



Contact us!

We always want to hear from you. Send us your questions, suggestions, and ideas. E-mail us at mmcf@mercyare.org and let us know how we can serve you better at the Mercy Foundation.

Have you remembered Mercy in your will?

Any planned gift makes you eligible for Founders' Society membership.

Reasons to make a planned gift

Planned gifts offer a way to endow the future of Mercy Medical Center while creating tax savings and/or income benefits for you. These gifts include bequests in a will, life insurance, pension plans, charitable gift annuities and charitable trusts among others.

There are many reasons for you to make a planned gift to Mercy Medical Center Foundation:

- To express gratitude to the hospital for excellent medical care received
- To honor or memorialize a friend or loved one
- To give to a particular department or program that is meaningful to you
- To endow a nursing scholarship
- To earn membership in Mercy's Founders' Society
- To assure The Mercy Touch for future generations
- To make a difference in the lives of patients and families

You can be assured that all gifts to Mercy Medical Center stay right here locally to benefit those in Cedar Rapids and the surrounding areas.

Free Estate Planning Seminar
with attorney Paul Morf of Simmons Perrine Law Firm
Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at 7-8:30 PM
 Mercy Medical Center, Hallagan Education Center

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Update¹ Partners

Spring 2007

Mercy Medical Center Foundation



Our Mission

The Mercy Medical Center, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Endowment Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation, organized and operated exclusively to foster support for the mission and activities of Mercy Medical Center and its subsidiaries.



Community responds to need for area's first hospice house

Throughout the "Sharing the Journey" campaign for the Dennis and Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy, individuals, families and organizations have stepped forward to support the project. Gifts large and small have been given, but every story reveals the good and generous hearts that exist in our region.

- Amana families extended their well-known hospitality by hosting two special events.
- The Cedar Rapids Garden Club is providing the plans, plant materials, and sculpture for the entryway garden.
- General Mills pledged to stock the pantry at the house.
- The Cedar Rapids Area Home Builders Association made a \$1,000 gift and also selected the hospice house as the beneficiary of their fall Parade of Homes.
- Adult sisters and brothers got together and made gifts in honor of their beloved uncle in order to inscribe a brick with his name.

Continued on page 3



Photos depict construction progress on the hospice house Great Room and front entrance.

Greetings from

Sister James Marie



Sister James Marie Donahue,
Foundation chairman

Dear Friends:

As we welcome the signs of spring outside and anticipate fresh new life, we also look forward to the opening of the Dennis and Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy. It too will be a place where life is celebrated in all its fullness.

Our “Sharing the Journey” capital campaign for the hospice house has been very heart warming and personally rewarding. So many people we did not know prior to the campaign have stepped forward to support our area’s first hospice house. When I phone donors to thank them for their gifts, I hear many moving stories about the value of hospice and the recognized need for a hospice house. A typical response is, “We want to be a part of it, and want to give back for what we have received.”

As I watch from the outside the progress being made in the construction of the hospice house, I can see in my mind’s eye the completed structure with gardens gracing the front entrance and surrounding the building. Everyone involved in the project is anxiously awaiting the dedication and open house, when we will see the hospice house from the inside, ready to welcome those in need of compassionate end-of-life care.

We are grateful to you, our benefactors, for all that you have done and continue to do, and to each of you we say, “Thank you!”
May God bless you abundantly.

Gratefully,

Sister James Marie Donahue

Chairman of the Board

Hospice house continued from front page.

- A hospice worker bought a brick for her deceased patient who wished the hospice house had been open in time for her to utilize the services.
- The Heartland Soccer Club raised funds and presented a check for \$1469.35 to build the hospice house.
- Two local artists – Tara Moorman and Sara Sorensen – donated the proceeds from their personal art showings.
- Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust offered their space for an informational event.
- A monthly women’s lunch group donated gifts in honor of one of their friends.
- Lil’ Drug Store held its own employee fund drive for the hospice house.
- Members of Community of Christ Church, a neighbor to the hospice house, are extending their ministry by offering their playground and gym to hospice house visitors, and are identifying ways their members can serve as volunteers.
- The Mercy Auxiliary is donating earnings from special projects and events to the campaign. The hospice house interior courtyard is being sponsored to recognize these contributions.
- Organizations such as PEO chapters and service clubs have made contributions.
- Employees from two area businesses – Rapids Wholesale Equipment and Randy’s Carpets and Interiors – chose to honor their bosses with donations to the hospice house in their names.
- There is still time to join with others by making a gift. Contributions can be made by filling out and sending in the attached gift form or by making an online gift at www.mercycare.org and clicking on the “Sharing the Journey” link.

“Sharing the Journey” Hospice House Capital Campaign Gift Form

Recognition Opportunities

Donors of \$5000 or more will be recognized within the Dennis & Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy. Gifts of \$1000 or more will be recognized with an engraved paving stone/brick. Please call the Mercy Foundation at 319-398-6206 for a list of available naming opportunities.

Types of Gifts

The campaign welcomes gifts of cash which can be pledged over three years. Securities or other negotiable instruments are also options. For instructions on stock transfer, please call the Mercy Foundation at 319-398-6206.

FOUNDATION STAFF

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or
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e-mail: mmcf@mercycare.org
www.mercycare.org/foundation

Contributions to the Mercy Medical Center Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.



MMCF
Mercy Medical Center Foundation

I/We agree to contribute \$_____ to help build the Hospice House.

The contribution will be paid over a period of
 1 year 2 years 3 years one-time gift

Pledge payment schedule to begin (month/year)_____ amount_____ and continue Annually Semi-annually Quarterly

My employer will match this gift. I will initiate the procedure right away.

Please print your name as you wish to be recognized:

I/We wish to remain anonymous.

Name(s) _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I/We wish to make this gift in honor of _____

Payment Method

Check (Make checks payable to Mercy Foundation, memo: Hospice House)

Credit card
 Mastercard Visa Discover

Card number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on card _____

Stock transfer (please call the Mercy Foundation at 319-398-6206)

Signature _____

Date _____

A conversation with the chairman, Sister James Marie Donahue

The first things you notice when meeting Sister James Marie Donahue are her petite stature, high energy and warm inviting smile. The heart and soul behind the Mercy Foundation, she has served as chairman of the board since March 2000.

Sister James Marie follows a strong lineage of former Mercy Foundation leaders, Sister Mary Lawrence Hallagan and Sister Mary Augustine Roth. The foundation was created in 1977 guided by Sister Lawrence and Sister Augustine for the first 22 years.

It was a circuitous path that led her to the Mercy Foundation. She was born in Charles City, Iowa, but grew up in the Dubuque area where she graduated from high school. She was the oldest of three girls.

Before entering the convent she completed a three-year diploma program in nursing in Cedar Rapids. She worked as a staff nurse and nursing supervisor for two years, so when she

entered the Sisters of Mercy she was considered a “delayed vocation” - she was older than the other young women in the novitiate.

After entering the Sisters of Mercy she earned a bachelor’s degree at Mount Mercy College followed by a master’s degree in nursing education at the University of Minnesota. She then earned a doctoral degree in educational administration after several years of teaching.

Sister James Marie was Director of Mercy’s School of Nursing for the last five years of its existence. She admits that her toughest challenge during that time was telling nursing students and their families that the School of Nursing would no longer accept new students and the program was closing. But the closing brought a new opportunity. She moved to Mount Mercy College where she established a four-year baccalaureate nursing program.

Her fondest memory from those years is surprising a senior nursing student as recipient of the top award for excellence in nursing. Nowadays she relishes the alumni reunions of those nursing graduates, and reminiscing about the former hospital program or the college. “It is so rewarding to hear them express how much they valued their education and applied their nursing knowledge and skills in the real world.”

Over the years she has witnessed the tremendous effect technological ad-

vances have made in the medical and nursing professions. “These advances add value to the quality of nursing care given to patients, but also provide a challenge in maintaining a balance between technology and what we have come to know as the Mercy Touch.” To recognize her meaningful contributions to the nursing profession, Sister James Marie was selected as one of the 100 Great Iowa Nurses for 2007.

Now in her role as foundation board chairman, Sister enjoys new challenges. “I can now look at the big picture of healthcare in the hospital and in the community and know that the Mercy Foundation can make a big difference in filling the ever-increasing needs.”

Sister James Marie has particularly enjoyed Mercy’s first ever capital campaign to build a hospice house. “This campaign for me has been both very challenging and very rewarding. It is my first experience to be part of a capital campaign. Over 100 years ago, the Sisters of Mercy went door-to-door to raise enough money to build this hospital, so it warms my heart to see the impressive responsiveness of our community once again.”

She hopes more people will consider a gift to the campaign. In her humble and modest manner, she is often heard to say that “no gift is too large or too small.” After all her favorite saying by Catherine McAuley, Sisters of Mercy founder is:

*“No matter how small the gift,
God gives the increase.”*

Retirement income you can depend on



Cathy Gullickson

With all the ups and downs in the financial markets, many of our friends are turning to Mercy’s **charitable gift annuity program** to create a steady, dependable stream of lifetime income. They like knowing they will receive the same amount each year for their lifetime.

They like the other benefits, too. Things like a good payment rate and income that is partially tax-free. They like the income tax charitable deduction they receive and, of course, the fact that they are helping Mercy further its mission.

It’s easy to do. Once we know your age, and the size and type of gift you will use to fund your annuity, we can prepare an easy-to-read gift illustration that will tell you:

- How much you will receive yearly as an annuity payment for the rest of your life.
- How much of that income will be tax-free.

- How big your income tax charitable deduction will be.
- How your gift annuity will benefit Mercy.

Here’s a recent example of a “one-life” annuity. A couple set up a gift annuity for the wife, age 87. They gave Mercy stock gifts worth approximately \$50,500 in exchange for a charitable gift annuity. The payment rate for a person age 87 is 10.2%, which means she will receive \$5,158.00 every year for life.

Here’s an example of a “two-life” annuity: A couple, each 83 years old, gave a gift of approximately \$20,500. A two-life annuity for their ages pay out 7.4%, or \$1519.00 yearly. The annuity continues to be paid to the surviving spouse.

For a tailor-made illustration, call Cathy Gullickson, Mercy Foundation president at (319) 398-6206. We will show you just how well a charitable gift annuity can work for you. You are under no obligation to proceed with a gift.

**Note: The rates vary, depending on one’s age and whatever is currently being recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities.*

Remembering Rebecca

Soothing sounds of piano music will be wafting throughout the halls of the new Dennis and Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy, thanks to the family of Rebecca Kibbe.

Rebecca, a music education teacher at Wright Elementary School for 29 years, died in October 2005. She was passionate about music, music education, and music therapy. Thanks to care from Hospice of Mercy, Rebecca was able to remain at home during her last months in familiar surroundings with her family and the music she loved.

Rebecca’s husband, Dallas, and children Jennifer, Robert and April contemplated ways to memorialize her that would capture her spirit and her special talents. They wanted something that would honor her and at the same time leave a legacy for others to enjoy.

During one of the family discussions, the idea struck. The family recalled the joy Rebecca had experienced playing the piano at a hospice house in Topeka, Kansas, where Dallas’ 89-year-old mother was being cared for in her final days. That experience, coupled with the wonderful Hospice of Mercy care Rebecca received during her own illness, made the decision easy. Why not buy a piano for the area’s first hospice house to honor Rebecca’s life?

So that’s what the Kibbe’s did. They donated a beautiful new grand piano equipped with a piano disc CD unit that will be located in the heart of the house between the two patient wings. The piano will support hospice’s music therapy program, and provide an instrument for family members or visiting musical groups to use. The disc player

also makes it possible to set the piano to “play itself,” making beautiful music available at any time.

The Kibbe family’s gift will honor Rebecca’s life and work by providing the beauty and comfort of music to all who use or visit the hospice house. Her legacy lives on.



Rebecca Kibbe

Perrine Oncology and Neurosurgery Centers open at Mercy

The 8th Floor of Mercy's patient tower has been transformed into state-of-the-art hospital centers to serve those needing cancer and neurological care. This renovation project is part of the ongoing commitment by Mercy to provide the latest technologies, beautiful surroundings, private rooms and compassionate care to its patients and their loved ones.

Mercy's new patient floors have received rave reviews. Visitors, families and patients marvel at the quiet carpeted hallways, colorful artwork by Iowa artists, and home-like amenities such as flat screen tvs, dvd players and wireless internet. And, more importantly, the newest technology enhances the Mercy Touch. Patients communicate directly with their own nurse thanks to the Vocera phone nurse call system. Patients can control their room temperature and window blinds at bedside. Soft floor

lighting and glow-in-the-dark blood pressure instruments keep the patient's comfort in mind.

For many generous donors, room sponsorships have provided a meaningful way to honor or memorialize loved ones or to show appreciation as a grateful patient. Room sponsorships start at \$5,000. For inquiries about room sponsorships or a tour of a newly renovated floor, please contact the Foundation office at (319) 398-6206.

Mercy's new patient floors:

- 2nd Floor Intensive Care Center
- 3rd Floor Orthopaedic Center
- 4th Floor Surgical Inpatient Center
- 5th Floor Pulmonary Medicine Center
- 7th Floor *Coming soon*
- 8th Floor Perrine Oncology and Neurosurgery Centers
- 9th Floor Cardiac Stroke Center



Presenting... Mercy's new look

Have you ever visited a hospital where the patient floors made you cringe, feel scared or even get queasy? Not at Mercy. These pictures epitomize what the Mercy Touch really means. See for yourself. Call us at (319) 398-6206 for a tour of our new private patient rooms and specialized centers of excellence.



Have coffee on us!

Every Friday morning in April at 9 a.m. stop in the Mercy Foundation office for a cup of coffee and conversation. Then we'll be happy to take you on a personal tour of any of the new floors.