

FOUNDATION FALL 2021 *IN FOCUS*

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF



BAY MEDICAL FOUNDATION

ULTRASOUND GIVES MORE THAN IMAGES

ULTRASOUND SYSTEM PROVIDES IMPROVED HEALTHCARE OUTCOMES AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE DOCTORS



Imagine that you have stomach pain and your family doctor suspects gall stones. Next step might be to get an appointment for an ultrasound or MRI. But what if your doctor could do an ultrasound right then in the office? If so, the stones could be discovered, or ruled out immediately.

In fact, the American Academy of Family Practice (AAFP) says that “point of care” ultrasound is the biggest advance in bedside diagnosis since the advent of the stethoscope 200 years ago. However, most family practices do not have an ultrasound in the doctor’s office.

Thanks to you and other Foundation donors, the McLaren Bay Region family practice residency program now has a portable ultrasound system at its Family Health & Wellness Center clinic.

The clinic sees a diverse patient population and provides services that range from pediatrics through end of life care. It also is one of the few local practices that do not limit the number of Medicaid patients they accept. Many of their patients face barriers such as lack of transportation, difficulty getting time off work or struggles making additional co-pays, if another appointment is necessary.

Chief resident Dr. Jacob Leroux explains “the new ultrasound is an economical and efficient tool that allows for rapid diagnosis, assessment of symptom severity, as well as screening for multiple medical conditions.”

In addition to improving patient satisfaction and healthcare outcomes, the residency program has created an ultrasound training curriculum based on AAFP recommendations. This means the ultrasound system also assists in recruitment and retention of residents while training future doctors to practice evidence-based medicine.

Family practice residency programs usually do not provide ultrasound training, especially with a formal curriculum. This training is now a recruiting tool for bringing qualified residents into the McLaren Bay Region program.

“New recruits are very interested in our residency program because of this opportunity,” says Dr. Leroux. “Having access to the ultrasound system gives our residents an unparalleled educational experience that will affect the larger community as a whole.”



ABOVE PHOTO: Dr. Leroux, a native of California, came to Bay City two years ago to join the McLaren residency program. He has already signed on to join McLaren Bay Region as a Hospitalist at the completion of his residency next year and looks forward to continuing his career in our community.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A GEM? INTRODUCING A NEW WAY TO GIVE



McLaren Bay Medical Foundation is offering a brand-new way to give. You can become a GEM by choosing to Give Every Month!

Why give a monthly gift?

It is affordable, easy and impactful:

- You invest a monthly amount that is right for you.
- Payments are automatically taken out once a month to make giving simple.
- Before you know it, you have made an incredible impact over the course of your monthly giving.
- In addition, you help provide a steady stream of sustained income that ensures high-quality, accessible healthcare in your community.

We know some donors have the desire to make a larger gift and monthly giving allows them to do so. A donor who gives \$25 a month can now afford to be a \$300 donor! A donor who desires to give a \$1,000 gift can give \$100 a month and make a \$1200 investment and is now a member of the Keystone Club!

Others like the idea of the convenience of giving monthly, while still having the option to support special projects and appeals throughout the year. No worries! All GEMs will receive the same opportunities to give as all other donors. We let YOU decide what and when you want to give!

To find out more about how you can sign up to become a GEM, check out all the details and FAQs at www.mclaren.org/baymedicalfoundation/GEM. Or, as always, feel free to contact Lynn Weaver, Director of McLaren Bay Medical Foundation at Lynn.Weaver@mclaren.org or 989-895-4728.

INTRODUCING DARRELL LENTZ, CEO

The McLaren Bay Medical Foundation is pleased to introduce Darrell Lentz as the new President and CEO of McLaren Bay Region. Lentz has been serving as CEO of McLaren Central Michigan since August of 2020.



Over the course of a 20-year career in hospital and health system operations management, Lentz has gained experience covering the entire continuum of healthcare in a variety of settings around the country. From small rural hospitals, non-for-profit, critical access, and faith-based organizations, to for-profit, large academic, and multi-hospital health systems, Lentz has a long track-record of exemplary hospital leadership. However, it is his passion for patient experience, taking care of one another, and endless support for the growth of quality healthcare that set him apart and make him the best fit to lead McLaren Bay Region into the future.

"I am so pleased to join McLaren Bay Region and to work with the McLaren Bay Medical Foundation board of trustees, donors and community members," says Lentz. "It takes community support to bring high quality healthcare to the amazing communities we serve. I look forward to working together to ensure the availability of consistently excellent and accessible healthcare services to all in need of care."

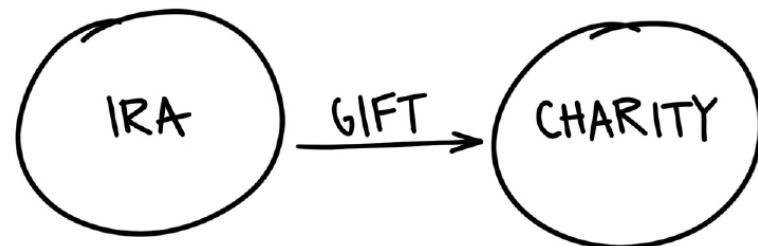
GIVE AND GET TAX BENEFITS QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

A great way to make a tax-free gift to McLaren Bay Medical Foundation is through qualified charitable distributions (QCD) from a traditional IRA. If you own an IRA and are 72 years of age, you are required to take minimum distributions each year. However, you may not need the added income, nor the added tax burden. Consider your options.

A QCD can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year and reduce your income taxes. IRA funds need to be directly transferred to McLaren Bay Medical Foundation to qualify for tax relief.

Please contact your financial advisor with specific questions about your tax situation. You can contact Foundation Director, Lynn Weaver, at 989-895-4728 for detailed instructions on how to make a direct gift from your IRA account.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS



NEW LEADERSHIP, SAME ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE HELEN M. NICKLESS CLINIC GOING STRONG 17 YEARS LATER

Since 2004, the Helen M. Nickless Volunteer Clinic has provided healthcare to the uninsured and underinsured in Bay County and surrounding communities. We are proud to announce that Terri Gaiser, DNP, was handed the reins of leadership after the retirement of Joyce Hardy who lead the clinic since its inception.

Terri has a longstanding relationship with our hospital system, starting her first healthcare job here in 1979. She quickly learned that patient care was her passion. She has served in a variety of roles from phlebotomy to bedside care as an RN, and more recently teaching future nurses. While working in the area of women's health/obstetrics (OB), Terri recalls being moved by the fact that so many of her patients had very limited resources and high healthcare needs. She grew concerned about the overall implication this had on the state of healthcare and quality of life for people in her community.

When the Volunteer Clinic launched, Terri quickly became involved. She volunteered at the clinic and found that it was also a great place for her SVSU nursing students to absorb many lessons that they might not get in a traditional clinical setting. When the clinic management position became available this year, it's no surprise that Terri would be the perfect fit.

When asked about her favorite part of the job, Terri glows as she describes "clinic night," which takes place each Wednesday. She explains how the volunteers start showing up, patients start checking in, and the energy of the team makes everything work to provide quality healthcare to people in need. Terri explains that the clinic patients tend to be people working two to three jobs and they aren't eligible for health care assistance, but don't make enough to purchase private insurance. "Every patient has a story," she says.

One story that really sticks out for Terri is not unusual for the clinic. Recently a patient arrived with some unsettling symptoms, a volunteer provider recognized the need to send the patient to McLaren Bay Region via ambulance where the patient received immediate emergency care for a major heart episode. Likely, the existence of the volunteer clinic saved this person's life.

The mantra among staff and volunteers has become "We have been blessed to be able to bless others." And that's just what they do!



Dr. Terri Gaiser
Helen M. Nickless
Volunteer Clinic
Program Coordinator

"WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED TO BE ABLE TO BLESS OTHERS"

- Terri Gaiser

HOLIDAY MEMORIAL TREE CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 2:00 PM

The Holiday Memorial Tree program is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 5 at 2:00 pm at the hospital cafeteria.

You can be part of this event by making a special tribute gift in memory or honor of someone dear to you. The names of your loved ones will be read at the ceremony and if you provide a photo, it will be included in the online slide show. All participants will receive a printed booklet with the listing of names, as well as a holiday ornament in memory of your loved ones.

For more details or to participate, you can go to www.mclaren.org/memorialtree2021. If you would like to receive a hard copy brochure with more information on how to participate, please contact Jessica Gregory at 989-895-4727 or jessica.gregory@mclaren.org.



MEMORIAL TREE

A memory is a special gift that survives

WHY I GIVE TO McLAREN BAY MEDICAL FOUNDATION

"I feel that too many people fall through the cracks in today's society and as life rushes along, people fall by the wayside ALL THE TIME. I very much appreciate charitable organizations such as the McLaren Bay Medical Foundation that will fund services that the working poor of our community can use to fill in those cracks. Everyone needs a helping hand at times in their lives and we cannot depend on the government to fulfill all those needs."



Kathy DePrekel
Office Coordinator
Helen M. Nickless Volunteer
Clinic



BAY MEDICAL FOUNDATION

1900 Columbus Ave
Bay City, MI 48708

MARK YOUR 2022 CALENDAR!

**DINNER AROUND
THE WORLD**

Thursday, March 10, 2022

5K WALK/RUN

Saturday, May 7, 2022

**GOLF FOR LIFE
CLASSIC**

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**WHEN YOU INVEST IN MCLAREN BAY MEDICAL
FOUNDATION, YOU INVEST IN YOUR LOCAL HOSPITAL
AND YOUR COMMUNITY.**

Our hospital is strong and responsive because of the incredibly generous support from our community. We are YOUR local foundation. We exist to help people like you in your desire to support your local community.

Your generosity has allowed us to:

- strengthen our medical programs and staff,
- provide primary healthcare for those with no insurance,
- upgrade our facilities, and
- acquire new state-of-the-art equipment to keep pace with advances in medicine, while maintaining the McLaren Bay Region's proud hallmark of personalized care.

McLaren Bay Region and its Foundation are continually looking ahead to anticipate future needs and develop model programs to benefit community members. As we do so, we will continue to need your help. I know that together we can do it, because all of you care so much!

Thank you for caring!

Lynn Weaver, Director

McLaren Bay Medical Foundation



STAFF

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