

The Benevolent Voice

The Borgess Foundation newsletter connecting with friends and employees of Borgess Health.

New Borgess Garden to Open — There's No Place Like Home



❧ Winter 2009

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BORGESS
Foundation



The Benevolent Voice is a regular publication of the Borgess Foundation, the philanthropic organization dedicated to supporting Borgess Health. We welcome your opinions and input regarding this publication. Please address all correspondence to:

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If you prefer to receive your newsletter by email, please visit our web site or call 269.226.8100.

“We are all so excited about the move to our new home,” says Marilyn Smeed, a three-year resident of the nursing home on Chicago Avenue in Kalamazoo. “We are thrilled to be able to have more personal privacy, new outdoor options and a home-like setting in which to enjoy our activities, entertainment and daily living.” The residents of the Borgess Nursing Home are tentatively scheduled to make the move to the new, \$17 million Borgess Gardens Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on November 18.

From more private rooms to state-of-the-art rehabilitation equipment and peaceful outdoor courtyards, this revitalized setting provides an even healthier habitat for healing for the elderly and those who require short-term rehabilitation that we are proud to serve. “This is an exciting, yet stressful time and the staff is extending even more emotional support to help our residents with the move,” says Bart Carrel, Administrator of the new

Borgess Gardens. He has been directing the operations of the Borgess Nursing Home for more than six years.

“We will bring in additional staff for the move-in day, along with help from Borgess volunteers and the families of our residents.” Carrel notes that the carefully-planned move-in course is expected to take only twelve hours. “The move to Borgess Gardens ushers in a new cultural mindset,” Carrel states. “We are leaving behind the institution and replacing it with a true home.”

To help bring this project to life, Bill and Julia Van Domelen made the initial historic gift of \$5.5 million, and the 9.65-acre site nestled within the Nazareth Campus on Gull Road was donated by the Congregation of St. Joseph. “Borgess Gardens represents a significant investment in caring for rehabilitation patients and senior citizens,

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,



Tony McDonnell,
Executive Director

As a result of your gracious and thoughtful support, we are pleased to announce that we have enhanced access to the most sophisticated and personal health care in Southwest Michigan. This newsletter features highlights of our incredibly eventful year of healing and caring. In 2009, the Borgess Foundation provided over \$2 million of support for Borgess medical and patient care initiatives. Thank you. We couldn't have done it without you!

You helped provide:

- Construction of the new Borgess Gardens
- \$1.5 million in capital expenditures for renovations of Borgess Medical Center's critical care units and two other patient care units, along with renovations and equipment purchases for the orthopedics, neurosurgery and general surgery service lines
- Three ambulances to serve Borgess-Pipp Hospital's local emergency medical needs.
- Health screenings for area residents, outpatient psychiatric services and care for the poor or underserved in a variety of clinical services
- Diabetes care and education for the uninsured

Your gifts to the Borgess Foundation increased 140 percent from the prior year, led by the strength of two major gifts:

- A special gift to Borgess VNA Home Health & Hospice
- An estate gift of more than \$2 million from Kay M. Pierce to support Borgess-Pipp Hospital

The Borgess Foundation received 1,750 gifts in fiscal year 2009 that went directly to supporting Borgess programs and projects. As careful stewards of your generous contributions, 94 cents of every contributed dollar supported Borgess Health activities and made an impact in enhancing access to our health care services. Our Foundation team promises to carefully steward your donations and leverage them to continue to provide "health care that leaves no one behind."

Thank you for your support and continued confidence in Borgess Health.

Wishing you good health and happiness, now and in the New Year,

Tony McDonnell, Executive Director
Borgess Foundation



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Donations at Work

We Support the Health of Your Community

Did you know that last year, more than 20,000 inpatients were treated at Borgess Medical Center and more than 57,000 patients were seen in the ER? Over 12,000 of those patients did not have insurance coverage.

Charitable care at Borgess for the medically uninsured — including many hard-working families with children — has grown by 200 percent in the past two years.



Our Tree of Love is Growing

The 24th annual Borgess Tree of Love campaign will help provide free mammograms, screening and follow up care for uninsured or underinsured women who are at risk for breast cancer. Many are the “working poor” and can’t qualify for Medicaid because they do have jobs. “With low-paying jobs, they can’t afford health insurance,” says Kathy Praedel, Director of Volunteer Services at Borgess. “We are their safety net.” Since 1985 more than \$220,000 has been raised for this campaign. For more information on this special holiday fundraiser and memorial event, visit treeoflove.borgess.com.

Join us Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. for the 2009 Tree of Love tree lighting ceremony.



Phase I of the ETC Renovations Begins

Your generous donations to the *Habitat for Healing Campaign* are helping to support the purchase of diagnostic equipment and renovations to the Borgess Level I Emergency & Trauma Center (ETC). We’re expanding the current facility to accommodate the growing demand for our quality “No Wait” ER care. Last year, more than 57,000 patients visited the ER. Phase I of this new expansion and remodeling effort combines the Emergency & Trauma Center with our Fast Track prompt treatment program to provide seamless, efficient care in a more private, comfortable setting.

“We’re anticipating construction starting this month,” says ETC Medical Director Steven R. Kujacznski, D.O., F.A.C.E.P. “Our patient volume has exploded in the past few years and these renovations will provide a comprehensive workflow design for the ER with an expanded triage area, and a secluded psychiatric module. Borgess has a strong

We ALL Can Help!

Borgess provided an estimated \$63 million in charitable care in 2009, up from \$40 million the year before. All hospitals in Michigan are facing even more state and federal Medicaid and Medicare cuts, so your generous donations are gratefully appreciated in our not-for-profit health care mission. Together, we helped over 15,000 people get access to exceptional health care at Borgess in calendar year 2008. We promise to do our best to ensure your gifts are targeted toward the greatest need.



When you give to Borgess, you are making an investment in the healthcare future of our community. **We are proud to report that 94 percent of every dollar goes directly to support patient care services at Borgess.** At Borgess, we also continue to take every opportunity to make efficiencies and streamline our operations without impacting our excellent quality of care.

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*New Borgess Garden to Open –
continued from front*

one that will help meet the needs of our community and region for many years to come,” says Paul Spaude, President & CEO, Borgess Health.

As the first new facility of its kind to be built in our community in 20 years opens its doors for the expected 101 residents, we thank all of our *Habitat for Healing* donors who helped make Borgess Gardens possible. Borgess Gardens is now a reality, thanks in part to Foundation funds.

Committed to Caring

The Borgess Foundation is making careful plans to steward your generous gifts. We also have received an estate gift of \$2 million targeted for use at Borgess-Pipp Hospital in Plainwell. Visit foundation.borgess.com to see how your gifts help us remain committed to caring – and top-notch health care.

*ETC Renovations –
continued from page 3*

commitment to patients and their concerned families, so the larger, private rooms will allow for more visitors and replace the current curtained bays for more privacy.”

Dr. Kujacznski says the phased-in renovation approach is vital. “We need to continue our healing and life-saving work,” he stresses. “We can’t simply shut the doors to the ER during construction.” There are a number of construction sequences to enhance and improve the ETC, according to John Rawsthorne, Director of Borgess Campus Construction. “Overall, this will increase productivity and efficiency in the ER, which ties in to better patient care and service,” Rawsthorne says. Phase I is expected to take over a year to complete.

Phase II is still in the planning stages and contingent upon the successful completion of the ongoing *Habitat for Healing Campaign*.

Service Kudos

A heartfelt thank you to Richard Dirrenberger, MD for his stalwart leadership during his first nine years of service as a Borgess Foundation trustee, including a term as Board Chair from 2008-09. During his tenure, the Foundation reached the two-thirds mark of its largest ever capital campaign – the \$13.6 million *Habitat for Healing Campaign*.



*Richard
Dirrenberger, MD*

In addition, over \$3 million of Borgess program and project support was funded by Foundation sources during Dr. Dirrenberger’s years with the Foundation. We also extend sincere appreciation to Dale Rowe, MD for his supportive service as Vice Chair during this past year.



Dale Rowe, MD