

Spirit of Giving

Summer 2021

New mascot racing-themed patient room honors the memory of a former patient

"You were given this life because you are strong enough to live it." - Ain Eineziz

Staying in the hospital can be a scary and stressful experience, especially for kids. The themed patient rooms at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent are fully funded by donors, and have been proven to help kids cope better with their hospitalization and recover more quickly. Themed rooms provide distractions, opportunities for learning, and conversation starters for family and other visitors.

A new mascot racing themed patient room was unveiled in May at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital, which was created in memory of "Iron Man Michael" Wanser. Michael's family spearheaded efforts to create this new room after Michael lost his battle with acute myeloid leukemia in 2011 at age 6. Michael's father, Barry Wanser, is the team manager for Chip Ganassi Racing, making a racing and Indianapolis mascot themed room a natural fit.



"Iron Man Michael" Wanser posing 4 days before his 6th birthday



The new mascot themed room at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent

The room features images of Indianapolis-based professional sports team mascots, along with Iron Man, who was Michael's favorite superhero, and Indiana landmarks such as the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Lucas Oil Stadium, and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Michael enjoyed connecting with his friends virtually by playing games on the Xbox and playing in-person against race car drivers, Scott Dixon, Dario Franchitti and Dan Wheldon. **The Wansers were intentional on including upgraded items, from a custom sofa to the technology features of a parent TV, patient ceiling TV, and loaded Xbox system, in the room.** Michael's legacy continues as this special room will have a lasting impact on future patients.

"It's absolutely incredible and it's beyond what we thought it was going to be. We know that Michael would be proud."

— Barry Wanser, Michael's dad

"I see joy... the city, the mascots, racing, the month of May, gaming, technology. I hope that Michael's spirit just empowers whoever comes into his room."

— Laurie Wanser, Michael's mom



Scott Dixon, Laurie Wanser and Barry Wanser at the room dedication on May 13, 2021

14th annual Celebration of Caring Gala honored healthcare heroes and supported patients

In a year unlike any other, frontline caregivers at Ascension St. Vincent went above and beyond the call of duty to keep the community healthy and safe. **These heroic individuals were honored and celebrated during the 14th annual Celebration of Caring Gala**, which was virtually held in February. Peyton Manning served as the host for the evening, and Brad Paisley was the entertainer.

"I am especially proud and inspired by the dedication and commitment of our entire hospital team during the past year, as they have faced unprecedented challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic." - Peyton Manning

As part of the livestream event, **gala sponsors and donors honored these dedicated heroes through Mission Alignment Opportunities** as a way of thanking them for their efforts during the challenging times of this past year. Below are just a few examples of how sponsors and donors said 'thank you':

- Over 1,900 meals were provided to frontline caregivers
- Baked goods and a coffee cart kept staff fueled and energized
- Flowers were enjoyed by many associates

Thank you to our Signature Sponsors, gala sponsors and the many donors who contributed to these acts of support for frontline care team members. In addition to the generosity experienced through the Mission Alignment Opportunities, **over \$625,000 was raised to benefit important programs and services at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent.**



Thank you for helping us honor our heroes, both big and small.



Associates at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital receiving Mission Alignment Opportunities from the 2021 Celebration of Caring Gala

Thank You Sponsors

Thank you to the following sponsors of the 2021 Celebration of Caring Gala. Because of you, over \$625,000 was raised for Peyton Manning Children's Hospital and will directly impact children in need.

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Your gifts matter

Here are a few things made possible last year because of you—thank you!

Over **23,000 meals** were provided for frontline care team members, including special meals for associates who worked on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years holidays.



Approximately **4,680 adult and pediatric patients** benefited from the **Healing Arts Program** through art, music and dance/movement therapy programs available.



200 patients ranging from kindergarten through college benefited from **3,700 visits through the School Program** at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent.



The Ascension St. Vincent House served **2,421 families from 41 states** in 2020, and recently celebrated its fourth anniversary.



327 patients representing 42 different zip codes **were served through the Infant and Maternal Health Advocate Program.**

To learn more about your impact on important programs and services at Ascension St. Vincent, visit give.stvincent.org/publications or scan the QR code to read our 2020 Impact Report.



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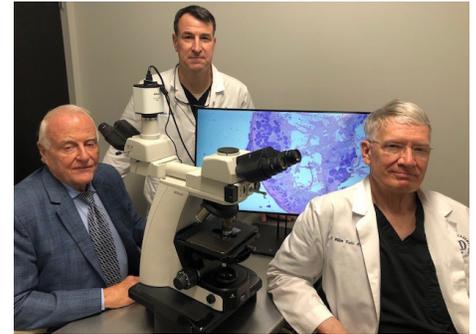
Andy Zirkle,
Development
Operations Officer

New fellowship program created thanks to Family Foundation

A brand new fellowship program has been established thanks to a donation from The Harlan Family Foundation. The donation was designated for the **Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Training Program** at the Laser and Skin Surgery Center of Indiana, and specifically the work of C. William Hanke, MD, MPH, FACP.

As a result of this new partnership, Fellows who complete this program will be designated as "Harlan Family Fellows" for the remainder of their careers. The very first Harlan Family Fellow for the 2020-21 academic year has been Michael S. Dent, MD. Dr. Dent is a retired Navy officer, having served 24 years on active duty, including 10 years as a Naval Flight Officer followed by 14 years as a medical officer. During the 2021-22 academic year, the Harlan Family Fellow will be Elizabeth Sutton, MD. Dr. Sutton graduated from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and trained for three years in dermatology residency at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, including serving as Chief Resident.

The Ascension St. Vincent Foundation is honored to play a role in developing the next generation of physicians specializing in Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology, and is **grateful for the generous support of The Harlan Family Foundation in making possible these new Harlan Family Fellows.**



Hal Harlan, Michael S. Dent, MD, and C. William Hanke MD, MPH, FACP

32 nursing scholarships awarded this year totaling nearly \$230,000

Donor support plays a critical role in ensuring the nurses at Ascension St. Vincent are the best in their field. This year, generosity from donors like you will help further the education of 32 Ascension St. Vincent associates who were awarded nearly \$230,000 in total scholarship funds!

Among the scholarships available, two brand new scholarships were awarded this year:

The new **Tina Luzer Burks, RN, BSN and Keith Burks Nursing Scholarship** is a multi-year award that will provide up to \$25,000 annually to cover the cost of tuition, fees and books for an Ascension St. Vincent nursing scholarship applicant who is pursuing a BSN degree at an accredited nursing school. Lynnetta Mann was selected as the first recipient of this new scholarship. Lynnetta currently works as a certified surgical technician in the operating room at Ascension St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, and is pursuing a BSN degree from Chamberlain College.

Additionally, the new **Logan Widdicombe Nursing Scholarship** was created to assist nurses seeking to further their education who currently work in either the cardiovascular or transplant service lines. Olivia Dell was selected as the recipient of this new scholarship. Olivia works as an RN in the Cardiovascular Trauma Unit, and is pursuing an MSN degree from IUPUI.

Thank you for making a difference for our nurses and the patients they serve!

2021 Ascension St. Vincent Foundation Nursing Scholarship Recipients

ASCENSION ST. VINCENT NURSES SOCIETY EDUCATION FUND SCHOLARSHIP

Tony Myers

HELEN JOHANTGES BLANK NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Nidia Reyes

TINA LUZER BURKS, RN, BSN AND KEITH BURKS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Lynnetta Mann

ELEANOR BOOKWALTER NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Wendy Doran

CAROL B. HITTLE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Stacey Yeo

MARY TOUHY HUMBLE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Susan Gresham
Sarah Nicholson
Shelby Wilham

RYAN HUNNICUTT NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Dawn Ellington

DAVID KASSING NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Keyla Matthews

SALLY BRAZONES KNAPP NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Elizabeth Taylor

MARILYN MATHEW NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Rachel Irrgang

EDITH NIEBERGALL NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Margaret Burke
Haley Minor
Maryl Rosser
Tara White

LOGAN WIDDICOMBE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Olivia Dell

ASCENSION ST. VINCENT FOUNDATION NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Alexa Brenneman
Danielle Demerly
Meagan Hanson
Jamie Hartzell
Raienne Hoggs
Amy Klemann
Asia Long
Nitin Mahajan
Sudha Manepalli
Jacqueline McLean
Bridget Parker
Megan Pillischafske
Armita Whelan
Meghan Willig
Chloe Wright

Donor support provided comfort for one family and thousands more at the Ascension St. Vincent House

The Ascension St. Vincent House serves as a home away from home for families of patients from outside Central Indiana. The Richardson family was among the families served when Eric Richardson underwent an unexpected heart transplant after walking into the hospital on a Friday and being placed on the heart transplant list by Monday.

While Eric sought care, his wife, Dawne, and the rest of Eric's family, found refuge at the Ascension St. Vincent House during a time when they were numb from the experience and overwhelming grief.

"I remember standing in front of our door and reading the plaque on the outside of the door... the one that tells you who donated the room. This meant so much to me, and one of the few memories I have of going in and out of the room. I remember telling Eric later how much it meant for someone to have made it possible for our family to have peace and quiet."

- Dawne Richardson

"When you are living through this experience, the hospital staff encourages you to sleep and take care of yourself. The House is unique in this respect, because I could walk over to sleep while still remaining close to Eric. I simply showed up and all of my needs were met... I was completely taken care of," Dawne shared. **Because of donor support, the Richardson family**



The Richardson family at a community race three months after Eric's heart transplant

was able to seek comfort and rest each day while still remaining close to their loved one. In addition to the Richardson family, the Ascension St. Vincent House served 2,421 families from 41 states in 2020.

Former Peyton Manning Children's Hospital family gives back



The Milhajevic family; Ryan, Amy, Rilynn, and Reese

It was five years ago in December when Ryan and Amy Milhajevic's daughter, Rilynn, underwent an unexpected heart operation when she was only 8 days old.

During her time at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent, Rilynn soon became known among the staff as the little

girl in Room 7 with a full head of hair. The Milhaljevics welcomed many visits from the staff who stopped to chat with the family, and felt the compassionate atmosphere that many patients and families at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital experience themselves.

As a way to thank the caregivers at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital, the Milhajevic family donated a blanket warmer for the pediatric ICU in honor of the 5 year anniversary of Rilynn's surgery.

"The team of doctors, surgeons, nurses and custodial staff made a situation that felt horrible and unbelievable into a memory of many thankful times. As a new parent this was a scary time, but everyone there made the stay more comfortable."

—The Milhajevic family



Picture of the blanket warmer donated by the Milhajevic family to the pediatric ICU at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital

Leaving a lasting legacy

Two donors commit to making a difference for years to come



Paul Walorski and Caryn Wiggins

Paul Walorski and Caryn Wiggins were thinking about their future and wanted to leave a lasting impact. They were inspired to do something that would benefit the health and well-being of future generations. As

a result, Paul and Caryn have included Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in their estate plan.

"While creating our estate plan, we looked for a worthwhile, tax efficient use of unspent retirement funds. We could think of no better cause than helping hospitalized children. Childhood should be a time of play, learning and making new friends. Children suffering from serious

disease or injury have their childhood interrupted and are instead forced to prematurely deal with adult levels of pain and suffering. **Organizations like Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at Ascension St. Vincent provide needed care, comfort and compassion to young patients and their families. After touring the facility and meeting its caring professionals, we saw firsthand how our donation would be going to a charity that best fits our giving objective."**

Planned giving decisions aren't always easy, which is why the Ascension St. Vincent Foundation has made resources available at stvincent.planmylegacy.org. Donor Engagement Officer, Carolyn Small, is also available for any questions you may have regarding current planned giving trends or personal donor plans. Carolyn can be reached at 317-338-5097 or carolyn.small2@ascension.org.

More than 34,000 educated in 3 years at the William K. Nasser, MD, Healthcare Education and Simulation Center

Since 2018, the William K. Nasser, MD, Healthcare Education and Simulation Center has educated more than 34,000 learners across nearly 156,000 hours. As the Simulation Center approaches its 3-year anniversary this July, donor support like yours has made the training and education of thousands possible with patient-caregiver scenarios in a simulated environment.

"Medicine was his absolute calling," Wanda Nasser, widow of Dr. William K. Nasser shares about her late husband's dedication to medicine. The Simulation Center emulates this calling by focusing on enhanced opportunities for learning to ensure Ascension St. Vincent caregivers continue to provide the highest level of care to patients.

In the 3 years since the Simulation Center has been opened, many programs and services have been established, including:

- Creating an innovative pilot program in partnership with Marian University to train 46 students to become clinical assistants within inpatient units
- Hosting an inaugural St. Vincent College of Health Professions Central Sterile Processing Program,

a 16-week certificate course that teaches the concepts behind reprocessing and sterilizing surgical instrumentation

- Hosting key leaders and groups within the medical field for seminars and demonstrations
- Implementing a 2-day Critical Care Cross-Training program for 271 nurses from various backgrounds to support critical care units across all Ascension St. Vincent hospitals to address the COVID-19 patient surge
- Becoming an operational COVID-19 vaccination clinic within a 2-week timeframe to help vaccinate thousands of individuals within the community while continuing to host hands-on skills, simulations and educational programs

The generosity and support from donors like you has helped further the mission of the William K. Nasser, MD, Healthcare Education and Simulation Center to provide patients with the very best and safest care as a result of the exceptional training of their caregivers.

Save the date to support the Ascension St. Vincent House!

Hickory Hall Polo at Sunset | Friday, August 27, 2021

Gates open at 4:30pm | Match begins at 6:00pm
7551 E 100 N, Whitestown, IN 46075

Enjoy this family-friendly event at the Hickory Hall Polo Club that is filled with music, an airplane candy drop, wine pull, silent auction and more. For more information, including sponsorship and ticket opportunities, visit give.stvincent.org/polo.



Ascension St. Vincent Foundation Golf Outing | Monday, August 30, 2021

Registration opens at 11:00am | Shotgun start at 12:30pm
1964 Burning Tree Lane, Carmel, IN 46032

The Ascension St. Vincent Foundation Golf Outing is a fun and competitive event that provides guests an opportunity to play at the nationally recognized golf course, Crooked Stick Golf Club. For more information, including sponsorship and playing opportunities, visit give.stvincent.org/golf.

Order your Peyton Manning Children's Hospital specialty license plate and help stop child abuse

By purchasing the Peyton Manning Children's Hospital specialty license plate, you will help the Child Protection Team provide kids suspected of being abused or neglected with the care they need to live safe, healthy and happy lives.

When renewing your license plate, simply choose the Peyton Manning Children's Hospital specialty license plate. The cost of a specialty license plate is \$40 annually with \$25 being donated back to this critical Ascension St. Vincent program.

Call 317-233-6000 or visit in.gov/bmv to purchase your plate.

