

Spirit of Giving

A NEWSLETTER FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS OF ASCENSION ST. JOHN AND PROVIDENCE FOUNDATIONS



Inside:

- Entry-level caregivers can **THRIVE** with innovative training program
- Transformed birthing center delivers enhanced care setting for families
- Doctors give back to assist medical students, radiology staff with education expenses
- Patients 'Believe in Miracles' with help from special assistance fund
- Gifts memorialize loved ones while supporting patient care



Ann McDonald-Upton, Manager, Associate Retention; Maureen Chadwick, Chief Nursing Officer, Ascension Michigan Market; and Todd Lowry, THRIVE Program Manager, are instrumental in implementing the new program.

Collaborative program assists entry-level caregivers

Ascension Michigan has received a \$3.6 million grant from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation as part of a larger effort to support a new program called Transformational Healthcare Readiness through Innovative Vocational Education (THRIVE). This is the largest philanthropic grant Ascension Michigan has ever received.

THRIVE, conceived by Cleveland Clinic, is an innovative partnership between Ascension Michigan, Catholic Health, Cleveland Clinic and the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation. This new workforce opportunity will provide much-needed support for entry-level healthcare caregivers and aim to improve retention rates across all three health systems.

THRIVE will be piloted across Ascension Michigan in southeast Michigan, the Cleveland Clinic in northeast Ohio and Catholic Health in western New York over the next three years. It will serve as a model for replication across the country. The program will be supported by a cumulative investment of over \$20 million, including more than \$15 million in grants from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation.

Healthcare is projected to be the largest employment sector in the U.S. economy by 2026, and the fastest growing

occupations in the sector are frontline caregivers. But despite the number of job openings, recruitment and retention of caregivers is a widespread challenge. Many caregivers face barriers to success which can lead to high rates of turnover.

The THRIVE model is a collaborative, strategic approach to changing the lives of caregivers by providing new screening tools, tailored life skills support and enhanced training. All three health systems are implementing a seven-day (56-hour) THRIVE-specific curriculum.

At Ascension, THRIVE will assist patient care technicians (PCTs) and video monitoring technicians. As individuals are hired for these positions, they will be enrolled in THRIVE (starting in June). The program includes interaction with life/workforce coaches who will assist with skills such as budgets, transportation assistance, communication and more. Coaches will be available on an ongoing basis, and periodically check in with new staff to offer assistance.

In addition to the life/workforce coaches, grant funding will create a centralized THRIVE training center at Ascension Southeast Michigan's Corporate Services Building in Warren. It will also cover salaries for nurse educators, a program

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

coordinator, and Todd Lowry, a registered nurse and former PCT, who is the THRIVE Program Manager for Ascension Southeast Michigan.

“The project intends to prove that by investing additional resources in orientation and training for entry-level caregivers, we can increase employee retention and satisfaction while reducing staffing shortages and the financial burden of employee turnover,” said Todd. “We expect to assist approximately 1,100 individuals over three years.”

“Ascension Michigan cares for our communities through more than 150 sites across 30 counties, and we are ready to create a support system for entry-level caregivers,” said Joseph Cacchione, MD, Ascension Michigan CEO and Chief Executive Officer, Ascension Medical Group. “Caregivers have long served as the backbone of healthcare, and it is time we all work together to build their support systems.”

“This is an exciting opportunity. We believe it will help increase employee satisfaction and ultimately patient satisfaction,” said Renee Peck, Chief Development Officer, Ascension St. John Foundation. “We look forward to collaborating with Cleveland Clinic and Catholic Health, and are very grateful to the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, the late Ralph Wilson and his wife Mary for their generosity.”

The Wilsons have been longtime, faithful supporters of Ascension Southeast Michigan. They supported the telemonitoring, endoscopy and hospice programs. In 2014, the Ascension St. John Hospital Health Center at Kercheval, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Campus in Grosse Pointe opened, thanks to their generosity. Support from the Wilson Foundation also helped create The Wilson Center: Senior Resources for Independent Living on the Grosse Pointe campus and enhance The Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Acute Care of the Elderly Unit at Ascension St. John Hospital.

A message to our donors

You are essential to helping us provide expert, compassionate care to all those in need. Thank you for your support of Ascension Southeast Michigan, our hospitals, programs and services.

As part of the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. and the world’s largest Catholic health ministry, our future is exciting. Ascension is investing in a Vice President of Philanthropy to guide philanthropic initiatives for all Ascension Michigan Foundations. As leaders of the Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations, we’ll work collaboratively and strategically with the Vice President to enhance giving opportunities locally and regionally.

We assure you that your gifts will continue to support the hospital or program of your choice. From exceptional grants like the one from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation to heartfelt donations in memory of loved ones, your gifts make a difference. In this newsletter, you can see how gifts from generous donors like you created important endowments for women’s health initiatives, cancer programs, staff education and family medicine residents. Your gifts also helped purchase vital equipment for infants, update facilities and assist patients in need. Every gift counts, no matter the size, and we can’t thank you enough!

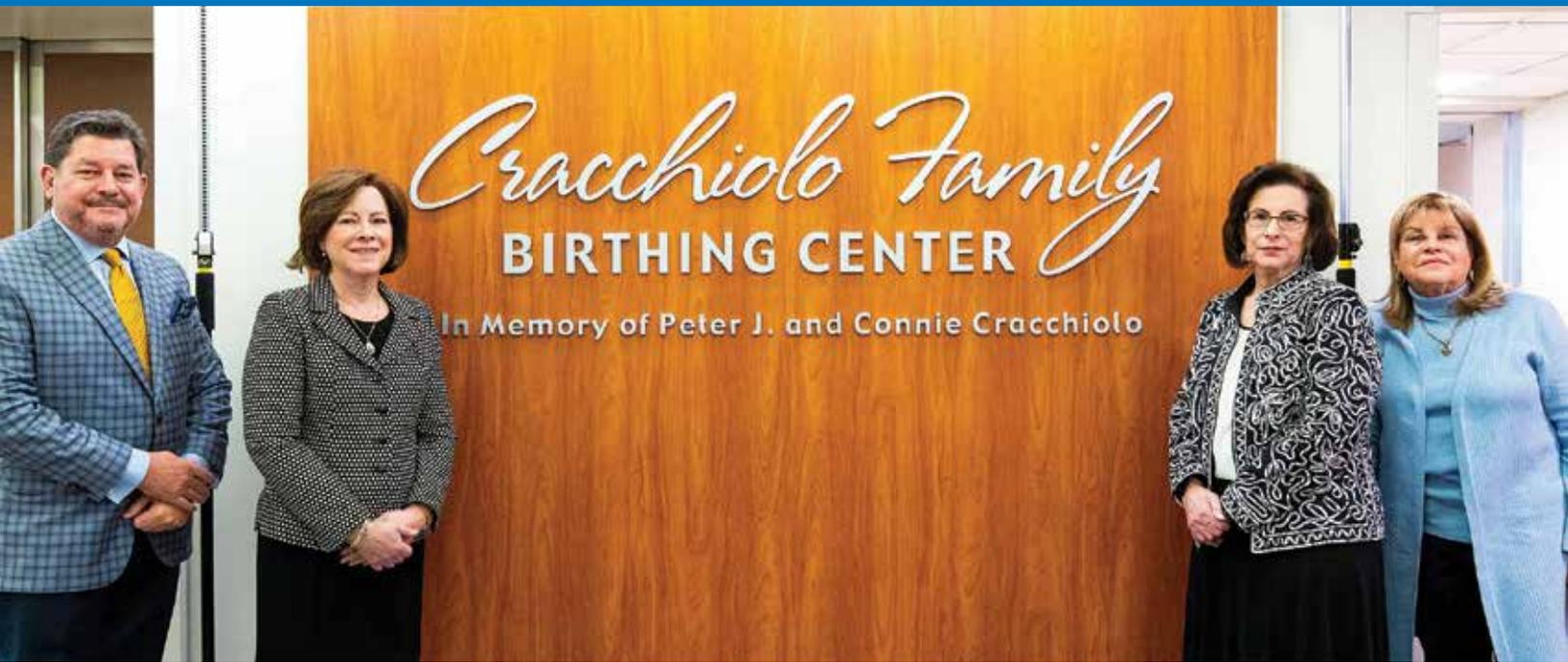
If you have questions about the Foundations or making a gift, please call us at 313-343-7480 or 248-465-5000. Thank you again for your generosity.



Renee Peck
Chief Development Officer
Ascension St. John Foundation



Sara Thompson
Chief Development Officer
Ascension Providence Foundation



Peter T. Cracchiolo, Phyllis DeMars, Grace Cracchiolo-Torre and Bernadette Cracchiolo Lindquist

Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center offers enhanced care setting

Families welcoming newborns into the world at Ascension St. John Hospital now have the transformed Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center available for their care. While the Birthing Center has been providing excellent medical care to more than 3,000 newborns and families yearly, a modernized, more comfortable environment was needed.

The entire Labor, Delivery, Recovery & Post-partum Unit was renovated, including 31 private patient suites, a seven-bed

obstetrical emergency department and 16 birthing suites on 5-West, used for ante- and post-partum stays. A state-of-the-art wireless fetal monitoring system was also installed.

A dedication of the new Birthing Center was held on Jan. 30. Thanks to the Cracchiolo family for the lead gift through the Peter J. and Constance M. Cracchiolo Foundation and to many other generous donors, \$4 million of the \$6 million project was funded through philanthropy.

Philanthropic supporters and staff celebrated at the dedication of the Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center.



Showing off a renovated birthing suite are, l-r: Michelle Cutino, RN, Assistant Clinical Leader; Monica Hurley, RN, Assistant Clinical Leader; David Zalenski, MD, OB/GYN Chief; Joe Theut, BSN, RN, Birthing Center Manager; and Sandra Scerri, RN, Women and Children's Services Director.



Donors Ken and Joan Isherwood

Hospital's own nurse among first to have baby in new birthing suites

With a new baby, there are many “firsts”... baby's first smile, first word, first step and more. When Lacey Lefere had her baby, the firsts had already started — Lacey was the first Ascension St. John Hospital associate to deliver in a new birthing suite in the renovated Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center. She is also a former Birthing Center nurse, making the situation more exceptional.

Lacey worked in the Birthing Center for 3½ years before becoming a Nursing Director in 2017, with responsibility for the Magnet recognition program, Behavioral Health and Holistic Nursing. When Lacey and her husband Kyle were deciding where to have their baby, they had a choice of two hospitals where Lacey's doctor delivers.

“A key factor for us was the NICU at Ascension St. John. If something goes wrong, it's reassuring knowing NICU support is right there,” Lacey said.

While everything went smoothly when baby Louis was born on July 12, 2018, Lacey was apprehensive about delivering where she worked and knew so many people.

Her Birthing Center nursing friends asked what room she wanted; four or five new birthing suites were open when she was ready to have Louis.

“I told them to give those rooms to other patients. But they put me in a new room, which ended up being very nice,” Lacey said.

“Being in a new birthing suite was such a calm, beautiful, private environment that it didn't seem like I was at work or in a hospital,” she added. “It had a modern, clean atmosphere with enough storage for our things, so our guests had room to move. As a nurse, I know that before the remodeling, obstacles in the bathroom made it difficult to maneuver with an IV pole or get in and out of the tub after having a baby. The renovation eliminated obstacles.”

Lacey also liked that the birthing suites have “all the bells and whistles” (equipment) that come out when you're in labor preparing to deliver; the room becomes high-tech with everything you might need if anything goes wrong.

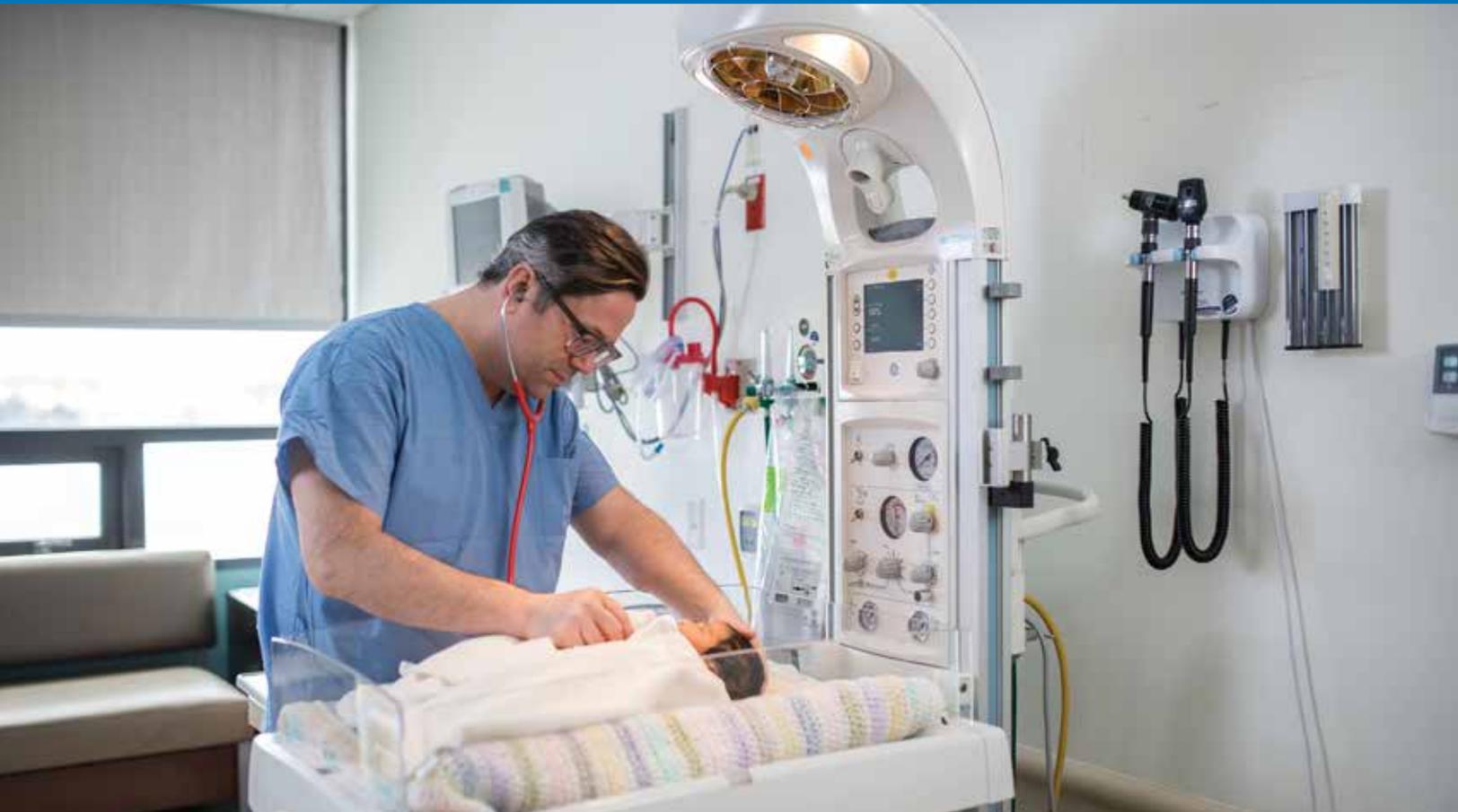
“Then as soon as your baby is born and everything is OK and cleaned up, equipment gets hidden, and it doesn't seem like you're in a hospital anymore,” she said. “It becomes a space for healing and to host family meeting their first grandbaby.”

Kyle enjoyed the Birthing Center's family nourishment room where he could get water and snacks without leaving the area. “It was nice to know he was taken care of,” Lacey said. “I just had to worry about myself and our new baby.”

Louis is doing great. When this story was written, he had just been baptized and achieved a few “firsts” — first teeth, clapping and sitting up.



Kyle, baby Louis and Lacey Lefere snuggle for a photo in the new birthing suite where they received care.



Gene Hebert, RN, Assistant Clinical Leader, NICU and Special Care Nursery, cares for baby Mishka, who is in a Panda warmer.

Pandas and Giraffes keep infants warm and safe

When you think of pandas and giraffes, it's not likely you envision tiny infants. Yet in a hospital, Panda* warmers and Giraffe* incubators are special equipment used to keep newborns warm and safe in a healing environment.

Ascension Providence Hospital acquired two new Panda warmers for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the Southfield campus to supplement existing Panda warmers and Giraffe incubators. Support from generous donors like you made the purchase possible.

A Panda warmer is an open warming device most beneficial in the delivery room and when babies are admitted to the NICU, said Gene Hebert, RN, Assistant Clinical Leader, NICU and Special Care Nursery, Ascension Providence. The device keeps infants warm when staff is assessing and working on them. It has a built-in scale, gauges for measuring heart rate and oxygen levels, and can be used when starting IV lines, inserting breathing tubes and more. Most importantly, a resuscitation system is integrated into the equipment for high-risk newborns.

A Giraffe incubator is used for premature and low birth weight babies. The nearly enclosed bed also has a built-in scale and controlled temperature, oxygen and humidity to help with infants' fragile skin. It provides a life-sustaining environment that fosters growth.

"It is the closest thing to an intra-uterine environment for these little fighters who left the nest too soon," Gene said.

The 15-bed NICU needs additional Panda and Giraffe units to replace current models.

"Having better, newer equipment helps enhance growth and development of low birth weight babies and makes our jobs easier knowing the babies are in a safe environment," Gene said.

Ascension Providence is preparing to enhance the NICU. Support from donors like you is needed for this endeavor, including equipment and technology. To learn more or make a gift, please call Kim Tyle at 248-465-4502.

*trademarks of General Electric Company

Family legacy lives on to help women's health

From special food on holidays to vacations together, many families have traditions. The three daughters of the late Norman and Charlotte Ulmer are carrying on their parents' tradition of supporting the memory and work of Arthur Ulmer, MD, a cherished relative and physician to their family and thousands of others.

They contributed a generous gift to the Arthur and Carolyn Ulmer Endowed Chair of Women's Health, a cause their father helped initiate in 2001 and supported until his death in 2007. Through a family foundation established after Norman's passing, his wife continued to give. After her loss in 2018, daughters Diane Cardillo, Linda Vernier and Donna Stewart are doing the same.

Dr. Ulmer was Norman's cousin and a longtime obstetrician/gynecologist and chief of staff at Ascension St. John. He dedicated his life to women's health, delivering more than 10,000 babies and sharing expertise with families. His wife Carolyn was an active Fontbonne Auxiliary member who volunteered in the hospital gift shop.

The Ulmer endowment was created through the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Ascension St. John with major gifts from Norman; the Mary G. Stange Charitable Trust and trustee David Stone; the Fontbonne; Mitchell Dombrowski, MD; Eastside Gynecology and Obstetrics; and many others. The purpose is to support research to improve women's healthcare and issues that can cause early death, and to reduce premature births and infant mortality.

Diane Cardillo, Norman and Charlotte's oldest daughter, said her father highly respected Dr. Ulmer and all he did for women's health and their family. He delivered Diane's sisters and several of Norman and Charlotte's grandchildren, and was always available for medical advice and care.

"Every time something happened with one of us, our dad said, 'Call Art!,'" Diane recalled. "Dr. Ulmer was very good to us. Our dad was grateful for what he contributed to our health."

Norman didn't come from wealth.

"Dad was hardworking, humble and grateful. He always said he was fortunate to have smart people surrounding him," Diane said. "He made a living as owner of Key Welder, a tool and die company that built machinery to make car parts, and



Charlotte and Norman Ulmer

it grew. Our mother was a traditional housewife who took care of us. Dad said she had the most important job."

Diane and her sisters feel their father would be pleased they are continuing to support the endowment, an effort their parents deeply believed in.

"It's a great cause," she said. "(Ascension) St. John has really grown and is an important part of the community."

Since its inception, the Arthur and Carolyn Ulmer Women's Health endowment has supported the hospital's public cord blood banking program, one of the largest umbilical cord blood stem cell collection centers in the U.S.

Endowment funds have purchased surgical simulators, including a da Vinci® robotic simulator and laparoscopic simulation equipment. This technology allows physicians to practice OB/GYN procedures, allowing for safer transition to live surgeries.

The endowment also supports the hospital's mission program in Africa and South America. Missions provide medical care to underserved populations and give OB/GYN residents experience in procedures and complications now uncommon in the U.S. Funds also support research for conditions such as diabetes and obesity in pregnancy.

Loyal physician supports future of family medicine



Darrell and Cherolee Trembath

After over 36 years of dedicated service to Ascension Providence Hospital, Cherolee “Cherie” Trembath, MD, and her husband Darryl have left a legacy to further educational opportunities for the newest family medicine physicians.

Dr. Trembath knew she wanted to be a doctor since she was 8 years old. “In 1969, when I was a high school junior, my mother gave me an article from the *Denver Post*,” she recalled. “It was celebrating the establishment of a new specialty, family practice. After reading the article, I knew that was the kind of doctor I wanted to be!”

When Dr. Trembath began her career with Ascension Providence Hospital Family Medicine, it was a department of 23 members. With growth of the residency program, the department now has over 100 physicians providing primary care to surrounding communities.

“I have great confidence referring my patients, friends and family for medical care at (Ascension) Providence. I know they’ll get outstanding care and a special kindness from the

associates carrying out the hospital’s Mission,” said Dr. Trembath. “I came to the hospital at the suggestion of my residency director, but I stayed because of the Values – Service of the poor, Reverence, Integrity, Wisdom, Creativity and Dedication.”

Cherie and Darryl have given to Ascension Providence Foundation in the past, but this time they wanted to help the hospital continue its Mission far into the future. They made a planned gift to create a legacy to benefit future generations of young physicians.

“Also, we felt it was a good example to our children on the importance of taking care of our community,” Dr. Trembath said. “We chose to leave a percentage of our estate, which was easy to do by just adding one line to our will.”

The Trembaths directed their gift toward the Family Medicine Endowment, an initiative that provides a scholarship annually to a promising student who matches into Ascension Providence’s Family Medicine residency program. Dr. Trembath spearheaded the Family Medicine Endowment campaign to combat concerns about the high levels of debt family medicine residents incur, from \$200,000 to \$400,000. In studies of career choice, it is evident high debt load discourages students from considering family medicine, one of the lowest-paid specialties. At the same time, the need for family physicians far exceeds the number of students entering the specialty.

The Family Medicine Endowment funds one \$20,000 scholarship per year and provides additional support for educational needs of faculty and residents. The scholarship was created to encourage students to enter family medicine and remain at the hospital as attending physicians. Currently, the Family Medicine department consists of more than 50 percent of the hospital’s own family medicine graduates. The intent is to maintain or increase this retention rate.

Darryl and Cherie, who met as undergraduates at Michigan State University, have always been in sync about the importance of stewardship of the gifts they have been given in life. Darryl taught business classes at Schoolcraft College for 30 years. The most enjoyable part for him was mentoring students as they navigated from adolescence to adulthood, learning to make good decisions and take responsibility for their lives.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

“My husband and I have been blessed with wonderful riches — rewarding careers, more money than we need, lovely children and grandchildren, close friends and a caring community. We believe in intentional giving to share God’s love with the world. We get great joy from seeing others benefit from our blessings,” said Dr. Trembath. “Ascension Providence is a natural place for our gifts. Our connection with the Values is a perfect fit. We know our gifts will be used with good stewardship to support medical care that is compassionate and striving toward social justice.”

The couple looks forward to slowing down in retirement, connecting more with their children, grandchildren and friends, and traveling. They will continue to volunteer for their church, community and Ascension Providence. Dr. Trembath is enjoying her role on the Ascension Providence Foundation Board of Trustees.

To learn more about the Family Medicine Endowment or planned giving methods, please call Natalie Reilly-Finch at 248-465-5008.

First scholarship winner awarded

Congratulations to Gavin Taylor (pictured at right), the first Ascension Providence medical student to receive a \$20,000 scholarship from the Family Medicine Endowment.

“This generous scholarship has helped connect me with an outstanding Family Medicine residency program, eased my financial burden, and supported my interest in reducing health inequities,” he said. “I am one step closer to becoming a primary care physician thanks to the support of the scholarship program.”

The Family Medicine Endowment has been widely supported.

“I’ve been amazed by the generosity of our medical staff, grateful patients and the health system and am thankful others have seen our vision and felt moved to help us get close to our fundraising goal,” Dr. Trembath said. “Dr. Karen Mitchell was key to initiating this important endowment. The scholarships are an ideal way for Ascension Providence to build the future of our Family Medicine department.”



Gifts supporting specialized stroke care help patients and families



Stroke Coordinator Makenzie Thimm, stroke survivor Maryel Alger and caregiver Ashonda Fields celebrate a victory at Stroke Camp.

Every four seconds, someone in the U.S. has a stroke, and someone dies from a stroke every four minutes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Since the chances of stroke survival and recovery are greater when emergency treatment begins quickly, timely access to highly specialized care is critical.

Fortunately, Ascension St. John Hospital is a Certified Comprehensive Stroke Center. It's one of just 11 hospitals state-wide to receive this top designation from The Joint Commission. Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi, received certification as a Comprehensive Stroke Center in April.

"We handle the most complex stroke cases and provide a level of care non-certified hospitals don't offer," said Makenzie Thimm, MSN, AGACNP-BC,

CCRN, Nurse Practitioner and Stroke Coordinator, Ascension St. John. "Stroke treatment has changed drastically. Besides offering clot-busting drugs, we can remove clots from a patient's brain in some cases. We can also stop bleeding in the brain from a ruptured aneurysm. Our nurses have a higher level of stroke education, and we provide a collaborative, multidisciplinary team approach."

Ascension St. John treats about 700 stroke patients per year, including transfers from outlying communities. The stroke center is a vital resource for the African American population, who are at twice the risk of stroke than Caucasians.

To provide the highest standard of clinical service, Ascension St. John is creating a new dedicated stroke unit.

The 22-bed unit will open by late 2019 on 1 East and focus on meeting individualized patient needs, decreasing hospital stay and enhancing their outcomes.

"The unit will include a rehab center for physical, occupational and speech therapy," Makenzie said. "The earlier a patient starts rehab, the better. We want more patients to resume their lives at home than go to a nursing facility."

The renovated area for the unit will include a dedicated patient-family lounge. It will be named for the Fontbonne Auxiliary, which raised over \$100,000 at its 2018 White Christmas Ball to support the stroke program.

"The stroke center doesn't have a space for family members now, but we know they don't want to be separated from their loved ones," Makenzie said. "In the lounge, family can decompress and be nearby for a physician consultation. We want to care for families along with patients."

Longtime donors Joyce and Dick Thams understand the importance of continuous education for staff. Recently, they made a generous gift to ensure stroke center clinicians and nurses have funding for educational initiatives to help them provide enhanced care.

Ascension also considers the needs of stroke survivors and their caregivers. Last October, Ascension St. John sponsored its first annual Retreat & Refresh Stroke Camp. The weekend-long event allows survivors to engage in fun activities while learning to cope with stroke challenges.

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9

“Survivors enjoy reconnecting with us,” said Makenzie, who volunteered at the camp with several colleagues. “We review stroke causes and prevention. We also do fun activities like bonfires, swimming and crafts. For many, the camp is a life-changing experience that

supports them through recovery. And as volunteers, we learn how to better engage and communicate with patients and families.”

She added, “Caregivers also receive support at the camp. One woman said it

was the first time she’d had a hot meal since her husband had a stroke. We learn what caregivers need and share resources with them.”

To support stroke care or the camp, please call Stan Simek at 313-343-7702.

Dedicated doctor supports staff education

A longtime physician on the Ascension St. John Hospital medical staff made a generous donation to assist radiology imaging technologists with education opportunities. Radiologist Rojanandham Samudrala, MD, FACR, Section Chief of Pediatric Radiology, Ascension St. John, and Clinical Associate Professor, Wayne State University, and his wife created the Dr. Rojan and Mrs. Bhagya Samudrala Imaging People and Support Group Education Endowed Fund.

Endowed funds are invested to generate earnings on the principal, and an amount is distributed annually as specified by the donor.

“God gave the gift of education to us; that is why we are here. So, we want to spread education opportunities to our associates in the Ascension St. John Imaging Center,” said Dr. Samudrala.

Samuel Jefferson, an Imaging Technologist in Radiology since 2004, is the first recipient of the annual education award. He was selected from applicants based on performance, attitude and desire to continue education.

“I’m very honored to receive this award,” Samuel said. “It meant a lot for Dr. Samudrala to set up this fund out of the kindness of his heart. He and his wife generously chose to do something to help out the staff.”

Samuel, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in biology, said, “Every little bit helps. I used the award funds to pay for a class at Macomb Community College.”

Samuel recently became a CT scan Radiology Technologist. “I’m grateful for the opportunity, and I’d like to thank Dr. Samudrala and the Eastpointe Radiologists group for being so supportive of the imaging staff,” he said.

To support the endowment, please call 313-343-7480.



Samuel Jefferson (seated) is pictured with Anthony Alcantara, MD, Chairman of Radiology, Ascension St. John Hospital; Dr. Samudrala; and Theresa Sasiela, Manager, Imaging Services.

Cancer takes more than your health, Believe in Miracles Fund can help

For John Wenderlich, liver cancer wasn't his first serious medical condition. He was 39 years old when he was diagnosed with hemochromatosis. The hereditary disorder causes your body to absorb too much iron from food, storing it in your organs, especially the heart, liver and pancreas. This can lead to life-threatening conditions, such as liver disease, heart problems and diabetes. John was in fact diagnosed with diabetes at the same time.

Because of John's hemochromatosis and other ailments, he was tested for liver cancer yearly. In June 2018, Michael Jacobs, MD, a general surgeon on staff at Ascension Providence Hospital, found a spot on John's liver. After an MRI confirmed a large mass on the liver, John's gallbladder was removed so surgeons could access the cancerous tumor.

Following surgery, John, now age 57, came to the Assarian Cancer Center at Ascension Providence, Novi, for six weeks of radiation on his liver and pancreas. "Throughout everything, the doctors and nurses were great, and I was doing well," John said.

But with ongoing health issues, John couldn't return to work. Bills were piling up, and he was overwhelmed and worried. So, John contacted Jenny Bailey, a Social Worker at the Assarian Cancer Center.

Through the Believe in Miracles Fund, Jenny assisted John. The fund helps cancer patients struggling with financial burdens by providing emergency monetary assistance for



John Wenderlich meets with Jenny Bailey, Social Worker, at the Assarian Cancer Center.

essential living needs during oncology treatment. With funds from Believe in Miracles, Jenny paid John's utility and car insurance bills.

"Believe in Miracles is a blessing when it's needed most," John said. "Now I can focus on my health and don't have to worry about my bills. I am very fortunate and excited to help people learn about this program. It's all about paying it forward."

The Believe in Miracles Fund is supported solely through donations and philanthropic efforts. This year, proceeds from the Friends' Ball as well as the Providence Golf Classic are benefiting this important program. To learn more or make a gift directly to the fund, please call 248-465-5000.

Police grow beards for cancer patients



Members of the Novi Police Department grew beards for the month of "Movember" and raised funds in honor of cancer awareness and men's health. They donated \$3,000 to support Ascension Providence Hospital's Believe in Miracles Fund, which helps cancer patients struggling financially while undergoing treatment. Hospital leadership, including Joseph Hurshe, Ascension Providence Hospital President (pictured, center), hosted a coffee hour to thank the officers for their generosity.

‘Taking a Shot at Breast Cancer’ supports local patients

When Emily and Steve Goudy’s close friend was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer in 2010, the news hit the couple hard and they wanted to help. They came up with the idea for the “Taking a Shot at Breast Cancer” human breast cancer ribbon and calendar to raise funds to support breast cancer patients.

In this effort, cancer survivors, their families and friends dress in pink, gather at a park and form a human pink ribbon. Event photos are used in the calendar, which is sold to raise funds for local cancer causes. Emily said the human ribbon “signifies community involvement and togetherness, celebrating the fight against breast cancer.”

When the Goudys’ first attempt at the human ribbon and calendar was successful, they continued it annually. They added a 5k run and 2-mile walk and a “Badges and Bras” event as fundraisers.

From the Goudys’ efforts, the “Taking a Shot at Breast Cancer” fund was established through the Community



Emily and Steve Goudy present \$10,000 to Ascension River District Hospital.

Foundation of St. Clair County to support organizations that assist breast cancer patients. This year, the Goudys chose Ascension River District Hospital to receive a \$10,000 donation for the Breast Services Patient Fund that provides funding for mammograms and other breast care services for people with limited financial resources.

The Goudys’ goal is to keep their support in St. Clair County, where Emily has a photography business and Steve is a firefighter and works at a paper company. “Taking a Shot at Breast Cancer” has raised over \$50,000.



The recently renovated Infusion Center, Breast Services Patient Fund and digital breast tomosynthesis technology (3D mammography) are helping Ascension River District Hospital patients receive the best possible care. Proceeds from last year’s “An Evening to Share” dinner dance raised funds for the new Infusion Center, where Georgia Pizzimenti (pictured) receives treatment.

Longtime volunteer leaves legacy of dedication and generosity

Malcolm “Mal” Hanson made a great impact on those around him through his work ethic, integrity, attention to detail, dedication and generosity. From serving in World War II, through his career at General Motors Tech Center, to volunteering at Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, he lived a life of service.

He was beloved by patients and staff at the hospital, where he volunteered for over 20 years. Mal and his wife Shirley began volunteering in 1996 after Mal retired. Shirley was a hospitality greeter/hostess for Outpatient Registration; Mal volunteered in the Inpatient Pharmacy and served on the Volunteer Auxiliary board as legislative chair. He accumulated over 11,000 hours volunteering.

“Mal was a gem,” said Terry Hamilton, President, Ascension Macomb-Oakland. “He was particular and timely, reliable and dedicated, and intellectually curious. He helped us raise funds for the hospital’s great work and people. He was uniquely resilient and devoted. It did not surprise me to learn Mal never missed a day of work.”

“I was privileged to work with Mal on a number of projects and to know him a very long time,” said Sallie Hock, Volunteer Auxiliary President. “He stands out as one of the most active persons I’ve ever known. He was a member of many groups (in the community). In his later years at the hospital, he was the creator of greeting cards for patients for every holiday and for physicians for Doctors’ Day. Mal was a jewel and very dedicated. When he worked on a job, you knew it was right.”

Mal’s dedication to Ascension Macomb-Oakland went beyond volunteering. Shirley’s care at the hospital during her cancer illness inspired him to donate over \$25,000 to fund the Shirley A. Hanson Cancer Endowment. Interest from the invested principal supports cancer survivorship and breast cancer programs in the Webber Cancer Center.

Together 54 years, Mal and Shirley had five children, 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. After losing



Mal Hanson at a McQuade Society event last year

Shirley in 2001, Mal found love again a few years later and married Marie; the couple had 12 years together before Marie died in 2015.

Mal stayed active until his death at age 95 in 2018. Besides volunteer service milestones at the hospital, he was honored in the community. Mal received a “Golden Oldies” award for volunteers age 80 and older who make a significant impact on the lives of others. He also received an Outstanding Volunteer Recognition Award from the city of Warren.

To support the endowment Mal created, please contact Stan Simek at 313-343-7702.

Husband memorializes wife with gift for hospital unit that cared for her



Tim Deuby, BSN, RN, Clinical Nurse Manager, ICU and CSCU, Ascension Providence; Sister Joan Drega, DC; Sai Kastury and Sara Thompson, Chief Development Officer, Ascension Providence Foundation, with the new plaque honoring Malathi Kastury

When you lose someone you love, memories are precious, and you want to keep them alive in your hearts and minds long after they're gone. Some people do something special to honor them.

Seshasai (Sai) Kastury did just that when he made a gift to Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi, where his beloved wife Malathi was cared for during her illness. Malathi had ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. This progressive neurodegenerative disease affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

During her illness, Malathi was hospitalized several times in the Intensive Care Unit on the Novi campus. Sai wanted to express his gratitude for the care she received, so he made a generous donation to benefit the ICU. In recognition of his gift and to memorialize his wife, a plaque was created for display outside the room where Malathi was cared for in her last days. A tree on the Novi campus was also planted and dedicated in Malathi's memory. In addition, Sai provided a lunch for the ICU staff who cared for his wife.

To learn how you can make a gift to memorialize a loved one, please call 248-465-5000 or 313-343-7480.

Volunteers donate time and funds to hospital

Volunteers provide an invaluable service to many organizations. At Ascension Providence Hospital, Southfield and Novi campuses, nearly 700 volunteers donated over 62,000 hours of service during the past year.

Besides volunteering in many areas, Our Lady of Providence League (OLPL) and Providence Park League (PPL) volunteers raise funds for the hospital through gift shop proceeds, fundraising sales and membership dues. Both leagues recently presented generous semi-annual donations to leaders at Ascension Providence.

OLPL donated \$70,000, of which \$30,000 was designated for a Workplace Violence Prevention initiative, and \$40,000 toward its \$500,000 pledge for renovation of the Cancer Center in Southfield.

PPL donated \$60,000 for Cardiac Rehabilitation equipment, teen scholarships, cancer patient needs and an installment of its \$1.5 million pledge for the Novi hospital construction.

Thank you!



From left: Sara Thompson, Chief Development Officer, Ascension Providence Foundation; Brent Lewis, Regional Safety Officer; Jeff Tinsman, Manager, Security & Safety Services; Joseph Hurshe, Ascension Providence President; Jim Hynes, OLPL President; Mary Roberts, Gift Shop Lead; Bill Platts, Administration Security & Safety; Rosemary Lowry, Manager, Emergency department, Ascension Providence, Southfield; Margaret Klobucar, Ascension Providence COO; and Aisha Afana, Manager, Emergency department, Ascension Providence, Novi

Announcements

New board member named



Robert Nemzin is a new member of the Ascension Providence Foundation Board of Trustees. An attorney for Butzel Long, he concentrates in the areas of estate and succession planning. Robert also has extensive experience in sophisticated tax

planning techniques, including dynasty trusts, life insurance trusts, charitable trusts, family limited partnerships and limited liability companies.

New associates join Foundations



Michele Harding joined Ascension St. John Foundation as a Donor Relations Consultant to assist Beth Carter with the McQuade Society, which has experienced tremendous growth. She is working alongside Beth over the next few

months to learn the unique services provided to our most loyal supporters. Michele is a registered nurse who has worked at Ascension for over 14 years in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Ascension St. John Hospital and Ascension Providence Hospital, Southfield. Her interpersonal skills assisting families during vulnerable times will be an asset in her new role.



Emma Honsowetz is the new Donor Relations Consultant for Ascension Providence Foundation. Her responsibilities include the Providence Society and implementing a new program for concierge services and the Suites at Providence. Emma is

also working with gift officers to enhance society stewardship and donor recognition. She was an intern for the Foundation and is a graduate of Western Michigan University.



Michael Palmer joined Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations as the Annual Giving Consultant to provide management and creative direction to build the annual giving program. He has a background in business development management

and sales to healthcare systems. Michael has served on several nonprofit boards and committees.



Kimberly Tyle joined Ascension Providence Foundation as Senior Development Officer. Her primary focus is on the Novi area communities and fundraising for Oncology, Orthopedics, Women's/Children's Services, Emergency Services, Senior

Services and Community Outreach/Wellness. Previously, Kim worked for the Children's Miracle Network at Beaumont Health; prior to that, she held hospitality management roles.



Leave a legacy

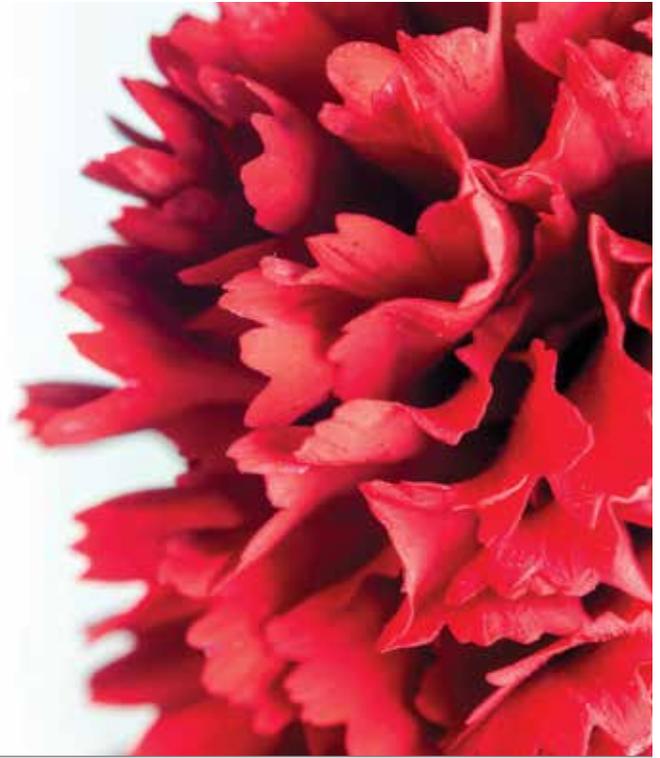
You can make a difference in the health of your community, create a legacy and perhaps achieve tax benefits by making a planned gift. Bequests, charitable gift annuities, retirement plan assets and life insurance are just some ways you can help us fulfill our Mission for generations to come.

If you have included, or would like to include, Ascension Southeast Michigan in your estate plans, or wish to learn more, please call us at 313-343-7480 or 248-465-5000 or email planned.giving@ascension.org.

National Doctors' Day

Patients honor physicians with heartfelt tributes

When it comes to your health, a doctor can be your trusted advisor, partner and even your hero. In celebration of National Doctors' Day (March 30), 198 patients and family members recognized 210 physicians with personal tributes and donated more than \$13,000 to Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals and programs in their honor.



Here is a sampling of tributes to doctors:

Anjana Barad, MD: I truly cannot thank you enough for your compassion, advice and care for me and my whole family. You are an inspiration and the most caring doctor I've ever had.

Laura Biernat, MD: Thank you for taking time with each patient, never rushing. I appreciate the fact you write down notes for me, make illustrations and make something complicated easy to understand. You are the best!

Lindgareddy Devireddy, MD: Dr. Devireddy is an angel in a white coat. If it wasn't for him, I would not be alive. I trust him with my life and can talk with him about anything bothering me.

Mark Kaminski, MD: Thank you for all the time and attention you give to my healthcare. I take comfort in knowing I am in good hands!

Jeffrey Lukas, MD: We appreciate how you keep up on medical advancements and your caring attitude. You are always patient with our questions and do not rush us. Thank you for many years of care.

Manisha Parikh, MD: You have been an incredible blessing to my family. Your kindness, humor and expertise have helped my children in so many ways. We are thankful to have such a wonderful pediatrician. You have given us peace of mind.

Hiroshi Yamasaki, MD: Words are powerful but sometimes even those are not enough! This is one of those times! Please accept our humble thank you!

Jamal Zarghami, MD: Thank you for years of expert care and attention to the well-being of my heart. You give me the faith and confidence to take charge of my health and complete my calling to love and serve others.

Thank you to all our physicians and those who recognized them. To honor your physician, please call Heidi Crisman at 248-465-4511.

Your event support enhances patient care

Flew Shot: The 7th annual invitational event raised more than \$100,000 to benefit the Surgical and Pediatric Services Expansion Project at Ascension St. John Hospital. Thank you to the Cotton family for hosting the event, held Oct. 12, 2018, at Fox Hollow Farms, Metamora. Thank you also to presenting sponsors Cheryl Wesen, MD, and Richard Baumgarten, MD.



The Argent International and Argent Tape & Label teams featured Top Gun Champion and Top Male Shooter, James Beesley (standing, third from left); and Top Female Shooter, Nicole Saltmarche (front row, at right).

Fontbonne Auxiliary White Christmas Ball: The 65th annual event, with a “Believe in Miracles” theme, raised over \$100,000 in net proceeds for the stroke program at Ascension St. John. Held at the Detroit Athletic Club on Nov. 30, 2018, 410 guests attended. Raymond Bauer, MD; Paul Cullis, MD; and William Ventimiglia, MD, were honored for their work saving and rehabilitating stroke patients.



Event Chair Gail Kachadourian Howe and Fontbonne President Pam Meyer

To see more event photos, visit: [flickr.com/photos/sjpfoundations/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/sjpfoundations/albums).

Event benefits new literacy program

The Holley Institute has provided services for thousands of Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing people and their families for over 25 years. Trained volunteers have screened more than 60,000 newborns for hearing loss at Ascension St. John Hospital. These services are a result of community support.

The Holley Institute implemented Community Health Literacy, an initiative in which trained mentors visit children’s homes and work with families on early intervention and literacy. Proceeds from Holley’s annual St. Nicholas Christmas Dinner Party and a \$25,000 donation from the Tersigni Family Foundation benefited the program.



At the St. Nicholas event are: Daniel Megler, MD, of Lakeshore Ear, Nose and Throat Center, and Board Chair, The Holley Institute; Edward Christian; Judith Christian, Board Member, The Holley Institute; Ardis Gardella, President, The Holley Institute; and Dennis Bojrab, MD, Michigan Ear Institute.

Thank you to our event sponsors

The sponsors listed below supported Ascension St. John Hospital at the Flew Shot event. Thank you for your generosity!

- All State Fastener
- Argent International
- Argent Tape & Label
- Benelli
- The Cotton Family
- Peter & Camille Cracchiolo Family
- The Cytacki Family
- DeMaria
- GetixHealth
- LoVasco Consulting Group
- The Littmann Family
- Medstar Ambulance
- MI Head & Spine
- PVS Chemicals
- Cheryl Wesen, MD and Richard Baumgarten, MD

Pewabic tile cross dedicated to honor donors

A beautiful Pewabic tile cross was installed in the Moross Market Café at Ascension St. John Hospital. The impressive cross stands 9½ feet wide by 11½ feet high and is visible from the main hallway on the ground floor.

Peter T. and Camille Cracchiolo made a gift to Ascension St. John Foundation on behalf of their family to dedicate the cross in memory of Peter's parents, Peter J. and Connie Cracchiolo. A blessing of the cross by Pastoral Care staff was held with Peter T. and Camille's family attending.

Peter T. served as a trustee with the Ascension St. John Foundation Board and as interim President of the Foundation in 2016.



Camille and Peter Cracchiolo (center) with their family

ASCENSION ST. JOHN AND PROVIDENCE FOUNDATIONS
Mack Office Building, Suite 102
22101 Moross Road
Detroit, MI 48236

PRE SORTED
NON PROFIT MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
ST. JOHN HEALTH

Spirit of Giving is a publication of Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations for donors and friends in the community.

Editor: Kathy Torick
Designer: Debra Hoban

If you prefer to be removed from the mailing list, write to:
Newsletter Editor
Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations
Mack Office Building,
Suite 102
22101 Moross Road
Detroit, MI 48236
or call 248-465-4511.

Save the Date

For details, call 313-343-4530 or visit stjohnprovfoundations.org/events, unless otherwise indicated.



Providence Golf Classic

June 3

Indianwood Golf and Country Club, Lake Orion

Benefiting Ascension Providence Hospital Care of the Poor programs, including the Believe in Miracles Fund and Infant Mortality Program



Macomb-Oakland Golf Outing

Aug. 19

Plum Hollow Country Club, Southfield

Benefiting equipment and facility upgrades of the Labor & Delivery Unit at Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren



Climb to Beat Breast Cancer - Whitetop Mountain Challenge

June 29

Whitetop Mountain, Virginia

Benefiting Ascension Southeast Michigan Breast Care Program



Ascension St. John Medical Staff/ GUILD Golf Outing

Sept. 9

Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods

Benefiting Ascension St. John Hospital
Call 313-343-3675 for details



Taste Fest

July 22

Jimmy John's Field, Utica

Benefiting the renovation and expansion of the Webber Cancer Center at Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren



Fontbonne Auxiliary White Christmas Ball

Dec. 7

The Dearborn Inn, Dearborn

Benefiting Ascension St. John Hospital
Call 313-343-3675 for details

If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals and entities, please call 313-343-7480.