



UnityPoint Health
Grinnell Regional
Medical Center Foundation

GRMC IN FOCUS



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Happy New Year, Friends!

My first thought in this new year is how grateful I am for you, the faithful supporters of UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC). Your gifts to the GRMC Foundation have really made an impact at GRMC. This includes...

- The purchase of new equipment and technology
- Specialized training for members of our team
- Enhancement of programs and services
- Provision of aid to patients who need a helping hand.

All this happened in 2023 because of you. *Believe what you do makes a difference because it does.*

In the year ahead, GRMC is looking forward to beginning phase one of the renovation and expansion of the obstetrics (OB) unit. Phase one includes building a new a recovery/observation room that will expand the unit's footprint in the hospital and then, following the completion of that room, the creation of the fourth labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum (LDRP) room. My thanks to all the donors who are making this possible! This is philanthropy in action!

I'm excited to share that GRMC has secured a **Community Facilities Block Grant** totaling **\$600,000** for the OB project. Adding this \$600,000 to the **more than \$800,000 in monies awarded plus cash and pledges** raised through the GRMC Foundation to date puts us past the half-way point toward our project goal. We will, of course, continue our efforts to raise the remaining funds necessary to complete the entire project.

I'm also grateful for the members of the GRMC Foundation Board of Directors. I specifically thank outgoing board member and chair **Debby Pohlson**, who completed her fourth term at the end of 2023 for a total of 12 years of service. Debby was an outstanding board member and she will be missed. Stepping into the board chair position as of January 1, 2024, is **Dawn Disney-Bruggeman**. Dawn resides in Montezuma and is an Office Deputy for the Poweshiek County Sheriff's Office. She has been a board member since 2020, and I am looking forward to her leadership.

Author Vern McLellan writes, "What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." From what I see, you bring compassion, generosity, and a spirit for community to this new year and I hope you receive all that back and so much more.

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2024,

Donna Fischer
Director of Development



PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Are Your Plans Up-To-Date?

A current estate plan is vital to making sure your wishes are carried out and can help you leave a lasting personal legacy. With just a little planning you can have peace of mind knowing you have taken care of your family and secured their future. While each family's situation is different, there are some planning strategies that can help you provide for your heirs and leave your legacy.

It's easy to get started. To assist you with making or updating your future plans, we can provide you with our **free** *Planning Your Legacy* wills guide. Many of our supporters have found this guide useful in helping them think through their goals. To obtain a copy please visit our website, grmcfoundationlegacy.org; or contact Donna Fischer at (641) 236-2079.

Grinnell Mutual Group Foundation Supports Campaign

Grinnell Mutual Group Foundation

is the latest area business to support the *Delivering Our Future* campaign with their gift of **\$100,000**.

"We realize that the continued success of our local medical center benefits our employees and their families, our company and our community," says Jeff Menary, president and CEO of Grinnell Mutual. "We appreciate initiatives that will enhance much-needed obstetric care at Grinnell Regional Medical Center and, on behalf of the Grinnell Mutual Group Foundation, I'm pleased we can offer our support to this campaign, which directly benefits area moms and their babies."

Thank you, Grinnell Mutual Group Foundation, for your commitment to the families in our region and for your generous support of the *Delivering Our Future* campaign.



UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Team Members Donate More Than \$25,000

Combining *passion, purpose and philanthropy*, the donations from UnityPoint Health - Grinnell team members to the annual **Employee Giving Campaign** (EGC) were designated to several GRMC Foundation funds including Area of Greatest Need, Compassion, *Delivering Our Future* and Employee Crisis. This year, 30% of GRMC's team members, and 100% of the leadership team, participated in the EGC, donating more than

\$25,000 to GRMC to make a difference in the lives of our patients, their families, and their fellow team members and providers. We are thankful for our amazing team members!



New Pediatric Crib

Thanks to a grant from the **Poweshiek County Alliance Endowment Fund** in partnership with the **Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation**, a new pediatric crib has been purchased for GRMC. This pediatric crib has many features designed for ease of care, safety and comfort such as quiet swing-open access doors to allow convenient patient care without disturbing a sleeping child. Pictured with the crib are (left to right) Kim Sears, RN, clinical educator-staff development-Grinnell; Sheenna Bachman, RN, manager of Nursing Services and Intensive Care Unit - Grinnell; and Laura Juel, RN, vice president of Nursing - Grinnell.

Leadership Transition: Jennifer Havens to Dubuque

In October 2023, **Jennifer Havens** transitioned to her new position as market president at UnityPoint Health - Dubuque. While GRMC searches for its next leader, **Kyle Wilcox**, vice president of finance and operations, is stepping in as the interim CEO for UnityPoint Health - Grinnell and **Laura Juel**, vice president of nursing, will continue to oversee daily operations of the hospital.



We are grateful to Jennifer for her leadership and can-do attitude throughout the pandemic and multiple natural disasters during her time at GRMC. We wish her well in this next chapter of her exemplary career at UnityPoint Health.

UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Providers in the News

Elizabeth Tigges, DO, was interviewed on KCCI-TV on November 27th regarding maternal health for Native American women following the publication of a recent study in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* showing a significant increase in the maternal death rate for indigenous women in Iowa.



Abby Flannagan, DO, was interviewed by *Business Record* for an article published on November 21st titled, "New Report Highlights Continued Maternal Health Care Concerns in Iowa." This article followed the release of the March of Dimes 2023 Report Card which highlighted a fourth straight increase in the preterm birth rate in Iowa and continued disparities by race/ethnicity across poor birthing outcomes.



Additionally, during the week of December 4th, Dr. Flannagan joined Blank Children's Hospital and Iowa Methodist Medical Center's maternity team members in hosting a Maternal Health Legislative Roundtable in Des Moines. The Roundtable was an opportunity for UnityPoint Health team members to educate Iowa Legislators and Executive Branch staff on the importance of maternal health in the state of Iowa. Dr. Flannagan spoke about the need to find rural workforce solutions to continue providing the best service possible to our communities.

GRMC Foundation Board Member Spotlight: Mike McKeag

Mike has just completed his first year on the GRMC Foundation Board and is part of the finance and investment



committee. He is proud to be on the GRMC Foundation and felt called to join the board to bring a southern Poweshiek County influence to the group and impact the longevity of our local hospital. *It is important to Mike that he makes sure the genuine and hard-working people in his local community and surrounding communities get the health care they need, close to home.*

"I am excited to be actively engaged in the future sustainability of this key infrastructure resource and hopefully be a positive influence as a proud citizen of our community. The residents of our county and region must have easy, reliable and trustworthy access to health care services. It currently exists right at our doorstep and it's vital that service continues to be enhanced."

In Mike's spare time he enjoys traveling, spending time with his wife and family, maintaining his family farm, attending live music events, rooting for his favorite sports teams and spending time outdoors.

Thank you, Mike, for your dedication to our hospital!

**YOU MATTER
TO US AND TO
YOUR WORLD.**