



UnityPoint Health  
Grinnell Regional  
Medical Center Foundation

# 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).

## Friends!

Spring is a time of renewal and fresh starts, and that includes several exciting projects at UnityPoint Health® - Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC). I'm happy to share an overview of construction projects soon to take place at GRMC to help us best serve our patients and communities.

- **GRMC Laboratory.** The renovation and expansion of the laboratory is underway following the completion of the design phase. The new laboratory will expand into the old GRMC registration space and offer patients seeking lab services their own registration window and waiting area.
- **Emergency Department.** The emergency department roof repairs, dependent on weather conditions, will begin this spring and are expected to be completed this summer.
- **Obstetrics Department.** The design phase has started on the renovation and expansion of the obstetrics unit, with construction to begin mid-2024 and work continuing through 2025.
- **Emergency and Radiology Waiting Area.** The design phase is completed for separate waiting areas. The construction timeline for this project has not yet been finalized.

I'm proud to share that GRMC was recognized as a **2024 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital** by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. GRMC is one of only three Iowa hospitals on the 2024 list. This program recognizes outstanding performance among the nation's rural hospitals based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®, a comprehensive and objective assessment used to measure and monitor performance across a variety of areas impacting hospital operations and finance.

Your donations make positive changes happen at GRMC through the purchase of new or updated equipment and technology, support of programs and services, and specialized training for team members.

*Thank you* for making a difference at GRMC.



*Donna Fischer*

Donna Fischer  
Director of Development

**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 SUPPORT



## ENDOWMENT - IMPACT TODAY AND TOMORROW

What is an Endowment? An endowment is created for a specific purpose. The endowment funds are invested for a reasonable, predictable growth and a set percentage of the investment returns is distributed each year and designated for the purpose as stated when the endowment was created.

A donation to the GRMC Endowment is added to the endowment's principal and invested for future use. Through a gift to the GRMC Endowment, you receive the tax benefit of a gift today and you impact GRMC in the future for many years to come.

To learn more, please visit our website, [grmcfoundationlegacy.org](http://grmcfoundationlegacy.org) or call (641) 236-2079.

## NEW EKGs AT CLINICS IN GRINNELL AND MONTEZUMA

Because of your support, new EKGs were recently purchased for use in the UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Montezuma Medical Clinic and the UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Family Practice Clinic. An electrocardiogram (EKG) records the electrical signal from the heart and is a quick and pain-free test to check heart rhythm and evaluate a patient's heart.



Grinnell Family Practice Clinic



Montezuma Medical Clinic

## NEW C-ARM MACHINE FOR GRMC'S RADIOLOGY AND SURGERY DEPARTMENTS

Thanks to your donations, the GRMC Foundation was able to provide the funds to purchase a new C-Arm machine. A C-Arm is an advanced medical imaging device based on X-ray technology and primarily used for fluoroscopy capabilities. This allows the surgeon to see real-time imaging of the target area during procedures.



Pictured with the new C-Arm are members of GRMC's Radiology team, left to right, Ashley Jensen, LeAnn Avery, Alexis Wilson, Kathy McNulty, Hannah Morrison, Elise Snyder.

## DELIVERING OUR FUTURE UPDATE

Your support of the **Delivering Our Future** campaign is making the renovation and expansion of the obstetrics unit possible. With the design planning stage begun, we expect to start construction this summer. The GRMC Foundation is very grateful for our donors who are partnering with us to make this change a reality. **As of 2/29/2024, we are more than 65% toward our goal of \$2.5 million.**



## NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED

GRMC is happy to announce **Gene Gessner, MD**, as medical director as of January 15, 2024. He has been a member of our care team and practicing as a pain medicine specialist in Grinnell since 2008. In addition to acting as GRMC's medical director, Dr. Gessner will continue providing pain management care for patients at the UnityPoint Health - Grinnell Pain Clinic, offering a broad scope of interventional pain management techniques for chronic and acute pain.



"I am excited to be working with the GRMC medical staff and administration in a new way," shares Dr. Gessner. "I'm glad to keep caring for my patients and working in the clinic and hospital."

## GRINNELL'S 2024 GREAT IOWA NURSE

UnityPoint Health - Grinnell is honored to announce that **Kim Sears, RN, BSN**, clinical education specialist and staff development coordinator has been named to the **2024 Great Iowa Nurses** list. This prestigious award annually recognizes nurses at healthcare organizations across the state for their outstanding contributions to their patients, team members and the nursing profession.



"Kim is a role model for excellence," says Laura Juel, VP of nursing and clinical services. "She goes to medical emergencies and models behaviors and stresses proper expectations. Then, she uses the real-life experiences as training examples."

## INTERIM PRESIDENT AT GRMC

GRMC welcomed **Proctor Lureman, vice president of operations at UnityPoint Health - Des Moines**, as the **interim president of UnityPoint Health - Grinnell**. He began serving in this role on March 1, 2024, and splits his time between Des Moines and Grinnell to provide leadership to the Grinnell teams. He will hold this interim role until GRMC's next President is hired. Several qualified candidates applied for the GRMC President position and interviews are underway. The hope is to announce the new GRMC President this summer.



## GRMC FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JEFF MENARY

Jeff shares it is critically important our communities have an outstanding local hospital. In the fall of 2017, he was stricken by the West Nile virus which made him a paraplegic.

"I spent months in various hospitals and learned firsthand the importance of great medical care. Both my wife, Renee, and I have serious illnesses where our care began at GRMC. GRMC was our first step toward recovery."

Serving on the GRMC Foundation Board is one way Jeff uses his talents to help his neighbors, friends, and coworkers receive the best care - close to home. His duties on the Foundation board include being part of the Finance and Investment Committee and helping the GRMC Foundation at events.

Jeff's ideal weekend would be visiting Silver Dollar City with Renee or spending time with his son's or daughter's family. Did you know Jeff can also make balloon animals?

*Thank you, Jeff, for your dedication to our local hospital.*

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