



# Lasting Impact

## St. Luke's Foundation Impact Report 2024



UnityPoint Health  
St. Luke's Foundation

LOOKING BACK ON 2024

# with gratitude

Your generosity is making a profound difference in the health and quality of life for people right here in the Siouxland community. The achievements highlighted in this report are a testament to your incredible support.

The gratitude expressed daily by patients, families, community partners, and our healthcare teams belongs to you.

Thank you for your exceptional partnership  
in this vital work.

## About UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's Foundation

**THIS WORK BEGINS WITH OUR VISION:**

**A healthy community for everyone.**

**THIS VISION FUELS OUR MISSION:**

**Improve the health of the people and communities  
we serve through inspired giving.**

The St. Luke's Foundation team is driven by these values to address the unmet healthcare needs in our region. By collaborating with donors and community members like you, we are committed to maintaining excellence in quality, safety, and service. Our goal is to ensure that high-quality healthcare is accessible to every patient and neighbor in need. Together, we provide essential care and support for patients, families, caregivers, and our entire community.

# you matter

## A MESSAGE FROM KARI

As I reflect on 2024, I am filled with immense gratitude for your unwavering support and generosity. Your contributions have made a profound impact on healthcare in the Siouxland community, and I am deeply thankful for your commitment.

I encourage you to read the stories of hope, healing and transformation shared in this report. Your support has enabled us to achieve remarkable milestones, from upgrading critical medical equipment to expanding our healthcare services. Your kindness has touched the lives of countless patients and families, providing them with the care and compassion they need during their most pivotal moments.

The St. Luke's Foundation is incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated donors and community members who believe in our mission. Your trust in us as stewards of your investment means the world, and we are honored to continue this important work together.

Thank you for being exceptional partners in our journey to create a healthier, stronger Siouxland community. Your generosity is truly a lifeline, and we look forward to achieving even greater things in the coming year.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Kari Winklepleck

President, UnityPoint Health – St. Luke's Foundation

## CONTACT US

UnityPoint Health – St. Luke's Foundation  
2720 Stone Park Blvd., Sioux City, IA 51104  
(712) 279-3900

## 2025 FOUNDATION STAFF

Kari Winklepleck – President  
Stacey Selk – Director of Children's Miracle Network  
Jim Braunschweig – Associate Director of Development  
Elizabeth Rol – Development Specialist

## 2025 FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emily Mills – Chair  
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# Transforming Emergency Care:

## ENHANCING THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE AT ST. LUKE'S



Hospital Emergency Rooms are vital lifelines, providing immediate medical and surgical care to those in urgent need. At UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's, our Emergency Department is staffed around the clock by a dedicated team of highly trained nurses, nurse practitioners, and emergency physicians. Recognizing the need to enhance our facilities, we embarked on a mission to remodel and expand, aiming to improve care coordination, operational efficiency, and resource distribution during peak times, while also better managing psychiatric emergencies.

Thanks to the generous support from Missouri River Historical Development (MRHD), we have successfully expanded our ED waiting area, added two fast-track triage bays, and transformed four infusion rooms into modern, ligature-free spaces. These upgrades create a more private, healing environment, improving patient flow, reducing wait times, and boosting overall patient satisfaction.

In partnership with the Siouxland Miracle Riders, we also converted one room into a pediatric safe room. This specially designed space is equipped with safeguards to protect young patients during treatment, including the removal of ligature points, tamper-resistant materials, impact-resistant surfaces, and enhanced visual access and security.



Taffy Zoelle, Director of Emergency Services, shared her excitement about these improvements: "The renovations and new equipment have significantly enhanced our ability to provide high-quality care. With expanded facilities and specialized rooms, we can now accommodate more patients while ensuring they receive the best possible care during their most critical moments. These advancements reflect our ongoing commitment to excellence in patient care and community well-being."

These incredible upgrades enable UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's to deliver exceptional care and provide our staff with the resources they need to excel. Together, we are making a real, positive impact on the lives of people in the Siouxland community.



# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
**\$1,357,674**

TOTAL # OF DONORS  
**1,154**

# OF NEW DONORS  
**167**

## CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK STATS

# BABIES DELIVERED  
**2,153**

# BABIES IN NICU  
**263**

# PEDIATRIC  
PATIENT VISITS  
**42,088**

## COLLEGE STATS

# OF SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS  
**86**

TOTAL # OF  
SCHOLARSHIP \$  
AWARDED  
**\$240,818**

# OF STUDENTS  
ENROLLED  
**167**





# Ensuring Every Baby's Safe Journey

## OUR COMMITMENT TO SIOUXLAND'S NEWEST MEMBERS

As Siouxland's Premier Birth Center, St. Luke's is dedicated to providing exceptional care for moms and babies. In 2024, thanks to the generous funding from the Siouxland Miracle Riders, we invested in a state-of-the-art Neonatal Transport Isolette. This vital equipment ensures the safe transfer of our tiniest patients from the Labor & Delivery room to the NICU, offering continuous ventilator and cardiac monitoring while maintaining a safe, thermoregulated environment.

This investment is more than just an addition to our facility; it symbolizes our unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of our community's newest members. Every time we use the Isolette, we are reminded of the trust families place in us and our dedication to giving every baby the best possible start in life.





# Enhancing Care for Siouxland Families

## ONE ULTRASOUND AT A TIME

At UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's, the Maternal Fetal Medicine team offers preconception counseling, genetic screening, and high-risk pregnancy management. One of the most vital tools they use to ensure the health and well-being of both mother and fetus is the ultrasound. This advanced technology allows the team to closely monitor and assess the health of complicated, high-risk pregnancies, ensuring the best possible outcomes for their patients.

Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, the Maternal Fetal Medicine Department has been able to upgrade its aging ultrasound equipment by acquiring the cutting-edge GE Voluson Expert 22 ultrasound through funding from the St. Luke's Foundation. This remarkable piece of technology enables sonographers to gather more information at record speeds, producing faster, sharper, and clearer images. As a result, detection rates have improved, abnormalities are identified more effectively, pelvic health is improved, and more patients can be seen.

Dr. Fleming shared his thoughts on the impact of this new equipment: "The GE Voluson Expert 22 has enhanced our practice. The clarity and speed of the images allow us to make more accurate diagnoses at an earlier gestational age and provide better care for our patients. This upgrade has improved our ability to manage high-risk pregnancies more effectively and in a timely fashion."

This upgrade has made a significant impact on the team's ability to provide top-notch care, ultimately helping to keep patients in Sioux City for their medical needs.





# Innovative Care

## ENHANCING PATIENT EXPERIENCE WITH THE HOLOGIC TRIDENT

At UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's, we are committed to providing the highest quality care to our patients, and this commitment is reflected in the advanced technology we use. Thanks to your generous support, the hospital recently acquired the Hologic RDIF Needle Localizer and the Trident Specimen Radiography system.

This innovative system uses miniature radiofrequency identification (RFID) tags, each with a unique identification number, to precisely locate breast lesions. By eliminating the need for traditional wires or radioactive seeds, the Hologic Trident Needle Localizer offers unparalleled flexibility and precision. This not only enhances the accuracy of procedures but also significantly improves the patient experience as the RDIF tags can be placed any time prior to surgery.

For our patients, this means a less invasive, more comfortable procedure. The absence of wires reduces anxiety and discomfort, allowing patients to focus on their healing journey. The precision of the RFID tags ensures that our medical team can provide the most effective treatment, leading to better outcomes and peace of mind for our patients and their families.

The Hologic Trident Specimen Radiography system provides high-quality imaging of the breast specimen in the OR suite to make informed clinical decisions on the spot, reducing delays and shortening procedural times.

Claudine Van Meeteren, Director of Imaging Services, shared her thoughts on the impact of this new technology: "The Hologic Trident Needle Localizer has revolutionized the way we approach breast lesion localization. Its precision and ease of use have made a significant difference in our ability to provide top-notch care. Our patients appreciate the comfort and efficiency it brings to their treatment."

The addition of the Hologic Trident Needle Localizer and Radiography system is a testament to St. Luke's dedication to advancing healthcare and ensuring that every patient receives the best possible care.

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lesion localization.  
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# Empowering Dreams

## THE IMPACT OF SCHOLARSHIPS AT ST. LUKE'S COLLEGE

St. Luke's College has been making a significant impact on its students through its scholarship programs. These scholarships, made possible by the generosity of our alumni and friends, not only ease the financial burden on students but also allow them to focus on their education and personal growth.

One heartwarming story is about a nursing student who received a scholarship that covered a substantial part of their tuition. This student had always dreamed of becoming a nurse, but financial constraints made it seem impossible. Thanks to the scholarship, they were able to pursue their passion without the constant worry of debt. The student is now excelling in their studies and is on track to graduate with honors. They plan to work in the local community, giving back to the place that supported their dreams.

Another inspiring example is a first-generation college student. The scholarship they received not only provided financial relief but also boosted their confidence. With the support of St. Luke's College, this student has become a role model for their younger siblings and peers, showing them that higher education is attainable with hard work and determination.

These stories highlight the transformative power of scholarships at St. Luke's College, made possible by the unwavering commitment and generosity of our alumni and friends. Your support is not just an investment in education, but in the future of our community. Your contributions are changing lives and helping students achieve their dreams. Thank you for making these scholarships possible.



# The Moments That Matter

HOW VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT ST. LUKE'S

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“Volunteers are the heart of St. Luke's. Whether they're greeting visitors, helping families, or simply sitting with a patient who needs a friendly face, their kindness has a ripple effect throughout the entire hospital.”

— Mary O'Brien, Manager,  
Volunteer Services

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As we look back on 2024, we are reminded that **compassion is not measured in minutes, but in moments**—moments of comfort, kindness, and connection that our volunteers create every day. Whether it's offering a reassuring presence, sharing a conversation, or helping a family find the perfect gift for a loved one, their dedication has touched countless lives, ensuring that every patient, family, and staff member who walks through our doors feels supported and cared for.

The impact of these moments was felt across the hospital, as volunteers gave an incredible **5,363 hours of service**, proving that the gift of time is one of the most powerful ways to make a difference. Their contributions took shape in a variety of meaningful ways throughout the hospital and in our clinics.



- **950 hours as NICU Cuddlers, holding and comforting more than 1,000 newborns.** For premature and medically fragile babies, human touch is essential for development. Volunteers provided warmth, security and a steady heartbeat, helping them thrive in their earliest and most vulnerable days.
- **5,405 patient visits, providing meaningful engagement, heartfelt conversation, and a reassuring presence.** Whether sharing stories, offering encouragement, or simply being there, volunteers helped create moments of connection for those in need.
- **428 hours supporting St. Luke's Child Development Center, helping care for the children of our healthcare workers.** By assisting with activities, playtime, and nurturing support, volunteers gave peace of mind to our dedicated medical professionals.
- **485 hours of knitting and sewing, creating more than 2,500 handmade items.** These lovingly crafted blankets, caps, and comfort items provided warmth and care to patients and families.
- **1,259 coloring and activity books shared with patients through the Comfort Care Cart.** A small act of kindness can make a big impact – volunteers helped lift spirits and bring moments of joy to patients of all ages.
- **879 hours assisting visitors and managing the Gifted Boutique Gift Shop.** Offering a friendly face, a helping hand, or a calming gift during a stressful time enhances the overall patient and visitor experience.
- **249 hours of pet therapy, providing unconditional love and emotional support.** Sometimes, healing has fur and four legs – our therapy animals brought moments of joy, lowered stress, and provided comfort when words weren't enough.

As we reflect on this incredible impact, we are also excited to welcome new faces to our growing volunteer team. Whether you have a passion for helping others, want to give back to the community, or simply hope to brighten someone's day, there is a place for you here.

If you're ready to make a difference, we'd love to welcome you to our volunteer family. Every moment spent helping others creates a lasting impact, and the time you give can mean the world to someone in need. Learn more about the opportunities available and how you can give the gift of time today by visiting [unitypoint.org/join-our-team/volunteers](http://unitypoint.org/join-our-team/volunteers) or contacting Mary O'Brien at (712) 279-3220.





**BELIEVE  
WHAT YOU DO  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE.**

Because it  
does.



**UnityPoint Health**  
St. Luke's Foundation

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