

FOCUS

on philanthropy

Fall 2022



Quality Heart Care Saves Lives

Manistee couple receives
life-changing treatment

In this issue

Grateful for Great Cancer Care
One Person Can Make Waves
Meet Therapy Dog Decker



MUNSON HEALTHCARE
Foundations

A Letter from the Munson Healthcare Foundations Board of Trustees Chair



Dear Friend,

Thank you for the support you have shown to our communities and the patients of Munson Healthcare. **Your generosity is inspiring.**

As the chair of the Munson Healthcare Foundations Board of Trustees, I am fortunate to

witness first-hand the incredible impact your gifts have on local healthcare. From the births of my children at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital to the many life-saving services provided to (and by) my friends and neighbors, our local hospital is truly a hub of care and connection in the community. This is true in every northern Michigan community served by Munson Healthcare.

This edition of Focus showcases the latest in innovative healthcare services made possible through your generosity. While you page through the amazing things you helped accomplish, know your gift – no matter the amount – has kept our communities healthy and strong.

As someone who calls Charlevoix home, I am especially grateful for all you have done – and continue to do – to improve the lives of patients and families in northern Michigan.

With gratitude,

Ben Muladore

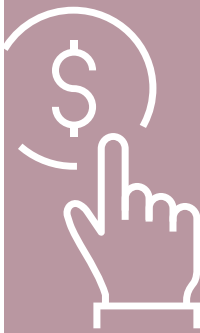
Chair, Munson Healthcare Foundations Board of Trustees



Mother and baby at Cadillac Hospital. Photo taken before COVID-19.

You enhanced care for women and newborns at Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital.

Over \$100,000 was donated to replace five fetal monitors, cover education for maternal and newborn center nurses, and purchase an ultrasound machine.



You provided patients with the latest in diagnostic and surgical tools at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital.

\$350,000 was donated for new orthopedic equipment and two ultrasound units for our emergency and anesthesia departments.

Your Dollars in Action



You advanced surgical care at Munson Healthcare Grayling Hospital.

Over **\$178,000** was donated to provide the latest technology for urology procedures, including five new cystoscopy videoscopes and three 4k high-definition patient monitors.



You enhanced cancer care at Munson Healthcare Otsego Memorial Hospital.

Over **\$342,000** was donated to Otsego Memorial Hospital to help purchase a new stereotactic breast biopsy table, which pinpoints breast tissue to identify cancerous cells and determine the best possible treatment plans.



Cardiac testing at POMH. Photo taken before COVID-19.

You improved lives for cardiac patients at Munson Healthcare Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital.

Over **\$147,000** was donated for new cardiac technology including a vascular testing system, new cardiac chairs for long-term residents, an echocardiogram diagnostic machine, and an exercise bike and patio furniture for cardiac rehabilitation.

Your generosity impacted patients across all of northern Michigan.

In the past year alone, gifts to the Patient Needs Fund provided over **600 services**, distributed **\$90,000** to patients for transportation expenses, **\$9,000** for medical equipment purchases, and **\$6,700** to assist with lodging costs for patients in need.





Bill and Colleen Tucker pose for a photo at the Grand Traverse Commons Natural Area.

Quality Heart Care Saves Lives

When Manistee resident Colleen Tucker woke one warm morning in September 2013, she immediately knew something wasn't right. "I remember feeling a bit clammy," recalled Colleen. "Something was off, and I was very pale."

Colleen, whose father passed away from a heart attack years ago, recognized the signs and made her way to Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital's Emergency Department.

Colleen still remembers the last thing she said as they entered through the Emergency Department doors: "I think I'm having a heart attack." Then, she fell unconscious.

The Emergency Department team quickly got to work performing a series of lifesaving shocks to bring Colleen back to life and to stabilize her condition.

"I thought I was about to become a widower," shared her husband, Bill. "No one is ready for that."

Saving Colleen

After further examination, it was clear Colleen needed advanced heart care. She was transferred via ambulance to the Webber Heart Center at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City.

"I don't remember much of the ride itself," said Colleen. "I just remember the shock from the paddles. They kept performing it over and over again, trying to keep me alive. They didn't think I was going to make it."

Colleen was rushed to the Cardiac Catheterization Lab upon her arrival and underwent immediate cardiac catheterization. This procedure is performed by inserting a catheter through a major blood vessel to diagnose and treat a range of cardiac conditions. For Colleen, doctors positioned the catheter to open a narrowed artery and restore blood and oxygen flow to the heart.

One day later, Colleen opened her eyes for the first time since the heart attack. The worst was now behind her.

"I couldn't speak, but the nurses passed me a piece of paper and a pen to communicate," recalled Colleen of that moment. "I wrote 'Munson?' and they nodded yes."

Leaving a Legacy

Bill and Colleen Tucker have called Manistee home for over 30 years. After relocating from Detroit in 1993, Bill began taking courses at the local college and Colleen worked for a local school district. Colleen started a pottery business after her retirement in 2005 and continues to pursue this passion today.

The couple quickly grew fond of their new community and the northern Michigan lifestyle. Their love of this community and experience with Munson Healthcare made it a "no-brainer" to give back in a big way.

Together, Bill and Colleen have committed a gift through their estate to support the Webber Heart Center and Traverse Heart & Vascular.

"We had, for years, been hearing about estate planning and were familiar with the idea," said Bill. "The woman who handles our finances couldn't emphasize enough the importance of having your will and trust intact, and after we met with a lawyer, we were able to easily map out our finances and divvy up our estate to the organizations that matter to us."

The Webber Heart Center holds a special place in the Tuckers' hearts for more than just Colleen's experience: Bill also utilized cardiac care here when a routine checkup identified a leaky heart valve. This led Bill to open-heart surgery for an aortic valve replacement.

Bill had no symptoms or pain before his checkup. But had his condition gone undetected, he would have been at risk of congestive heart failure.

"They saved our lives, plain and simple," said Bill. "What a better way to say thank you to Munson and all the places that deserve help."

Today, Bill and Colleen are both back to doing what they love with the knowledge that, should the need arise, quality care is right around the corner.



In their spare time, Bill and Colleen enjoy taking courses at the local college and creating pottery.

The Gift of a Lifetime

There are a number of ways you can support local healthcare, including through your estate, donor-advised fund, IRA charitable rollover, life insurance policy, or gifts of stock or mutual funds.

Your generosity, in any amount, will leave an impact for years to come. Contact legacy@mhc.net to learn more.



Peaceful views at the Chemotherapy and Infusion Center at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital.

Grateful for Great Cancer Care

A cancer diagnosis in 2003 sparked the beginning of a long-standing relationship with Munson Healthcare services for local Charlevoix residents Laureen and Jerry Gerber. Through it all, Laureen attributes their positive experiences to the kindness of the staff who helped to make even the hardest days bearable.

“You felt like a priority,” shared Laureen. “If something happened, they took care of us right away. For that I am grateful.”

The Need for Treatment Close to Home

Jerry was first diagnosed with leukemia, a cancer of the blood and bone marrow, and later lymphoma, cancer that begins in the body's lymphatic system. At the time of his initial diagnosis, there was no established cancer and chemotherapy center in Charlevoix. To receive the treatment Jerry needed, the Gerbers began taking many trips to Traverse City.

Having to travel far distances while undergoing cancer treatment, regardless of the weather, can add an extra layer of stress for both patients and their families. In 2015, donor support made it possible to establish the Sarah M. Foster, MD Chemotherapy and Infusion Center at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital. This new center brought the advanced chemotherapy and infusion services Jerry needed close to home.

A Healing Environment

When asked about the years spent alongside her husband during treatment, Laureen named the simple pleasures she enjoyed most: sipping on juice, sharing a meal, and watching ships sail by through a conveniently placed pair of binoculars. Charlevoix Hospital was more than a place of treatment for the Gerbers: it was also a place of healing.

The couple fell right into step with their treatment plan at the new chemotherapy and infusion center. As chemotherapy treatment can go on for many months, being minutes away from treatment - compared to over an hour away in Traverse City - made a world of difference.

While some days were harder than others, the staff were “trojans” and worked to brighten the time spent during treatment.

“Everything was right there,” recalled Laureen. “All the staff were very kind and informative. They took good care of us. I never had to spend a minute in the waiting room wondering what was going on. I was included in the care, and that made all the difference.”



Canine Companion Leaves a Lasting Impact at Munson Manor

In May of 2022, Munson Manor Hospitality House welcomed a new canine companion to their facility. His name is Decker, a male chocolate labrador retriever, and he is Munson Manor's new therapy dog available for guests during their stay.

Decker has already impacted numerous lives in his short time as a member of Munson Manor's team. Through his cheerful and loving aura, Decker brings joyful and genuine connection to patients and their families. One of those families is that of Charlotte Pederson.

When Charlotte was hospitalized at Munson Medical Center, her family and daughter, Rita, stayed at Munson Manor for 24 days. Rita adored Decker and visited him often.

"He brought her so much comfort," shared Beth Rose, manager of Munson Manor. "She stopped by every morning and evening [to visit with Decker]; any time she wasn't at the hospital."

When Charlotte had the chance to take her first outdoor excursion since being admitted to the hospital, Rita asked if Decker could join.

“Charlotte immediately took to Decker,” said Beth. “The entire encounter was beautiful, inspiring, and a bit magical. Decker seemed to know exactly why he was there and gave her exactly what was needed – as long as he was getting his treats!”

Bringing Decker to Munson Manor was possible thanks to incredible support from donors. Together, our community raised nearly \$10,000 for his training and care expenses!

Just as he did for Charlotte and Rita, Decker's big heart and desire to befriend everyone he meets continues to change lives. We are so thankful for Decker's presence and are excited to see how he helps others heal as time goes on.



Rita and Charlotte visit with Decker.

All guests of Munson Manor are encouraged to complete a survey at the conclusion of their stay. Many guests have mentioned Decker and the positive impact he had on their experience. Here are several notes received by Munson Manor staff:

- 🐾 **“The staff was excellent, and the dog a real treat—comforting somehow. What a wonderful place when life's a basket full of uncertainty. The kindness was so soothing when it seemed our world was upside down. Thank you.”**
- 🐾 **“Everyone there is so supportive and kind, Decker was a great new addition. Thank you for the hospitality shown to us.”**
- 🐾 **“We were very, very grateful to be able to stay at Munson Manor as it made my husband's stay in hospital so much easier on us. Appreciate the sandwiches, snacks, coffee, and Decker.”**



Penelope Penfold-Patterson, pictured above on the far right, poses for a photo with her family.

One Person Can Make Waves

When the COVID-19 pandemic first struck in 2020, high school senior Penelope Penfold-Patterson knew she wanted to make a difference.

Penelope, a seasonal resident of northern Michigan, spent her summers in Frankfort with her parents and grandparents. To protect her beloved community, patients in need, and the caregivers at Munson Healthcare Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital from COVID-19, Penelope launched an online fundraiser: Waves of Gratitude.

Penelope shared the following in her outreach to community members:

“What I have learned through the years is that northern Michigan is a truly special place, unlike any community or place you will find anywhere else in the world.”

"It is not simply a community, but a family that supports and cares for each and every person. I'm reaching out to all of our "families" on this email because we all have something in common: compassion for our loved ones and beautiful northern Michigan. COVID-19 is impacting so many around the

world and close to home, which is why it's important for us to come together during this time to extend our gratitude and support to those most in need."

Support through Waves of Gratitude provided personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers, emergency supplies, and assistance to patients impacted by COVID-19 in the form of gas cards, groceries, and utility payments.



"I was worried about the impact of COVID-19 on my grandma and my community," recalls Penelope. "Great times of need really put into perspective how important it is to have local community hospitals to keep us safe and provide care for the ones we love. I felt it was time to give back some resources to our beautiful community – so that future generations can enjoy it as much as we have."

Now in her junior year of college in New York, Penelope still returns to Frankfort every summer to continue making memories with her family, grandmother, and friends.

Munson Healthcare Foundations salutes this young philanthropist for supporting her local hospital and community during these challenging times!

Munson Healthcare Manistee and Paul Oliver Memorial Hospitals Welcome New Leadership



Kelly Tomaszewski, formerly chief nursing officer for Manistee Hospital, has been named interim community president of Manistee and Paul Oliver Memorial Hospitals.

"I am honored and excited to serve in this role," shared Kelly. "I've had the privilege of working at Manistee and Paul Oliver, and know the great services both hospitals provide. I am looking forward to the

work we will continue to do to supply exceptional healthcare in each community."

Kelly replaces James Barker who retired in July 2022 after more than a decade with Manistee Hospital.

Looking Back on James Barker's Legacy

James Barker served as the former President and CEO of Manistee and Paul Oliver Memorial Hospitals, and President of the Munson Healthcare South Region. James was em-



ployed at Manistee Hospital – previously West Shore Medical Center – for nearly 11 years.

"I feel blessed to have worked with the physicians, staff, and leadership of the South Region hospitals, and am thankful for the support of the superb leaders at Munson Healthcare," said James. "These hospitals will continue to be strong healthcare facilities for years to

come. It has been an honor to serve these communities, and an even greater honor to live in Manistee for so many years."

Under his leadership, Manistee Hospital was named a 2021 and 2022 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital by The Charis Center for Rural Health. Patients and the community have also benefited from an education center, new ORs, a new 46,000 square foot Community Center, and will soon see the completion of newly renovated Emergency Department.

Manistee Hospital Emergency Department Update

Through your support, the Emergency Department renovation project at Manistee Hospital moved from blueprints to hardhats and hammers in March of 2022. Renovations are currently underway, with the project scheduled for completion by November of 2022.

Your generosity will help to address critical needs such as patient privacy and comfort while delivering an enhanced patient experience. The new space will include:

- Three new airborne isolation rooms
- New, specialized safety rooms for behavioral health patients
- An increased number of private rooms
- Designated Emergency Room registration and waiting areas

Bringing this project to life would not have been possible without your support. **Manistee Hospital employees, patients, and generous donors came together to raise over \$1 million for this project. Thank you!**



A ground-breaking ceremony for the emergency department renovation took place in March of 2022.

2022 Community Events:

Thank You for Being Part of Something Amazing!



Rivals Rally

The Johannesburg-Lewiston Cardinals hosted the St. Mary Snowbirds for a friendly basketball rivalry on February 17.

Together, these teams raised **\$5,200** for cancer services at Otsego Memorial Hospital!

Coaches vs. Cancer

The McBain Rural Agricultural School took on Cadillac Area Schools in February 2022 for their annual Coaches vs. Cancer boys and girls basketball games. Proceeds from this event were donated to cancer services at Cadillac Hospital!



8th Annual Hospice Breakfast

This year's Munson Healthcare Hospice Breakfast took place at the Park Place Hotel on May 17 and raised over **\$48,300** to support palliative, hospice, and bereavement care for patients and families.

Scan the QR code to hear from Gretchen Dunfee on her experience with hospice services.



19th Annual Cadillac Hospital Golf Ball

This event, held on June 3 at the Cadillac Country Club, raised **\$25,000** to help bring a new state-of-the-art urology laser to Cadillac Hospital.

32nd Annual Grayling Hospital Golf Classic

Support of the Grayling Hospital Golf Classic on June 24 made it possible to raise **\$23,000** towards the purchase of 13 new crash cart defibrillators for Grayling Hospital.



24th Annual Otsego Memorial Hospital Golf Outing

This year's Golf Outing, held at Treetops Resort on June 15, raised over **\$40,000** to support the purchase of new cardiac telemetry monitors for the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program at Otsego Memorial Hospital.

Boyne Angels Ladies Golf

The Boyne Angels ladies golf group hosted their annual summer fundraiser on August 3. These ladies raised **\$3,600** for Charlevoix Hospital!



Black Bear Gran Fondo

Grayling Hospital employee Dale LaPointe biked 100 miles in the Black Bear Gran Fondo on July 9 to raise funds for the Crawford Continuing Care Center. Through Dale's efforts, over **\$1,100** was raised to support facility and patient room upgrades.

Tee off for Benzie

The Crystal Downs Women's Auxiliary hosted their annual golf outing on July 19, raising **\$8,720** for Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital!



Pro-Am at Crystal Downs

This year's Pro-Am golf outing took place on August 8 at Crystal Downs and raised **\$16,700** for program and equipment needs at Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital!

10th Annual Power of the Purse

Community members gathered at the Cadillac Country Club on August 19 for an evening of purses and supporting Cadillac Hospital. More than **\$37,000** was raised for the hospital's Family Birth Center!

Upcoming Events



Giving Tuesday

This worldwide day of giving back takes place on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and Black Friday. Join us on November 29 to make a difference in your community!



30th Annual Charlevoix Hospital Holly Daze

Holly Daze is a beloved holiday celebration supporting critical services at Charlevoix Hospital. This in-person event will take place on Thursday, December 8 – more details coming soon!

Visit munsonhealthcare.org/foundationevents to view additional community events.



Interested in hosting an event to support your local hospital? We love assisting with these initiatives! Please contact Kira Walkup at **231-213-1161** for more information.



1150 Medical Campus Dr. | Traverse City, MI 49684

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
TRAVERSE CITY MI
PERMIT #288

Share Your Story

Did you, or someone you know, receive great care at a Munson Healthcare facility? Have you made a gift in honor of a healthcare worker or loved one? We want to hear about it! Email your story to foundation@mhc.net or scan the code to visit our website.



231-213-1150 | foundation@mhc.net | 1150 Medical Campus Dr., Traverse City, MI 49684