



AUGUST 2022

We've expanded our Foundation's footprint

It's official! After two years of planning with the Carris Health Foundation board of directors, our foundations recently merged to become one CentraCare Foundation.

Similar to the other regions CentraCare Foundation supports, the Carris Health funds will continue to support programs and services in the Redwood Falls and Willmar area. Aligning as one foundation will position us for continued success by maximizing efficiencies and impact.

We welcome the Carris Health Foundation staff of Bobbie Mattison, Senior Development Officer, and Samantha Loomis, Development Officer, to our team. Samantha lives in Redwood Falls and has worked with the Redwood Area Hospital and Carris Health Foundations for the past 4.5 years. Bobbie was born and raised in the Willmar area and joined the Foundation in May with 22 years of fundraising experience, most recently with Catholic Charities.

We look forward to the great opportunities this merger will bring as we strive to further engage the community in support of our mission.

Also, mark your calendar for our annual Foundation Gala on Nov. 11 at the Willmar Conference Center. Stay tuned for more details about this annual fundraising event for our Southwest region.



*Bobbie Mattison, CFRE
Senior Development Officer*



*Samantha Loomis
Development Officer*

Grateful Patient, Grateful Heart

Every day, CentraCare employees provide care to patients: sometimes it's for a one-time encounter, sometimes it's for ongoing care or even for a long-term health issue. But what if after years of caring for a patient, and even after her passing, you find out she was so impacted by the care she received, she left a gift big enough to help other patients for years to come?



Recently, CentraCare Foundation was notified that Emily Gohman, who passed away in 2018, left a \$2.5 million gift to recognize the wonderful care she received during her cancer journey and treatment.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Emily and how the care she received inspired her to leave a legacy that will last a lifetime.

St. Cloud Hospital named as one of U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals



As part of its Best Hospitals rankings and ratings, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked St. Cloud Hospital as one of the top hospitals in the nation for cardiology and heart surgery and pulmonology and lung surgery.

The annual Best Hospitals rankings and ratings, now in their 33rd year, are designed to assist patients and their doctors in making informed decisions about where to receive care. For the 2022-2023 rankings and ratings, *U.S. News* evaluated more than 4,500 hospitals across 15 specialties and 20 procedures and conditions.

U.S. News ranked CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital as Top 50 in the nation for two adult specialties: cardiology and heart surgery (ranked #30 out of 800 qualifying hospitals) and pulmonology and lung surgery (ranked #44 out of 1,700 qualifying hospitals).

"This ranking comes with great honor, especially after a year of performing a number of 'first in world' or 'first in United States' procedures," said Phil Martin, Executive Director, CentraCare Heart & Vascular Center. [Learn more.](#)

A first in the world

On May 26, CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital became the first in the world to remove a heart tumor without open heart surgery!



Pictured: Jacob Dutcher, MD, Director Structural Heart Disease and STEMI Program; Wade Schmidt, MD, Chief of Cardiology & Director Peripheral Vascular Program; Heather Nierenhausen, Cardiovascular Technologist; Tanya Glenz, RN, BSN, CCRN, CHIP/Shock Coordinator; Sharath Subramanian, MD, Director Advanced Cardiac Imaging (Nuclear Cardiology/CT/MR) & Lipid Clinic.

During the procedure, the CentraCare Heart & Vascular team used EchoPixel 4D hologram technology to guide them to the tumor bouncing around the heart and an AlphaVac catheter to suction it out – all within 20 minutes, demonstrating that a minimally invasive approach could achieve the same outcomes as surgery but with reduced patient risk and recovery time.

"This is going to change our standard of care in a pretty quantum leap," said Cardiologist Wade Schmidt, MD. "We now have the experience and the technology to treat a whole different population of patients."

[Learn more.](#)

Love to Henry supports others experiencing loss

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Love to Henry Foundation for their recent gift of \$25,000.



Pictured on left is David Walz, Senior Director, Women's & Newborn Health; with Nicole and Kenny Meyer and their daughters, Violet and Lila.

The Love to Henry Foundation raises awareness and provides local support for expecting families, families who have perinatal or infant loss, and supports research, prevention and education regarding Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The Love to Henry Foundation was created to honor the memory of Baby Henry Meyer, who died unexpectedly in February 2007.

[Learn more](#) about the Love to Henry Foundation and their upcoming fundraiser.

Cruising for a cause

It was a beautiful day for a ride when 300+ motorcycle drivers and riders participated in the annual St. Cloud Motorcycle fundraiser raising \$10,000 for the Child Advocacy Center and Suicide Awareness and Prevention.



Presenting the check are Elizabeth Wick and Moe Janssen, ride organizers, to Penny Casavant, Senior Development Officer

Thank you for making a BIG difference for victims of child abuse and helping to prevent suicide. Special thanks to all the donors. [Learn more](#) about this annual ride and sponsors.

We greatly appreciate your generosity and riding to make a difference for so many in our community!

Family honors mom in Curious George attire

When Leah Mins received her CentraCare Foundation newsletter this spring, she read about a June 10 golf event in Paynesville. It was exactly one year from when her mother, Beverly Gustafson, passed away on June 10, 2021.

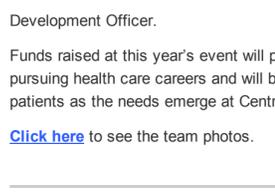


Team Curious George honors Beverly Gustafson

Leah called her sister and extended family members to ask if they wanted to golf in the tournament to honor Bev and they were "all in." In fact, the Curious George team was the first team to register online.

"We didn't realize we were crashing a mostly business affair," laughed Leah. "We certainly raised curiosity with other golfers when we showed up in our matching Curious George shirts and hats."

[Learn more](#) about Beverly, Hospice and the story behind the team name.



Golfers "drive" dollars toward local health care needs

CentraCare Foundation hosted the 25th Annual CentraCare – Long Prairie Golf Scramble at the Long Prairie Country Club on July 19. This fundraising event drew 76 golfers and raised over \$24,000.

"We are grateful for the support from all our sponsors, golfers, and the community who have made this event a success over the past 25 years. Funds raised over the years at this event has, and continues to, make a significant impact right here in Long Prairie for our local patients and community," stated Nicole Bjerke, Senior Development Officer.

Funds raised at this year's event will provide two college scholarships for local high school seniors who are pursuing health care careers and will be used for equipment, supplies and educational programs for patients as the needs emerge at CentraCare – Long Prairie. [Click here](#) to see the team photos.

Recently, "Team Spidey" fundraising on the golf course

Recently, "Team Spidey" (Shelby Teal, Carley Rhoda, Carson Keefauver, and Hannah Willard) participated in a league fundraiser for cancer during their Tuesday night golf league at the Rich Spring golf course.

This team of women decided to dress in Spiderman costumes and perform stunts for donations while golfing. As other golfers and their social media friends donated money to Shelby's Venmo account, the team would perform and share another videotaped stunt via social media and recognize the donor who contributed to make that particular stunt happen. Donations ranged from \$5 to \$50 per stunt and by the end of the night – and 23 different stunts later– Team Spidey blew their \$200 goal out of the water by raising \$500 for gas cards for Coborn Cancer Center patients.

"While it was not the best night for our golf game, the sacrifice was so worth it because we were having so much fun and the donations kept coming," shared Shelby. "It was a challenge to come up with that many different stunts, but my friends are super creative. Actually, my body was sore the next day from some of the crazy stunts we did!"

[Click here](#) to see a video with some of their stunts.

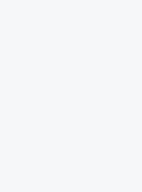


"Team Spidey" is made up of Carley Rhoda, Shelby Teal, Carson Keefauver, and Hannah Willard. (Their real league team name is "Next Gen" because all their moms golf in the league, too.)



Shelby and her friends have a special connection to cancer as Shelby's mom, Pam Teal, is a breast cancer survivor.

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

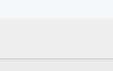
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