

Gift^{of} Health

Our Philanthropy Magazine

Special Issue Annual Impact Report Impacting Lives through Philanthropy

**Katie Rushlow,
board-certified
music therapist,
inspires healing
through song**

**SAINT MARY'S
FOUNDATION**

A Member of Trinity Health

For Donors of
Saint Mary's Foundation



Dear Friends,

As we wrap up a remarkable year celebrating the 60th anniversary of Saint Mary's Foundation, I'm filled with gratitude for the many ways our community continues to grow, heal and inspire.

This issue of *Gift of Health* shines a spotlight on the transformative power of music therapy and our inspiring Guest Artist Series, which have brought comfort and joy to patients and families alike. These programs remind us that healing is not only physical—they are emotional, spiritual and deeply human.

We also honor two other major milestones: the 30th anniversary of the McAuley Clinic, which has been a beacon of compassionate care for persons living with HIV, and 20 years of the Lacks Cancer Center, where innovation and hope continue to thrive.

We're proud to share the recipients of our internal grant awards, supporting projects that advance care and community health. And we welcomed four new board members, whose leadership and vision are helping guide us into the future.

Each story in this issue reflects the heart of our Mission: to serve with dignity, compassion and excellence. Thank you for being part of this journey. Your support makes all of this possible.



In gratitude,



Michelle Rabideau, CFRE, MPA
President, Saint Mary's Foundation

Is Saint Mary's a good investment?

Definitely! Our return on investment (ROI) is a key measure that represents the financial return on each dollar spent raising funds. ROI is an indicator of fundraising effectiveness illustrating the amount applied toward programs and services in relation to the cost. In other words, for every \$1.00 spent raising funds in fiscal year 2025, our return was \$6.35, up from \$5.74 in FY2024.

Your impact by the numbers

During the past fiscal year,* your gifts have impacted thousands of lives from every walk of life:

604 donors
supported Saint Mary's Foundation
.....

\$3,005,623 million released to Trinity Health Grand Rapids to support programs & services
.....

\$2,517,160 secured in grant commitments
.....

28 Endowment Funds provided **\$150,347** to benefit programs & services

The **Community Partner Program** secured **\$131,900** in sponsorships and program support from **22 Corporate Partners**
.....

131 new donors contributed **\$55,960**
.....

\$58,934 was given in supplies & equipment
.....

Planned Gift commitments totaled **\$115,000**

**Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025)*

Endowments at work: Advancing nursing education

The Elizabeth Murphy, RN, and Helen G. Campbell Nursing Education Endowment Funds have significantly advanced professional development for nurses at Trinity Health Grand Rapids. Together, these funds supported continuing education opportunities, including attendance at national conferences focused on credentialing, recruitment, retention and well-being. Nurses gained exposure to best practices, emerging trends and strategies to improve patient care and workplace culture. These investments have strengthened nursing excellence and contributed to high-quality, compassionate care for the community.

A new melody of healing

Board-Certified Music Therapist Katie Rushlow Brings Comfort, Healing and Connection to Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

A fresh start for a treasured program

When Katie Rushlow joined Trinity Health as a music therapist from West Michigan Music Therapy, she understood there had been a pause in the music therapy program at Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

Thanks to the support of an Edward Prein Memorial Endowment Fund for Music Therapy at Saint Mary's Foundation, this was Katie's opportunity to restart this program. Katie shares, "The support and fresh start were really exciting to me."

A calling discovered through song

Katie's passion for music therapy is deeply personal. A lifelong singer and songwriter, she discovered the field during a college English

class. "I was writing about the connection between music and the body, and I stumbled across music therapy. I had never heard of it before, but once I looked into it, I realized it was exactly what I was meant to do."

She transferred to Western Michigan University, where everything clicked. "I love working with people, I love helping, and I love music. It helped me so much growing up, and I wanted to give that back."

Meeting patients where they are

Katie's approach is rooted in empathy and adaptability. "Music therapy is all about focusing on the patient and what their needs are at that moment," she explains. "It's always about patient preference."



“

I love working with people, I love helping, and I love music. It helped me so much growing up, and I wanted to give that back.

– Katie Rushlow,
music therapist

Whether it's energizing a patient with Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" during physical therapy or helping someone fall asleep with calming melodies, Katie tailors each session to the individual. "I tell patients, 'If this isn't a good time or isn't helpful, you can say 'no.'" That kind of choice is huge."

More than meets the eye

Music therapy is an evidence-based clinical practice that goes far beyond simply playing music. In medical settings, it can produce measurable physiological changes—such as decreased heart rate, increased oxygen saturation and visible relaxation of the body.

"There's so much more happening beneath the surface," Katie explains. "Music puts the body in a state of ease. It's not just emotional—it's physical."

In one session, Katie worked with a physical therapist to help a patient walk after surgery. "Music facilitates physiological entrainment (when the body syncs up to the rhythm). That's why it's so effective in supporting physical movement."

Instruments bring healing to life

Katie's sessions are as diverse as the patients she serves. She regularly plays guitar, but sometimes ukulele or keyboard, and uses her voice to lead songs that range from upbeat classics to soothing hymns. Her portable setup allows her to move easily between rooms and tailor the music to each patient's preferences and needs.

"I love being able to offer a variety of instruments," Katie says. "Some patients respond to rhythm, others to melody, and some just want to sing along. It's all about finding what resonates with them."

From familiar childhood tunes like "The Ants Go Marching" to spiritual favorites and pop hits, Katie's musical toolkit helps patients feel seen, heard and uplifted.



7th Floor colleagues like Kerri Stapley, RN, CNL; Dan Fischer, RN, nurse manager; and Maddie Zimelis, RN; work with Katie Rushlow, board-certified music therapist, to identify patients who could benefit from music therapy.

Emotional healing through music

Music therapy often leads to powerful emotional breakthroughs. "A lot of patients are here alone or for long stays. Their routines become repetitive, and it can get lonely," Katie says. "I've had patients tear up during sessions—not because they're sad, but because music helps them process what they're going through. By the end, they're smiling, more engaged, and often say, 'Thank you so much for being here.' It's like they're able to take a deep breath."

Collaboration with clinical teams

Katie works closely with nursing leaders to identify patients who might benefit from music therapy. "I check in with the charge nurses to see who's still here and who might need a visit. Sometimes they'll even call me directly to say, 'Can you come see this patient?'"

Katie visits patients at Trinity Health Grand Rapids Hospital two days a week. As the program grows, Katie anticipates increasing requests from patients and staff.

Moments shared with families

Families are also beginning to witness the impact of music therapy. One family member attended a session and was amazed because she had heard of the program but didn't believe it was real! Katie recalls with a smile. "It is wonderful to see the families' connection and share these moments with them."



Laura Connors, volunteer services supervisor, and Katie Rushlow, music therapist, worked together to relaunch the Music Therapy program at Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

Another session brought a patient and her daughter together in a shared musical experience. “It started with music, but it led to deeper conversations and beautiful memories.”

Mind, body and spirit

Katie sees music therapy as a vital part of holistic healing. “Everything in the hospital is often not by the patient’s choice. Music therapy gives them something that is. It’s a chance to feel well emotionally and spiritually—not just physically.”

Music made possible thanks to donors like you

Thanks to donor support, the music therapy program at Trinity Health Grand Rapids is not only continuing—it is thriving. With Katie Rushlow and her guitar, patients and families are finding comfort, healing and connection through the universal language of music.



Cheryl Sisco shares a smile and a song as she plays the grand piano in the lobby of Trinity Health Lacks Cancer Center, continuing her legacy of care through music.

From nurse to volunteer: Cheryl Sisco’s musical ministry at Lacks Cancer Center

After retiring from Trinity Health Grand Rapids in 2023, following 43 years of dedicated service as a Registered Nurse and Nurse Practitioner, Cheryl Sisco returned to Trinity Health to join the volunteer team.

She shares her gift of music with our patients and guests by playing the grand piano in the lobby of Trinity Health Lacks Cancer Center. Cheryl says, “Saint Mary’s will always be a part of me and volunteering is a way to keep this meaningful connection.”

Cheryl started to play the piano as a child and she learned from her father, a pastor and pianist himself, how music impacts people in an amazing way; this is another reason she loves to volunteer with her music.

Spiritual hymns are often requested by patients and family members, with many singing along while Cheryl plays. Cheryl always keeps a book of hymns with her at the piano for these very special moments.

McAuley Clinic

Honoring a legacy, transforming the future of HIV care

Since its founding in 1988 by Dr. David Baumgartner, the McAuley Clinic has been a beacon of hope for individuals living with HIV in Grand Rapids and beyond. What began with a small, dedicated team of four has grown into one of Michigan's largest and most trusted HIV care programs—serving up to 1,300 patients annually across 43 counties.

This year, McAuley reached a remarkable milestone: more than 140 patients have received a revolutionary long-acting injectable HIV treatment. This innovation marks a major shift in how HIV is managed. Traditionally, patients relied on daily oral medications, which required strict adherence to prevent the virus from mutating and becoming resistant. Now, eligible patients can receive an injection every two months, freeing them from the reminder of their diagnosis.

One patient shared, “My HIV pill was a daily reminder of my HIV status. Now that I am on these injections, it has lifted a weight off my shoulders that I didn’t know was there.”

Behind this success is a tireless team of nurses and pharmacists who have worked diligently to launch and sustain this program. Their efforts—coordinating medication schedules, monitoring lab results, and ensuring timely administration—exemplify the mission of Trinity Health: to serve with compassion and innovation.

McAuley's commitment to responsive, respectful care extends far beyond medication. Nearly half of its patients live at or below the federal poverty level, and the clinic offers a wide range of wraparound services, including case management, transportation, mental health counseling and housing assistance. A Consumer Advisory Board, made up of patients and staff, ensures that care remains patient-centered and continuously improving.



The McAuley Clinic clinical team has successfully treated 140 patients with a revolutionary injectable treatment for HIV patients.

Innovation is woven into McAuley's DNA. In addition to injectable treatments, the clinic has launched initiatives to support aging patients—over 60% are aged 45 and older—including a successful campaign to increase HPV vaccination rates. Since 2023, in-house counseling has supported over 60 patients, and early intervention services help newly diagnosed individuals connect quickly to care.

McAuley also plays a vital role in training future HIV care providers. Through partnerships with local health systems, Infectious Disease fellows and pharmacy residents gain hands-on experience in a multidisciplinary setting, guided by experts like Pharmacist Ryan Tomlin.

From its humble beginnings to its current role as a leader in HIV care, McAuley Clinic remains a vital lifeline—offering not just treatment, but dignity, hope, and community. With every injection, every conversation, and every act of care, McAuley is transforming lives and shaping the future of HIV treatment in Michigan.

Trinity Health Medical Group, McAuley Clinic – Grand Rapids is a grant recipient of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, comprehensive system of HIV medical and support services for uninsured and underinsured people with HIV from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).



Art curator Rosalind Ebrom poses with Michelle Rabideau, president of Saint Mary's Foundation. Photo by Teri Genovese.

Art that heals

A year of inspiration at Trinity Health Grand Rapids

At Trinity Health Grand Rapids, healing is more than clinical care—it's an experience that touches the whole person. Through our Guest Artist Series, the hospital's main lobby becomes a gallery of reflection and renewal, showcasing regional artists whose work brings comfort, beauty and inspiration to patients, families and caregivers.

Over the past year, we've been honored to feature five exceptional artists and groups whose work embodies the healing power of art.

Each exhibit remained on display for approximately three months, allowing thousands of visitors to engage with the artwork. These rotating displays are curated by the hospital's **Art and Ambiance**

Committee, led by volunteer art curator **Rosalind Ebrom**, whose vision ensures that every piece aligns with Trinity Health's guidelines for healing environments—calming colors, inspirational themes and a sense of emotional safety.

Studies show that art in health care settings can reduce stress, promote healing and improve overall well-being. Whether it's a quiet moment spent admiring a painting or the subtle comfort of a thoughtfully designed space, art helps foster emotional resilience and hope during challenging times.

Twenty-five percent of proceeds from artwork sold through the Guest Artist Series are gifted back to Saint Mary's Foundation.



Meet the Artists

Over the past year, we've been honored to feature five exceptional artists and groups whose work embodies the healing power of art:

Patti Sevensma offered a sense of serenity through her delicate compositions, inviting quiet contemplation and emotional calm.

Maribeth Weadock energized the space with vibrant color and expressive movement, creating a dynamic visual experience that uplifted and inspired.

MaryLu Dykstra brought the intricacies of the natural world to life through layered mixed media, watercolor and acrylic works that evoke peace and mindfulness.

Ellie Harold shared her exhibit *Emerging Joy: Intuitive Paintings*, created during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Her spontaneous, abstract works—filled with color, flow and unexpected joy—demonstrated peace and healing.

Kendra Postma's art students celebrated a decade of creativity and growth through a collaborative exhibit showcasing the talents of her home studio in Ada, Michigan. Their work reflected shared learning, mentorship and the joy of artistic exploration.



Read more in *Grand Rapids Magazine*

To learn more about the impact of art in healing spaces at Trinity Health Grand Rapids, and the guest artist series, we invite you to read the recent feature in *Grand Rapids Magazine* "Curating Wellness Through Art."



GIVING TUESDAY

DECEMBER 3
2024

SAINT MARY'S
FOUNDATION
A Member of Trinity Health



You helped us reach new heights last GivingTuesday!

Our community came together in an extraordinary way –
raising a record-breaking

\$837,500

These results nearly DOUBLED the previous year's success and surpassed BOTH challenge matches from our GivingTuesday partners: **LMCU and Bob Woodhouse**

What a great way to make a difference!

On behalf of everyone at Trinity Health Grand Rapids and Saint Mary's Foundation, thank you for your remarkable GivingTuesday support. Your generosity is helping us build on 60 years of compassion and care!

We extend our warmest appreciation to LMCU and Bob Woodhouse for their generous matches! They led the way and inspired our community last GivingTuesday.





Celebrating Our 60th Anniversary

The Third 20 Years

Throughout the past year, Saint Mary's Foundation has been commemorating six decades of impact by sharing historical highlights in three segments spanning from 1964 to today. This marks the third and final installment in our 60th anniversary series.

As we look ahead to the next 60 years, we remain deeply committed to advancing key programs in oncology, neurosciences, behavioral health and orthopedics. Together, we will continue to deliver leading-edge care and strengthen the health of our community.

Milestones from 2004 to today:

- 2006** The Richard J. Lacks Sr. Cancer Center becomes West Michigan's only comprehensive cancer hospital. In 2006, it earned LEED certification, becoming just the second hospital in the U.S. to receive this prestigious designation.
- 2007** The Da Vinci® Surgical Robot is introduced, enabling minimally invasive procedures that reduce recovery time and improve outcomes.
- 2009** The Hauenstein Neuroscience Center opens as the region's first multidisciplinary clinic, offering comprehensive care for Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, ALS, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, stroke, palliative care and other neurological conditions.
- 2012** Sophia's House opens its doors, providing a 14-room, affordable "home away from home" for patients and families traveling to Trinity Health Grand Rapids for care.
- 2014** The CyberKnife® Radiosurgery System is launched, offering a painless, non-invasive alternative to surgery for treating cancerous and non-cancerous tumors.
- 2022** TomoTherapy® technology is introduced, allowing radiation oncologists to deliver high-dose, precision radiation from every angle while protecting healthy tissue. The Lacks Cancer Center is recognized as a TomoTherapy Center of Excellence, joining a select group of top-tier cancer centers nationwide.
- 2024** The Mobile Mammography program launched, bringing life-saving breast cancer screening directly to underserved communities across West Michigan. This initiative increases access, promotes early detection and supports health equity.

Leaders, Teachers, Healers

Sharon Vanlente is living pain-free after Mako knee surgery thanks to Dr. Steelman and Saint Mary's Foundation

At 71, Sharon Vanlente knew her retirement years shouldn't be spent in pain. After decades working at a desk, her knees had deteriorated to the point where walking was nearly impossible.

"I could barely walk," Sharon said. "It was not the kind of life I wanted in retirement."

Her Trinity Health primary care provider referred her to Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Kevin Steelman, who diagnosed her with severe bilateral knee osteoarthritis and significant bowlegged deformity. Both knees needed replacement.

"Once we fixed the first knee, she began walking with a straight leg, but the other was still crooked," said Dr. Steelman. "She was eager to get the second knee done, and we were able to complete both surgeries within a few months."



Sharon, Vanlente

Preparing for Surgery

Having worked in a doctor's office, Sharon understood the importance of staying active. Determined to improve her outcome, she began a pre-surgical regimen at her local gym in Walker, Michigan.

"I strengthened my muscles, worked my quads, and did a lot of stretches," she said.

Robotic-Assisted Knee Replacement

In January, Sharon underwent her first knee replacement using Mako SmartRobotics™ technology. Dr. Steelman, who has performed over 500 robotic-assisted surgeries, explained the benefits of this advanced approach.

"Robotic-assisted surgery isn't necessary for every patient," he said, "but in complex cases like Sharon's, it offers precision and customization that can improve outcomes."

The technology allowed Dr. Steelman to use Sharon's CT scan to plan the procedure in detail. During surgery, the robot helped assess tight and loose areas in her knee, enabling precise implant placement without cutting tendons or ligaments—reducing pain and swelling.

"I'm glad I had the robot," Sharon said. "It gave me confidence knowing everything was planned so precisely."

“

...in complex cases like Sharon's, robotic-assisted surgery offers precision and customization that can improve outcomes.

– Dr. Kevin Steelman, Orthopedic Surgeon



Recovery and Results

Following surgery, Sharon was determined to stay mobile. She began walking with a walker, then a cane, and managed her discomfort with medication.

“There’s a difference between pain and discomfort,” she said. “I mostly felt discomfort, and I think that’s because I kept moving.”

Her proactive approach impressed both her physical therapist and Dr. Steelman. Just three months after her first surgery, she had her second knee replaced in April.

The Role of Physical Therapy

Sharon credits physical therapy as essential to her recovery.

“If you don’t do physical therapy, you won’t recover,” she said. “My therapist listened to me and knew what she was doing.”

Now, Sharon is back at the gym, walking trails behind her home, and even rock hunting at the beach—activities she couldn’t enjoy before.

“I can walk around the house, drive, and do daily activities without pain,” she said. “And my legs aren’t bowed anymore—they’re straight!”

Advice for Others

Sharon and Dr. Steelman encourage others suffering from knee pain to seek help.

“The Mako robotic technology is tried-and-true,” said Dr. Steelman. “It’s a valuable tool that helps us deliver the best outcomes.”

Sharon adds, “You have to do your part. Get up and move. In the long run, you’ll be glad you did.”

Trinity Health Grand Rapids offers traditional and robotic-assisted joint replacement options to help patients regain mobility and live pain-free—thanks, in part, to the generosity of our donors.

The Mako robotic technology used in Sharon’s surgery was made possible, in large part, thanks to donor support for the Saint Mary’s Foundation. This generous support helps bring leading-edge tools and treatments to our community, improving outcomes for patients like Sharon.

Thank You! To our supporters



July

Empowering Students, One Backpack at a Time

Thanks to the generosity of our Grand Groups™ members, colleagues and volunteers, hundreds of backpacks filled with school supplies were collected and delivered to children at Browning Claytor, Clinica Santa Maria and Sparta—helping them start the school year prepared and confident.



November

Launching Trinity Health Academy: A New Chapter in Leadership Development

Trinity Health Academy proudly hosted its inaugural event, which is designed to provide an insider's view of Trinity Health Grand Rapids for our supporters and community leaders. Trinity Health Grand Rapids leaders played a vital role in shaping the experience, offering mentorship and insight that inspired participants and set the tone for future success.



September

Celebrating 60 Years of Compassionate Care at Saint Mary's Foundation!

In September 2024, Saint Mary's Foundation celebrated 60 years of serving our community with excellence and compassionate care. The event, highlighting our K-9 handler teams, honored the Foundation's legacy and future, beautifully reflecting its enduring Mission. Thank you to everyone who made the celebration unforgettable!



for the many ways you engaged with us this year!



December

Gratitude Gathering 2024: Honoring Generosity and Impact

We came together for our Gratitude Gathering to celebrate the donors, volunteers and community partners who make our mission possible. It was a heartfelt evening of connection, appreciation and stories of lives changed at The Boutique thanks to your generosity.

April

Michelle Rabideau Honored with the Brilliance Award

We proudly celebrated Michelle Rabideau, who received the prestigious Legacy of Brilliance Award from West Michigan Woman for her outstanding leadership, vision and dedication to advancing our Mission, and more. Her impact continues to inspire and strengthen our community.

May Celebrating Lifelong Service

The Retired Physicians & Nurses Luncheon honored the legacy of those who dedicated their careers to compassionate care and healing. It was a meaningful gathering filled with gratitude, reflection and appreciation for the lasting impact these professionals have made on our community.



June Honoring Our Distinguished Friends

The Distinguished Friends and Legacy Circle Reception was a heartfelt evening of gratitude, celebrating the generous supporters whose commitment strengthens our Mission and community. We were honored to recognize these exceptional individuals and share stories of the impact their partnership makes possible.



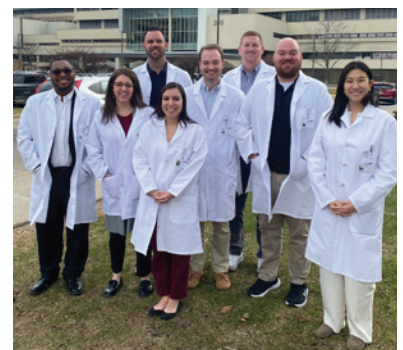
June Honoring Sister Rosita Schiller's Legacy

We gathered to celebrate Sister Rosita Schiller and her extraordinary contributions to our Mission and community. Her decades of compassionate leadership and unwavering faith continue to inspire all who had the privilege of serving alongside her.



June Congratulations to the Up Next Class!

We proudly celebrated the graduation of our 2025 Up Next class—an inspiring group of emerging leaders committed to making a difference. Their passion and dedication reflect a bright future for and community.



A year of people-centered care

FY25 grant highlights

In FY25, Saint Mary's Foundation supported a diverse range of initiatives aimed at improving patient care, colleague well-being and operational safety. **Grants funded programs that enhanced behavioral health services, pediatric and prenatal care, clinical education and workplace wellness. Training initiatives strengthened safety and de-escalation practices, while global health efforts expanded medical outreach and education.**

These investments reflect a strong commitment to compassionate, people-centered care and the ongoing pursuit of excellence across the organization.



Saint Mary's Foundation is pleased to have made these grants to support programs and services at Trinity Health Grand Rapids in fiscal year 2025 (FY25).

SMALL GRANTS

Amount Awarded

Accuvein	\$5,882
CPAP compliance with VCOM Device	\$4,500
THGR WatchPATOne Home Sleep Apnea Test	\$2,500.
Rockford ED Pediatric Distraction Toy	\$3,000
Suicide Prevention Education	\$4,971
PFAC Inpatient Care Kits	\$5,378
Supporting DEI through Branded T-Shirts	\$4,146
Turning Wedges	\$4,600

FY25 GRANTS

Amount Awarded

Toy Grant for Procedural Services	\$8,000
Global Health Track	\$10,000
Improving Health Care with Evidence	\$83,880
Be Nice. Hospital	\$11,500
Active Shooter Response Training	\$24,500
Gentle Response De-Escalation Training	\$9,500
Ambulatory Behavioral Health – Enhancing Therapeutic Processes	\$11,034
Colleague Lifestyle Medicine	\$26,550
Child Life Services	\$30,000
Centering Pregnancy – Clinica	\$30,000
Awake & Walking – ICU	\$8,000
Cardiac Rehabilitation Program	\$14,062
POC Ultrasound Program	\$49,240
HUGS Project	\$186,975
Mako	\$518,845

SAINT MARY'S FOUNDATION

GRAND GROUPS

GRAND GIRLFRIENDS™ • GRAND GUYS™

Celebrating Impact: FY25 Grand Groups Grant Awards

Thanks to the generosity of our Grand Groups members, vital programs across our health system received support to enhance patient care, education and comfort. In FY25, Grand Girlfriends and Grand Guys awarded a combined \$20,953 in grants.



Grand Girlfriends awarded three grants totaling \$8,425:

Maternal Infant Health Program received **\$2,625** to provide educational toys that help families support infant development and enable early intervention when needed.



Breast Center received **\$2,800** to supply hot/cold packs that offer comfort and may help prevent hematomas after procedures.

Rockford Emergency Department received **\$3,000** to purchase distraction toys that support pediatric patients' coping skills during visits.



Grand Guys awarded two grants totaling \$12,528:

Heart & Vascular Department received **\$11,480** to purchase a Kosmos Plus ultrasound system, improving IV placement and patient care efficiency.

Nursing Education received **\$1,048** to add three IV task trainers, allowing more hands-on practice and reducing wait times during training.



Share your Gratitude

The Share Your Gratitude program is available throughout the year.

If you wish, you may make a gift (optional) in honor of any medical staff member, nurse, colleague or department.



Welcoming colleagues

Saint Mary's Foundation is pleased to welcome the following new colleagues to our team. Each brings a unique passion for our Mission, and we're excited to share what inspires them in their work.



Kelly Obenauer
Donor Relations and Engagement Officer

"Connecting generosity to impact is the highlight of my role."



Katie Olson
Grants Manager

"I'm passionate about aligning funding with our Mission and Values to help build healthier communities through innovative, patient-centered care."



Ashley Owen
Corporate Relations & Community Engagement Officer

"I love connecting purpose with impact—supporting compassionate care and advancing community health through meaningful relationships and philanthropy."



Tammy Prather
Executive Assistant

"I find fulfillment in supporting a team that's dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others."



McKenzie VanPatten
Grants and Stewardship Officer

"I'm driven to create meaningful change by building authentic connections and securing resources that empower individuals and transform communities."

Saint Mary's Foundation Board of Trustees

Saint Mary's Foundation is fortunate to have the support of community leaders who bring to our Mission their exceptional leadership, professional expertise and connections to the communities we serve. Special thanks to Jen Crowley and Jeff Towner whose terms ended June 30, 2025. We are grateful for their extraordinary commitment to Saint Mary's Foundation.

Board Officers

Thank you to our dedicated trustees who served from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

Kim McLaughlin, <i>Chair</i>	Patrick A. Cebelak
Joe Chamberlin, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Roz Sullivan
Rhonda Huisman, <i>Treasurer</i>	Benjamin J. Williams
Ellie Frey Zagel, <i>Secretary</i>	

Trustees

Aileen A. Antonio, MD, FAAN	Brian Hauenstein
Shannon Armstrong, MD, MBA, FACS	Bonnie S. Kopp
Matt Biersack, MD, MBA	Andola Mathis, MD
Christa Panopoulos Bird	Ken Pitchford
Neil C. Colegrove, MD	Lauren Snyder
Jennifer Crowley	Rev. Eileen Bowman Stoffan
Baljit Singh Deol, MD – <i>Resigned February 2025</i>	Kristy Todd, DNP, FNP-BC
Linsey Gleason	Jeff Towner
Dan Green	Drew Wessell, CFP
	Chris Wessely

Honorary Trustees

Betsy Beaton Borre
Robert C. Woodhouse, Jr.

Thank you to our Corporate & Community Partners!

Thanks to our incredible 2024 community partners, we were able to transform the health of our community by helping sustain essential programs to meet our patients' and neighbors' needs. These partnerships equip our teams to work toward community health and well-being, clinical excellence and exceptional patient experiences.



ADAC	Marge's Donut Den
Advent Physical Therapy	Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation
Amway	Meijer
Aquinas College	MFP Automation Engineering & Betten Family
Buist Electric	Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
CareLinc Medical Equipment	NOODLEPIG
Catholic Diocese of Grand Rapids	Owen-Ames-Kimball
Consumers Energy Foundation	Pioneer Construction
Create My Tee	Rockford Construction
Custer Inc.	Skytron
Davenport University	SpartanNash
DJ's Landscape Management	The David & Carol Van Andel Family Foundation
Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids	The Steve & Amy Van Andel Foundation
Elite Hand & Plastic Surgery Center, PLC	Triangle Associates
Enviah	UM Health West
Gold Coast Doulas	Van Andel Institute
Grand Rapids Community College	Varnum
Grand Valley State University	Vicinity Energy
Ken Ferris Construction Co	West Michigan Surgical Specialists, PLC
Kent District Library	Whitecaps Community Foundation
KM Online Marketing	Wolverine Building Group
Lacks Enterprises, Inc.	
LMCU	
Magna Mechatronics, Mirrors & Lighting	

**Community & Corporate Partners through June 30, 2025*

Platinum
Transparency
2025

Candid.

Saint Mary's Foundation Earns 2025 Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency

We're proud to announce that Saint Mary's Foundation has earned the 2025 Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid, the highest level of recognition for nonprofit transparency. This prestigious seal reflects our ongoing commitment to openness, accountability, and impact. By sharing clear and comprehensive information about our goals, strategies and results, we empower donors and partners to make informed decisions and deepen their trust in our Mission.

Thank you for being part of our journey to build a healthier, more compassionate community.

Trinity Health Mission

We, Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel, as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

Saint Mary's Foundation is dedicated to building relationships that inspire financial support from the community to advance the Mission of Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Laura Conners | 616-685-6084
connerla@trinity-health.org

Interested in planned gift opportunities?

Cathy Mersman | 616-685-1484
cathy.skene@trinity-health.org

Interested in becoming a member of our Grand Groups program?

Kelly Obenauer | 616-685-1427
kelly.obenauer@trinity-health.org

Interested in your company becoming more involved?

Ashley Owen | 616-685-1426
ashley.owen@trinity-health.org

Saint Mary's Foundation
616-685-1892
200 Jefferson Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
SaintMarysFoundationGR.com

*If you do not wish to receive information
from Saint Mary's Foundation in the
future, please call 616-685-1892.*



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