UnityPoint Health
Grinnell Regional
Medical Center Foundation

GRMC IN FOCUS

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delivering OUR FUTURE

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For more information or to opt-out of future newsletters, call (641) 236-2079 or email donna.fischer@unitypoint.org.

At a recent meeting of the UnityPoint Health – Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC) Foundation Board of Directors, Cherish Hansen, GRMC's Manager of Obstetrics (OB), provided an update on the renovation of the obstetrics unit. On page two of this issue, you will find some photos and a description of what has been accomplished so far – thanks to your support.

Your donations are making this project a reality, so I want to share a bit more about how the impact of these renovations is already being felt after only completing two phases of this eight-phase project.

Better patient flow: More rooms capable of supporting deliveries means fewer bottlenecks and fewer patient room moves.

Greater efficiency: Supplies, equipment and workstations are better organized and consolidated, reducing time spent searching and moving between spaces.

Improved patient experience: The private shower and baby sink in the new postpartum/recovery room allows more care to happen conveniently in the patient's own room. (At the end of the project, those amenities will be all the OB patient rooms.)

Purpose-built clinical space: Dedicated procedure and work areas allow staff to provide care more appropriately and efficiently.

Designed by the people who use it: OB staff have had a meaningful voice in the design, ensuring the renovated space supports actual clinical workflows.

Because of you, the expansion and renovations are transforming our obstetrics unit into a space that is designed to work for our team and the patients and families they serve.

Thank you for making a difference at GRMC.



Donna Fischer
Director of Development

ONE HUNDRED PERCENT of every dollar donated to the GRMC Foundation stays local to benefit the healthcare programs and needs in the GRMC service area. For more information and to make a gift, visit www.unitypoint.org/grinnell/foundation.

DELIVERING OUR FUTURE UPDATE

Phases I and II of the obstetrics expansion and renovation project are complete and the crew has already begun Phase III – the building of the fourth labor, delivery, recovery, and postpartum (LDRP) room with a private bath. At the end of the project, GRMC will have five rooms where deliveries can occur and two dedicated postpartum rooms – and each room will have its own private shower and/or whirlpool.

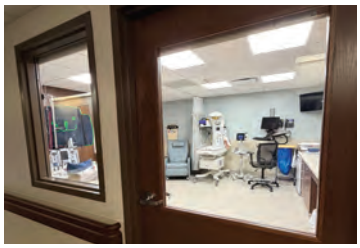
Phase I included a new entrance for the unit, a new postpartum/recovery room with private shower, and a new clean storage room. The new recovery room is a critical component for ensuring the unit can remain open and fully operational during the remainder of the renovations, while all LDRP rooms and recovery rooms are renovated one by one.

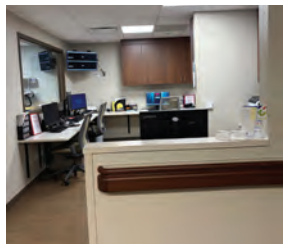




(L-R) New entrance to Obstetrics, postpartum/recovery room, private shower in postpartum/recover room

Phase II included building out a larger nursery, a more efficient nurses' station, and a new team-member break room. The nursery now has room for a second bassinet and has a space dedicated for procedures, when needed.





(L-R) View of Nursery from hallway, Nursery, Nurses' Station

"The new layout has optimized our workflow, increased storage and access to supplies, improved workflow for ancillary staff, and ultimately improved patient care," shares Cherish Hansen, BSN, RNC-MNN, C-EFM, OB nurse manager. "The new nurses' station layout makes it easier for parents and their support persons to come to us with any questions during their inpatient stay and their pre-birth intake visit."

Thanks to your support, this project is quickly becoming a reality.

YOUR PLAN, YOUR LEGACY



Individual retirement accounts (IRAs) offer valuable benefits beyond providing income. You get tax deductions on contributions as well as tax-free account growth. The downside is having to pay taxes when you make withdrawals from your IRA. The good news? You can use your IRA to make an impact at the nonprofit of your choice without losing any of your money to taxes. Here are three options:

1. Use your IRA to make a gift to the GRMC Foundation or another nonprofit of your choice. If you're 70-1/2 or older, you can make a tax-free gift (up to $111,000) and see the difference you are making today.
2. You can name the GRMC Foundation or another nonprofit of your choice as a beneficiary of your IRA – a great way to extend your support beyond your lifetime and it costs you nothing today.
3. A new option: You can now use your IRA to create a charitable gift annuity (CGA) if you're 70-1/2 or older. A one-time election of up to $55,000 to create a CGA can provide you fixed, reliable income for life.

To learn more, visit our website at **plannedgiving.unitypoint.org/?pgloc=grinnell.**

TAYASH EARNS PRESTIGIOUS PRACTICE CREDENTIAL



Dr. Mahmoud Tayash

Dr. Mahmoud Tayash, surgeon with the General Surgery and Weight Loss Surgery Clinic, earned the designation of Fellow of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (FASMBS). This achievement is awarded to members of the ASMBS who are quality-conscious, who track and monitor their surgical outcomes and demonstrate a strong commitment to quality for their colleagues, patients and the public.

GRMC RECEIVES CENTER OF EXCELLENCE GRANT FOR 2026-27

GRMC was again awarded the Center of Excellence (CoE) Grant by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, securing $212,500 in funding alongside an additional $200,000 from the Iowa HHS Healthy Hometowns initiative, **a combination of $412,500 to support GRMC's ongoing commitment to providing high-quality maternal care in rural Iowa** in 2026-27.

TWO NEW PROGRAMS AT GRMC

Recently GRMC launched a Patient Birthday Celebration Program to help brighten the day for patients whose birthday falls during their hospital stay. We know it's hard not to feel your best on your birthday and spend your special day away from home. Our team hopes that a birthday treat and card will make a meaningful difference for those patients.

To enhance patient comfort, emotional well-being and overall recovery, GRMC is excited to introduce our new Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT) Program to our Grinnell Volunteer Services offerings. Carefully vetted, certified therapy animals and their handlers will visit participating units and departmental waiting areas to provide comforting, goal-directed interactions that help reduce patient anxiety, lower stress levels and boost morale for both patients and staff.



NEW PROVIDERS



Jessica Tokle, ARNP

Jessica Tokle, ARNP has joined the Family Practice Clinic, providing comprehensive primary care for patients of all ages. Jessica is a board-certified family nurse practitioner who is passionate about building lasting relationships with her patients and empowering them to take an active role in their health. A Grinnell native, she is proud to care for the community she calls home. She is a graduate of Clarkson College, Chamberlain University, and Indian Hills Community College.



Dr. Gregory Larsen



Dr. Trevor Wild

Urology services have recently begun at GRMC. Board-certified urologists **Dr. Gregory Larsen** and **Dr. Trevor Wild** from Urology Center of Iowa will provide care every Monay at the UnityPoint Health – Grinnell General Surgery and Weight Loss Surgery Clinic. Patients can receive expert care for kidney stones, prostate concerns, urinary issues, men's health conditions, vasectomy procedures and more.



Crystal Iddings, DNP, CNM

Crystal Iddings, DNP, CNM, is a board-certified midwife who has joined the Grinnell OB/GYN Clinic. Crystal is passionate about helping women have a voice and a choice in their health care. She is working with Dr. Flannagan and Josie Rutherford providing OB/GYN and obstetrics care in Grinnell, in addition to prenatal, postpartum and women's health care in Marshalltown. Crystal completed her undergraduate education at the University of Texas at Tyler followed by a master's degree from Bethel University in St. Paul, MN, and a doctorate as a Certified Nurse Midwife from Frontier Nursing University in Hyden, KY, with an emphasis on rural and underserved communities.

Your support of GRMC has had an amazing impact on our patients and the communities we serve.

From the purchase of new equipment and technology to specialized training for team members to enhancing and expanding services, philanthropy has made a difference throughout GRMC. **As always, 100% of every donation to the GRMC Foundation remains right here to continue making a difference for our patients, their families, and our team members**.

At this time of year, many people like you are thinking about where to spend their philanthropic dollars. I hope you will consider continuing your support of your not-for-profit regional hospital which is here to care for you and your loved ones every day of the year.

If this is the right time for you to make a gift, please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope for your convenience or scan the QR code to make a gift online.



YOU MATTER TO US AND TO YOUR WORLD.

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