

Focus on Philanthropy

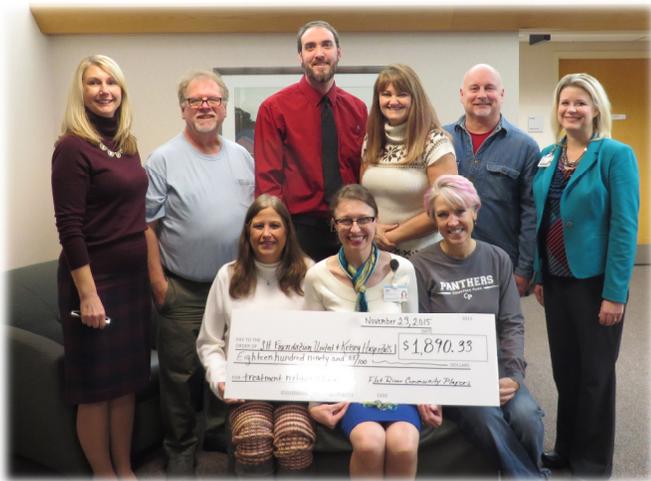
Spectrum Health Foundation United and Kelsey Hospitals

December 2015

Making a Difference

Flat River Community Players donation will bring comfort to cancer patients

Flat River Community Players (FRCP) presented three performances of the Dixie Swim Club on September 18 and 19, 2015 to raise funds for Spectrum Health Cancer Center at United Hospital. The theater group's reprise of the Dixie Swim Club was to honor a member of their group who is currently battling cancer. They decided they would like their donation to go toward the purchase of a treatment recliner chair.



Front row left to right: Roxanne Hutchinson, FRCP member; Judith Smith, manager of oncology services; Donita Caughlin, FRCP member. Back row left to right: Laurie Tissue, foundation development coordinator; Lyle B. Fales; Kent Schuster; Patricia Rockafellow; Spence Tower, FRCP members; Shelly Westbrook, foundation director

When patients undergo chemotherapy treatments that may last up to six to eight hours, a comfortable recliner helps ease the time spent in treatment. The cancer center's patient volume has significantly increased, creating a need for an additional chair.

Performance proceeds generated \$1,890.33 and an additional \$110 in outright donations. In total, just over

\$2,000 of the \$5,000 needed for a chair has been raised through this initiative. If you are interested in making a donation to benefit the Spectrum Health Cancer Center at United Hospital or another program or service at United or Kelsey Hospitals, please contact the foundation at 616.225.6328 or visit <https://give.spectrumhealth.org/donate>. Please be sure to select a designation on the drop down function.

Local donors and Hunt for a Cure group fund STAR Pedometers

In collaboration with the foundation, Hunt for a Cure (HFC) fundraising committee and local donors, \$2,400 has been awarded to purchase pedometers for patients who are part of the United Hospital STAR Program.



We are committed to offering the best available survivorship services. This is why the STAR Program® has been implemented at United Hospital. It includes training our staff in the latest oncology rehabilitation care and implementing research-based protocols proven to help cancer survivors optimally heal and function.

One best practice protocol is to provide patients with a free pedometer. We know patient outcomes are improved with pedometer usage and we want to remove any financial barriers to making that happen.

Thankfully, HFC proceeds made this best practice protocol possible. HFC is an annual benefit basketball game to raise cancer awareness and funds to support two important programs, one of which is Spectrum

Health Cancer Center at United Hospital. Local adults battling cancer receive comfort, therapeutic and health-restoring items such as blankets, books, gas cards and now pedometers.

The second program benefitting from HFC funds is PORT, the Pediatric Oncology Resource Team. Most children from our community who are diagnosed with cancer receive care at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital (HDVCH). An important program of HDVCH is PORT, which serves children and families of the pediatric hematology/oncology program and blood and bone marrow transplantation program. Our local families need additional assistance like prepaid gas and phone cards, cafeteria meal passes and therapeutic family-friendly activities such as Spa Night, Dad's Night out with the Kids, an annual picnic and holiday parties.

Over the past six years, HFC volunteers (many of whom are students of Greenville High School) have raised awareness and funds to support local families battling cancer.

Current Updates

Kelsey Hospital Guild

On Thursday, October 22, the guild was awarded with the 2015 Quality of Life Award by the Lakeview Area Community Fund. This award was established in 2007 and provides the community with an opportunity to recognize individuals, groups and/or organizations that have enhanced the quality of life in the Lakeview area. In order to be considered for this award, the nominee must be a resident, former resident or group from the Lakeview area and must have made contributions to the community.



Front row left to right: Lee Wood, Phyllis Painter, Ruth Boyce, Janet Johnson, Marilyn Foster
Back row left to right: Kim Carr, Lee Ann London, Marsha Andersen, Pat Rankin, Shelly Westbrook, Katelyn Johnson

The guild continuously makes an impact on health care at Kelsey Hospital and for the patients and family members of the Lakeview area.

They host monthly and sometimes bi-weekly fundraisers. Their largest fundraising event is the Tree of Love, which raises over \$7,500 each year.

Volunteer Services

The foundation hosted a volunteer appreciation luncheon on Wednesday, November 18 in honor of United and Kelsey Hospitals' 101 active volunteers. Currently, 69 volunteers serve in 20 hospital departments, 23 serve on the Kelsey Hospital Guild, and nine members of the community serve on the patient and family advisory council. This special luncheon is held in recognition of our volunteers' kind and caring dedication to United and Kelsey Hospitals' patients and employees.

A highlight of this annual luncheon is the presentation of the Suzanne Christensen Volunteer Award, which is presented to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the United and Kelsey Hospitals' community through volunteerism or other significant goodwill. It is with great pleasure and honor to announce Pam Rinaldi as this year's recipient.



Left to right: Shelly Westbrook, foundation director; Pam Rinaldi, Suzanne Christensen award recipient; Brian Brassler, president of Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospitals

Pam has been volunteering for the hospital since 1979 and has been a Kelsey Hospital Guild member since

Year End Gift Dates

By timing your charitable donations before December 31, you will see a tax break for the year when you itemize deductions.

- **Write a check** – The postmark on the envelope you mail is the date of the gift.
- **Charge your credit card** – A fast and easy way to make your gift. Just call us at 616.225.6427 or use our secure on-line donation at <https://give.spectrumhealth.org/donate>. The day the charge is authorized is the gift date. Please be sure to designate United or Kelsey Hospital from the designation drop down function.
- **Contribute appreciated securities** that you have held more than one year. You can claim deductions for their full fair market values and avoid any tax on appreciation. Securities gifts are deductible on the date they are transferred to our account.

Our office will be open on Thursday, December 31 until 3 p.m. Please feel free to stop in to drop off your gift or call us with questions.

Not intended as legal, tax, or investment advice.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sales and Events

- December 15, 2015 – Kelsey Hospital Tree of Love
- February 13, 2016 – Charity Ball

Spectrum Health Foundation
United and Kelsey Hospitals
703 Marvel Dr., Greenville, MI 48838
616.225.6427

<http://give.spectrumhealth.org/united-kelsey>

