



Investing
in Health



DECEMBER 2023



Holly Ball 2023 Sparkles!

Our "Be the Good" theme was definitely in action at Holly Ball 2023! More than 1,200 people attended and helped to raise over \$850,000 to support CentraCare Hospice, Coborn Cancer Center and the Child Advocacy Center Greatest Needs Funds.

We express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of our volunteers, committee members, benefactors, sponsors and attendees who contributed their support to this year's Holly Ball.

We are especially grateful to our Event Chair Melinda Tamm and Vice Chair Marie Sanderson for sharing their time, expertise, talents and "sparkle" to the event.

We also extend a special thank you to our presenting sponsor, Design Electric, our Fund-a-Need Presenting Sponsor, Gallagher, other Fund-A-Need sponsors including Dennis Niess & Gina Malum; Anfinson, Thompson, & Co.; Kraft Mechanical, LLC; Sandra Geyer & Tim Linton; Peggy Carlson & Chuck Nielsen, and AiRCare Health.

We hope all of our guests enjoyed the evening. We are looking forward to celebrating our 50th annual Holly Ball on Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024. Mark your calendar! You won't want to miss it!

This video, shown at Holly Ball, shares the story of the Eder family who benefited from CentraCare Hospice.



Welcome, Holly Gulden!

We are pleased to introduce Holly Gulden as our new Vice President of CentraCare Foundation starting Jan. 15. She replaces Brad Konkler who retired in September.

Gulden is currently the Interim Vice President for Major Gifts and Associate Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of Development, Medicine at Tulane University in New Orleans, La. She brings more than 20 years of fundraising experience, with a focus on health sciences and medicine within higher education.



"CentraCare will benefit greatly from Holly's experience in higher education as we partner with the University of Minnesota Medical School to build a regional campus in St. Cloud," said Dr. Ken Holmen, CentraCare President & CEO.

Before her tenure at Tulane University, Gulden served as the Associate Vice President of Development, Medicine and Health at the University of Minnesota.

"Returning to my Minnesota roots and becoming part of such an outstanding organization is truly exciting," said Gulden.

Gulden received a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications, Training & Development and Spanish from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and her Master of Arts, Philanthropy and Development from St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn.

Holly can't wait to join the CentraCare team. In fact, she flew in last Saturday specifically to attend Holly Ball. She said afterward, "Holly Ball was an incredible event. The level of professionalism made me even more excited to get started at CentraCare Foundation!"

Matching gifts double the impact of your gift!



Your gift will **DOUBLE** thanks to a \$250,000 matching gift

CentraCare Foundation is excited to announce two different matching gifts for the year-end Community Campaign. These generous contributions will double the impact of gifts received **by Dec. 31**.

A remarkable \$250,000 matching gift from an anonymous donor will help with the expansion of [CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health at Clara's House](#). The expansion aims to meet the critical mental health needs of children ages 2-5.



Your gift will **double** thanks to a \$25,000 matching gift from



In addition, **Magnifi Financial** is proud to support CentraCare Foundation with a \$25,000 match for gifts received by Dec. 31 to benefit the greatest health care needs in [Long Prairie, Melrose and Sauk Centre](#).

Give Today!

Introducing our new Foundation board members!

Meet these volunteers who joined our board this fall. We are grateful for their commitment to serve CentraCare Foundation. [Click here](#) to see all of our Foundation board members.



David Anfinson, CPA, PFS, is a Partner with Anfinson Thompson in Willmar. He has over 30 years' experience and is a member of the Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Jenny Bauerly, APRN-BC, retired from St. Cloud Hospital in Dec. 2022 after serving more than 42 years with the organization.

Jenny received her nursing degree from the College of St. Benedict and her advanced clinical nurse specialist degree



Lara Duinck grew up in California but has been an active member of the Willmar community for more than 30 years. She and her husband, Chris, met at Wheaton College in Illinois and have 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren.

David also serves on the CentraCare Board of Directors and the executive and audit committees. He previously served as Chair of Rice Hospital for 6 years, Board of Directors of Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul and Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. He has also served on the executive committee and as treasurer for the Southwestern MN Synod (for 8 years) and the Shelter House, and served on the boards of the Minnesota Association of Public Accountants, the Willmar Community Foundation, Vinje Lutheran Church, and Willmar Noon Kiwanis.

from the University of Minnesota. She also served on the faculty for St. Cloud State University's nursing program from 2002-2007.

She recently completed a term on the Board of Directors at Quiet Oaks Hospice House.

Jenny and her husband, Jake, have seven adult children.

She has a B.S. degree in communications from Wheaton. Her husband, Chris Duinck, is President of Duinck, Inc. Duinck is a third generation, family-owned construction company that was founded in 1926 by three Duinck brothers.

Lara is an active and impactful Community Volunteer and has served as the board chair for the former Carris Health Foundation. She also serves on boards and committees at her alma mater and Pepperdine University.



Laura Warne lives in Willmar with her husband, Dion Warne. They have 4 adult children. Laura graduated from Willmar High School and went on to get her business degree from Concordia College in Moorhead. She is President of Home State Bank where she has worked since 1993.

Home State Bank first opened its doors in Kandiyohi, MN, in 1926 and has grown significantly ever since. Today, they proudly serve a large area of central and west central Minnesota with locations in Willmar, Cosmos, Litchfield, and Hutchinson.



John Wolak has been the Senior Corporate Relations Officer for Arvig Enterprises since 2011. He served as Adjunct Faculty at Southwest University in Marshall from 2008-2011 and as Orchestral Educator for Staples/Motley Schools and as a Music Educator at North St. Paul/Maplewood Schools between 1968-2007.

John received his Master of Music Supervision from St. Cloud State University in 1970 and his Masters in Pastoral Ministry, Theology/Theological Studies from St. John's University in 2003.



Pat Lynch is the President and Co-Owner of Granite Logistics.

He previously served on the CentraCare Clinic Board of Directors from 2013-2017, the Catholic Charities Board from 2007-2012, and Plaza Park Bank board from 2008-2018. He also served as a Sartell City Council member for Sartell from 2007-2010 and from 2015-2018.

Pat graduated from St. John's University with a Bachelor of Science in Management.

He was recognized in 2018 with CentraCare Foundation's Rising Star Award and in 2022 as the Entrepreneur of the Year by the

Laura comes from a family of community leaders and philanthropists. Her husband, Dion, is a Senior Vice President at Home State Bank.

He serves as a Permanent Deacon for the St. Cloud Diocese and on the board for The Ordway Center for the Performing Arts and the national board for the Protection of Historic Places.

McNeely Center for Entrepreneurship at CSB/SJU.

Thank you to our thoughtful community partners



The 14th annual Volleyball Bash for a Cure raised an incredible \$34,000! This was a record fundraising year for this event.

These funds are used to provide gas cards for every patient who receives radiation treatments at the Coborn Cancer Center and the Monticello Cancer Center.

Over the years, this hardworking and fun group has raised more than \$185,000 for our cancer patients.

Pictured (left to right) are Bash for a Cure representatives Kristi Kloss, Keith O'Brien, Jill Vannurden, Amy Vannurden, Anne Pressnall, Kristi O'Brien and Alison Dahlin with the Coborn Cancer Center.



A group of Vietnam Veterans from the International Squadron of Happy Hookers recently presented a \$3,000 check to the Pediatric Rehab staff.

Since 2016, these dedicated Veterans have donated more than \$14,000 to support our Pediatric Rehabilitation patients. Throughout the year, they raise money by creating and selling fishhooks (thus their name!) and conducting other fundraisers.

We are incredibly grateful for their continued support of our patients and for their service to our country.

Pictured from left to right are Dennis Mersinger, Candace Pflipsen, Kiersten Johnson, Kelsey Pierson, Bob Behrens, Tracy Arduser, Anne Berg behind Kristi Kenney, and Richard Ammend.



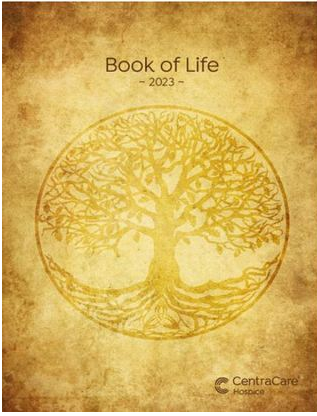
The ambulances were packed thanks to all who donated to the Stuff the Ambulance Toy Drive on Dec. 1.

CentraCare EMS in Willmar, Paynesville, Long Prairie, Monticello, Benson and Redwood Falls raised \$28,221 in cash donations and collected more than 2,735 toys to donate to local charities!

Kudos to the EMS crews who selflessly organized this event to make a difference in the lives of children in our communities during the holiday season.

Book of Life honors lost loved ones

We are proud to present the 2023 Book of Life for online viewing. [Click here.](#)



Names represented in Book of Life 2023 were collected as of Nov. 30, 2023. If you believe there are any errors, please contact us.

If you would like to include your loved one in our 2024 Book of Life, email the name to foundation@centracare.com and include "Book of Life" in the subject line. Or, you can submit your loved one's name along [with a gift](#) to benefit our Hospice Program.



Season's Greetings from our Foundation team!

As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for your support and engagement. The gifts of our donors impact the lives of patients and families every day, and through our philanthropic work, we can bring those gifts to life as they fuel and support the essential work of our care teams.

Your generosity helps us to provide hope and healing to our neighbors, families and friends. We wish you and your family health and happiness this holiday season!

Season's Greetings from all of us at CentraCare Foundation.

Pictured from left to right: Deb Paul, Paula Eckerman, Gwen Muehring, Allie Theisen, Tim Steinbach, Teresa Davenport, Paul Knutson, Bobbie Mattison, Brenda Jacobson, Candyce Gregory, Dan Super, Penny Casavant, Carol Thelen, Darla Mergen, Chris Backes, Samantha Loomis and Nicole Bjerke.

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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