

FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

WINTER 2025



YOUR GIFTS MAKE NORTHERN MICHIGAN HEALTHIER

Your support helps us provide state-of-the-art surgical technology, recruit providers and enhance the education of McLaren Northern Michigan staff.

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OUR MISSION:

To receive and administer funds to support the mission of McLaren Northern Michigan and support programs that enhance the well-being of the community.

ON THE COVER:



Dr. Nicholas Coriasso and Dr. Tyler Nesmith, members of our nationally recognized cardiac care team. Learn more on page 5.

HOW YOUR GIFTS HELP

Your gifts make a difference in patients' lives. Your gifts provide support for staff and patients every day.

The entire team at McLaren Northern Michigan appreciates your support—as does every patient who relies on McLaren Northern Michigan for their care.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and share our stories with your friends and family to encourage them to give back as well!



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
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Friends of the Foundation Newsletter is a publication of the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation and is produced three times a year. Find out more about our work by visiting McLaren.org/NorthernMichiganFoundation.

Dear Friends,

With winter's blanket settled over our northern Michigan community, we are grateful for your support of our hospital. Your generosity continues to transform healthcare.

February is American Heart Month and we're proud to share several initiatives that your partnership has made possible. Our cardiology department continues to grow cardiac care services with new providers and technology. Newly upgraded MRI software ensures that patients receive the most advanced diagnostic care available.

The impact of your giving shines in the story shared by Paul and Dee Horgan about his life-threatening cardiac emergency. When minutes meant everything, they experienced firsthand the critical importance of having advanced cardiac care close to home.

As we reflect on these achievements and look forward to the opportunities ahead, we are reminded that none of this would be possible without you.

With deep gratitude,

Elise Fisher
Board Chair
McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation



Julie Jarema
Vice President, Chief Philanthropy Officer
McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation

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ADVANCED MRI TECHNOLOGY



Thanks to your support of the Unrestricted and Equipment and Technology Funds, McLaren Northern Michigan has upgraded its MRI software and diagnostics. This investment in cutting-edge technology will especially benefit our cardiac and urology patients. Prostate MRI has become the preferred diagnostic method, surpassing PSA testing in accuracy.

Upcoming new software will play a vital role in detecting heart disease. The detailed images of heart and vascular structures will allow our medical team to quickly assess cardiac conditions and map out the most effective treatment plan, whether it involves catheterization, surgery, or medication.

“The enhanced capabilities mean shorter scan times for patients and the ability to receive sophisticated cardiac and prostate diagnostic care close to home,” says Adriane Corlew, MHA, OTRL, Director of Imaging Services.

The software upgrade shows how donor support transforms healthcare delivery in northern Michigan. By investing in medical technology, our donors ensure that our community has access to the same level of diagnostic tools found in major medical centers, without the burden of traveling great distances.



**50% REDUCTION
IN SCAN TIMES**



“This technology, funded by generous donors, allows us to provide patients with the highest quality diagnostic imaging.”

ADRIANE CORLEW, MHA, OTRL
DIRECTOR OF IMAGING SERVICES

INVESTING IN EXCELLENCE

Your Support at Work

McLaren Northern Michigan's cardiac program has once again earned national recognition as one of the 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals for 2025, a reflection of our commitment to heart care. This honor reflects the exceptional work of our dedicated physicians and cardiac medical staff and the investments in technology made possible through donor support.



ENHANCED PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Excellence in cardiac care goes beyond surgical procedures to every aspect of the patient's healing journey. Donor generosity has enabled us to invest in equipment and resources that provide comfort to patients and help them in their recovery.

- New cardiac catheterization lab stretchers
- Specialized wheelchair scale
- Therapeutic heart pillows for post-surgical recovery
- Mediterranean cookbooks for cardiac rehabilitation patients

CRITICAL CARE TECHNOLOGY

Having the most advanced equipment can mean the difference between life and death. Through donor support, McLaren Northern Michigan acquired the IntraSight IVUS Imaging System which is used in the OR and the Cath Lab to determine if there is calcification or narrowing of arteries. In addition to the IVUS, donors helped fund the following items:

- LifePak defibrillators
- 3D TEE ultrasound machine for open heart procedures
- EPIQ ultrasound machine for cardiac diagnostics



Please consider donating to the Unrestricted Fund to support healthcare in northern Michigan. Every gift, big or small, has a meaningful impact. We are grateful for your consideration of support.

Scan this QR code to donate online.



HEART CARE CLOSE TO HOME

Growing to Meet Community Needs



For residents across northern Michigan, having access to cardiac care can make a critical difference. According to the CDC, cardiovascular disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, and in Michigan, it has been the top cause of death for more than a decade. Having immediate access to advanced cardiac treatment is vital and saves lives.

GROWING TEAM OF PROVIDERS

Dr. Nicholas Coriasso, an interventional cardiologist, brings expertise in minimally invasive procedures which provide alternate treatments for patients. Dr. Coriasso adds his expertise to that of Dr. Tyler Nesmith, who has been providing exceptional cardiac care to our patients since 2022 (both pictured on cover). Dr. Nesmith's experience in general cardiology provides a strong foundation for comprehensive cardiac care.

Patients will find Dr. Coriasso and Dr. Nesmith skilled and compassionate healthcare partners. Their commitment to patient education ensures that each patient and their family members fully understand their cardiac care and treatment plan. New patient openings are available with both providers.

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Two major fundraising initiatives are underway and will transform cardiac care at McLaren Northern Michigan:

- A \$2.7 million Nuclear Medicine and Cardiac Diagnostics modernization, now nearly funded includes purchasing a new SPECT/CT imaging system, stress testing units, updating and renovating space to consolidate imaging services.
- Fundraising recently began for a new \$2.7 million renovation of Cardiac Catheterization Lab #1. This significant upgrade will feature a larger boom-mounted monitor allowing physicians to view cardiovascular function and procedures on the same screen. The renovated lab will expand our capacity to meet the increasing community needs, particularly important as we welcome additional cardiac specialists to our team.

Through the continued partnership of our donors, we're not just treating heart disease—we're building the future of cardiac care in our community. Your support helps maintain McLaren Northern Michigan as a leading healthcare provider and ensures that when minutes matter exceptional cardiac care is within reach.

A SECOND CHANCE

From Education to Emergency Response

It was a beautiful autumn day when Paul Horgan was doing what many northern Michigan residents do in the fall—raking leaves in his yard. Despite being physically fit and active, Paul suddenly felt a wave of sickness and back pain wash over him. Dee, his wife, a retired nurse, became immediately concerned and they made the critical decision to head straight to McLaren Northern Michigan.

EVERY SECOND COUNTS

“We’re so grateful we live close to McLaren Northern Michigan,” says Matt Frentz, Paul’s son-in-law, who along with his wife Katie (Paul’s daughter) rushed to the hospital after receiving the news.

“When we arrived later that day, we learned how the Emergency Department team had responded swiftly from the moment Paul walked through the doors. The speed of their response was remarkable, they had him triaged and receiving treatment within minutes of his arrival. As family members, and donors ourselves, it was incredibly reassuring to know that such immediate, high-level care was available right here in our community.”

PREPARED FOR CRITICAL CARE

This rapid response reflects the hospital’s commitment to ongoing professional development and education - a commitment exemplified by Katherine “Katie” Sharp, MSN, RN, CCRN. At the time of Paul’s cardiac event, Katie served in the



Intensive Care Unit as one of McLaren Northern Michigan’s clinical educators. As part of the four-member clinical education team, she supported staff education across multiple departments.

Through Foundation-funded scholarships, she had already built a strong foundation of specialized knowledge, completing her Master of Science in Nursing and attending critical care conferences.

“Continuing education helps us stay updated on the best practices in critical care,” explains Katie, who has since advanced to become McLaren Northern Michigan’s Trauma Program Manager. Her work as a clinical educator helped ensure that staff develop and maintain the highest standards of care—expertise that proved crucial in cases like Paul’s.

“The generous support of our donors allows us to bring the latest evidence-based care directly to our patients.”

KATIE SHARP, MSN, RN, CCRN
TRAUMA PROGRAM MANAGER

The cardiac cath team’s swift and skilled response, resulting in a life-saving stent placement within two hours of Paul’s arrival, demonstrated the impact of this ongoing educational support. The procedure, performed in the hospital’s cardiac catheterization lab, showcased how staff education and advanced facilities work together to save lives.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

The impact of Katie’s professional development extends across the hospital through her participation in multiple committees, including the Resuscitation Committee. For Paul’s family, this comprehensive approach to healthcare excellence made all the difference.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

“The same day Paul had this critical procedure, we were all together in his hospital room watching the Lions game in the evening. It really puts things in perspective—how fortunate we are to have this level of care in our community,” Matt reflects. “Just a small delay could have changed everything.”

The impact of donor support extends beyond individual cases like Paul’s. “We are forever grateful for the exceptional care we received at McLaren Northern Michigan,” say Paul and Dee. His story is a reminder that your investment helps ensure that when emergencies strike, our community has access to the best possible care.



Katie Sharp, MSN, RN, CCRN



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SAVE THE DATE

Lavender Goes Pink!

Join us for a summer evening when Nashville recording artist and “The Voice” Season 22 finalist Morgan Myles takes the stage at Lavender Hill Farm. A portion of the proceeds from this special benefit concert supports the Breast Health Fund at McLaren Northern Michigan.

Guests can enjoy themed beverages while browsing unique items in the silent auction – all set against the backdrop of lavender fields. Morgan Myles, known for her powerful vocals and country style, will deliver an intimate performance supporting this important cause.

Join Us
Friday, July 25, 2025

**Lavender Hill Farm,
Boyne City**



Morgan Myles, photo courtesy of Lavender Hill Farm

Don't miss this evening of music and
community under the summer sky!

Use this QR code to purchase tickets.

