



JUNE 2023

## La Gratitude event recognizes five award recipients

On May 18, we hosted La Gratitude in St. Cloud. (Last month, we featured the award recipients from our April 20 event in Willmar.) These annual donor recognition events honor donors, physicians, and community leaders who have generously supported CentraCare and the health of patients and their families.

"La Gratitude is a remarkable evening where we honor and celebrate the spirit of giving and the power of philanthropy," said Chad Roggeman, attorney with Rajkowski Hansmeier Ltd., CentraCare Foundation Board Chair. "On behalf of our Foundation Board, we are so grateful for the continued support of our donors, and we thank them for being our valued partners."

During the May 18 event, the 2023 La Gratitude Awards were presented to these recipients:

**Art & Barb Grachek:** Lifetime Achievement Award

**Lester Engel:** Beacon Award

**Chris Shorba:** Service to Foundation Award

**Tom D. St. Hilaire:** Rising Star Award

**Dr. Kurt Schwieters:** Caduceus Award

We also shared a special tribute to our Foundation friends who passed away this last year: **Bob Feuling, Don Helgeson and Bob & Sandy Sexton.**

Congratulations and thank you to these deserving recipients! [Click here](#) to watch the videos created for each award recipient from the Willmar and St. Cloud events.



Les Engel, Beacon Award



Art & Barb Grachek, Lifetime Achievement Award



Chris Shorba, Service to Foundation Award



Tom D. St. Hilaire, Rising Star Award



Kurt Schwieters, MD, Caduceus Award

## Helmet sale helps to keep kids safe outdoors

CentraCare – Monticello's annual bike helmet sale is a community tradition to help equip kids for safe, outdoor summer activities!

This year's bike helmet sale is **Saturday, June 10** from 9 a.m. to noon at 303 West 6th Street in Monticello (the former Monticello Fire Station) and part of Monticello's Walk & Roll celebration.

Thanks to donations through CentraCare Foundation, helmets will be available for purchase at the reduced price of \$3 in toddler, child, youth, and adult sizes. Cash payments only - no credit cards.

Providing bike helmets for the reduced price of \$3 gives families an affordable option to support safe biking and skating.



## Can you believe we are halfway to Holly Ball?

"Our family's experience with CentraCare Hospice encouraged us to do more and choose to see and believe that a tremendous amount of good exists in our world."

Holly Ball allows us to make a difference in our community while inspiring others to do the same.

I invite you to join us for Holly Ball this year. It will be an amazing evening featuring impactful stories, inspirational volunteerism, financial generosity, and an example of how a little sparkle can impact the lives of others in our community. Together we can BE THE GOOD." – Melinda Tamm, Holly Ball Chair 2023

When you join us for Holly Ball, plan to make your way through the magical winter wonderland and explore the sounds, scents and scenery of the enchanted forest. We will gather together to celebrate community and raise much-needed funds for cancer and hospice programming and the Central Minnesota Child Advocacy Center.

Watch for more details coming soon.



## Sparkling, stunning and 25 years running!

Save the date for a Silver Soirée, the 25th annual CentraCare Foundation Gala, on Saturday, September 16, at the Willmar Conference Center.

Gala proceeds will benefit hospice patients receiving care in Willmar, Redwood Falls, Paynesville and surrounding communities.

Stay tuned for the release of tickets for this milestone event! And thank you to **Chappell Central Incorporated** for being our presenting sponsor!

## Sign up today! Limited spots available

CentraCare Foundation is excited to support the Long Prairie, Sauk Centre and Melrose communities at one capstone golf event while preserving the legacy of past Foundation golf events.

This year's golf scramble will be at the Greystone Golf Club in Sauk Centre and includes lunch, dinner and a short program, plus plenty of golf and games!

Join us on June 29 to raise funds to support the greatest health care needs of these three communities. Shotgun starts at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. (sold out) with dinner to follow at 5:30 p.m. [Learn more.](#)

Thank you to our golf event sponsors:



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## Remembering a legend in Neonatal Care

CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) held a private remembrance ceremony and portrait unveiling for the late Norman Vimig, MD, who passed away in February. Members of Dr. Vimig's family were able to attend the event including his wife Kathleen, daughter Joy Brew, and several grandchildren.

Dr. Vimig became the first neonatologist at St. Cloud Hospital when he joined the staff in July 1988. He was the first medical director of the NICU, a major development at the hospital. It was only the fourth NICU in Minnesota outside of the Twin Cities, and the first in Central Minnesota.

Division Director for Neonatology, Edward Martin-Chaffee, MD, said, "What a perfect way to remember Dr. Vimig and thank him for coming here and having the wherewithal to start a unit and begin taking care of babies, teaching nurses how to take care of babies and hiring people to continue taking care of babies in this community ... we will forever be grateful."

CentraCare's President and CEO, Ken Holmen, MD, said, "Dr. Vimig became a pioneer and started the program here. Norm's legacy will live on for years. The untold impact is remarkable."

Dr. Vimig's photo is now on display in the NICU and Birth Center and Hest Rest Welcome Center. His contributions to our healthcare system and our communities are vast. May he rest in peace.

On June 12, local real estate professional, Jason Miller, will dance to raise funds for the NICU in the Women's Fund Dancing with our Stars fundraiser. For more information, visit [CommunityGiving.Org/WFP23](#).



## Thank you to our thoughtful community partners

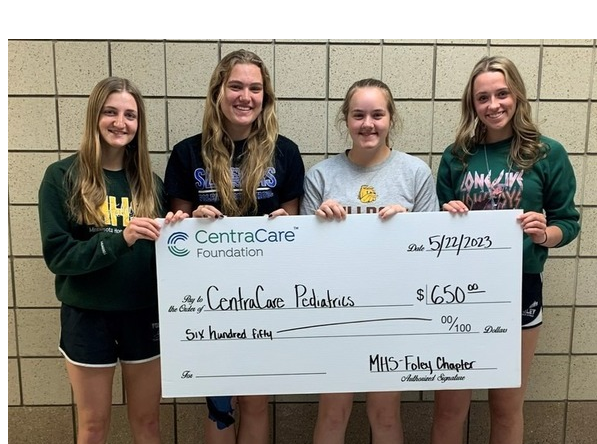


Thank you to the St. Cloud Cathedral and Sauk Centre Schools softball teams for raising \$1,500 by selling t-shirts at their Strike Out Cancer game on May 13 and donating those proceeds to the Coborn Cancer Center. That's definitely a win for our patients with cancer!



Thank you, Larry Warner and Gilleland Chevrolet employees, for their \$2,820 donation. Gilleland conducts an employee raffle and draws one winner to select the charity of their choice.

Pictured are Christy Gilleland, Larry Warner, Brad Konkler and Grant Gilleland.



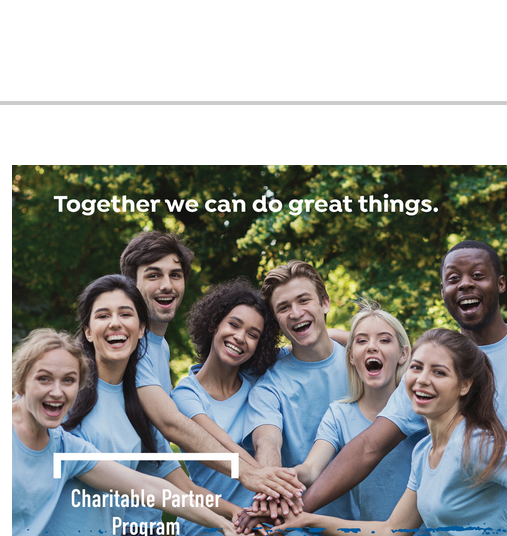
Thank you to the Foley Chapter of the Minnesota Honor Society students who hosted a Play it Forward event with a kickball tournament raising \$650 for CentraCare Pediatrics.

## Are you interested in hosting a fundraising event?

As the charitable, tax-exempt organization for CentraCare, CentraCare Foundation has created policies and procedures designed to guide in planning fund-raising events and activities that benefit CentraCare programs.

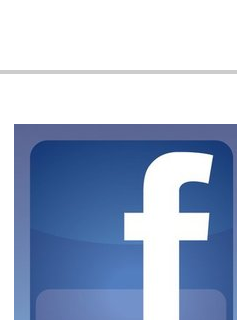
If you are interested in hosting a fundraising event for a CentraCare program, visit our [website](#) or call 320-240-2810 to learn more.

We are so grateful for our community partners who make a difference for our patients through their efforts.



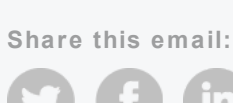
## Follow us on Facebook

CentraCare Foundation has so many stories to share and people to thank that we've created our own [Facebook page](#) where you can find all these things and more! We invite you not only to like our page, but to take it a step further — invite your friends to the page to engage and interact with the posts on Facebook. And give feedback on how we can share the great things CentraCare Foundation is doing for our community, our patients and their families thanks to the generous support of our employees and the community.



Contact us at 320-240-2810 or [Foundation@CentraCare.com](mailto:Foundation@CentraCare.com)

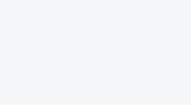
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