

Spirit of Giving

INSIDE: How you are there for patients and families in body, mind and spirit

Winter 2019

Cancer stole his basketball dreams

YOU were there for him

Isaac was diagnosed with bone cancer the day after Christmas. He was 16.

Just before his diagnosis, he made one of the greatest plays of his life during a high school ball game.

Basketball was his passion. He had plans to play for a Division 1 college and to go pro—it wasn't a pipe dream. All the coaches that knew him would say, "If anyone could do it, it's you, Isaac!"

But his life changed so fast.

Chemo started in January. By March, there was a metal rod in place of his femur and he had a new knee. That is

when the surgeon told him he'd no longer be able to run or jump.

No more basketball.

Isaac's mom was a single mom. He wanted to go pro to take care of her. "I broke down so hard when they gave me the news; as hard as the day I found out I had cancer," said Isaac. "Mom was there. She said, 'You get through this, so you can still be here with us.' "

"Through everything I knew there were people there for me; people working to heal me and people like you working to make this fight a little easier," Isaac said.

Hope and inspiration keep patients alive and fighting; they come in the form of cancer support, research and therapy programs YOU make possible at Ascension St. Vincent.

These things are life-saving.

Today, at age 20, Isaac has a new purpose - to inspire others to stay strong and never give up.



You give hope to Isaac, Hadlea and others facing cancer.

He's in school at the University of Saint Francis and wants to be a Physical Therapy Assistant.

He said, "When my future patients say, 'but you don't understand.' I can look at them and say, 'oh yes I do.' "

Isaac is still fighting cancer. Isaac, and his buddy Hadlea (pictured) rely on programs made possible donors like you.

They are fighting to stay alive. They are blessed to have you fighting with them.

"I knew there were people there for me; people working to heal me and people like you working to make this fight a little easier."



VanFrank and Bercovitz – “Dream Team” to help the poor and vulnerable

Richard is including a gift in his Will

Richard VanFrank wants to invest in the future Medical Education. **He’s doing so by leaving a gift in his Will.**

Patients, families and medical residents at The Joshua Max Simon Primary Care Center (PCC) will benefit from Richard’s kindness.

At the PCC, the most vulnerable patients get excellent care at the hands of residents and their teachers. Richard’s gift will help care for the very poor, and support education for medical students.

Richard came to Ascension St. Vincent as a patient of Dr. Alan Bercovitz (now the Medical Director

at the PCC); they talked after the passing of Richard’s wife, Susan – **that’s when Richard decided to help more.**

Susan received care for vascular dementia over many years at St. Vincent. “I am deeply thankful for her care,” said Richard. “Everyone was cheerful and friendly, even on Susan’s hardest days—and there were many. That means so much.”

Thank you, Richard, and to all of the very special members of the 1881 Legacy Society who have remembered Ascension St. Vincent in their estate plans!



Richard (right) with Dr. Bercovitz. Richard is remembering Medical Education in his Will.

DID YOU KNOW?

\$32,000

= average bequest size in America*

Learn more at stvincent.planmylegacy.org or call 317-338-2338.

**according to The NonProfit Times*

Super Bowl to bowling ball

Former Colts Champion hosts event for kids fighting cancer

Ryan and Julie Diem will host the 3rd **Strike Out Cancer**, presented by Northwestern Mutual. The event raises funds for kids fighting cancer at Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital.

“Julie and I have now been raising money for pediatric cancer for over 15 years. We are inspired by the strength of the children battling

this horrific disease. They face this challenge head on with incredible determination and resolve,” says the former Colts Champion.

The Diems are hosting this event as a part of their work to provide hope to kids and their families—hope that they will get to lead a normal, healthy life.

The Diems have been absolutely thrilled by the support from the Indianapolis community. “We were very pleased to have sold out the event in our 2nd year and look forward to even bigger and things in our 3rd year **on Jan 25, 2020,**” says Ryan. “It’s a blessing to bring so many people together and raise money and awareness for such an underfunded

cause. We are also raising awareness for a first-rate hospital in Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital.”

The event would not be possible without the generous support of corporate sponsors and individual supporters, but a special thank you goes to Northwestern Mutual & Wise Financial – title sponsor for the 3rd year. Thank you for sponsoring and providing volunteer support to help plan and execute the whole evening!

“It’s so special to see groups hosting their own fundraiser,” says Foundation Director, Ann Haupt. “It’s a huge way to help kids and other patients in need! Groups can raise anything from \$40 at a lemonade stand, to large events like Strike Out Cancer. **We are so grateful for each one of them!**”



Register for Strike Out Cancer, happening January 25, 2020, or learn more at give.stvincent.org/strikeout



Erica Wehrmeister, RN, BSN, MBA
President, Central Region, Indianapolis

Leadership update:

Erica Wehrmeister, BSN, MBA, RN President of the Central Region, Ascension St. Vincent Indianapolis

We're delighted to share with you that Erica Wehrmeister is now leading the Central Region at Ascension St. Vincent Indianapolis as President (effective May 2019). An experienced leader with 20 years in healthcare, Erica has held several progressive nursing and leadership positions, including six years as Chief Operating Officer for St. Vincent Indianapolis.

As President, Erica leads the senior management team charged with the strategic and operational direction of our Central Indiana ministry.

A donor and advocate for philanthropy, Erica understands the important role you, donors play at St. Vincent! Her vision for William K. Nasser, MD Education & Simulation Center project (completed in 2018) is an especially noteworthy endeavor — made possible by your generous support! Erica has been a member of the "Friends of the Foundation" since coming to Ascension St. Vincent. We're lucky to have a leader who believes in the power of donations!

Please join the Foundation in welcoming Erica to this new role.



Join the fun at these upcoming St. Vincent Foundation events!



JAN

25

Strike Out Cancer

Hosted by Ryan and Julie Diem
Presented by Northwestern Mutual

WOODLAWN BOWL
Sponsorships and tickets
available now!
Give.stvincent.org/strikeout

FEB

29

Celebration of Caring Gala

Benefiting Peyton Manning
Children's Hospital
Honorary Chairpersons,
Peyton and Ashley Manning
Entertainment by Country
Music Artist, Brett Eldredge

JW MARRIOTT
give.stvincent.org/pmchgala



APRIL

5

Egg Hunt & Brunch by the Grace for Healing Society

Benefiting Peyton Manning
Children's Hospital

BLACK IRIS ESTATE

For more details on events visit
give.stvincent.org/events



Born blind with a rare syndrome

Her family had *no idea* it was coming

Picture expecting a healthy baby, only to have it all change.

Imagine spending the holidays away from home as your tiny baby fights for her life.

A family is going through that right now. They need you today.

For a family like Abigail Riggle's, the holidays are hard.

Abigail spent her first Christmas in the hospital while her family stayed hours from home at the St. Vincent (hospitality) House.

Four months earlier, Mandy, Abigail's Mom, was pregnant with a healthy baby and ready to welcome her any day.

It all changed the day Abigail was born. She was taken to St. Vincent Indianapolis' Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU), where Mandy learned that her sweet girl had Branchio Occulo Facial Syndrome.

"We took a car seat to the hospital thinking we'd bring our little girl home. Watching it set empty was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do."

Not only was Abigail blind, she'd need to have a trach tube, ventilator and a feeding tube to survive. She was in the NICU for over 100 days.

Desperate to give her kids the holiday they deserved, Mandy brought their Christmas tree from home in Bedford up to the room at the St. Vincent House.

The Riggles took their celebration to Abigail and the NICU. They set up a small tree in her room and spent the holiday by her side.

Without donors, that special Christmas would not have been possible.

Without donors like you, the story of a family like Abigail's could end very differently.

Imagine spending the holidays away from home as your tiny baby fights for her life.



 CUT HERE

YES, I will be there for patients like Abigail.

PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT OF: \$ _____

PLEASE USE MY GIFT FOR:

- Peyton Manning Children's Hospital
- St. Vincent House
- Other _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

- Check Enclosed
(Payable to St. Vincent Foundation)
- Please charge my credit card:
 Visa OMC Disc AmEx

CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

DONOR INFORMATION:

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

To make your gift, enclose this form, or use the envelope provided!



Please be there for patients born fighting!
Please give at give.stvincent.org today.

Because of you...



446 KIDS DIDN'T FALL BEHIND IN SCHOOL WHILE THEY WERE SICK OR HURT.

Your support doubled the number of kids served in one year at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital!

Thank you to Healthcare Initiatives, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, Hoover Family Foundation, Lucas Oil Products, Pacers Foundation and others!

600 UNDERSERVED WOMEN (THOSE MOST LIKELY TO DIE FROM UNDETECTED BREAST CANCER) RECEIVED FREE MAMMOGRAMS!

Thank you to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Pfizer and others!



3,500 FAMILIES STAYED AT ST. VINCENT HOUSE TO BE CLOSE TO A LOVED ONE IN THE HOSPITAL.

THERE ARE PROGRAMS TO PREVENT TEEN SUICIDE. IT'S A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR CHILDREN AGES TEN TO FOURTEEN.

Students in the Westfield Washington Community Schools system now have access to on-site mental health counselors through St. Vincent Stress Center. You are saving lives!



★ THANK YOU!



Vanessa had a large brain tumor at age 21

You helped save her life

Vanessa was 21 when she had a seizure out of nowhere. A CT scan revealed the unthinkable — a large brain tumor. She began fighting, but not alone. **Donors like you were there for her through cancer care programs, research and more. You helped save her life.**

You continue to save the lives of patients at St. Vincent every time you donate, sponsor an event or purchase a ticket.



Vanessa had a large brain tumor at age 21.

Thank you

to the following event sponsors for your important work in the lives of patients and families at St. Vincent!

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Love It! Soirée

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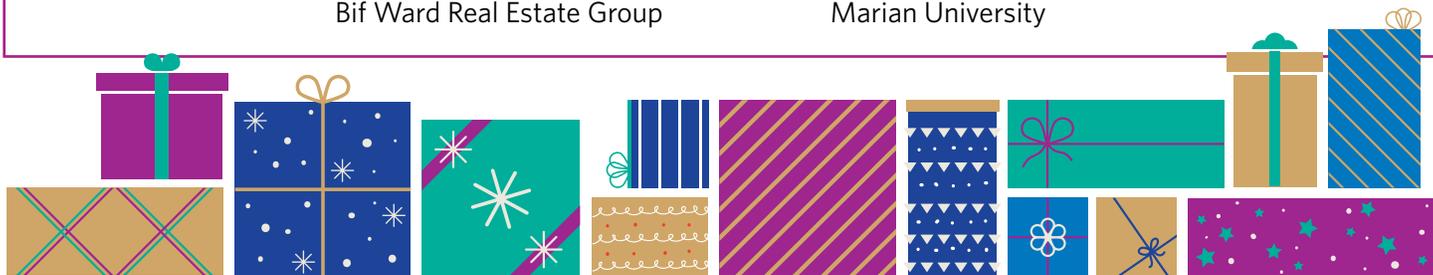
Dr. Susan Maisel and Family

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



*Patients and families are lucky
to have you on their side!*

*May your holiday season
be full of blessings!*

