



# Investing in Health



OCTOBER 2022

## Grateful patient gives "heartfelt" matching gift

Steve Bright is grateful he took his wife's advice. After not going to the doctor for many years, he finally agreed to go when he turned 50.

A consultation with Cardiologist John Mahowald, MD, led to an angiogram that showed his heart had severe blockage. This meant he was no longer a candidate for stents and was referred to Cardiac Surgeon John Castro, MD, who compared Steve's heart to the heart of a "90-year-old man" and scheduled him for open heart surgery requiring five bypasses. He also sent Steve home with a prescription for nitroglycerin and told him to always keep the pills and his cell phone with him until he underwent open heart surgery.



Robyn, Carter, Cole and Steve Bright

The seriousness of his situation made Steve take the time to get his personal and business affairs in order before his surgery.

Thankfully, Steve and patients like him are in skilled hands. In fact, in 2022, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked CentraCare Heart & Vascular Center 30th out of 800 cardiology and heart surgery programs across the nation. The rankings are based on survival rates, patient experience, level of nursing care and success in helping patients return home.

"Dr. Mahowald and Dr. Castro saved my life," said Steve. "And all the staff who cared for me during my hospital stay and during cardiac rehab were fabulous. I was not a 'work-out person,' but I went to Cardiac Rehab faithfully two to three times a week for 32 weeks. My biggest disappointment was when it ended."

CentraCare can provide this high level of heart care, in part, thanks to generous donors. Community giving helps CentraCare provide life-saving technology to treat blocked arteries in the heart, perform open-heart and vascular surgery, treat heart-beat problems, fix poor leg circulation, as well as other services that focus on heart disease prevention.

Future gifts will help to create a cardiac rehab teaching kitchen with a full-sized cooktop and oven, as well as a camera and monitors that offer patients a "bird's eye view" of heart healthy recipe demonstrations prepared by dietitians.

To show his appreciation for the care he received, Steve's business, [Granite City Motor Car](#), will match all donations made to CentraCare Foundation by Dec. 31— up to \$100,000. [Donate now](#).

"The care I received from the heart center team left a lasting impression on me," added Steve. "I have been blessed in my life and believe in giving back to help others."



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## Coming to you LIVE - Holly Ball 2022!

We are overjoyed to be planning an in-person event for Holly Ball 2022 on Dec. 3 at River's Edge Convention Center! Our event mission continues to support the [CentraCare Hospice](#), [Coborn Cancer Center](#) and [Child Advocacy Center](#) Greatest Needs Funds.



As we continue to prioritize the health, safety, and superior experience of our guests, all Holly Ball attendees will have reserved seats available to them for the entire evening through our expanded event space. After enjoying a fabulous dinner and brief program, the rest of the evening's activities will come to life around you with dancing, entertainment, late-night snacks, a quieter lounge area and more!

Enjoy listening to music by Michael Shynes and David Gerald Sutton and dancing to music by Bluewater Kings Band and Deuces Wild.

To learn more or to purchase an event ticket or sponsorship, visit [Holly Ball 2022](#).

Silent Auction online bidding will open for ticketed guests at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, and close on the evening of Holly Ball, Saturday, Dec. 3. If you are interested in donating an item to our Silent Auction, [click here](#).

Special thanks to these generous sponsors who help to make this event possible!

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## Search begins for new owner for St. Benedict's Community

After internal analysis, much deliberation, and conversations with key stakeholders, the CentraCare Board of Directors voted on Sept. 15 to transfer operations of St. Benedict's Community to a new owner. This includes all care centers, assisted living facilities and senior housing in St. Cloud, Chateau Waters in Sartell, and senior housing in Monticello.

Long-term care and senior housing services have transformed over the last decade with the growth of organizations that focus in this area. The pandemic has highlighted the challenges of providing the care and services that are expected of care providers. Transferring ownership to an organization that specializes in senior services will open the door for even more services and support for residents, families, and staff. This also allows CentraCare to focus on primary and specialty care.

A search process for the new owner has begun with the help of an outside firm and a committee that includes Father Tom Knobloch and Prioress Susan Rudolph. Any potential partner for St. Ben's must align with CentraCare's commitment to quality care and ensure the continuum of care is not compromised. The organization also must be financially strong to sustain these services for years to come and agree to support St. Ben's Catholic heritage. The transition is expected to take place in 2023.

With the decision to transfer SBC operations to a new owner, our Foundation team, with the guidance of our Foundation Board of Directors, is discussing how we can best honor donor intent with the current SBC funds.

## Grocers raising the green for kids!

Since 2002, Coborn's and Kemps have joined together to host the annual [Grocers on the Green](#) golf tournament supporting local charities.

This event has generated more than \$2 million in gifts to CentraCare, supporting our pediatric cancer patients and our pediatric outpatient program. This generous support allows patients to get cutting edge care and treatment in Central Minnesota in partnership with Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota.



At this year's event, the family of Brayden Harren shared their cancer journey and talked about the care received at Children's and CentraCare's Pediatric Outpatient Services.

We are grateful for this continued support for children with cancer and to Brayden's family for sharing how these gifts make a difference.

## Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support!

We are grateful for their giving spirit! Thank you to these community members who have raised funds to benefit our patients with cancer. To learn more about how you can host an event to benefit our patients, [click here](#).



The South Isle Family Campground has an annual "White Elephant Auction." Campers and businesses donate items to be sold and the money raised goes to charities. Since 2019, they have donated \$32,000+ to Coborn Cancer Center!



The Primus family presented a check for more than \$17,000 to support Coborn Cancer Center patients and to show their appreciation for the care Gary received. The money was raised at the 3rd Annual Gary's Players Golf Tournament in memory of Gary Primus, an avid golfer who died from cancer in 2019.



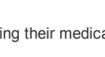
About 60 riders from the Midwest participated in the Charity Cup Ride '22 in Pillager. Darlene Molitor (pictured) organizes this annual event. Since 2012, they have raised more than \$40,000 to support the Coborn Cancer Center and Coborn Healing Center.

## How your gifts make a difference

Many of our programs and services have ongoing needs for items that are not covered by insurance, but are so important to the care provided to our patients.

Here are just a few examples of what your gifts may support:

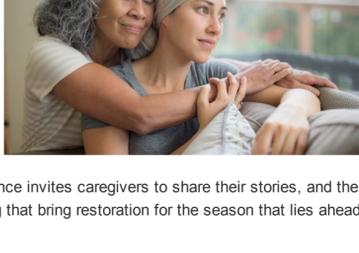
- Backpacks with personal care items for victims of child abuse
- Art supplies for Clara's House patients
- Programs and services provided by the Coborn Healing Center for cancer survivors
- Dignity Closet clothing for patients whose clothing may be damaged during their medical event or treatment
- Medication or transportation costs for patients with financial needs
- Lodging at Gorecki Guest House for family members whose loved one is hospitalized



If you wish to support our patients and families with your gift, [click here](#).

## Courage for Caregivers

Thanks to community giving in support of our cancer program, the Coborn Healing Center offers various classes, services and support groups to help patients going through cancer treatment and recovery - and their caregivers.



The Courage For Caregivers Retreat on Nov. 4 offers caregivers a day away to renew the energies and callings of caregiving and reflect on the feelings they share with the people they care for.

With wisdom from Henri Nouwen, this retreat experience invites caregivers to share their stories, and the workbook invites reflections on the gifts of caregiving that bring restoration for the season that lies ahead.

To register for this free retreat, call 320-229-5100.

For a calendar and description of other classes and programs offered through the Coborn Healing Center, [click here](#).

## 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)

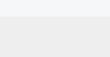
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