

2019

Annual Report



Mercy Health Foundation
Ascension Mercy Hospital

Ascension
Mercy Hospital



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ENTRANCE



Message from our director

At Mercy Health Foundation, we are surrounded by wonderful acts of goodness. We're extremely grateful for your incredible generosity - our friends, donors and champions.

Thank you for your continued commitment and investment in the mission-based programs and services at Ascension Mercy Hospital and our Ascension Medical Group clinics throughout Oshkosh and the surrounding communities.

Each and every day, our patients and families, doctors, staff and nurses share stories about how the quality and compassionate care our team consistently provides makes a difference in their lives. As we reflect on the past year, we want to share some of those stories with you.

The support from our community has touched the lives of countless patients and family members. To every donor who invested in our mission, we extend heartfelt gratitude and pledge to continue earning your support. Thank you for your continued support of Mercy Health Foundation.



LIZ RICE JANZEN



Foundation supported key service line priority areas

Behavioral Health

We understand that caring for your mind is just as important as caring for your body. Addiction, behavioral and mental health issues affect the individual and entire family. Our Behavioral Health team has personalized and compassionate treatment programs to help individuals in both our adult and geropsych unit. Restoring emotional, physical and spiritual well-being is an important part of every treatment plan.

Cancer Care

The Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center at Ascension Mercy Hospital strives to enhance the lives of individuals and families through their cancer journey. Our vision is achieved by providing mind, body and spiritual care that is compassionate, multidisciplinary and of the highest quality. We help balance the physical and psychosocial aspects of our patients' cancer care.

Cardiovascular

Our vision is to be the committed leader in compassionate cardiovascular health through a holistic, accessible, person-centered approach across the continuum. Experienced cardiovascular specialists in our Heart & Lung Center provide the care that is right for each patient. With general and interventional cardiologists and cardiovascular/thoracic surgeons trained in the latest heart care testing, treatment and procedures, and as part of a national network, patients have access to advanced heart care close to home.

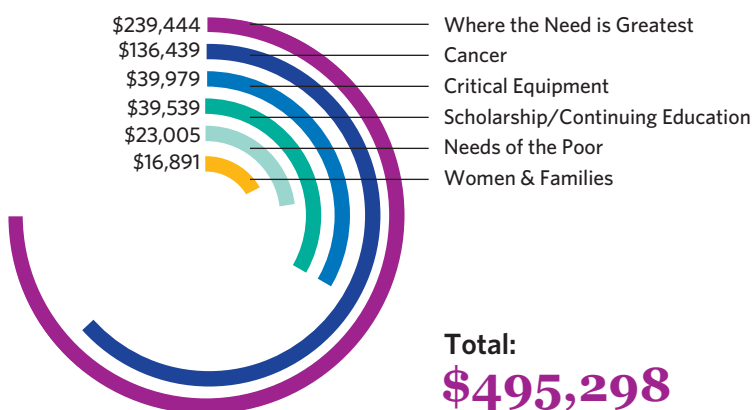
Community Benefit

In partnership with Ascension's Community Health Improvement Plan, we are dedicated to provide funding and work in partnership with other local organizations to improve the overall health and well-being of our communities. Our key areas of focus are mental health, healthy weight, disease prevention, healthy living and support for the poor and vulnerable.

Women & Families

The Women & Families department is the premier location for women, infants and children to receive care. Whether choosing a water birth or traditional delivery, our maternity programs and highly skilled obstetricians and nurses are here to help you design your personalized birth experience. Our care is family-centered, evidence-based and culturally inclusive, provided by expert care givers that utilize the latest in innovation and technology, delivering an exceptional patient experience.

Grant distribution



Financials

Assets

Current Assets:	\$498,418.21
Outstanding Pledges:	\$28,390.47
Investments:	\$11,342,427.94

Total Assets: \$11,869,236.62

Liabilities and fund balance

Current Liabilities:	\$37,669.50
Unrestricted:	\$2,088,803.48
Temp Restricted:	\$4,967,184.24
Perm Restricted:	\$4,775,579.40
Total Fund Balance:	\$11,831,567.12

Total Liabilities: \$11,869,236.62



Sandy Strong

Sandy will tell you how one day makes a difference for the rest of your life. For her, that was July 18, 2013, when she received her diagnosis of stage 4 breast cancer which had already metastasized to her bones. She became SANDRA ANDREINI STAGE 4 BREAST CANCER...there is no stage 5. That day Sandy made the decision to fight for her life.

A Long Journey

A wise friend once told Sandy, "Living with stage 4 cancer there are not a lot of comfort stops along the way." Sandy made the choice to fight. Three years after her initial diagnosis she was given the news that her cancer had metastasized to her brain. She placed her trust in her healthcare team at Ascension Mercy Hospital and the Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center, enduring chemotherapy, hair loss (not once, but twice), a bilateral mastectomy, reconstruction, implants, brain surgery and radiation. Sandy's family and friends started calling her, "Sandy Strong." She'll tell you that she is STRONG, and now and forever will continue to be, "SANDY STRONG."

Sandy will be the first to say losing your hair can be very emotional. There is no way to prepare someone for that. Hair is the first thing that we see on a person. It identifies you, perhaps as much or even more than your voice. During the first 5 years of her journey when she lost her hair, she chose to embrace her baldness and wear scarves and hats. However, she also realizes that this is not the case with many other fighters.

The Oasis

In late December 2015, a dynamic group of individuals came together to plan the first Faces of Courage event to raise funds toward the construction and services of the Oasis, a Hair Studio. Their vision was to create a dedicated space steps away from the Michael D. Wachtel Cancer Center on the campus of Mercy to welcome patients needing hair services and care.



Sandy was a key player in this fundraising drive, sharing her story and inspiring so many. Over the course of 3 years, because of the support of our donors, the goal of raising \$250,000 was achieved! On August 8, 2019, the Oasis was officially opened.

“You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have.”

This "boutique" is where individuals with cancer can find the materials, expertise and support they need to feel good about themselves. Services provided by Rebecca Hurst, master stylist and certified Look Good Feel Better Facilitator for the American Cancer Society, include head shaving in an intimate, personal environment when hair loss begins, wig fitting and ordering. The Oasis offers a private and healing experience for any individual in the community who is interested in a wig or some other type of head covering. Funded completely by philanthropy, The Oasis provides a place of comfort and guidance so patients can embrace their hair loss and baldness in whatever way that meets their comfort level and emotional needs.

A very important part of fighting cancer or any other illness is feeling good about oneself and having a positive attitude, to fight and move forward in your journey. Our hope is that by providing this environment, people will feel more at ease and safe, allowing them to take the next steps along their journey.

At the time of Sandy's initial diagnosis, there was no treatment that was able to do what was necessary for patients like her - patients that had brain metastasis. Recently, the FDA approved a new drug for just that - giving renewed hope to many who, like Sandy, continue to fight.

And fight she does! Sandy gives credit to so many in her life who have helped her through this journey. Her family, care teams, Donna Rogers, her Nurse Navigator who she lovingly calls her "lunch lady," her friends who were with her every step along the line, her faith in God.

Thank you, Sandy, for sharing your story of hope and your angel wings with so many! You are now and forever will continue to be...

“Sandy Strong.”

Philanthropic impact

After a stroke left him with minimal use on his right side, raking leaves or walking outdoors was something Mark didn't know if he would ever do again. Putting on his socks and placing items in his medicine cabinet seemed near impossible. Thanks to Ascension Mercy Hospital's Fitness for the Physically Challenged program, Mark was able to rake his leaves this fall and no longer knocks over items in his medicine cabinet. He can even grab for and use a tissue with ease. Imagine life without these very basic functions.

The Fitness for the Physically Challenged program has been free of charge to the Oshkosh community for 25 years. This program offers a special level of supervision for those people who would not be able to exercise in a community type fitness facility. Direct supervision gives them instruction in areas of safe strengthening, allowing them the freedom to maintain mobility and independence in their daily lives. The program continues to thrive with several new members added this past summer. Many of the members enjoy making new friends and sharing experiences with people with the same diagnosis. Education in fitness is offered and individual assistance is provided to each new member during orientation and periodically as requested per person.



Anyone with a permanent physical disability or multiple medical problems that inhibit them from safely working out at a community gym may participate in this program at no charge to them. Daily attendance ranges from 16-25 individuals, with an annual total of over 2,000 visits last year.

Donor dollars from Mercy Health Foundation directly supports this program with our internal grant process. Funded solely by philanthropy, Fitness for the Physically Challenged is a wonderful example of how donors like you make a direct impact in the care and recovery of those that need it most.

Foundation staff

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Mission statement

The mission of the Mercy Health Foundation is to live out the healing ministry of Christ with a special emphasis on those in need, by generating, stewarding and distributing funds to enhance the quality of health services, programs and other community health care initiatives.



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*July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

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