

# Gift of Health

Our Philanthropy Magazine

## *Special Issue* Annual Impact Report Impacting Lives through Philanthropy

**Celebrating Sister  
Rosita Schiller,  
an extraordinary  
champion of our  
mission**

**SAINT MARY'S  
FOUNDATION**

A Member of Trinity Health

For Donors of  
**Saint Mary's Foundation**



In this special issue of *Gift of Health*, I am honored to share the many ways Saint Mary's Foundation has made an impact on Trinity Health Grand Rapids and our community during the past year. Thanks to your thoughtful support, we have advanced health care services and patient care in remarkable ways.

Donor support has funded vital programs such as the Lacks Cancer Center, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and the Hauenstein Neurosciences Center, as well as innovative programs and technology. These advancements are providing hope and healing to countless patients and their families.

As we kick off the 60th anniversary of the Saint Mary's Foundation this September, we reflect on our past achievements and make a renewed commitment to all those we serve. In the year ahead, we will remain focused on strengthening community health and well-being by addressing needs both within our hospital and beyond.

Our goal is to make significant investments in our flagship programs—Oncology, Neurosciences, Behavioral Health, and Orthopedics—which will allow us to provide leading-edge care and support for our medical staff, colleagues, and patients, all while strengthening our neighborhoods and building partnerships for the future.

Thank you for your steadfast support. As we celebrate this momentous year, we look to the future with hope, determination, and a shared commitment to exceptional medicine and a healthier community.

With heartfelt gratitude,



**Michelle Rabideau, CFRE, MPA**  
President, Saint Mary's Foundation

## Is Saint Mary's a Good investment?

**Definitely!** Our return on investment (ROI) is a key measure that represents the financial return on each dollar spent raising funds. ROI is an indicator of fundraising effectiveness, illustrating the amount applied toward the bottom line, in relation to the cost. In other words, for every \$1 spent raising funds in Fiscal Year 2024, our return was \$5.74.

# Your Impact by the Numbers

Over the past year\*, gifts from Saint Mary's Foundation Supporters have impacted thousands of lives from every walk of life:

**677 donors**

supported Saint Mary's Foundation

**\$2.8 million**

released to Trinity Health Grand Rapids to support programs and services

**\$631,845**

secured in grant commitments

**28 Endowment Funds** provided

**\$150,347**

to benefit programs and services

Our **Community Partner Program**

secured **\$72,000**

in sponsorships and program support

**DID YOU KNOW?** Unrestricted gifts can make the most profound impact. By designating Saint Mary's Foundation, you allow us to address urgent needs and seize unexpected opportunities. Your support helps us allocate resources where they're needed most, ensuring the greatest overall benefit to our community.

\*Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024)

**153 new donors**

were welcomed to Saint Mary's Foundation and contributed more than **\$562,460!**

Donors gave **\$61,874** worth of accepted **supplies & equipment**

**Planned Gift** commitments totaled **\$368,486**



The Saint Mary's Foundation

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

On Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, Saint Mary's Foundation will kick off it's 60th Anniversary with a celebration at GLC Live at 20 Monroe in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Individual tickets are \$100. Scan the QR code to purchase event tickets. For sponsorships or questions, contact Angela Paasche at [angela.paasche@trinity-health.org](mailto:angela.paasche@trinity-health.org) or 616-685-1426.







*Sister Rosita Schiller sits with the statue of Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy and our health system.*

## Leaders, Teachers, Healers

# Celebrating the Life & Legacy of Sister Rosita Schiller

## A Pillar of Philanthropy and Service

*As we reflect on Sister Rosita Schiller's life, we are reminded of the profound impact one individual can have through dedication, service, and, most importantly, love. Her legacy will continue to inspire and guide us in our mission to care for our community.*

### Sister Rosita's many accomplishments include:

- Improving access to healthy food for the Hispanic and migrant communities in Sparta
- Enhancing literacy to children and families by integrating the Reach Out and Read programs in our provider offices
- Improving health care and support services to those with HIV/AIDS
- Supporting a clothing closet to ensure those who present in our Emergency Department leave with clean clothes
- Bringing a mobile mammography unit to neighborhoods that do not have access to breast health care

### A Champion for the Vulnerable

For the past 21 years, Sister Rosita dedicated herself to Saint Mary's Foundation as a senior grants and research specialist. Her tireless efforts raised more than \$15 million, directly benefiting our most vulnerable patients at Trinity Health Grand Rapids. Her work ensured that those in need received the care and support they deserved. She passed unexpectedly on April 17, 2024. This is her story.

### A Lifelong Commitment to Service

Sister Rosita's commitment extended beyond her professional achievements. She was an active member of the Trinity Health Nutrition Advisory Council, promoted child literacy through the Reach Out and Read program, and served on the hospital's governing board of trustees, where she chaired the Quality Committee and Community Health & Well-Being committee. Additionally, many in the community knew her as a regular reader for Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew.





*Sister Rosita, right, with colleagues at Trinity Health Medical Group Sparta.*



*Above: Sister Rosita, top right, with her colleagues at Saint Mary's Foundation. Below: Sister Rosita's family at Saint Mary's Foundation establishing an endowment fund in her name.*

## **An Inspiration to Her Colleagues**

Sister Rosita's presence at the Saint Mary's Foundation was transformative. She inspired the entire staff with her unwavering dedication, setting a standard of excellence that motivated our team to strive for the highest level of service and care. Her mentorship fostered a culture of compassion and commitment in others, leaving an enduring legacy at Saint Mary's Foundation.

## **A Legacy of Joy and Enthusiasm**

Sister Rosita was a familiar and beloved presence on the Grand Rapids Campus, known for her joy and enthusiasm in all her endeavors. She approached her work and interactions with others with great wisdom, wit, and a compassionate heart. Her strong faith and spirituality inspired everyone around her, making her a true servant leader.

*Sister Rosita will forever be in our hearts.*

## **Endowment Fund Established in Memory of Sister Rosita Schiller**

In June, a celebration honoring what would have been Sister Rosita Schiller's 88th birthday was held at Saint Mary's Foundation. Schiller family members and Trinity Health colleagues shared memories and celebrated the significant impact that Sister Rosita had on our organization. Rosemary Byrne, her sister, presented Saint Mary's Foundation with a \$30,000 gift to establish the Sister Rosita Schiller Endowment Fund for Community Health & Well-Being. The fund will support the priorities of Community Health & Well-Being at Trinity Health Grand Rapids and programs that care for the underserved including our health care clinics (Browning Claytor, Clinica Santa Maria, and Sparta Health), our McAuley Clinic, and other programming developed to focus on removing barriers to care for all.

*Gifts to this fund in honor of Sister Rosita are welcome.*

# Touching Lives: Stories of Impact from FY24

From the Lacks Cancer Center, the Breast Center, Kidney Transplant, Hauenstein Neurosciences, Mobile Mammography, Sophia's House, Surgery, and more, the Saint Mary's Foundation's impact has touched every facet of care!



Radiation Oncology colleagues trained on the new cancer-fighting technology made possible thanks to the Saint Mary's Foundation. From left to right: Alan Mayville, lead medical physicist, and dosimetrists Danielle Redner and Amelia Giganic.

## Advancing Radiation Oncology at Lacks Cancer Center

Thanks to the support of Saint Mary's Foundation donors, Radiation Oncology at Lacks Cancer Center is experiencing significant advancements with new technologies called SRS MapCheck and Visual Coaching. These are revolutionizing patient care and treatment precision. We spoke with Alan Mayville, lead medical physicist, about these groundbreaking tools and their impact.

SRS MapCheck is a cutting-edge quality assurance tool that ensures accuracy in radiation therapy. Mayville explained, "SRS MapCheck allows us to verify the accuracy of radiation beams with unprecedented precision, targeting tumors effectively while sparing healthy tissue. We make adjustments before treatment, ensuring each session's effectiveness."

Visual Coaching enhances patient understanding and engagement during treatment by providing patients with a visual representation of their

breathing, helping them understand the process and feel more in control. By visually demonstrating how their breathing aligns with what is expected, patients experience reduced anxiety and increased confidence, which is invaluable.

The integration of SRS MapCheck and Visual Coaching is a commitment to personalized, precise cancer-fighting care. "Our goal is to combine technological innovation with compassionate patient support," said Mayville.

"We are deeply grateful to Saint Mary's Foundation for their contribution, enabling us to enhance the precision of our treatments and improve the overall patient-care experience."

These technologies lead to better outcomes and improved quality of life. With continued investment in such innovations, Saint Mary's Foundation is paving the way for a brighter future in cancer care.



## Increasing Safety with the THGR K9 Program



DeAngelo Person and Marco are one of the four K9 handler units at Trinity Health Grand Rapids

In 2023, Saint Mary's Foundation granted \$300,000 helping to launch the K9 program at THGR. This was the first full year of service for the K9 teams, which are proving to be invaluable for the safety and security of patients, staff, and visitors. Last year, the four K9 and handler teams underwent extensive training and certifications. The deployment of K9s to de-escalate volatile situations has had a significantly positive impact.

### 2023 Calendar Year-End Conflict Deployments:

- 41 total deployments to the Emergency Department with 31 successful de-escalations
- 23 total deployments to other areas in the hospital with 20 successful de-escalations

### 2023 Calendar Year K9 & Handler Achievements:

- 13,254 public contacts
- 140 visits with patients

## Supporting Clinical Excellence and Recognizing RN Achievements in FY24

51 registered nurses obtained a new specialty certification, and 24 registered nurses advanced to level IV or V in the Clinical Advancement System. Saint Mary's Foundation is honored to support clinical advancement for many staff, and we congratulate all those who are dedicated to providing exceptional care for our patients.



Elijah Valeros, RN, 7 Main, recently received the DAISY Award.

## Creating Welcome Bags for Infusion Patients

For infusion patients whose care may take hours, the infusion team had an idea to provide each patient with a welcome bag with items, such as a pen, notepad, earbuds, and other items, that would help them pass the time. Thanks to Saint Mary's Foundation, the bags became a reality. Tiffany Jenkins, Director, Population Health Pharmacy said, "The seemingly little things we can do to make the patient experience more pleasant make all the difference, especially for patients who are receiving an infusion that could take several hours to administer. Thank you, the Saint Mary's Foundation, for making this idea come to life!"



Megan Lowell and Sarah LaFata led efforts to provide welcome bags for infusion patients.

# Thank You!

To our supporters



## July Back-to-School Drive

Thanks to our Grand Groups™ members and colleagues, hundreds of backpacks and school supplies were collected and distributed to kids at Browning Claytor, Clinica Santa Maria, and Sparta, making them ready for their first day of school.



## September

### Grand Groups Event

Our Grand Groups members, including Grand Girlfriends™ and Grand Guys™, explored the positive impact of the Art Therapy program on Behavioral Health patients at Trinity Health Grand Rapids.



## July Mobile Mammography Unit Ribbon Cutting

Launched in July 2023, the Mobile Mammography program offers free 3D breast cancer screenings at various locations in Grand Rapids and West Michigan, providing full-service breast center care to underserved individuals.



## November

### Gratitude Gathering

Saint Mary's Foundation hosted the Gratitude Gathering to thank supporters, with THGR President Matt Biersack and Foundation President Michelle Rabideau sharing highlights of the past year's philanthropic impact.



## September Up on the Roof

We celebrated the impact of the Trinity Health Mobile Mammography Unit, which provides free, convenient preventive breast care services to individuals with limited access, enhancing early detection, promoting equity, and decreasing mortality through mobile 3D mammography.



# for the many ways you engaged with us this year!



## December Vine & Vinyl

The special breakfast edition of Vine & Vinyl brought music to life and showcased the remarkable care at Trinity Health Grand Rapids, with Dr. Andrew Jameson, Dr. Herman C. Sullivan, and Rev. Mark C. Przybysz highlighting advancements in surgical techniques and innovative donor options that offer hope to kidney transplant patients.



## January Up Next

The 2024 Up Next class graduated in July, engaging emerging community leaders with the work of THGR and offering an insider's view of how THGR fulfills its mission of improving community health, helping participants consider joining in future volunteer leadership opportunities.



## May Emeritus Physician & Nurses Luncheons

In May and September, Trinity Health Grand Rapids hosted luncheons for retired physicians and nurses, celebrating their remarkable careers and lasting impact, with 35 attendees in May and 33 in September, representing hundreds of years of service and embodying the excellence and compassion of THGR.



## Year-End Giving

Thank you to our supporters for helping Saint Mary's Foundation raise \$167,651 for Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) patients and their families on GivingTuesday and during our year-end campaign, with a special thanks to Lake Michigan Credit Union and the Vander Wall family.



## May Volunteer Luncheon

We celebrated our dedicated THGR volunteers at a special appreciation luncheon, recognizing their exceptional service, with 4,723 volunteer hours in fiscal 2024, equating to a total value of \$158,173.



## June Care Champions Breakfast

On June 13, Saint Mary's Foundation hosted a Breakfast of Champions to honor over 40 providers, nurses, colleagues, and teams who had gifts made in their honor as part of the Share Your Gratitude program.



## Endowment Funds Highlights



**David Baumgartner Fund for Mission Services** funded rhythm instruments for spiritual growth groups in the psychiatric medical unit, allowing patients to express themselves in new ways. Additionally, the fund provided two chaplains with 16 hours of education on moral injury, trauma, spirituality, and healing. This training will benefit more than 100 colleagues receiving support and care from chaplains. The remaining funds support the production of Healing Blankets, assembled by volunteers, and distributed to patients by chaplains.

**Alice Carole McCarthy Smith Fund** allocated \$3,500 for seven trainers, who will train others in the Question-Persuade-Refer (QPR) program for suicidal ideation. An additional \$1,500 will be used to purchase training materials to ensure all patient-facing caregivers are trained, aligning with Safety and Zero Suicide efforts at THGR.

## 3,000th Kidney Transplant Completed

The 3,000th kidney transplant was successfully completed by the Kidney Transplant Team. Saint Mary's Foundation has been a long-term supporter of the Kidney Transplant Program and regularly provides support for lodging for family members at Sophia's House. One recipient wrote, *"Thank you so much for paying for my room at Sophia's House for five days. My husband had a kidney transplant in May, and I stayed at Sophia's House for almost three weeks. God has been so good during this time, and so many people have helped in so many ways. Thanks, again!"*



## Birth Center

1,755 babies born at the Birth Center were safer thanks to the Hugs Infant Safety System made possible by Saint Mary's Foundation.

## 13 Breast Cancers Detected by the Mobile Mammography Program



In fiscal 2024, its first year of operation, the Mobile Mammography program, performed 2,010 screening mammograms and diagnosed 13 breast cancers! 764 patients from high-priority zip codes were screened. Saint Mary's Foundation provided and will continue to provide grant funding support.



# Saint Mary's Foundation Board of Trustees

Saint Mary's Foundation is fortunate to have the support of these community leaders who bring to our mission their exceptional leadership, professional expertise, and connections to the communities we serve.

## Board Officers

Thank you to our dedicated trustees who served from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024:

B. Scott Breslin, <i>Chair</i>	Roslyn R. Sullivan
Kim McLaughlin, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Benjamin J. Williams
Rhonda Huisman, <i>Treasurer</i>	Ellie Frey Zagel
Joe Chamberlin, <i>Secretary</i>	

*Special thanks to Tammy Bailey and Scott Breslin whose final trustee terms ended June 30, 2024. We are grateful for their extraordinary commitment that collectively totaled more than twenty years.*

## Trustees

Shannon Armstrong, MD, MBA, FACS	Dan Green
Tamara R. Bailey, CFP	Brian Hauenstein
Matt Biersack, MD	Bonnie S. Kopp
Erin Bonovetz	Andola Mathis, MD
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Jennifer Crowley	Kristy Todd, DNP, FNP-BC
Baljit Singh Deol, MD	Jeff Towner
Linsey Gleason	Drew Wessell, CFP
	Chris Wessely

## Honorary Trustees

Betsy Beaton Borre	Robert C. Woodhouse, Jr.
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### Trinity Health Mission

We, Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel, as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

# Thank You!

*Thanks to our incredible 2023 community partners, we were able to transform the health of our community—helping sustain essential programs that meet our patients' and neighbors' needs. These partnerships equip our teams to work toward community health and well-being, clinical excellence and an exceptional patient experience.*



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Aquinas College  
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West Michigan Surgical Specialists

# SAINT MARY'S FOUNDATION

# GRAND GROUPS

GRAND GIRLFRIENDS™ • GRAND GUYS™

## GRAND GIRLFRIEND GRANTS

- The Mobile Mammography program received \$5,750 to provide winter beanie hats for patients to have during the winter months as a token of appreciation.
- Clinica Santa Maria received \$6,000 to purchase items to support the health and safety of their newborns.
- The Boutique at the Lacks Cancer Center received \$10,000 to support six months of complimentary services for patients at Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

## GRAND GUYS GRANTS

- 7-Main received \$9,900 to purchase a vascular access ultrasound machine that provides clear images of veins, especially for patients with difficult vascular access.

Saint Mary's Foundation is dedicated to building relationships that inspire financial support from the community to advance the mission of Trinity Health Grand Rapids.

### Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Laura Conners | 616-685-6084  
connerla@trinity-health.org

### Interested in planned gift opportunities?

Cathy Skene | 616-685-1484  
cathy.skene@trinity-health.org

### Interested in becoming a member of our Grand Groups program?

Alica Woodrick | 616-685-1427  
alica.woodrick@trinity-health.org

### Interested in your company becoming more involved?

Angela Paasche | 616-685-1426  
angela.paasche@trinity-health.org

Saint Mary's Foundation  
616-685-1892  
200 Jefferson Ave. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

[SaintMarysFoundationGR.com](http://SaintMarysFoundationGR.com)

*If you do not wish to receive information from Saint Mary's Foundation in the future, please call 616-685-1892.*



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