

Momentum.

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation Newsletter

Volume 33 / Spring 2024

Mary Free Bed[™]
Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11
Amway River Bank Run 25K
Wheelchair & Handcycle
Divisions

Downtown Grand Rapids
Sponsored by the
Mary Free Bed Guild

June 3
Mary Free Bed Open
Presented by Kent Quality Foods
Thousand Oaks Golf Club
*Benefiting Wheelchair and
Adaptive Sports*

June 22
GR Gran Fondo
Downtown Grand Rapids
*Benefiting Mary Free Bed
Rehabilitation**

**See page 5 for more details*

November 9
Thrive Gala
Presented by Buist Electric
DeVos Place
Benefiting Stroke Rehabilitation



WHAT'S NEW

CELEBRATING COMPASSION: A SUCCESSFUL KICKOFF FOR WITH A MARY HEART

We're thrilled to share the incredible success of our recent *With a Mary Heart* Employee Giving campaign kickoff, an initiative that truly reflects the compassion and dedication that defines Mary Free Bed.

Mary Free Bed team members in Grand Rapids and Saginaw sprung into giving with kickoff events on March 6 and 7. In Grand Rapids, the Mary Free Bed Café transformed into a hub of excitement, with fun games, nutritious food and a sense of unity among the teams. The theme, "Spring Into Giving," celebrated the colorful spirit

of the Mary Free Bed mission and joyful energy surrounding the campaign.

More than 215 employees gave \$105,648 through gifts and pledges to funds including the Employee-to-Employee Giving Fund, Joan Secchia Children's Rehabilitation Hospital and this year's featured fund: the Patient Assistance Fund.

A special message of thanks to CareLinc Medical Equipment & Supply, Cavallo, Consumers Credit Union, Fifth Third Bank and Lake Michigan Credit Union for generously supporting the campaign in a multitude of ways.

SPRING INTO GIVING: CAPTURING MOMENTS OF GENEROSITY



 with a *Mary* heart
Employee Giving Campaign

Thank You
FOR YOUR GIFT
Campaign total to date:
♥ \$105,648 ♥

FUND DESIGNATION:

\$23,658	Joan Secchia Children's Rehabilitation Hospital
\$21,840	Employee-to-Employee Giving
\$19,158	Other Funds
\$16,889	Patient Assistance
\$7,310	Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports
\$4,970	Mary Free Bed at Covenant - Greatest Needs
\$3,725	Recreational Therapy
\$3,341	Mary Free Bed at Covenant Patient Assistance Fund
\$2,260	Full Peds Ahead
\$1,430	Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
\$650	Matthew Fitzpatrick Scholarship Fund
\$265	Mary's Mission
\$152	Mary Free Bed at Covenant Center for Autism

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MICHIGAN MILESTONE

\$50 MILLION GIFT FROM DEVOS FAMILY FOUNDATIONS TRANSFORMS PEDIATRIC HEALTHCARE IN WEST MICHIGAN

In February, leadership from Corewell Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation and Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services came together to announce a landmark \$50 million gift from the DeVos Family. This gift furthers the DeVos Family's longstanding commitment to the health and well-being of children and fosters continued partnerships between the three healthcare organizations.

Each organization will use the gift to support and advance specific programs that enable a world-class continuum of care for the health needs of children.

The DeVos Family's \$5 million gift to Mary Free Bed will help build Joan Secchia Children's Rehabilitation Hospital, a venture created by Mary Free Bed and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The state-of-the-art, freestanding children's rehabilitation hospital will be 100% dedicated to helping all kids achieve the best possible outcome thanks to compassionate collaboration, innovation and interdisciplinary care. Planned for completion in 2026, the hospital will help serve 2,000 to 2,500 additional children each year and increase capacity for outpatient visits by 20 percent.

"West Michigan is daring to dream differently about health care for kids," said Kent Riddle, president and CEO of Mary Free Bed. "With the DeVos Family's support, we're fulfilling a big-hearted promise to our youngest patients and their families. This gift will help bring to life Michigan's first, freestanding children's rehabilitation hospital – an extraordinary step in giving every child the opportunity to reach their greatest potential."

Members of the DeVos Family have a long-standing tradition of supporting children's health. Their work dates back to the late Richard and Helen DeVos, who left a legacy of investing in health care institutions and forging partnerships to better serve children and families.



SCAN THE QR CODE here to learn more about Joan Secchia Children's Rehabilitation Hospital.



MARY MOMENT



ROUND OF A-PAWS FOR MARY FREE BED KIDS

At just 5 years old, Eionn Scott was diagnosed with Wieacker-Wolff and tethered spinal cord syndrome. A related surgery at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital brought Eionn to the Mary Free Bed Kids Pediatric Inpatient Program. As part of her recreational therapy, she met a furry friend, Vandy, a Mary Free Bed animal-assisted therapy dog.

With Vandy and her dedicated therapy team at her side, Eionn is working to walk short distances with her walker, transfer in and out of her wheelchair and use new adaptive equipment.

Animal-assisted therapy engages patients of all ages and abilities in a range of therapeutic settings. Both of our sweet-natured pups, Vandy and Faith, work with recreational therapists to help patients meet specific rehabilitation goals such as improving fine and gross

motor skills, mobility and endurance as well as cognitive function. Plus, their presence alone can lift spirits.

Programs such as animal-assisted therapy and recreational therapy are funded by generous individuals and organizations in our community. Philanthropic gifts to support recreational therapy help us provide and enhance activity-based treatment (such as gardening, woodworking or bicycling). This type of therapy helps patients meet their rehabilitation goals and get back to the activities they love at home. This innovative approach to rehabilitation can also include aquatic therapy, community-reintegration field trips and peer support groups.

To learn more about supporting recreational therapy, please contact Laura Dulay, development director, at laura.dulay@maryfreebed.com.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

THE HEALING PARTNERSHIP OF CONSUMERS CREDIT UNION AND MARY FREE BED

In the realm of health care, partnerships between financial and medical institutions might seem unconventional at first glance. However, when Consumers Credit Union collaborates with Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital, the impact resonates far beyond financial assistance. Through their community partnership, the generosity of Consumers Credit Union not only provides crucial support for patients and their families, but also fosters community well-being.

Some of the pivotal roles Consumers Credit Union has played through the Community Partnership Program include:

- By sponsoring the Mary Free Bed Open, they're making a positive difference in Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports (WAS) programming, offering individuals with disabilities greater opportunities to enjoy the exercise, fun and excitement of recreational activities.
- By sponsoring the Foundation's annual Thrive Gala, Consumers Credit Union directly raises awareness and funds to impact Mary Free Bed's services and compassionate care in our community. Just last year, they generously contributed to the \$230,000 overall total amount raised by guests and sponsors for Mary Free Bed's Center for Autism, serving pediatric patients across the state of Michigan.



Impactful philanthropy is more than a monetary donation, it's also about fostering the spirit of community. Consumers Credit Union did just that when volunteering at Mary Free Bed's Grand Rapids campus for the 2024 With a Mary Heart Employee Giving Campaign. Through their volunteerism (and sweet treats!), Mary Free Bed team members felt the appreciation and gratitude from the community.



SCAN THE QR CODE to learn more about amplifying your organization's impact through Mary Free Bed Foundation's Community Partnership Program.

PEDALING FOR A PURPOSE: CYCLISTS UNITE IN EPIC RACE FOR REHABILITATION

In a remarkable blend of athleticism and altruism, cycling enthusiasts from around the state are gearing up for a massive race with a philanthropic twist. The GR Gran Fondo returns this year on Saturday, June 22, starting and ending in downtown Grand Rapids and offering multiple lengths throughout West Michigan.

Gran Fondo is not just about speed and endurance; it's a powerful fundraiser for Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation, this year's official charity partner of the race. 100% of the fundraising efforts completed by race participants through community fundraising will support our mission of restoring hope and freedom through rehabilitation.

To learn more about joining Team Mary for this year's race, please contact Ashley Koop, Mary Free Bed Foundation event planner, at ashley.koop@maryfreebed.com.



SCAN THE QR CODE to learn more about Gran Fondo and how you can participate in the race for rehabilitation.



Team Mary for the 2018 Gran Fondo

Inside Mary Free Bed

BE INSPIRED AND EMPOWERED TO DIRECT YOUR SUPPORT

Generous donors like you play a critical role in serving more patients and achieving extraordinary outcomes. Every donation we receive is a lifeline, a key to restoring hope, and an investment in brighter futures for everyone we touch.

Did you know that at Mary Free Bed donors have the incredible opportunity to designate their funds to their passions? Whether it's

supporting programs for spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, or stroke rehabilitation, donors can direct their contributions to the areas they care about most.

Check out some ways in which our community has directly provided support for the specialized care patients need to thrive.



On Mother's Day 2023, Michael Joshua had a severe stroke. When he came to Mary Free Bed, he had very little to no speech or physical function. Weeks later, on Father's Day, Michael graduated inpatient therapy with a tremendous amount of his function restored. To say 'thank you' to Mary Free Bed and the incredible team who cared for and worked with Michael, his family made a gift to the Patient Assistance Fund. On February 28, members of the Joshua family, along with friends and Mary Free Bed staff, gathered to acknowledge the Joshua family's generous gift with a plaque dedication.

The Patient Assistance Fund offers patients charitable care to help them achieve the best possible outcome. Gifts directed to this fund provide adaptive equipment, ramps for home accessibility, extended services, caregiver training, travel arrangements, interpretation services and support to meet transitional financial emergencies.



Valentine's Day was all about big hearts and an attitude of gratitude at Mary Free Bed Walker. Our Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) learners and Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) got creative during group activities, kicking off a love-filled holiday with sweet valentines for Mary Free Bed teammates, friends at the Walker Senior Center, and the Walker Police and Fire Departments.

ABA learners receive specialized autism diagnostic and treatment services through the Mary Free Bed Kids Autism Program. At the Foundation's 2023 Thrive Gala, more than 800 guests and sponsors raised \$230,000 in support of the Mary Free Bed Center for Autism.

Full Peds Ahead – An initiative for Mary Free Bed Kids, is focused on transforming rehabilitation for kids by providing them with access to the best possible care. Your donation to Full Peds Ahead supports services in our Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Chronic Pain and Early Development Rehabilitation programs for children. Interdisciplinary teams work with each child and their family to create an individualized treatment plan that's right for them.

WHEELCHAIR & ADAPTIVE SPORTS

INTRODUCING THE MARY FREE BED SONICS GOALBALL TEAM

In partnership with the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI), the Mary Free Bed Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports (WAS) program is thrilled to launch the sport of goalball – a team sport designed specifically for athletes who are blind or visually impaired. Goalball is a unique and inclusive sport that relies on the sense of touch and hearing,



allowing individuals with visual impairments to participate in a team-based athletic activity.

The Mary Free Bed Sonics will be comprised of both seasoned goalball athletes and newcomers to the game, fostering a diverse and dynamic roster. The game was introduced as

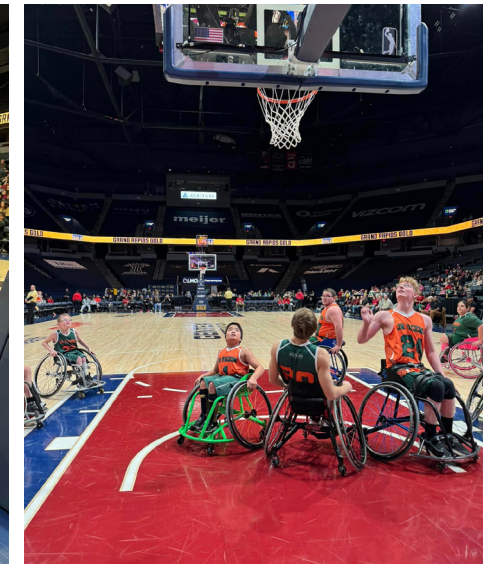
a form of rehabilitation for World War II Veterans with visual impairments, and has since evolved into a widely recognized Paralympic sport. It has gained popularity as a competitive sport at both the national and international levels, with dedicated tournaments and events for goalball.

In each match, three players take the court, with the option of up to three substitutes. The Mary Free Bed Sonics will roster ten athletes with one member serving on Team USA. The team will be coached and practicing weekly with plans to compete in National Tournaments held in Atlanta, Nashville, and Ft. Wayne.

Thank you to an anonymous supporter for funding the startup of goalball in 2024! If you'd like to support goalball, please contact Laura Dulay, development director, at laura.dulay@maryfreebed.com.

JUNIOR PACERS GO FOR GOLD

In February, the Junior Pacers, a Mary Free Bed youth wheelchair basketball team, showcased their basketball skills, talent and spirit on the Grand Rapids Gold court at Van Andel Arena during halftime. Thank you to the Gold for the fun opportunity!



GIFTS & GRANTS

The Mary Free Bed Foundation is grateful for the significant support from the following generous donors and organizations.

- Acrisure
- Bill and Bea Idema Foundation
- Carter Products Company
- Frey Foundation
- Get To Foundation
- Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation

Mary Free Bed

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WISH LIST

If you'd like to fulfill a wish, please contact Darrow Goodspeed at 616.840.8196 or darrow.goodspeed@maryfreebed.com.

Wheelchair Sports Van Trailer Hitch

Our wheelchair sports teams use a specialized bus to travel for competition and to transport campers offsite to local venues for sled hockey and kayaking at Jr. Wheelchair Sports Camp. When the bus is full of passengers, the trailer would be used to transport sports chairs, equipment, and luggage. The hitch will allow us to use the trailer for extra storage and provide the most efficient travel and program logistics. *(\$1,300)*

REAL i-Series Virtual Reality System

This comprehensive virtual reality headset offers patients an escape from the hospital setting which can sometimes cause increased anxiety. This headset would provide our patients with mindfulness, relaxation and social connection applications. Plus, it could be used in sessions to actively engage patients in an 'escape' from the hospital and into real-life landscapes via visual and auditory stimulation. This headset could be used by patients of all ages and diagnoses such as spinal cord and brain injury, stroke, amputation and cancer. *(\$1,100)*

Traveling Zoo Visits from John Ball Zoo

Enable both adult and pediatric patients to enjoy up-close encounters with live animals from John Ball Zoo during their stay at Mary Free Bed. These visits provide joy and positive interaction to our patients at a time when they need it the most. *(\$500 covers four visits)*

General Purpose Gripping Aid

The Recreational Therapy team needs two sets of active hand gloves for individuals with limited hand function or grip strength. The gloves help patients carry out daily tasks and activities independently – such as grasping objects, opening containers, holding fishing poles or working with tools. By providing this level of functionality, the gloves not only restore confidence in individuals' abilities but also enable them to rediscover the joy of pursuing their favorite activities. *(\$260/set)*

