

Happy New Year!

The Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital would like to wish all of our members and volunteers a happy and healthy 2017. May all your resolutions come true!

2016 Love Light Ceremony

On December 8th the loved ones of those who have passed, those who serve, and those who are honored, gathered around to enjoy a prayer service and tree lighting at St. Joseph's Hospital. Deanne Rubenzer, President of Partners, and Joan Coffman, St. Joseph's Hospital President and CEO, provided a warm welcome to those in attendance. Everyone's hearts and ears were filled with music provided by the McDonell High School Choir. The blessing of the Love Light trees was conducted by Father John Schultz and Father Joshy Kulangara. Marlene Rooney, longtime Partner member and dedicated Volunteer, had the pleasure of lighting the Love Lights.

The Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital would like to thank all those who remembered and honored their loved one by purchasing a Love Light. Kay Engebretson, Love Light Chair for all her hard work and dedication to the event, the McDonell High School Choir for their musical talents, and Spiritual Care colleagues for the service and blessing of the trees. Last but not least, we would like to thank the volunteers and staff of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital for all their hard work in putting this event together. The partners raised just under \$12,000 to go towards their project for the hospital.

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St. Joseph's Hospital Administrative Update

We're all familiar with the expression: "The only thing that is constant, is change." In health care, that certainly is an understatement. Medical diagnostics and technology change and improve every year. Good examples of that here at HSHS St. Joseph's are the addition and expansion of wound care hyperbaric technology, improved MRI imaging and the latest breast cancer detection diagnostics. We continue to change the way in which we care for our patients. Today, more and more we are able to treat illnesses and injuries on an outpatient or short stay basis. In other cases we are able to care for more patients in the comfort and convenience of their homes. Hospitals are also faced with ever changing higher standards for safety and quality patient care. For St. Joseph's Hospital, that is also a constant because our hospital is continually being recognized both statewide and nationally for maintaining some of the highest levels of quality care, safety levels and patient satisfaction scores. The community environment in which we provide our care is continually changing with new health care partnerships occurring all the time and of course we're all aware of the latest news of the possibility of yet another hospital in our region.

At St. Joseph's, we have other changes taking place, too. Beginning January 9, urgent care services will transition from the hospital to Prevea Chippewa Falls Health Center, located just across the parking lot in front of our hospital. For patients, this change will result in quicker access to less critical emergency care but still provided conveniently close to home. We are pleased to partner with Prevea Health in providing this level of care in addition to the Level III trauma and emergency care that will remain every day, 24/7 in our hospital setting. We are also pleased to announce that highly respected Chippewa Valley Orthopedics physicians will now provide coverage and care for orthopedic injuries in our hospital's Emergency Department.

So you can see, there is great change in how we treat patients, what we use to diagnose patients and where it is we care for patients. And, let's not forget with a new administration about to lead our nation, we can only expect more change. But, let us also stay focused on the constants that we know at St. Joseph's Hospital. We have been providing care to our area's residents for more than 130 years. We're an award winning health care facility recognized for our quality of care. We re-

main committed to making sure our patients have access to the latest medical technology. We are a hospital filled with health care professionals that are highly skilled, driven to provide excellent care and done so with compassion. And, we are a hospital blessed with each and every one of our Volunteers and Partners. You, too, are a constant that is celebrated along with change. I hope for each of you is a new year filled with peace, comfort, joy and love.

Joan Coffman
President & CEO, HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital

A Special Thank you

On behalf of the Dementia Coalition of Chippewa County, I want to thank the St. Joseph's Partners for printing and donating the Purple Angel Window Clings, which identify local businesses in Chippewa County who have gone through Dementia Friendly Business Training. Also, thank you for printing and donating the Caregiver Courtesy Cards that help caregivers communicate to others their loved one has the disease, without having to say anything out loud. The coalition and volunteer trainers appreciate the support you provide. Your contribution has been shared with 65 businesses and 778 employees throughout Chippewa County since July 2014. Thank you very much!

Blessings to you this Holiday Season and always,

Kathleen Wanke

*Community Health and Education Coordinator
Partnering with the Dementia Coalition and ADRC of
Chippewa County*



Letter from Partners President

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year!”

Christmastide is a time for love, family and giving from the heart.

This season of Advent is a time for listening and waiting.

A new year is upon us with so many hopes and dreams for peace to be accomplished.

All around us are sounds of the season - carols playing, whispers of falling snow, jingling bells – yes, we hear Christmas everywhere. But it all speaks of the most important thing we are listening for – the Good News of the coming of the Baby - Jesus Christ.

At times like these, the simplest of times, family times, times recalled as great occasions - give off the greatest glow of happiness. As we reflect in this time of hope and waiting, I find myself with a very thankful heart. Thankful to you for your heart and hands as volunteers and members of our Partners Organization. Partners could not do what it does without you - whether leading or supporting your event or committee.

As we look to the New Year, your Partners Board of Directors looks forward to continuing its service to you and our hospital. Because of your hard work and dedication, we excelled in every service area, committee, and event and grew its membership in 2016. We even won the WHA Partners WAVE Award! Because of YOU, Partners continues growing to keep its commitment to our founding members, our hospital and our community. You can be very proud of your Partners organization – of what YOU have created and accomplished.

Partners looks forward to continuing to serve and support Joan Coffman, President and CEO, and all the colleagues of HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital and the Western Division, into 2017. We support them in their quest to provide area patients they are privileged to serve with the absolute best possible care.

It is Partners privilege to serve this higher God-like purpose.

Deanne Rubenzer
Partners President, HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital

Introducing Our 2016-18 Treasurer

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Linda Crosby, Treasurer, Partners of HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital.

Linda is a longtime resident of the Chippewa Area. She met her husband in southern California. They married and traveled the world as a military family with their four daughters. They retired to the Chippewa Falls area in 1996 and her husband passed away. Linda’s daughters and four grandchildren are in four different states, so she finds herself traveling to them frequently.

Linda is a former colleague of St. Joseph’s Hospital having worked for 15 years as a Unit Secretary rotating to all floors. She enjoyed working with the colleagues and physicians and will always remember her time at St. Joseph’s as a time for hard work, memorable people, and fun.

Linda joined Partners ten years ago and has worked as a volunteer in the Gift Shop, at the Steak Fry, setting up for the Charity Ball, and now is serving as Treasurer of Partners of HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital. She is an active volunteer with Partners, the Heyde Center for the Arts, Notre Dame Parish with their activities, and was recently a poll worker in last election.

Linda believes “volunteering enriches a person’s life in ways that are so much bigger than oneself. We have much to be thankful for and giving of self makes us all whole and better people.”

Deanne Rubenzer
Partners President, HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital



We Want You to Come to the 2017 Charity Ball!



Planning for the May 20th "G.I. Jive" is well under way. The committee chairs have been working hard to make the 2017 Charity Ball a hit for all those who attend. Be prepared to be taken back to the 1940's and dance the night away.

Raffle tickets are available for just \$50 each. All proceeds go to benefit the Partners current project. First prize is \$5,000 and second price is \$1,000. Only 300 tickets will be sold. If you are interested in purchasing tickets or being added to the invitation list, please contact Brandy Sikora at (715) 717-7439 or brandalee.sikora@hshs.org.

*Jenny Schaffer
2017 Charity Ball Chair*

Health Education

As the New Year is upon us, I just want to wish everyone a safe and healthy 2017! The winter season is a time for snow fun and family gatherings, but it is important to remember safety first. Take extra precautions when walking. A surface may not look slippery, but that ice could be waiting for its next victim. Use helping hands and don't be afraid to look silly working on your penguin shuffle. When the weather is harsh take extra time to get to your destination and drive slow. You may be a safe driver, but those around you may not be. It is always a good idea to keep extra blankets and an emergency kit inside your car. By being prepared you can make a bad situation a little easier.

New Years resolutions are a great way to set goals for your health. A resolution does not need to be loose 100 pounds or get rid of a turkey neck, because lets face it, many of us do not fulfill our resolutions. Instead make it simple and achievable. Some examples are make a yearly check up with a physician, drink more water, walk to the mailbox, spend more time with your child or grandchild, or volunteer at St. Joseph's Hospital. It is easier to complete a resolution when it is a realistic goal. If you need to, create a resolution with a friend, so you have someone to hold you accountable. Make 2017 your best year yet!

*Viv Dahl
Health Education Chair*

Babysitting Clinic

The Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital are preparing for the next round of Babysitting Clinics. These annual babysitting clinics are for children 12 years and older. The next clinics will be held on March 4th and April 8th, 2017. Those who attended learn skills to successfully and confidently babysit those youngsters. Classes fill up quickly so if you have anyone who may be interested please sign up now by contacting Brandy Sikora at (715) 717-7439 or brandalee.sikora@hshs.org.

*Marlys Daniels
Chair*

Children's Health Fair

The 2017 Children's Health Fair will be held on May 4th. This year's fair will give area school children an opportunity to learn about health and wellness in a fun way. Look for more information in the April Stethoscope. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with this big day. To volunteer contact Vivian Dahl or Brandy Sikora at (715) 717-7439 or brandalee.sikora@hshs.org.

*Viv Dahl
Chair*

Partners 47th Birthday Luncheon

Save the date for the Partners Birthday Celebration Luncheon on April 12th. The program and more information will be shared in the April Stethoscope. To reserve your spot early contact Brandy Sikora at (715) 717-7439 or brandalee.sikora@hshs.org.

The Nutman Fundraiser will also be on this day. So make sure you stop in before or after the luncheon to get your sweet and salty treats.

Scholarships

Every year the Partners of St. Joseph's Hospital award 6 \$1,000 Scholarships to area residents who are pursuing a degree in a health related field. Applicants must be a high school graduate or have earned a GED, must be accepted and enrolled in the human health care field at an accredited post-secondary school, permanent address must be within Chippewa County or applicant must be an employee, child or spouse of a St. Joseph's Hospital employee. The Scholarship winners will be selected by the Partners Scholarship Committee in April. Scholarship applications are available online (<http://www.stjoeschipfalls.com/Volunteer/Scholarships>) or at the Volunteer Services office. Applications are due April 8th. If you know anyone who may be interested, please encourage them to look into this great opportunity.

*Dianne Fish
Scholarship Chair*

Membership

We have just a few members that are past due in this current year. Thank you for all those that have paid and those that are sending in their dues, they can be sent to Brandy at Volunteer Services.

Membership is \$10.00 a year (year runs from July 1st to June 30th). Lifetime membership is \$100.00. If you owe current and or past dues, please send them to Brandy Sikora at the Volunteer Office at St Joseph's or to myself at 15592 93rd Ave, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729. Checks made payable to Partners of St Joseph Hospital.

Being a member means becoming involved so call Brandy to see all the opportunities available to become active in this great organization. Opportunities abound in helping with events such as the Charity Ball, Steak Fry, Used Book Sale and Wonderland on the River. Brandy can use help in the gift shop, delivering mail and helping with sales in the gift shop.

There is also Friendship Day which is a perfect opportunity to ask a friend to attend and encourage them to join Partners. That event is held in June.

New Members

Cindy Johnson

Cindy is a graduate of McDonell High School, St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN and of CVTC. She has worked as a Registered Nurse at Sacred Heart Hospital, Midelfort Clinic and Luther/Mayo. Cindy enjoys playing pickle ball, gardening, baking, reading, and crafting. She has a daughter and two grandchildren.

Sheridan Welch

Sheridan has a Bachelors Degree in Business Management and has worked at TTM for 35 years. She currently is that General Manager for the Chippewa Falls facility. Her hobbies include running, reading and sports. Sheridan has two children.

Barbara Koppes

Barbara was born in Boyd where she when to high school. She received a degree in nursing from Boise State University. Barbara has worked all over the world with positions in Wisconsin, California, Idaho, Iran, Wyoming, Florida, and Indonesia. She has worked as a data processor and a nurse. Barbara loves to travel, read, work as a volunteer nurse, complete puzzles, and go hiking. She has two daughters and two grandsons. Areas that interest her include the Steak Fry, Children's Health Fair, and the Nut Sale.

Welcome to all of our new friends!

Barbara Rasmus
Membership Chairperson

Volunteer Services

As I reflect on the past week or so on the Holiday season spent with family and friends, I realize how blessed I am to have such wonderful volunteers and Partner members that I work with. Much like a family, you are all there for me and I really appreciate those that I have gotten to know in the past 5 years that I have been here.

What I really enjoy hearing is my kids asking me who that was when I meet one of you outside of work and chat a minute and when I tell them I work with you they say "oh I thought they looked familiar". This just shows me how much my work here at the hospital has brought my life where it needs to be and how important you all are in not only my work life but also the impact you are having on my personal life as well.

I wish you all a wonderful start to 2017!! And if you are looking for a New Year's resolution, there is always room for more volunteers here at the hospital.

Peace and Love to you all!

Brandy Sikora
Director of Volunteer Services

Gift Shop

What a great December month we had for sales! Thank you to all that stopped in to buy their Holiday gifts and helped support the hospital with their purchases. Don't forget to keep us in mind for the upcoming special events in your life. We have a nice arrangement of religious items, for communion and confirmation, Mother's Day gifts and baptism gifts.



Wonderland on the River

The creativity was tremendous yet again for this one of a kind event hosted by the Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital at Wissota Golf. The sunny day was a joy for all those who attended. As guests sipped their beverages and observed all the tables, raffle tickets were flying off the roll. A wonderful meal was served and comradery was heard throughout the building. The program consisted of speeches from HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital President, Joan Coffman and Partners Vice President, Jan Giedd and concluded with a stunning fashion show featuring area boutiques. Thank you to all decorated and to all who helped make this event another success. Please save the date for the next Wonderland on the River to be held on November 4, 2017!



Public Policy

The following excerpt is taken from the December 16, 2016 issue of the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) electronic newsletter, "The Valued Voice", which highlights how WHA is discussing Affordable Care Act (ACA) Changes with Speaker Ryan.

On December 12, a delegation of WHA leaders met with House Speaker Paul Ryan at his district office in Janesville to discuss key issues related to the potential replacement of Obamacare. WHA 2016 Board Chair Mike Wallace, Past Chair Therese Pandl and Chair-elect Bob Van Meeteren joined WHA President/CEO Eric Borgerding to share their views with Ryan.

"Given the initial stage we are in, and uncertainty with many elements of changing the ACA, I thought it was an excellent discussion," said Borgerding. "There are many questions, and a fair amount of angst, that are universal to hospitals, health systems, physicians and providers across the country, and then there are issues that are more unique to states like Wisconsin. Speaker Ryan has to keep an ear to both levels, and we were able to have that multi-leveled conversation."

Topics discussed included coverage expansion in Wisconsin, various aspects of Medicaid and the pace and implementation of changes to the ACA and ongoing communication.

"It was a great opportunity to bring a ground level, Wisconsin perspective to these monumental issues," Wallace said. "I speak for all WHA members in expressing our gratitude to Speaker Ryan for the opportunity to have this important discussion, the first of many dialogues."

Advocacy Day 2017

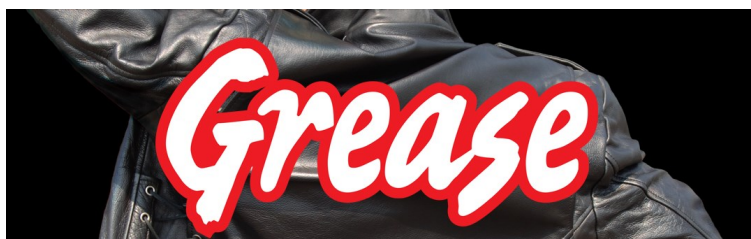
A friendly reminder that WHA's Advocacy Day 2017 will be held on April 19, 2017 at the Monona Terrace in Madison. The annual event showcases that hospitals, health systems and their advocates are passionate about being engaged in priority issues. Several members of our HSHS SJH Partners organization have had the opportunity to attend over the past several years and have been very impressed with the keynote speakers, the (always wonderful) bi-partisan legislative panel and of course, meetings with our legislators on Capitol Hill in the afternoon. Last year, HSHS was presented with the 2016 Advocacy All-Star Award! Volunteer representatives from local hospital Partners organizations make up about 30% of attendance at Advocacy Day! Legislators are particularly aware of the strong presence of volunteers who support and advocate for their local home-town hospitals.

If you have an interest in attending Advocacy Day 2017, please feel free to let Deanne, me or Brandy know. More details to follow!

LET'S TURN UP THE "HEAT"

Also, another friendly reminder that if you have not signed up for HEAT (which stands for **H**ospitals **E**ducation & **A**dvocacy **T**eam), you may use the following link to learn more and sign up for HEAT alerts: <http://www.wha.org/heat-sign-up-now.aspx>. The HEAT program provides you with the information, insight, strategy, and the assistance you need in order to help share the legislative issues that impact hospitals and the communities they serve. Expect Action Alerts on issues of importance. Also, watch for the *Capitol Connection* e-newsletter to keep you informed of Capitol goings-on and how you can be active, informed and involved. HEAT is specifically designed to facilitate your grassroots involvement so the voice of hospitals and their employees and volunteers is heard loud and clear by the legislature. By joining HEAT, we can partner together to make sure Wisconsin hospitals, not legislators, shape the future.

Melinda Haun
Public Policy Educator



Friendship Day: Save the Date "Tell me about it, Stud" -Sandy

Save the date for a day that will be great! Friendship day is a time to make memories and build friendship new or old. Partners can bring their friends on this one day getaway. The 2017 Friendship Day will be held on June 21. We will be riding a bus to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater for a matinee production of GREASE! Entertainment will be provided on the drive. Everyone is invited, but seats are limited. Cost is \$75 per person. To reserve your seat on the bus contact Brandy Sikora at (715) 717-7439 or brandalee.sikora@hshs.org.

Marlene Luther
Co-Chair

Stethoscope

Published for the members of the Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital.

President	Deanne Rubenzer
Vice President	Jan Giedd
Recording Secretary	Betty Oddo
Treasurer	Linda Crosby
Volunteer Coordinator	Brandy Sikora

Upcoming Calendar of 2017 Events

March 4	Babysitting Clinic	McDonald Hall
April 6	WHA West Central Spring District Meeting	TBD
April 8	Babysitting Clinic	McDonald Hall
April 11-12	Nutman Fundraiser	St. Joseph's Hospital
April 12	Partners 47th Annual Birthday Celebration	McDonald Hall
April 19	Advocacy Day	Madison, WI
May 4	Children's Health Fair	Chippewa Falls YMCA
May 20	46th Annual Charity Ball	Avalon
June 21	Friendship Day	Chanhassen, MN

