

CONNECTIONS

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY



April 2018

Grant assists Meds-to-Beds program at hospital

Taking medications as prescribed can pay huge dividends towards a successful recovery. For this reason, Salina Regional Health Center is implementing a Meds-to-Beds program that will begin this summer.

The service will allow patients to fill their prescriptions before they leave the hospital so there's no need to find a pharmacy immediately after they go home. A \$5,750 grant from the Salina Regional Health Foundation is allowing the purchase of two point of sale electronic tablets and mobile receipt printers in order to facilitate the payment process for prescriptions and over the counter medications when they're delivered to the patient's bedside before dismissal from the hospital.

"The program allows pharmacists to give one-on-one counseling to patients about their medications and find alternatives or more affordable options if that's an issue," said Carleigh Cozad, PharmD, the pharmacist leading the hospital's efforts to initiate the program. "Research from other facilities that offer the service has shown significant improvements in medication compliance and surveys of our patients have shown 92 percent would like to use the service if provided."



Carleigh Cozad, PharmD, a pharmacist at Salina Regional Health Center, is leading efforts to start a Meds-to-Beds program so patients can have their prescriptions filled before they leave the hospital.

Employee campaign raises support for Foundation programs

The annual Salina Regional Health Center employee campaign to support programs and services of the Salina Regional Health Foundation raised \$35,395 this year. Employees who chose to give had the option to support the campaign through payroll deductions or outright gifts.

The unrestricted gifts will be used to support the many programs and services of the Foundation, which will benefit patients, families and employees themselves. Programs include support for continuing education, the Rebecca A. Morrison House, patient transportation, patient financial assistance for medications and many more.

"Employees give of themselves on a daily basis serving the medical needs of people in our community and region, so this is really special," said Tom Martin, executive director of the Foundation.

Care packages delivered to Morrison House for cancer patients

Carla Bronson's three sisters from Kansas City wished to be by her side when they came to Salina in June 2011 while she was hospitalized with cancer. When they got to town they found there were no hotel rooms available. The Smoky Hill River Festival was in town.

Staff at the hospital had the perfect solution for the sisters however – the Rebecca A Morrison House had room available right next to the hospital.

“It became our salvation,” sister Kay Owens recalls. “Our security blanket. The facility was very nice and very accommodating.”

The hospitality was never forgotten by the sisters. In February they returned on the one-year anniversary of Carla's death to honor their sister. Carla battled the disease for 11 years and they wanted to keep her memory alive and offer assistance to patients seeking treatment at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center.

The sisters developed care packages for patients from out of town who are staying at the Morrison House while receiving treatment at the Cancer Center. The packages, called “Carla's Coping Kit,” contain personal care items, citrus flavored candies and mints, pens, note cards, journals a soft blanket and many other items that Carla herself used for comfort while going through chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Twenty coping kits were delivered in the first installment - specially tailored to meet both men's and women's needs.

“We're going to keep the coping kits stocked,” sister Rae Ann York said. “Carla loved the great care she received at the Cancer Center and we got the idea of creating care packages for patients staying here at the house.”



FROM LEFT: Rae Ann York, Jane Schick and Kay Owens of Kansas City stayed at the Rebecca A. Morrison House while their sister Carla Bronson was battling cancer and hospitalized at Salina Regional Health Center. The sisters developed special care packages for patients at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center who stay at the Morrison House in honor of Carla who died in February 2017.

Family Reunion



Salina cardiologist Mark Mikinski, M.D. (bottom right) and members of Dr. Mace Braxton's family and Drs. Trent and Pam Davis' family attended this year's 10th annual Dr. Mace Braxton Cardiovascular Symposium in February. Dr. Braxton was credited with starting the cardiothoracic surgery program in Salina. Following his untimely death in 2008 the Salina Regional Health Foundation established a named endowment in Dr. Braxton's honor to support the Cardiac Symposium. Dr. Braxton's brother John, also a cardiothoracic surgeon, was a featured speaker at this year's event.

Plaque honors career, dedication of first KU-Salina dean

As the finishing touches are being placed on the new home for the KU Schools of Nursing and Medicine in downtown Salina ahead of its opening, workers in March placed a plaque commemorating the career of William Cathcart-Rake, M.D., the first dean of the medical school near the front entrance.

Cathcart-Rake has announced plans to retire from his position in June 2019 after a new dean is hired.

“I’ll still be around and plan to keep doing some teaching,” Cathcart-Rake said. “It’s been a lot of fun being involved with this program from the beginning. There was a real steep learning curve and it was a real change from the way I started my career in this community.”

The plaque, which is on the exterior of the facility along Santa Fe Avenue, dedicates the building in honor of Cathcart-Rake for his long career as an oncologist in Salina and leadership in helping establish the schools to provide quality training for physicians and nurses who will one day serve rural Kansas.

“We’re excited to get into the building,” Cathcart-Rake said. “We couldn’t have done any of this without the support of Salina Regional Health Center, the Foundation, Dane G. Hansen Foundation, KU Endowment and the community.”

The schools plan to be in the new facility by mid-June and ready to welcome the next class of physicians, which will arrive in late July.

Quinley joins Foundation board after long hospital career

When Mary Quinley retired late last year after more than 38 years with Salina Regional Health Center many were sad to see her go. She served in many capacities throughout her career as a nurse and in various leadership roles.

She was the director for the cancer program when the Tammy Walker Cancer Center opened to bring the community’s cancer services together under one roof. She was the director for 4-Medical when the patient tower was opened in 2009. Through it all she’s had a number of opportunities to work closely with the Salina Regional Health Foundation and its offerings of support for patients, visitors and staff at the hospital.

“The Foundation has been a part of so many things both within the hospital and with other organizations throughout the community through the Community Health Investment Program (CHIP),” Quinley said. “When they asked me if I’d consider joining the board I didn’t hardly even have to think about it. It was an easy decision.”



ABOVE: William Cathcart-Rake teaches students how to use an otoscope. RIGHT: In March workers installed a plaque dedicating the new home for the KU Schools of Nursing and Medicine in downtown Salina in honor of Cathcart-Rake’s long medical career in the community and his leadership efforts to establish the medical programs here.



Mary Quinley

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Director's Message



Tom Martin
Executive Director

Dr. Cathcart-Rake would be the first person to tell you that there are any number of individuals and organizations that are worthy of appreciation and recognition for their roles in making the new home for the KU medical and nursing schools in downtown Salina a reality – and he would be absolutely correct.

Salina Regional Health Center, Salina Regional Health Foundation, KU Endowment, Dane G. Hansen Foundation and the hundreds of donors to the Blueprint for Rural Health Campaign all deserve credit.

Still, there is only one first Dean of the KU School of Medicine-Salina and the Salina Regional Health Foundation Board of Trustees is pleased to recognize Dr. Cathcart-Rake for his outstanding medical career and for all of his considerable efforts, on behalf of the rural medically underserved areas of our state.

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