

# Community Connections

Spring 2017

## MENTAL HEALTH UNIT GRAND OPENING

ON FEBRUARY 27, MERCY HOSPITAL – UNITY CAMPUS held an open house featuring information and displays about services on the campus as well as tours of the fourth floor’s newly completed mental health unit. Guests from the 11-county service area attended, including community and business leaders, supporters of the hospital and elected officials. Senator Jerry Newton (District 37) spent time learning about the new unit and visiting with guests.

“I was very impressed with both the new mental health facility and the staff who manned the various tables and led the tours,” said Newton. “They are a credit to the health care profession.”



*Pam and Jim Deal, donors*

His view was echoed by many who came to see the new facility. More than 200 staff and 400 outside visitors attended the event and left with a better understanding of what the one hospital, two campuses plan means for the health of the community. It also help to clarify

the important role that Mercy Hospital – Unity Campus has in providing that health care.

“By consolidating mental health services in one location, we can enhance these programs to improve access and help patients maintain and improve their health,” said Joe Clubb, vice president of operations for Allina Health mental health and addiction services. “Bringing the services together on the Unity campus gave us more space and opportunity to meet our patients’ needs.”

During the open house, visitors met with staff and learned about the many robust services on Mercy’s Unity campus, including emergency, medical and surgical, cardiac, orthopedics, cancer care through the Virginia Piper Cancer



*Penny Wheeler, Allina Health CEO, and Gerald Maeckelbergh, North Suburban Hospital District Board chairperson*

Institute® and rehabilitation services through Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute®. A guided tour of the fourth floor

mental health unit highlighted the special amenities, features and therapeutic options that will help patients heal and return to their homes, including:

- Individualized lighting, music and temperature controls in each of the 40 private patient rooms
- Four separate community wings of 10 patients, with a lounge that encourages social interaction and local programs
- An art room for creative expression
- A group therapy room for educational sessions and living- skills training
- A recreational room for promoting physical activity, which can be key to health and well-being.



*Brenda and Charlie Kratsch, donors*

Many of the amenities were made possible through gifts from donors to Mercy Hospital Foundation’s 2016 Crystal Ball.



*Visitor, Penny Wheeler, Allina Health CEO, Pam Deal, donor, and Joseph Strauss, president of the Mercy Hospital Foundation.*



*Chris Mickman, Mercy Hospital Board member, and Brenda Verbick, Mercy Hospital staff.*

The mental health care providers look forward to working with patients in the new space. “We are pleased that the exceptional health care we provide is now mirrored in these lovely new facilities,” said Clubb.

Patients and staff began moving into the new space on March 1.



MERCY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

## CRITICAL CARING FOR CRITICAL CARE

The first phase of the newly renovated Intensive Care Unit was completed in January. Ten new advanced ICU rooms opened on the Mercy campus. The project is slated to be completed by November 2017 and will provide critical care for critical patients in 25 patient rooms that are 1.5 times larger to better accommodate equipment, supplies, support staff and the care team, patients, families and visitors.

Proceeds from the April 22, 2017, Crystal Ball will go toward the renovation of these ICU rooms. For more information about the Crystal Ball or how you can help support the ICU renovation, please contact the foundation at 763-236-3966.



*Join us*

THE 16TH ANNUAL

*Crystal Ball*  
MERCY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT NORTHWEST

Saturday, April 22, 2017 | 5:30 p.m. | Silent Auction

7:00 p.m. | Dinner, Program, Live Auction

**CRITICAL CARING for CRITICAL CARE**

Proceeds benefit the intensive care unit renovation at Mercy Hospital

For more information or to donate visit [allinahealth.org/MHF](http://allinahealth.org/MHF) or call 763-236-3966.

*Dear friends,*



It is a busy time for the foundation. After a banner year of raising support from friends like you, we publically launched our capital campaign. The Advancing a Legacy of Caring Capital Campaign is already one-third of the way to its \$8.6 million goal, and we are on target

to complete it by July 2019. I want to express my personal gratitude to Brenda and Charlie Kratsch who hosted a President's Circle dinner at Infinite Campus in late January to give our campaign a strong start.

We are also gearing up for our annual Crystal Ball. Months of preparation and planning make this gala a success and the North Metro's hottest ticket. This year's event focuses on raising funds for the new ICU on the Mercy Campus, and the fund-a-need will focus on the Forensic Nurse Examiner Program. With a staff of 14 specialty nurses, this community program provides 24/7 care to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and child and elder abuse or neglect. Mark your calendars for April 22. Seats are limited, and now is a good time to contact the foundation for ticket details.

I hope you will notice that our name changed to reflect the hospital consolidation at the start of 2017. Our mission of raising, stewarding and distributing philanthropic funds to improve care, personal health and quality of life for patients and families on both Mercy Hospital campuses remains strong. In addition, we also grant support to community health programs that positively impact Mercy's 25-community service area.

As you learn more about the work of Mercy Hospital, both inside the walls and out in the community, I encourage you to make a gift. Together we can ensure that future generations of north metro families will have exceptional health care close to home for decades to come.


*Joseph Strauss, President*

*Mercy Hospital Foundation*

*Plan a gift and change a life*

Did you know gifts of a meaningful and lasting impact are within reach? Planning what to give, how to give and when to give provides enduring support for Mercy Hospital and gives you financial benefits today.

Visit MHF's new planned giving webpage for details. [allinahealth.org/MHF](http://allinahealth.org/MHF)



# PROMOTING COMMUNITY HEALTH: The Forensic Nurse Examiner Program

*Amy Schmitz, RN*

**AMY SCHMITZ, RN**, gets a lot of satisfaction out of her job. She is a forensic nurse specialist at Mercy Hospital's Unity Campus, which means that she works one-on-one with patients who are victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

"To know that these patients have someplace to go during a time of crisis and that we have the resources, knowledge and expertise to give them the medical care and support that they need is what inspired me to become a forensic nurse," said Schmitz.

"It takes a lot for patients to walk through these doors and ask for help," she added. "We almost always have a good outcome when we are able to take care of them and help them find the support they need."

Schmitz is one of 13 specially trained nurses who staff the Forensic Nurse Examiner Program at Mercy Hospital's Unity Campus. Since 2000, this community-based program's nurses have helped more than 6,500 victims of sexual and family violence in the North Metro and now service 10 hospitals in the metro area. This impactful community outreach program

provides 24/7 nursing care to victims of sexual violence, domestic assault, elder and child abuse and neglect. Currently, it's the only full-service forensic program of its kind in Minnesota.

This year, the Mercy Hospital Foundation has chosen the Forensic Nurse Examiner Program as the recipient of the Crystal Ball Fund-a-Need campaign. The forensic nurses identify and care for injuries, provide treatment and medication and assist reporting the crimes to law enforcement. They collect and store evidence, offer crisis intervention and are often a first bridge to patient safety.

"The patients we see are your brothers and sisters, your sons and daughters, your grandma and grandpa. Physical abuse is an issue that can affect anyone and has extremely long-term consequences. We know more work is needed to address these growing issues in our community," said Karine Zakroczymski, manager of the Forensic Nurse Examiner Program.

## DONOR STORY



### Giving Back

Scott Bardell of Fridley has strong reasons for supporting Mercy Hospital. This former Unity Campus patient praises the medical teams who quickly diagnosed and treated him twice for intestinal blockage.

“Because of abdominal surgery I had several years earlier, I knew the pain I felt was serious,” said Bardell. Both times, he was able to avoid surgery through the immediate care he received, and his appreciation for the staff reminded him of a promise he made decades earlier.

Back in the early 1990s when Bardell was a law student in Chicago, he required abdominal surgery.

“I told the hospital I had no money or insurance and offered to pay the bills over time,” said Bardell. When he was discharged, he learned that his expenses were covered by emergency funds from the hospital’s foundation with the caveat that when he was settled in his career, he would donate to a hospital.

Today, Bardell is a patent attorney at Medtronic in Mounds View and makes regular contributions to Mercy Hospital Foundation. He also generates a one-to-one matching gift from his employer, which doubles the impact of his gift.

He says, “I’m pleased to give back some of the support that saved my life.”

Bardell is an active member of the north metro community. He served on the Columbia Heights school board for several years and is treasurer for the Fridley Rotary Club.



## FUND-A-NEED

Each year, a portion of the Crystal Ball proceeds benefit a particular Mercy Hospital Foundation program through the “Fund a Need”. This year’s Fund-a-Need will support the Forensic Nurse Examiner program which provides 24/7 care for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, child or elder abuse and neglect, and other forms of interpersonal violence. If you would like to support this program or want to learn more about the Crystal Ball, please contact the foundation at 763-236-3966.

## HEALTHY TIP

### Make your wishes known

If you become ill, do you know what kind of medical care you want? Does your family know your wishes? Do you have a health care directive indicating those wishes?

A health care directive is a legal document that outlines the type of medical care you want in the case of illness or injury where you cannot communicate, your wishes may not be known. And while we may not want to think about the need for a health care directive, having such a document will ensure your desires are known.

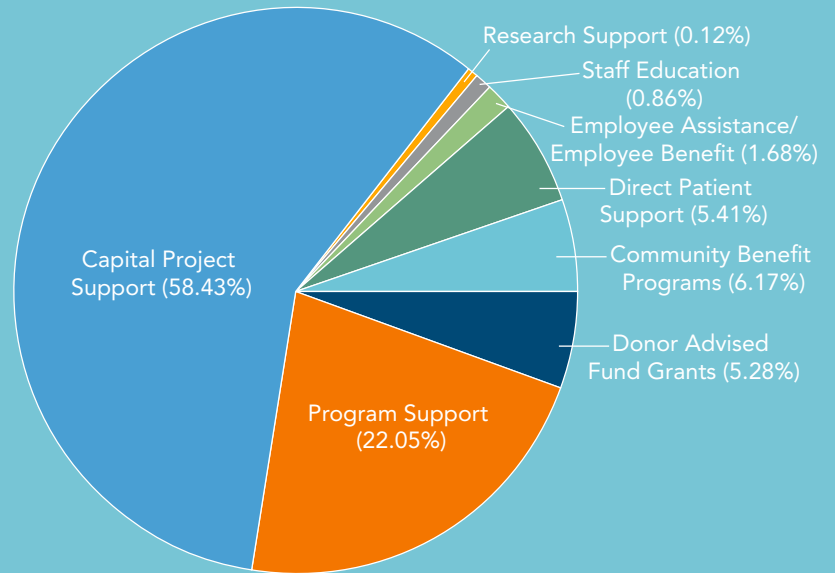
Learn more about health care directives and how you can set one up at:

[allinahealth.org/Customer-Service/Be-prepared/Be-prepared-to-make-your-health-care-wishes-known/](http://allinahealth.org/Customer-Service/Be-prepared/Be-prepared-to-make-your-health-care-wishes-known/)



# PUTTING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORK

Here are examples of the many important initiatives Mercy Hospital Foundation was able to support as a result of your generosity in 2016. Nearly \$1.8 million was granted back to the hospital and to community health initiatives.



Allina Reach Out & Read Program Fund  
 Behavioral and Mental Health Services Fund  
 Board Designated Community Outreach Fund  
 Breast Cancer Center Fund  
 Cancer Patient Emergency Fund  
 Cancer Research Fund  
 Cancer Resource Center and Program Support Fund  
 Cardiac Center Fund  
 Cardiovascular Education Fund  
 Caring for Co-Workers Fund  
 Community Health Improvement Fund  
 Community Wellness Fund  
 Dr. Bevan W. Bunker Family Scholarship Fund

Dr. Myron J. Malecha Scholarship Fund  
 Emergency Department Fund  
 Faith Community Nurse Program Fund  
 Forensic Nurse Examiner Program Fund  
 Free Care Endowment Fund  
 Geriatric Care Fund  
 Grief Support Group Program Fund  
 Heart Center Fund  
 Heart Safe Community Program Fund  
 Images Support Group Fund  
 Infectious Disease – Patient Needs Fund  
 Intensive Care & Critical Care Units Fund

Jean Hayden Nursing Scholarship Fund  
 Julie Ellison Scholarship Fund  
 Language Care Center Fund  
 Laura H. Hudson Endowment Fund  
 Linographic Rehabilitation Fund  
 Louis S. Smith Leukemia Endowment Fund  
 Lymphedema Fund  
 Lynnda Laubach Breast Cancer Awareness Fund  
 Medication Assistance Fund  
 Mental Health Access Line Fund  
 Mercy Hospital Auxiliary Fund  
 Michael Krogstad Memorial Fund  
 Mother Baby Center Fund

Mowry Domestic Violence Protection Fund  
 Nursing Education Fund  
 Operating Room/Surgical Services Fund  
 Pastoral Care – Chaplaincy Fund  
 Pediatric Needs Fund  
 Perinatal Loss Program Fund  
 Pharmacy Education Fund  
 Rehabilitation Services Fund  
 Social Services Fund  
 Speech Language & Occupational Therapy Fund  
 Sue Fischer Nursing Scholarship Endowment Fund  
 Twinkling Angels Fund  
 Unity Hospital Auxiliary Fund



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

In 2016, nearly \$3.3 million was raised to support programs and patients at Mercy Hospital. Support from donors like you helps ensure that Mercy Hospital is a top medical center in the community, providing expert, compassionate care to all of its patients.



## Consider a planned gift

Through a planned gift to Mercy Hospital Foundation you can:

- Significantly increase your annual income
- Provide for your retirement
- Increase the amount of financial support you can provide to your family
- Reduce your income taxes and/or estate taxes
- Provide exceptional health care at the hospitals and impactful programs and services throughout the community.

Planned Gift options include:

- Outright gift of cash, stocks, bonds or real estate
- Bequests of a specific dollar amount or percentage of estate
- Life insurance policies
- Charitable remainder trust
- Charitable lead trust.

## We want to hear from you

I would like to learn more about making a planned gift.

I have already included a gift to the foundation in my estate plans.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, contact Jane Flanders at [jane.flanders@allina.com](mailto:jane.flanders@allina.com) or 763-236-3966.

[allinahealth.org/mhf](http://allinahealth.org/mhf)

Mercy Hospital Foundation's mission is to raise, steward, and distribute philanthropic funds to help improve patient care, personal health, and the quality of life for all families served by Mercy Hospital.

Tax-deductible gifts help Mercy Hospital attract nationally renowned practitioners who care for patients in modern facilities using state-of-the-art technology. Donate online at [allinahealth.org/mhf](http://allinahealth.org/mhf) or call 763-236-3966 to discuss gifts of securities, bequests and other giving options.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please email [mhf@allina.com](mailto:mhf@allina.com) or call 763-236-3966.

## Mercy Hospital Foundation Staff

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*Community Connections is Mercy Hospital Foundation's (MHF) publication highlighting donor gifts at work in the hospital and the community, brief articles relating to health care and tips to help keep families healthy. The goal of this outreach is to better keep MHF connected to our donors and friends. Please feel free to email feedback to [mhf@allina.com](mailto:mhf@allina.com).*