

Our mission

St. Cloud Hospital Gorecki Guest House is a non-profit service that provides affordable, temporary housing in a peaceful, homelike setting for patients and families receiving medical care in the St. Cloud community.

Conveniently located across the street from St. Cloud Hospital, the guest house offers many amenities including:

- 12 handicapped-accessible guest rooms
- Private baths and localized thermostats
- Kitchen and dining rooms to accommodate family meals
- A large living room, library, TV room and playroom

To help replenish needed supplies for guests, the Gorecki Guest House is gratefully accepting gift cards from Coborn's, Shopko, Target, Sam's Club and WalMart.

Gorecki Guest House is a proud member of the National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses (NAHHH).



St. Cloud Hospital
CENTRACARE Health System
GORECKI GUEST HOUSE

1406 Sixth Ave. N. | St. Cloud, MN 56303
www.centracare.com

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. CLOUD, MN
PERMIT NO. 389



Gorecki Guest House house warmings

Fall 2011

Early delivery brings family to St. Cloud

Michael Peters wanted to continue the family tradition of summer vacations that he experienced while growing up. Although his wife, Jennifer, was 31-weeks pregnant, her physician had no concerns with them making the trip from Coal Valley, Ill., to Alexandria, Minn., in early July. However, on July 5, 2011 Jennifer started having contractions and went to Douglas County Hospital for monitoring. The next day, she was transferred by ambulance to St. Cloud Hospital. On July 7, she delivered their son Derek eight weeks early at a weight of 4 pounds, 6 ounces.



Michael, Jennifer and baby Derek in the NICU.

With Derek in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), the Peters realized it would be several weeks before Derek would be strong enough to make the nine-hour car ride back home. "We wanted to be close to Derek since he was eating every three hours. The Gorecki Guest House, just across the street from the NICU, was the perfect lodging option," Jennifer said. "Being able to make our own food and do laundry is a great amenity when you are away from home."



Michael and Jennifer Peters relax in the kitchen between trips to the hospital.

During the Peter's 41-night stay at the Guest House, they welcomed several family members and friends to their home away from home. "We celebrated my sister and grandma's birthday at the Gorecki Guest House," Jennifer said. "It was just like at home — we were all together."

On Aug. 18, Michael and Jennifer checked out of the Gorecki Guest House. Derek, who had grown to 7 pounds, 1 ounce, was ready to go home and sleep in his Snoopy-themed nursery.

"We were fortunate to have everything available to us during this uncertain time. The care and support we received at the Gorecki Guest House and throughout St. Cloud Hospital was amazing — it will never be forgotten," Michael said.

St. Cloud Hospital
CENTRACARE Health System
GORECKI GUEST HOUSE

A note from Sally

Dear Guests and Friends,

Every day we have the privilege to meet families who share their stories, giving us the opportunity to make new friends.



Families seek lodging that allows them to be close to a family member receiving medical care in the St. Cloud area.

They discover that the St. Cloud Hospital Gorecki Guest House is a charming, comfortable and safe haven

where they can rest, relax and recharge.

Our Guest House becomes a small community where families can seek and be comforted by our caring staff, volunteers and other guest families who find themselves in similar situations.

The countless ways you support the vital outreach of our Guest House enriches the lives of our guests and their families from Central Minnesota and beyond. Without your generous monetary contributions and donations from our

wish list, the Guest House would not exist. We also appreciate volunteers who share their time and talent with us and former guests who recommend the Guest House to others.

During this holiday season, may we recall and be grateful for all the graces

of life. Wishing you hope, joy and love in the new year.

With warm hospitality,

Sally Allen

Sally Allen, Gorecki Guest House manager
(320) 251-2700, ext. 50993
allens@centracare.com

This house has been built by the caring community members and employees who gave so generously to make it a reality. This is a great example of the power of philanthropy making a difference in the lives of patients served at St. Cloud Hospital.



**Gorecki Guest House
Notable Numbers:**
(July 2010 - June 2011)

- 82% occupancy
- 1,126 families served
- 2,197 volunteer hours served
- 3.2 nights average length of stay
- 97.11% guest satisfaction

Guest quotes

"This was just a totally calming experience. What a wonderful concept to add to the hospital visit for families of those needing medical care."

- Jackie, Longville

"The convenience to the hospital, comfortable and clean accommodations and the supportive staff offset the uncertainty and challenges of my husband's accident and hospital rehabilitation stay."

- Patrice, Motley

"Thank you for your wonderful accommodations. It is such a relief to be close when a loved one is in the hospital. The staff is so helpful and your house is lovely and very well taken care of."

- Marian, Edina

"The 'angels' at the Gorecki Guest House are helpful and caring. How nice it is to be so close to the hospital. Thank you for a stressless stay during a very stressful time in my life!"

- Joyce, Nevis



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at (320) 251-2700, ext. 55638, or at volunteer@centracare.com.

St. Cloud Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary continues their support



The St. Cloud Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary Board.

The Volunteer Auxiliary began on July 9, 1958 to provide service, public relations and fundraising opportunities to St. Cloud Hospital.

The Volunteer Auxiliary annually distributes the funds earned from the gift galleries, baby pictures, art sales and various other fundraisers to support projects throughout the health system that otherwise would go unfunded.

In 2006, the Volunteer Auxiliary gave \$300,000 towards the new Gorecki Guest House to initiate the project. The Volunteer Auxiliary gave the second largest donation to date next to the generous gift from Ben and Dorothy Gorecki. On Oct. 20, 2011 the Auxiliary made an additional \$200,000 gift to help fund the Gorecki Guest House endowment through the CentraCare Health Foundation.

The Guest House is something Kendra Flanagan, St. Cloud Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary Board president, has been very passionate about. "I helped to create a home-like atmosphere

by painting, landscaping and collecting donations for the original hospitality house in 1996," Kendra said.

"It was a summer-long project, but it was worth it. Afterward, patients and their families receiving medical care had a comfortable place to stay."

"I continue to volunteer weekly at the Guest House. I see how much it means to patients and their families to have an inviting place to stay during difficult times," Kendra said.



Kendra Flanagan