

# Because of you... Our patients receive the care and assistance they need to get well!!

Have you ever wondered how your generosity to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation assists others? It enables us to help many, many people especially those in most need.

**Because of you,** many people received assistance with transportation to medical appointments, and were assisted in paying a portion of their monthly rent.

**Because of you,** people attained assistance in getting them back on their feet and provided them with funds for essential items like food and clothing.

**Because of you,** our patients are receiving the care and assistance they need!

**Because of you,** the following patients were helped. Here are their stories and testaments of gratitude:

A patient who was falling behind on his bills and needed help with transportation costs to get to Dialysis and back home 3 times a week.

**Because of you,** the Lourdes at Home fund was able to assist this patient with funds for a gas card.

A patient who was struggling tremendously with cancer and unable to work any longer. He was in dire need of help with his NYSEG bill during the bitter cold winter.

**Because of you,** the Geller Oncology Fund was able to assist in paying some of his bill.

Those in Hospice are often at the end of their lives and need something simple to provide comfort or to brighten their day.

**Because of you,** we are able to provide Hospice patients with items like special gowns, Christmas stockings, birthday and anniversary baskets that are hand made by our volunteers and filled with items that will bring joy to them.

Camp Hope for Kids is a day camp for children ages 6-14 who have experienced the loss of an immediate family member such as: a parent, guardian, grandparent, or sibling. They are able to grieve openly and learn how to deal with their emotions and realize that there are other children that are experiencing similar loss.

**Because of you,** we are able to help subsidize the cost of this program and offer children this wonderful opportunity of healing.



Each time we help those in need, we are living the mission of St. Vincent DePaul and the Daughters of Charity. We could not do this without your support. It is with deep gratitude and appreciation from the Lourdes Foundation, Lourdes Hospital and our patients that we say **because of you,** our community is a better place!

Your support has really made a difference in our patient's lives. THANK YOU!!!!!!

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Kathy Connerton

Lourdes Hospital President/CEO

# Lourdes Welcomes New President/CEO

Along with Lourdes Hospital, the Lourdes Foundation is happy to welcome the new Lourdes Hospital President & CEO, Kathy Connerton. Kathy re-joins the Lourdes family after having worked for Bon Secours Health System for 15 years. She previously worked for Lourdes Hospital as General Counsel for 6 years. We are grateful that Kathy decided to return to her hometown. We look forward to working with her to ensure that Lourdes remains at the forefront of healthcare in our community!



## You Helped Others to Get Well!!!

In February, staff in the Lourdes Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy department approached the Foundation with a new request. Over the past few months, they saw a decline in the number of patients who were able to make their appointments for treatment. The treatment regimen for these patients is usually over a timeframe of every week day for at least 6 weeks. As the staff spoke with some of these patients, they realized that the issue was that many of them lived in outlying areas and either did not have someone that could bring them to their appointments or they couldn't afford the cost of gas to drive to Lourdes every day. In an effort to alleviate some of this burden, the Foundation Board agreed that supplying gas cards for these patients was a way to ensure that they would be able to make their appointments and continue on the road to recovery. Without your support, the Foundation would not have the ability to fund these requests and reach out to the patients who are in need. We thank you for your continued generosity that allows us to do this!

ecause of your generosity and support, many people in need received vital assistance in the form of Gas Cards. Now, many of our patients will be able to receive treatment, and make their doctor's appointments.



## Hockey 4 Hope: **Skating for a Cause**

The Hockey 4 Hope Benefit was held on March 28, 2015 at the Broome Community College Ice Rink. A total of 38 players traveling from as far as California, Florida, and South Carolina laced up their skates to benefit the Geller Oncology Fund and raise awareness for breast cancer. A few big names were able to join in the fun this year! Chris Bala, who was drafted by the Ottawa Senators, now retired, played in the game as well as Mike Vallely, Professional Skateboarder and X- Games Athlete. Roughly 600 people attended the event. Donations are still being received at www.hockey4hope.com.

The Hockey 4 Hope game is a charity hockey game organized to raise money with all proceeds being donated to the Lourdes Hospital Foundation for The Geller Oncology Fund. Brian Laing, a former member of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation Board and founder of the event, established Hockey 4 Hope in 2010 in honor of his late Aunt Connie who lost her battle with breast cancer in 2006.

The Geller Oncology Fund was established by Dr. Marilyn Geller and the late Dr. Sandy Geller in 2000 to provide financial assistance to patients receiving treatment at Lourdes Regional Cancer Center and at Broome Oncology. This fund assists many Lourdes Hospital patients each year with extraordinary expenses such as transportation costs, household bills, prescriptions and medical bills. The Fund is a manifestation of the lifelong devotion of Marilyn and Sandy to improving lives and helping others.

The tournament has raised much needed funds for The Geller Oncology Fund. We are so grateful to Brian and to Hockey 4 Hope for building this legacy. If you would like to make a donation, be a Corporate Supporter or volunteer off the Ice, contact Brian Laing at blaing@constancefoundation.org.



### Why we exist:

## A Hospice Story

We often wonder if we are making a difference, if our work is important and if our existence is necessary. We hear many stories from patients who say "thank you" in so many ways for the little things that we are able to do for them. Recently, we were visited by a local organization who wanted to donate the last of their funds to the Lourdes Foundation to be used for Hospice. Various members of the club felt that Hospice was such an integral part of our community and many had personal experiences with Hospice. Some members were in Hospice care before they passed away, others had family members who were in Hospice and received the compassionate, loving care offered by the program. They were so appreciative that they wanted to give back.

We also realized recently that our impact can go even further than just our own community. About a year ago, a family approached Lourdes Hospice with a very unique situation. They were expecting a baby. The parents knew that the baby had a rare condition called anencephaly and that she would not grow up or learn to walk or talk as she would be born without most of her brain. They were able to carry the little girl and give birth to her. They brought her home with the care of Hospice and when the time came they donated her organs. They were able to spend 3 days at home with their baby with the help of Hospice care. It did not end there. A family from Texas was visiting the area and heard about this family. They were experiencing the same situation with their baby and realized that Hospice was a choice for them.

We must always remember that our impact goes much further than we think. When we choose to be stewards of hope, we are giving others the chance to find peace and comfort when they need it most.

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### **Contact us**

M – F 8:00am – 4:30pm Phone: 607-798-5684

www.lourdes.com/about-us/foundation



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## Planned Giving & The Heritage Society

here are many ways to support the work of Lourdes Hospital. One of the easiest ways to make a planned gift is through a bequest. Through a simple provision in your will, you may make a gift to the Foundation.

Making a bequest is the most common type of planned gift, and is an excellent choice if you want to maintain control of your assets during your lifetime, and support Lourdes in the future. We can work with you and your financial advisor to craft specific bequest language that accurately reflects your gift intentions.

Our Heritage Society gratefully acknowledges the following individuals who have demonstrated their devotion to Lourdes Hospital through a planned gift. We would like to express our deepest appreciation as their gifts have enabled the Foundation to continue its support of Lourdes Hospital.

Estate of Albert M. Anderegg\*
Estate of Robert L. McDevitt\*, K.S.G, K.C.H.S
& Catherine H. McDevitt\*, L.C.H.S.
Sara E. O'Connell\* Trust
Estate of Paul F. Reich, MD\*

Estate of Hans F. Weil\* Estate of Helena E. Weil\* Mr. & Mrs. Earle Wootton J. Paul Wynne\* Charitable Trust

\*Deceased

If you would like more information on Planned Giving or The Heritage Society, please feel free to contact the Foundation office at 607-798-5684.