

Mitchell County Regional
Medical Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025

July 1, 2024 - June 30th 2025



Our Vision

A healthier, more connected North Central Kansas where every person has access to compassionate care, community support, and the resources they need to thrive.

Our Mission

To support continued excellence in healthcare in North Central Kansas.

Board of Directors

President: Max Heidrick
Vice President: Lisa Thompson
Secretary/Treasurer: Tami Pruitt
Dr. Jason Cheney, MD
Brent Cunningham
Mary Gray
Dr. Carl Fugate, MD
Michele Heidrick
Janelle Kircher
Vickie Mears
Kristen Shamburg

Letter from the Board President

Michele and I have been on the Foundation board since day one. Michele is a good fundraiser and I had knowledge of the hospital workings and needs as I had been on the board for 25 years and served 24 as president. David Dick was the administrator at the time and felt a foundation would benefit the hospital especially in recruitment of healthcare professionals, as federal regulations limited how hospitals could use financial incentives to recruit.

Susan Concannon was the first Executive Director and with her leadership and vision we were off and running. A firm was hired to help with our first fundraiser and with the generosity of the area and hospital employees, we received one million dollars in donations and pledges. The foundation offices at the time were in a rented building downtown. We realized we needed a home and moved to the Perdue House which the hospital had purchased. We used our funds and hundreds of volunteer hours and donations from area furniture and hardware stores to totally renovate the property as it was very dated.

Stephanie Simmons came on board and with her knowledge, as well as Shelby Bohnert, we were able to apply for numerous grants over the years and develop the many wellness programs in the area. We have our yearly fundraiser with matching funds from the hospital endowment. We have been able to add services and equipment to the needs of different departments of the hospital as well as in the recruitment of numerous healthcare professionals. We have never used foundation funds to supplement the general operations funds of the hospital.

Max Heidrick

President
Board of Directors
Mitchell Co. Regional Medical
Foundation



Director's Report

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year reminded us of the strength and generosity at the heart of our rural community. At MCRMF, we take pride in being a connector—bringing together people, resources, and compassion to meet needs when it matters most.

Over the summer, our first 100 Nights Campaign for the Perdue Hospitality Home showed just how deeply our community cares. Families facing medical emergencies, grief, or long travel found comfort in knowing they had a place to stay close to their loved ones at MCHHS. Guests often tell us that the accommodations make a difficult time a little bit easier—a simple but powerful reminder of why this home exists.

We also celebrated a record year for healthcare scholarships. Behind each application is a story of a student eager to serve, a family making sacrifices, and a community that believes in their future. By awarding more than \$20,000 in support, we are investing not just in education, but in the future caregivers who will one day return that care to our neighbors.

Your generosity also fueled our Supporting Hometown Healthcare campaign, which strengthens the foundation for rural healthcare today and opens doors for exciting improvements tomorrow.

And while we celebrate these milestones, we know the work doesn't stop here. Through our Connected Care program, we continue to walk alongside individuals facing barriers like hunger, housing challenges, or lack of access to services. This year, a Kansas Health Foundation grant allowed us to look more closely at food insecurity and begin shaping solutions that bring dignity and hope to those we serve.

Thank you for being part of this important work. Whether you gave, volunteered, partnered, or simply believed in the mission, please know that your support has made life a little easier for someone in a hard moment. Together, we are building a healthier, more resilient region—for today and for generations to come.

With gratitude,



Shelby Bohnert
Executive Director
Mitchell Co. Regional Medical Foundation



Janea Peters

Community Outreach
Coordinator



Adrina Cunningham

Donor Relations &
Communications Coordinator

Keeping Care Close to Home



Scholarship Funds

Melvin File Memorial Scholarship
MCHHS Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship
MCRMF Nursing Scholarship
Jordan, Nothern, Shumate Legacy Scholarship
Jim and Louise Sutton Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Leadership MC : MCHHS Scholarships
CNA/CMA Certification Scholarships

150+

Students awarded among all scholarship funds since MCRMF inception

\$120,000+

Scholarship dollars awarded since MCRMF inception

Localized Excellence



OLIVIA YOU, D.O.
FAMILY MEDICINE & OB-GYN

Dr. You, class of Beloit High School (2012), University of Kansas (2016), and A.T. Still University College of Osteopathic Medicine (2021), completed her residency in Wichita and chose to serve in Beloit. She delivers care across all ages, including obstetrics and pediatric services. Her presence ensures local patients don't need to travel long distances to give birth and family continuity of care stays close to home.



DANNY OWENS, M.D.
GENERAL SURGEON

Dr. Owens brings more than two decades of surgical excellence to Beloit. A Ross University graduate, he trained at Texas Tech and served in Operation Desert Storm before practicing at a Level II trauma center in Waco, TX, for 15 years. Now, he's performing minimally invasive, robotic, emergency, and general surgeries at MCHHS. His expertise allows lifesaving procedures to happen swiftly and without burdening families with travel.

Honoring a Lifetime of Service: The Jim & Louise Sutton Nursing Scholarship

A graduate of Concordia High School and the Marymount School of Nursing in Salina, Louise Sutton spent her career as a registered nurse at the Beloit Medical Center. Louise and her husband Jim shared a life of faith, service, and deep roots in Mitchell County.

Louise passed away in 2020, but her commitment to health care and love for this community live on through the Jim and Louise Sutton Memorial Nursing Scholarship, a permanently endowed fund created to support students pursuing nursing careers in healthcare.

This year marks a significant milestone with the first scholarships from the Sutton Fund being awarded, thanks to their generous legacy gift. Over \$4,000 was designated to three local students who plan to dedicate their career to local healthcare.

The Sutton scholarship fund will continue to open doors for future nurses for generations to come.

100 NIGHTS AT THE PERDUE HOUSE

In late June, MCRMF launched its first-ever “100 Nights at the Perdue House” sponsorship drive, and the response from the community was nothing short of extraordinary.

Over the course of five days, 78 nights were sponsored by local businesses, former guests of the Perdue House, first-time donors, and long-standing supporters. The campaign brought in a total of \$6,800 in contributions. The proceeds of this brief fundraiser completely covered the cost of a much needed new clothes washer, multiple new sheet sets for guest beds and will help sustain the home for future guests.

MCRMF hosted open-door tours of the Perdue House throughout the week. These informal visits offered community members a chance to step inside the space their donations help support. The turnout was incredible, and the stories shared were a powerful reminder of the far and wide impact of the Perdue House.

The foundation remain humbled by the outpouring of generosity and encouraged by the growing circle of people who believe in and support the mission of the Perdue House.

180

Nights of Stay

137

Community Sponsorships

“Thank you so much for allowing us to stay at the Perdue House. It was a blessing to have such a beautiful place to stay during a very difficult time. I was able to get a good nights sleep & the peace and quiet of the home helped me gather my emotions. May God bless your ministry to help those in need.”

Don and Donna G.
Perdue House Guests

2024-2025 Perdue House Sponsorships

Thank you to everyone who sponsored nights at the Perdue House during this time. Your generosity helps provide a safe, comfortable respite for families seeking peace and support.

* In memory of

Ron & Shari McKinnie from Jami Miller *
Don & Barbara Pruitt from Dan & Tami Pruitt *
Denis Shumate, from Karen Shumate*
Delycia McBlair from Brianne Heimann *
Vonda Pumarlo, from Wendy Richmeier & Cyndi Reinert *
Jerry Berkley from Eleanor Berkley *
Jim & Shirley's anniversary, from Shirley Nothern *
Eugene Greif from Marilyn Greif *
Dustin Fuller, from Kirby & Paula Kisslinger *
Stanley P. Creitz from Sue Creitz *
Cassiopeia Club of Beloit
Dan Fogo, from Janet Noah & David Fogo *
Brad Fuller, from Kirby & Paula Kisslinger *
Joe & Evelyn Evans, from Richard & Melissa Burks *
Donley's family birthdays, from Bonnie & Dwight Donley
Monte Albert , from Jolene Albert & family *
Jerry Berkley's birthday, from Elearnor Berkley*
Jim Nothern's birthday, from Shirley Nothern *
Sheila Walker Soetaert, from Pat & Fred Hirsch*
Joanne Behrends, from Janelle Budke*
Vada Unrein from Peters Family *

Nancy Slate, From Tracy, Melissa, Kara, Anne, Jennifer and Amanda*
Brody's Type 1 Diabetes Diagnosis, from Litton Family
Ernestine Mick from Marti McElroy *
Carol Emmot from Mark & Kim Fuller *
Craig Reiter from Madonna Reiter*
Irene Kindler & Deanna Meier, from Mike Meier*
Harold & Eileen Fraiser from Curt & Sherry Fraiser*
Lois Guipre-Simoneau from Joe & Angela Lesage*
Jerry Mispagel from Marlene Mispagel*
Dan & Tami Pruitt from Greg and Kerry Rozman
Ron Dean, from Elaine Dean *
Larry & Marge Grelinger from Kirby & Paula Kisslinger *
Christian Womens Fellowship from Jewell Christian Church
Judy Thierolf from Dan and Tami Pruitt *
Peg Gwin from David and Lisa Thompson
Christian Agape Shop
Stuart Family birthdays from Stuart Family
Angela Davies Falting, from Becky Davies *
Alex Studer, From Dan & Tami Pruitt *

Opening Doors for All at the Perdue House

In 2024, the Perdue House enhanced its services with the installation of a new ADA-compliant ramp. This important improvement strengthens our commitment to accessibility, ensuring all guests are able to enter and gather with ease. MCRMF is grateful to the Solomon Valley Community Foundation for their support in this critical project, and to Chrisman Construction for their skill in bringing the vision to reality.



GROWTH ON THE HORIZON

This year, through the generosity of the community and the supporting hometown healthcare campaign, the Foundation proudly contributed \$100,000 toward the hospital's North Wing renovation. This major redevelopment project creates a new outpatient treatment center, increases the space of the surgical clinic, and provides capacity to introduce new services to better meet the needs of our community. Construction began in early 2025 and is anticipated to be completed before year's end.

Looking ahead, MCHHS is preparing for the expansion of the Emergency Department. The project will enhance patient privacy, improve departmental efficiency, and address the growing needs of patients and the community. This improvement will ensure that emergency services remain responsive, modern, and capable of delivering the highest level of care.

Another facility improvement on the horizon is the relocation of the Rehabilitation Department. This project will improve ease of access for patients, create greater efficiency in department design, and allow for the expansion of services and equipment. By investing in this move, MCHHS is not only enhancing the patient experience today but also positioning the department for long-term growth, innovation, and the ability to meet the rehabilitation needs of our community for years to come.



YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR CARE



When north central Kansas rallies around a cause, incredible things happen. The 2024-2025 Supporting Hometown Healthcare campaign is living proof of that. From our MCHHS employees to friends and neighbors across the region, generosity has poured in, and blueprints are steadily transforming into renovations that will open doors to better care.

Each gift sends the same message: a persisting belief in access to quality healthcare close to home. That belief is actively reshaping the hospital and strengthening the future of care in north central Kansas.

This year's support shows what's possible when people come together. And while remarkable progress has been made, the work isn't finished yet. Many stakeholders are working toward transformational improvements, and the same spirit that has carried us this far will see us through to the finish. Thank you for proving that when we invest in our hometown, we all thrive.



\$25,130

in MCHHS
employee giving



\$72,170

in community giving



\$97,300

in MCHHS Endowment
Match



\$194,600

total match dollars

“EVENTUALLY YOU DON’T DODGE THE BULLET.”

The lasting impact of almost 40 years of tobacco cessation classes in North Central Kansas

In the early 1980's, it was nearly impossible to go to the movies, eat out, or even attend a hospital appointment without the smell of cigarette smoke nearby. At that time, more than three out of four adults in Kansas were regular smokers, and it was unusual to be without a pack. Cigarettes were openly endorsed by celebrities, and even some physicians promoted certain brands as the “healthier choice.”

While Kansas was among the first states to attempt anti-cigarette legislation in the late 1800s, meaningful change came much later. Between 1909 and 1927, cigarettes were entirely outlawed in the state, though the ban was eventually lifted. By 1985, more than 725,000 Kansas adults reported smoking daily. Progress has been significant in recent decades, and by 2023, fewer than 14 percent of Kansas adults identified as daily smokers.

Richard and Melissa Burks have played a meaningful role in this transformation locally. Both former smokers themselves, they became Board Certified Tobacco Cessation Specialists and began teaching cessation classes in the late 1980s in the basement of MCHHS alongside the late Dr. Drake. Still to this day, they invite anyone who is ready to put down tobacco to join their 6-week smoking cessation course. Their personal experiences gives them unique credibility, and through their leadership, hundreds of area residents have found the support they needed to begin a smoke free life.

The six week class has stood the test of time, continuing for more than 30 years and helping many local residents break free from tobacco. Participants consistently point to three things that made a difference: the accountability of quitting alongside others, practical strategies to stay on track, and the honest sharing of what life looks like on the other side of addiction.

Staff at MCRMF sat down to interview past participants, and observed that the heart of the program comes down to three common threads shared by past participants: the urgency of protecting their health, the accountability of quitting alongside others, and the promise of a better life after smoking. Nearly everyone interviewed pointed to the turning point of a health scare or the realization that they wanted more years with their families. They found strength in the weekly accountability of the class, knowing they had to answer to peers who understood the struggle. And in the end, they spoke of the freedom and renewed health that came from leaving cigarettes behind. As 1985 participant Dee Daugherty reflected, “Even if you didn’t know each other, you had to answer to someone the next week.”



American Cancer Society ad, 1973.

For many, the decision to quit began with a wake-up call. Some faced life-threatening diagnoses, while others simply realized they wanted to be present for milestones with children and grandchildren. Marty Fletchall reflected that he may not be alive today had he not walked into the class. He admitted, "It's too late to quit when you're down and out. Eventually you don't dodge the bullet." Marty completed the smoking cessation class in 1993 and has remained tobacco free ever since. His journey is a reminder of the health, time, and resources that can be restored when smoking is left behind.

Just as powerful was the support of the group. Participants described the motivation that came from sitting alongside others who understood the struggle. Whether they were old friends or complete strangers, the weekly expectation of showing up and reporting progress made it harder to give in to cravings. Daughtery put it simply: "I tried to quit many times before taking the class, and I now swear by group therapy." The shared accountability was often the turning point that made quitting last.

The benefits of quitting stretched far beyond the classroom. Former smokers spoke of fewer health problems, financial relief from no longer buying cartons, and the pride of modeling a healthier lifestyle for their families. Daughtery summed it up: "I don't want to smoke another cigarette because I never want to have to stop again - quitting smoking is the hardest thing I've ever done." For those who have taken the step, life on the other side is clearer, freer, and filled with possibilities.

If you or someone you know is ready to take the first step toward quitting, the tobacco cessation class welcomes all. With an open-door approach, we make it simple to get started. contact the Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation, and we will help you enroll in the next available class. Every journey begins with a single step, and support is ready when you are.

Reach out to the Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation by calling or texting our Connected Care line at 785-302-9645 or emailing careteam@nck.sprucecare.com to be included in the next class opportunity.

Keeping NCK Connected

There's often a gap between when someone realizes they need help and actually knowing where to turn. Many clients have been struggling for some time but simply didn't know who to ask or what resources were available. Connected Care bridges that gap—offering a safe, welcoming space where people can explore their needs and connect with resources that make a difference. Through one-on-one consultations, we take a broad look at each client's situation and help identify the services and support that fit best. Our services are always free and open to anyone in North Central Kansas.

141

Individuals

utilized Connected Care for support. Janae Peters, MCRM Community Health Worker walked alongside each of them, helping navigate everything from health insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare to utility and rent assistance, SNAP, prescriptions, breast cancer coverage, and housing needs.

51.2% Single Clients
48.8% Families with children

*Connected
Care*
Living better every day.

Statement of Activity

July 1, 2024 - June 30th 2025

Expenses

- Operations: \$181,179.00
- Community Health Contributions - Subawards: \$113,834
- Perdue House Support: \$45,781.91
- Recruitment and Scholarships: \$67,389.00
- MCHHS Support: \$63,130.08
- Fundraisers & Special Events: \$7,563.00
- TOTAL: \$478,876.99**

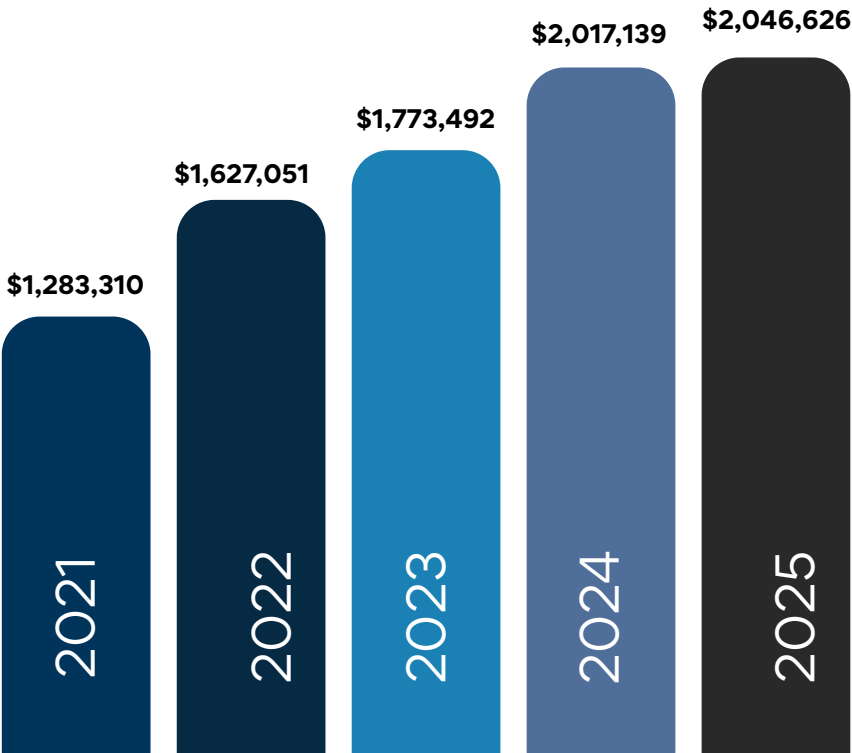
Income

- Gifts and Contributions: \$160,337.00
- Grant Income: \$282,676
- Perdue House Support: \$40,585.00
- Investment Gain: \$18,709.97
- Scholarship Support: \$4,000
- Other Revenue: \$2,059.26
- TOTAL: \$508,367.23**

For more than a decade, MCRMF has taken the lead in regional community health grant efforts, working closely with neighboring counties to expand collective impact. In this role, MCRMF writes and manages the grants, ensuring resources are invested wisely and positioning Mitchell County as a trusted hub for leadership and collaboration.

Because the funds flow through our organization before being distributed to partners, our financials reflect both the full grant revenue and the corresponding subaward expenses. This approach highlights our role as a steward and convener of resources on behalf of North Central Kansas, ensuring transparency in how funds are managed and deployed for community benefit.

Assets Over Time



2024-2025 Memorial Gifts

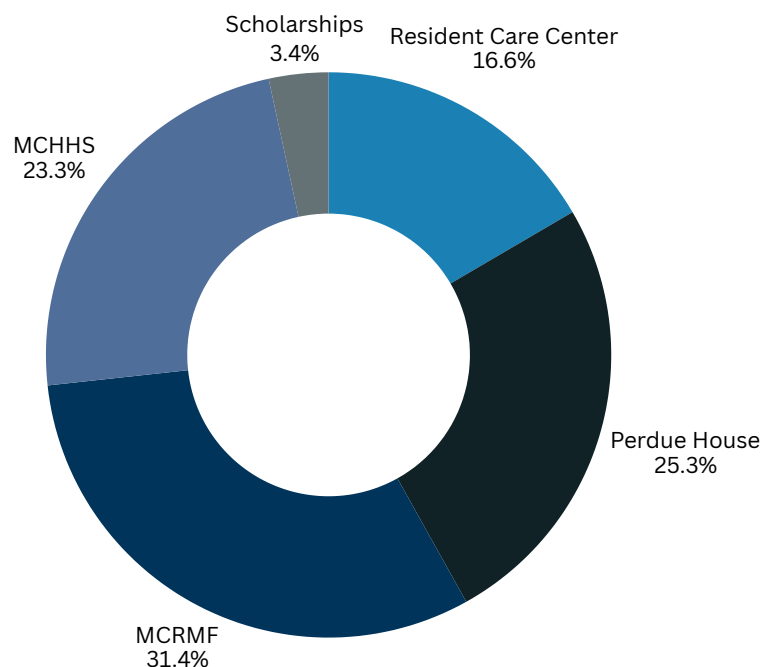
Shirley Rank	Karen Susie Walker
Sheryl Tatro	Nancy Slate
Joanne Behrends	Delmar Shoemaker
Michael Heidrick	Phyllis Thull
Everett Linton	Jan Jones
Shirley Simmelink	Kerry Rozman
Dan File	Ed Jordan
Marilyn Greist	Mary McCann
Jane Wallace	

"Your home is truly a blessing to those weary and anxious about loved ones in RCC and MCHHS. It provides comfort and hominess that a motel cannot give. It was nice to have all facilities available to us as if we were staying in a relatives home. I'm thankful to those of our family and friends who have donated to further your mission."

Vicki B., Perdue House Guest
whose mother's memorial gift supported the Perdue House/RCC

MCRMF is honored to receive memorial gifts made in remembrance of loved ones who recently passed. These contributions are a meaningful way for families and friends to celebrate a life while also strengthening the future of healthcare in our community. Every memorial received is thoughtfully directed toward projects and initiatives that improve care, expand resources, and enhance the wellbeing of patients and families. The generosity shown through these memorials not only honors those who are missed but also leaves a lasting impact for generations to come. The chart below reflects how memorials received were distributed across programs, demonstrating how each gift contributes to building a healthier tomorrow. The foundation remains deeply grateful to every family who chooses to give in this way.

Memorial Gift Designations



Your gift, your way.

All donated gifts are unique, and there are many avenues to choose the way you make a lasting difference. From simple one-time gifts to legacy planning, these options let you choose the approach that fits your life while supporting a mission you care about.

MONTHLY GIFTS

Support programs with a recurring gift. Choose cash, check, or online giving-whatever's easiest for you.

BEQUESTS

Include MCRMF in your will, trust, or estate plans to ensure your support continues for future generations.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

If you're 70½ or older, you can donate directly from your IRA. It counts toward your required minimum distribution and may reduce taxable income.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Recommend a grant from your DAF to support our mission. An easy way to make giving part of your financial plan.

SECURITIES & ASSETS

Donating stocks, bonds, or mutual funds may offer tax advantages and allow you to make a larger impact without affecting cash flow.

AGRICULTURAL GIFTS

Donate grain, livestock, or land directly. Avoiding a sale can reduce taxable income while maximizing your impact.

Ready to Make A Difference?

To explore these options or create a plan that works best for you, contact Shelby Bohnert, Executive Director or Adrina Cunningham, Donor Relations and Communications at 785-738-9493 or sbohnert@mitchellcountyrmf.org

For gifts of stock, IRA distributions, land, or estate plans, we encourage you to consult your financial or legal advisor. We're happy to work with you and your professionals to ensure your gift maximizes both your impact and potential tax benefits.



KEEPING IT ON FILE

Miles “Tuffy” File made the decision to leave land to the Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems and the Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation, he planted a seed of generosity that will grow for generations to come. His choice represented a long term investment in the health and well-being of the region.

The land Tuffy entrusted to MCRMF continues to work, even in his absence. Each year, the income from this property provides critical funding for the upkeep and maintenance of the Perdue Hospitality House.

Because of this steady, dependable support, the foundation can focus less on worrying about the day-to-day operational costs and more on ensuring guests find the peace, comfort, and care they need during difficult times.

This is the lasting impact of a legacy gift. Land is unique in that it continues to grow in value, and with it, the ability to sustain the mission it supports. Tuffy’s foresight means that his generosity will not only meet today’s needs but also strengthen the work of the Perdue House for generations to come. His gift is one that continues to nurture the health and well-being of this community year after year.

Tuffy’s memory is honored with every family welcomed through the Perdue House doors, and we are inspired by his example. Planned gifts like his ensure that the services our community depends on today will be here for generations to come.



Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation
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