

# GENEROSITY IN ACTION

2023 IN REVIEW



 Advocate Health Care®  
Charitable Foundation

 Aurora Health Care®  
Foundation

Now part of  **ADVOCATEHEALTH**



# THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT



## You're helping people live fully

With your support, 2023 was an incredible year—with more than \$46 million raised to fund vital programs, resources and innovations that impact our patients, teammates and communities across Illinois and Wisconsin. Enclosed are inspiring stories that illustrate the positive difference that is made possible through philanthropy. While this only represents a handful of ways donors like you have made an impact, know that your generosity is making a difference across all of our communities.



No matter what you give to or how you support us, your generosity means so much. Thank you for your partnership—you've helped make a difference and have helped people live fully.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Leslie Winger'.

Leslie Winger  
*President*  
*Advocate Charitable Foundation*  
*Aurora Health Care Foundation*



# PHILANTHROPY

## HELPS EXPAND OUR IMPACT



### How your donation helps further our pledges

At Advocate Health, we are more than just a health care organization; we are a force for positive change. We are committed to six pledges that guide our actions and reflect our values. Philanthropy is essential to our ability to deliver on these pledges to help people live fully.



#### Elevate Clinical Preeminence & Safety

We provide safe, compassionate and high-quality care to every patient, every time. Your philanthropy enables us to expand our services, secure new technology, enhance our facilities and magnify innovation.



#### Advance Health Equity

We disrupt the root causes of health inequities and ensure equitable access to care and services for all. Charitable gifts help us address the social determinants of health and improve access to care for all.



#### Improve Affordability

We make care more affordable and accessible for our patients and communities. Your donations support education, screening and prevention services in the community, as well as fund charity care.



#### Build Next Generation Workforce

We create jobs, enhance career opportunities and train the future leaders of health care. Charitable gifts support professional development, education and training of our current and future teammates.



#### Accelerate Learning & Discovery

We advance the science of medicine and translate research into better care, prevention and treatment. Philanthropy supports research clinical trials and innovative solutions.



#### Lead Environmental Sustainability

We protect the environment and reduce our carbon footprint for the health of our planet and people. Your investment help us implement green initiatives, sustainability practices and energy reduction.





# YOUR 2023 IMPACT



MORE THAN  
**\$46 million**  
in gifts received from  
generous donors to the  
Advocate Charitable  
Foundation and Aurora  
Health Care Foundation



**\$5.9 billion**  
provided in community  
benefits in 2022

OVER  
**\$39 million**  
distributed across Illinois  
and Wisconsin to support  
and enhance vital programs,  
education, equipment and  
innovations to better care for  
our patients, teammates and  
communities



MORE THAN  
**\$2.3 million**  
funded research in areas such  
as cardiac care, oncology,  
neurology and more



OVER  
**\$4.4 million**  
contributed by teammates in  
Illinois and Wisconsin through  
Advocate Health Gives



**\$16.18 million**  
donated to support our  
health equity efforts in  
Illinois and Wisconsin



WHAT AN  
**IMPACT WE'VE  
MADE TOGETHER**



# YOU'RE A PART OF LIFESAVING CARE






## Your support is saving lives like Yana's

In June of 2023, Yana and Mike were ready to welcome their first child into the world at Advocate Sherman Hospital. As Yana was about to give birth, she experienced a sudden, unpredictable, and rare condition called an amniotic fluid embolism (AFE), which occurs when amniotic fluid enters the mother's bloodstream, causing an acute reaction in the mother. AFE is a rare condition that is extremely difficult to treat. The mortality rate is as high as 80% and 50% of deaths occur within the first hour of symptom onset. For those that do survive, lifelong neurological deficits are common.

Thankfully, through philanthropic support, Yana's labor and delivery team had recently practiced an amniotic fluid embolism simulation in the Taffy and Bill Hoffer Simulation Lab. Because of the simulation training, her care team was able to quickly identify her condition, deliver her baby, and save Yana's life. By nothing short of a miracle, Yana and Mike were able to leave the hospital together as a family just three days after baby Michael was born, without long-term complications.



## Because of your support:

-  The **Trauma Recovery Center** in Illinois **served** more than **2,100 patients** through a combination of inpatient support and outpatient services.
-  Over **\$1.1 million** funded education and professional development opportunities for teammates, nurses and physicians.
-  More than **4,200 patients were cared for at Aurora Walker's Point Clinic**, the largest free clinic in Wisconsin.
-  Individuals recovering from addiction are provided **financial assistance** for a sober living space through the **Culver Alumni House** on the Aurora Behavioral Health campus.
-  The newly FDA-approved **iNod robotic technology** was funded at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, helping improve the diagnostic yield of peripheral nodule lung cancer biopsies. This technology also eliminates the need for a second procedure, reduces complications and improves patient experience.

“Simulation offers scheduled, valuable learning experiences that are difficult to obtain in real life and can be repeated as often as needed. Learners have the freedom to make mistakes, and learn from them via detailed feedback, without causing any harm to others. This type of learning is making us better as caregivers, builds confidence, and can even save lives.”

**Susan Morby**  
Chief Nursing Officer  
Advocate Sherman Hospital



# YOU'RE HELPING PEOPLE THRIVE

## Making sure patients in need have access to healthy food

Advocate Health Care recently launched a new initiative to reduce food insecurity – and thereby improve health outcomes – for patients in need across its Illinois hospital campuses. Through the support of philanthropy, Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington provides fresh produce harvested from its two-acre Smart Farm directly to in-need patients of Advocate Trinity Hospital, located on Chicago's South Side.

The Smart Farm delivers fresh produce to Advocate Trinity's Food Farmacy every other week through the growing season. The produce changes seasonally, and each bi-weekly delivery is informed by what Food Farmacy users said they need most.



By creating greater access to locally grown produce using organic practices, Advocate aims to close the health disparity gap among South Chicagoland patients who experience disproportionately high rates of diabetes, high blood pressure and stroke. An estimated 40 percent of health outcomes are influenced by social determinants of health, including food insecurity.

“Health care shouldn't stop when you leave the four walls of your doctor's office or the hospital,” explained Dr. Julie Taylor, a family medicine physician who refers patients to the Food Farmacy. “As health care providers, we need to look at and support our patients through the many, smaller decisions made each day that impact our wellness today and shape what our health will look like in the future.”

This new multi-hospital collaboration builds upon Advocate Good Shepherd's farm-to-patient efforts to assist the 10 percent of northern Illinois residents who are at risk of food insecurity. Recent

community impact reports show 13 percent of South Chicagoland residents are at risk of food insecurity.

“During last year's growing season, we grew more than eight tons of fresh produce, which is enough for more than 14,500 meals,” said Chloe Goodman, project leader and administrative fellow at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. “Offering fresh produce helps us address the root causes of illness, support patients managing chronic illnesses, like diabetes or heart disease, where diet plays a big role and move toward prevention.”

*The Healthy Living Food Farmacy program launched in 2018, providing fresh produce to 30 Advocate Trinity Hospital patients. Five years later, the program expanded to Advocate Children's Hospital - Oak Lawn, Advocate Christ Medical Center and Advocate South Suburban Hospital, serving more than 450 patients monthly. This program is made possible through philanthropy.*

“We are beyond grateful for the generous donors who support Food Farmacy. Because of the donations, we have been able to make a large impact in the lives of the patients and communities we serve. We have been able to increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables and add proteins to our distributions. Without this support, we would not be able to do the work we do helping patients on their journeys to living well, eating healthier and managing their chronic health conditions.”

**Melinda Harville**  
Community Health Manager  
Chicagoland Patient Service Area



# YOU'RE HELPING PEOPLE THRIVE

## Because of your support:



The **exoskeleton**, a wearable robotic device that helps patients rehabilitate from neurological conditions such as strokes or multiple sclerosis, was funded at three sites.



Over 40 participants joined **Team Phoenix**, a Milwaukee-based breast cancer survivorship program that helps patients regain endurance, strength, flexibility and overall wellness after cancer treatment, and culminates in participants completing a mini-triathlon.



Several resources and programs have been made possible to help support individuals and families on their **grief journey**, including specialized newsletters, support groups, children's grief camps, resources for families experiencing pregnancy and infant loss and more.



**Art therapy** is provided at multiple sites across Illinois and Wisconsin, supporting cancer care patients, pediatric patients, survivors of abuse and more.



Advocate Lutheran General Hospital's **Cancer Survivorship Center celebrated its 10-year anniversary** of providing patient-centered care through comprehensive, holistic support for patients, family members and caregivers throughout their journey.



**Beads of Courage**, an arts-in-medicine program which helps children and families cope with serious illness, was made possible to NICU families and pediatric patients at Advocate Children's Hospital and Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital.



**Integrative medicine** is available at multiple sites, providing patients with access to therapies such as acupuncture, massage, aromatherapy and more.





# YOU'RE MAKING **NEW** **SPACES** POSSIBLE

## **Your gifts provide room for survivors of sexual and domestic violence to heal and thrive**

For more than 35 years, survivors of sexual and domestic violence in the Milwaukee area and beyond have had a single source to turn to for crisis care, support services and resources: Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services (AHAS). Supported by philanthropy, all AHAS services are available to survivors free of charge.

AHAS includes The Sexual Assault Treatment Center at Aurora Sinai Medical Center, Safe Mom Safe Baby, which

serves the unique needs of pregnant women experiencing domestic violence, and The Healing Center, which provides short and long-term trauma therapy. In 2023, The Healing Center held more than 4,000 group and individual counseling sessions and is on the path to complete even more this year.

Last October, with the support of generous donors, The Healing Center reopened in a new, larger space on the Aurora Sinai campus.

“This would not have been possible without charitable gifts. Thanks to our donors, survivors now have access to a more modern space where they can work with therapists individually or in groups as they heal,” explained Sharain Anderson, Associate Vice President of Social Health, “The new space is also close to more services, such as the AHAS clinic and primary care.”

The trauma-informed counseling and support groups offered at The Healing Center help survivors and their loved ones identify the impact of their abuse, develop healthy coping strategies and build confidence and resilience.

AHAS is one of only a few treatment programs of its kind in the country that is part of a health care system. This means survivors receive medical care, support and advocacy from the time of crisis and throughout their healing journey – no matter how long they need it.

Philanthropy supports compassionate counselors and allows us to sustain and grow our services to meet the needs of our diverse patients. Thank you for making this unique and critical care possible in our community.



“I want to express my deepest gratitude for your incredible generosity and support. Your contributions have made it possible for us to create a safe and nurturing space for survivors of violence to find support, healing and hope. Without your kindness and commitment, none of this would be possible. On behalf of The Healing Center, the survivors we serve and the entire community, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for believing in our mission and standing with us in solidarity. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of those we serve.”

**Simmone Kilgore**  
Manager of Healing Counseling  
Aurora Healing & Advocacy Services



# YOU'RE MAKING **NEW SPACES** POSSIBLE

## Because of your support:



A 4,000-square-foot **Ronald McDonald Family Room** opened at Advocate Children's Hospital - Park Ridge, providing patient families with a place of respite during their child's hospitalization.



The installation of a **new, expansive healing garden** at Aurora Medical Center - Bay Area began.



**A new art room**, with nearly triple the space, was completed at Kradwell School, an alternative school located on the Aurora Behavioral Health campus in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, providing students the space for creating, learning, and healing.



The **mobile health program** launched in Milwaukee, with **more than 2,500 patient encounters** across the area in its first year, helping us better serve those with barriers to care.



Behavioral health patients at the Aurora Medical Center - Sheboygan County were provided with a **dedicated healing garden space**, allowing them to safely get fresh air during their inpatient stay.



The **Emergency Department expansion and renovation project** at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center is underway, which will feature several new specialized patient and teammate rooms.



A campaign to expand the **dental center** and increase patient access at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center began, which provides dental care for patients with special needs and medical complexity.



**Two hospice suites** were made possible at Aurora Medical Center - Kenosha in memory of Dr. A.J. Capelli, enabling hospice patients to stay **close to home**.





# WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Research shows that music has a profound effect on both our physical and mental health. Our Certified Music Practitioner (CMP) tailors each session to meet specific patient needs in a gentle, non-interventional and non-pharmacological manner. Advocate Sherman Hospital's therapeutic music program only exists because of the generosity of donors.

"One day I was at the hospital visiting my mother. We were in the hallway as the doctor told us the tests showed my mom's lungs were too damaged for further treatment. I was an absolute mess. I heard beautiful music and could make out a harp behind the nurses' station. The whole time the doctor was talking, the woman was playing gentle, compassionate music. I felt scared, hopeless and so sad, but the music was soothing and comforting. The music made me feel peaceful and soothed even though my world was falling apart around me. Music can heal and bring you to another place when you think you have nothing left."

**Jamie**

Grateful family member of  
Advocate Sherman Hospital's  
Musicians Care program



Advocate Children's Hospital recently became one of just a few programs in the region to offer advanced fetal echocardiograms using a new state-of-the-art technology, the Volusion Expert 22 ultrasound system equipped with fetalHQ software. Made possible through a generous donation by the Busking family, this new system takes fetal echocardiography to the next level, ensuring the most advanced diagnostic capabilities for fetal hearts. Valerie's son, John, was diagnosed with Tetralogy of Fallot, a rare and critical congenital heart defect, using the technology.



"If this device hadn't been available, I'm not sure how our journey would have turned out. We're so grateful to the donors who make the latest technology possible and for our incredible care team. They're saving lives every day."

**Valerie**

Grateful parent of Advocate Children's Hospital



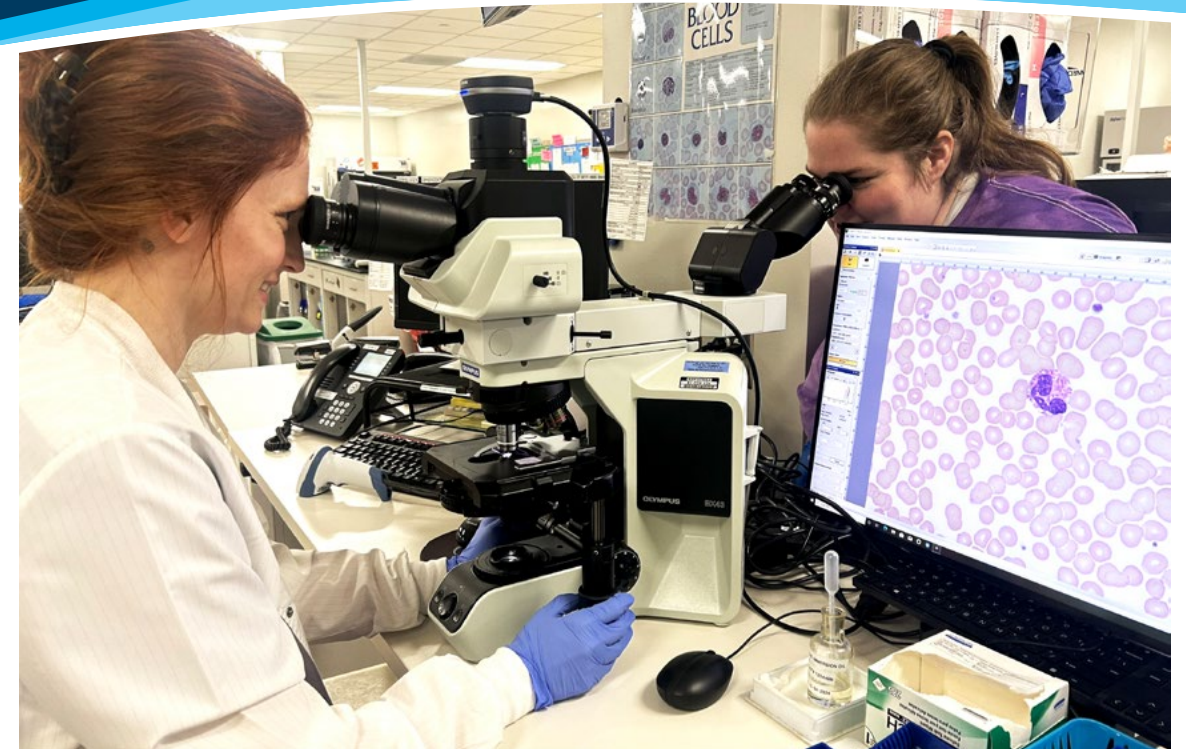
# WORDS OF GRATITUDE

The exoskeleton is designed to help neuro-rehab patients by reteaching the brain and muscles how to properly walk again. It can be used for a variety of patients, such as those who've had a stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis and walking or balance-related impairments. Therapists can set training targets and adjust resistance levels to fit each patient and their unique situation. The exoskeleton provides data that allows them to make adjustments, give feedback and track progress.



“Without the exoskeleton, I would not have had a positive attitude for any type of potential recovery. The benefit of using the exoskeleton is that it provides my body the opportunity to further heal and possibly aid in some form of nerve regeneration. Thank you for helping me improve and for giving this small town, big technology.”

**Michele**  
Grateful patient of Aurora Medical Center - Sheboygan County



Aurora Medical Center - Bay Area lab staff provide services for inpatients and emergent patients, but also analyze samples from cancer care, surgery, specialty clinics and some outreach client specimens. Through donor support, a teaching digital microscope was funded for the laboratory, improving the experience for laboratory technician students learning at the hospital and their preceptors, while also providing better quality images for clinicians diagnosing our patients.

“Having a teaching digital microscope in the laboratory is an amazing improvement to our teaching experience, allowing both preceptor and student to observe and assess the same image. Additionally, current team members are able to collaborate with others in the department to obtain a secondary review and confirmation of observed images. In turn, this provides our clinicians with the most reliable and accurate information to diagnose and treat our patients. This is a huge win for our department and our patients. I could not be more excited! Our entire team sends our heartfelt thanks to the donor who made this possible.”

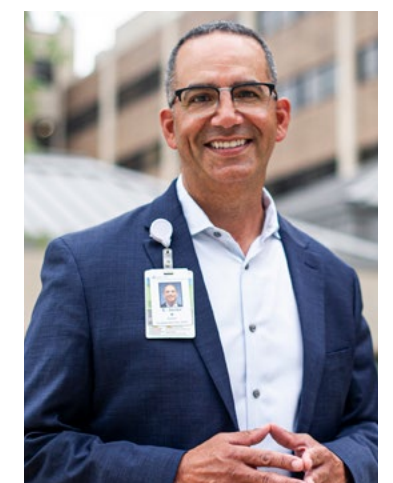
**Kara Brown**  
Director, Laboratory Services  
Aurora Medical Center - Bay Area



# THANK YOU

To learn more about how Advocate Charitable Foundation and Aurora Health Care Foundation are impacting care for your family, friends and neighbors, please contact [giving@aah.org](mailto:giving@aah.org) or visit [aah.org/foundations](http://aah.org/foundations).

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Now part of  **ADVOCATEHEALTH**