Focus on Philanthropy

Spectrum Health Foundation United & Kelsey Hospitals

November 29, 2013

Making a Difference

Much-Needed Distraction and Entertainment for Those Battling Cancer

Local adults battling cancer receive health, hope and healing at Spectrum Health United Hospital Cancer Center in Greenville, Michigan. Many receive chemotherapy or bone marrow biopsies, which are often painful. This treatment requires patients to sit in one area for ninety minutes to seven hours. To put that into perspective, patients sometimes sit for one treatment session the same amount of time it takes to drive from Greenville, Michigan to Louisville, Kentucky.

Thankfully, the Lions Club and Hunt for a Cure teamed up to provide entertainment options. They have provided iPads with protective cases and devices plus a much-needed television for the patient waiting area. Now patients will be able to update their care pages – an online community resource – allowing friends and family to be informed of their care, share the journey and provide emotional support. They will also be able to watch a movie or television show, play electronic games and connect with loved ones on social media. It’s heartwarming to see these two groups come together to make this possible.

On December 4, 2013, members from the Lions Club and Hunt for a Cure visited the cancer center and met John Edmonds, a very grateful patient. John was diagnosed with cancer in 2011. He receives treatments at Spectrum Health United Hospital Cancer Center. John was on a four week rotation where he would receive treatment seven days in a row every four weeks. John is now on a six week rotation receiving treatment five days in a row. He feels good most days and is extremely grateful for the opportunity to use the iPads and watch television during treatment.

The appreciation and joy didn’t stop with John. While the photo was being taken, other patients waiting to receive care heard what was happening and personally shook hands with Hunt for the Cure and Lions Club members expressing their appreciation.

Current Updates

Recent Grant Awards

If anyone heard cheers coming from the foundation house at 703 Marvel Drive on November 20 it was for good reason. That was our reaction when we opened the mail and learned about the Greenville Area Community Foundation’s grant support for United Lifestyles Car Seat Safety Program, Project Save Our Children and the Lakeview Youth Clinic. Their investment helps make each of these programs a possibility and a success.

- **United Lifestyles Car Seat Safety Program** – Underserved families in Montcalm County will receive car seats and education, helping to
Focus on Philanthropy

prevent accidental injuries and death in children under five years old.

- **Project Save Our Children** – Students will receive hands-on educational experiences related to the dangers of driving distracted or drunk.

- **Lakeview Youth Clinic** – We will be able to fund ongoing outreach programs to reach more students and positively empower and affect more lives. The Lakeview Youth Clinic addresses the unique needs (medical, social-emotional, developmental) of adolescents ages 10-21 regardless of ability to pay.

*Thank you Greenville Area Community Foundation. You are truly making a difference in our community.*

**November - Diabetes Awareness Month**

Spectrum Health United Hospital Diabetes Education was very fortunate to be a recipient of funds from the 2013 Spectrum Health Foundation Charity Ball. Through these funds we have provided people with diabetes helpful tools to manage their blood sugar levels and live healthier lives.

People are offered an individual assessment visit in addition to our full nine hour diabetes class series. The class features comprehensive education about the disease, self-management, and how to reduce their risk of complications of diabetes such as cardiovascular disease.

Education is pivotal in the management of diabetes. One patient commented, “It educated me enough to understand what things I need to eat in order to keep my blood sugar from getting too high and the importance of all the risks and complications. I didn’t know this. I would not have been able to attend without the foundation’s support. I’m really thankful I was able to go through the classes.”

Charity Ball funds have also allowed us to provide vital supplies to aid in the management of diabetes such as glucometers and test strips. Thanks to you, we have already begun to impact individuals in our community.

**Charity Ball**

Our 12th Annual Charity Ball will be held on Saturday, February 8 at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park and planning is underway for another spectacular evening of caring.

The event committee has chosen a tasty menu from The Catering Company; the same caterer that provided the delicious meal last year. Many of the details that make the Ball so special have been determined and invitations will be mailed at the end of December.

The fundraising committee is busy contacting prospective sponsors. We are grateful to area businesses readily committing to sponsorships: Meijer will be a Gala Sponsor, Mersen a Platinum sponsor, Bryan Kading –Edward Jones and Hathaway Properties will be Silver Sponsors and VantagePointe Financial Group a Bronze Sponsor. If you or your business would like to support the Spectrum Health United Hospital Obstetrics Department Renovation Project with a Charity Ball sponsorship or donation, please call Laurie Tissue 616.225.6328 or email [laurie.tissue@spectrumhealth.org](mailto:laurie.tissue@spectrumhealth.org)

**Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**

A volunteer appreciation luncheon was held on Wednesday, November 13 in honor of the Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospital volunteers and Kelsey Hospital Guild members. The luncheon was held to thank hospital volunteers and guild members for their kind and caring dedication to Spectrum Health United and Kelsey Hospitals’ patients and staff.

The 2013 Suzanne Christensen Volunteer Award was presented at the luncheon. The Suzanne Christensen
Focus on Philanthropy

award is given annually to a recipient who has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the Spectrum Health United Hospital and Kelsey Hospital community through volunteerism or other significant goodwill. It is with great excitement and honor to announce that Sadie Springsteen is this year’s recipient.

Sadie has been volunteering at United Hospital since July 2012 and supports United Lifestyles and the foundation. Sadie has exhibited true dedication, enthusiasm and a giving heart. United and Kelsey Hospitals sincerely appreciate the work that Sadie does and congratulate her on this noteworthy honor.

Masquerade Sales
Upcoming Kelsey Hospital Guild & United Hospital Fundraiser
The foundation will be hosting a fundraiser on Tuesday, December 10 from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the United Hospital conference center. The Kelsey Hospital Guild will be hosting a guild fundraiser on Wednesday, December 11 in the Kelsey Hospital community classroom from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. A new vendor called Masquerade Fundraising will be donating proceeds to the Spectrum Health Foundation United & Kelsey Hospitals. Masquerade Fundraising is the largest $5 jewelry fundraising company in the nation. Masquerade Fundraising is dedicated to the hospital community and to helping volunteers and guilds meet their fundraising goals. Stop in for great stocking stuffers and gifts.

Kelsey Hospital’s Tree of Love
The Kelsey Hospital Guild has been busy decorating Kelsey Hospital to make it festive for the season. The Tree of Love is Tuesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the United Church of Christ in Lakeview.

The Tree of Love is a free community event. Come and enjoy the musical sounds of the season, delicious refreshments and listen as the names of those honored and remembered are read during this meaningful occasion. Your gift will help purchase a video laryngoscope, a lifesaving medical device used to place a breathing tube in patients who are unable to breathe on their own. To make a charitable donation, please call the foundation office at 616.225.6427.

Gift Shops
We are gearing up for the holidays! The Kelsey Hospital Gift Case had a two day holiday extravaganza, selling out of several unique items. The United Hospital Gift Shop had a winter wonderland sale that featured several fun games to win discounts and prizes.

You still have time to gather your holiday gifts. Come check out the Gift Shop in December as we are counting down the days to Christmas featuring different items each day at one day only discounts. In addition, Hunt for a Cure shirts are for sale in the United Hospital Gift Shop.

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.
■ 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 Monday, December 31
Focus on Philanthropy

until 4 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 8, 2013: 4 p.m. – Tree of Lights, United Hospital
- December 14, 2013: 11:30 a.m. – Santa Party, United Hospital
- December 17, 2013: 6:30 p.m. – Tree of Love, Kelsey Hospital
- January 1, 2014: Paint the town Purple and Gold for Cancer Awareness (Purple) and Childhood Cancer Awareness (Gold)
- January 11, 2014: 11:11 a.m. – Hunt for a Cure Color Blast Snow Run, Greenville High School
- January 25, 2014: 9 a.m. – Hunt for a Cure Powder Buff Volleyball Tournament, Greenville High School
- January 31, 2014: Hunt for a Cure Basketball Games & Blood Drive. Girls game – 6 p.m. Boys game – 7:30 p.m. A special vigil will be held after the boy’s game. Greenville High School
- February 8 (second Saturday), 2014 – Charity Ball, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park