# Door County CARES

Door County Medical Center Foundation

FALL 2023

### DOOR COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION NEWS

Ensuring our community's access to

### EXCEPTIONAL HEALTHCARE,

now and in the future.

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### Hopeful Highlights

Summers in Door County are a beautiful distraction, but at the Door County Medical Center Foundation we never stop fighting to fulfill the needs of our community. Thankfully, neither do our supporters. Over time we've raised millions of dollars to help expand the medical capabilities of Door County Medical Center based on what our community needs most. From the Door County Cancer Center to The Pete and Jelaine Horton Skilled Nursing Facility, our medical center is absolutely state of the art. Now, it's time to shift our focus to the subtler side of health: behavioral health. We know that with the support of our donors, we can ensure that Door County Medical Center can meet the behavioral health needs of the communities we serve.



### The Door County Medical Center Behavioral Health Campaign Kicks Off Now



The link between mental and physical health is undeniable. Co-occuring mental disorders (e.g. anxiety and depression) can worsen the course of chronic disease and psychological distress has also been found to weaken the immune system.

The fight for mental wellbeing is barely gaining ground. 20 percent of adults are currently experiencing some form of mental illness and 54.7 percent of those living with mental illness do not receive help for their disorders. Staggeringly, 90 percent of people who die by suicide had a mental disorder. We need to take action.

With a ratio of 715:1 for population to mental health providers, increased access has been identified as the #1 need in Door County.

Following accessibility, stigma presents one of the biggest barriers to receiving treatment for a mental illness. Stigma, often rooted in misconceptions, fear, and ignorance, can perpetuate discrimination, shame, and isolation for individuals facing behavioral health challenges.

Door County Medical Center's (DCMC's) promise is to provide services to address the needs of the whole person: body, mind, and spirit alike. DCMC has formulated a 3-part plan to strengthen and expand Behavioral Health Services for Door and Kewaunee County residents.

First, strengthen our base.

- Expand Behavioral Health services to all school districts in Door County and Algoma
- Provide at least one full-time behavioral health provider at each outreach clinic location
- Expand the Senior Life Solutions Program
- Expand Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services
- Provide dedicated space for the Behavioral Health Program in all clinic locations

Second, increase availability of psychiatric and psychological services.

- Hire a full-time Psychologist and Psychiatrist
- Establish a Tele-Psychiatry Program in the Emergency Department

Finally, increase acceptance of behavioral health treatment.

• Develop and implement an extensive public relations campaign to combat stigma associated with behavioral health issues. By fostering understanding, empathy, and open dialogue, we can effectively break down these barriers and create an environment where seeking help and support for mental health is encouraged and embraced.

Everyone can benefit from behavioral health services at one time or another due to changes in their health, relationships, or family dynamics. Our goal is to raise 3 million dollars to help accomplish this ambitious plan and improve the mental wellbeing and the lives of the members of our community.



We are asking you to support this vital initiative in any way you can. Your support will help us strengthen this vital service and ensure that every member of our community receives the behavioral health care they deserve. Please help us make a difference.



Give at: dcmedical.org/foundation/behavioral-health-program

DONATE TODAY

### Werner and Sue Krause Behavioral Health Program Challenge Gift

Werner and Sue Krause grew up in Milwaukee the children of immigrants. After college (both of them the first in their family to graduate from high school, much less college and masters programs) they were married and remained so for 63 years until Sue's death in July of 2021.

Werner and Sue both started out in life with very little means. In addition to family financial insecurity, they each dealt with trauma in their childhood that was rooted in



mental health issues. They saw, first hand, what unaddressed mental health issues can do to a family.

Werner worked his way through college at a grocery store making .85 cents an hour. Eventually Sue and Werner each owned their own companies.

They maintained their integrity, raised three independent children, who now have lives and children of their own, and they had a lot of fun doing it. Their brightest moments were their camping and sailing trips to Door County which they eventually made their home.

Their hard work and determination paid off. But when Sue passed away, Werner had to face his own mental health challenges. Werner and Sue had become accustomed to Door County Medical Center's (DCMC) facilities and resources when Sue had fallen ill and could no longer be transported to Milwaukee. After Sue's death, Werner needed a different kind of support and leaned on the resources at the DCMC Behavioral Health Clinic to get himself back on his feet.

Now, Werner and his family are determined to use all their resources to support valuable efforts and the DCMC Foundation Behavioral Health Campaign is at the top of Werner's list.

"As a society, we have not treated mental illness as seriously as we should. We don't treat it like cancer, heart disease, diabetes, etc., but it's just as serious. It's much harder to treat - there's no magic vaccine, medicine or surgery that can make it go away.

"Door County Medical Center has a plan in place and I want to support it. We have to stop talking about it. It's time to start doing something about it," says Werner.

#### The Challenge

Werner is challenging the community to match his \$1 million dollar gift over the next five years. In order for this \$1 million dollar gift from Werner Krause to reach the campaign fund, an additional \$1 million dollars must be raised before the end of 2028.

Are you ready to meet the challenge? Mental health is health and this community is suffering. Now is the time to take action. Contribute to the DCMC Foundation Behavioral Health Campaign today. Help us meet our goal.



House & Garden Walk volunteers at a ticket table on Bay Shore Drive. Seated (left to right): Marsie Hartman, Jeanne Harris. Standing (left to right): Mary McEnerney, Patti Peterson.

### 62nd Annual House & Garden Walk Supporting the Behavioral Health Campaign

The Door County Medical Center (DCMC) Auxiliary 62nd Annual House & Garden Walk is a must-see summer experience in Door County every year.

This year more than 100 volunteers joined forces to staff five spectacular, unique and historic homes. Led by co-chairs Gretchen DeCoster and Wendy Walker, the tours raised more than \$50,000 and allowed visitors to see interesting architecture, interior design and gardens at new and historic homes in Door County.

The funds raised go towards the current \$3 million-dollar campaign to strengthen and expand Door County Medical Center's Behavioral Health Program.

We owe a special "thanks" to our volunteers, sponsors, participants and, of course, to the home owners who opened their doors in support of this important cause.



# 27th Annual Golf Marathon

The 27th Annual Door County Medical Center Foundation Golf Marathon was a roaring success. \$167,000 was raised to support the Behavioral Health Campaign and fun was had by all. The event was held August 30, 2023 at The Orchards Golf Course in Egg Harbor.

Over the past 27 years, this event has brought in over \$2.2 million dollars in support of the Door County Medical Center Foundation Vision and many memories have been made.



28th Annual Golf Marathon August 28, 2024



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DOOR COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION NEWS Ensuring our community's access to exceptional healthcare, now and in the future.





Founded in 1990, the Door County Medical Center Foundation ensures our community's access to state-of-the-art, outstanding healthcare by developing and managing giving opportunities. Since its inception, the foundation has raised over \$35 million, funding continual updates to the facilities at Door County Medical Center and providing services to those most in need.

> Mike Herlache, Executive Director Andy Boettcher, Assistant Director/Grant Writer Megan Welch, Foundation Coordinator Robin Hamm-Jackson, Volunteer Coordinator

FOR ALL THE WAYS TO GIVE VISIT US AT: DCMEDICAL.ORG/FOUNDATION



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