



WHA Foundation, Inc.

2022 Year in Review

A Letter from the Executive Director

2022 was a year of re-emergence. Friends, family and colleagues started to come back together for holidays, functions and educational events. The phrase “The last time I saw you was...” could be heard far and wide. While still providing a full plate of challenges, the year also supplied us with stories of hope, perseverance and good will.

The continued work of the WHA Foundation provided some of these stories, as its mission and vision were once again realized through the programming and funding it provided. I am proud to share with you the third annual **WHA Foundation Year in Review Report**, which highlights this important work of 2022 and the people that it directly impacted.



The WHA Foundation looks to continue its partnership with the hospitals, health systems and communities of Wisconsin. If you have not yet participated in the work of the WHA Foundation, please feel free to reach out to me and I would be happy to talk to you about the best way for you to become a *Friend of the Foundation*.

Leigh Ann S. Larson

Executive Director of the WHA Foundation

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2022 Board of Trustees

Thank you to the 2022 WHA **Foundation Board of Trustees** for their dedication, commitment, collegiality and time.

- **Jeff Euclide (Chair)**, Chief Administrative Officer, Marshfield Medical Center, Ladysmith
- **Jan Bauman**, Chief Nursing Officer, Divine Savior Healthcare, Portage
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Supporting health care quality and workforce initiatives statewide

The Focus of the WHA Foundation

Formed in 1968, the WHA Foundation, Inc. serves to support educational, research and charitable programs of the Wisconsin Hospital Association and its members.

Today, the Foundation focuses its grant-making priorities on initiatives that have a statewide impact on health care in Wisconsin.



WHA Foundation Funding Programs

1. Health Care Quality and Safety Initiatives

The Foundation has supported a variety of quality and safety initiatives for more than 10 years, starting with the funding to develop, launch and upgrade [CheckPoint](#), the first public website to provide consumers with clinical quality measures and error prevention practices for all hospitals in Wisconsin. Since 2016, the Foundation has provided funding for high-fidelity simulation training to more than 60 hospital teams, focusing training in areas of sepsis/septic shock, high-risk OB scenarios, and stroke.

2. Health Care Workforce Development

Addressing the workforce needs of Wisconsin health care providers has been a focus of the Foundation over the past decade. The Foundation supports the annual Foundation Scholarship Program, providing two annual scholarships to each of the 16 technical colleges in Wisconsin. The unique twist is the scholarship covers expenses incurred in the student's final semester, to assist and encourage students to make that one final push toward graduation and a career in health care. Since its inception in 2003, more than 400 scholarships have been awarded, worth more than \$500,000.

3. Collaborative Community Health Initiatives

The WHA Foundation supports community health initiatives created in partnership with WHA members through its annual Global Vision Community Partnership Award. This award was established in 1993 with the intention of providing recognition and financial support to innovative and collaborative initiatives that meet a community's health needs. A total of 51 Global Vision Awards have been presented since its inception, and the award includes a \$2,500 unrestricted grant for each winning initiative.

Clinical Simulation Lab Scholarships

Health Care Quality and Safety Initiatives

The WHA Foundation again partnered with lab organizations to offer clinical simulation labs to hospital teams throughout Wisconsin. These labs include:

- Gundersen Health System Integrated Center for Education, La Crosse
- HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire

Each scholarship has a monetary value of \$1,500.

The applications were reviewed against a set of criteria, including the hospital teams' objectives for incorporating clinical simulation training into their multidisciplinary team. Applicants indicated their interest in either stroke, high-risk OB delivery, opioid crisis, or sepsis/septic shock labs.

Six scholarships were awarded in 2022. For issues related to travel restrictions and workforce concerns, only one of these scholarships was used.



Technical School Scholarships

Health Care Workforce Development

Thirty-two (32) scholarships were made available to the 16 technical schools in the state of Wisconsin for the 2021/2022 school year. Each scholarship has a monetary value of up to \$2,000. These scholarships, intended for the final semester of school, are provided for students graduating in health-related fields. These fields include:

- AODA
- Anesthesia Technology
- Biotechnical Lab Technician
- Cancer Information Management
- Cardiovascular Technology
- Clinical Lab Technician
- Clinical Research Coordinator
- Dental Hygienist
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Dietetic Technician
- Echocardiography
- EMT/Paramedic
- Gerontology
- Health Care Business Services
- Health Information Technology
- Health Care Services Management
- Medical Lab Technician
- Midwife
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Pharmacy Services Management
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Radiography
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technology
- Wellness and Health Promotion

At the time of this report's printing, nine scholarships have been awarded for the 2022/2023 school year for a total of \$16,188 dollars disbursed. Technical schools have until June of 2023 to submit documentation for scholarships.

Hayley Champine, a scholarship recipient from Mid-State Technical College, was very appreciative of the generous support from the WHA Foundation.



Hayley, with her husband Tanner, at her graduation from the nursing program.

"Being a nurse has always been my goal and dream. I want to be a hospice nurse. I want to help those individuals who truly need compassion and comfort in their lives. Your motto to advocate, advance, and lead inspires me when it comes to my future career. It will always be important for me to advocate for

my patients, advance the world of health care to always keep growing and to lead future nurses to be the best they can be."

Hayley Champine
Mid-State Technical College Student
WHA Foundation Scholarship Recipient



Brian Competente, Director of Operations and Jennifer Mueller, Vice President and Privacy Officer, WHA Information Center

As a 2022 *Friend of the Foundation*, the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) Information Center, had the opportunity to name two scholarships for the 2022/2023 school year. One of those scholarships was given to Yeng Homan. Yeng graduated in December 2022 with a degree in Health Information Technology from Waukesha County Technical College. Congratulations, Yeng!

Global Vision Community Partnership Award

Collaborative Community Health Initiatives

The WHA Foundation awarded two Global Vision Community Partnership Awards in 2022. The purpose of the award is to recognize and reward community partnership projects that work with a WHA member hospital(s) to meet an identified community health need in an innovative or creative manner.

Project SEARCH

Ascension Mercy Hospital, Oshkosh

Project SEARCH is a collaborative program preparing young people with significant disabilities for success in competitive integrated employment. This program provides real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent living skills, with the goal of helping to make successful transitions from school to productive adult life. Students' progress toward their personal goals are assessed at regular intervals with their vocational coaches. Immediate goals could include improving time management, maintaining better focus or staying on task. After completion of the program, students develop longer term goals based on employment options and living independently. Students in the program are also supported by business advisors, department managers and peer mentors during and after the internship process.

House of Mercy Homeless Center

Mercyhealth, Janesville

The House of Mercy Homeless Center is a 25-bed homeless center which provides up to 60-day, short-term emergency shelter and programming to help single women and families access housing, find job placements, improve health and secure needed child care and parenting resources. The ultimate goal is to help clients transition to stable, permanent housing and decrease overall recidivism. After beginning its services in 1996, the program continues to fulfill its purpose, including diverting hundreds of people from entering the homeless response system while working with community partners to educate and uplift clients, helping to address the root causes of their homelessness and find stable housing.

Award winners each received a plaque of recognition and a \$2,500 grant to continue to fulfill the mission and activities of these valuable programs.

WHA Foundation Inc. thanks all nominations submitted for the Global Vision Community Partnership Award.



Students in the Project SEARCH program at Ascension Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh



Pictured, L to R: Jennifer Johns, Director of Community Development; Leigh Ann Larson, Executive Director of the WHA Foundation and WHA Vice President of Education and Marketing; Ladd Udy, Vice President, Value-Based Care & Population Health, Mercyhealth; Jackie Lee, Development Coordinator, Mercyhealth Foundation; Chad Salmon, Manager, House of Mercy

WHA Foundation Provides Scholarship Dollars for Inaugural WHA Health Care Leadership Academy Class

The WHA Health Care Leadership Academy was developed to address the needs of WHA member hospitals, particularly the need for their leaders to better understand the “business of health care” so they can contribute in more meaningful ways to better patient care, cost management, and effective service delivery. At the conclusion of the program, participants were able to demonstrate their knowledge to successfully navigate the complexities and opportunities of the future of health care.



WHA Health Care Leadership Academy 2022 graduates with Bucky Badger.

The WHA Health Care Leadership Academy was developed in partnership between the Wisconsin School of Business Center for Professional & Executive Development (UW CPED) and the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA).

The inaugural academy was held between February 2022 – June 2022. Some topics included:

- The Business of Health Care: Leadership, Strategy, and Understanding the Business
- Understanding & Navigating Ethical Issues in Health Care
- Relationship Management: Communication & Influence Across a Matrix
- WHA Government Relations, Quality, and Information Center

Through the generous donation of scholarship dollars from sponsors M3 Insurance and the WHA Foundation, participants were each awarded a partial scholarship of \$1,750, which was applied to their overall UW CPED tuition. In total, the WHA Foundation donated \$21,000.

Congratulations to the graduates of the 2022 WHA Health Care Leadership Academy!

Name	Title	Organization
Alexandra Urrutia-Comas	Vice President, Operations	Advocate Aurora - Aurora Sinai Medical Center
Dennis Zagrodnik II	Director Department of General Surgery	Aurora Health Care Medical Group
Austin Miloszewicz	Service Line Leader	Bellin Health
Carrie Rupert	Clinical Services Director	Bellin Health Oconto Hospital
Morgan Rabatine Nagel	Team Leader, Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery	Bellin Memorial Hospital & Bellin Oconto Hospital
Esteban Miller	Chief Medical Officer	Black River Memorial Hospital, Inc.
Miranda Greenwold	Marketing Director	Black River Memorial Hospital, Inc.
Michael Anderson	Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs/CMO (Now CEO)	Fort HealthCare
Andy Olivares	Administrator/COO	Lakeview Specialty Hospital & Rehab
Wendy Ledesma	Internal Medicine Hospitalist/CMPSQO	Sauk Prairie Healthcare
Jennifer McPhee	Community Health & Wellness Coordinator	Stoughton Health
Tammy Bending	VP-Operations, Critical Access Hospital	ThedaCare Medical Center - Berlin

WHA Foundation: 2023 Look Forward

The WHA Foundation will continue to support **Health Care Quality and Safety Initiatives**, **Health Care Workforce Development**, and **Collaborative Community Health Initiatives**. It is our hope that these programming opportunities will provide support in the most meaningful way possible to WHA member hospitals and the communities they serve.

2023 WHA Foundation Board of Trustees



Jeff Euclide (Chair),
Chief Administrative
Officer, Marshfield
Medical Center,
Ladysmith



Jan Bauman,
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Jenny Derks,
System Director, Total
Rewards, UW Health,
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Joni Olson, Chief
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Gundersen Tri County
Hospital & Clinics,
Whitehall



Bruce Roesler,
Chief Executive
Officer, The Richland
Hospital, Inc.,
Richland Center

Become a *Friend of the Foundation*

What does it mean to be a *Friend of the Foundation*?

Being a *Friend of the Foundation* means that you support the mission and efforts of the WHA Foundation. Your support ensures the continuation of the programming the WHA Foundation currently is involved with, as well as possible future impacts that can be made in Wisconsin communities.

Please see the “Friend of the Foundation Annual Giving Levels” for more details.

We are thankful for the generous support of the **Wisconsin Hospital Association Information Center (WHAIC)** as they continue to be a Friend of the Foundation member in 2023. For the second year in a row, the WHAIC will have the opportunity to have sponsorship recognition at two WHA events, provide naming rights for two scholarships, as well as many other benefits.



“Friend of the Foundation” Annual Giving Levels



You can make a positive impact on Wisconsin health care! Contribute at one of the giving levels below and become a “*Friend of the Foundation.*” Your support ensures the WHA Foundation can continue its current funding programs, as well as possible future initiatives that can benefit Wisconsin communities.

\$1,000 Sponsor

- Company/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation website
- Company/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation signage at events, including at WHA’s Advocacy Day, the Wisconsin Rural Health Conference, and WHA’s Physician Leadership Development Conference
- Two (2) complimentary enrollments in a WHA-sponsored webinar

\$2,500 Sponsor

- Company logo/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation website
- Company logo/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation signage at events, including at WHA’s Advocacy Day, WHA’s Rural Health Conference, and WHA’s Physician Leaders Conference
- Two (2) complimentary enrollments in a WHA-sponsored webinar
- Sponsorship recognition of one (1) WHA event or webinar

\$4,000 Sponsor

- Company logo/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation website
- Company logo/individual name recognition on WHA Foundation signage at events, including at WHA’s Advocacy Day, WHA’s Rural Health Conference, and WHA’s Physician Leaders Conference
- Two (2) complimentary enrollments in a WHA-sponsored webinar
- Sponsorship recognition of two (2) WHA events or webinars
- WHA Foundation Technical School Scholarship naming rights for two (2) scholarships awarded to one (1) Wisconsin technical college during the academic year

The WHA Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Be a “Friend of the Foundation”

In order to continue focusing its grant-making priorities on initiatives that have a statewide impact on health care in Wisconsin, the WHA Foundation Board of Trustees continues its fundraising efforts each year. Every contribution to the WHA Foundation is appreciated and will be recognized appropriately. Thank you for considering a contribution to the WHA Foundation. See “*Friend of the Foundation Annual Giving Levels*” for more details.

Questions:

Contact Leigh Ann Larson,
Executive Director
P: 608-274-1820; F: 608-274-8554
E: llarson@wha.org
W: www.wha.org/AboutWHA/WHA-Foundation

2023 WHA Foundation Fundraising Campaign

Contribution Form

My organization/I wish to support ongoing efforts of the WHA Foundation with a contribution of:

- \$4,000* \$2,500* \$1,000*
 \$500 Other: \$_____

*contribution will make you “*Friends of the Foundation*.”

Organization Name

Address

City

State

Zip

First Name

Last Name

Job Title

Email

Telephone Number (with area code)

Please make check payable to:
WHA Foundation, Inc.

Send Contributions to:
WHA Foundation, Attn. Leigh Ann Larson
5510 Research Park Drive, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53711

Your contribution is tax deductible as specified in IRS guidelines.