

CONNECTIONS

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY



February 2017

KU Medical School campaign reaches goal

Recent contributions to the Salina Regional Health Foundation's Blueprint for Rural Health campaign have met and exceeded the \$7,563,000 goal to establish a new home for the University of Kansas School of Medicine in downtown Salina.

The giving includes a \$2 million lead gift from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Interior demolition of the facility located at 138 N. Santa Fe Ave. began last fall. New construction will soon be underway.

"It's unbelievable how the community has embraced our program since inception and even in this new endeavor," said William Cathcart-Rake, KU School of Medicine-Salina dean. "We couldn't be more grateful for all the support we've received, and we couldn't be more excited to see what this new campus will look like. We look forward to finding ways we can expand our services to advance medical education in the state."

The KU-Salina campus opened its doors for its first class of eight medical students in July 2011 with the mission of providing a quality medical education in a rural setting with hope that many might one day enter practice in rural Kansas. The program has now graduated two classes of students and several of these first 16 graduates have already committed to practice in rural Kansas upon completion of residency.

The new facility will provide more than double the square footage of the current campus location on Salina Regional Health Center's hospital campus. The additional space was needed to address curriculum changes that go into effect this year and possibly accommodate future expansion of class sizes.

"The KU Endowment Association has played an important role and many businesses, organizations, foundations and individuals in our regional community have stepped forward to make this campaign a success," said Tom Martin, Salina Regional Health Foundation executive director. "However, we continue to encourage donations to the campaign. The goal was based on original building project estimates, and it's possible that actual expenses could exceed estimates."

If you would like more information on supporting the Blueprint for Rural Health campaign, contact the Salina Regional Health Foundation by calling (785) 452-6088.



Interior demolition of the former bank building at 138 N. Santa Fe Ave, is nearly complete. New construction inside the facility will soon be underway. This image depicts future signage for the new home of the KU School of Medicine scheduled to open in 2018.

Memorial supports colon cancer screening in March

The staggering truth is colon cancer can strike anyone.

That reality was driven home last year when Brian Montague, a 54 year old, beloved respiratory therapist at Salina Regional Health Center died from an aggressive form of the disease. He was active in the community, loved his job caring for patients and could often be seen out running – training for marathons he enjoyed participating in with his family.

It was after completing a half marathon in late 2014 that Brian began feeling ill and eventually led to doctors finding an aggressive form of colon cancer. Memorials in Brian's memory were directed to the Tammy Walker Cancer Center and will be used to support this year's annual colorectal cancer screening in March.

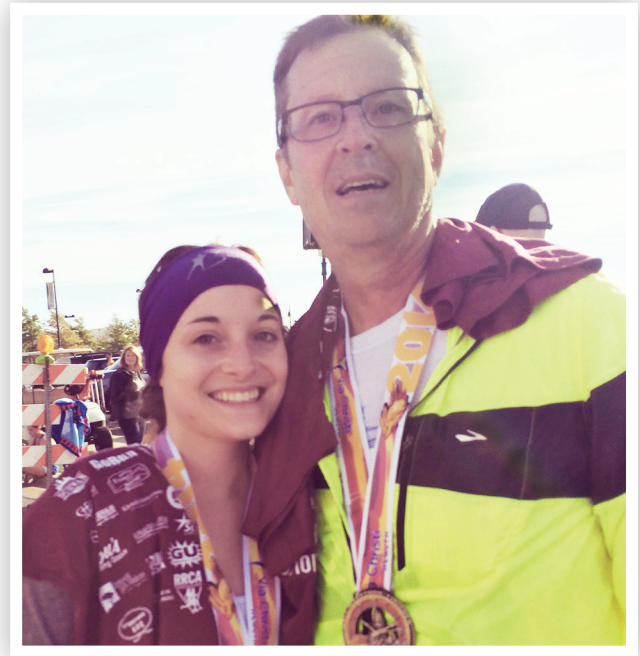
The screening provides free take-home kits that can be picked up at Salina and Lindsborg pharmacies, the Tammy Walker Cancer Center and Salina Family Healthcare Center. After collecting a stool sample, participants then send the test to Salina Regional Health Center for lab analysis via a pre-paid postage envelope provided. Results of the test will be mailed to both the patient and their primary care physician.

Health officials recommend all men and women have a colonoscopy after age 50 to screen for colon cancer. Between colonoscopies patients can screen with a fecal occult blood test. Other tests may also be recommended by physicians. Those with family history of the disease should consider annual screening at a younger age.

Brian had no family history of the disease and always seemed perfectly healthy.

"This is why you have to have the screening," said Sharon Montague, Brian's wife. "You just never know.

"People here at the Cancer Center were so wonderful with Brian," Sharon said. "We wanted his memorials to help local people."



Brian Montague began feeling ill soon after completing a half marathon with his daughter Kimberly in late 2014. He eventually learned he had aggressive colon cancer and died from the disease last year. Memorial funds were directed to help support a free colon cancer screening in March.

Continuing education programs supported by memorials

The Salina Regional Health Foundation sponsors continuing medical education through a number of programs that are made available to hospital staff and health professionals all throughout the region.

Two of these programs are scheduled within the coming days and months. The Dr. Mace Braxton Cardiovascular Symposium is planned for February 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Webster Conference Center. Salina Regional Health Center's Rehabilitation Services Continuing Education Seminar in memory of Brian Yockers will be held April 8 and 9 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the hospital.

Funds to support the programs honoring both of these men were established after their untimely deaths. Dr. Braxton is credited with starting the cardiovascular surgery program at Salina Regional Health Center. Yockers was a physical therapist on staff at the hospital for his entire 27-year career. Both men believed strongly in supporting continuing education in order to stay on the leading edge of medicine.

Find out more information about either program or learn how you can support continuing medical education in the community by calling the Foundation at (785) 452-6088.

CHIP grant assists Salina Rescue Mission campaign

A recent grant through the Salina Regional Health Foundation's Community Health Investment Program awarded \$100,000 to the Salina Rescue Mission's "Promise of a Bright Future" \$751,000 capital campaign to renovate its facility and increase housing capacity for area homeless men. Funding for CHIP is primarily provided through a tithe from Salina Regional Health Center.

The Salina Rescue Mission, located at 1716 Summers Rd. in Salina, serves as a men's homeless shelter providing basic needs such as food and clothing through Christian ministry. Many of the men served have chronic physical and mental health issues.

Last year the Salina Rescue Mission provided more than 21,500 nights of shelter and 7,000 items of clothing to approximately 400 men. The program also assists with getting medical care and medications to those in need. It also is the only men's homeless shelter in the central and northwestern regions of Kansas.

"The capital campaign supports renovations to our facility that address a number of safety and security issues and upgrades the heating and air conditioning systems to replace outdated technology that has fallen into disrepair," said Chad Young, Salina Rescue Mission executive director. "The project also will allow us to increase our capacity to shelter men by about 30 percent.

"The Foundation's CHIP grant has been very significant in helping us move closer to achieving our campaign goal," Young said. "We have approximately \$40,000 remaining to fulfill our goal."

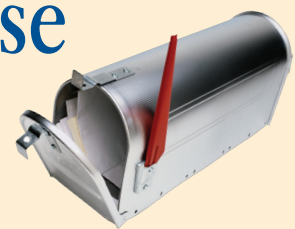
The Salina Rescue Mission has been serving the area for 35 years, addressing a constant demand of services for homeless men. Call the Salina Rescue Mission at (785) 823-2610 if you would like to learn how to support its capital campaign or many services.



A \$100,000 CHIP grant from the Salina Regional Health Foundation is supporting renovation and expansion efforts at the Salina Rescue Mission.



Morrison House Mailbox



We just wanted you to know that in 1999 we stayed in your home. Our dad was given a short time to live and we found such peace and rest in your home. We remember a very icy day that we would not have been able to be with him except we were able to walk to the hospital from the house. Our hope and prayer is that this small donation will give another family the same comfort we had in your home. Thank you again.

In memory of Hal Collie

Sandy Collie Lipsey, Rita Verbitski, Debra Williams

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Director's Message



Tom Martin
Executive Director

It was just a short handwritten note (see inside) we recently received from someone living in Marietta, Georgia. The note was written on behalf of three sisters now scattered across the country, but originally from Jewell, Kansas. The sisters had all stayed at the Morrison House in 1999 while their dying father was in our hospital. The note was wrapped around a meaningful contribution for the Morrison House.

The Morrison House is supported entirely through donations, so make no mistake about it, each and every one is important. It's what allows us to keep the lights on and the coffee percolating for our guests. But that note... I wouldn't trade it for anything.



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.