



THE LEGACY

Big Stone Health Care Foundation
2020



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Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2020			
Assets		Liabilities & Equity	
<u>Current Assets</u>		<u>Current Liabilities</u>	
Cash in Checking	\$ 122,790.57	Current Liabilities	0.00
Cash in Investments	\$ 1,362,548.54		
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,485,339.11	Total Current Liabilities	0.00
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		<u>Equity</u>	
Fixed Assets	\$ 3,637.84	Equity	\$ 1,488,976.95
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,488,976.95	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 1,488,976.95

Statement of Activities Fiscal Year 2020			
Revenue		Expense	
Programs	\$ 119,646.09	Program Expense	\$ 18,909.51
Gifts and Memorials	\$ 15,620.00	Physician Recruitment	\$ 163,900.00
Events	\$ 84,723.36	Event Expense	\$ 16,857.57
Investment Income	\$ 122,639.52	Staff, Office Operations, & Insurance	\$ 74,486.28
		Grants & Scholarships	\$ 11,956.00
Total Revenue	\$ 342,628.97	Total Expense	\$ 286,109.36

From the Foundation Director

I am gratified to begin this Legacy with a sincere “Thank you” to our donors and friends of the Big Stone Health Care Foundation. A year ago, we faced an unprecedented time – it started with making the disappointing decision not to host our annual Gala, an event that has been a yearly celebration of healthcare and community for 26 years. However, that disappointment did not set the tone for our following nine months and I am happy to report a healthy year for the Foundation.

Our end of year statements as reported here in the Legacy are a direct reflection of you – our friends who continue to value local healthcare, who understand that we stand together and support one another in the most uncertain of times. Each year I choose a loose theme to bind the stories of the Legacy. This year “Community” was a no brainer. It began in the spring when the Big Stone Lake Area Chamber of Commerce held a radiothon raising over \$107,000 for local businesses and continued this holiday season with citizens sponsoring a flower bouquet for every resident at Fairway View Senior Living. Community was also on display in simpler ways when churches and individuals delivered treats for staff or when neighbors checked on each other and dropped off meals or sent cards. Community shone when you, as donors, opted not to ask for refunds for your Gala reservations, came out to golf at our 29th Oak Tree Classic in unprecedented numbers, and sent in memorial donations in memory of loved ones.

Nowhere was community more on display than here in our local healthcare facilities. The strength to inform and protect our communities began with leadership and providers and spread throughout the organization to every department. When the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed locally, we took a collective deep breath unsure of what to expect. But these frontline workers didn’t have that luxury – they remained diligent and dedicated. Knowing the risks of exposing themselves or their own families, they faced this unknown virus head-on. They set the standard in safety by advocating for social distancing and masking. Then they sent us home so they could continue in their duty to protect and heal. Undoubtedly, 2020 was the year of the healthcare worker.

Now as the calendar turns to a new year, we remain steadfast in our united goal to overcome this virus. All of us can make a difference in that goal. Your donations to the Foundation continue to support our healthcare system locally, ensuring we remain leaders in the region who offer the best in healthcare to our community. I ask you to consider a donation to the Foundation, or even better – make your donation in honor of a healthcare worker or someone in your community who has made a difference this year. May we all come together in sustaining this Legacy of a united community.

Warm Regards,



Vanessa Lhotka-Meyer



Diary of the Faithful



*Mom. Wife. Daughter.
Friend. Co-Worker.
Doctor. Human.
This journal is the
musings of Dr. Stacy
Longnecker, as she
traveled the road
of 2020 and all the
uncertainties.*

January 2020

My 12-year-old son came to me tonight upset about coronavirus. He has been watching videos of news stories on his phone he got for Christmas. I have paid very little attention to this virus. It is something that is affecting people in China, although it sounds very similar to a previous viral illness that we in the U.S. have encountered. I assure him I am not concerned as he shows me videos of people in China wearing masks. I assure him that the people of China are affected much more than we could ever be because of the population density and that they wear masks there a lot of the time anyway because of pollution. I assure him that he has nothing to worry about.

March 12th, 2020

News of this virus SARS-CoV-2 is emerging. Otherwise known as COVID-19. My husband and I leave with some friends for a long-awaited mini-vacation to Sioux Falls. We have everything planned out and taken care of for our five kids while we are gone. Volleyball practices and games are covered, a birthday party, sport's banquet – all covered. Off we go.

We discuss the coronavirus on the way but no one is too concerned. We make a few jokes. Some friends show up in masks and we laugh at them. Toilet paper is in high demand, even Costco is out! There are tons of funny memes. I see a few random people wearing masks and internally, I roll my eyes.

During our trip, we get notices that sporting games are canceled. A Junior Olympic volleyball tournament, even practices are canceled. Seriously? Then I see the videos. News from Italy. People dying in hospital hallways. Semi-trucks outside of hospitals to load the bodies of people who have died. Hospitals are overflowing. Morgues are full. Italians on videos

begging the rest of the world to take this virus seriously.

Three days later everything has changed. The videos from Italy are terrifying. I have heard the phrase "flatten the curve" numerous times. What is happening? This doesn't happen here. All of the sporting events are canceled. The state basketball tournament is canceled. School is canceled. We are on our way home from vacation with a different attitude and the atmosphere has completely changed.

March 16th, 2020

Today is the first day of Northside Medical Center having a separated Respiratory Clinic. Dr. Al Ross and the nursing staff have worked tirelessly to get this clinic isolated and safe for our regular patients' safety. I am on call. People are coming in with symptoms and I don't feel prepared. Test results are taking over a week to come back. Influenza diagnoses have increased which is only adding to the confusion. There are reports of COVID living on surfaces for days. I leave my shoes at work. I take my clothes off in the garage. I go immediately to the shower. My older kids don't want to hug me. Every day they ask, "How many sick people did you see?" My younger kids don't understand what is happening...I don't want to hug them.

I am watching videos from New York City. They are running out of ventilators. In Ortonville, we have one. We are having meetings to predict our personal protection equipment (PPE) needs and with our current supply, we will never be able to keep up if we have a surge of COVID positive patients.

Everyone is coming together and it is so comforting to have such a supportive community. People are sewing and donating masks. Man, I never imagined this. I am getting messages, flowers, and gift baskets dropped off for the healthcare workers. A case of Coors Light on my doorstep. Our medical staff is being called heroes. I haven't even done anything yet. I am just sitting here, waiting for the bomb to drop. How many people that I know and care about will die? What if we don't have what they need to take care of them but we can't transfer them out to a larger facility? What if I bring this virus home to my family? I love the community support but I don't feel like a hero. I wish people would stop calling me that. I haven't done anything. I am not doing anything. Just

sitting here, waiting. When will it hit here? How can we possibly be ready for this? Please stop calling me a hero. These thoughts run through my mind every day at this point.

Then, I get what I ask for.

Beth Fladhammer and I start doing weekly Facebook Live videos trying to provide education and reassurance. There is so much animosity in this nation. I don't know what happened but suddenly the world no longer views us as heroes – we are the villains. Fortunately, we live in a close community. I know that the majority of our community does not feel this way but sometimes the negativity feels so defeating. I wonder... do people know that I am just trying to provide the best health care that I can? Do they know that I have no political agenda - no bias other than wanting to keep people healthy and safe? I think they know...

I have always been someone who wants control. I want people to understand what could happen. I feel like we are failing at explaining this so people will understand. Or maybe they don't want to. This is not about me. This is about protecting people, helping people. Keeping them healthy. But the economy is suffering. Mental illness and isolation are skyrocketing.

COVID. Racism. Riots. Politics. Conspiracies. Mask up Minnesota. Let Them Play Minnesota. Faith over Fear. Plandemic. Quarantine. Isolation. Social distance. Mitigate the risk. Anxiety. Relationships destroyed. Families suffering. Businesses suffering. Kids depressed. What can I do? Why is this our fault? This is a pandemic. Why does this feel like healthcare versus the world? Who can help? Who can solve this?

And then, I get what I ask for. A calming presence. "Be still...."

I have no control. Control the things I can. Know my role and do the best that I can in that role. God wins. I know the end of the story. I know I will be fine. This too shall pass. We will get through this. Do not watch the news. Limit social media. Have peace. Breathe. I repeat this to myself over and over.

October 2020

Our area positive numbers for COVID are

increasing. The medical community is as prepared as we can possibly be. Throughout all of this, we have felt supported by this organization - OAHS. We are cared for and appreciated. We can do this.

The death rate of COVID is very low. I am not worried about the deaths from COVID. I am worried about the health care crisis that could happen when hospitals are full and staff is limited. Someone who comes in with a heart attack may not get to a catheterization laboratory. People with a stroke may not get timely treatment which is vital. Trauma patients may not get to a Level 1 trauma center. People will die from things they should never die from in the year 2020 just because we are overwhelmed. I never imagined this situation. These are unprecedented times we are living in.

November 2020

My heart goes out to the staff, residents, and their families in some of our regional long-term care facilities. It has been very difficult to keep this virus out, and once it is there, it spreads like wildfire. People that the staff have taken care of for years like their second family are dying. It is Devastating and exhausting. They are now taking care of very sick people, with less staff available, and fatal outcomes. I call to do a video visit with my patient, and the staff just cries. I fill out my first Covid-19 death certificate. And I know there will be more.

December 2020

As I finish this diary it is the beginning of December. I know this is far from over. In fact, I am reasonably sure that locally we have not seen the worst of what COVID-19 will do. So far we have kept



My older kids don't want to hug me. Every day they ask, "How many sick people did you see?" My younger kids don't understand what is happening...I don't want to hug them.

this out of the nursing home, but this comes with consequences. And it likely cannot be kept out forever. Can we do this until a vaccine is available? It's coming soon, but will it happen in time? And will it be enough?

I don't know what is going to happen. But after getting through these past 9 months, here is what I know for sure: I live in a community where unity means something, where we will come together despite our differences and live through what is most likely the most significant historical event for many of us. We are resilient. That resiliency will define our reaction to this historical time. If I have to live through a pandemic, there is nowhere else I'd rather live.

Within these walls of Ortonville Area Health Services, we are stronger. We are unified. We may not always agree on everything but we have one thing in common – our goal is to take good care of people. And while COVID-19 has caused a lot of destruction and chaos in this world, we will not let it do that in our hearts. We are resilient. And we will get through this together.



**Editors Notes: On December 18th 2020, Dr. Stacy, along with her colleagues and other frontline workers received the Pfizer-BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine. "This is a historic day towards turning the tide against COVID-19," said OAHS Chief Executive Officer Dave Rogers.*

2020 Scholarship Recipients



Congratulations to Mikayla Rasset and Allie Reiffenberger who were awarded the 2020 Foundation Health Care Scholarships! Pictured with Dr. Bob, these two young ladies already have amazing accomplishments to be proud of and big goals for the future!

Mikayla is the daughter of Greg and Heather Rasset of Ortonville. She attended Lake Area Technical College in Watertown, South Dakota to become a Physical Therapy Assistant this fall. Mikayla was involved in basketball, golf, Student Council and Business Professionals of America while at Ortonville High School. She was also employed at Fairway View Senior Communities as a Dietary Aid. Mikayla looks forward to helping people recover from sickness and injuries into full recovery as a healthcare professional. Good luck to Mikayla!

Allie is the daughter of Toby and Marci Reiffenberger of Odessa. Allie attended the University of North Dakota this fall for Health Sciences in pursuit of becoming an Occupational Therapist. Allie was involved in many activities while at Ortonville High School including Business Professionals of America and Student Council. She volunteered at many community events and was employed at Rustling Elms Resort as well as the Sioux Historic. Allie looks forward to being a healthcare professional and making a positive change in people's lives. Good luck Allie!

Ortonville Senior Citizens Club

Contributed by Ethel Swenson

The Ortonville Senior Citizens Club first met in August 1971 with a group of 65 people meeting at St. John's Catholic Church in Ortonville. They continued to meet monthly at various church locations and in a matter of a few months, they had a membership of 98 people. A very active group in Ortonville, they were instrumental in the building of the Ortonville Senior Center. They flexed their muscles on senior problems and applied for a grant and raised funds for a City bus. The bus was funded for those over sixty years or handicapped and when the group asked for drivers they immediately had eleven willing volunteers.

Their story continued as they worked on combining the strength of in our area for social activity and action on issues concerning the well-being of our Senior Citizen Community. As with all organizations, times change, communities change and the willingness of those participating as members change. With that being said, the Board of Ortonville Senior Citizens Club has taken action to disband the club. The group chose to will their remaining funds to the three organizations their principal donor Elaine M. Lawson noted in her own Last Will and Testament: The Big Stone Health Care Foundation, First Congregational Church, and Monarch Heights, all of Ortonville, MN.

There is so much value in the Legacy these groups have created and we value their commitment to the local community.

2020 Retirees:

Robin Allen – 14 years

Kris Redfield – 32 years

Phyllis Barr – 41 years

Doris Scheff – 27 years

Patti Homan – 20 years

Volunteers

2020 Gala Committee:

Caiti Conroy, Kristen Taffe, Deb Barnhardt, Heather Tietjen, Kristine Meyer, Amber Hasslen, Phyllis Barr, Russel Minahan, John Meyer, Brianna Kirchberg, Kelsie Thomas, Kayla Teske, Suzann Harmening, Melissa Sletten

2020 Oak Tree Committee:

Dr. Greg Peterson, Dr. Robert S. Ross, Val Rausch, Tony Rausch, John Thomas, Deb Barnhardt, John Meyer, Chris Batchelor, Ranet Schmeichel, Steve Barr

The following volunteers contributed their time and efforts to the mission of the Foundation throughout the year, sharing their time at often at multiple events. Thank you!

Russ Minahan, Jim Foster, Caiti Conroy, Kristen Taffe, Lindsey Lee, Michelle Knutson, Amber Molden, Kathy Meyer, Brittany Dybdahl, Mikayla Rasset, Mallory Roelke, Nicole Wood

Agnes Grabow
Todd & Sheree Keller
Jay Dee & Gloria Ross
Sharon Scoblic
Arvene Van Hout

Alex Hughes
Mark & Sandy Brown

Alex Rademacher
John & Jean Merritt
Kevin & Peggy Rademacher

Ann Marie Nelson
Joe & Deb Berning
Doran Nagel

Ann Nelson
Joe & Deb Berning
Eric Randleman
Robert & Gretta Yaeger

Art Hoernemann
LeVon Gerber
Aaron & Michelle Knutson
Evie Ulrich

Arwilda Taylor
Donna Hoel

Barbara Bohn
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Betty Nelson
Joe & Deb Berning

Beverly Starr
Deb Barnhardt
Annette Moen
Russ & Ronda Thielke
David & Anne Tonn
Justin & Misty Wittnebel

Bill Treinen
David & Anne Tonn

Bob Hausauer, Gloria Hausauer, Ron Hausauer, Mik Hausauer
Ruth Hansen
David & Anne Tonn

Brian Sandberg
Donna Hoel

Carol Kellen
Joe & Deb Berning

Carol Selfers
David & Anne Tonn

***Charles Lindquist**
Kevin Sutton

Colleen Hedge
Kevin & Becky Backstrand
Big Stone Lake Fish & Ride
Diane & Pat Dwyer
Terry & Judy Gere
Glenda Loeschke
Jim & Cindy Nelson
Russ & Ronda Thielke

Cynthia Gustafson
Vernon Kirkeby
Annette Moen
Bruce & Evie Swigerd
Robert & Gretta Yaeger

Dan Christian
Kevin & Becky Backstrand

Daniel Petersen
Joe & Deb Berning
Curt & Sharron Bystol
Dan & Ardell Hasslen
David & Anne Tonn
Robert & Gretta Yaeger

David Ohrtman
Mark & Sandy Brown
Vanessa Lhotka-Meyer

Diane Stern Hiner
David & Anne Tonn

Don & Mary Geier
Nancy Geier

Donald Schweer
Mark & Sandy Brown

***Dr. Robert S. & Mary Ross**
Roger & Barbara Nornes

***Dr. Robert S. Ross**
David & Anne Tonn

Ed & Naomi Gerhardt
Bryan & Kristi Delage

Erv Mikkelson
Darlene Mikkelson

Ethel Benshoof
Joe & Deb Berning
Douglas & Dawn Leger
Justin & Misty Wittnebel

Father Bob Goblirsch
Joe & Deb Berning
Dan & Ardell Hasslen

Fred Lockwood
John & Myrna Adams
Joe & Deb Berning
Marilyn Hanson

Howard & Vivian Janssen
Gordon & Diane Lindquist
Darlene Mikkelson
Annette Moen
David & Anne Tonn
Nola Lockwood

Gayle & Colleen Hedge
Wayne & Ethel Schoon

Geraldine A. Lillehaug
Joe & Deb Berning

Gertrude Leger
Ron & Ginger Athey
Mark & Judy Fuller
Roger & Carol Hynnek
Aaron & Michelle Knutson
Jay Dee & Gloria Ross
Russ & Ronda Thielke
David & Anne Tonn
Arvene Van Hout

Henry Nelson
Douglas & Dawn Leger
Justin & Misty Wittnebel

Irene Friedrich
Gary & Deborah Hoffman

Jackie Kottke
Annette Moen

Jeanette Kaercher
Dan & Shar Petersen

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Joe & Deb Berning

Jolaine Weros
Clyde Weros

Jonathan Bartz
Deb Barnhardt
Joe & Deb Berning
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Sharon Scoblic

Joy Dolan
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Vanessa Lhotka-Meyer

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Kay Reich
Arvene Van Hout

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Joel & Sheri Frette
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Kottkee Family
Annette Moen

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Mason Nash
Sara Mattison
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Shirley Kindt
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Harvey & Virginia Wildung

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Mervin Tonn
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Darlene Mikkelson
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Robert & Gretta Yaeger

Robert Hinders
Arvene Van Hout

Robert Swigerd
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Annette Moen
Tom Oakes

Ronald Gustafson
Elaine Gustafson

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Shirley Davidson
Annette Moen
Shirley Finberg
Joe & Deb Berning
Donna Hoel
Bruce & Evie Swigerd

Stan Adolphson
Dan & Ardell Hasslen

Stella Hynnek
Roger & Carol Hynnek

Tammi Amberg
Arnold & Mildred Amberg

Tayib Nash
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Joanne Schmeichel

Vivian Swenson
Joanne Schmeichel

Walt and Ramona Dorry
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Wayne Wellendorf
Annette Moen

Willie Sherod
Kevin & Becky Backstrand
Joe & Deb Berning
Howard & Vivian Janssen
Doris Johnson
John & Jean Merritt
Tom Oakes
Sharon Scoblic

Zina Kohntopp
Joe & Deb Berning

Thomas & Teresa Dorry
Mark & Judy Fuller
Dan & Ardell Hasslen
Dwayne Koehntopp
Arlen & Ardell LaCombe
Gordy & Diane Lindquist
John & Jean Merritt
Wayne & Ethel Schoon
Erlys Sis
Garry & Ethel Swenson
Arvene Van Hout
Bill & Diane Vangsness
Robert & Gretta Yaeger

Name
Discrepancy

The Foundation is appreciative of our donors and makes every effort to list appropriately. Please contact Vanessa 320.839.4135 foundation@oahs.us at the Foundation to correct errors or discrepancies that may occur.

*Denotes Honorarium

INVESTING IN HEALTH CARE

Providers

In 1990, Dr. Peter Hansen was the campaign manager of the Big Stone Health Care Foundation's first and most important fundraising campaign: *Investing in a Healthy Future*. Dr. Hansen, like so many other champions of the Foundation, knew the value and importance a healthcare foundation could bring to this community. He rallied friends, family, and fellow professionals to help ensure this initial campaign was successful in establishing a long sustaining Foundation.

In 1999, after 48 years of practicing, Dr. Hansen decided to retire from dentistry. He took Dr. Anthony Hilleren under his wing, bridging a relationship between him and the Foundation. This relationship allowed for Dr. Hilleren to establish his practice here in Ortonville and ingrained in him a long time appreciation for the community. When given the opportunity years later, to acquire a practice in Benson, Minnesota – Dr. Hilleren couldn't resist the chance to return to his roots. But he maintained his support for the community and Foundation that had given him his start. He continued to sponsor tables and holes for the Foundation's major events: the Gala and Oak Tree Classic, sponsored the school sporting advertisements, and provided excellent care to his many patients that followed him back to Benson.

Now, twenty years later, Dr. Hilleren's step-son: Dr. Noah Zehringer joined the practice and together they teamed up to form Bluestem Dental – Lakeside Office, here in Ortonville. Dr. Steven Winther also joins them on this endeavor as he begins to wind down his career. It always has been and continues to be important to the providers that quality dentistry is available locally. Opening this new state of the art



office has been a thrill and labor of love for the group but also made them realize they would be wise to recruit another provider to join them.

Dr. Corinne (Kastrup) Dohman, is originally from Milbank, South Dakota, and happened to attend graduate school in Arizona with Dr. Zehringer. She was an obvious great fit for the practice and community. It didn't take long for the Foundation to agree that there was considerable value in helping to recruit a full-time dentist at the Ortonville office. Someone available after hours or in emergencies who would also live, work, and build a family here. Corinne's husband Drew is employed at Cenbank as a loan officer and the couple has bought a house here this past summer. They are enjoying learning more about the community and getting involved.

The practice now employs 7 staff members and 4 dentists. Bluestem Dental's name stems from tall, native prairie grasses, one that has deep roots, and plays an important role in the ecosystem. Bluestem Dental also is deeply rooted in the communities they serve and have a goal of providing great care, in a comfortable and relaxed environment. They look forward to being rooted in this community for many years to come.

Healthy Living

The Foundation proudly contributed to the purchase of a Nu-Step Exercise bike for Fairway View residents in January. This piece of equipment is shown to give a full body workout safely and effectively. Using the NuStep builds and retains muscle mass, bone strength, increases flexibility, range of motion, and lowers the risk of falls. It has also shown to reduce the three most common chronic health conditions in older adults including heart disease, hypertension, and Alzheimer's.

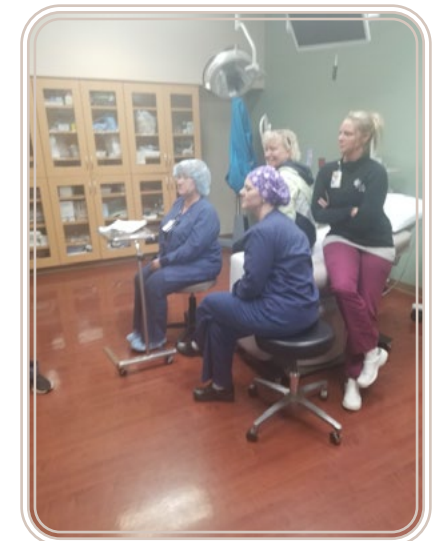
"Our tenants love the Nu-Step! Several have stated that they had used one while doing Physical Therapy and are grateful they continue to have access to the bike. Especially at this time of COVID19, it has been a lifesaver both in alleviating stress and allowing for continued healthy lifestyles." says Emily Shelstad, Fairway View Assisted and Catered Living Housing Manager



Pictured: Eunice Schmieg on the NuStep exercise bike.

Equipment

According to the United States Breast Cancer Statistics, about one in every eight women (about 12%) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. With the knowledge that this is a serious issue, the Surgery and Radiology Departments of OAHS have worked together to create a more focused and calming environment specifically geared at breast health awareness.



In support of their efforts, the Foundation was able to contribute toward the purchase of a Core Breast Biopsy System. Having this equipment at our local facility means that a biopsy will be able to be performed locally and in a timely manner should a mass be found during a mammogram. Being able to perform these procedures with this top of the line equipment has made a difference in the lives of the patients in our community of all ages offering comfort, viability, convenience in an uncertain time. The Foundation makes this donation in memorial of Marilyn Lindahl, a breast cancer survivor and Healthcare advocate for the Ortonville area.

"Having this equipment allows us to provide a wonderful service to our patients. Having the procedure done close to home and from the familiar faces of our staff bring a piece of mind to our patients. Even if they need further surgery out of town, they can still see their surgeon for follow-ups here at OAHS. Our surgeons are extremely happy with the breast biopsy device and are currently working on purchasing it for Watertown hospital." Sandy Brown, Surgery Nurse Coordinator

Level: Under \$100

James & Barbara Aarstad
Almond Twp. Combined Fund Drive
Venus Anderson
Jon & Kim Anderson
Sonny & Mary Arndt
Carol & Jane Asche
Monte & Lynn Athey
Ron & Ginger Athey
Cody & Jennifer Backstrand
Kevin & Becky Backstrand
Eric & Lois Banken
Verda Bartz
Debra Baumgard
Kevin Benson
Lois Bergeson
Big Rock Grill & Casino
Lucille Block
Neal & Becky Block
Cindy Bork
Bobby & Darlene Born
Mark & Maria Botker
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Kristen & Clayton Brobst
Neal & Rosemary Brown
Lacey & Aaron Busack
Pat Collins
Ashton & Caiti Conroy
Mary Lou Croatt
Lee & Melissa Davis
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Darin & Lori Dockter
William & Vicki Dorry
Pat & Lynelle Dwyer
Brittany Dybdahl
Andrea Eisenbeisz
Randy & Kim Eisenschenk
Greg & Michelle Erickson
John and Sandra Fonder
Rev. Robert & Susan Forseth
Joel & Sheri Frette
Mark & Judy Fuller
LeVon Gerber
Brent Gerber
Verden & Carole Gerber
Ronda & Kyle Gillespie
Henry & Sherri Gimmestad
Dorothy Gmitterko
Dr. Jessica Graham
Gary & Kathy Granquist
Brian & Kayla Haben
Ruth Hansen
Suzann Harmening
Jade Hasslen
Jerry & Marilee Haukos
Travis & Natasha Haukos
Lori Helms
Glenn & Deb Henningson

Matthew & Julie Henrich
Sharon & Dale Hoefert
Robert & Arlene Hoffman
Chad & Kelsey Holtz
Patti Homan
Michael & Savannah Hughes
Roger & Carol Hynnek
Doris Johnson
Lee & Jeanie Kanten
Catherine Karels
Shirley Kindt
Vernon Kirkeby
Colleen Kleindl
Whitney Kleindl
Kerri Larson
Charles & Karen Layher
Lindsey & Josh Lee
Douglas & Dawn Leger
Gordy & Diane Lindquist
Glenda Loeschke
Todd & Pamela Lounsbery
Sara Mattison
Randy & Kristi McLain
Dr. Amanda & Adam McMahon
Tammie Mendenhall
David & Kathy Meyer
Jay & Myra Mielitz
Dean & Connie Mikkelsen
Lon & Cindy Moen
Amber Molden
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John & Carrie Olson
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Level: \$100 - \$249.99

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Kelly Athey
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Couple’s Tournament
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First National Bank in Sioux Falls
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Kendra Fryer
Gabe’s Auto Service
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Cara Greger
Ryan & Jodi Gronholz
Elaine Gustafson
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Nola Lockwood
Mac Daddy’s
Brent McEwen
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Shannon and Lawrence
Millerbernd
Marcus & Rachel Moberg
Moose Lodge - Ortonville
Doran Nagel
Jim & Cindy Nelson
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Brent Nelson
Mark & Kris Ninneman
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Kristen & Jeremy Ohm
Pepsi-Cola CO
Caurisa Peyton
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Scott & Jennifer Pinkert
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Realty Title & 1031 Exchange Co.
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Kayla Teske
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Audrey Tobin
Sara & Jeremy Tollakson
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Michella Wollschlager
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Level: \$250 - \$499.99

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Drew & Dr. Corinne Dohman
Mike & Diane Dorry
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Dr. Sarah & Chad Fischer
Tyler & Melissa Gall
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Terry & Judy Gere
Kendra & Matt Hicks
Pat Janke
Howard & Vivian Janssen
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Lakewood Supper Club & Sioux Historic Pavilion
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Dan & Catherine Welberg
Cheryl Werner
Dr. Robert & Gretta Yaeger

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Barbara Anderson
Anita & Mike Anderson
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Shane & Tina Ayres
Deb Barnhardt
Joe & Deb Berning
Big Stone Therapies, Inc.
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Dr. David Collins
Conroy Electric, Inc.
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Lewis Family Drug
Nicole & Mike Lovgren
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John & Kris Meyer
Darlene Mikkelsen
Mundwiler and Larson
Funeral Home
Ortonville Area Health Services
Ortonville Family Eye Care
Ortonville Plumbing & Heating
Otter Tail Power Company
Dr. Greg & Mary Peterson
Lindsay Plathe
Poet Biorefining
Rausch Bros. Monument
Rochelle Reede
Dr. Sarah & John Ristvedt
Phyllis Seiler
Shared Medical Services
Kelsey & Bryn Stock
Kevin Sutton
Bruce & Evie Swigerd
Kevin Taffe
Mary Ann Ulrich
Waste Management of Ortonville
Wold Architects & Engineers
Woods, Fuller, Shultz & Smith P.C.

Level: \$1,000 - \$2,499.99

Dr. Susan Andersen
Mark & Sandy Brown
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Peter Geier
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Dr. Anthony & Nancy Hilleren
Hedge & Herberg Inc.
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Annette Moen
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Prairie Lakes Health Care System
Sanford Health Foundation
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Deacon Paul & Julie Treinen

Level: \$2,500 - \$4,999.99

Brian & Amber Hasslen
David & Heather Rogers
Roman & Carol Taffe
Pr. Lynn Thomas
Transmed, Inc.

Level: \$5,000 - \$9,999.99

Colleen Hedge
Gregg & Libby Lindahl
Dr. Robert S. & Mary Ross
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Level: \$10,000 AND ABOVE

Hasslen Construction Co. Inc.
Northside Medical Clinic
Ortonville Senior Citizens Club

Matching Gifts

Many Companies and corporate foundations match individual contributions of their employees. Please check with your Human Resources Department to find out more about your company’s matching gift program.

TWO WORDS:

Develop Resilience

by Twila Mursu, PMHNP

How to Leave 20 Stresses for 21 Successes in Two Words.

2020 has certainly been a challenging year. Many events have impacted all of us. Each month or season seems to bring another loss, change, or stressor. Common stressors in 2020 have been: the COVID-19 pandemic; unexpected financial stressors; small businesses struggling to maintain; fears and judgments over masking; concerns about older generations getting COVID; social isolation; schools being called off or changed to distance learning; loss of friendships due to political views; social anxiety; frustration with social media (yet many continue to read it obsessively); recognizing concerns over racial inequalities; and not seeing family over the holidays. Many in Big Stone County and our surrounding communities have experienced these things. Stress and anxiety have been high while navigating 2020.

It helps to recognize the two kinds of stress affecting and impacting our mental well-being and our physical health: intense stress and prolonged stress. We have been experiencing both for months. It takes a toll on individuals. No one is immune to stress in life. When the pandemic began, many people pulled together in our communities and worked together towards reducing the spread of COVID. As time went on, many people became disillusioned and frustrated. Many of us are feeling exhausted. I am frequently asked how long before things get better or when will we return to normal? When stress levels are intense and/or prolonged, we start to see people begin to struggle with coping. While over the past months it often felt like there is no end in sight; we can blaze a new trail forward as we start 2021! The end is in sight using our inside insight!

To leave the stress of 2020, you can reclaim success for 2021 in 2 words. **Develop resilience.** I have spent a lot of time encouraging people



to develop resilience. Resilience is the ability to adapt to difficult situations and to keep functioning both physically and psychologically. Developing it does not make your problems go away. It does give you the ability to see past problems; find enjoyment in life, and better handle stress. You can develop skills to be more resilient.

I am frequently asked by people “what can I do”? Many feel that 2020 was lived in survival mode. When we feel that there is so much that we cannot do; we need to shift our focus to what we can do. By adding even a small element of certainty in the face of overwhelming uncertainty; you can re-establish a connection with the present moment, ground yourself, and maintain a good sense of self-control and confidence.

The first thing to do to develop resilience is to acknowledge the anxiety, worry, or anger one feels. It is important to acknowledge our stress and how we respond to it. Look at the root of your stress. Humans dislike uncertainty and tend to “fill-in-the-blanks” in situations. This can result in contriving highly improbable worst-case scenarios.

Understand your anxiety, anger, or feelings. Living through this pandemic is tough. Many of us have not been in this situation before. We have no rules or experience or role models to turn to. We are making things up as we go along. You may be feeling lost, confused, anxious, and worried. So is everyone else. These are all normal emotions. Allow yourself these feelings. Have compassion and patience for your struggles. Do not try to push away your difficult feelings or force yourself to “think positive”. That is not a healthy coping mechanism. It denies the reality of your current experience. All emotions are OK, even the tough ones.

Find ways to manage your anxiety or anger. One way of managing your anger or your anxiety is recognizing what is in your control and what is not in your control. You are totally in control of your response to the situation. Accept the uncertainties of the future. Identify areas in your life you can control. Be creative about finding things to look forward to in your routines. Pause. Breathe. Notice how you feel. Take slow deep breaths, stretch, or meditate.

Leave time for self-care. It is not realistic to think you can do it all: homeschool your kids; work full-time from home; maintain a perfect (clean, orderly) household; and take care of yourself and others. Focus on high priority items and don’t expect too much of yourself. Make time to unwind. Try relaxation techniques and listening to music. Try to do some other activities you enjoy. You may need to be realistic and lower your expectations. We can all learn a lot from slowing down and taking care of one another. Use this opportunity to carefully consider what you want in your life. A slower pace is not a bad thing. Take some time to mindfully contemplate what life lessons you can take away from this extraordinary time.

Help yourself and then help your children. Start with keeping a routine as this can be helpful. Within our homes, maintaining structure and routine is critical. It reinforces order and predictability. The structure will bind anxiety so maintaining our routines is helpful. Take time to schedule fun activities. Find reasons to laugh. Laughing is a healthy coping skill. Incorporate or continue to exercise. It releases endorphins and removes frustration. Maintain a regular sleep schedule. Limit your media intake to 20 minutes once or twice a day. Challenge your family to skip social media altogether. Be social and reach out to friends or family. Utilize the phone, FaceTime, or create a Zoom party. It is ok to share your feelings with your family and friends. The health benefits of having social support are many. Start a gratitude journal and list 3 good things that happen each day before going to bed.

Are you recognizing some of these symptoms? Do you feel a loss of control? Do you wonder what else you could or should be doing? Do you need to develop resilience? If so, do not be afraid to reach out. Talking with family or a friend can be a big help. Sometimes people feel they would like something more and want to talk

with a trained counselor. If you do recognize any symptoms, please pay attention.

Symptoms to look for can include changes in sleep or inability to sleep (insomnia); changes in appetite – either lack of appetite or stress eating; lack of interest in activities you previously enjoyed; inability to concentrate or focus; fatigue and lack of energy; or feeling disconnected and withdrawing from social interaction. If you aren’t as resilient as you would like to be, you can develop skills to become more resilient. In Big Stone County we do have mental health providers available to help you. As we leave 2020 stress behind and seek success in 2021, we can all resolve to help our community develop resilience.

LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS:

- Ortonville Area Health Services:
Twila Mursu- Psychiatric Mental
Health Nurse Practitioner;
Jacqueline Wollschlager – licensed
therapist; John Shirkey – licensed
therapist
- Woodlands Center Crisis Line for
Big Stone County 1-800-432-8781
coverage 24 hours a day/ 7 days a
week
- Woodland Center – Ortonville
Office 320-839-8322
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline:
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- National Suicide Hotline:
1-800-784-2433

Small Town Gratitude

On August 4th, 2020 after a pick-up game of basketball with his grandson, Brent Zahrbock found himself unable to get his breathing under control and began experiencing severe pain in his chest. It quickly became apparent to Brent and his wife Brenda that he needed medical care. Brenda called ahead to the emergency room at Ortonville Area Health Services and alerted them that they were on their way. Brent was experiencing a massive heart attack.

Upon arriving at OAHS, Dr. Ristvedt and the experienced staff were able to assess and stabilize the situation, immediately calling for Lifelink III to transfer him to Sanford Fargo for the care he needed. While Brent arrived in Fargo by helicopter, Brenda was left to get herself there and was unsure of what to expect when she arrived. But here in our small town communities, you are never alone and friends of the couple Scott and Tanny Meyer, stepped in to give her a ride. After arriving in Fargo, they learned Brent required four stents to open up his arteries as one showed a complete blockage, while the other showed three large blockages.

When Brent was 30 years old, he lost his 56-year-old father, Darwin, to a massive heart attack. Brent was standing only two feet from him, and there was nothing he could do to help his father. This was a devastating experience and a lifetime reminder that heart disease runs in his family. But Brent has always been fairly healthy, even passing a stress test in February of 2020 that showed no substantial concerns. There were no warning signs for Brent that his life was in jeopardy.

Brent and his wife Brenda have a deep Christian faith which is evident in almost all they do, from the way they have raised their four children, served their community in various facets, and conduct their careers. They care for and visit Brenda's parents and Brent's mother & step-father who all reside in different areas of Fairway View Senior Communities here in Ortonville. They are a part of this community and this community is a part of them. Brent was put on four different prayer chains for churches, received calls, texts, and cards, all encouraging him and praying for his health. The community he has called home for most of his life supported his fight to continue that life.

By 12:30 a.m., Brent was out of surgery and the following day was home recovering. But still, it took a community to ensure he maintained this path to wellness. Brent vowed to his cardiac rehabilitation therapist Kelly that he would be the best student she had ever had. He hasn't disappointed as they set goals together and revisit them every 30 days. Brent says he has never felt better in his life. He is thankful for the support and guidance Kelly has given him to live a heart-healthy lifestyle. At home, the couple's neighbors John and Kelsie have also been very supportive and Kelsie checks his vitals and gives him supportive advice when needed. The gratitude to have this second chance at life is something that Brent and Brenda are not taking lightly. The kindness that has been shown to them by their community is something they will carry in all they do.



Brent isn't sure why he was given a second chance at life when his father was not. But he knows better than anyone all the things his father missed out on - the same things Brent still anticipates experiencing. He is looking forward to watching his grandchildren grow up and spread their wings, witnessing all the great things they will accomplish in their lifetimes. He wants to attend concerts, ball games, graduations, and weddings with Brenda. The couple celebrated 39 years of

marriage at the end of August and they are looking forward to a lifetime of happiness together.

Most of us live in small-town communities because we enjoy the simplicity life has to offer: no traffic jams, appreciation for nature, knowing our neighbors and the safety we feel. That safety includes having access to quality healthcare facilities, providers, and emergency services.

The same way the community supported Brent and Brenda with prayers and cards - you are also supporting them and all your neighbors' healthcare through donations to the Foundation. We continue to provide educational opportunities, recruit providers, help purchase out of budget equipment and plan for future health care needs with donations made to the Foundation. The Foundation believes we all deserve big city care in our small towns where your neighbors are willing to shovel your snow or check your vitals. The people are what really make a small town a community.

DOCTOR PRESTON STEEN RETIRES

We said goodbye to Dr. Preston Steen this year. Dr. Steen has provided Oncology care through our Outreach department at Ortonville Area Health Services twice per month for the last twenty seven years. Through his time here, his expertise and compassion have made a difference in countless lives of both his patients and staff that have worked with him.

Dr. Bob shared his sentiments on Dr. Steen leaving and it is reverberated across our community "Over the years, I have commented many times to many people, that our organization has been blessed to have a physician of his quality come to our organization and take care of our cancer patients. Dr. Steen is a wonderful combination of expertise and caring. He has provided incredible care for our cancer patients over several decades. He will be missed by many patients and staff. I wouldn't want to follow in his footsteps. Thanks and God's blessings to him and his family."

Dr. Jarrett Failing, a Hematology and Oncology specialist from the Sanford Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo, ND will continue to provide Oncology outreach here in Ortonville. Dr. Failing completed his residency and Fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He strives to be a compassionate provider who treats the person and not just the disease.





The 27th Annual Gala affair was postponed due to COVID19. Even though we weren't able to hold this event, we were able to raise major funds from the generous donations, sponsorships & ticket sales. Thank you to all our donors, sponsors and friends who allowed this major fundraising event to be fruitful in its purpose of supporting local healthcare.

As the calendar has changed to 2021, we have asked our medical professionals to monitor the outlook for hosting the Gala this year. While we feel hope is on the rise and vaccinations are forthcoming - we feel the risk is too high at this time. There are discussions of having the event at a later date, but at this time, we feel it is too uncertain to set anything in stone. If you would still like to make your yearly donations to the Gala, please earmark your donation as "GALA 2021".

We will miss the friendship, laughs and shared support of so many of you this year again. We are planning to host a community picnic this summer and look forward to seeing so many friends again.



Celebrating the 29th year of the Oak Tree Classic was extra exciting this year, not only because we were actually able to hold the event – but because of the enthusiasm of our golfers, donors, volunteers and sponsors. 45 teams joined us on the course for a day that didn't disappoint in terms of friendship and fundraising. Due to COVID-19, the tournament was run slightly different, issuing tee times to each team from the 1st of 10th hole, hosting the Silent Auction online only and not hosting a tournament meal. Like most things, we learned how to adopt and much of what appeared as "challenges" ended up allowing for more efficiency and a cleaner tournament! Save the date for the 30th year: September 11, 2021.



Congratulations to our top placing teams:
First Place: Trent Zomer, Nate Treinen, Peter Treinen with a score of 51.2
Second Place: Dr. Bob Ross, Chuck Wieller, Craig Kern with a score of 51.5
Third Place: Deb Barnhardt, Dan Nelson, Lori Larson with a score of 51.9

Healthcare Employee Appreciation, Recognition, & Thanks

*H.E.A.R.T. Nominations:
A Grateful Patient Program*

This November, the Foundation was excited to kick off our Healthcare Employee Appreciation, Recognition and Thanks (H.E.A.R.T.) Grateful Patient Program. This is an opportunity for the public, patients, staff, friends or family to acknowledge the healthcare workers in our lives who have shown compassion, kindness, or went the extra mile. Healthcare workers come in all forms from Providers to Accountants, our technology or housekeeping crew to nursing, ambulance or administration.

With all the craziness of 2020, there has been one stable spot that has never wavered: our local healthcare. In 2020, they sent us home, stood their ground, changed how they work, answered questions and worked tirelessly to protect and inform their communities. This program is an opportunity to recognize those efforts and continue to support the Big Stone Health Care Foundation at a time when each donation is vital to our local healthcare.

To nominate a healthcare worker for a H.E.A.R.T. award go to www.givemn.org/heartnoms.com, ask for a brochure from a staff member or just send in to the Foundation office. Your nomination along with a donation to the Foundation will tell our essential employees that their efforts are recognized and valued.

In honor of the staff at Ortonville Area Health Services and Fairway View Senior Communities:

Terry & Judy Gere	Bill & Janice Powell
Anne Johnson	John & Lila Salls
Vanessa Meyer	Anne Schwagerl
Annette Moen	Dr. Robert S. & Mary Ross
Curtiss Olson	

In honor of the staff at Fairway View Assisted and Catered Living:

Emily Shelstad



Donuts for Dads was a free will donation event sponsored by Hartman's Supervalu of Ortonville. This event celebrated the dads in your home, office, or life by picking up donuts in a drive up fashion. After a long and uncertain quarantine, this was a safe way to share in some goodwill with community members and friends.

Donuts were not just for dads this year, as young Brinley Teske proved. Brinley, her mother Kayla and Grandma Angie were one car of many who supported this event for the Foundation.



HINDSIGHT OF 2020

By Allan Ross, MD

The pandemic started for Ortonville Area Health Services on March 9, 2020. I remember sitting in the conference room at the hospital, around the table with all the department managers and administration team. There was a lot of uncertainty about the future. What would be our protocols? Would we restrict visitors? Would we have enough PPE? How were we going to protect those most vulnerable who lived in Fairway View Neighborhoods?

Over the past year there have been many tough decisions that still weigh on my mind. I applaud the efforts of everyone in our organization. From the moment you walk onto our campus you have the front staff who takes your temperature and ask the all to familiar questions regarding COVID-19. The housekeeping staff who tireless clean, wash and disinfect. The nurses who are on the front line whether they see you in our respiratory clinic or take care of the ill in the hospital. Many others who work in the background screening and answering patient questions and planning for vaccines.

I am especially proud of those who work on the Fairway View campus. Yes there were deaths in our memory care unit and for those families I personally feel for your loss. I wish and rethink a way we could have not have those loses. The

*"With all
of the pain
the pandemic
has brought us,
there is hope"*



staff who took care of those loved ones who ultimately paid the price of being infected themselves also weigh on my mind. Cindy Jorgenson, Felicia Athey, Emily Shelstad, Sherry Deyo and others have done an outstanding job. Our nursing home is one of only a handful within the state to not have an outbreak. A testament to everyone's dedication on that campus to keep those residents healthy. The debate whether to allow visitors has been tough. Having residents not have the touch of their loved ones also has a cost.

With all of the pain the pandemic has brought us, there is hope. The vaccine is at our doorsteps and hopefully this allows us to return to normal. Once on the other side of this pandemic I hope we appreciate all the little things we have missed out over the past year. Personally I am thankful to everyone helped me over the years so I could be here to help my community during this time. I want to thank you for your trust and support over the years and also keep hope. Better days are ahead of us.

Sowing Acorns



Jeanette Felton, Doris Scheff, Nadine Villella, & Betty Reinke

Ortonville Area Health Services Auxiliary was formed in 1957 (as far as we can find evidence of!). The Group was essentially the first form of a healthcare Foundation in the Big Stone area created to raise money for the hospital, nursing home, and to offer community support. This group was made up of volunteer ladies throughout the years, many who were and remain life-long friends, united in the common goal of making a difference in their community and sharing many laughs while doing it!

While this group's membership has dwindled in recent years – they were a force upon inception and throughout their active years. The evidence of this shows in many gifts throughout both the healthcare campuses and community. Their fingerprint can be seen in Big Stone County Cancer Group, Someplace Safe, the local Ambulance, student scholarships, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Big Stone Memory Loss Connection Group, Fairway View Bus, and many medical equipment purchases throughout the years. They also offered their friendship by hosting Christmas meals,

random lunches, bingo, visiting, and advocating for the senior living community. "It wasn't about work – it was about friendship" stated Nadine Villella, longtime Auxiliary member.

In the beginning, the ladies held a quilt raffle each year as a means of raising funds but came up with many unique ideas such as purchasing T.V.'s for each hospital room and renting them to the hospital or a basket raffle full of hand-made goods at the Annual Sports & Leisure Show. They solicited and reaped the profits of vending machines throughout the facilities and in 2011 they opened the "Little Acorn" gift shop at the hospital. The Little Acorn offered a variety of gifts including many locally made items. Doris Scheff, OAHS Auxiliary President stated "We were careful to offer only items you could not already buy locally and kept prices reasonable". Sadly, the Little Acorn closed its doors for the last time in March of 2020.

In August of 2020, the remaining Auxiliary members voted to disband the group and donate their considerable remaining funds to the Fairway View Resident Enrichment program, also making a generous donation to the Foundation. This was not an easy decision, as the ladies valued the work they did, they know what a difference the Auxiliary has made, and they are proud to have been a part of something so valuable. Back in 2000, they had amended their by-laws allowing president terms to go from two years to unlimited terms, this last year marked Doris's twentieth year as Auxiliary President. Doris cites the lack of new members for the disbandment of the group, not lack of enthusiasm. The ladies are proud of what they accomplished, they believe volunteering your time the most rewarding gift you can offer and they encourage the younger generation to get involved and give back.

*"It wasn't about work,
it was about friendship"*

Call to Serve



251. That is the number of ambulance services in Minnesota, a state that has 853 incorporated cities. The significance in these numbers is that if you live in a rural area, those vital minutes between the call for help and the arrival of the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) team could mean life or death. This service is imperative to our communities. Unfortunately, we are living in a time where cities have been and continue to struggle to maintain their ambulance service operations because of short staffing, training costs, and equipment. In research of Ortonville's ambulance service, it is clear why it has survived here – dedication. Individuals, donors, volunteers, staff, and the city – they all came together and supported this service since the very beginning of formation. Ortonville was pro-active about making changes and the community has been open to new ideas to maintain the service.

In 2012, the city of Ortonville met with and agreed to transfer management of the ambulance service to Stevens County. After just a couple of years, it became obvious that the distance and

other factors made this plan inefficient. Stevens County contacted Grant-Roberts County Ambulance Service, which is privately owned by Barret Wicklund of Fergus Falls, and inquired about taking over the current contract. Grant-Roberts readily agreed and took ownership of the service as the Stevens County contract expired. The two trucks and thirteen staff members remained in Ortonville to serve the community and surrounding area.

Barb (Dokter) Carl, manager for the Ortonville unit stated this has been the best transition for the service. Having a larger pool of employees means there are no longer staffing worries. Having outside support means the cost of training is no longer intimidating. In total there are 15-20 trained E.M.T.'s and 4 Paramedics, with more individuals called to service every year. It takes a special person to serve this capacity, knowing you most likely will know the individuals you are called on to help. Professionalism is key, but just as important is the compassion and care this local service offers.

The Foundation has continued to support the ambulance service throughout the years. In 1998, the Foundation funded the purchase of the first automated external ventilator. Having this automated equipment meant the difference in life and loss for so many families. The Foundation also supports the service by helping to reimburse new E.M.T. and paramedic schooling, as well as annual training. It is important to this Foundation that when you are in your greatest need, these emergency personnel are at their greatest ability to give.



From Your CEO

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

I am sending warm and hopeful wishes for a happy New Year!

It seemed as though COVID-19 controlled much of 2020. However, with the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine, I am hopeful our focus in 2021 can return more to one of keeping people well and out of the hospital rather than putting most of our efforts into responding to the pandemic.

As COVID cases gradually decline following our most recent wave of infections and access to the vaccine slowly increases within our area, many of our patients will begin making appointments for well-visits or follow-up on a nagging pain they have been putting off. Ortonville Area Health Services welcome these visits and look forward to "normalizing" health care once again. Thanks to the Foundation and you as donors, OAHS has developed a robust medical team that allows timely access to a provider when needed. OAHS has further expanded our mental health services to both the OAHS medical campus and the Fairway View Senior Communities campus in response to the challenges of 2020.

If it has been a while since you walked through the OAHS medical campus doors, you are in for a surprise as you will see the newly remodeled

clinic that includes everything from additional patient rooms right down to more comfortable waiting room furniture. The modern facilities and infrastructure that the Foundation helped us build on our two campuses were key to fighting COVID and other viruses. While very subjective, our modern Fairway View Neighborhoods, which opened in 2017 featuring private rooms, separate Neighborhoods, and an advanced ventilation system, may have been key to helping our staff keep COVID out of our nursing home, making FWV Neighborhoods one of the few nursing homes in Minnesota not to experience an outbreak amongst our residents. We remain vigilant.

I am optimistic about what 2021 holds for all of us. I have reminded our staff how much we accomplished and overcame together in 2020, and there is nothing we cannot overcome in the future. I am grateful to work with a team of dedicated healthcare professionals who took on this pandemic with courage and cared for others in the face of risk to their own personal health.

Please continue to take precautions to limit the spread of COVID in our area. Thank you for supporting Big Stone Health Care Foundation and for calling OAHS your health care home.

David Rogers

David A. Rogers

Chief Executive Officer
Ortonville Area Health Services
Fairway View Senior Communities



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THE LEGACY

Big Stone Health Care Foundation

Our Mission...

To secure and expend financial aid for the operations, maintenance and expansion of the health care facilities and service of Ortonville Area Health Services, a not-for-profit corporation, and to otherwise contribute to the health care and maintenance of the people of the Ortonville area.

Like everything else in life, our healthcare needs, our healthcare facilities and the needs of our health care providers change. The Big Stone Health Care Foundation is proud to work with you to fulfill our mission.



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