elections will be by written ballot, which will be mailed to the two delegates from each local organization and all special voting delegates.

We will not be able to have nominations from the floor, so we are modifying the process. We are requesting that other individuals interested in running for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer who meet the qualifications for holding said offices, submit their name along with a picture and biography. These names along with the candidates put forth by the nomination committee will be on the ballot. Ballots will be mailed to each delegate on or around September 1, 2020.

The deadline for submitting a nomination with a picture and biography is: AUGUST 20, 2020.

We will be convening a Microsoft Teams call on or around September 15, 2020 to address any questions and give presentations (explanation of the budget). District officers and delegates will be advised of the date and time and the process for joining the call.

The deadline for the return of ballots is: OCTOBER 1, 2020.

Ballots postmarked after that date will not be counted.

Ballots will be collected, certified, and counted by Leigh Ann Larson, our WHA liaison.

On October 7, 2020 there will be the virtual general membership meeting. Election results of officers and the budget will be announced. Information regarding additional items of importance will also be discussed.

Convention Updates and Sites:

The **2021** convention will be held October 5, 6, & 7 at the Madison Marriott with the Southern District hosting. Terri Donlin is the convention chair. She will update and announce a theme in the near future.

The **2022** convention will be held on October 4, 5 & 6 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells hosted by the Western district. Iva Mulhern and Patsy Pippin are co-chairs and had already put much effort into what was to be the 2020 convention.

The **2023** convention will be held October 3, 4 & 5 at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center in Stevens Point in October. The West Central District will host and Betty Oddo is the convention chair.

Additional information will be forth coming as it becomes available. Please check the website: PartnersofWHA.org for future announcements.

Please contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Jan Molaska, President Partners of WHA 715-359-9303 (H); 715-581-9304 (C) Email: jmolaska@gmail.com

2020 BOB Award Candidates to be Considered for 2021

Along with the cancelation of the Convention, the Best of the Best award has also been cancelled for 2020. For those who have submitted applications, please know they will be included in the 2021 competition. The deadline for applications has been extended so please continue to submit your nominations to the address listed on the form which can be found on the Partners website.

Additionally, I would like to thank the people that would have served on the BOB Committee: Tim McKevett, Melanie Miller, Kay Ludwig, and Trudy Wallin. And I can not say thank you enough to Leigh Ann Larson for all her help.

We look forward to getting your applications that will be awarded at the WHA Convention 2021. See you there.

Beverly Lazar, Chair 715-492-6572 Email: lazar_beverly@yahoo.com

2020 Nominating Committee Recommendation of Officers for Partners of WHA for 2021-2022

The Nominating Committee of Partners of WHA includes Chair Bonnie Olson, Linda Fish, Phyllis Malin, Dorothy Revnew, and Peg Larson (ex officio). The committee's major responsibility is to place in nomination the best-qualified candidate(s) for each office. This necessitates giving careful consideration, both as an individual and as a committee, to the requirements and scope of the offices to be filled as well as to the qualifications and abilities needed to fill them. They matched these requirements to the qualifications of the candidates. All nominees were evaluated equally and by the same criteria.

Due to the COVID-19 virus and not having a convention in Wisconsin Dells, the following slate of officers is to be submitted at Partners' Virtual Convention, October 7, 2020:

President-Elect - Sharon Scott; Secretary - Julie Steiner; Treasurer - John Tully

Delegates will receive ballots with the above candidates listed and a space for write-in candidates (whom have consented to be placed on the ballot) via USPS prior to the virtual convention.

Thank you for your understanding of the voting process during these unprecedented times.

Bonnie R Olson, Chair, 2020 Partners of WHA Nominating Committee. Email: bhatlady@gmail.com

Sharon Scott for President-Elect



Sharon is very committed to the gifts of time and talent volunteers dedicate to maintaining and supporting the health of their communities.

Volunteering in her local hospital has always been extremely rewarding, and the opportunity to network and meet other volunteers throughout the state has been "priceless." Sharon has been a member

Sharon Scott

of the Froedtert West Bend Hospital Partners for 23 years and has been privileged and honored to serve her organization in numerous positions: Board Secretary, President, Public Policy Chair, scholarship, Love Light, fundraising committees, team leader for the Cuddler program, and the Partners Advisory Board. Additionally, she served as the Southeastern District chair (2 terms), District Public Policy Chair, WAVE Committee, co-chair of the 2018 Partners Convention, and chair of the 2019 convention. Sharon is honored to have the opportunity to serve as the current state Partners of WHA secretary.

On a more personal level, Sharon is married to Dick and has a married daughter and two grandchildren. She attended both Bradley University and the University of Minnesota. Professionally, Sharon spent eight years as an instructor in the West Bend High Schools at the risk program, five years with the Anoka County (Minnesota) District Attorney's office as an advocate for victims of sexual assault, and 15 years as a national sales consultant for the former West Bend Company. Other affiliations include membership in PEO (philanthropic education organization) having served as president and corresponding secretary, board member to her community's beautification organization, and three golf leagues. Sharon's "happy place" is spent golfing, traveling, gardening, reading, and watching her grandchildren play college hockey.

Julie Steiner for Secretary

Julie has truly missed serving as a volunteer at Vernon Memorial Healthcare (VMH) during the COVID-19 pandemic. She typically enjoys volunteering as a patient escort, a greeter, and gift shop clerk. She is President-Elect of The Friends of VMH and has



Julie Steiner

been a member of her local Partners group for 32 years.

Julie has appreciated the opportunity to serve as State Treasurer during 2019 and 2020. She looks forward to the opportunity to serve as State Secretary. Along with serving as the current treasurer of Partners, Julie is a past Best of the Best chair and WAVE Committee member and served on the 2016 and 2020 Convention Planning Committees. She is a past Western District chair.

Julie worked as a radio news broadcaster for 21 years and as a health care communications/ public relations/marketing manager for 14 years. She retired in 2013 to become a fulltime housewife, grandma and volunteer.

Julie and husband, Garith, will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary in October.

She loves spending time with her husband as well as with their two daughters and son-in-laws and their three (soon to be four) grandchildren. Hobbies include travel, golf, fishing and needlepoint.

Along with volunteering at her local hospital, Julie serves as a member of the VMH Foundation Board and is Secretary of her parish council.

John Tully for Treasurer

John was born in St. Paul Minnesota. Yes, he is a Vikings

fan. He attended St. Paul Technical

College where he studied to become

an electrician. He spent the next 35

years working in the electrical field

holding various leadership positions.

then, mainly volunteering in politics.

John was active as a volunteer back



John Tully

He volunteered on campaigns from city council to state offices to presidential campaigns. He spent one whole legislative session as an intern/lobbyist for his local state representative.

John and his wife moved to Cameron, Wisconsin in 1999. He spent the next seven years commuting daily back to St. Paul for work. John retired in 2006 and started his second career - volunteering. After his wife had knee replacement surgery, they both started volunteering at Lakeview Medical Center (now Marshfield Medical Center-Rice Lake). John was approached about becoming the President-Elect of the volunteer organization. He accepted and then became President and then moved on to the district level. He was Secretary/Treasurer, Chair-Elect and is now the West Central District chair. In 2017, he was the state Convention chair in Green Bay. When Lakeview dropped out of Partners, John started volunteering at Cumberland Healthcare so he could stay active in Partners.

John enjoys reading, fishing, tracing his family tree (both sides), and all the shooting sports. John and two others started a Youth Outdoor Day to introduce youths to the wonders of the outdoors. It has been happening for 16 years and is totally free to the participants.

Strategic Planning Updates Guidelines

The following goals were established for 2019/2020 by the Strategic Planning Committee:

- Continuous improvement of communications within all levels of the Partners of WHA. Hospital administrators and volunteer directors were contacted and encouraged to write articles for publication in the Partners of WHA newsletter regarding their support of the Partners of WHA and what is happening in their hospitals. This goal is on-going and thus far there have been many positive responses. Articles have been and will continue to be in the publications of *Reaching* Out. It has been noted there are many volunteers who do not realize the mission of the Partners of WHA or the goals of the organization. Therefore, an article composed by President Jan Molaska, detailing the history of the Partners of WHA, the present day organization, district make-up, goals, and advocacy was sent to all districts and distributed to all local organizations to explain the benefits of belonging to the Partners of WHA, its mission, and goals. This has been well received.
 - **Review all annual, district and state forms.** This is completed and updated forms are on the website.
 - Evaluate and improve the value of the Partners of WHA awards. A survey was posted on the website to gather feedback and recommendations from the membership regarding the criteria and value of awards. It was suggested an Advocacy Award be added and this is being researched. The Committee members are reviewing the criteria for the other awards as well.
- Enhance leadership development and identification at the local level. Committee members have been researching "tools" that can be helpful in recruiting local leaders and encouraging participation in the organization. Because the 2020 spring tour and 2020 in-person convention was cancelled, additional information will be posted on the Partners of WHA website as it becomes available.
- **Evaluate and improve return on investment of the annual convention.** A revised evaluation form was used at the 2019 convention. Suggestions from the evaluations returned were reviewed. Results from the survey were also taken into consideration and indicated that members feel the format and time frame should remain the same. Workshops should continue to be educational and include topics on leadership development, advocacy, and health care.

Many thanks to committee members for their dedication, time, and work on the goals for the Partners of WHA. Because of the extraordinary events of 2020, some goals will continue to be addressed and results will be shared with members of the Partners.

Jaci Fuller, Chair 715-225-3978; Email: tomnjaci@gmail.com

Public Policy Education Report



Bill McCullough

With the presence made by COVID-19 in early 2020, much has been laid in place in an attempt to control and ultimately develop a disease-resistant vaccine. In this critical "in-between time," initiatives by WHA and our state have been rolled out. One initiative, **Emergency Order #16**, issued March 12, 2020, relating to health care providers' credentialing, stated any health care provider with a valid and current license issued by another state *may practice under that license and within the scope of that license in Wisconsin* without first obtaining a temporary or permanent license from the Department of Safety and Professional Services, provided they meet certain conditions."

Another initiative has come from WHA and its work with the Telemedicine Work Group. In a letter from WHA President & CEO Eric Borgerding to the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation,

he stated the strong support from WHA for Congress and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to extend the access patients have to their health care professionals via telehealth today as a result of flexibilities granted under the federal emergency declarations and other HHS authority. Over the past four years, WHA has worked with this group to explore how telehealth can improve access, enhance outcomes, and reduce costs in health care. **Following is a short list of those considerations:** 1) Removing site and geographic restrictions has allowed for the unleashed potential to reach patients in their own homes. 2) Service Codes have been expanded by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to expand the range and scale of "billable services." 3) Likewise, CMS has expanded the list of telehealth providers to include speech, physical, and occupational therapists. 4) Continued patient access to providers in Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers in rural and underserved communities. 5) Maintain the same pay-out rate for telehealth services as in-person services. Finally, WHA encourages Congress and HHS to work with commercial health insurers to continue to cover the same telehealth services after the public health emergency expires.

Telehealth in Rural America

Telemedicine use has more than doubled across the U.S. in the last three months. Many stakeholders, including CMS Administrator Seema Verma, have noted, "I can't imagine going back." In the June 11, 2020 *Valued Voice*, she referenced pre-COVID-19 telemedicine visits increased from 12,000 per week to more than one million since CMS expanded Medicare flexibilities. While it is apparent that telemedicine offers considerable promise in rural communities, its effectiveness is in question. In the recent past and to some degree currently, rural Americans have faced significant barriers limiting access to health care. Individuals in rural areas are more likely to be unemployed and low-income, with roughly 25% covered by Medicaid. Geographic concerns loom large due in part to the closure of more than 120 rural hospitals in the U.S. over the last ten years - 19 in 2019. Geographic distance, lack of public transportation, and shortage of providers have added significant barriers. Prior to the Pandemic, all state Medicaid programs paid for some type of telehealth services, but there was and continues to be variation in how telehealth is defined, implemented, and regulated. In response to COVID-19, most Medicaid programs expanded access to telehealth for beneficiaries through emergency policies around Audio-Only services and allowing home access for telemedicine services. CMS issued guidance reinforcing state Medicaid programs' flexibility to increase telehealth services. That need for federal approval for states to reimburse telehealth services at the same rate as face-to face services.

Guidance eliminates the roadblocks, and challenges exist for continuing effectiveness and use of telemedicine.

While it is early to assess the recent telehealth policy changes, data suggests a substantial increase in uptake by providers, and the majority of states have implemented policies that increase access and payment for telehealth services. So, where lays the concern for continued growth and application for this Innovation? **Access to Broadband Services**. The CARES Act included \$200 million to increase telehealth access, and the Federal Communications Commission announced over \$20 billion in funding to broadband access in rural communities. The June 30, 2020 edition of *Wisconsin State Farmer* stated the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced its investment of \$86 million for getting broadband into rural areas. Currently, 6% of Americans have no broadband access, and 30% do not subscribe to Internet services due to the cost. In Wisconsin, roughly 9% of our population lacks access compared to 7% nationally. This shortfall continues to be in the news with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission announcing in late March the award of grants to 44 companies to expand access in rural Wisconsin - \$45 million will be awarded over a two-year period.

In the days and weeks ahead, we all should be mindful of requests from WHA to respond to any continuing actions requested from HEAT on the above topics. Please, respond to current ACTION ALERT, COVID-19 Relief Package. Through this medium, our collective voices will be heard by those in our State Assembly and by those in the U.S. Congress.

Community Health Education Report

STORY IS NOT OVER YET.

SUICIDE IS NEVER THE ANSWER BECAUSE YOUR

Dr. Lorna Breen was a talented Manhattan

hospital medical director and ER doctor, working

Coworkers described her as a great doctor, a leader

with a dynamic personality. On April 27, 2020 Dr.

Breen took her own life. Her father said she had

at the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic.



Sherry Jelic

no history of mental illness, but during their last conversation she told him how excruciating it was to have to watch

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In the meantime, let's all be nonpolitical as we live our daily lives in staying safe and in being respectful to those around us.

Bill McCullough, PPE Chair 715-832-7053; Email: <u>webirish@gmail.com</u>

COVID patients die, including some before they could be taken from the ambulance. Two days earlier, a Bronx EMT, witnessing the virus's toll on people, fatally shot himself. Suicide among children ages 10-19 is the second leading cause of death for Wisconsin teens. Nationwide, approximately 17 veterans commit suicide each day. One study, the <u>Ruderman</u> <u>White Paper on Mental Health and Suicide of First Responders</u>, found that law enforcement officers and firefighters were more likely to die of suicide than from job-related causes. True numbers may not be known due to the stigma associated with suicide. Suicide is a major public health issue in the United States. The U.S. has one of the highest suicide rates among wealthy nations. On average, 129 Americans died by suicide each day in 2019 and 1.4 million Americans attempted suicide. Of those who died by suicide, 90% had a diagnosable mental health condition at the time of their death. (CDC- Fatal injury report 3/1/20)

What causes someone to think about suicide? There is no single cause, but risk is elevated during times of diversity, and mental health issues can become worse. **DEPRESSION** – this may be the most common reason people die by suicide. Severe depression is often accompanied by a pervasive sense of suffering and the belief that escaping from it is hopeless. The pain of living becomes too much for severely depressed people to bear. Depression warps their thinking, allowing ideas like, "Everyone would all be better off without me" to make rational sense. **IMPULSIVENESS**, often related to drugs and alcohol, causes some people to attempt to end their own lives. Once sobered and calmed, these people usually feel emphatically ashamed. Remorse may be genuine, but whether or not they'll ever attempt suicide again is unpredictable. **CRYING OUT FOR HELP**, and not knowing how to verbalize the pain, will result in suicide attempts. These people don't usually want to die, but instead want to alert those around them that something is seriously wrong. They frequently choose methods they don't think can kill them but will call attention to their challenges. It's important to recognize signs of impending suicide. Mood changes, feeling sad or hopelessness, and saying things to indicate that life will be better if they were gone, are red flags.

Suicides have previously increased during major crisis. Numbers increased during the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic, the 2003 SARS outbreak, and significantly for several years after the 2008 Great Recession. People with or without previous mental health issues may have increased symptoms due to fear, loneliness, financial changes, inability to grieve the loss of a friend or family member, and significant changes in routines common before the pandemic.

As the current coronavirus pandemic continues, experts say we may see an increase in mental health issues and suicide risk in certain populations. On April 14, 2020, the *Appleton Post Crescent* <u>reported</u> that since the coronavirus infections increased, calls to mental health resource centers and crisis hot lines had spiked. Loss of support groups and social distancing may cause people to seek other resources to help them cope. Anxiety is high, and some just want to talk to someone. **It's important for all of us to become proactive in recognizing and preventing suicide.** In 1918, the means of communication was the telegraph. Today, we have social media, telemedicine, virtual counselling, and many organizations and groups supplying information and education. Churches are reaching out. Part of the <u>Education Forward</u> <u>Plan</u> to reopen schools is encouraging districts to provide additional mental health resources for students.

SUICIDE CAN BE PREVENTED with education, treatment, and support. For more information on recognizing symptoms, beginning conversations, and crisis lines and support, go to Prevent Wisconsin Suicide at <u>www.</u> <u>preventsuicidewi.org</u>; National Institute of Mental Health at <u>www.nimh.gov</u>; or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <u>www.cdc.gov</u>.

Sherry Jelic, CHE Chair 608-235-9526; Email: <u>sjelic@msn.com</u>

Around the State

Partners of Marshfield Clinic, Ladysmith:

March 10, 2020 was the last meeting of this group since the beginning of the COVID pandemic. A "Hello Wisconsin" photo was taken of some of the Partners that attended and aired on WEAR TV Channel 13 in EauClaire. Unfortunately, that was the last event since that day.

Partners of Black River Memorial Hospital, Black River:

Partners shared what their hours per day have been since March, which included phoning friends and family, sending cards and letters, helping at food distribution places, jigsaw puzzles, playing board games, sewing masks, gardening, cooking maple syrup, and trying out new recipes.

Volunteers of Howard Young Medical Center, Woodruff:

This group provided funds to purchase an infant/baby manikin to train medical personnel in their hospital. What a wonderful way to train first timers for their newborn!

Hayward Area Memorial Hospital and Water's Edge, Hayward:

Hospital and Senior Care Appreciation Week in May was held by Partners who purchased 250 actual Dilly Bars and 275 certificates for Dilly Bars from their local Dairy Queen (who also donated an additional 275 - \$5.00 gift cards) to onsite staff, residents, and tenants. A treat was enjoyed by all!

Kay Lyndahl, Editor

(Keep those newsletters coming!)

WAVE Applications on File in Madison

I was asked by Peg Larson, President-Elect, to stay on for 2021 as the WAVE Committee chairperson. I was happy to accept the position. My committee members were also happy to stay on for 2021. They are as follows: Sandy Gobler, West Central District; Diane Schmidt, Southern District; and Linda Nandory, Western District.

Leigh Ann Larson sent an email letting me know that we had the following applications for the WAVE AWARD for 2020. They were as follows:

- Community Service: 1
- Fundraising: 0
- In-Service: 2
- Community Outreach and/or Collaboration: 1

She will keep them on file at WHA in case they ever need to be referenced.

Hope to see everyone in 2021 at the WHA Partners Convention in Madison October 5-7.

Jeanne Tatro , WAVE Chair 715-219-0945 Email: jeannemtatro@gmail.com

Everyone has their own path. Walk yours with integrity and wish all others peace on their journey. - Author unknown

Reaching Out Deadlines

Issue	<u>Deadline</u>
November 2020	Sat., Oct. 10, 2020
February 2021	Fri. Jan. 15, 20201
May 2021	Wed., April 12, 2021
August 2021	Thurs., July 15, 2021

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

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