

# gratitude

FHN FOUNDATION ANNUAL SUMMARY



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# 'I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOU'

- a word from Al Evon, FHN Foundation Executive Director

As I reflect back on 2022, it was clear that many people longed for a sense of normalcy. Yet as the COVID crisis began to dissipate, other concerns remained. At times, it seemed like there was nothing people could agree on, and as a result there seemed to be more anger and fear than hope and grace. Like the rest of the world, we also witnessed war in Ukraine, rising inflation, and the impact that both had on the economy and supply chains.

Just like you, FHN felt the pressure of rising costs and wondered when a sense of relief might arrive.

However, during these challenging times, you provided a light at the end of our tunnel. Despite what was going on in the world, and the financial pinch you may have been facing, you stood by the FHN Foundation! Your financial contributions helped save and change lives. Because YOU cared, the FHN Foundation was able to invest more than \$1.6 million dollars in local health and wellness initiatives.

This annual summary is written in grateful recognition of – and is indeed a reflection of – all the good

you have done to deliver healthcare excellence for our communities. I hope you will take time to read through these pages and see what your gifts have accomplished. I thank you for your commitment to locally based and governed medical care in our region. Your donations help provide for the sustainability of care for you, your family, your co-workers, and your friends and neighbors.

I am grateful for you and the difference you made ... and I look forward to continuing our partnership in 2023.



## PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

Allow us to make some introductions! This is the staff of the FHN Foundation, and like FHN, they are here, for you.

**AL EVON**, Executive Director, has been in Freeport for almost two years and is enjoying northwest Illinois. He finds great reward in working with donors to help them achieve their charitable goals. **“Many donors may not think of themselves as ‘wealthy,’ but every gift is important,”** Al says. “When donors learn about the different ways that they can structure their gifts, they are truly surprised at how much impact they can have and the legacy they can leave.”

**CHANDRA SEAL** is the Donor Relations Coordinator. She says, “I am the newest addition to the staff, but it did not take long to see and experience just how caring and compassionate our donors are. I genuinely feel like we have the absolute best donors. Without their generosity, we would not get to see our initiatives come to fruition. It is truly an honor to work with them, knowing the impact our partnership will have on our patients, staff, and communities.”

**JEANNETTE RAFFERTY**, Foundation Assistant, finds her work at the Foundation office very rewarding. She says, “FHN has the best donors and I enjoy my interaction with them. They are truly engaged in our mission. I also find it gratifying to participate in a project from beginning to completion, and see the positive impact that donations have on our patients and the entire organization.”

The Foundation staff members are all available to answer your questions about the organization, discuss options for giving, and support FHN in achieving its vision to deliver healthcare excellence to our communities. Al emphasizes, “We know you have choices about where you share your hard-earned dollars, and we are honored when you choose to give to the FHN Foundation. Stop in and visit our office!”



Chandra, Al, and Jeannette



**WE ARE GRATEFUL** to each and every person who contributes to the FHN Foundation. Your gifts allow us to provide extra support that enhances the experiences of FHN’s patients and enables staff and providers to deliver the best medical care possible in our region.



## ANNUAL EVENTS PUT THE **FUN** IN **FUNDRAISING**

Sponsored by the FHN Foundation and supported by generous local participants, traditions like these four fun events help generate funds for important FHN initiatives. During 2022, community members like you raised more than **\$167,000** ... and enjoyed it, too!



### FOOD FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Friends of the Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital convened for taste-tempting treats, music, and fun at the Food Fight Against Cancer. Guests dined on hors d'oeuvres and desserts from local caterers, restaurants, and bakeries while raising funds for patient care at the Cancer Center.



### GRAN FONDA TOUR AGAINST CANCER

In partnership with the Chain Link Cyclists and named in honor of Dave Fonda, the founder of and inspiration for this event, the goal of this healthy bike ride is to inspire others to ride for a greater purpose: **Fighting cancer.**

Last summer's tour drew cyclists to some of the most beautiful roads in northwest Illinois, and loyal participants were not deterred by the day's deluge – they rode independently using the honor system.

### HEALTHY HEART HUSTLE 5K RUN/WALK

Held in July, the sixth annual "hustle" included a timed 5K and a Victory Lap for kids and their families. A good crowd came out to exercise their hearts while supporting the FHN Cardiopulmonary Department.



### FESTIVAL OF TREES GALA, CASINO VINO

Our annual kickoff to the holiday season last November brought together hundreds of partygoers and featured a wine-based theme, along with a full, Las Vegas-style casino. Added to a generous matching gift by the Moss family, this event helped purchase new beds and mattresses for FHN Memorial Hospital.



**WE ARE GRATEFUL** to all the participants who come out to raise awareness and support this broad array of events that help fund Foundation initiatives, all in areas that greatly impact local healthcare. Thank you!



In any given year, the FHN Foundation takes on a variety of large-scale projects, including new equipment, facilities updates, scholarships and education, and many other ventures. All potential funding is carefully researched and selected based on its ability to improve patient outcomes and enhance the patient experience. In 2022, here are **some** of the major highlights made possible through the generosity of donors like you.



◀ Kimball Sturtevant, posing here with Dr. Greg Dammann and Nurse Navigator Keri Wall, was the first FHN patient to benefit from the new VELYS™ knee replacement option.



## SCHOLARSHIPS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

**Scholarships** – FHN awarded funds to 11 local students who are committed to caring for patients in multiple disciplines. Seven gifts were granted from the Mildred F. Ferguson Scholarship Fund, focused on FHN staff members seeking nursing degrees. Four gifts are for new students pursuing healthcare education. Their dedication will enhance patient care at FHN for many years to come. We also supported the FHN Rural Medical Education Program Scholarship through the University of Illinois College of Medicine – Rockford, providing a scholarship to Anna Snider from Forrester. Anna grew up as an FHN patient, volunteered at our facilities, and is pursuing a medical degree. She ultimately plans to serve in a rural community.

## NEW EQUIPMENT

**VELYS™ Robotic-Assisted Solution and instrument sets** – Patients are more satisfied with their “new knees” thanks to VELYS™ technology, purchased with donations from the FHN Foundation. It provides data collected during the knee replacement procedure to provide insights for real-time decision making. This sophisticated new option enhances accuracy and precision, increases surgical flexibility, and shortens recovery times – many patients go home the same day as their surgery!

**EKG machines for cardiology care** – An electrocardiogram (EKG) records the electrical signal from the heart to check for different heart conditions. The Foundation helped purchase 16 new EKG machines for various FHN locations, providing broader coverage and enhanced equipment.



“ THIS SCHOLARSHIP MEANS SO MUCH TO ME. I look forward to a long healthcare career at FHN. ”  
– Erica Meinert, CNA

Erica Meinert, CNA was recognized with a Mildred F. Ferguson scholarship. ▶



**Education and training for staff members** – In the healthcare realm, continuous education is a crucial component of excellent care. The Foundation supported many requests for additional classwork and specialty seminars, adding to our capabilities in multiple disciplines from physical therapy to gastroenterology to podiatry. (See more info about scholarships and continuing education on the back page.)

## FACILITY AND TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS

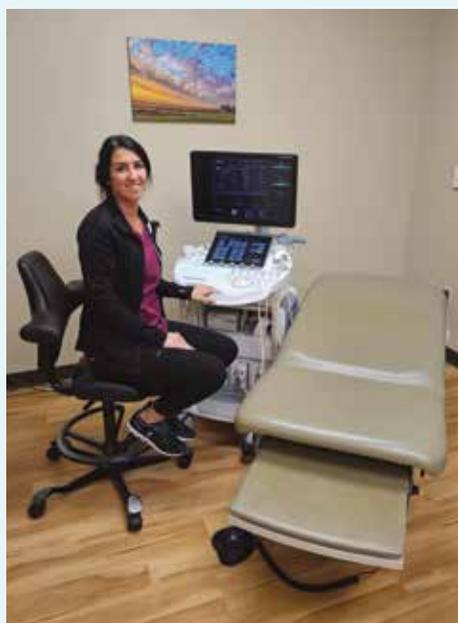
**Beds and mattresses for FHN Memorial Hospital** – As part of our year-end campaign and the generous support of the Vivian Moss family’s memorial for their mother, we purchased new beds, mattresses, and mattress pumps for the hospital. These Stryker units feature a “go green” lighting system on the bed footboards, which alerts staff when connections to the nurse call system are not activated or if other safety measures are not in sync. This initiative will continue into 2023, offering increased fall protection, reduced pressure injuries, and improved patient comfort for healing and recovery.

**Family Healthcare Center enhancements** – Some carefully executed updates can make a waiting area or exam room feel more welcoming, professional, and prepared. That’s why the Foundation helped fund a large-scale remodel of the Women’s Health department at FHN Family Healthcare Center – Burchard Hills and provided new furniture for FHN Family Healthcare Centers on Highland View Drive and in Lena.



▲ (top) Med/Surg nurses at FHN Memorial Hospital are grateful for the new beds, mattresses, and air pumps purchased with Foundation funds.

(bottom) The Cancer Center’s linear accelerator aims radiation at tumors with pinpoint accuracy, sparing nearby healthy tissue.



◀ Bianca Herrera, RDMS, AD, RVT prepares to care for an ultrasound patient at the Women’s Health Testing Center, part of the newly expanded Women’s Health area at FHN Family Healthcare Center – Burchard Hills.

**Enhancements at the Leonard C. Ferguson Cancer Center at FHN Memorial Hospital** - The Cancer Center in Freeport provides state-of-the-art treatments, customized to you, close to home. In 2022, the Foundation funded new quality control software for the center’s linear accelerator – a sophisticated piece of radiation equipment – which will make the machine more accurate and precise for years to come. We also financed new infusion chairs, a phlebotomy chair, television sets, and a nurse call system that enhance patient care every day.

 **WE ARE GRATEFUL** for the generous and kind community members who contribute to these efforts, to the staff members who identify opportunities for improvement, and to the scores of people who so carefully implement these improvements within our system.



## FHN FOUNDATION MEMORIALS 2022

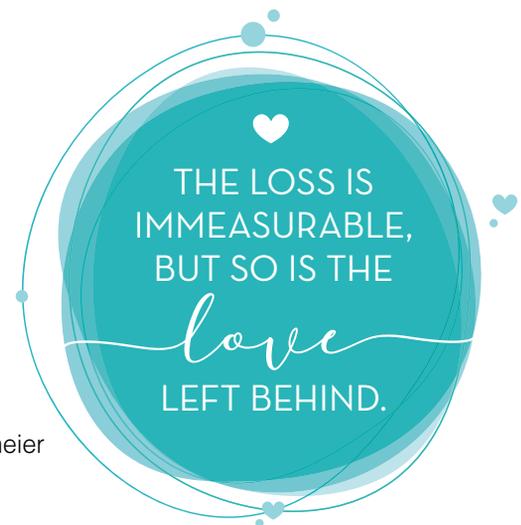
This list represents all individuals who have been memorialized through a gift to the FHN Foundation. Each name represents a donation made to improve health and wellness for the people of northwestern Illinois and honor someone special.

Ackerman, Garnet  
 Adams, Marilyn  
 Amodeo, Dr. Paul  
 Anderson, George  
 Andrews, Rick  
 Aschenbrenner, George  
 Barney, Lance L.  
 Bastian, Judy  
 Bauer, Kim  
 Beyer, Janice  
 Bicksler, Donna  
 Birkholz, Marvin  
 Blair, Arlene  
 Blair, Clyde  
 Blair, Jerry  
 Bloyer, Joyce  
 Boland, Irene  
 Boland, Kenneth  
 Bradbury, Shawn  
 Brandt, Eleanor E.  
 Brandt, Rodney  
 Brewning, Neta  
 Briggs, Barb  
 Burt, Arde  
 Carney, Patrick  
 Carr, Marjorie  
 Caruso, Karen Louise  
 Chesterton, Keith  
 Cihak, Donald  
 Cocagne, Joshua  
 Connors, Richard J.  
 Connors, Robert F.  
 Crank, Carolyn R.  
 Cuplin, Sally  
 Currier, Herb  
 Curtis, Dalven  
 Curtis, Pauline  
 Dannels, Rebecca  
 Daws, Jerry P.  
 Dean, Terrence C.  
 DeMong, Mary  
 Dinges, Rita  
 Dittmar, Neil J.  
 Ditzler, Darla  
 Donmeyer, Larry  
 Downing, Robert  
 Dudley, Toni  
 Eckert, Richard  
 Eckert, Robert  
 Elbert, Benjamin Kip  
 Enzler, Norma J.  
 Feiner, Valentine  
 Feltmeyer, Lavonne  
 Feltmeyer, Robert  
 Ferguson, Richard  
 Fitzpatrick, Duane

Fleming, Norma  
 Flick, Howard  
 Frederick, Marie  
 Gallentine, Elaine E.  
 Garvin, Dennis  
 Gastel, Edward L.  
 Ginger, John  
 Gorham, Bonnie  
 Grabow, James  
 Grant, Eileen M.  
 Griffin, Dianne  
 Groeling, Kenneth  
 Groezinger, Janet  
 Groezinger, Joyce  
 Guzak, Christine  
 Hammond, Jack  
 Hardacre, Blaine  
 Hauser Sr., Richard  
 Havens, Shirley  
 Heath, Ore  
 Helms, Kate  
 Helms, Norm  
 Hendry, Bob  
 Hickok, Virginia  
 Hicks, Dean  
 Hille, Norma  
 Hille, Ralph  
 Hoggatt, Robert  
 Holbert, Richard  
 Holden, Earl  
 Holz, Shirley M.  
 Homan, Richard L.  
 Honchalk, Marilee  
 Huso, Charlene  
 Huttenlocher, Joyce  
 Jacobs, Arthur  
 Jacobs, Judy  
 Jessen, Nancy  
 Johnson, Richard  
 Johnston, Joyce  
 Jones, Donald W.  
 Kehl, Kurtis  
 Kempel, Donna J.  
 Kempel, Joan  
 Kempel, Melvin  
 Kleckler, Dan  
 Kleckler, Marilyn  
 Kleckler, Ray  
 Kleckner, Charles  
 Klosa, Robert  
 Komprood, Joanne  
 Koprowski, Barbara  
 Kounkel, Margery A.  
 Kubatze, Donald  
 Kucinski, Robert  
 Kummer, Alfred

Kummer, Christel  
 Lamia, Ann  
 Law, Duane  
 Lawfer, Ruth  
 Lee, Ben  
 Lee, James  
 Lee, Mary  
 Lee Sr., Ben A.  
 Lestikow, Eugene  
 Locascio, Jennifer  
 Locascio, John  
 Logemann, Eldon  
 Long, Ted  
 Longmeyer, Joe  
 Ludwig, Gregory  
 Luy, Dr. Lawrence  
 Mantua, Andrew  
 McIlvanie, Scott  
 Meier, Carol  
 Meier, Harold  
 Meinert, William  
 Miller, Charlotte  
 Miller, Jane E.  
 Mitchell, Patsy Ortmeier  
 Montgomery, Dette  
 Mooney, Marian  
 Moss, Vivian L.  
 Moyer, Lois  
 Murphy, Marilyn Daws  
 Myers, Gery M.  
 Myers, Patricia A.  
 Nelson, John  
 Nesemeyer, Floyd  
 Nesler, John Ira  
 Newendyke, Vernon  
 Niedermeier, Don  
 Niemann, Lester  
 Norman, Betty  
 Norman, Ron  
 Offenhiser, Andrew  
 Perkins, Victoria  
 Peterson, Adell  
 Peterson, Vera  
 Pitterle, Eve  
 Pitterle, Leonard  
 Polhill, Gary  
 Polizzi, Edward M.  
 Polley, Gerald  
 Ranchino, Louis  
 Randecker, Melody  
 Rapp, Sandra Helen  
 Reed, Robert  
 Reeter, Rose  
 Rieck, Jim  
 Rimington, Kent  
 Robinson, Margaret L.

Rust, Betty  
 Ruter, Carolyn M.  
 Schaaf, Suzanne  
 Schroeder, Loretta  
 Schubert, Anne  
 Schult, Janice  
 Schweitzer, Cynthia Becke  
 Schwitz, Kathryn  
 Scovill, Ruth



Shippert, Mercedes  
 Singh, Alfred  
 Smith, Alvera  
 Smith, Colby J.  
 Soladay, Mark  
 Stimpert, Kristina  
 Stimpert, William "Bill"  
 Streicher, Darlene  
 Swalve, Lois  
 Swanlund, Debra  
 Tempel, Lyle  
 Thomasson, Eric  
 Toelle, Frederic  
 Toelle, Jeffrey  
 Townsend, Malcolm  
 Valkema, Donald  
 Vanderheyden, Donald  
 Weidman, Donald  
 West, Mable  
 West, Nancy L.  
 White, Betty R.  
 Wilhelms, Wayne  
 Wilson, Linda  
 Winters, Dorothy  
 Winters, Marilyn  
 Wire, Gerald  
 Zarn, Harold  
 Zimmerman, Virginia  
 Zueger, Irma ■



## YOUR GIFTS, LARGE AND SMALL, IMPACT PATIENT CARE

Making large-scale improvements at FHN, like those featured on pages 4 and 5, can take significant time and resources to bring to fruition. Other projects or purchases, though smaller in scope, still enhance productivity, performance, safety, or day-to-day satisfaction, and can make quite an impact on patients and staff members when they are implemented. Here is a look at just a few of these individual items from 2022, all made possible through donations to the FHN Foundation.



### VEIN FINDER

This equipment is not just innovative – it helps improve patient satisfaction during difficult blood draws on the medical/surgical floor of the hospital. Designed to enhance the art of finding and evaluating a suitable vein to access, it uses new technology to conduct real-time vein mapping.



### FRENZEL LENSES WITH FLIP COMPONENT

No, it's not virtual reality, but it does resemble it! These lenses are used to magnify the eye and disable the patient's ability to fixate on any one object, both at rest and with head movements. This allows a physical therapist to adequately visualize and assess the eyes for involuntary movements called nystagmus, enhancing diagnosis and treatment for vertigo and other vestibular rehabilitation.



### FLUID-FILLED APPARATUS

An anatomical model of the ear's fluid-filled semicircular canal system, this handy mechanism helps educate physical therapy patients with vestibular and balance issues. Using colored particles unique to each canal, it promotes the understanding of fluid dynamics as well as how our inner ear crystals respond to gravity.



## special thanks to FHN's Partners in Giving!

These three featured items were made possible through donations from the FHN staff and providers who give year 'round as part of the Partners in Giving program. *We appreciate you!*

**Gifts also funded by the Foundation:** infusion chairs • stand thermometers • pastoral care • Glidescope video laryngoscope • sleep sacks for newborns • stretcher replacements • phlebotomy chairs • tympanometry system • exam lights • behavioral health beds • vital signs monitors • wireless headset for ER registration • venous Doppler imaging equipment • seizure side-rail pads • transportation for patients who demonstrate need • and so much more!



**WE ARE GRATEFUL** for every contribution made to the FHN Foundation, and the items they help us procure. Together, your gifts provide FHN with the ability to make a difference in so many ways, expanding our ability to deliver excellent healthcare in northwest Illinois and southwest Wisconsin.



## SCHOLARSHIPS AND CONTINUING ED.



**ERICA MEINERT, CNA**, who was recognized with a Mildred F. Ferguson scholarship, is excited about her future in nursing. "This support means so much to me," she says. "I just graduated in May with my associate's degree and plan to continue my education, ultimately pursuing my master's degree. I look forward to a long career in healthcare at FHN."



**STEPHANIE SNIDER, PT**, applied for Foundation assistance to take specialized cervical spine coursework from the McKenzie Institute®. She explains, "Being able to hone my skills to enhance treatment for patients with neck-related pain has been very beneficial. Thanks to the Foundation for making it possible!"



**ANNA SNIDER** received the FHN Rural Medical Education Program Scholarship through the University of Illinois College of Medicine – Rockford. She grew up as an FHN patient, volunteered at our facilities, and is pursuing a medical degree. In a thank-you note to the Foundation, Anna says, "Thank you for choosing me for the RMED FHN Scholarship. It is going to help ease my financial burden ... I am excited to one day serve my rural community."



**MARK GRIDLEY**  
FHN President  
and CEO

As I look back on 2022, I see a long list of "good things" that have enhanced the care provided by FHN – new equipment purchased and installed, education pursued, facilities enhanced, and more – due in part to gifts made to the FHN Foundation. We appreciate the community's generous spirit and hope you will continue to support our local focus on healthcare excellence. On behalf of our entire staff, thank you for all the ways you contribute to our betterment: Your financial donations, your volunteer service, your community involvement, and your trust in FHN as we care for you and your family. **We are grateful for you!**



## A LOOK AT PLANNED GIVING

**HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?** When it comes time to reflect upon your legacy, we would love for you to consider your community's healthcare. Promoting exceptional health and protecting the security of your loved ones is an excellent way to leave your mark. You can make a gift or donation in your will, through your estate, or by taking advantage of gift options that may increase your income and save on your taxes!

To learn more about different types of planned gifts and access free tools to help you explore options, visit our planned giving site at **fhnlegacygift.org**. It is designed to help you develop a philanthropic plan that will leave a lasting legacy, provide for your loved ones, and support the causes that are important to you.

Visit our planned giving site at **fhnlegacygift.org** (or you can scan the QR code on this page with your smartphone camera).



No matter how large or small, **WE ARE GRATEFUL** for your contributions to support our vision of delivering healthcare excellence for our communities.

We ask for your continued support in 2023. Please consider a donation today!



**DON'T FORGET ...**  
you can donate online!  
[www.fhn.org/donate-now](http://www.fhn.org/donate-now)



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*We are pleased to acknowledge  
the FHN Foundation*

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