A word from our leaders

On behalf of Amery Hospital & Clinic leaders and colleagues, we would like to thank you for your generosity this past year in support of our medical center and its mission to improve the health of our patients and community. We would not be able to fulfill our mission without the generous gifts we receive from supporters such as you. In this report, you will learn how your gifts have benefited our patients and communities.

Your 2019 donations and grants have helped enhance our Emergency Department (ED) with new equipment. This includes a new ultrasound machine, trauma beds and emergency crash carts. The equipment allows for state-of-the-art emergency services for patients as well as standardized work processes in all HealthPartners Valley EDs.

Much of the good philanthropy work at Amery Hospital & Clinic in 2019 was led by Joanne Jackson, our previous foundation director. Joanne retired in December, and we would like to thank her for her many contributions to elevate philanthropy inside our walls and in our communities. We wish her well – and fun – in her retirement.

As we say goodbye to Joanne, we say hello to our new foundation and community health director, Diane McNeil. Diane started in her new role in January; she was previously the program director for the Wound Healing Center at Amery. Diane has many years of health care marketing experience and was a foundation director at a health care organization in southeast Minnesota.

We hope you enjoy this publication and feel the same satisfaction that we do in supporting the work of Amery Hospital & Clinic. Again, your support has made a tremendous impact on providing excellent care close to home with the compassion that our friends and neighbors deserve. We are grateful.

Debra A. Rudquist
President/CEO
Amery Hospital & Clinic

Joyce R. Schaefer
Board Chair
Amery Hospital & Clinic Foundation
AMERY HOSPITAL & CLINIC FOUNDATION

2019 Financial Summary

Total Assets: $706,221

2019 Total Revenue: $435,292
- Employee giving (matched) $67,198
- Events $62,743
- Grants $285,368
- Interest on investments $3,350
- Other contributions & memorials $16,633

Total Expenses: $393,569
- Administration $18,462
- Fundraising $12,573
- Programs $362,534

Scholarships

In 2019 the foundation and hospital offered $7,000 in scholarships to:

Belle Meyer, Amery; Kiana Fall, Clayton; Alexis Cunningham, Clear Lake; Nancy Olave, Luck; Shannan Erickson, Frederic; Cameryn Moravitz, Turtle Lake; and Hallie Allen, Balsam Lake.
Capital project spotlight
Emergency Department equipment

Amery Hospital & Clinic Foundation helped support a major project in 2019 for the Emergency Department. This project standardized the ED with new equipment that aligns with the other HealthPartners St. Croix Valley hospitals – making it easier and more efficient for clinicians and colleagues to work across our Valley EDs. A total of $149,000 was raised to purchase new electric stretchers with weight scales, a new ultrasound machine with the ability to guide IV starts, and 11 equipment/supply carts.

Four major funders supported this project:

Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation $72,000
Andersen Corporate Foundation $25,000
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation $17,000
The Hardenbergh Foundation $35,000

The ultrasound machine is used regularly for difficult IV starts. Our providers also use this as a quick diagnostic tool for trauma patients to determine if there is any internal bleeding, as well as cardiac patients to look at the heart.

KARI CLARK, CURRENT ED MANAGER

From left: Riley Williams, former Emergency Department director; Amy Benson, RN; Jessica Christensen, RN; and Amy Stoesz, MD.
Make It OK is a campaign to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. The campaign provides mental health advocacy training to community members, employees and organizations. To date, 45 people have been trained as Make It OK ambassadors in the Amery area, and they use their training to encourage safe conversations about mental health and share available resources with those who may be struggling.

Mental Health Task Force

Our foundation continues to be an active member of the Polk County Mental Health Task Force by supporting the Suicide Awareness/Prevention Race each year. In 2019, 549 people participated in this event.
Donor spotlight
Bruce Dennison, MD

Bruce Dennison, MD, an Ear, Nose and Throat specialist and Amery foundation board member, gives generously of his time, knowledge and finances to the foundation. Why? Because he believes in giving back and in leaving a meaningful legacy.

As a physician who interacts with patients daily, Dr. Dennison understands the importance of having services available locally. He shares, “It’s important to promote this institution in the community because it’s a beautiful hospital with services that a lot of small communities don’t have.”

He encourages others to consider making a difference by supporting the foundation.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Golf Classic
Our annual Golf Classic took place on a beautiful July day at the Amery Golf Club. More than 90 golfers helped raise funds to enhance the therapeutic environment in the Behavioral Health Center.

Wonderful World of Wine
Bruce Dennison, MD, and his daughter, Charlotte Dennison, provided attendees to our wine event in May with an elegant evening of wine education and tasting. Funds raised from this event at the Farm Table Restaurant in Amery will support the future addition of a therapeutic outdoor patio at the Behavioral Health Center.

Purse Bingo
More than 200 enthusiastic attendees filled the Brow Tine Event Center in November for our first-ever Purse Bingo. Guests participated for a chance to win their favorite brand name designer purse. The funds raised will support therapeutic enhancements for our Behavioral Health Center.
Grateful patients

The moment you meet John and Darlene Marks, you feel the warmth and kindness that stems from their hearts to those around them. As you hear their story of continuous health struggles during the past 50 years, you begin to understand how frustration and resentment could be their view of health care systems; yet this is far from the case.

At age 19, John was drafted into the military and sent to Vietnam, where he sustained gunshot trauma to both legs. The injury to his left thigh severed the sciatic nerve, causing critical health complications since the injury. Repeated infections have resulted in amputation of all of John’s left toes and problems with kneecap dislocation. In addition to the gunshot-related issues, John is a survivor of a cancer described as a “presumptive disease,” which results from exposure [while in Vietnam] to the chemical herbicide Agent Orange.

Darlene has been a faithful partner in traveling this difficult journey with John, while at times enduring her own health challenges. This couple has used most of the medical services that Amery Hospital & Clinic offers, including family medicine, otolaryngology, rheumatology, podiatry, general surgery and wound healing.

Through their challenges, John and Darlene have kept a positive attitude and have great things to say about Amery Hospital & Clinic. “We’ve spent a lot of time at Amery Hospital & Clinic over the last two years,” said John. “Every visit has been great. Even though it’s not where you want to be, it’s made better by the knowledgeable doctors, easily accessible services and the pleasant staff.”
Foundation Board

Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of our patients, families and community through partnerships and philanthropy.

Back row from left: Bruce Dennison, MD; Shari Overby; Heidi Erspermer; James Quenan, MD; Jon Buss.

Front row from left: Marty Noonan, vice chair; Brian Byrnes, secretary/treasurer; Ann Seagren, MD; Joyce Schaefer, board chair.