Never underestimate how meaningful you are.

Mission

Improving the health of our communities through philanthropy, service and volunteerism.

Vision

To develop community and financial resources necessary to support UnityPoint Health – Des Moines in providing premiere quality health care for the communities we serve, now and into the future.

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The heroes are those who choose to step up for the greater good.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many things came to a halt in 2020, but the need for great health care didn’t stop. Thanks to you, neither did the incredible team at UnityPoint Health – Des Moines. You made all the difference with your generous gifts.

The outpouring of support from our community for our Health Care Heroes has been nothing short of amazing. You know this has not been an easy time and you showed up every step of the way!

The heroes are those who choose to step up for the greater good. For those nurses and doctors truly risked their lives, every day to take care of me. They have families at home, and are tired themselves, but they show up, every day, to save people’s lives. They saved my life.”

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Welcome

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You are Amazing!

The COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed how we respond to the health care needs of our community, and we have been astounded by the selflessness, empathy and resourcefulness of our UnityPoint Health – Des Moines community.

When COVID-19 arrived in Iowa in March 2020, our hospitals became the front line of defense against the highly contagious and dangerous disease. We immediately implemented emergency preparedness plans in preparation to treat COVID-19 patients. While many things came to a halt last year, the need for great health care didn’t, and thanks to you, neither did our incredible team at UnityPoint Health – Des Moines.

The outpouring of support from you to our Health Care Heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic has been nothing short of amazing. You were there. From charitable gifts, hand-made masks, fabric and elastic to meals, snacks and gift cards, the generosity from people like you is incredible.

COVID-19 Crisis Fund Gifts

Your donation to the COVID-19 Crisis Fund helped ensure those on the front lines had what they needed to show up, every day for you. Your gifts helped:

• Connect patients to families and friends through technology set up to facilitate virtual visits, sometimes for the last time.
• Offer a place to stay for a new mom and her baby to quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19 until they could safely return home.
• Provide safety supplies for our teams, like special plastic covers for equipment and communication boards for our Critical Care Team taking care of the COVID-19 patients, so there was no interruption in the care.
• Support the effort to quickly open the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Clinic to respond to the growing need for immediate mental health services.

Personal Protective Equipment

As supplies of personal protective equipment became hard to get, our community quickly responded by providing hand-made masks and other PPE that kept our Health Care Heroes safe. The need for these supplies would continue for months and thanks to the work of so many volunteers, we had enough until we could purchase supplies again.

Gift Cards

The gift cards donated by businesses and individuals provided more than the dollar amount on the card. For the meals provided, it took away the worry of having to prepare a meal after a really hard day. For the groceries they purchased, it took away some of the financial strain. For the coffee, doughnuts and other treats they provided, it was a moment of respite in a day filled with unknowns.

A Gift for Our Employees

Your generosity has been felt. Because of you, every single member of our UnityPoint Health – Des Moines team (over 6,000 employees), received a $20 gift card to Fareway or Hy-Vee.

A special thank you to Fareway and Hy-Vee who partnered with us to show their support by matching the donations from you and our community.

“Fareway was excited to partner with the UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation to provide gift cards to the incredible health care workers,” said Fareway President and CEO Rodney J. (RJ) Cramer. “We hoped the gift served to uplift those who work tirelessly for the health and safety of others.”

“By providing food and parking, thank you chalk murals outside hospitals throughout our eight-state region, including those in the Des Moines metro area, we are proud to support those who are taking care of our community members during these unprecedented times,” said Tina Potthoff, Hy-Vee’s Senior Vice President of Communications.

Our staff has gone above and beyond to show up every day for you. Thank you for showing up for them.

Expressions of Hope

The power of the handwritten notes, the hearts, the signs and the drive-by parades cannot be put into words. These lifted the spirits of our Health Care Heroes on the toughest days. For our team to look out the windows of the hospital, in the businesses across town and the homes of their neighbors was what they needed. To know that someone cares so much helped them push on.

Meals for Health Care Heroes

The families, the groups of friends and the businesses who joined together provided more than nourishment; they fed the souls of our Health Care Heroes. A group of retired physicians joined together to provide meals for the Critical Care Team, noting, “We can’t go back to work after retirement-high risk, and all that. But we CAN buy you lunch and snacks so you know you are not alone.”

New Technology

The UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Medical Staff joined together to make a leadership gift to purchase equipment called Roche Cobas Liat System that provides the results of a COVID-19 test in under four hours, compared to more than 24 hours for other tests. This allows our patients who come to our hospitals to be tested. For those with COVID-19, it meant they received the treatment they needed sooner. In addition, it also helped keep our Health Care Heroes safe.

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CANCER DIDN’T STOP
And Neither Did the Team at Stoddard

A lot of things came to a halt during 2020, but cancer didn’t stop, and neither did the team at John Stoddard Cancer Center.

While the entire world dealt with uncertainty and navigated countless changes, on top of everything else, over 2,000 patients and families at Stoddard were also walking through cancer journeys. But thanks to donor support for programs and services, they didn’t have to do it alone. The team quickly came together to assess needs and see where philanthropy could make the biggest impact.

With changes to visitor restrictions in place, the support and guidance provided by the Oncology Navigators at Stoddard became more important than ever before. Navigators were a warm smile during appointments, a hand to hold during the difficult times, and the key to connecting patients to important programs and services.

Knowing that connection with others would be needed more than ever, donor dollars were used to purchase software to transition all survivorship programming, as well as the free counseling sessions offered through our What’s on Your Mind Program, to secure online platforms.

A cancer diagnosis can put financial strain on any family, however, that was felt even more so due to changes in employment and the economy. The distribution amount for the Compassion Fund was raised to provide more direct financial support and help with transportation, lodging and prescription copays.

Understanding new challenges would arise, the team came together to assess what would be needed most during this time and created a brand-new program to help meet patients where they were at: Meals that Matter.

Thanks to a generous donation to Charlie Cutler Healing & Wellness Program, as well as other donors in our community, Stoddard began offering nutritionally balanced, ready-made meals for patients and their caregivers at no cost. The meals helped provide the nutrition needed to support healing, limit unnecessary exposure to COVID-19 and were also “one less thing” to worry about after a long day of treatment.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive, and Meals that Matter has now been added to our regular list of programs offered at Stoddard.

These support services and more are funded through the generosity of people like you. It always makes a difference, but this past year, that impact was felt more than ever, and we can’t thank you enough. It means more than you know.

“I’m extremely lucky that my navigator, Jen was there. She was the person that I needed.”

- Sam Bliss, Patient

“Thanks so much right now, because of Coronavirus my husband and I are out of work. Our resources are already limited, so this came as a huge blessing. I’m so glad after treatment, and it is nice to be able to just rest and not cook. I can’t believe someone would use their resources to make this possible for people like us. God bless you.”

- Patricia Saldana Rodriguez

“I was afraid to do it alone. The meals have helped so much. Right now, because of Coronavirus my husband and I are out of work. Our resources are already limited, so this came as such a blessing. I’m so glad after treatment, and it is nice to be able to just rest and not cook. I can’t believe someone would use their resources to make this possible for people like us. God bless you.”

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Ben Breuer was 29 years old when he received his diagnosis of Stage 2 Testicular Cancer. His life changed drastically in an instant and he quickly realized he needed additional support focused solely on meeting the needs unique to his diagnosis and his age. His doctor introduced him to the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Program Coordinator, Rachel Ryge.

Ben said, “When I initially met Rachel, it was the first time someone had come and just sat with me who understood what I was experiencing.”

“AYA cancer patient has different challenges than others going through a cancer diagnosis and fertility concerns such as insurance coverage, work/school balance, social isolation, and more,” says Rachel. “Our AYA program addresses these challenges so patients know we don’t just see and treat cancer, but see them as a person through their journey.”

With Rachel’s help, he knew to visit a fertility clinic and explore his options for a future biological family. She connected him with a social worker who helped him understand his rights as a newer employee in the workforce going through a traumatic event.

Most importantly, through it all, she was there.

“She visited me several times as I showed up for chemo sessions, scans, or blood tests and was my source of information and connection. Once I finished my treatment, she connected me to survivorship groups to help navigate the complicated feelings I had developed around what I went through. I truly don’t think I would have gotten through my treatment without her and the AYA program’s help.”

And now Ben is making it possible for others to experience AYA as well by giving a monthly donation to the program.

“The idea my donation could help someone else during one of the worst times of their life, well, that is doing something…and in the fight against cancer, something matters quite a lot.”

Maria Steele is a native Iowan, a mother of three, a sister, someone who biked 3,000 miles across the entire United States with her husband of 42 years, an active grandma to Penelope, a seamstress, and a retired nurse practitioner with a more than 40-year career dedicated to caring for patients.

Right before Christmas in 2019, Maria visited her primary care provider’s office for a persistent cough. As someone who has been healthy her entire life and never smoked, she was shocked to receive a diagnosis of Stage 4 lung cancer with brain, bone and lymph node metastasis.

Her clinical team worked quickly to create a treatment plan supporting her physical health needs. Dr. Andrew Nish, medical director for Stoddard, reached out with an opportunity to support her mental and emotional health needs, as well, through a new course made possible by gifts to the Charlie Cutler Healing & Wellness Program called Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR).

Utilized in medical settings for over 40 years, MBSR is an eight-week evidence-based program that offers intensive mindfulness training to help with stress, anxiety, depression and pain. Maria wasn’t quite sure what to expect, but after completing the course, she said she would definitely recommend it to others and wanted to thank the donor who made it possible.

“A HUGE thank you! There is a tremendous need for this information. It was extremely helpful and provided me with new coping skills. Thank you… community care and support of the cancer patient in non-clinical ways is vital!”

Ben Breuer

Maria and Pat Steele

Empower Boutique and Salon

The Empower Boutique & Salon opened its doors in 2020. Using specially trained stylists, Empower provides salon services such as head shaving, haircuts, beard trimming, shampooing and more at no cost to patients to help them look and feel their best. Empower also offers a variety of products such as turban, hats, scarves, specialized apparel, skin care products and other comfort items. All items are offered at a minimal cost to patients and those who have a financial need will be offered a voucher for purchases. For patient Lillian Helmers, the salon visit was just what she needed to brighten her spirits.

“It was such an uplifting experience and the ladies were so nice and helpful. This is one of the nicest things you can do for patients at Stoddard. It makes you feel great about yourself and it is so nice to know someone out there cares. This is just the best thing! Thank you to everyone who voted for us and to the donors for supporting this special place!”

Lillian Helmers

Maria Steele

Lillian Helmers
A unique and first of its kind partnership was formed between Shriners and Blank Children’s Hospital in 2020. Both organizations have a strong mission and commitment to be of service to children in the community. The expertise and network of Shriners combined with a dedicated team at Blank Children’s and the need to diagnose and treat children close to home has already made this partnership successful.

Thanks to strong community support, Blank Children’s continues to find ways to expand and build upon opportunities to better serve the children of Iowa and beyond. Former board member Lyle Simpson mentioned that he knew of a family that might be very interested in the new partnership and he was right. Bill Bean and his brother Harold felt a gift would be a perfect way to remember their parents Za-Ga-Zig Nobel William Louis and Harriette Pendry Bean. They were both very active in the local Shrine. The $500,000 commitment to the new clinic helped make space for this new partnership possible.

Growth is on the horizon for the Shriners and Blank Children’s Orthopedic Clinic and continued support from the community will be needed.

Making Child Life Possible

You know 2020 brought uncertainty on many levels. One unknown Blank Children’s faced was raising enough money to support Child Life. Child Life is fully funded by philanthropy and a major source of revenue is the five-day in-person event, Festival of Trees & Lights. What would happen to Child Life if Festival of Trees & Lights could not be held?

This weighed on longtime supporters Jan and Lloyd Taylor. Personally knowing the impact Child Life has on patients, they wanted to ensure Child Life would continue to be fully funded, no matter what.

In 2020 Jan and Lloyd made an incredible $500,000 gift to Child Life. Thanks to this gift, during a time of so much uncertainty, the Taylors helped ease the unknown. Dr. Steve Stephenson, President of Blank Children’s Hospital, said, “Jan and Lloyd had a unique position of knowing the importance of Child Life by having their grandson go through cancer treatment. They wanted to make sure Child Life would continue to be funded at Blank Children’s even if Festival of Trees & Lights was virtual. This special gift made a big impact, and Child Life continues to play an important role for patients and families throughout the hospital and clinics. We are so thankful.”

First (and hopefully last) Virtual Festival of Trees & Lights

Festival of Trees & Lights 2020 was different in so many ways, but what remained the same was our collective commitment to helping Iowa’s kids. Taking a five-day event virtual required creativity. From the holiday tree scavenger hunt, personal Zoom chats with Santa, Festival in a box and so much more, the (virtual) 37th annual Festival of Trees & Lights will be one we won’t forget! A special thank you to honorary chairs Doug and Mary Bruce.

As we celebrate the success of the 37th annual Festival of Trees & Lights we remember one of its founders, Shirley Stetson. She was instrumental and served many roles during her years as a volunteer. We appreciate Shirley’s dedication; she will be missed, but her impact continues.

- 1,600 Festival app downloads
- 12 Decorated trees on virtual scavenger hunt
- $550,000 raised for child life and Advocacy & Outreach programs
- 1 Virtual Santa
- $11,500,000 raised over the last 37 years

FESTIVAL APP DOWNLOADS: 1,600
DECORATED TREES ON VIRTUAL SCAVENGER HUNT: 12
RAISED FOR CHILD LIFE AND ADVOCACY & OUTREACH PROGRAMS: $550,000
VIRTUAL SANTA: 1
RAISED OVER THE LAST 37 YEARS: $11,500,000

Shirley Stetson and her daughter Shelly

Donna Hall, Bill Bean & Harold Bean

The first patients of the new Shriners and Blank Children’s Hospital Orthopedic Clinic

Donna Hall, Bill Bean & Harold Bean

Shirley Stetson and her daughter Shelly
Dennis Hansen was a West Des Moines native, a successful business owner, a veteran, a fun-loving guy and someone who loved helping others. He was also — and always will be — Brent Hansen’s big brother. When Dennis passed away from cancer in 2019, Brent and his wife Rosa wanted to do something special to celebrate his life and his legacy. And that’s exactly what they did.

In memory of Dennis, Brent and Rosa created a named endowment benefiting the Blank Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. The Dennis Hansen Memorial Endowment now totals an incredible $550,000. This support ensures patients have access to the best treatment and care possible and helps fund programs that provide education and fun so kids can still be kids, too. The endowment is helping children battling cancer today, and it will continue to make an even bigger impact for children and their families well into the future.

Gerald was diagnosed with Burkitt’s Lymphoma in the summer of 2020. Doctors told Gerald while receiving chemo, exercise would help. This sparked an idea from Gerald and his family.

While in the hospital, Gerald committed to walking laps. For every lap he did, he asked friends and family to support him. After three hospital stays and 483 laps — Gerald raised over $12,000 for Child Life. “There are a lot of great people at Blank Children’s. The nurses and doctors are AWESOME. One thing I wasn’t expecting to encounter while in the hospital was a group of people called Child Life,” says Gerald. “They find ways kids, like me, can understand what is happening in our body. They make the hospital a little less scary and a lot less boring!”

Child Life is only possible because of donors like you and Gerald. Thank you, Gerald and family, for turning a bad situation into something good.

Donor support made opening the new STAR & Developmental Center a reality in 2020. In a year when many facilities across Iowa temporarily closed due to the pandemic, the STAR & Developmental Center remained open. Thanks to the new building and the commitment from staff, family’s needs continued to be met during challenging times.

Because 2020 was a difficult year, children have experienced an increase in trauma. Thanks to a new grant, support of an additional full-time mental health therapist will help address some of the increased need. The Foster Care Clinic expanded its referral criteria to better serve even more children who have experienced trauma and abuse.

The Developmental Center has expanded services to include speech and physical therapy evaluations to better triage and assess children’s developmental and/or cognitive needs.

COVID-19 presented many challenges to serving children in the community, but staff quickly moved to a telehealth model, when possible, to continue offering services.

Congratulations to Variety – the Children’s Charity for being the First $10 Million Donor to Blank Children’s Hospital!

The number of patients and families that have been touched by Variety’s generosity over the years is endless. They have impacted so many with their kindness and dedication. We cannot thank Variety enough for their ongoing support, not only to our hospital, but to all the other nonprofits that help children every day.
HONORING LIVES
By Helping Others

The medical community lost two respected leaders in 2020 – Dr. John Heffernan and Dr. Greg Hicklin. As physicians, both had a reputation for not only providing the very best in patient care, but also for the compassion they showed to their patients and families. As husbands, fathers, brothers, and friends, they were role models for the love and support and leadership of his family, The Iowa Clinic Pulmonary Physicians, the UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Medical staff and many more of his colleagues and friends, an endowed lectureship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine has been established in his honor.

The Dr. Gregory A. Hicklin Endowed Lectureship will make possible an annual lectureship from a renowned and respected expert to further advance the knowledge about and care in the fields of pulmonology, critical care, sleep medicine or unique areas of medicine. In addition, the endowed lectureship will also provide added opportunities and research for outstanding residents every year. For generations to come, Dr. Hicklin’s commitment to education and mentoring will continue through the residents who benefit from what they learn through this program.

These endowed endowments support a long tradition of continuing the legacy of those who make a difference in the lives of others. They honor the difference loved ones made during their lifetime by supporting the programs and services important to them. The endowments in honor of Drs. Heffernan and Hicklin continue their legacies of transforming the lives of those around them for the better.

Dr. Hicklin was a skilled diagnostician and there was no one better than he at the bedside of a critically ill patient. Moreover, he was the consummate knowledge educator who consistently demonstrated the healing art and science of his discipline to students, resident physicians and colleagues. They shine for the love and compassion they showed in the lives of so many.

To honor their legacy, their family and friends came together and established two named endowments, each reflecting who they were and the impact they had during their lifetime.

Dr. Heffernan was passionate about supporting Iowa Lutheran. He saw the important role the hospital played in the community and serving patients and families. While he supported many areas, he would often support the Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health program. When asked why it was so important for him to help the community, he would humbly share he wanted to know someone cared about and believed in them. Dr. John’s passion inspired his family, friends and colleagues to come together and make gifts to establish a permanently named endowment. The Dr. John and Karen Heffernan Endowment will continue to provide annual support to ensure the highest level of care for those served by Iowa Lutheran Hospital.

For many years, the kitchens have been in desperate need of renovations. Thanks to a generous $100,000 gift in 2019 from the W.T. and Edith M. Dahi Trust, the Cummins House kitchen recently received a complete update. From new commercial grade appliances and cabinets to durable countertops and flooring, the kitchen has been elevated to a new level and the team has the extra assurance and safety to propel them in their recovery.

An additional gift from the Dahi Trust in 2020 provided for even more renovations at the Cummins House. A $100,000 donation was the key funding needed to renovate the bathrooms. With the new bathrooms, safety has been elevated to a new level and the team has the extra assurance knowing clients remain safe when using the facilities.

For more than 50 years, Eyerly Ball has been providing community-based mental health care services. The team strives to offer the support and compassion needed to make real and lasting changes in the lives of those they serve.

The Heart of the Home
COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

“Bring what you have to offer to the table.”

Eyerly Ball Community Mental Health Services provides two residential care facilities – Cummins House and Francis House. Both homes are located in Des Moines and provide residential services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness with the goal of helping them regain their health and independent living.

Much like your house, the kitchen is a central gathering place for the clients - to cook, eat and learn. Clients may spend up to six hours a day in the kitchens preparing meals and snacks, as well as learning:

• Skills they need to prepare a healthy meal.
• How to work with others in a group setting.
• Meal planning, grocery shopping and food storage.
• Kitchen safety and cleanliness.

For more than 50 years, Eyerly Ball has been providing vital services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Knowing others in the community care about their overall health and transition to successful independent living helps propel them in their recovery.

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For many years, the kitchens have been in desperate need of renovations. Thanks to a generous $100,000 gift in 2019 from the W.T. and Edith M. Dahi Trust, the Cummins House kitchen recently received a complete update. From new commercial grade appliances and cabinets to durable countertops and flooring, the kitchen has been elevated to a new level and the team has the extra assurance and safety to propel them in their recovery.

An additional gift from the Dahi Trust in 2020 provided for even more renovations at the Cummins House. A $100,000 donation was the key funding needed to renovate the bathrooms. With the new bathrooms, safety has been elevated to a new level and the team has the extra assurance knowing clients remain safe when using the facilities.

For more than 50 years, Eyerly Ball has been providing community-based mental health care services. The team strives to offer the support and compassion needed to make real and lasting changes in the lives of those they serve.

The Heart of the Home
COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

“Bring what you have to offer to the table.”

Eyerly Ball Community Mental Health Services provides two residential care facilities – Cummins House and Francis House. Both homes are located in Des Moines and provide residential services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness with the goal of helping them regain their health and independent living.

Much like your house, the kitchen is a central gathering place for the clients - to cook, eat and learn. Clients may spend up to six hours a day in the kitchens preparing meals and snacks, as well as learning:

• Skills they need to prepare a healthy meal.
• How to work with others in a group setting.
• Meal planning, grocery shopping and food storage.
• Kitchen safety and cleanliness.

For more than 50 years, Eyerly Ball has been providing vital services to adults with serious and persistent mental illness. Knowing others in the community care about their overall health and transition to successful independent living helps propel them in their recovery.

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The 2020 Day of Compassion, presented by Foster Group, was celebrated on February 14. Everyone who participated filled our facilities with HEART! Together, our community raised more than $50,000 for the Compassion Funds at Iowa Methodist, Iowa Lutheran, Methodist West, John Stoddard Cancer Center, Taylor House Hospice and Everly Ball.

The Compassion Funds help patients and families in financial need by providing for things that insurance may not cover. A few ways gifts make a difference:

- Helps a patient with mental illness in need of a blow up mattress and bedding for his new living arrangement.
- Assists a patient being discharged so she could spend time with her dying mother.
- Provides transportation for a cancer patient so she could complete treatments without worry of missing an appointment.
- Assists a patient with mental illness in need of a blow up mattress and bedding for his new living arrangement.
- Purchases clothes for a victim of sexual assault.
- Provides transportation for a cancer patient so she could complete treatments without worry of missing an appointment.
- helps a patient with mental illness in need of a blow up mattress and bedding for his new living arrangement.
- Purchases clothes for a victim of sexual assault.

At the end of the year-long effort, a $92,022.19 check was presented to support two important goals.

First, to purchase the state-of-the-art Xcite Functional Electrical Simulation (FES) technology. This technology will benefit a variety of patients such as those with stroke, spinal cord, and multiple other neurologic diagnoses by allowing the team to perform the repetitive practice of functional activities with patients to improve strength and coordination. Second, to establish a named endowment. Through this endowment, the Eagles will provide ongoing support for the technology needs of Younker Rehabilitation for generations to come.

This team traveled the state of Iowa, visiting local Aeries asking members to join them in supporting a project near and dear to their hearts. For Rusty and Debbie, Younker Rehabilitation helped their son make a full recovery when other rehabilitation programs said nothing more could be done. Lisa, a nurse at UnityPoint Health - Des Moines, understands the difference this program has made, both in the lives of Eagles members and the patients she helps. At the end of the year-long effort, a $92,022.19 check was presented to support two important goals.

Thank You!

(THANK YOU FOSTER GROUP)

• Purchases clothes for a victim of sexual assault
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• helps a patient with mental illness in need of a blow up mattress and bedding for his new living arrangement.

$125,000

The 2021 Powell Chemical Dependency Center (CDC) Phone-a-Thon continued a long tradition of our community coming together to raise funds to help those in need of the care provided by the Powell CDC.

To keep everyone safe, staff and volunteers made calls from home, asking those who have supported the past alumni of the program and community leaders to continue their support.

Gifts of all sizes were made, with several Powell CDC Alumni giving $10 for every year of sobriety. That ranged from those who just completed the program to those celebrating more than 30 years of sobriety.

At the conclusion of the Phone-a-Thon, more than $20,000 (net) was raised. The proceeds are used to provide scholarships for those in need of the services of Powell CDC, but do not have the insurance or ability to pay. For those who receive a scholarship, many of them will say it saved their lives. Thank you to all who gave to help others receive the important support they need from one of the leading chemical dependency programs in Iowa.

$136 donors

$20,000 Raised

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Patient Assistance Fund Helps Families

The end of life is hard—regardless of how prepared we think we are or how much we understand it—for both the person dying and for the family and friends. For those who are dying, their bodies and minds are going through a significant change in ways for which we can never be prepared. For family and friends, there are so many emotions and feelings running through their hearts and minds it is hard to comprehend.

As a not-for-profit hospice provider, UnityPoint Hospice is committed to providing the very best in care, regardless of ability to pay. Through the Patient Assistance Fund, we are able to make the commitment that no one is turned away, thanks to many generous donors. The difference this fund makes is unique to every family, but for one father and daughter, it brought them the peace of mind and level of care they needed for the most important person in their lives—their wife and mother.

Tearful and scared, the father and daughter called the Taylor House Hospice team, hoping Taylor House could take their loved one because they did not know what they were going to do otherwise. They had reached the end of what insurance would cover and did not have the resources to cover additional hospice care. They were scared, stressed and out of options. The person they loved so much needed more care than they were able to provide.

The Taylor House Hospice team worked quickly to determine the patient was clinically appropriate for hospice care. They were then able to work with the husband to find out she would easily qualify for financial assistance through the Patient Assistance Fund. The patient was transferred to Taylor House and care started immediately. Her husband remarked that he had received more communication and education in one day at Taylor House than he had so far in their health care journey.

As Dr. Rebecca Lachenmaier, medical director of UnityPoint Hospice shared, “The patient assistance we are able to provide exemplifies what UnityPoint Hospice is able to do for our patients and families, all because of the amazing support we receive from the generosity of donors. We are able to say ‘yes’ to patients in need. We have a flexibility that allows us to respond to the unique needs of our patients, and I never have to wonder about whether or not we can take care of our patients in the way that is best for them. The generosity of donors is appreciated every day, in little ways and big ways. Thank you for all your support!”

This is just one of the many stories of how your gift made a difference. To help families make their final moments together meaningful is a gift that will forever be in their hearts and minds. Thank you to all who give generously to help those in need.

Bereavement Services

Rayna recently lost her mother. When she was contacted about our bereavement services, her words were, “Really? All of this is available to me as a complimentary part of hospice care? I am so relieved you exist! I just thought this was something I would have to go through by myself … and I had no idea how I was going to make it.”

The team at UnityPoint Hospice understands the importance of grieving and is proud to offer classes, grief counselors, and support groups to help loved ones deal with the pain of loss. Our bereavement services are heavily used and are only possible because of the generosity of donors.

To help others at a time in their lives when they need it most is truly a gift for which words cannot express the gratitude. Thank you to all who give generously to help those served by the Bereavement Program.
The COVID-19 pandemic created challenges for everyone, especially those with loved ones in need of end-of-life care. Recently, the dedicated team at Taylor House Hospice provided care for a patient whose entire family had become infected, and family members were no longer able to care for their loved one at home. Taylor House became a place of solace, comfort and care for the patient, and for their family members.

But the struggle for families to provide end-of-life care for their loved ones didn’t begin with COVID-19. The reality is, most patients can’t afford a long-term care facility, and care at the end-of-life often becomes a financial burden. We believe no one should struggle with this. At UnityPoint Hospice and Taylor House, no hospice patient is turned away based on the inability to pay. You make this possible.

Thanks to more than 200 donors who supported the annual Love Lights campaign, the light of love shone bright at Taylor House Hospice this past holiday season. For every gift made, a custom ornament was hung on a beautifully decorated tree at Taylor House Hospice. More than $18,000 was donated in support of the Patient Assistance Fund, which helps ensure that every patient, regardless of their ability to pay, can receive the compassionate care provided by the Hospice team.

Nothing can replace the light of love, but your gift made, a custom ornament was hung on the tree at Taylor House Hospice. More than $18,000 was donated in support of the Patient Assistance Fund, which helps ensure that every patient, regardless of their ability to pay, can receive the compassionate care provided by the Hospice team.

Your gift is a light in the darkness, bringing hope to UnityPoint Hospice and Taylor House. You are part of helping people during one of the most difficult times of their life.
The UnityPoint Health - Des Moines Foundation is privileged to serve as the development and fundraising organization for Iowa Methodist, Iowa Lutheran, Blank Children's, Methodist and John Stoddard Cancer Center, Taylor House Hospice, UnityPoint at Home, UnityPoint Clinic and Eyery Ball. Thoughtful gifts of all sizes make advancements possible in medical research, state-of-the-art equipment, programs, and services to help meet the specific needs of our community.

We recognize the following donors who have demonstrated leadership through cumulative gifts totaling $50,000 or more. This includes gifts to Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Blank Children's Hospital, Methodist West Hospital, John Stoddard Cancer Center, Taylor House Hospice, UnityPoint at Home, UnityPoint Clinic, Eyery Ball and the Foundation.

**2020 QUICK STATS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Donors</th>
<th>Total Donations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>14,133</td>
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**2020 QUICK TOTALS**

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<tr>
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**2020 CUMULATIVE GIVING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Methodist, P.C.</td>
<td>$10,000,000 - $24,999,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iowa Lutheran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blank Children's</td>
<td>$2,500,000 - $4,999,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iowa Department of Public Safety</td>
<td>$1,000,000 - $2,499,999</td>
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<td>Iowa Lutheran, Methodist West</td>
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<td>Iowa Methodist Medical Center</td>
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<td>Iowa Methodist School of Nursing</td>
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**2015-2016 FUNDING PURPOSES**

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<tr>
<td>Employee Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient Assistance</td>
<td>$2,375,879</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$2,875,099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs and Services</td>
<td>$24,614,089</td>
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**2015-2020 FIVE-YEAR (2016-2020) FUNDING PURPOSES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Employee Assistance</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Methodist Medical Center</td>
<td>$25,000,000+</td>
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**2015-2020 FIVE-YEAR DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPORT**

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<thead>
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<td>Foundation, UnityPoint at Home, UnityPoint Clinic, Taylor House Hospice</td>
<td>$929,936</td>
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| Total | $50,175,385 |
MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts totaling $1,000 or more were given in memory of:

April L. Ackelson
A.H. Blank
James Bodensteiner
Imelda “Sandy” Bushman
Dr. Charles Caughlan
Glen R. Chapman
Richard & Barbara Charlis
Linda C. Clark
Beverly Cordes
Courtney & Gladys Crandall
Elwin “Al” Creese
Dennis T. Cuthbertson
Charlie Cutler
Roger Dial
Myrna Dixon
Jennifer Dowd
Jo Edgar
Wayne Embree
Allen Essman
Joann Jensen
Dr. Nathan Josephson
Charlotte Joynt
Sam Kuhr
Karen Krasnow
Connie Kruse
Charlotte Lurie
Anne Ludwig
Aarion Michael Lowrie
Ted H. Magnuson
Jana Mandeville
Jeffrey W. Mitchell
James M. Mayer
Courtney McKay
Beverly A. Millang
Leonard “Left” Miller
William “Bill” Mohan
S. Kay Montgomery
Eve Moosmay
Mary Mueller
Owen Neejan
Chanel Nicole
Helen M. Nicholson
Jim & Verna Nordstrom
Sharilyn Nordstrom
Jennifer Nosis
Evan Opperman
Peggy Patrick
Norman Pearson
Carolyn Pehr
Carol Phillips
Lanny Quigley
Greg Raffensperger
Stephen W. Roberts
Gretchen Rodgers
Stacy Rodriguez
Bill Salden
Connie Schwab
Ellen C. Schulz
Lynn & Shirley Schulz
Laura Scott
Haai & Ivan Sedel
Bonnie Shimon
Maddy Snow
John Seabell
Roger & Shirley Stetson
Dominic Steiger
Camryn Storbeck
Donald Storbeck
Mel Stephens
Shari & Henry Struve
Dotty Sullivan
Cathy Stearns
Kara & David Swain
Mare K. Swartzwalder
John L. Tegu
Ken Trotter
Susan Trotter
Greta Van Haren
Edward & Phyllis Vanderloo
Ben Verboom
Tylor Wacht
Colton W. Warner
Molly Dave Wende
Mary White
Susan White
Melanie & Marcus Wolf
Jane Wyatt

Every gift matters and each one makes a difference for our patients and their families. For a complete list of donors who gave up to $1,000 in 2020, please visit unitypointfoundation.org.

THANK YOU!

TOTAL NUMBER OF DONORS GIVING UP TO $1,000 2,260

TOTAL AMOUNT OF GIFTS UP TO $1,000 $532,240

IOWA LUTHERAN HOSPITAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT CONTINUES TO Make a Difference During Pandemic

Terry Daugherty assumed the position of President of the Iowa Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary in January of 2020. Her energy and excitement for the year ahead were palpable. Goals were set and plans were made. Until COVID-19 hit. Everything changed.

On March 16, all volunteers were suspended at UnityPoint Health – Des Moines. This meant Auxiliary meetings or events as they were also suspended. Little did Terry know what lied ahead.

Soon the call came, and Terry answered. Our hospitals needed masks. Thousands of masks. Although Terry’s role as President was not active, her role as Chair of the Sewing Committee went into full action. Terry convened her sewing volunteers and welcomed others to meet the task at hand. For months, Terry led her team in making these masks for staff, volunteers and patients.

Under the inspiring leadership of Terry, the ILH Auxiliary Sewing Committee has gone above and beyond. To be exact, at last count, they have made and donated 9,930 masks equaling 6,248 yards of fabric. While doing this they have also continued to meet the regular needs of patients on all campuses by making baby bibs, blankets, burp clothes, activity bags and surgical caps. These volunteers and Auxiliaries are truly heroes by so generously giving of their time and talents to support our patients, volunteer peers and team members.

ANNUAL GIVING (continued)

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**TOTAL NUMBER OF MASKS:** 9,930

**YARDS OF FABRIC:** 6,248

**2020 SEWING HOURS:** 11,060

**2019 SEWING HOURS:** 1,323
To all our employee donors, thank you for finding your passion. See the difference YOU made.

We are so thankful to all of our incredible employees who gave back to the organization in which they work. Every day they can see the impact philanthropy has on the lives of patients and families they serve.

In 2020, 801 employees donated $859,212 to UnityPoint Health – Des Moines. Gifts were not only given through Your Passion, Our Purpose, campaign but our employees also participated in one of our four main Foundation events (Rally Against Cancer, Westerberg Cobbery Celebration, Hops for Hospice, and Festival of Trees & Lights), our two days of giving campaign, Mr. Blank Day and the Day of Compassion, along with t-shirt sales, Gift Shop sales and so much more!

The programs brought to life through our employees’ generosity can be seen, felt and touched across UnityPoint Health and in our communities. We celebrate their incredible impact!

**Employee Crisis Fund**
$51,558 raised. Gifts made to the Employee Crisis Fund helped meet the needs of 90 employees who were expecting personal crises such as prolonged illness, death or weather event.

**Compassion Funds**
$48,008 raised. We have seen an increase in the unmet financial needs of patients and families. The need for our Compassion Funds is more important than ever. Gifts help provide things like gas cards, meals, medication and transportation.

**Education Funds**
$40,568 raised. Gifts provide continuing education for our team to ensure we continue to provide the best care for our patients and families now and into the future.

**Child Life Program at Blank Children’s Hospital**
$34,650 raised. Support helps children find positive ways to cope with the fear and anxiety that often accompany a trip to the doctor, a medical procedure or a hospital stay. Impact: 34,000 interactions per year, 780 bubbles blown for distraction, 1,765 games played, countless laughs and smiles.

**Evelyn Ball and Behavioral Health at Iowa Lutheran Hospital**
$33,365 raised. Support helps offer an extensive spectrum of care covering all age groups and types of inpatient and outpatient programs to meet the needs of our community.

**Blank Children’s Hospital STAR Center**
$28,621 raised. Gifts made last year helped provide 3,440 services to 1,657 kids. This included 1,133 medical examinations, 682 forensic interviews, 1,617 therapy sessions.

**Taylor House Hospice**
$29,457 raised. Gifts made to last year’s campaign helped with the Taylor House beautification project. The outdoor space now has new pavers, a gorgeous pergola, a beautiful fireplace, new fencing, new shrubs and trees and is fully furnished with new outdoor furniture.

**UnityPoint Hospice**

**Patient Assistance Funds**
$1,078,191 RAISED FROM 1,006 DONORS IN 2019

**LGBTQ Fund**
$15,385 raised. Gifts support education and training for staff, as well as special needs for patients. Impact: 200+ appointments per year.

**John Stoddard Cancer Center**
$13,313 raised. Last year, over 2,000 patients received care at John Stoddard Cancer Center. Each of these patients have their own story and unique needs, and because of our incredible donors, Stoddard has programs to help meet them where they are, when they need it, at no additional cost.

**We are so thankful to all our incredible employees who gave back to the organization in which they work. They are able to see the impact of philanthropy each and every day in the lives of the patients and families they serve. To all who participated, thank you!**
Tell Your Story

We each tell the story of our lives through our families, the friendships we develop, the work we do and the ways we make the communities we love in better. It is an important story and one that does not end after we die.

Many donors continue to tell their story beyond their lifetimes through their future gifts in their will, by beneficiary designations, a trust, and other planned giving tools. The organizations they support and the way their gifts make a difference are a reflection of who they are and the impact they want to have through their lives or on others. Some donors leave gifts they wish to use to support an immediate need, while others want to see their support last in perpetuity by supporting an endowment.

Endowments provide a dedicated, on-going source of funding. Each year, a portion of the endowment earnings are used for the areas important to the donor. At UnityPoint Health – Des Moines, many donors have made a commitment to establish or support an endowment with a future gift. For some, they do so in memory or in honor of a loved one. For others, they establish a named endowment as a way to share with their family what is important to them.

As you think about your life, how will you tell your story through your future gift? There are many areas you can support through your future/estate gift. Here are just a few of the most critical areas that rely upon endowment support and ways in which donors have told their stories:

Blank Children’s Developmental Center

Approximately 17% of all children born in the United States have a development or behavioral disability, such as autism, muscular dystrophy, hearing impairment, Down Syndrome or cerebral palsy. The goal of the Developmental Center team is to provide every child the opportunity to receive support through your future gift. Here are just a few

Blank Children’s Developmental Center

Medicaid and mental health services are essential needs for so many and there are many areas that rely on support for mental health services. Whether it is inpatient, outpatient or community-based care, our concern, commitment and compassion are without equal. The team believes in a holistic approach that builds family support and links patients to other community resources.

Oncology Navigator Program

The Oncology Navigator Team works alongside patients and families providing education, hope and connecting them to resources within the John Stoddard Cancer Center. The team also provides patients and their families support through their care.

Florencia M. Nelson, Urbandale (UnityPoint Health - Des Moines Foundation)

Florence was a longtime supporter of UnityPoint Health - Des Moines and made a generous gift in her will for the most urgent need at the time her gift was received.

Margaret F. Ball, Des Moines (Iowa Methodist Medical Center)

It was her wish to support the programs and services provided to patients and families.

William H. Marshall, Nevada (Taylor House Hospice)

William left a gift to support the programs and services provided to patients and families.

Natalie Rees, Cedar Rapids (Blank Children’s Hospital)

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IOWA METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER

$4,403,649

JACK STODDARD CANCER CENTER

$1,508,501

IOWA LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

$263

TAYLOR HOUSE HOSPICE/UNITYPOINT AT HOME

$110,192

FOUNDATION

$2,831,624

TOTAL: $14,196,305

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IOWA METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER

$3,403,649

JACK STODDARD CANCER CENTER

$1,508,501

IOWA LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

$263

TAYLOR HOUSE HOSPICE/UNITYPOINT AT HOME

$110,192

FOUNDATION

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TOTAL: $14,196,305

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Each year the Foundation honors individuals who have gone above and beyond in their generosity and dedication to the Foundation and UnityPoint Health - Des Moines, and who have died during the year. All of these individuals have made generous donations as well as served as board members, physicians, staff or volunteers. We thank these friends whose good work has greatly impacted the care of our patients.

John Heffernan, MD
Heffernan began his career as an intern in 1989 with UnityPoint Health - Des Moines and was much beloved by his patients as well as his fellow physicians and team members. Dr. Heffernan was especially passionate about Iowa Lutheran Hospital and served as Chief of Staff in 1995 and again in 2010. He and his wife, Karen, had a very special love for the children treated in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program at Iowa Lutheran. Dr. Heffernan frequently said that the children there were often overlooked and forgotten. He and Karen made certain that was not the case with their generous support, for which they were honored with the Cockeye Award for Philanthropy in 2009. Dr. Heffernan's legacy will live on through the John & Karen Heffernan Endowment that will forever benefit those served at Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Dr. Heffernan was a very special physician and person who is missed greatly by everyone who knew him.

Edward “Ed” Hertko, MD
Dr. Hertko was a man of faith, passion and action. He believed he was called to love to care for those with the disease that his mother and many relatives experienced, diabetes. In addition to dedicating his career to caring for those with diabetes, he championed many efforts to advance the care and support and the state of diabetes in 1997. Dr. Hertko and Iowa Methodist Medical Center opened the first outpatient education center (CDECC) in Iowa. Dr. Hertko was instrumental in getting an Iowa law passed to require insurance companies to offer outpatient education. In addition, Dr. Hertko established a camp for children with diabetes - “Camp Hertko Hollow”. He will be forever remembered by thousands of children and adults with diabetes as their champion, providing them with hope and the tools to live healthy productive lives. He and his wife, Viki, have generously supported many organizations that improve the lives of individuals and support the quality of life of our community, including many of the programs at UnityPoint Health - Des Moines.

Gregory A. Hicklin, MD
Dr. Hicklin dedicated many years of his life serving the Des Moines community and was a well-respected and beloved physician at the Iowa Clinic. Board certified in Pulmonary, Critical Care, Internal, Sleep and Hyperbaric Medicine, Dr. Hicklin was an excellent teacher, forever learning and helping those around him better themselves. Beyond his practice, Dr. Hicklin was a man of many hobbies; if he wasn’t working, you could find him at his family farm in St. Charles, looking at trees and taking care of his bees with his dog, Henry. He was proud of his wife. Deary loved by his patients and colleagues, Dr. Hicklin brought smiles to faces and hope and health to bodies. He was never without a saying or a joke, and no matter how corny, they would bring a smile to your face. His laughter was infectious and he was loved by all who called him a friend. Dr. Hicklin’s legacy will live on through the Dr. Gregory A. Hicklin Endowed Lectureship, which was established by his family and friends.

Joann Jensen
Joann was a face of Iowa Lutheran Hospital for many years. She was a devoted 50+ year Auxiliary member and volunteer. Joann served as President of the Auxiliary for ten years from 1983 to 1993. At every opportunity, she promoted Iowa Lutheran Hospital to friends and neighbors in the community. In addition to her gift of time and compassion, Joann and her husband, Bill, were also generous with their financial support of Iowa Lutheran. In 2001, Joann and Bill were honored with the distinguished Cockeye Award for Philanthropy at the annual Westerberg Celebration. Joann and Bill’s planned gift continues their support of the hospital she loved.

Owen J. Newlin
Owen dedicated his entire life to his family and helping farmers feed the world, serving for many years as one of the outstanding leaders at Pioneer Hi-Bred, now known as Corteva Agriscience. Owen was involved with UnityPoint Health - Des Moines for many years, first serving on the John Stoddard Cancer Research Center Board, and then along with his wife, Doris Jean (D.J.), as loyal donors to Iowa Methodist Medical Center and the UnityPoint Health - Des Moines Foundation. Owen especially loved medical education and earned many stimulating discussions with UnityPoint Health - Des Moines physicians and leaders and was honored for his quick wit, his incredible memory and most of all, his dedication to improving the lives of others. Owen was truly one of a kind.

Shirley Stetson
Shirley was a long-time volunteer and supporter of Blank Children’s Hospital. She was a member and former president of the Blank Guild, chair of the Blank Guild Endowment Committee, a founder of Festival of Trees & Lights and former Festival Chair. She and her husband, Roger, would always attend Festival Gala with their family plus all our other events. Some of Shirley’s stories of Festival include the year they had a blizzard and they were delivering trees from the back of pickup trucks in the snow. Shirley just lit up when she talked Festival and was thrilled to come see all the trees with her daughters. Shirley just lit up when she talked Festival and was thrilled to come see all the trees with her daughters. She shed a tear when she learned Festival of Trees & Lights had a net of $750,000 in 2019 – she just couldn’t believe they were delivering trees from the back of pickup trucks in the snow. Shirley immediately entered the Iowa Methodist School of Nursing after graduating from Roosevelt and spent the next 47 years at Iowa Methodist Medical Center as a nurse. Jane’s career began as a floor nurse and would eventually become a shift supervisor. Jane was involved in opening Iowa Methodist’s neighborhood clinic on Merle Hay Road, worked as a marketing representative in Iowa Methodist’s Corporate Health Services, and closed her career as Director of Occupational Medicine. Jane was a fabulous nurse and very intelligent. She had a keen sense about people and looked for what her patients weren’t saying to get to the root of a problem. Jane worked closely and developed a friendship with one of her volunteers, Dorothy Schefer. Their friendship and Dorothy’s passion for nursing, led to Dorothy establishing a nursing endowment in honor of her parents. Jane helped guide Dorothy to support nursing, and ultimately, Jane left a significant part of her estate to the same nursing scholarship.

Jane Wyatt
Jane was a long-time friend of the Blank Guild Endowment Committee. She was a devoted 50+ year Auxiliary member and volunteer and a long-time member of Festival of Trees & Lights. Joann and Bill’s planned gift continues their support of the hospital she loved.

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This 2020 Donor Journal and Annual Report is published to provide information about the UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation for philanthropic friends, community volunteers, patients, medical staff, employees and visitors. It highlights programs designed to thank donors who remember our hospitals and hospices.

The “LEGACY SOCIETY” recognizes those who made planned/future gifts to Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Iowa Lutheran Hospital, John Stoddard Cancer Center, Methodist West Hospital, Taylor House Hospice/UnityPoint at Home or Eyerly Ball. The “RED WAGON CLUB” recognizes individuals making planned/future gifts to Blank Children’s Hospital.

UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation Legal Language & Tax ID

“LEGACY SOCIETY AND RED WAGON CLUB”

You are invited to become part of the UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation Legacy Society or Red Wagon Club.

Thanking Our Future Donors NOW for a Gift that Comes Later

It is an honor to recognize and thank donors for their planned/future gift during their lifetime. The “LEGACY SOCIETY” and “RED WAGON CLUB” are recognition programs designed to thank donors who remember our hospitals and hospices.

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“I give, devise and bequeath the sum of $______ (or property herein described or percentage of the estate or residual) to Iowa Health Foundation d/b/a UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation, or its successor, an Iowa nonprofit corporation, for (Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Blank Children’s Hospital, John Stoddard Cancer Center, Methodist West Hospital, Taylor House Hospice/UnityPoint at Home or Eyerly Ball) to be used for ____________________.

The Federal ID Number of the Iowa Health Foundation d/b/a UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Foundation is 42-1467682.

To request more information or let us know you have made a gift by will or another type of future gift, please use the enclosed reply envelope, call (515) 241-6304 or email don.ireland-schunicht@unitypoint.org or caleb.hegna@unitypoint.org.
Believe what you do makes a difference. Because it does.