



FOCUS ON PHILANTHROPY

December 2024

A publication of
UnityPoint Health -
Allen Foundation

New Members of Gerard Circle

Michael and Anna Lind

To learn more about
Gerard Circle, call
(319) 235-3960.

Complimentary Estate Planning



Dr. Eddie Thompson
Thompson & Assoc.

Upcoming Dates:
— *Tuesdays* —
January 14
February 11
March 18



Mark your calendar
for our 15th annual
event, February 23
to 27! More details to
come!

Gerard Circle Spotlight: Steve and Carrie Cusher Members of Gerard Circle Since 2018



Connection to UnityPoint Health: Steve is the Director of Facility Operations for the Waterloo market of UnityPoint Health. Steve and Carrie have several family members that work at Allen and have attended Allen College.

Employment History: Steve has been employed at Allen for almost 20 years. He has had roles in Maintenance, Environmental Safety, Emergency Management, and Safety and Security. Carrie has prior experience in banking and is currently employed in accounts payable for the Independence School District.

Why are you inspired to give back to the Allen Foundation and give so generously to local health care?

We believe that supporting our community's health is one of the most meaningful ways to give back. The Allen Foundation does incredible work, ensuring that local healthcare resources are accessible, high-quality, and constantly evolving to meet the needs of everyone in the area. By giving to the Foundation, we feel we're helping to build a stronger, healthier future for our friends, family, and neighbors, knowing that these contributions directly benefit our community. It's incredibly rewarding to see the positive impact of our support on the lives of others right here at home. Our family has benefited from programs at Prairie Parkway, Allen Birthing Center, Allen College, Allen Hospice, and the hospital. What we have donated is small compared to the return that we have received.

What does being a member of Gerard Circle mean to you?

Being members of Gerard Circle is truly an honor. It represents our commitment to supporting a cause we deeply care about—ensuring that everyone in our community has access to excellent healthcare. Through this membership, we're part of a group of people who share our passion for giving back and making a meaningful difference. It's not only a way for us to contribute but also to stay connected to the ongoing needs and advancements in local healthcare, which feels especially meaningful as it impacts the lives of those around us every day.

Why is philanthropy in our community/workplace important to you?

We have seen the growth of several programs and facilities at Allen during Steve's employment with the hospital. This is made possible by the generous donations to the Allen Foundation. Philanthropy is our way to give back a little to something that has provided so much to our loved ones and us.



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Alive and Running Gift

The Allen Foundation is thrilled to announce a generous \$8,000 donation from Alive and Running, which allowed us to purchase new patio furniture for the Mental Health Inpatient Unit at Allen Hospital! This thoughtful contribution provides our patients with a comfortable and peaceful outdoor space to relax, rejuvenate and find a moment of calm.

A huge thank you to Troy Belmer and everyone at Alive and Running!



(L-R) Troy Belmer, Alive and Running Co-founder, Lisa Rider, Mental Health Unit Director, Kim French, Allen Foundation Development Director

Notes from the Executive Director: Mike Lind



As we close another amazing year with the Allen Foundation, I'd like to first thank our many loyal donors for your gifts to make high quality healthcare a reality in the

Cedar Valley and beyond. If you haven't had the opportunity to give, please consider an end-of-year gift in support of the many services, programs and projects funded through the Allen Foundation.

If you'd like to hear more about our current initiatives as well as our plans for 2025, please contact the Foundation anytime at (319) 235-3960. We would love to share how your donations make a major impact on our community!

Lastly, I would like to wish you all Happy Holidays! I hope you find some time to celebrate what is important to you. Cheers to a great 2025 – Allen's 100th year!

Mike Lind, Executive Director

Hops for Hospice



With record attendance, this year's Hops for Hospice event raised over \$45,000 for UnityPoint Hospice patients and families. Thanks to all of our 2024 Hops for Hospice sponsors, supporters, and guests! Special thanks to our **Dignity Sponsors:**



Save The Date

Feb. 15: Red Dress Gala
5 to 8 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn
Sponsored by the Alpha Phi Sorority at UNI.

April 25–26:
Allen College Alumni Reunion