

Momentum.

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation Newsletter

Volume 15 / Winter 2018

Mary Free Bed[®]
Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2, 6-9 p.m.
A Mary Evening at Olive's
Fundraiser to support Mary Free Bed
Betty Bloomer Ford Cancer
Rehabilitation Program
Olive's Restaurant, East Grand Rapids

April 15-June 28
Fine Arts Exhibition
Sponsored by Mary Free Bed Guild
Mary Free Bed
Professional Office Building

May 8, noon-1 p.m.
Let Freedom Spring Fundraising Luncheon
Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park

May 12
Fifth Third River Bank Run
25K Wheelchair and
Handcycle Divisions
Sponsored by Mary Free Bed Guild,
Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports
Downtown Grand Rapids

June 4
Golf Outing
Proceeds benefit
Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports
Thousand Oaks Golf Club

WHAT'S NEW

HOPE AND FREEDOM TAKE CENTER STAGE AT FOURTH ANNUAL MARY FREE BED GALA

When Amarie Smith came to Mary Free Bed for rehabilitation, the normally energetic first-grader was anything but.

In the fall of 2016, Amarie and her family had battled the flu, but while her parents and twin sister got better, Amarie got worse. She eventually became so disoriented, her frightened parents made a late-night drive to Grand Rapids and the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital emergency department.

After several tests, doctors diagnosed Amarie with encephalitis, an infection that causes swelling and inflammation in the brain.

The serious condition can result in permanent brain damage and even death. She spent 12 days at the acute care hospital, where Dr. A.J. Rush, a pediatric physiatrist, saw Amarie before transferring her on Nov. 23, 2016 to Mary Free Bed under his care.

"When I first saw Amarie, she was in a vegetative state and storming," said Rush, an expert and frequent lecturer on the phenomenon more often seen in patients with traumatic or anoxic brain injuries. "Patients who are storming can't control their autonomic nervous system - their blood pressure and respiratory rate often spike, they may have spasms, are agitated, appear to be in pain, are very sweaty, burn a lot of calories very quickly and lose weight rather rapidly. It's something we want to get under control as soon as possible."

When Amarie was transferred to Mary Free Bed, her condition still hadn't changed, Rush said. He took an

Continued on page 2

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

The fifth annual
Mary Free Bed
Foundation Gala is
Saturday, Nov. 3
at DeVos Place.

A MARY TOUR

MARY FREE BED TOURS

All tours begin at 11 a.m.
Reservations are required; please email
foundation@maryfreebed.com or
call 616.840.8137.

Feb. 13	June 19
March 20	July 11
April 11	Aug. 14
May 22	Sept. 18

Continued from cover

aggressive approach with three medications simultaneously to control the severity and duration of her symptoms. Thankfully, it worked and she began to wake up.

During the month she spent as a patient in Mary Free Bed's Pediatric Program, Amarie slowly gained strength and showed cognitive improvements with daily physical, occupational, speech-language and recreational therapies. Her twin, Adalie, participated in several therapy sessions with her sister.

She's also the one who inspired Amarie's first word after she began to get better. The girls shared the story with those gathered at the Mary Free Bed Foundation Gala in November.

Adalie came to visit one day and got up on Amarie's bed.

"All I wanted to say was 'Adalie,' so I did," the vivacious 7-year-old told the crowd of 860.

The twins and their parents, Tesfa and Brooke, were guests of honor at the Mary Free Bed Foundation's annual fundraising event, which helps support programs, therapies and patient care that restore hope, freedom and independence.

It was the promise of hope that gave the Smiths faith in the care Amarie would receive at Mary Free Bed.

"We were confident we were going to be OK," Brooke said. "We will never take for granted how blessed we are."

The Smith family's story of Amarie's amazing recovery with help from Mary Free Bed's Pediatric Inpatient Program reflected the inspirational and festive mood of the evening. The fourth annual event raised \$275,000 for the Mary Free Bed Foundation to support numerous specialized hospital programs, including pediatric, spinal cord injury, brain injury and cancer rehabilitation.

Once again emceed by Tim Cusack, guests feasted and toasted, posed for pictures in the photo booth and danced the night away at DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids. Unfortunately, special guest Ben Vereen was unable to attend. The Tony Award-winning entertainer recently had spinal cord surgery and was not ready for travel, according to his spokesperson.

Guests were instead treated to an amazing performance by Chelsea Emma Franko, an actress and singer performing in "Wicked." A tour of the popular Broadway show happened to be playing at DeVos Performance Hall - the neighboring venue - and the talented Ms. Franko graciously stopped by to perform a selection of tunes.

Turn to pages 4 and 5 to see a gallery of photos from the event.

MARY FREE BED MOMENT

HEROES BASH CELEBRATES MARY FREE BED'S YOUNGEST PATIENTS



Wonder Woman, Supergirl, Spiderman and The Hulk joined a slew of their superhero friends for the inaugural "Heroes Bash," a gala honoring Mary Free Bed pediatric patients.

The superhero-themed event, organized by the Pediatric Program's inpatient therapy team, drew more than 150 current and former patients and their families as well as physicians, therapists, nurses and caregivers to the fun and energy-filled Oct. 20 event.

Current patients and many who graduated last year were able to meet alumni of the program now in their teens and early 20s. Pediatric occupational therapist Penny Adams, the event's chief organizer, said she hoped those who shared their personal rehabilitation journeys would provide "proof that there is light at the end of the tunnel."

"It was all about giving hope to patients and families who have experienced a medical situation that required them to need extensive rehab," Adams said. "The rehab journey can be long and hard, so we gathered some graduates of our pediatric program to come and share their success stories."

Guests were greeted by correspondents on a red carpet before heading inside for activities, including face-painting, caricature drawing and interactive photo booths featuring a Hulk Smash Wall and a "flying superhero" skyline. Following a program and taco bar dinner donated by Johnny Brann Jr.'s Kitchen 67, Starr Sutton, a pediatric physical therapy assistant who moonlights as a DJ, played music that filled the dance floor in the Meijer Conference Center.

"It's important to celebrate our patients, who have gone on to be successful despite many hardships that have come their way," Adams said.



2017 Mary Free Bed Foundation Gala

THANK YOU, SPONSORS

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AdvisaCare
Ken Betz

PRODUCER

Dave and Carol Burgess
Kate Pew Wolters

SUPPORTING ACTOR

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SPECIAL THANKS

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2017 MARY FREE BED FOUNDATION GALA



The Smith family, from left, Amarie, Brooke, Adalie, Tesfa and Shiloe



Zach and Andrea Dennis with Lori and Richard Hinkley



Darci Luyk, Kevin Bennett and Paula Hendriksen



Vicky Schmidt, Pat Besta, Valerie Wallace and Lee Montgomery



Amanda and Adam Lamos



Tim and Nancy Albers with Carroll and Peter Perez



Vincenzo Tocco, Sophia Bong, Christine Tocco, Laura Moeslein, Bill Moeslein, John G. Prosser II



Kent Riddle



Mike and Lynette Ellis, Anne and Steve Aldrich



Jocelyn Dettloff, Susan Riddle, Dalasia Jackson and Diana Potter



Chelsea Emma Franko



Jim and Carol Gehrke, Barry Lilly, Judy Dunten, Sue Tiggleman, Sheryl Lilly, Kay and Bill Farr



Dan James, Adrian Copeland, Martha Levandowski, Judy Bouley

GIFTS & GRANTS

The Mary Free Bed Foundation is privileged to partner with grant-making organizations and corporations. A few recent highlights:

DOORNINK FOUNDATION GIFT LAUNCHES MUSIC THERAPY AT MARY FREE BED

Music has been called a universal language that anyone can understand, and it's now a key part of patient care at Mary Free Bed. A generous gift from the Doornink Foundation enabled the hospital to provide a Music Therapy Program that improves rehabilitation outcomes.



Peter Muszkiewicz is a board-certified music therapist hired to work with patients in tandem with physical, occupational, speech-language and recreational therapies. The Music Therapy Program provides live-music experiences to facilitate recovery from a traumatic illness or injury. Muszkiewicz works with more than 20 patients of all ages each week to address physical and emotional needs. For example, he uses rhythm-based techniques to improve a patient's symmetry, timing and stability when walking.

"We thought about music therapy, because when my father had a stroke years ago, a music program was helpful," said Shelly Corl, a trustee of the Doornink Foundation. "Our family loves music and thought it fitting to give this gift to Mary Free Bed to help assist in the recovery of many of its patients. We are most grateful to be able to gift this program, because Mary Free Bed has given a great deal to our family."

AMWAY ONCE AGAIN BOOSTS NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT FOR KIDS

Mary Free Bed's Pediatric Outpatient Feeding Program will continue to help more children receive the nutrition they need thanks once again to a \$20,000 grant awarded through Amway's One by One Campaign for Children. The generous grant enables Mary Free Bed to expand registered dietitian services to evaluate children's nutritional needs and provide individualized therapy and education for each child's caregiver. The grant also funds the purchase of educational take-home materials, such as placemats and plates, and nutritional information to reinforce skills learned in the program. The program helps newborns to 18 year olds with eating or swallowing difficulties.



PEDS PROGRAM HAS NEW TOYS FOR THERAPY, THANKS TO GENEROUS GIFT FROM MAPLES, KAMPFSCHULTE

Patients in Mary Free Bed's Pediatric Outpatient Program have some fun new educational toys to help them reach their therapy goals. A generous gift from Dr. Dayle Maples and her husband, David Kampfschulte, enabled the therapy team to go on a fun shopping spree to purchase toys and games that can be used during therapy with infants to adolescents.



"I looked for an area of giving that would enhance not only the therapists' resources but one that would delight and engage our smallest patients," Maples said. "As they reach for – with their therapists' and parents' guidance – new developmental goals and mastery of their worlds, the surroundings should be fun as well as therapeutic. Whenever possible, hope should be fun!"

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ADVISACARE SUPPORTS MARY FREE BED'S MISSION



Kris and Dana Skogen, Darrow Goodspeed and Marty Buschle

When asked why AdvisaCare chooses to support Mary Free Bed, owners Kris and Dana Skogen said they "can't imagine our world without Mary Free Bed."

AdvisaCare, a home health care company based in Grand Rapids, sponsors the Mary Free Bed Foundation Gala, the Let Freedom Spring luncheon and the Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports Golf Outing.

"As a company, we work every day to make the world a better place," Kris Skogen said. "Supporting Mary Free Bed gives our AdvisaCare family another opportunity to do just that."

When people experience a life-altering injury, accident or illness, they have no idea what lies ahead. The Skogens know one of the most important things AdvisaCare can do is provide resources to Mary Free Bed so its highly skilled therapists, nurses, doctors and staff can use their gifts to work with patients on their road to recovery.

AdvisaCare, which also has offices in Arizona, Nevada and Washington, provides program support that has given athletes the opportunity to participate in wheelchair and adaptive sports, and assisted patients with costs that insurance may not cover.

Restoring hope and freedom is powerful.

"By giving to Mary Free Bed," Kris Skogen said, "we get to share in that feeling every day."

GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

MARY FREE BED GUILD PROVIDES COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Mary Free Bed Guild of 120 women governs the flagship hospital in Grand Rapids yet also provides tremendous assistance with thousands of volunteer hours, expert guidance and program support. While the generous heart and giving spirit of the guild is felt daily at Mary Free Bed, its desire to further the quality of life for people with disabilities reaches far beyond the hospital's walls.

Each year, the guild awards scholarships to students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing a degree in the health care field. Additionally, scholarships also are awarded to students with disabilities who are pursuing higher education.

In the broader community, the guild recently collaborated with the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids to name and create the Mary Free Bed YMCA – the world's first universally-designed certified health and wellness facility for people of all abilities. John Ball Zoo received assistance from the guild to build its Waterfall Pathway, a winding elevated walkway that meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. Ronald McDonald House of West Michigan was able to install a sidewalk ice-melt system at its front entrance. And Indian Trails Camp received support for programs that provide recreational camping for children and adults with disabilities.

"The common thread is simple," said Carol Springer, president of the Mary Free Bed Guild. "We support organizations that complement our mission of restoring hope and freedom. By collaborating with these organizations, the guild helps create a society where people of all abilities can easily participate in the many wonderful experiences and opportunities our community offers."

AWARDS & HONORS

MARY FREE BED FOUNDATION RECEIVES EXCELLENCE IN FUNDRAISING AWARD



Pictured from left are Carol Springer, Mary Free Bed Guild president; foundation members Darrow Goodspeed, Timothy Pietryga, Jocelyn Dettloff and Laura Dulay; guild member Kim Ridings; and CEO Kent Riddle.

The Mary Free Bed Foundation has been honored with the 2017 Excellence in Fundraising Award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals West Michigan Chapter. The award was presented Nov. 15 at the chapter's National Philanthropy Day event at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

National Philanthropy Day, established by President Ronald Reagan in 1986, recognizes the impact of charitable giving and philanthropic engagement.

"We are honored and humbled to be recognized for our fundraising efforts," said Timothy J. Pietryga, vice president for Advancement at the hospital. "In five short years, the generosity of our donors has allowed us to expand our programs to provide hope and freedom to tens of thousands of patients through rehabilitation."

The Mary Free Bed Foundation secures resources to support programs, therapies and care that restore independence to Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital patients. Since its establishment, the foundation has cultivated a development infrastructure featuring planned-giving programs, well-attended signature events and program-specific funds.

The foundation's "Join the Movement" capital campaign, the largest in the hospital's 126-year history, exceeded its \$16 million goal by nearly \$1 million. The campaign supported the \$66.4 million building expansion and renovation project that made Mary Free Bed the fifth-largest freestanding rehabilitation hospital in the United States. Its donor base has grown to more than 5,000 individuals and businesses.

The foundation's team also includes Darrow Goodspeed, Major Gifts and Donor Relations director; Jocelyn Dettloff, Annual Fund director; and Laura Dulay, Sponsorship and Events manager.

The Association of Fundraising Professionals has more than 30,000 members in 233 chapters worldwide, working to advance philanthropy through advocacy, research, education and certification programs. The West Michigan chapter is comprised of more than 180 members.

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CONTACT

Phone: 616.840.8137
Web: maryfreebed.com/foundation
Email: foundation@maryfreebed.com

STAFF

Timothy J. Pietryga
Vice President, Advancement

Darrow Goodspeed
Major Gifts and Donor Relations Director

Jocelyn Dettloff
Annual Fund Director

Laura Dulay
Sponsorship and Events Manager

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FOUNDATION GROWS WITH NEW TEAM MEMBER

Laura Dulay recently joined the Mary Free Bed Foundation as Sponsorship and Events manager. Her primary responsibility is to raise funds on behalf of the Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports



Program. Her previous experience includes fundraising for the American Cancer Society, and acting as director of Alumni & Events for the Archdiocese in Denver, Colo., where she specialized in event-based fundraising, corporate sponsorship, strategy and execution.

Laura is a West Michigan native and Grand Valley State University graduate. She is excited to live close to her family and enjoy life with her husband and children. She is thankful to be a part of the foundation team and looks forward to working with the generous donors who choose to support Mary Free Bed.