

Door County CARES



DOOR COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION NEWS

Ensuring our
community's access to

EXCEPTIONAL HEALTHCARE,
now and in the future.



SPRING 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

page 2

Exciting Progress for
the Behavioral Health
Campaign

page 3

Door County Medical
Center Auxiliary Continues
to Raise the Bar

Hopeful Highlights

Door County's unique challenges require purposeful solutions. In this issue, we are excited to share with you the incredible progress that has been made on the Behavioral Health Campaign thanks to the generous gifts of our passionate donors. We look forward to putting these gifts to work to change the landscape of behavioral healthcare in our community.

\$3,900,000

\$3,900,000 raised, to date, in support of the
Behavioral Health Campaign

\$40,000

\$40,000 PLUS raised for the **Auxiliary Health Care
Scholarship Fund** this year (thanks, in large part, to
the money raised from the Angel Scholarship Gala)

14,500

14,500 hours volunteered by the **DCMC
Auxiliary** in 2023



Exciting Progress for the Behavioral Health Campaign

Tom Pollock and Chris Gritzmacher met at Purdue University in 1977 while they were both pursuing their Ph.D. in Biology. After several relocations, their careers landed them in San Diego, CA. When it was time to retire, Tom and Chris visited and fell in love with the charm, beauty, and most of all the community on our beautiful peninsula. They moved to Door County in 2010.

Community is what they got. Last year, Tom got roped into parking cars for the Door County Auxiliary House and Garden Walk by his good friend and rival golf opponent, Eugene Jacobs. Chris and Tom had been patients at Door County Medical Center (DCMC), but this was the first exposure to the work done by the DCMC Foundation and Auxiliary. They were inspired.

They dug a little deeper, learned about the Behavioral Health Campaign and the initial matching challenge gift from Sue and Werner Krause, who the program will be named for. They were previously unaware of the behavioral healthcare needs and shortcomings in Door County.

“We really didn’t know about it as a problem. I tended to look the other way when someone had a mental health problem,” confessed Tom. But now, they see things differently.

They began to pay closer attention to the people they came in contact with: farmers and their families struggling with suicide, young children dealing with scarcity and trauma at home, and the range of families that are struggling within their own community.

Tom decided, “This developmental plan for Behavioral Health seems to be well thought out. DCMC has already done the heavy lifting.”

While the entire plan is vital, they agree: “Community-wide awareness and acceptance will go a long way toward reducing the negative connotations associated with receiving behavioral health care,” Chris recalls.

Chris and Tom decided that they wanted to make a contribution of \$1,150,000 to the Door County Medical Center Foundation Behavioral Health Campaign, pushing the campaign beyond its original goal and expediting the progress of the plan by more than a year. In fact, two additional therapists have already been hired and DCMC is currently recruiting a psychiatrist.

“Our gift will add to the funds already pledged and drive the project forward more quickly,” says Tom.

Chris and Tom know that they are not going to solve the problem, but they are certainly going to make an impact.

Learn more about the Behavioral Health Campaign by visiting www.dcmedical.org/foundation/behavioral-health-program.

THE PATH FORWARD: STRENGTHEN OUR BASE

Strengthen Our Base

- Expand Behavioral Health services to all schools and clinics
- Expand Senior Life Solutions
- Expand Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services

Increase Availability of Psychiatric and Psychological Services

Increase Acceptability of Behavioral Health Treatment with an extensive public relations campaign

Have you considered planned giving? [Learn more here.](#)



Door County Medical Center Auxiliary Continues to Raise the Bar

The mission of the Door County Medical Center (DCMC) Auxiliary is to provide the opportunity for fulfilling and rewarding volunteer experiences at Door County Medical Center, as well as to sponsor fundraising events which will support the health care needs of our community.

The DCMC Auxiliary continues to reach new heights in their contribution to the advancement of DCMC.

Every year, Auxiliary volunteers come together to coordinate one of the biggest events of the year: The Angel Scholarship Gala in October benefitting the Auxiliary Health Care Scholarship Fund.

The Auxiliary Health Care Scholarship Fund helps further the education of our community's next generation of healthcare workers and heroes. Scholarships are awarded to selected local high school students planning to pursue healthcare careers and prior graduates who are continuing their healthcare education. In 2023, \$42,000 was raised to benefit this scholarship fund.

Additionally, volunteers and contributors pull together the details for the beautifully coordinated Auxiliary House & Garden Walk in July benefitting

the Behavioral Health Campaign. This year, the event will be held on Tuesday, July 30th. Don't miss the opportunity to see the insides of some of Door County's most bespoke homes!

Above and beyond these events, Auxiliary volunteers donate their time in many areas of Door County Medical Center, including but not limited to, the Doorway Gift Shop, Orthopedic Joint Class and Skilled Nursing Facility. They also help guide and transport patients to different areas of the hospital and clinic through the Auxiliary Ambassador Guide program. In 2023, the volunteer hours totaled 14,500 hours which is equal to a contribution of \$406,000 in value.



HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BECOMING A DCMC
AUXILIARY VOLUNTEER? LEARN MORE
ABOUT THIS REWARDING OPPORTUNITY.



On the Horizon

Watch for information on these upcoming events!

- **Tuesday, July 30th** - 63rd Annual Auxiliary House & Garden Walk benefitting the Behavioral Health Campaign
- **Monday, June 24th** - 17th Annual Queen for a Day Golf Outing to benefit the David Spude Cancer Center Endowment Fund and Door CANcer, Inc. at Idlewild Golf Course
- **Wednesday, August 28th** - 28th Annual Golf Marathon benefitting the Behavioral Health Campaign at The Orchards Golf Course



For all the ways to give
visit us at [dcmcd.org/
foundation](https://dcmcd.org/foundation)



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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



Door County Medical Center Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

