

CONNECTIONS

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY



February 2016

New van utilized by Infant-Child Development

A \$28,516 grant from the Herbert Litowich Charitable Trust through the Salina Regional Health Foundation allowed Salina Regional Health Center's Infant-Child Development program to purchase a new van last fall.

The program also traded in two aging high mileage vehicles to upgrade to the 2015 Toyota Sienna.

Infant-Child Development primarily serves children from birth to 3 years of age in Saline, Ottawa and Ellsworth counties who have developmental delays and disabilities including those with cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, blindness, deafness, autism, birth defects and many other diagnoses.

A number of educational and therapy interventions offered by the program are performed in patients' homes. With an average of more than 150 patients enrolled in the program, travel time for staff members quickly adds up. But in-home intervention is a key to a child's developmental success.

"We learn a lot about a child and what they face in their daily routine by working with them in their natural environments," said Joyce Trower, director for Infant-Child Development. "It's also important for the caregivers of these children to learn techniques and interventions they can use in their home environment to help children improve their overall levels of socialization and function."

Declining state reimbursement for services like those offered by Infant-Child Development and changes in health insurance makes charitable support vital, Trower says. An endowment created by the Foundation for Infant-Child Development two years ago may one day be a primary funding base to offset costs for the program. Continuing contributions to the Infant-Child Development Endowment are important. The more the endowment grows the larger the annual distribution will become to support the program.

Donors wishing to support Infant-Child Development may contact the Foundation for more information by calling (785) 452-6088.



Carrie Pierce, early childhood special education teacher with Infant-Child Development, prepares to use a new van purchased with a grant through the Salina Regional Health Foundation to do a home visit with a patient.

'Pennies from the Heart' promotion set for February

During the month of February the Salina Regional Health Foundation is sponsoring a "Pennies from the Heart, for the Home with a Heart" promotion to increase awareness and support for the Rebecca A. Morrison House.

The public is invited to bring pennies and spare change to the home at 513 S. 8th Street any time during daytime hours. Staff will gladly give tours of the home to anyone interested.

The Morrison House serves as a home away from home for family members of patients at Salina Regional Health Center who are from out of town and need a place to stay. Cancer patients themselves from around the region also are welcome to use the house when receiving outpatient treatment at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center. There is no charge for guests to stay at the Morrison House. The service is supported entirely by donation.

Interns with Salina Regional's Project SEARCH program, which teaches job skills to developmentally disabled

students who have completed their high school credits in coordination with the Central Kansas Cooperative in Education and Salina school district, recently learned how quickly collecting change can add up. Students staged a competition called a penny war where teams collected change to see who could collect the most money. In addition to collecting change to raise money, teams could sabotage one another with dollar bills or other denominations – giving the opposition negative points. The entire effort raised \$200 for the Morrison House – doubling the interns' original fundraising goal.

"Interns have the opportunity to do rotations at the Morrison House learning skills in the hospitality industry so they are aware of the value the service provides," said Ardis Bryan, Project SEARCH director. "Our ultimate goal was to raise \$100, but they easily surpassed that."



The Morrison House invites community members to donate their pennies and spare change at the home, 513 S. 8th Street, and tour the facility as part of a community awareness and fundraising campaign in February. RIGHT: Interns with Project SEARCH at Salina Regional raised \$200 and presented Morrison House manager Lisa Hoffman with a check from spare change gathered early this winter.



Foundation welcomes three new trustees

The Salina Regional Health Foundation recently welcomed three new trustees to its 21-member governing board.

Jayne Aylward, Mark Berkley and Phil Krug joined the board as new trustees. Peter Johnston, an attorney with Clark, Mize and Linville, Chtd., retired from the board after serving a maximum of nine years.

Johnston said he felt fortunate to serve on the board and appreciated all the work the organization does in the community.

"My wife and I are not Salina natives, but we came here in 2000 in large part because of the strengths of the medical community in Salina and north central Kansas," Johnston said. "We're very fortunate to have a strong medical community and the Foundation does a lot of good to enhance that."

Grant helps SANE/SART program upgrade equipment

A \$5,000 Salina Regional Health Foundation grant to the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team (SANE/SART) at Salina Regional Health Center helped the service upgrade equipment used to collect forensic evidence and keep it safe and secure with the latest software encryption technology.

Last year the program provided 331 consultations to local and regional doctor's offices, attorneys and law enforcement agencies including 189 cases that required forensic evaluation. The new camera and software purchased with the grant provides some of the latest imaging technology available to gather forensic evidence and allows it to be digitally encrypted so it can be securely saved and transferred to requesting law enforcement agencies.

The service is not only requested for sexual crimes, but is increasingly being utilized to collect evidence for other physical assaults including domestic violence and elder abuse.

"This new equipment allows us to obtain crisper, clearer pictures and apply filters with the software to enhance what we're viewing on a computer monitor," said Susan Reinert, co-coordinator for the SANE/SART program. "Foundation support has been instrumental for this program because we don't get reimbursed for many of the services we provide. However, the program is vital to the community and region to collect pieces of evidentiary information that are often required in order to convict a crime."

Cancer Screening Fair evaluates patients for prostate, skin cancer

About 140 men and women had various skin abnormalities evaluated by a doctor and 40 men were screened for prostate cancer at a free Cancer Screening & Prevention Fair held at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center November 7. The fair also provided information on cancer prevention and other breakthroughs being utilized to cure the disease early in its most treatable stages.

Doctors from Salina Surgical Art Center and Salina Family Health Care evaluated moles, spots and other skin abnormalities for signs of skin cancer – the most common type of cancer found among both men and women.

Doctors from the Midwest Cancer Alliance provided prostate exams for men. The prostate screening, which included a PSA blood test and physical examination, was underwritten by Mark and Jane Berkley through a gift made to the Salina Regional Health Foundation.

Other sponsors included Early Detection Works and Abbvie pharmaceutical. Find out how you can support cancer screening and local patients undergoing treatment by calling the patient navigator at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center at (785) 452-7335.



Susan Reinert, co-coordinator for the SANE/SART program at Salina Regional Health Center, displays a new camera purchased as part of the upgrades to equipment to collect forensic evidence thanks to a Foundation grant.



More than 140 people participated in the skin cancer screening and 40 men received a prostate cancer screening at a free Cancer Screening & Prevention Fair held at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center in November.

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Director's Message



Tom Martin
Executive Director

This past fiscal year, the Salina Regional Health Foundation expended more than \$1.8 million in program grants for the benefit of Salina Regional Health Center, and the patients and families we serve.

Examples of our program grants include various forms of support for Hospice of Salina, Tammy Walker Cancer Center, Rebecca A. Morrison House, Infant-Child Development and much more.

But this message is not so much about the Foundation. It is more about you and others like you, who give to the Foundation. You make it happen. We could not do what we do without your support. You need to know that you are making a difference. You need to know how much your support is appreciated.



CONNECTIONS is published every other month by the Salina Regional Health Foundation. If you no longer wish to receive fund-raising contacts or materials, please notify: Privacy Office, Salina Regional Health Center, Health Information Management, P.O. Box 5080, Salina, KS 67402-5080/Phone: (785) 452-7313/Fax (785) 452-7312/E-mail:Privacy@srhc.com.