

*Riverview*

HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

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# UPSTREAM

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF RIVERVIEW HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

February 2009

## Review of 2008 - Changes, Challenges, and Charity

by Jennifer Hayes, Riverview Health Care Foundation's President/CEO

In late August 2008, after John Gruenloh's retirement, I began a new and exciting career as President/CEO of Riverview Health Care Foundation. Looking back, my timing wasn't exactly perfect - I started working for a nonprofit organization seeking monetary contributions from community members during the most economically challenging climate of my life time. I braced myself for the worst and began my long journey up the learning curve of Foundation life.

Over the past few months, I have learned more than I ever thought I would! I've learned a great deal about the day-to-day activities of my job; I've learned that living and working in the same community is a huge bonus; and most importantly, I've learned that the people of the Wisconsin Rapids community are incredibly generous!

Despite our weakened economy, contributions to Riverview Health Care Foundation have remained quite steady. The generosity of those in our community has been overwhelming. It's obvious that Wisconsin Rapids is blessed with people who care about each other. Because of the caring and generous people who support Riverview Health Care Foundation, we are able to help meet the growing need for excellence in wellness and health care among those in our community.

Riverview Health Care Foundation exists to support Riverview Hospital and non-profit agencies in the Wisconsin Rapids area in providing excellence in health care and wellness to the people of our community. In 2008, the Foundation provided over \$36,000 to benefit local health care through grants to local nonprofit agencies, individuals, and the Riverview Hospital Association.

Thank you to all who have supported Riverview Health Care Foundation. Your gifts are always greatly appreciated throughout the year. With your continued support, we look forward to doing more to enhance the health and wellness for those in our community in 2009.



*Thank you for your support of Riverview Health Care Foundation.*

**An investment in the future of health care is a lasting gift.**

Riverview Health Care Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization raising funds to support Riverview Hospital Association and other community healthcare initiatives. Donations come from individuals, memorial and tribute contributions, major fundraising campaigns, and special events. All donations are tax deductible and coordinated through the Foundation office at (715) 421-7488.

*Supporting excellence in wellness and healthcare.*

HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

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*You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give. - Winston Churchill*

## Norma DeWitt Memorial Fund Makes Simulator Purchase Possible

By Maggie Joosten, RN - Riverview Family Birthplace

A manikin designed to provide a complete birthing experience before, during and after delivery was purchased for Riverview Family Birthplace with funds provided by a memorial given to the Riverview Health Care Foundation in honor of Norma DeWitt. Norma, who passed away in 2001, retired in 1987 after 21 years as a Nurses Aid at Riverview Family Birthplace.

The Noelle Birthing & Maternal Simulator is a life-size female manikin that has a pulse, an intubation airway, a rising chest to indicate successful intubation, injection sites on her arms and legs, and realistic IV arms allowing staff to practice intravenous administration of medications and fluids. She also comes with four changeable cervixes of varying dilation, placentas that are intact and not intact, and a postpartum uterus for practicing uterine massage for the prevention of postpartum hemorrhage. Three vulva inserts are also included so staff can practice performing episiotomies and postpartum suturing.

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#### Norma DeWitt Memorial Fund Makes Simulator Purchase Possible

Multiple fetal heart sounds can be simulated with the device, enabling staff to practice their responses to a baby's increasing or decreasing heart rate. Staff can also hone their skills at fast deliveries, breech deliveries, and vacuum or forceps deliveries. The manikin also comes with one birthing baby and a resuscitation baby that is realistically equipped with an intubation airway, allowing it to be intubated orally and nasally.

The realistic practice and feedback provided by the simulator is proving invaluable to all the staff caring for moms and newborns at Riverview Family Birthplace.



## Memorial Gifts

*Memorial gifts honor the memory of someone who touched your life in a special way.  
Memorial gifts serve as a lasting tribute to honor and perpetuate the names of loved ones and families.  
It is never too late to honor the memory of another by supporting local health care needs.*

### Riverview Health Care Foundation received gifts in memory of the following individuals in 2008:

Clara Bayley • Elizabeth Blanke • Pearle Burlingame • Burt Carlson • Dorothy Carlson • Samuel A. Casey  
Denise Ciszewski • Arthur Clark • Delbert & Doris Clark • Bonnie Cornwell • Jeffrey Curti  
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Dr. Charles Sorensen • Donna Stroozas • Robert J. Theisen • Dr. John E. Thompson • Kenneth Vogel  
Woodrow Weaver • Ryan Weidman • Marilyn Yeager

## Annual Appeal and Mistletoe Benefit Dance Exceeded Expectations

By Jennifer Hayes

Nearly 300 Friends kicked off the holiday spirit and supported Riverview Health Care Foundation at the 2008 Mistletoe Benefit Dance in early December. Once again, it was a spectacular evening filled with fabulous food, "dance-the-night-away" music by Bobby Way & The Way Outs, and great company.

Despite the economic challenges we have been facing, the Foundation's 2008 Annual Appeal and Mistletoe Benefit Dance exceeded expectations. Total contributions from this year's Annual Appeal surpassed those of the past few years by a large amount. Once again, the generosity of those in our community has been overwhelming.

### Thank you to our generous Mistletoe Appeal Donors:

#### MISTLETOE GEM

WOODTRUST-BELL FOUNDATION

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Central Wisconsin Radiologists, S.C. • Ron's Refrigeration & A.C., Inc. – Ron and Bonnie Mancl • The Dental Suite – M. Elizabeth Doolittle, DDS  
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