



UnityPoint Health  
Grinnell Regional  
Medical Center Foundation

ISSUE 1, 2023

# GRMC IN FOCUS



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For more information or to opt-out of future newsletters, call (641) 236-2079 or email [donna.fischer@unitypoint.org](mailto:donna.fischer@unitypoint.org).

Happy New Year!

Thank you for supporting UnityPoint Health® - Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC) Foundation with your charitable contributions in 2022. Your support has made an incredible impact at GRMC, benefitting our patients, team members and communities.

To demonstrate the impact you made, I'd like to share a story from one of our grateful patients who benefitted from donations to the Foundation's Compassion Fund.

*Not too long ago, Joshua, a patient of our Physical Therapy team, had difficulty standing for extended periods of time and walking for more than a few steps. His physical therapist, Debbie, recommended he use a walker, but Joshua was not confident that an average walker would support him sufficiently. Debbie identified and found the type of walker he needed, but the GRMC Loan Closet did not have one to loan him and he couldn't afford to buy one.*

*That's when Debbie and her manager reached out to the GRMC Foundation for assistance. With gifts from our supporters, the GRMC Foundation established its Compassion Fund several years ago to meet certain needs of our patients and families beyond what the hospital can provide or what insurance can cover so we can give our patients peace of mind and reduce stress during their challenging times. Thanks to donations to this fund, the GRMC Foundation was able to purchase the walker Joshua needed.*

*When Joshua received the walker his first response was, "I love the walker!" Debbie shares, "For the first time in a year, he is able to ambulate within his home instead of only performing sit-to-stand transfers from his wheelchair. He would not have been successful without the walker."*

*Since receiving the walker Joshua has gained more confidence when standing and walking and no longer fears he will fall. He has gone from walking just a few feet in his home to going outside and walking around his driveway. "I continue to do therapy on my own, and believe that, with more practice, I may be able to walk on my own soon," shares Joshua.*

That is the power of your philanthropy - making a difference one life at a time.

I wish you good health, happiness and peace in this new year.



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**ONE HUNDRED PERCENT** of every dollar donated to the GRMC Foundation stays local to benefit the healthcare programs and needs in the GRMC service area. For more information and to make a gift, visit [www.unitypoint.org/grinnell/foundation](http://www.unitypoint.org/grinnell/foundation).

# PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

## UPDATE

### GRMC Foundation Board Updates

At the end of 2022, the GRMC Foundation expressed its thanks to **Jessica Dillon**, our sole outgoing member of the GRMC Foundation Board of Directors. In addition to completing six years of service, she also held the office secretary/treasurer in 2022.

Beginning on January 1, 2023, we welcome two new members to the GRMC Foundation Board of Directors. **Mike McKeag** is the president and chief executive officer of ASI Signage Innovations and ImageFirst, LLC. **Jeff Menary** is the president and chief executive officer of Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance.

We look forward to Mike and Jeff adding their expertise and experience to that of the continuing members of the GRMC Foundation Board of Directors: **Dr. David Cranston**, **Dennis Day**, **Dawn Disney-Bruggeman**, **Laura Manatt**, **Bill Menner**, **Chad Nath**, **Debby Pohlson** and **Shannon Reding**.

### Donations Provide Patient Safety Equipment

The Sara Plus is a powered standing and raising aid designed for active transfers, balance, stepping and gait training. The Sara Plus has an extra benefit to assist with patients needing walking therapy, by simply removing the foot plate the patients can feel secure in a sling while using their legs. The Sara Plus is designed for a single care giver use, decreasing the number of staff needed for safe transfer.

"This equipment provides exceptional support and comfort for our patients in an easy-to-maneuver machine to reduce strain on our team members," says Sheenna Bachman, RN, Manager of Nursing Services and ICU. "We are grateful to the donors whose gifts made the purchase of the Sara Plus possible."



Pictured with the Sara Plus are members of GRMC's Med/Surg and ICU team (left to right): Tiffany Arens, Kim McNurlen, Marie Puls, Abby Williams-Cleary, Sheenna Bachman, Rosa Yanez-Gonzalez, Kelsey Terpstra, Taylor Alter.

### GRMC's Team Members Surpass Goal

In our previous issue, the GRMC Foundation shared news about the generous Challenge Grant offered to our Employee Giving Campaign if 30% of GRMC's team members participated. Our team members embraced this challenge and surpassed the goal, ending the campaign with a **36% participation rate**. **Thanks to The Claude W. Ahrens Charitable Trust and its trustee, Susan Witt, for their motivational Challenge Grant of \$10,000.** Several team member donors posed with our goal thermometer poster to celebrate and thank The Claude W. Ahrens Charitable Trust for their inspiring support.





## GRMC Receives Leadership Award

GRMC has been recognized with a **2022 Performance Leadership Award for excellence in Quality**. Compiled by The Chartis Center for Rural Health, the Performance Leadership Awards honor top quartile performance (e.g. 75th percentile or above) among rural hospitals in Quality, Outcomes and Patient Perspective. The Performance Leadership Awards are based on the results of The Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX™, the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance.

"We're proud to be recognized for the quality of care we provide," says Natalie Cline, BSN, RN, GRMC Quality Manager.



Photo, left to right: Laura Juel, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, GRMC Vice President Nursing & Clinical Services; Natalie Cline, BSN, RN, GRMC Quality Manager; Michael Line, MD, MMM, GRMC Chief Medical Officer.

## Iowa Center of Excellence Grant

UnityPoint Health – Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC) was awarded the **Center of Excellence Grant by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)** for the 2022-2023 calendar year. The **\$212,500** grant will continue to establish Iowa's framework to sustain access to high-quality obstetric (OB) services for rural populations. Focus areas of the Center of Excellence grant include rural maternal health needs in Iowa, Marshall, Poweshiek and Tama counties and maternity care services at GRMC.

For the current grant period of June 2022 – June 2023, grant dollars are focused on maternal health outreach in Marshall and Poweshiek counties. In Fall 2022, OB providers at UnityPoint Health – Grinnell's Family Practice Clinic and Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic began OB outreach at the UnityPoint Health – Grinnell Montezuma Medical Clinic and the UnityPoint Health – Marshalltown Multi-Specialty Clinic, to bring OB care offerings closer to more parents-to-be in Marshall and Poweshiek counties. In 2020, 153 babies were born at GRMC followed by 202 babies in 2021 and 100 babies in the first six months of 2022.

## New Provider



**Lisa Smith, FNP**, is the newest provider at the Manatt Walk-In Clinic. Smith received a B.S. in Nursing followed by a Master of Science in Nursing at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO. She brings with her more than 13 years of clinical experience and is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. At the Manatt Walk-In Clinic, Smith and her fellow provider colleagues see patients with acute care and minor medical issues such as respiratory, stomach or urinary issues, head, ear, eye and skin conditions or minor injuries.



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