



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# Investing in the health of our communities

Generating, stewarding and distributing donations to enhance the quality of health care at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital, Ascension Calumet Hospital and Ascension Medical Group clinics in the Fox Cities.



Ascension  
St. Elizabeth Hospital  
Foundation

## Message from our director



Mother Teresa stated "It's not about how much you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts."

At St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation, we are extremely grateful to you—our friends, donors and champions.

Thank you for your continued commitment and investment in the mission-based programs and services at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital, Ascension Calumet Hospital and our Ascension Medical Group clinics throughout the Fox Cities.

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.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation. Together, we are investing in the health of our communities.

*Chad Heshner*

## Financials (as of June 30, 2019)

### Assets

Current assets	\$993,841.19
Outstanding pledges	\$114,294.77
Investments	\$8,215,819.21
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$22,287,571.89</b>

### Liabilities and fund balance

Current liabilities	\$656,401.70
Unrestricted	\$3,557,126.70
Temporarily restricted	\$2,440,604.47
Permanently restricted	\$2,620,517.55
Total fund balance	\$8,618,248.72
<b>Total liabilities and fund balance</b>	<b>\$22,287,571.89</b>

## Foundation supported key service line priority areas

### Behavioral Health

Caring for your mind is as important as caring for your body. Addiction, behavioral and mental health issues affect the individual and entire family. Our Behavioral Health team offers personalized, compassionate treatment programs to help children, adolescents, adults and older adults restore emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.

### Ascension Calumet Hospital

Ascension Calumet Hospital is a rural, critical access hospital with board-certified emergency medicine doctors treating all types of medical emergencies, including: specialty services, rehabilitation services, family medicine providers, comprehensive imaging, in-house urology, acute care and outpatient laboratory services.

### Cancer Care

St. Elizabeth Cancer Center enhances the lives of individuals and families through their cancer journey. Our vision is achieved by providing the highest quality of mind, body and spiritual care that is compassionate and multidisciplinary. We help balance the physical and psychosocial aspects of cancer care.

### Heart Health

Our Heart and Lung Center includes general and interventional cardiologists and cardiovascular/thoracic surgeons trained in the latest heart care testing, treatment and procedures. As part of a national network, patients have access to advanced heart care close to home.

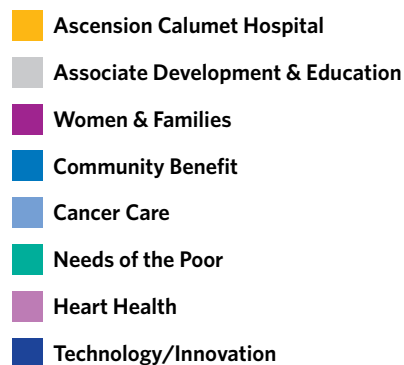
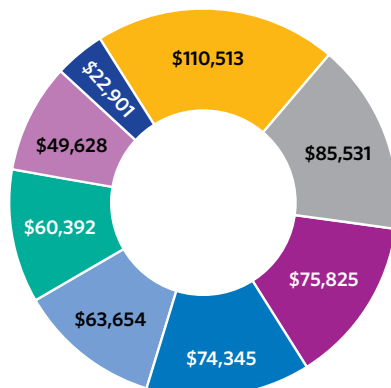
### Community Benefit

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

### Women & Families

Expert caregivers in the Women & Families department, including Labor and Delivery, Neonatal Intensive Care, and Inpatient Pediatrics, provide family centered, evidence based, and culturally inclusive care. Caregivers utilize the latest in innovation and technology to provide an excellent patient experience.

## Grant distribution





Brad (green hat) with his family

## Meet the “Miracle Man”

Some of Bradley Schinke's friends call him the “Miracle Man,” and for good reason. After having a stroke, being diagnosed with VEDS (Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome), surviving an aortic dissection and a second stroke, Brad no longer takes any day for granted.

Brad, his wife Sheila and their three children live in the same area where Brad was born and raised. He is an active community member, winning a lifetime achievement award from the county and state of Wisconsin for the local business he owned and operated. When his younger brother Tim passed away due to complications from an aortic aneurysm, Brad and his family members decided to pursue genetic testing. Brad, another brother and his father, were all diagnosed with VEDS a day before Brad's 47th birthday, on October 26, 2018.

### Every Second Matters

Shortly after his diagnosis, during an exercise workout, Brad began to feel an intense burning in his leg. His temperature was rising and he felt as if his legs were on fire. Suddenly, he could feel his aorta slowly unraveling. After quick action by his wife and local responders, he was brought to Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital.

With every second critical, Brad was rushed to surgery under the care of Dr. Saeed Ally. An aortic dissection typically is a 12-hour surgery that carries a life expectancy under 10%. Brad's chances of survival were so slim that the surgeons and staff gathered around him to say a prayer and goodbye after nine hours of surgery. He was in a medically induced coma for nine days to improve his chance of recovery.

### Journey of Healing

The last thing Brad told his wife before surgery was, “I was born in this hospital, so I guess I will die here.” She replied, “You are not dying today, nor will you be dying tomorrow.” And so, his journey of healing began.

He spent 20 days in the ICU and lost 66 pounds. Then, he spent two weeks at St. Paul Elder Services in Kaukauna, where he learned how to walk, talk and use his hands again. When he returned home, Brad continued his outpatient rehab at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital. On March 13, 2019, with three sessions of rehab left and 13 seconds remaining on the Elliptical, Brad suffered a stroke and was brought to Room 13 in the Emergency Department. He was monitored for 48 hours, with no food or drink. He credits nurse Megan for her great patience that got him through those days. In appreciation, Brad recently worked with the Foundation to provide lunch for the staff in the Rehab and Emergency departments.

### Moving Forward with Gratitude

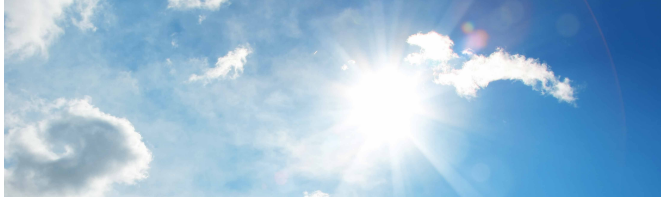
Some days are better for Brad than others. He decided to sell his business. It was a hard decision, but it was best for him and his family. He is no longer able to lift his youngest son, who has cerebral palsy; but, he finds so much joy in his children every day. They love to travel, and Brad traveled to New York City to share his story at One World Trade Center as part of a local organization that granted a wish for his son. He approaches everything in his life with a sense of humor. It helped him get through the recovery and pain.



Brad with his son

After telling his story Brad added, “I am grateful for the opportunities I have been given. I am grateful for another opportunity to be with my family, to see the sun and greet the day. I'm grateful for the big things like my kids' birthdays and graduations, and the small things like the smell of freshly mowed grass or a snowfall. I am beyond grateful for Dr. Ally and his team and the entire nursing staff at St. Elizabeth Hospital, who worked tirelessly around the clock to ensure I had these opportunities. Gratitude to all the doctors and nurses—I am so grateful. Just thank you.”

***Like many other patients, Brad felt compelled to give back to the hospital departments that provided the excellent care he received. As his medical journey brought him in through the Emergency Department, into Surgery and finally to Rehabilitation, Brad felt the gifts of those who had come before him. Donor dollars in 2019 provided crucial technology updates, innovative equipment and patient conveniences that all contributed to the patient-centered care given in each of those departments.***



## Philanthropic impact

**The Pathway to Peace program** supports families experiencing pregnancy loss in the Emergency Department, Outpatient Surgery, the OB clinic and in our Birthplace unit. Approximately 100 families who receive care on the Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital campus experience a pregnancy loss each year. We offer support in the form of education, and written materials and mementos recognizing the significance of the loss of each baby.

The program coordinator orders educational brochures, mementos and related supplies, and collates and distributes the packets. Three times each year, there is a memorial service held for these families in coordination with Spiritual Services. Annually, there is a Walk to Remember that is co-sponsored with ThedaCare and the Infant Death Center of Wisconsin.

The program continues to provide information packets to the departments that care for families experiencing pregnancy loss. More than 70 packets are distributed each year and on average about 25 people attend each memorial service held for families and loved ones.

Our internal partners are the nurses and chaplains who care for each family during their hospital stay, providing direct education and support. We all work together to make certain the family receives as much support as possible.

**Donor dollars of the St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation directly support this program with our internal grant process. Another great example of investing in the compassionate care provided by our Ascension health care providers.**

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## Foundation staff

**Chad Hershner**  
*Director of Philanthropy*

**Julie Miskoviak**  
*Foundation Coordinator*

**Coree Van Thiel**  
*Regional Grants Manager*

**Heather Zoromski**  
*Foundation Development Specialist*

## Mission statement

St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital, Ascension Calumet Hospital and Ascension Medical Group clinics throughout the Fox Cities. Our primary purpose is to generate, steward and distribute funds to enhance the quality of health care in our communities, with a special emphasis on those in need.

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## ASCENSION ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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\* Current March 2020