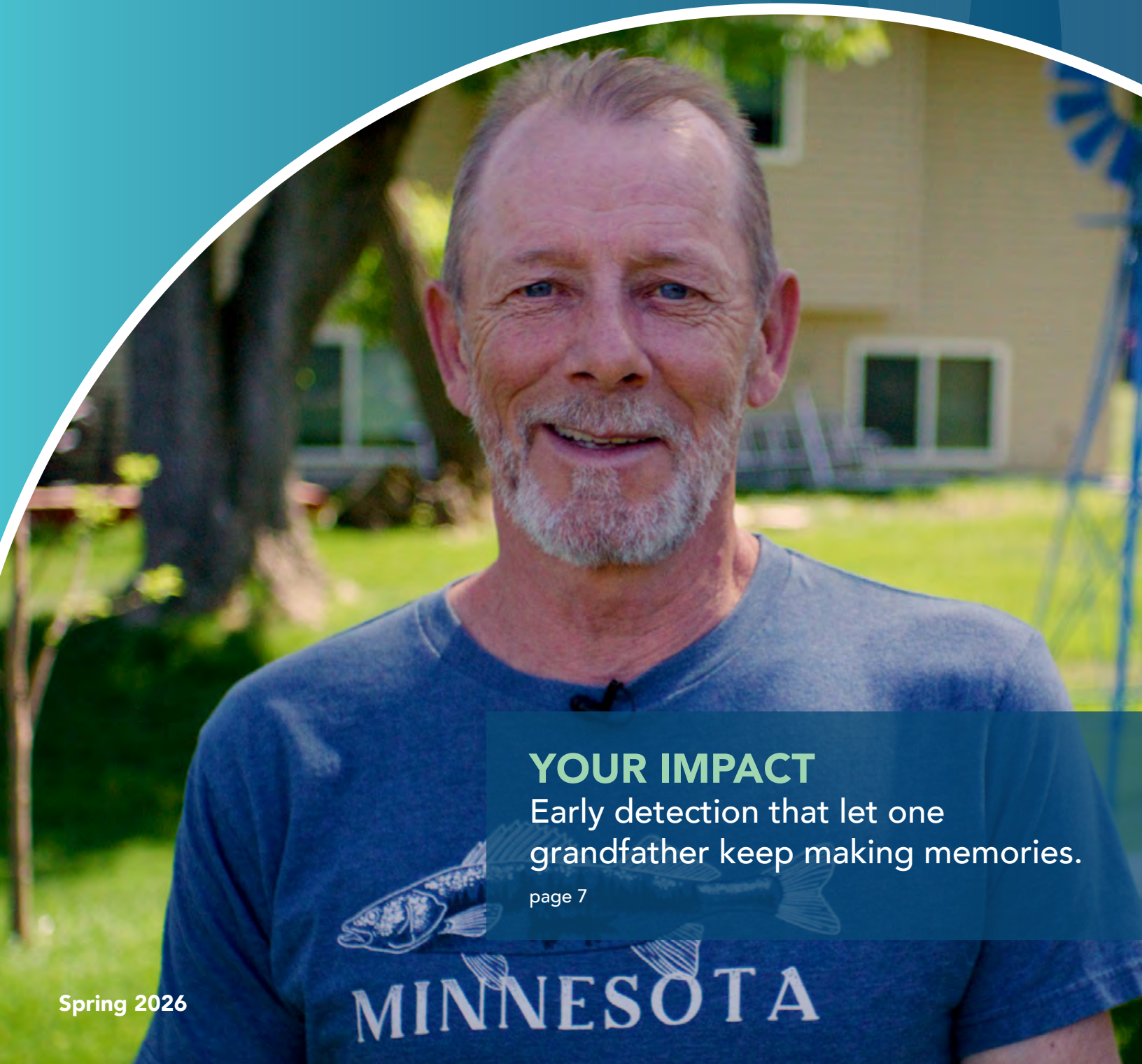


Connect & Care

An Allina Health Foundation Impact Report



YOUR IMPACT

Early detection that let one grandfather keep making memories.

page 7

Welcome



Dear Friends,

Spring always feels like a fresh start to me. The days get a little longer, the air feels a little lighter, and there's a sense of possibility that's hard to miss. As I look at the year ahead and at the stories in this issue of Connect & Care, I'm reminded how much possibility you create every single day.

One story that really stayed with me is Jim's. A simple lung screening caught his cancer early, giving him the chance to keep making memories with his grandkids. And now, thanks to support from the Otto Bremer

Trust, our new LIFE mobile lung screening unit is bringing that same chance for early detection to people across Minnesota.

That same theme shows up across our system. At New Ulm Medical Center, donors helped bring local history to life in Café Loretto. In the Twin Cities, the Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center is getting closer to opening its doors, an investment that will truly shape care for years to come. And at Courage Kenny, spring means another season of adaptive sports, where volunteers, athletes, and families fill the gym with the kind of energy and community spirit that sticks with you.

There's meaningful work happening at the Vanderboom Simulation Center as well. Because of donors, thousands of learners are practicing life-saving skills in a realistic environment that builds confidence long before they step into a patient room.

This season of growth also includes an important step for our organization. Earlier this month, Allina Health signed a Letter of Intent to join Sutter Health. I want you to hear directly from me that our commitment to you, and to honoring every donor's intent, remains rock solid. What won't change is our identity, our leadership, or the local care you support. What will change is our ability to strengthen and expand the work you make possible. This integration gives us an opportunity to meet rising needs with the same compassion and excellence you've always stood behind.

As you read through this issue, I hope you feel just how much your generosity matters. These aren't just programs or projects. They're people—families, patients, neighbors—whose lives look different because you chose to give.

Thank you for your kindness, your trust, and your belief in what's possible. If this is how 2026 is beginning, I'm excited for what the rest of the year will bring.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Troy Lindloff". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Troy Lindloff
Vice President and Chief Development Officer

See how your generosity is changing lives

You powered a year of healing and hope in 2025 bringing care closer and creating life changing moments for patients and families across our region. Thank you for everything you made possible. Late last year, you received a short video honoring your impact. [Rewatch it anytime.](#)

ANW Northern Lights

Thank you to Pharmacist Macy Pearl Alexander for capturing this beautiful photo of the Northern Lights over our campus and the Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center.



Your Impact. Our Future.

Strengthening our future together

As we look ahead to spring and summer, a time of renewal and growth, we're entering an important new chapter for Allina Health. Earlier this month, our Board of Directors approved a Letter of Intent (LOI) to join Sutter Health, a mission-driven nonprofit health system known for high-quality care across Northern and Central California. This strategic integration is designed to strengthen local healthcare for years to come while keeping our roots, identity, and community focus firmly here at home.

For our donors, one message is clear and unwavering: your generosity, your intent, and your impact remain fully protected. All donor commitments and restricted funds will continue to support the people, programs, and communities you care about across Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Philanthropy will remain fully local, guided by the same values and stewardship you trust today. Allina Health will also continue operating under our name and brand, with our headquarters, leadership teams, and care sites remaining in the communities we proudly serve.

Healthcare systems across the country are facing rising costs, staffing shortages, and growing demand for services.

Joining Sutter Health positions Allina Health to address these challenges with strength and stability. Their commitment to invest more than \$2 billion in our region would help us:

- Expand ambulatory and specialty care locations
- Support and recruit exceptional caregivers
- Improve digital tools and appointment access
- Advance research, clinical trials, and innovative care models

While due diligence and formal approvals will continue throughout 2026, our work remains in service to our communities. Philanthropy will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the opportunities ahead, just as it has guided nearly every major advancement in Allina Health's history.

We are grateful for your trust and your commitment to creating a healthier future for all. As we move forward, we will continue to provide updates and be available to answer your questions. Thank you for your confidence in the work we do. We're grateful for your partnership and will continue to keep you updated as we move forward.

All Together Better

2025

BY THE NUMBERS

Over 1,158,000

patients & clients served plus countless loved ones & community members benefiting from Allina Health.



5,957

donors made gifts



1,211

new donors this year



\$39.6M

granted throughout Allina Health



299

grants awarded in support of the work of Allina Health



\$28.68M

in charitable gifts raised

A Legacy of Care



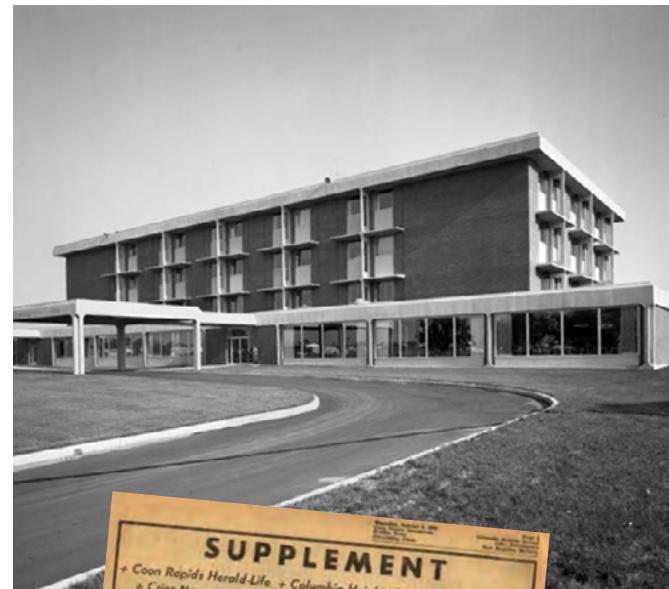
Unity Hospital: 50 years of care close to home

In the 1950s, the northern suburbs of the Twin Cities were rapidly growing. Central Avenue in Fridley was a two-lane road with dirt shoulders, and East River Road turned into a muddy obstacle course after rain. Yet young families moved in undeterred—until emergencies struck.

One such moment came when little Randy Wall, recovering from tonsil surgery at home in Mounds View, began to bleed. His terrified parents rushed him through rough roads to a hospital in downtown Minneapolis. Randy recovered, and so did the roads but his mother, Betty Wall, was determined that future families in the North Metro wouldn't have to make that harrowing drive for emergency care. Betty joined forces with other residents in the newly formed North Suburban Hospital District to advocate for a hospital that would serve their growing community. Their vision became reality when Unity Hospital was dedicated on **May 1, 1966**.

The name "Unity" was chosen by community vote in 1960, inspired by the word "community" itself a reflection of the hospital's founding spirit. Now, 50 years later, Unity Hospital continues to fulfill that promise: providing top-level care close to home. From its humble beginnings to its current role as a vital part of Allina Health, Unity has grown alongside the community it serves. It remains a place where compassion, innovation, and healing come together.

We honor the legacy of our founder and first president, Betty J. Wall, whose vision and leadership helped shape healthcare in the North Metro. And we thank our donors, whose generosity ensures that Unity Hospital continues to thrive and evolve to meet the needs of future generations.



The Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center: Preparing for a seamless opening

The exterior signs are officially up on the Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center! Each new milestone brings us closer to opening our state-of-the-art surgical facility. Read more about the new building, set to open in late August the Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center is entering its final chapter before opening to patients on Aug. 29. The building is fully enclosed, cranes have been removed from campus, and interior spaces are rapidly taking shape each designed to support exceptional care, advanced medicine, and healing experiences.

Planning for the move is already well underway. Months in advance of opening, clinical and operational teams are carefully coordinating every detail to ensure a safe, well-orchestrated transition for patients, families, and care teams.

“Thoughtful planning now allows us to deliver on the promise of this extraordinary facility from day one,” says Dr. Jean Watson, hospitalist and physician liaison.

“Our goal is to ensure a calm, seamless experience that reflects the excellence this building represents.”

Because of your generosity and vision, the Richard M. Schulze Surgical and Critical Care Center is poised to open its doors later this year, bringing the highest level of transformative surgical and critical care to our community for generations.



Donors support Minnesota's first mobile lung screening unit

Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S., but early detection can change everything. Thanks to the generosity of Otto Bremer Trust and our donors, the Allina Health Cancer Institute is now the first in Minnesota to bring mobile lung cancer screenings directly to patients.

The new LIFE (Lung Imaging For Early Detection) mobile unit delivers fast, low-dose CT scans. The first screenings are scheduled for April. A simple five-minute scan and 15-minute visit can give patients clarity and peace of mind. Each scan is read by expert radiologists, with results quickly shared with the patient's care team. This innovative unit brings lifesaving screening close to home and it's all possible because you believe in expanding access to exceptional care. LIFE now joins our mobile mammography truck, Mammo on the Move, strengthening our commitment to early cancer detection. Both mobile units were made possible by Otto Bremer Trust and our generous donors, whose support is helping ensure more Minnesotans catch cancer early, when it's most treatable.



Call 612-775-LUNG (5864) to discuss LIFE with a team member and make an appointment.

Your Impact

The Vanderboom Simulation Center leading the way in clinical excellence

The Vanderboom Simulation Center, part of the Whitney and Elizabeth MacMillan Community and Education Center which was made possible by the generosity of the Vanderboom family, has quickly become a cornerstone of clinical readiness at Allina Health. The vision to give care teams a state-of-the-art space to learn, practice, and strengthen critical skills has transformed how our care team members prepare for exceptional patient care.

In just two years, the Center, with five labs and adjacent control rooms, has served more than 20,000 learners across disciplines, from nursing and critical care to emergency response and cardiology. In 2025 alone, there were over 55,000 hours of training, reflecting the Center's remarkable growth and system-wide impact. Behind these numbers are powerful outcomes. After practicing emergency response scenarios in the Center, an Allina Health Cancer Institute team successfully saved a patient during a real cardiac arrest crediting their calm, coordinated response to recent simulation training. Enhanced simulations have also strengthened nurse readiness, reducing the time required before independent bedside practice. The Center has even supported community partners like the Minnesota Army National Guard, extending its impact beyond hospital walls.

As the Center enters its third year, it remains a hub of innovation and collaboration made possible by donors who believe in preparing teams to deliver safer, more confident care. To the Vanderboom family: thank you. Your generosity continues to shape every learner who trains here and every patient whose care is improved because of it.



“As a volunteer simulation actor, I’ve seen firsthand the direct impact training has on new RNs. The team makes it a space for true learning and collaboration, and it is a fantastic resource for ANW and Allina Health.”

Community Volunteer



Cancer Care

Honoring care that changes lives

When Trish Toro-Gabrys wanted to thank her care team at the Allina Health Cancer Institute, she chose a personal expression of gratitude: a painting created from hope, healing and reflection. A retired Spanish teacher and self-taught artist, Trish picked up her paintbrush and let instinct guide her. “I just went to the canvas and put on strokes of color,” she said. “It felt freeing.” As the painting took shape, Trish added bold leaves and flowers in shades of coral, green, and purple colors that reflect her love of nature and its connection to life itself. “Nature represents life for me,” she shared.

After a cancer diagnosis and major surgery in November 2020, during which nearly half of her liver was removed, painting became an important source of comfort and healing. Art offered space to process emotions and find meaning during her cancer journey. At her final follow-up CT scan late last year, Trish presented her care team with the painting she titled Be-Leaf in Hope. The name was inspired by her belief that hope matters especially during the most difficult moments. “You’ve got to believe in hope,” Trish said.



Her gift to her care team will be displayed at the Allina Health Cancer Institute serving as a lasting reminder of resilience, compassion and the healing power of care.

“I’m so thankful to the health staff who helped give me extra years of life,” Trish said. Stories like Trish’s are possible because donors like you believe in compassionate, expert cancer care. You help people receive not only advanced treatment, but the dignity and hope that make healing possible.

History on the walls at Café Loretto in New Ulm Medical Center

For more than 140 years, New Ulm Medical Center has been shaped by a community that shows up for one another. That shared history is now on display at Café Loretto, where a new donor-funded history wall features photos that reflect generations of care in New Ulm. Beginning in 1883, when the community came together to establish St. Alexander Hospital, local support has always been at the heart of health care in New Ulm. Because of your generous support, the stories, people and places that built New Ulm Medical Center will continue to be honored and shared for years to come.

Sam Engstrom, RN, a care team member in Oncology at New Ulm Medical Center, generously donated 13 adaptive sweaters for patients receiving cancer care. The sweaters feature discreet zippers that allow easy access for IVs, ports and blood pressure cuffs, helping patients stay comfortable during treatment. Sam’s thoughtful donation is a meaningful example of how employees live our mission and inspire compassion through everyday care.



Cancer Care

Cancer screening helps Jim man keep up with his grandkids

When you step inside Jim and Melissa Zempel's home, the walls are lined with framed photos that make one thing clear: family is everything. "Family is everything to me," Jim said. "Being there for them especially my young grandsons was my biggest motivation to get through all of this."

What began as a routine annual checkup with his primary care team eventually led Jim to the Allina Health Cancer Institute, where a simple screening changed the course of his life. Because Jim had smoked for many years the most common risk factor for developing lung cancer, his doctor recommended a lung cancer screening. "The majority of early-stage lung cancers don't produce any symptoms," explained thoracic surgeon Benjamin Zhang, MD. "That's why these scans are so important."

According to Anuja Sharma, MD, medical director of the lung cancer screening program, early detection truly makes the difference. "Within Allina, we have a very robust lung cancer screening program. The vast majority of cancers detected through screening are found in the early stage and have far better outcomes."

Jim was one of those patients. His CT scan caught an early-stage cancer that Dr. Zhang was able to surgically

remove. "That CT scan is such an easy procedure," Jim said. "It should be very important to people, especially smokers."

Today, Jim is smoke-free, fully recovered, and back to biking with his grandson, soaking in every moment with his family. "I was at the right place, at the right time, with the right people at Allina Health," Jim said. "I'm forever grateful."

Donors make early detection possible for more patients like Jim. Jim's story is one example of how early detection saves lives and donors are helping expand that impact even further. The Allina Health Cancer Institute is the first in Minnesota to bring mobile lung cancer screening directly to patients. The new LIFE (Lung Imaging for Early Detection) mobile unit, along with our Mammo on the Move mobile mammography truck were made possible through the generosity of Otto Bremer Trust and our donors. Because of you, more people can receive essential screenings to detecting cancer early when treatment is most effective and more stories like Jim's become possible.



Honoring excellence in Women's Health

We're proud to congratulate 32 Allina Health physicians recognized as 2026 Top Doctors for Women by Minnesota Monthly. Nominated by their peers and spanning a variety of specialties, their work reflects the very best of Allina Health's excellence in women's health care.

While these honors recognize individual physicians, they also highlight what can be accomplished when our community invests in health care. Donor support helps fuel research, attract exceptional talent, and expand access to high-quality, compassionate care for women and families across our region. Because of the passion and dedication of our physicians and the generosity of donors who believe in our mission Allina Health is All Together Better.



Partnership brings adapted toys and joy to kids

For more than a decade, Allina Health Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute and Cummins have partnered to bring creativity, accessibility and joy to children who benefit from adapted toys. Each year, Cummins engineers volunteer their time to unpack toys, add customized adaptations, and repackage them so they look untouched a small detail that makes a big difference for children receiving them. Physical and occupational therapists from Courage Kenny then distributed 700 toys to families.

While the most recent delivery happened in December, the effects are felt well beyond the holiday season. Therapists incorporate these toys into therapy plans, families use them throughout the year, and volunteers and engineers continue preparing for the next round of adaptations. It's not just a seasonal project, it's an ongoing commitment to ensuring every child can experience the power of play. Thank you, Cummins!

Runnings donation

Representatives from New Ulm and Springfield Runnings presented Oncology team members with a \$2,500 check in January, the highest it's been for 15 years in a row! They hosted its annual Ladies' Night event in October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. The AHCI New Ulm team participated by distributing cancer screening information and 5-gallon buckets to shoppers. All proceeds from the event benefit the Allina Health Foundation New Ulm - Cancer Care Fund to support local cancer care initiatives.



Caring for Community

ART *OF Possibilities*
ART SHOW & SALE

OPENING RECEPTION

TUESDAY | MAY 26, 2026 | 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute | Golden Valley



SAVE THE DATE

We invite you to join us for a special community event that brings together art, inspiration, and the generosity of supporters like you. Art of Possibilities Art Show & Sale, presented by **RBC Wealth Management**, showcases extraordinary artwork created exclusively by artists with disabilities.

Adaptive sports open doors all year long

For more than 40 years, Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute (CKRI) has opened doors to possibility through adaptive sports. Across all seasons, athletes of all ages and abilities discover strength, confidence, and community through programs ranging from wheelchair basketball and Nordic skiing to cycling, golf, rock climbing, power soccer, and competitive swimming. Each sport is adapted to support independence and whole-person well-being.

The outcomes are powerful. Many participants uncover new skills, reconnect with activities they love, or grow toward competitive aspirations, some even advancing to national and international events, including the Paralympics. But just as meaningful are the everyday wins: increased mobility, new friendships, and the joy of moving in ways that feel empowering.

These experiences are made possible thanks to donors and volunteers. Donor generosity ensures year-round access by providing specialized equipment, trained staff, and community programming across multiple metro locations. Volunteers bring the heart, energy, and hands-on support that make each program thrive.

In 2025 alone, more than 800 volunteers contributed over 17,000 hours, helping athletes train, compete, and enjoy active recreation. From assisting with Nordic ski outings

to supporting fast-paced summer tournaments, volunteers are critical partners in creating safe, inclusive, and fun experiences.

“We rely a lot on the skills and training of our volunteers to help provide support or adaptations as needed,” says Ryan Trench, Sports & Recreation Supervisor. CKRI welcomes volunteers of all experience levels and works carefully to match each person with opportunities that fit their interests and strengths.

As spring arrives and a new season gets underway, there’s no better time to get involved. When you volunteer with CKRI Adaptive Sports & Recreation, you’re helping participants live, work, and play to their fullest potential. To explore adaptive sports and learn how to volunteer, visit the [CKRI Adaptive Sports & Recreation Opportunities page](#).



Excellence in Innovation

Expanding care through innovation

Access to advanced surgical care is growing beyond the metro area, thanks to donor support that helps bring innovative technology directly into community hospitals. Allina Health Buffalo Hospital recently added the da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system, giving patients the option to receive highly precise, minimally invasive procedures closer to home.

Since its arrival late last year, the system has been used for hernia repairs and gallbladder and appendix surgeries, with urology and OB/Gyn procedures on the way. For patients, this means smaller incisions, less pain, and faster recoveries without traveling to a metro hospital. The expansion in Buffalo reflects a broader effort across Allina Health to make advanced surgical care accessible throughout the region. More than a dozen robotic platforms are in place across the system. In 2025 alone, more than 13,300 robotic procedures were performed.

Donors play a meaningful role in bringing this level of care to communities outside the Twin Cities. Philanthropic support helps accelerate access to new technology, strengthens recruitment of skilled surgeons, and ensures patients can receive exceptional care close to where they live. The da Vinci Xi at Buffalo Hospital is a clear example of how donors reduce barriers to care and improve outcomes for thousands of patients every year.



Technology innovation that changes lives

At the Allina Health Cancer Institute, a new kind of hope is emerging through histotripsy a breakthrough, noninvasive treatment that destroys liver tumors using focused ultrasound waves. Dr. Ashwin Kamath, MBBS, FACS, hepato-pancreato-biliary surgical oncologist at Allina Health, explains the impact: “Our goal isn’t just to remove cancer; it’s to preserve quality of life while doing so. Histotripsy offers an incisionless approach that can shorten recovery time and allow patients to resume their treatment and their lives with minimal disruption.” This treatment is the first of its kind in the Twin Cities. As donors, you bring leading-edge technology like histotripsy to our community, offering safer options, less pain, and more hope for patients. Healing is more possible than ever. Thank you!

Your Gift Matters

You make a difference

You have the opportunity to engage and contribute to the causes at Allina Health that hold special meaning to you. Every donation is represented by a critical area of need in our health care system.

Mental Health & Addiction Care

Support initiatives like the Center for Mental Health and Addiction. Advance comprehensive care, crisis technology and provider resilience.

Cancer Care

Empower patients through clinical innovation, financial aid and holistic support. Enhance treatments, ease complexities, and improve well-being.

Healing Environments

Reimagine the future of care so every patient receives the highest standard of support in surroundings designed to heal body, mind and spirit.

Caring for Community

Extend a helping hand to underserved populations and build a stronger, healthier community.

Excellence & Innovation

Advance groundbreaking research and technology, driving innovation in health care. Support new treatments and therapies that benefit patients and improve outcomes.

With your support of Allina Health's promise of **All Together Better**, no matter how or where you choose to give, you create a lasting impact on the health and wellness of people who need it most.

Together, we will improve health outcomes and build a brighter, healthier future for our communities. Thank you.



Ways to give

Individual Giving

Every donation, regardless of size, is incredibly meaningful and contributes to the betterment of our communities.



Give in Tribute

Honor special individuals who've made a difference in your life by making a gift in their honor or remembrance.



Make a Recurring Gift or Pledge

Set up a monthly or annual gift, or a pledged arrangement to ensure continuous support and maximize your impact over time.



Leave a Lasting Legacy

A planned gift through your estate or financial plan has a lasting impact on your community. Learn more at allinahealth.planmygift.org.



Corporate and Charitable Foundations

Corporate and foundation gifts can make a profound difference. Call us to learn more.



How to give

Online: Visit our website and make your tax-deductible donation conveniently and securely online. allinahealth.org/give.



By phone: Call us at 612-262-0635. We are happy to answer your questions and process your credit card donation.

By mail: If you prefer, you can send your contribution to:

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