The Impact of Your Giving

Fiscal Year 2019

Through Healthy Options, a program supported by the Gettysburg Hospital Foundation, area residents such as Sandra Espinosa (center) and her family have access to affordable, fresh fruits and vegetables at participating farmers markets. In the past year, members of the Espinosa family, like many other past participants, have become mentors to help others benefit from the successful program.
You are important to the Gettysburg Hospital Foundation!

This past year, your generosity helped support:

• **Clinical excellence and patient-focused care.** Thanks to community support, the new Cardiac Catheterization Lab at WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital is providing life-saving care when seconds matter.

• **Community benefit.** Without you, patients would have to choose between buying groceries and paying for medication.

• **Innovation and education.** Because of you, nurses received vital education and developmental opportunities.

Your donations make a difference. This report provides examples of just a few of the countless ways you are helping advance health and wellness in our region.
A stark reality is that many individuals in Adams County and northern Maryland cannot afford their medications. This creates a challenging cycle. Patients can’t afford prescriptions, so they skip or split doses, which can lead to an emergency department visit or hospital stay, which means they miss work, resulting in less pay, making it even more unlikely they can pay for medications. Fortunately, the Adams County Prescription for Caring Program is here to help.

When Pat Simpson hung up the phone with her pharmacy last year, she was shocked and stunned. She could not afford her new diabetes medication and didn’t know where to turn. “It was scary,” says this Adams County resident. “I needed my medication but had no idea how I would be able to pay for it.”

Pat applied for help through the Adams County Prescription for Caring Program. When the program came to her aid, she was so relieved: “When I found out I was approved to receive assistance, I felt like I could breathe again!”

In Fiscal Year 2019, Adams County Prescription for Caring program provided:

- $145,706 in medication costs for
- 2,900 prescriptions
to help an average of
- 85 patients per month.

WellSpan.org
Nurses spend their lives caring for others. But at WellSpan, we believe it’s just as important that we care for them. Because we are committed to developing our nursing leaders, we offer education programs like the Dr. Alan Carroll Lectureship for Nursing Excellence as well as funding for nursing education through the Esther G. Little Nursing Scholarship and Twila Charles Scholarship.

Traci Hanlon, MN, RN, of Creative Health Care Management, discussed topics such as resiliency and mindfulness at this year’s Alan Carroll Lectureship. Each year, the program provides a day-long series of continuing education opportunities to help edify our nurses. The annual event provides a forum for clinical education, personal motivation and the discussion of topics relevant to today’s nursing profession.

Tabitha Hoffman, RN, a maternity nurse, received an Esther G. Little Scholarship in 2019 and also participates in the annual lectureship, so she knows firsthand the value of such efforts. “Nurses forget to focus on themselves. It helps to have opportunities to develop yourself in a career that you love. Refocusing your mindset and thinking about how to best do your job helps us grow and, ultimately, improves patient care.”

Your support helps our community receive care from competent, compassionate nurses.
WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital has started offering interventional cardiology services for the people of Adams County and northern Maryland. In the time from its opening in September 2018 until the end of the hospital’s fiscal year in July 2019, the unit provided patients with 171 interventional procedures and 163 diagnostic procedures.

Access to these services in our community is critical to patients experiencing cardiovascular issues – when a heart attack occurs, every second counts. The faster blood flow is restored to the heart, the less risk of disability or death. Care close to home also aids in a patient’s recovery because they can be surrounded by family and friends.

When Stan Rycyk experienced a heart attack, lifesaving heart care was located just around the corner at WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital. Stan woke up in the middle of the night dizzy, nauseated and sweating profusely, so his wife called 911. Emergency responders diagnosed Stan with a massive heart attack and began treatment on the way to WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital. The hospital’s emergency team was notified he was coming, had already reviewed his ECG and was standing by waiting for him. Upon arrival, they took Stan to the cardiac catheterization lab. The interventional cardiologist quickly opened Stan’s blocked cardiac artery and placed a stent to maintain blood flow. Because of access to this local, rapid treatment, Stan sustained only minimal heart damage.

Beating the Average for STEMI*
Patients with Faster Care

The average door to balloon time at WellSpan Gettysburg Hospital is 57 minutes, well below the national average of 90 minutes.

*A very serious type of heart attack during which one of the heart’s major arteries (one of the arteries that supplies oxygen and nutrient-rich blood to the heart muscle) is blocked.