

Advancing Health...

# Caring for People

Spring 2020

*Thank You!*

## Devin Greiner's Legacy of Life through Organ Donation

Devin Greiner grew up in the Wisconsin Rapids area and attended Lincoln High School where he ran on the track and cross-country teams and was loved by everyone. His parents, Ron and Christie Greiner, and his sisters, Kori Greiner, Shannon Greiner, and his nephew Easton describe Devin as funny, kind, and wise beyond his years — an old soul.

Devin's parents shared that "Devin was a compassionate young man who often thought more for others than himself. The depth of this was fully realized on June 11, 2018. After receiving the news that our son had less than a five percent chance of living following a work-related accident, we were told that he was a registered organ donor. He was 22 years old. In the coming days, we stayed by his side hoping for a miracle. On June 14, 2018, we had to make the decision to let go of our miracle in the hopes of fulfilling his wish to give the gift of life to others — to be the miracle for someone else. On June 15, 2018, the Donate Life flag was raised at Aspirus Wausau Hospital in honor of our son."

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*The Greiner Family  
Kori, Ron, Christie, Easton, and Shannon*

*"It truly was Devin's gift to people, because our family was not in the right state of mind to make that decision for him."*



*Visit [donatelifewisconsin.org](http://donatelifewisconsin.org) to register to become an organ, tissue, or eye donor.*

*The Devin Greiner Legacy Gift Box is given to families when loved ones give the gift of life at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.*

“It truly was Devin’s gift to people, because our family truly was not in the right state of mind during that time frame to make that decision for him,” said Christie Greiner. “We didn’t even know that he was an organ donor. They came to us at the hospital and told us that he had registered online to be an organ donor.”

Giving life to others can make families going through a painful loss feel like their loved one is living on and helping someone else even in death. As a way to honor Devin’s life and memory, the Greiners created the Devin Greiner Legacy program to support other families during a difficult time.

When people give the gift of life through organ donation at Aspirus Wausau Hospital, their families will receive extra support and a special gift from the Greiner family. The Greiner family has purchased Donate Life flags that contain a pocket in which families can place a photo of their loved one or write their loved one’s name. The hospital flies this flag on a special flagpole designated to honor the life and gift of the organ donor. Guests at the hospital will notice the flagpole as there is a special sign at its base describing the Devin Greiner Legacy.

When the flag is taken down after three days, it will be placed in a wooden gift box, hand-made by Devin’s father, Ron, along with a letter from the Family of Devin Greiner to explain their journey and offer support to the family. His father shared that, “Devin loved the outdoors, including camping, kayaking, hiking, and amateur photography. A hand-made wooden box felt right, like something Devin would have liked or made himself.”

Also included as a special gift from the Greiner family is a heart shaped rose quartz chosen for its healing qualities. The Greiner family hopes that the rose quartz provides a small amount of peace for families during a difficult time and knows that telling their story might also encourage others to become organ donors.



# Your Gifts Gave Healing A Home

In fall of 2018, a project was announced that would help people who travel a long distance to Wausau for specialty care at Aspirus and would sleep in their cars, on floors in waiting rooms, or go without medical care because of the cost of travel and housing. This includes patients traveling for long-term outpatient care, as well as families whose loved ones are hospitalized.

Through your generosity and the partnership of members of our communities and medical community, a safe, affordable, home-away-from home was created, and the vision for the Aspirus Family House became a reality.

A building was purchased specifically for this project due to its close location to Aspirus Wausau Hospital on the corner of 28th Avenue and Westhill Drive. The fact that the Family House is adjacent to the hospital will offer peace of mind to patients, families, and providers and will aide in the healing process. Renovation began following a groundbreaking celebration on June 25, 2019, and the Family House began serving guests on February 10, 2020.

The Aspirus Family House includes ten bedrooms with private bathrooms and shared living spaces designed as a home-like environment, conducive to healing and support from our community and others going through similar health experiences. Guests of the Family House are served by dedicated staff and volunteers, with additional support provided by community groups.

The Aspirus Family House was also designed with a focus on sustainable initiatives to improve the lives of our patients and the health of our communities today, and for future generations. With a grant from RENEW Wisconsin's Solar for Good initiative, photovoltaic panels were installed to reduce our carbon footprint by utilizing clean, renewable, solar energy.

Thank you to each and every donor and volunteer who helped create the Family House and who will provide care and comfort to guests for years to come!

To take a virtual tour of the Aspirus Family House, visit [www.aspirus.org/family-house-at-aspirus](http://www.aspirus.org/family-house-at-aspirus)



*Thank you to each and every donor and volunteer.*

*Names of donors are displayed on the Give Healing a Home donor wall at the Aspirus Family House.*

# Nurse's Legacy of Caring for Moms and Babies Lives on Through Gifts in Her Memory

Sandy Snyder loved her career as a nurse and spent over four decades in nursing, with the last 25 years as an obstetrics nurse at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

She is remembered for her gentle, caring manner that made families feel welcome and was a comfort to hundreds of anxious mothers. According to her family and colleagues, Sandy never met a baby she didn't love.

When Sandy passed away on November 29, 2019, her family, friends, and colleagues wanted to make a gift in her memory that would continue Sandy's passion for a better birthing experience by improving care for those with an active labor plan.

The family learned that the Birthing Center at Aspirus Wausau Hospital needed new wireless fetal monitor systems.

"Sandy would have loved that," said George Snyder. "We were married 57 years, and whenever we were out, she was approached by moms and dads who remembered her as their delivery nurse. She helped so many people during her career and now she can continue to do so."

The wireless, waterproof monitors enable patients to be mobile while in labor. It is easier to sit on a birthing ball, shower, or walk the halls with the comfort of knowing that their baby's heart rate is being monitored. The wireless fetal monitor system combines safety with mobility.

*Sandy never met a baby she didn't love.*

Kendra Ziert, R.N., Manager of the Birthing Center, worked with Sandy up until the time she retired. She said, "We are beyond grateful for the support of Sandy's family. The gift came at a perfect time when the life of our existing wireless fetal monitoring systems had reached their end. With this gift in Sandy's memory, we can continue to offer this important technology." Kendra shared that, "It also allows for continuous monitoring overnight so that new moms can move and sleep without constant interruption to locate their baby's heart rate."



*Kendra, R.N., holds the wireless fetal monitor that allows mothers to be mobile throughout the labor and birth process thanks to gifts from the George Snyder family in memory of Sandy Snyder, a former labor and delivery nurse.*

*Pictured (L to R) Sandy's daughter, Amy, Aspirus Director of Clinical Resources, Amanda, R.N., son Mike with Sandy's grandchildren, Noah and Nathan, husband, George, and OB Nurse Manager, Kendra.*

# Who Knew...Medications are Most Often Stolen from Family and Friends

Last year, your gifts helped fund a community assessment in Marathon County about prescription medication use and abuse. This assessment is so important because it will help reduce and prevent addiction to opioid medications by giving accurate information and tools to families in our community.

Based on the assessment results over time, it appears that there have been positive changes in our awareness of the problem, the options available for properly disposing of expired and unneeded prescription drugs, and in how we dispose of them.

We were surprised to learn that people most often get medicines (which are not prescribed to them) from the following sources:

- 6% Internet
- 3% Health care provider
- 17% Given by family/friends
- 18% Buy on street
- 57% Steal from their families/friends/  
medication source

You can help today in two important ways:

1. If you have any prescription or over-the-counter medications, store them in a locked cupboard or drawer.
2. Check to see if you have any expired or unneeded medications in your home. If you do have these medications, take them to a local medication disposal drop box near your home or business.

If you would like a copy of the complete study summary, visit the Marathon County Alcohol and Other Drug Partnership (AOD) website at [aodpartnership.org](http://aodpartnership.org)

Together, we are making a difference to help reduce and prevent addiction to prescription medications.

**Hundreds of pharmaceuticals have been found in lakes, rivers, and in the drinking water supplies of millions of Americans.**

*Dispose of your unused and expired medications properly. Find a medication drop box at any of these police departments:*

**Wausau • Everest Metro • Kronenwetter • Rothschild  
Colby-Abbotsford • Village of Marathon • Spencer • Edgar**

**SOLID WASTE**  
MARSH TO POLICE

**DROP BOX**  
Marathon County

**AOD**  
PARTNERSHIP

**For more information go to [marathoncountysolidwaste.org](http://marathoncountysolidwaste.org)**  
MCSWD Waste & Recycling Information Line: 877-270-3989

Printing provided by WI Dept of Health Opiate STR Prevention Grant

*You can help! Lock up any medications that you keep in your home.*

# Your Gifts in Action – Thank You!

The Aspirus Health Foundation is grateful for your charitable gifts to help patients and families at Aspirus and friends and neighbors in our community. Thank you and more than 3,000 partners, donors, and volunteers for your generosity last year and for your continued support in 2020.

## Aspirus Health Foundation 2019-2020 Board of Directors

Ben Reif, <i>Chair</i>	Brad Peck
Stewart Etten, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Christopher Peterson, M.D.
Ellie Reineck, <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Charles Peth
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Deborah Kane	

## Aspirus Health Foundation Team

John Heisler, <i>SVP/Chief HR Officer</i>
Kalynn Pempek, <i>Executive Director</i>
Kim Smerda, <i>Fund Development Specialist</i>
Lori Artz, <i>Database Specialist</i>
Mary Dobeck, <i>Executive Assistant</i>

# Statement of Financial Position *June 30, 2019*

## Assets

Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,129,965
Current portion of assets limited as to use	
Investments	2,680,000
Pledges receivable	341,000
Prepaid expenses and other	28,587
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>5,179,552</b>
Investments	4,557,417
Noncurrent assets limited as to use	
Investments	24,203,817
Pledges receivable	462,337
Other noncurrent assets	510,252
Property and equipment - Net	0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$34,913,375</b>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:	
Current portion of long-term liabilities - Donor-imposed	\$2,680,000
Accounts payable	0
Other accrued liabilities	226,305
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>2,906,305</b>
Long-term liability - Donor imposed liability	6,771,127
Total liabilities	6,525,226
Net Assets:	
Without donor restrictions:	
Designated by Board for Scholars Program	10,374,396
Undesignated	6,999,916
With donor restrictions	7,861,631
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>25,235,943</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$34,913,375</b>

## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended — June 30, 2019

Changes in net assets:	
Support and revenue:	
Total amounts raised	\$3,975,395
Less - Amounts designated by donors for specific organizations	(3,133,519)
Total contributions	841,876
Investment income	1,375,948
Grant revenue	-
Other income	85,508
Total support and revenue	2,303,332
Expenses:	
Contributions - Community programs	388,443
Program support	280,908
Administrative and general	215,303
Fund-raising	109,843
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>994,497</b>
Increase in net assets	1,308,835
Net asset transfers	0
Net assets at beginning	23,927,108
<b>Net assets at end</b>	<b>\$25,235,943</b>

This is a summarized financial statement presentation. The complete audited financial statement is available upon request.

# Give healing a *home*



You can help keep the lights on and the doors open for guests who stay at the Aspirus Family House by supporting costs that are essential to making this house a home. True cost of a night's stay is \$115.

- \$35 - Supports a family for one night
- \$105 - Supports a family for one night
- \$245 - Supports a family for one week
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Your tax-deductible gift will support vulnerable patients and families who need assistance with housing during a difficult time in their lives.



## Calendar of Events

Show your support for the Aspirus Health Foundation by attending any of a number of important community fundraising events, or get involved by joining a planning committee, donating an auction item, or sponsoring an event. For more information, please visit [aspirus.org/foundation](http://aspirus.org/foundation), call 715-847-2470, or email [ahf@aspirus.org](mailto:ahf@aspirus.org).

### DONOR APPRECIATION *Celebration*

**April 30, 2020**

Annual event to celebrate our donors and the difference they make to advance health and the quality of life for people in our region



### *Women's Golf Classic*

Aspirus Health Foundation

**August 3, 2020**

Aspirus Women's Golf Classic to support our community's health



**November 24 - 29, 2020**

Festival of Trees to support hospice

### Join Us Online

Please visit our web site to learn more about the programs and people your donations are supporting. Connect with us and other partners on our Facebook page. Thank you for making a difference!



**Like us on Facebook!**

[aspirus.org/foundation](http://aspirus.org/foundation)  
715.847.2470  
[ahf@aspirus.org](mailto:ahf@aspirus.org)

*The incredible moment when*

*A husband overcoming loss finds laughter.*

*A child struggling with fitting-in finds a friend.*

*A new mother fighting cancer finds hope.*

You have the power to change worlds. Supporting the **Aspirus Health Foundation** makes a direct impact on the well-being of our local families and communities.

Get involved at [aspirus.org/foundation](http://aspirus.org/foundation)

