

FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2024



YOUR GIFTS MAKE NORTHERN MICHIGAN HEALTHIER

Your support helps us provide state-of-the-art surgical technology, recruit providers and enhance the education of McLaren Northern Michigan staff.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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OUR MISSION:

To receive and administer funds to support the mission of McLaren Northern Michigan and support programs that enhance the well-being of the community.

ON THE COVER:



Emergency Department physician, Dr. Hoyner, and nurse, Michelle Murphy, RN CEN TCRN, are ready to provide care when

patients need it most. Learn more about Nurse Murphy's story on page 4.

HOW YOUR GIFTS HELP

Your gifts make a difference in patients' lives. Your gifts provide support for staff and patients every day.

The entire team at McLaren Northern Michigan appreciates your support—as does every patient who relies on McLaren Northern Michigan for their care.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and share our stories with your friends and family to encourage them to give back as well!



Dear Friends,

With the arrival of busy summer months in northern Michigan, we are filled with gratitude for you and the incredible community that makes McLaren Northern Michigan so unique.

In this newsletter, we are excited to share stories that show the impact of your generosity. You will meet Michelle "Murph" Murphy, a dedicated nurse who has served our community for 30 years and learn about the innovative Nurse Intern Program. You will also discover how new surgical ultrasound equipment is enhancing patient care and be touched by a heartwarming story of a social worker who uses music to brighten the life of a patient.

Your contributions have a meaningful impact on the lives of the patients we serve. Thanks to your support, we have been able to invest in cutting-edge technology, attract talented medical providers to our team, and expand our services to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. As you enjoy the beauty of this summer season, please know that you are an integral part of the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation family.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Elise Fisher
Board Chair
McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation

Julie Jarema
Vice President and
Chief Philanthropy Officer
McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

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Friends of the Foundation Newsletter is a publication of the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation and is produced three times a year for contributors to the Foundation. Find out more about our work by visiting McLaren.org/NorthernMichiganFoundation.

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NURSE INTERN PROGRAM

An investment in the future of nursing

The national nursing shortage has impacted healthcare facilities across the country, including McLaren Northern Michigan. But we are proud to be leading the way in finding innovative solutions to this challenge, with a focus on nurturing the next generation of nurses. One of our most exciting initiatives is the paid Nurse Intern Program. This program provides valuable hands-on experience for student nurses and helps us attract top talent here in northern Michigan.

BENEFITS OF THE NURSE INTERN PROGRAM:

Empowering aspiring nurses: Our Nurse Intern Program has empowered 36 aspiring nurses, providing them with essential clinical skills and real-world

experience. Following their internship and graduation from nursing school, 14 of these students have been hired.

Investing in our community: By supporting local nursing students, we are fostering a healthcare workforce for our region. More than 80% of nurse interns are local residents.

Enhancing patient care: Our interns bring fresh energy to our team, helping us maintain the highest standards of care.

Our partnership with North Central Michigan College to offer internships and clinical training has yielded impressive results. Seventeen of the 24 graduates from their most recent nursing class chose to join McLaren Northern Michigan.

We are confident that these nurses will provide excellent care to patients throughout northern Michigan.

"The Nurse Intern Program has been very beneficial. It provides our Nurse Interns with learning opportunities and patient exposure that increases their knowledge and confidence, in turn providing us a more skillful nurse and improving retention."



DAVID MONAN, MSN, RN
VICE PRESIDENT OF PATIENT SERVICES
CHIEF NURSING OFFICER

FROM INTERN TO RN: A NURSE INTERN PROGRAM'S SUCCESS STORY

Q&A with Adrienne Russ, RN, a recent graduate making a difference



Adrienne Russ, RN

Meet Adrienne Russ, RN, a recent graduate of North Central Michigan College's nursing program and an example of the success of the Nurse Intern Program at McLaren Northern

Michigan. Adrienne shares her experience in the program highlighting the hands-on training, mentorship, and valuable skills she gained that prepared her for a career in nursing. Her story reveals the impact your gifts have on the next generation of caregivers in our community.

What initially attracted you to the Nurse Intern Program at McLaren Northern Michigan?

McLaren Northern Michigan's reputation for providing exceptional care was a major draw for me. I was excited by the prospect of gaining real-world experience while learning from seasoned nurses.

How much direct patient care experience did you gain through the program? Did you feel prepared to transition into a full-time nursing role afterward?

I spent 36 hours per week in direct patient care during my internship. This was a significant increase compared to my 12 hours of clinical experience each week during my nursing program. I learned so much in my clinical sessions, but the real-life experience highlights how different situations are on paper versus in the hospital.

Now that you're a full-time nurse at McLaren Northern Michigan, how do you feel the Nurse Intern Program contributed to your success?

The one-on-one guidance in the Nurse Intern Program allowed me to ask questions and receive an immediate answer. This program helped develop my skills in a supportive environment and provided a solid foundation in patient care.

Would you recommend this program to other aspiring nurses?

Yes, I would recommend that nursing students take advantage of the Nurse Intern Program. There are part- and full-time options for interns. I found that they were flexible, and I was able to schedule shifts around my college commitments. There's no substitute for the confidence I gained in the Nurse Intern Program, it was beneficial in every way!

YOUR SUPPORT SAVES LIVES

A nurse's perspective on 30 years of care, evolving challenges, and donor impact

Michelle "Murph" Murphy has seen a lot during her 30+ years as a nurse in McLaren Northern Michigan's Emergency Department. From community disasters, like a tornado in Gaylord or firework explosion in Charlevoix, to accidents, injuries and illnesses, Murph has been an integral and invaluable part of the team that saves lives and takes care of us in our most vulnerable moments. Murph also has witnessed first-hand the incredible impact your gifts have for patients and their caregivers. In fact, Murph credits donor generosity as a main reason for her continued commitment to our hospital and our patients.

IT BEGAN WITH A SCHOLARSHIP

Murph moved from Georgia to northern Michigan in the 1980s and shortly after earned her Registered Nurse License. A friend encouraged her to work at our hospital as Murph could receive reimbursement for recent educational expenses and future scholarships. Murph was sold! She explains, "At that point in my career I wanted to learn everything, about everything in healthcare. Back then, and today at McLaren, there are so many donor funded opportunities for educating yourself. I love being able to help people, knowing that I am up-to-date on current care strategies. I'm grateful to our hospital for enabling me to do that through ongoing education."

BECOMING A LEVEL II TRAUMA HOSPITAL

As you would expect, much has changed throughout Murph's three decades as a nurse at our hospital. In recent years, earning a Level II Trauma Center verification has significantly impacted the emergency department and Murph's role as Team Lead.

Comprehensive trauma care starts 'in the field' with pre-hospital triage. The hospital is alerted, a 'Code Trauma' is called, and staff and resources throughout the hospital realign to create a clear and fast pathway to care for the trauma patient. For Murph, this means being acutely aware of staffing on her shift and how they are deployed with current patients.

"Things can change in a second," explains Murph. "All of our staff receive trauma care education, and I, along with a few other nurses, have extensive training and are Trauma Care certified. In the moment, I have to know who I can pull to create the most experienced team for the incoming trauma patient, while balancing the care needs of our other patients." Murph acknowledges that it has taken a lot of effort and time to implement the Level II Trauma processes and procedures - but it's been worth it.

"I'm proud to work for a Level II Trauma Center and I get to see, first hand, how we improve patients' chances for better outcomes. I'm grateful to McLaren for making this commitment to our region, and to all of the donors who helped fund it."

MENTORING TOMORROW'S NURSES

Nurse Murph views mentorship as an important aspect of her leadership role and loves the nurse interns. "Students working to become nurses are our bright stars. It's incredibly rewarding to help with their growth and be a part of setting them up for success," she says. "The new intern program is teaching the students about available resources and helping us with recruitment," Murph adds.

"I've had a rewarding career at this hospital and I want them to know that they can too!"

GIVING BACK

Murph is deeply thankful for the great amount of support given to her over the years by McLaren Northern Michigan - much of it funded through donor contributions. In addition to her many sought-after educational opportunities, the most meaningful gift may be one she never asked for, or expected. Murph suffered a personal tragedy when her house burned down. She was surprised, and to this day is overwhelmed, by the contribution she received from the Colleague CARE Fund. Mostly supported by staff members, the CARE Fund provides

assistance to staff in crisis to help with unexpected financial burdens. Murph tearfully shared, "I wouldn't have asked for it, and I didn't think I needed it. But I did. And it meant so much to know my work family was taking care of me."

Murph believes it's important to give back and has been a loyal donor to the Foundation for decades.



Michelle Murphy, RN CEN TCRN, with an MTP Scorekeeper, which tracks units of blood used in trauma cases.

“We don’t have loads of money, but I feel that by giving even a small amount consistently, I’m giving back.” Murph encourages her coworkers to do the same.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we look toward the future, Murph’s dedication and passion for patient care inspire us all. Her story shows how much donor generosity helps McLaren Northern Michigan provide top-notch patient care and great learning opportunities for our team. Dr. Kathryn Hoyner shares, “Our nursing team at McLaren Northern Michigan is exceptional. I am deeply grateful for Nurse Murphy, who brings a depth of knowledge and dedication to our patients. Her experience and leadership enhance our team’s effectiveness in critical situations. She helps us give the best care to our patients; she truly is a gem.”

Your support equips our emergency department with the tools and training we need; ensuring trauma care is ready and waiting when patients need it most. Thank you for partnering with us and making a real difference in the lives of our patients and staff.

“We are grateful for the support of our donors, whose generosity has been crucial in maintaining our Level II Trauma Center certification. This certification is more than a label; it’s a lifeline for northern Michigan. It ensures that community members have access to a high level of trauma care close to home.”



JANE POQUETTE, MSN RN

DIRECTOR – TRAUMA, BARIATRIC SERVICE LINES



Your gifts are crucial in helping us meet the ever-changing needs of our hospital. Please consider donating to the Unrestricted Fund to support healthcare in northern Michigan. Every gift, big or small, has a meaningful impact.

We are grateful for your consideration of support.

Thank you for helping us continue our mission of providing excellent healthcare! Scan this QR code to donate online.

JACOB’S JOURNEY

Jacob’s story is a testament to the remarkable capabilities of our Level II Trauma Center and the power of family support. Against all odds, Jacob survived life-threatening injuries following a serious car accident which necessitated brain and spinal surgery. He has been courageously working through rehabilitation therapy to regain essential skills.



Dr. Justin Thomas reviewing imaging in the surgical suite.

Dr. Justin Thomas, McLaren Northern Michigan neurosurgeon, shares Jacob’s incredible recovery story, which highlights the critical role that our hospital plays in providing advanced, immediate care for the most severe emergencies. Use the link bit.ly/4eyatgv or the QR code to view Jacob’s incredible story.



A HARMONY OF HEALING AND HOPE

Music has a way of touching our hearts and providing comfort, even during the most difficult times. Social worker, Dennis Kan, LLMSW, CADC, always observant to the unique needs of each patient, discovered a special opportunity to support a local patient navigating a challenging health journey. Recognizing the power of music, Dennis and the patient, known in his younger days as “Thunder” for his electrifying stage performance, get together for a weekly jam session.

Thanks to the support of the Patient Assistance Quality of Life fund, these musical visits have renewed Thunder’s energy and spirit. To celebrate this special bond formed between Dennis and the patient, t-shirts have been created for the duo, aptly named “Thunder and Lightening.”

The music brings back cherished memories for the patient and we are honored to be a part of this patient’s journey, helping provide not only medical care but also emotional support.



Dennis Kan, LLMSW, CADC, and his patient, also known as the musical duo “Thunder and Lightning”

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we can continue to offer innovative programs like this, making sure that patients receive care that makes a difference.

CELEBRATING OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL AWARD WINNER



Congratulations to Dr. Colby Ward on his recent Guardian Angel award. Thank you for all you do!

After successful knee and shoulder replacement surgeries, a grateful patient recognized Dr. Ward and the Orthopedic team at McLaren Northern Michigan. This patient is now pain-free and extremely happy with the results. “I appreciate the skill and professionalism of Dr. Ward, as well as the entire Orthopedic Department at McLaren Northern Michigan. It was great to utilize the team here and avoid traveling for surgery,” he said.

To honor caregivers like Dr. Ward, consider a Guardian Angel award. It’s a way to say “thank you” for exceptional care with a gift of any size. Recipients are officially recognized with a special pin and certificate. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/MNMFhonora caregiver>.

NEW 3D IMAGING ENHANCES CARDIAC SURGERY

Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, we are proud to announce the recent acquisition of a state-of-the-art 3D transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) ultrasound machine. This technology is a game changer for cardiac surgeries and managing patient care.

A GAME-CHANGER

A traditional 2D TEE involves using ultrasound to create real-time images of the heart and blood vessels during surgery. The new 3D TEE offers the advantage of enhanced detail with greater accuracy during procedures. This technology allows surgeons to have imaging of the complex anatomy of the heart when it matters most – during surgery. The implications of this technology include fewer surgical complications and reduced risks during surgery.

DONOR IMPACT

The addition of the 3D TEE was made possible through donor support. The benefits extend beyond improved patient outcomes. With cutting-edge technology such as this, McLaren Northern Michigan can attract and retain medical professionals, maintaining our leadership in cardiovascular medicine.

ONGOING ADVANCES

Across the hospital, McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation donors fund initiatives that are continually enhancing patient care across medical specialties. We are deeply grateful for your continued support in our mission of providing the quality of care that we would want for our own families.



"I am grateful to our donors for their role in acquiring our new 3D TEE machine. This critical piece of technology is exactly the kind of advanced system you would want available for your own care or that of your loved ones. Additionally, this equipment boosts our efforts to recruit new physicians, ensuring that we continue to lead in patient care and safety."

DR. ANDREW BIELACZYC
ANESTHESIOLOGIST

HOW TRAINING ENHANCES PATIENT SAFETY AND SAVINGS

Respect for colleagues and patients is the driving force behind the dedication of Tyler Harris, a scholarship recipient at McLaren Northern Michigan. He attended a training conference to gain the certification to repair any of the hospital's 18 ventilators. Tyler's commitment to patient safety and maximizing resources has made a significant difference on our campus.

Tyler recognized the upcoming need for on-site repairs because the warranties on the ventilators were expiring.

Before he became certified to perform the repairs, fixing the ventilators required more than three hours of travel and extensive repair time, leading to considerable ventilator downtime. Tyler's training allows him to perform these repairs onsite, which reduces downtime, ensures ventilators are available when most needed, and achieves substantial cost savings for the hospital.

"By doing my job well, I ensure that McLaren Northern Michigan gets the greatest value out of each piece of equipment so money that may have been spent on repairs can be used to improve patient care."



TYLER HARRIS
CERTIFIED BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECH II



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

360 Connable Avenue
Petoskey, MI 49770

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

A strategic tool for charitable giving



John S. Marshall,
CFA, CFP®, AIF®
Founder & President
*Guest column provided
by Crooked Tree
Capital Advisors*

In recent years, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) have gained in popularity. Notably, provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act nearly doubled the

QCDs offer a tax-efficient way for individuals aged 70½, or older, to donate directly from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Donors may transfer up to \$105,000 per year (2024) from an IRA to a qualified charity. The distribution can count towards donors' Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) without the distribution being included in their adjusted gross income (AGI). A lower AGI can result in additional tax benefits, such as reduced Social Security benefit taxation, and decreased income surcharges for Medicare.

To qualify, the distribution must go directly from an IRA to a 501(c)(3) organization. Proper documentation and timely execution are crucial to ensure compliance and to maximize benefits.

standard deduction, while simultaneously restricting some itemized deductions. This has led to a significant decrease in the number of taxpayers itemizing their deductions, opening the door for QCDs as a strategy to gain a tax benefit from charitable giving.

UPCOMING EVENT

CHEBOYGAN GUILD SUMMER ART AUCTION

Thursday, August 29
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Beau est Beau, Cheboygan

Presented by the McLaren Cheboygan Campus Guild. All proceeds benefit the McLaren Northern Michigan Cheboygan Campus.

Come enjoy an evening of art and community! Bid on art by local artists, savor delicious appetizers prepared by the Cheboygan Guild and sip on your favorite beverages from the cash bar, all to support the Cheboygan Campus. Call (231) 627-1200 to reserve tickets (\$50).