

# FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION



NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
FOUNDATION

FALL 2024



## 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:



Matthew Rohloff, MD, urologist at McLaren Northern Michigan, with ultrasound equipment funded by donors.

Learn more about the procedure made possible by your support on page 3.

## 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!



Dear Friends,

Crisp autumn air has arrived in northern Michigan, along with nature's vibrant colors. As we enter the season of giving thanks, we are grateful for your partnership which makes our mission possible.

In this fall newsletter, we're excited to share the newest additions to our medical technology, from our new 3D mammography machine to cutting-edge urology equipment. You will also meet our newest urologist, and a scholarship recipient dedicated to breast health patients.



During Breast Health Month, we are especially proud to highlight the incredible community support for our oncology patients. These contributions not only ease financial burdens but remind patients that they are not facing these challenges alone, you are there with them.

As the pace of life slows down in this season, we invite you to reflect on how your generosity impacts healthcare in our region. You are instrumental in transforming care to better serve our friends, families, and neighbors.

Thank you for being part of the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation family. Together, we're creating a healthier future for northern Michigan.

With deep gratitude,

The image shows the handwritten signature of Elise Fisher.

Elise Fisher  
Board Chair  
McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation

The image shows the handwritten signature of Julie Jarema.

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



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 for contributors to the Foundation. Find out more about our work by visiting [McLaren.org/NorthernMichiganFoundation](https://McLaren.org/NorthernMichiganFoundation).*

## 2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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# ADVANCING UROLOGICAL CARE

Thanks to the generous support of donors, McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation funded cutting-edge equipment that is enhancing urological care in our community. This investment has not only increased patient comfort and diagnostic accuracy but also made possible a remarkable achievement by a McLaren Northern Michigan urologist.

## A STATE RECORD!

Benign Prostate Hyperplasia (BPH) is a common condition affecting more than 50% of men over age 50. This non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate can significantly impact quality of life, causing symptoms such as frequent and difficult urination. Donor funding is helping to treat BPH through the acquisition of a UroCuff and a bladder scanner.

The UroCuff provides a non-invasive method to assess prostate obstruction before and after intervention. Complementing this, the bladder scanner offers non-invasive, real-time imaging for accurate assessment of bladder volume, reducing the need for catheterization and improving patient comfort.

These advancements have supported Dr. Matthew Rohloff in setting a new state record by performing 29 UroLift procedures in a single month. The UroLift procedure, a minimally invasive treatment option for BPH, provides relief without damaging prostate tissue.



*"The true accomplishment is that we were able to help so many people in this amount of time, and any achievement is shared among an outstanding surgical team."*

**MATTHEW ROHLOFF, MD**  
UROLOGIST

"This accomplishment would not have been possible without the support of our generous donors," says Dr. Rohloff. "The advanced equipment they've helped us acquire has improved our diagnostic capabilities and treatment options, allowing us to provide the highest level of care to our patients."

Dr. Rohloff's achievement not only highlights his skill and dedication, but also shows the impact of donor contributions in advancing urological care.



## BUILDING OUR TEAM



**Aaron Brown, MD**  
UROLOGIST

We are excited to welcome Dr. Aaron Brown to our urology team! Dr. Brown brings a wealth of experience and expertise in adult urologic care, offering a full range of services for both male and female patients.

Dr. Brown completed his undergraduate and master's in biology at the University of Michigan before earning his medical degree from George Washington University School of Medicine. He then completed a general surgical internship and urology residency at Wayne State University and the Detroit Medical Center, where his training spanned both minimally invasive and traditional open surgical techniques.

With a passion for minimally invasive techniques, Dr. Brown is particularly experienced in robotic-assisted surgeries, which provide faster recovery times and fewer complications for patients. He is committed to delivering top-quality care and personalized patient treatment plans.

# YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

## Just in Time for Breast Cancer Awareness Month! 3D Mammography Now Serving the Cheboygan Community

We are proud to share that gifts to the Breast Health Fund and the Kim Monthei Cancer Fund helped to fund the new 3D Mammography Suite at McLaren's Cheboygan Campus.

### EARLY DETECTION IS KEY

Regular screening, early detection and state-of-the-art treatment greatly improve recovery from breast cancer. In fact, if caught early, when cancer is confined to the breast, the five-year survival rate is close to 100%!

In vast rural areas like northern Michigan, distance to care is a barrier for many patients – and a threat to early detection. Bringing 3D Mammography to Cheboygan provides closer-to-home access to life-saving technology for many who live in McLaren Northern Michigan's 22 county service area.

### ADVANTAGES OF 3D MAMMOGRAPHY

**Clinically Superior:** 3D mammography is the most advanced form of breast cancer screening. It takes multiple images of breast tissue to create a 3-dimensional picture that gives doctors a much clearer image of the breast and masses (see image below).

**Improving Early Detection:** Compared to 2D mammography, 3D finds much smaller masses - up to 40% more cancers than 2D - and is significantly more effective imaging dense breast tissue. 3D offers earlier detection, providing a better chance of survival and more treatment options that are generally less radical.

**Decreased Recall Rates:** 3D mammography produces fewer false alarms, reducing the number of patients called back for additional screening.

**Increased Comfort:** The new mammography equipment includes patient-focused comfort design with a variety of paddles to accommodate all patients. Enhanced ergonomics and workflows enable a faster and smoother experience for both patient and staff.

### HEALING ENVIRONMENT

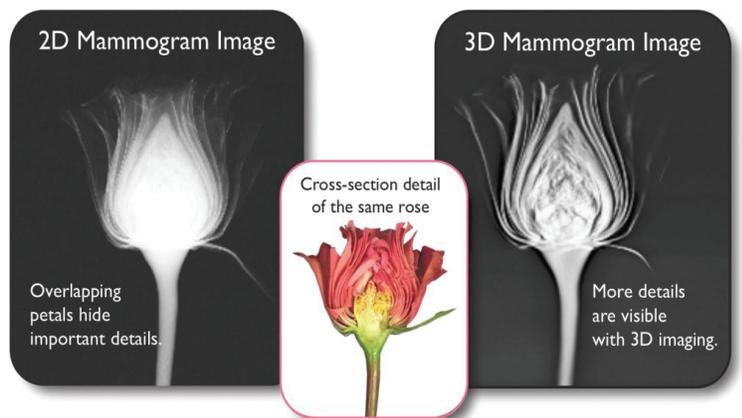
To complement the new technology, the mammography suite was renovated to be welcoming and comforting for our patients. Uplifting artwork, finishes, furniture and a new gown warmer provide a more soothing experience during the mammogram procedure.



3D Mammography Machine

### HEARTFELT THANK YOU

Your continued support makes innovations like this possible. Thank you for bringing advanced diagnostic options to women in our community.





Newly renovated exam room



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.



Nicole Benson (Rt)R, CT, ARRT Mammographer

## SCHOLARSHIP LAUNCHES NEW CAREER

Nicole Benson (Rt)R, CT, ARRT is a CT Scan Technician in the Imaging Department.

A McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation scholarship helped Nicole complete Mammography training through the Medical Technology Management Institute. The training has allowed Nicole to take the next step in her career and advance into another modality in Imaging, Breast Health, by becoming a Mammographer.

Nicole has worked for the McLaren Health Care System since 2002, joining McLaren Northern Michigan in 2016. Nicole is eager to grow in her career and when she noticed an open position within the Mammography Department, she sought training to qualify for this new role.

With your support, Nicole completed Mammography Training and an additional 3D Imaging class. Thank you for helping this dedicated caregiver, and so many others, flourish at McLaren Northern Michigan.

# COMMUNITY IN ACTION

## Celebrating the Donors and Events Making a Difference

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and a great time to recognize the donors helping our oncology patients. Many local businesses come together to support oncology funds at McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation. Here are details from a just few of those events (pictured top to bottom).

### LAVENDER GOES PINK

Lavender Hill Farm, located in Boyne City, served as the perfect backdrop for an electrifying 80s concert with proceeds supporting the Breast Health Fund. Bill and Erin Mansfield, Lavender Hill Farm owners, continue a fundraising tradition in memory of loved ones lost to breast cancer.

Attendees enjoyed listening to nostalgic 80s classics and the chance to bid on items from local artwork to exclusive experiences. Thanks to the overwhelming support and the dedication of the team at Lavender Hill Farm, this gathering raised \$10,000!



### FLETCH'S OF PETOSKEY

Fletch's of Petoskey shows their commitment to our community's well-being through their annual fundraiser for the Breast Health Fund. In 2023, they raised over \$12,000 and this generous contribution is part of a long-standing tradition of support, with Fletch's having raised more than \$100,000 since 2016.

The funds raised by Fletch's are instrumental in providing vital services to breast health patients across our region. Thanks to the generosity of Fletch's and their customers, women in northern Michigan have the support they need to access care close to home.



## BIRCHWOOD FARMS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Birchwood Farms Golf & Country Club members raised \$20,832 at this year's annual Take a Swing at Cancer event, which included tennis, pickleball and golf. Since 2007, members have raised over \$156,500 to help patients in the fight against cancer.

Their gifts assist patients experiencing financial hardship while going through oncology treatment. The patient's care team coordinate with Foundation staff to deliver support quickly, often within a matter of hours. This help comes at a very difficult time in the patient's life and they are so grateful to receive it.



## BAY HARBOR PINK RIBBON RALLY

The Bay Harbor Golf Club's annual Pink Ribbon Rally demonstrates the power of community support. Participants enjoyed a morning of golf on the beautiful course while raising funds to support local breast cancer patients. This year's event raised over \$30,000, building upon a decade of generosity, with the Pink Ribbon Rally contributing more than \$261,000 since 2012.

These gifts have a significant impact on breast health initiatives and support for breast health patients in northern Michigan.

## GIFT OF COMFORT

Thanks to generous donors who contributed to our Breast Health Funds, since last October, we assisted 115 patients in our community. Breast cancer patients often face unexpected financial burdens due to their diagnosis and treatment. Your support has been instrumental in helping patients with non-reimbursable expenses, such as transportation, lodging, meals, and prescriptions.

McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation donors have enabled us to distribute 72 Comfort Kits, which bring encouragement to patients newly diagnosed with breast cancer. Hand-delivered by our oncology nurse navigators, each kit contains an inspirational book to lift spirits, specialty teas and chocolates, a journal for reflection and supportive pillows for post-surgery recovery. A Comfy Chemo Shirt is also included in each kit. These shirts are designed for easy access to chest ports for patients undergoing chemotherapy.

For so many of our patients, your gifts provide much-needed comfort and encouragement, reminding them that they are not alone in their journey.





NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
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# GIFTS OF STOCK

Donating appreciated equity can be a gift for both you and your favorite charity.



*Guest column provided by David E. Farley Senior Vice President, Investments Raymond James & Associates, Inc.*

For many of us, the end-of-year holidays are a time to connect with

loved ones, make family memories and give back to the charities that mean the most to us. It's often an appropriate time to get your portfolio in shape and diversify where necessary as well.

Donating appreciated stock offers several benefits – chief among them, the ability to make a larger value donation than giving cash after liquidating. You can avoid capital gains tax on the appreciated amount that you would have incurred had you sold the stock, and you get a tax

deduction for the full fair market value of your long-term capital gain asset – up to 30% of your adjusted gross income.

Five benefits of donating appreciated stock:

- The tax deduction for the market value of the donation
- Federal capital gains taxes savings in the amount you otherwise would have incurred from selling the stock outright
- An opportunity to rebalance your portfolio in line with your financial plan
- As an alternative to gifting cash, you can donate stock and then repurchase identical shares, often resulting in a step up in cost basis
- The ability to benefit a charity by the full appreciated amount of the stock

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## UPCOMING EVENT

### CHEBOYGAN GUILD FESTIVAL OF THE TREES

Drawing

Saturday, November 16

1:00 p.m.

Fernelius Chrysler, Cheboygan

Join us to celebrate the holiday season at the Third Annual Festival of the Trees, presented by the Cheboygan Guild.

Viewing is open November 7-15. Raffle tickets are available for \$2.00 each, with the winners drawn on Saturday, November 16.

If you would like to become a sponsor, or have any other questions, please call the Foundation at (231) 487-3500.

