

2020 Annual Report

Board of Directors

The Cherokee Regional Medical Center Board of Directors represents the communities served by Cherokee Regional Medical Center. These board members volunteer their time to manage and direct the organization's affairs, properties, and funds, to ensure the longevity of our Critical Access Hospital.















Message from Gary Jordan, CEO

As we reflect on 2020, there are so many people we need to thank for all they have done for our hospital and community. In my nearly 40 years in health care, I never have seen, or been through, what we experienced this past year. We have witnessed the outpouring of kindness and generosity from our community by donations of supplies, food, or financial resources in support of our staff.

Our staff has been incredible during this past year – always there to assist those in our community needing care and working to ensure patients receive the best care during difficult times. I personally would have never thought I would see staff in our community hospitals in full isolation suits, day in and day out, caring for patients as we have during this pandemic, while our physicians and nurse practitioners tirelessly researched the latest treatment protocols. Those protocols were constantly changing as our nation learned the best practices for treating COVID-19. When we think about the hours they worked caring for patients, we know they spent many more researching to keep up with changes. Our community is truly blessed with providers who work everyday to provide the latest care and treatment.

I am proud of this organization, we moved through a challenging year to recognize that we have to continue the work we set out to do in our strategic plans to grow and focus on being the very best for our communities by providing great care to our neighbors, friends, and family. We have committed ourselves to being the best at health care and focusing on reinvesting in our communities to ensure we can live healthy and successfully right here in Cherokee County.

Gary Jordan, FACHE • CEO/President

As you read through our annual report, I hope you enjoy learning about several programs we have started to enhance the quality of your health and improve our community. Everyone at Cherokee Regional is working daily to provide the very best customer-focused health care services to the area.

If you have not considered our services, I encourage you to give us a try. We have caring providers and staff who are dedicated to providing great care to you and your family. Come watch us grow with Cherokee County and the surrounding communities as we want to be your preferred health care provider of choice.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Jordan, FACHE Chief Executive Officer

Finance

Economic Impact

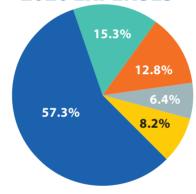
In addition to providing essential health care services to Cherokee County and the surrounding area, Cherokee Regional Medical Center continues to provide a significant boost to the local economy. Employing 307 staff members at Cherokee Regional, Cherokee Regional Clinics, the Cherokee Fitness Center, and The Beck.

Based on the latest report issued by the lowa Hospital Association, Cherokee Regional and its entities will have an estimated total economic impact of approximately \$24.5 million in 2021. In turn, local retail sales of over \$3.6 million will be generated. State, county, and local governments will also benefit through the total tax revenue of nearly \$255,000 collected on these purchases.

2020 OPERATING STATISTICS

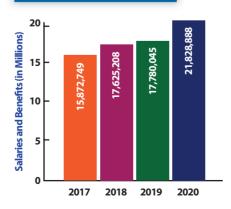
Admissions	1,078
Ambulance Runs	1,116
Births	94
Cherokee Regional Clinic Visits	24,731
Emergency Room Visits	4,035
Hospice/Home Care Visits	8,738
Laboratory Procedures	76,945
Meals Served	84,703
Podiatry Visits	1,548
Public Health Visits	515
Radiology Procedures	11,115
Rehabilitation Modalities	36,520
Senior Life Solutions Visits	964
Specialty Clinic Visits	6,525
Surgical Procedures	1,213
Wellness Center Visits	38,547
Wound Care Visits	1,589

2020 EXPENSES



Salaries & Benefits	\$ 21,828,888
Services	5,833,602
Supplies	4,889,906
Depreciation	2,446,535
Other	3,088,670
Total Expenses	\$ 38,087,601

SALARIES AND BENEFITS



2020 INCOME STATEMENT

	2020 AUDITED	2019 AUDITED
Patient Service Revenue	\$ 50,931,261	\$ 46,568,159
Deductions from Revenue	(13,081,807)	(15,649,954)
Other Operating Revenue	1,129,737	997,485
Total Operating Revenue	38,979,191	31,915,690
Expenses	38,087,601	32,677,113
Income/Loss from Operations	891,590	(761,423)
Total Non-Operating Revenue	3,085,430	3,665,743
Net Income/Loss	\$ 3,977,020	\$ 2,904,320

Medical Staff



Nick Loughlin, DO Family Medicine



Wesley Parker, MD Family Medicine



Timothy Rice, DO Family Medicine



Stephen Veit, MD Family Medicine



Seth Winterton, MD Family Medicine



Patricia Harrison, MD Emergency Medicine



Scott Murray, MD Emergency Medicine



Timothy Taylor, MD Emergency Medicine



Emily Anzmann, DPM



John Armstrong, MD General Surgery



Jason Dierking, MD, FACS General Surgery



Kristin Cedar ARNP-C



ARNP-C



Traci Hagen



Doyle Kruger



Rebecca Mogensen-Kruger



Dan Moore



Abby Tentinger

Specialty Services & Providers

CARDIOLOGY

Dr. Jon Peacock, Dr. Mahmoud Sharaf, Dr. Jeffrey Sykes, Dr. Joy Taylor, Dr. Hoos Thompson

CATARACT EYE SURGERY

Dr. Stephen Fox (Spencer)

DERMATOLOGY

Dr. Raymond Kuwahara (Sioux City)

EAR, NOSE & THROAT

Dr. Daniel Jorgensen (Spencer)

GENERAL SURGERY

Dr. John Armstrong, Dr. Jason Dierking (Storm Lake)

HEARING AID

Paulo Nascimento (Spencer)

MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE/PERINATOLOGY

Dr. Al Fleming (Sioux City)

NEPHROLOGY

Dr. David Chua, Dr. Jerold Erlandson, Dr. Ashar Lugman (Sioux City)

NEUROSURGERY

Dr. Matthew Johnson (Dakota Dunes, SD)

OB/GYN

Dr. Paul Eastman (Sioux City)

ONCOLOGY

Dr. Chandana Javvaji (Sioux City)

ORTHOPEDICS

Dr. Seth Harrer (Storm Lake), Steffany Hinkeldey, ARNP (Storm Lake), Dr. Daniel R. Nelson (Dakota Dunes, SD)

PAIN CLINIC

Christopher Hanson, CRNA, NSPM-C (Boone)

PODIATRY

Dr. Emily Anzmann (Cherokee), Dr. Sara Oelke (Sioux City)

PULMONOLOGY

Dr. Jitendrakumar Gupta, Dr. Sandeep Gupta (Sioux City)

RADIOLOGY

Dr. Jeff Powers (Cherokee)

RHEUMATOLOGY

Dr. Chad Wisco (Dakota Dunes, SD)

UROLOGY

Dr. David Christ, Dr. Adam Althaus (Spencer)

WOUND CARE/SKIN/OSTOMY

Viola Lias, RN, BSN, ET/WOCN, FCN (Cherokee)

Additional Services Provided by Cherokee Regional

Acute / Skilled / Inn Care
Ambulance
Anesthesia Services
The Beck - Senior Living
Cardiac Rehab
Chemotherapy
Critical Care
Diabetes Education
Dietary Services
24 HR. Emergency Care
Home Choice Home Health
Hospice Services
IV Infusions / Blood Transfusions
Laboratory

Obstetrics
Occupational Therapy
Pharmacy
Physical Therapy
Pre-Employment Screenings
Public Health Services
Pulmonary Rehab
Radiology
Respiratory Therapy
Registered Dietitian Services
Senior Life Solutions
Sleep Studies
Speech Therapy

For a complete list of the services provided at Cherokee Regional Medical Center, visit cherokeermc.org or contact us at 712.225.5101.

Three Familiar Caregivers Join Cherokee Regional

This past fall, Cherokee Regional was excited with the addition of three new family practice providers, all with Cherokee ties, to our Medical Team.



Dr. Stephen Veit – Serving the Cherokee area as a family practice physician for over 40 years, Dr. Veit has a vast medical knowledge and experience beginning with his undergraduate studies at lowa State University earning a double major in Chemistry and Psychology. He then attended medical school at the University of Iowa College of Medicine where he received his M.D. degree.

After medical school, he interned with the United States Public Health Service in San Francisco, California. He then served on the faculty of the University of Southern California School of Medicine for three years while also working in several hospital based emergency departments.

Following his time in California, Dr. Veit moved to Cherokee where he and his wife, Nancy, raised their four children. During that time he worked as a family practice physician with offices in Peterson and Cherokee, Iowa. Having been in independent family practice the majority of his career, he sold his clinic practice to MercyOne in 2019, but remained as the primary physician for the clinic.

However, when MercyOne decided to close the clinic in September of 2020, Cherokee Regional proceeded to acquire the clinic, which provided Dr. Veit the opportunity to slow down a little while still providing quality health care services to his patients. More importantly, Dr. Veit's arrival at Cherokee Regional granted his patients more time to make important decisions regarding their future health care needs.



Kristin Cedar, ARNP-C – Also a native of Cherokee, Cedar graduated from Washington High School and then attended St. Luke's College of Nursing in Sioux City, Iowa, graduating with high honors in 2002. She then began her career as a Registered Nurse (RN) at Buena Vista Regional Medical Center (BVRMC) in Storm Lake, Iowa.

In 2012, Cedar earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from the University of Iowa, graduating with honors, while continuing to work at BVRMC as a House Supervisor and Emergency Room nurse. In 2018, Cedar earned her Master of Science in Nursing – Family Practice also graduating with honors from Clarkson College in Omaha, Nebraska.

Since August of 2018, Cedar has been serving as a Family Nurse Practitioner, previously working at UnityPoint Family Health Center in Storm Lake, lowa, where she provided wellness visits, acute care, initial OB care, and reproductive health, as well as caring for walk-in patients, prior to joining Cherokee Regional in December 2020.

Cedar and her husband, Josh, reside in Cherokee along with their four girls.



Dr. Nick Loughlin – A native of Cherokee, Dr. Loughlin graduated from Washington High School and then attended Cornell College in Mount Vernon, lowa where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with an

emphasis in Theatre. Dr. Loughlin was also a member of the Cornell Rams' wrestling team for four years, impressively earning Academic All-American honors three times during his collegiate wrestling career.

Upon graduating from Cornell, Dr. Loughlin attended the A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri, one of the country's foremost osteopathic education institutions. From there he received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree and in June of 2020, he completed his rural family practice residency through Wyoming Medical Center in Casper, Wyoming. Following his family practice residency, Dr. Loughlin, and his wife Shelby, relocated back to Cherokee.

Dr. Loughlin provides a full spectrum of primary care services at Cherokee Regional Clinic (CRC) including family care, pediatrics, and osteopathic manipulations. Dr. Loughlin has special interests in obstetrics, sports medicine, emergency medicine, and wellness through preventative medicine. In addition, Dr. Loughlin schedules patients at Cherokee Regional's Marcus Clinic on the last Wednesday of each month.

Tayler Van Berkum, Speech Language Pathologist, Joined Cherokee Regional

Cherokee Regional Medical Center's Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department announced that Aurelia native, Tayler Van Berkum, joined their team as a Speech Language Pathologist. Van Berkum passed her board exams and started at Cherokee Regional in January.

"Tayler has a passion for speech/language therapy and will be a tremendous asset to our department and patients of all ages," said Kayla Koch, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Manager at Cherokee Regional.

Van Berkum enjoys working with all ages across the lifespan – infants to geriatrics. Within those groups, she specifically enjoys working with the child population which includes multiple diagnoses such as autism, Downs syndrome, feeding difficulties, and/or speech and language developmental delays. She also performs

swallow studies in the older population, as well as therapy following a stroke or traumatic brain injury.



Cherokee Regional Medical Center has many great

providers on staff, including family practice physicians

Dr. Wes Parker, Dr. Tim Rice,

and Dr. Seth Winterton as well as a talented group of

nurse practitioners," says

at Cherokee Regional.

Gary Jordan, CEO/ President

"Dr. Veit, Dr. Loughlin and

Kristin Cedar have all been

our current medical team."

tremendous complements to

"As a Speech Language Pathologist, it is my number one priority to help patients communicate to the best of their ability by using clinical knowledge and evidence-based practice," says Van Berkum. "It is my goal to get to know each and every one of my patients, and their specific needs, as communication difficulties are so much more than just not knowing how to talk."

Awards & Recognition

The Heart of Health Care Award

Congratulations to Cherokee Regional Medical Center's Obstetric Department Manager Stephanie Hill! She was nominated and selected for "Nurses: The Heart of Health Care" from the Sioux City Journal. Stephanie is one of 5 outstanding nurses honored in 2020.





Daisy Award

Cherokee Regional Medical Center presented Kaysie Vauble with the 2020 Daisy Award in November 2020.

"... (Kaysie) always had a smile on her face when she came into the room which is a huge morale booster when you are sitting in the hospital. I can't say enough about her friendliness and caring attitude. She is one of the greatest nurses I've ever dealt with!"

"She was very professional, polite and super informative. She and the rest of the staff did everything in their power to accommodate us."

Congratulations Kaysie and thank you for being an extraordinary nurse!

SIMPCO Recognition

The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) recognized Cherokee County Public Health Supervisor Judy Stowater for her role as a community leader in 2020.

Judy's work with the lowa Department of Public Health's **5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count Program** made her stand out to the SIMPCO Board as an outstanding community leader.

Congratulations Judy and thank you for going above and beyond in your role. Cherokee Regional is proud to see your efforts be recognized beyond the Cherokee community!



2020 Service Milestones

In 2020, Cherokee Regional celebrated 52 staff service anniversaries representing a total of 600 years served.

45 Years

Paula J Benson

40 Years

Kathleen S Good

35 Years

Karen M Rupp

30 Years

Kimberly L Fraser

25 Years

Lexi S Henson

Sandra K Dorr Stowater

20 Years

Joan M Bierman M Leanne Walsh

Jennifer A Curtis

Darla J Werthman

Richard W Williams

Viola P Lias

15 Years

Linda K Mattson Cynthia S Graham

Lynne M Lauck

Lori M Rassel

10 Years

Michael B Waddell Sheri L Robinson

......

Kent M Lundquist Lisa M Ducommun

Amy L Pearson

Alliy ET Carso

Lorelei Newell

Kelli R Hueser

Leden L Pingel

5 Years

Abby J Tentinger Bertina M Ebel

Del tilla Mi Ebel

Kathryn L Woodall

Sara K Wester

Alisa J Utesch

Jennifer A Ryen

Carrie Gail Wiekamp

Caitlin L Hofer

Rebecca A Hester

Page M Cresap

Kelli J Silfies

Rachel I Simonsen

Tamra F Sonksen

Brenda Deroo

Patricia J Harrison

Alyssa M Triebwasser

Molly A Hill

Christa B Puhrmann

Ashlev A Wulf

Noelle C Magnussen

. . . .

Heather L Santos

Randi M Turner

Paige E Plathe

Katherine L Gisch

Jennifer S Barritt

Melissa M Schlenger

Wellssa W serilerig

Dawn C Ruehle

Kayla E Hansen

2020 Retirements

Paula Benson Linda Mattson Lynn Ivarson Karen Rupp Brenda DeRoo Thelma Hanks Jean Williams Theresa Kohn Rita Comstock Pamela Nielsen Joann Perrin

Above and Beyond in the Pandemic

Congratulations to the very generous and talented Sheri Robinson (from Cherokee Regional's Dietary Department) for being one of the CNOS "How Do You Mask?" contest winners. Sheri has made almost 400 masks, including a special version for Cherokee Regional's Speech Language Pathologist, Tayler Van Berkum. She's easy to spot with her mask that has a window for her patients to see her mouth while working with them on their speech.



Virtual Grief Support



COVID-19 affected a lot of things when it comes to grieving with physical and social isolation and things changed with losing a loved one - from the good-byes to the funeral settings. Meagan Foresman, Social Worker and Berevement Coordinator at Cherokee Regional Hospice created a Virtual Grief Support Group. Grief is still present and doesn't go away because of a pandemic and she supported those in need with hope and strength.



Auxiliary Donates Artwork to Med Surg and Sleep Studies

The Cherokee Regional Auxiliary has contributed thousands of dollars for various patient comfort initiatives over the years. In January 2020, they continued this trend through the purchase of new artwork for the newly painted Med Surg rooms and the new Sleep Studies Department.

"Some of our patient rooms were starting to look a little tired and outdated so we were exited to undertake the painting project in late 2019," says Melissa Cunningham, VP of Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer. "However, we were still needing some finishing touches, so thanks to the Auxiliary's generous donation, we were able to warm up the décor with the addition of new artwork in each patient room."

Saluting our Cherokee Regional Medical Center heroes who work on the frontlines for our patients and our community ... #HeroesWorkHere







A huge shout out to Cherokee's North Star Community Credit Union for the stacks and stacks of pizza provided for Cherokee Regional's employees. Lunch was delicious and much appreciated.



Paige Thomas and her girls (Chelsea - 5, Elizabeth - 3, and Heidi -1) delivered a van load of prepackaged snacks, treats and coffee to Cherokee Regional. Thomas posted on the Cherokee County Unite Facebook Page to get the community involved in supporting a #spreadsnacksnotCOVID idea she heard about on TV. Thank you for the amazing support, Cherokee County!



Thank you to the Cherokee FFA group for thinking of Cherokee Regional. These were great gifts to lift the spirits of our staff.



Blooming House Blessings!
Thanks to everyone who
helped sponsor Blooming
House bouquets and treats
from Sweet Sensations!
It meant the world to the
Cherokee Regional team to
know the community was
supporting our efforts.



Marcus Vet

Many Cherokee Regional employees worked from home during the pandemic. Others worked safely inside the hospital practicing social distancing and wearing appropriate PPE. Thank you for doing your part to help stop the spread of this virus.



Cherokee Regional Medical Center wants to thank those that are working daily inside the hospital to care for our community.

The community donations of Personal Protective Equipment were also much appreciated as we prepared for COVID-19.

Thank You

Ames Auto Body Inc.
Angie Creel
Backdraft, Billy & Micky Fraser
Betty Bilney
Betty Resch
Blooming House
Bonnie Mongan Crew
Central Bank
Cherokee Co. Emergency
Management
Cherokee Collision Center
Cherokee Community School
District
Cherokee County Unite Group:
#spreadsnacksnotCOVID

Cherokee Public Library, Tyler Hahn

Cherokee Ouilt Batts Cherokee State Bank City of Cherokee Details, Carrie Lux Diane Rochleau Didi Honsbruch Dr. Cassady Rider **Duane Mummert** Family Table, Ed Otto Foundation Analytical Lab **Ganger Paint and Body** Gary Graham Hanor, James Shaw Henke Farms, Duane Henke Hill Rouse, Storm Lake Hv-Vee

Iowa Corn Growers Association Iowa Lakes Electric Charitable

Foundation Janet Angell Jennine Schroder Jodi Holmes JT Forristal Family Julie Hiller Julie Kelly Kathy Wankum Kelly Buenger Kim Barrit L. Huether Leah Edwards Linda and Ken Niemier Linda Grauer Linda Mattson Lisa Rassmussen Lisa Stoner

Margaret Woltman Mary Gross Mary Reisdorph Meriden Evangelical Free Church Molly Verhuel Mongan Painting Co. NAPA Auto Parts, Brad Riley North Star Community Credit Union O'Reilly Auto Parts **Paige Thomas** Pats Body Shop Peg Wurth Pizza Hut Ouilt-N-Kaboodle Rehab'd RJ Thomas Manufacturing Co. Rosie Schlichting Shelly Lenz

Steve Smith
StickersAndPosters.com
Sue Nelson
Sweet Sensations
Tamara Patterson
The Erickson Family
The Mother Hen
VT Industries
Wetherell Manufacturing

Simonsen Industries

Our local news outlets for getting the word out about safety, rapidly changing updates, donation requests and more!

Cherokee Regional is extremely thankful to all donors for helping to lift our spirits and ensure our safety during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. In addition to these donors listed, we received dozens of anonymous donations. We strive to make this list complete and accurate. If you notice an error or omission, please contact us at 712.225.1505 to bring it to our attention, and please accept our apologies.

A Heartfelt Thank You for Your Caring Support

360 Custom Designs Randy and Deborah Anderson Darren and Tracy Anderson Randy and Deborah Anderson Dr. Emily Anzmann Dr. John Armstrona Sharen Arndt-Nelson Mick and Sue Bakker Katie Ballast, Stell and Dot Family of Brands Natalie Barkley Charlie Barry John and Stephanie Beck Family Stephanie Beck, Usboorne Books More Traci and Matthew Beerbower Melanie Benson Keith and Roberta Bergeron Julie Beralund Joan Bierman Renea Binder Blaine's Culligan Craig Blankers Blue Fawn Designs, LLC Jenn Boger, NuSkin Kolbie Boom Janie Boothby Boothby Funeral Home Sharen Borchers, Signature Homestyles **Brentwood Construction** Amy Brunsting Ronald and Levonne Bryant Burkhardt & Dawson CPAs LaShara Carlson Wayne Cave Randy and Karin Cedar Family Central Bank Susan Chase Cherokee State Bank Cherokee County Pheasants Forever Cherokee General Store Cherokee Main Street Pharmacy Chesterman Company Dori Claycamp, Tupperware Cobblestone Inn. Holstein John and Rita Comstock Liz Conover Peggy Corrington Country Creations - Barb Cave Jeff Covatto Jamie Crum Don and Melissa Cunningham CW Suter & Sons Davis Design

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Doug and Monica Kennebeck Family Duane and Lucile Kent Carey and Pam Klatt Mitch and Jessica Knippel Jared and Kayla Koch Douglas Kracht Rebecca Mogensen-Kruger, ARNP-C Dovle Kruger, ARNP-C Brian and Lynne Lauck Larry and Shelley Lenz Katie Leonard Leo's Kitchens - Terri Schimmer Mike and Ann Letsche Laura Letsche Darcy Lewis Ronald and Linda Lickteig Lilly Grace Photography Shari Lindgren Little Sioux Corn Processors LMC/ServiShare Ludvigson Chiropractic Kent and Nicci Lundquist Joyce Lundsgaard Merle Mack Marcus Lumber Alecia Mauer Erica Messerole Rachel Meyer Lauren Mever Barbara Moats James and Connie Mohn Mongan Painting Co. Dan Moore, PA-C Doug and Tamie Mummert Alice Murphy Dr. Scott Murray Family **NAI Electrical Contractors** Kevin Naslund Janice Nelson Joanne Nelson Chris Nelson Sam Nelson Dr. Dan Nelson, CNOS, PC Jeff Nielsen Mike Nixon North Star Community Credit Union Dennis and Cheryl O'Bryan Molly O'Neill Dr. Wesley and Sue Parker Susan Patterson Amy Patterson Brenda Perrin Perspective Insurance - Ron Halverson & Terri Brown **Brent and Mary Peterson** Lanette Peterson Joelle Pigott Mason Pitts **Kelly Pitts** Sheila Plendl Psychiatric Medical Care Douglas and Barbara Radke

Dr. Tim and Melanie Rice

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Cherokee Regional Benefactor 2020 Contributions

Huxford Trust Barlow Trust

Total

\$270,250

Two Record-Setting Days!



Cherokee Main Street Pharmacy, 16th Annual Tournament Champions



The Cherokee Regional Foundation golf events have been running successfully for years, but the threat of COVID-19 put both outings in jeopardy in 2020. After much deliberation, the Foundation decided to move forward while implementing changes with the health and safety of our golfers and workers in mind. What a great decision that proved to be! Both the 16th Annual Foundation Golf Tournament and the 4th Annual Ladies Foundation Golf Outing smashed participation records with 112 golfers registering for each event.

Additionally, both events easily broke donation records raising \$50,770 and \$11,039 respectively. A portion of the proceeds went towards the implementation of telehealth initiatives at Cherokee Regional as well as funds being earmarked for various upgrades within the Cherokee Regional Obstetrics Department.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Cherokee Regional Foundation in 2020!

Cherokee Regional is proud to recognize our donors for their gifts in 2020. We strive to make this list complete and accurate. If you notice an error or omission, please contact us at 712.225.1505 to bring it to our attention, and please accept our apologies.

KCHE/Fuller Digital

Kimberly Keefe

Krista Kempton

Hospice Trees of Light



Each December, Cherokee Regional Hospice wraps up their year with a beautiful in-person Trees of Light Memorial Service – remembering and honoring hospice patients of the past year. Although COVID-19 stopped the service from being in-person, the memorial service was streamed virtually on Facebook and Cherokee Regional's Website.

In typical years, the Trees of Light Memorial Services includes about 125 attendees. Because of the virtual programming this year, the Trees of Light video was viewed almost 6,000 times!

During 2020, Cherokee Regional Hospice cared for over 100 patients and received \$10,215.00 in generous donations.

Cherokee Regional Medical Center Launches eCARE Emergency Service Helmsley Trust Grant and Cherokee Regional Foundation Help Fund Telemedicine Initiative

Patients of Cherokee Regional Medical Center will benefit from the latest technological advances that expand patient access to quality emergency care, made possible through a grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

Helmsley's Rural Healthcare Program has awarded Cherokee Regional \$169,964 for eEmergency, a program that gives our healthcare professionals immediate access to specialty care 24 hours a day. The grant funded the purchase of eEmergency equipment that connects local providers with emergency specialists. eEmergency ensures that board-certified emergency physicians and emergency trained nurses are available to assist local providers in treating trauma, heart attack, stroke and other critical conditions.

"We are so grateful to be the recipient of this Helmsley grant, and we're excited to provide this new technology and service to our community," said Gary Jordan, CEO/President of Cherokee Regional Medical Center. "The eEmergency system, with service through Avera, is a tremendous asset to the community. We have been working diligently over the past several months and are proud to now be able to offer these services to the communities we support."

The eCARE programs are part of the ongoing efforts of Helmsley's Rural Healthcare Program to improve the lives of rural residents in Minnesota, lowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. Other efforts include training, emergency medical care, diagnostics, cardiac care, cancer care, and research into innovations that specifically address the challenges of healthcare delivery in rural America.

THE HELMSLEY CHARITABLE TRUST

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust aspires to improve lives by supporting exceptional efforts in the U.S. and around the world in health and select place-based initiatives. Since beginning active grantmaking in 2008, Helmsley has committed more than \$2.7 billion for a wide range of charitable purposes. Helmslev's Rural Healthcare Program funds innovative projects that use information technologies to connect rural patients to emergency medical care, bring the latest medical therapies to patients in remote areas, and provide stateof-the-art training for rural hospitals and EMS personnel. To date, the program has awarded more than \$450 million in grants.

HELMSLEY

CHARITABLE TRUST

www.helmsleytrust.org

Using high-definition live video and sound equipment, Avera's eCARE Emergency virtual team can guide nurses and emergency staff, as well as assisting local physicians with difficult cases.



2020 UPDATES

JANUARY

Senior Life Solutions

Cherokee Regional began a partnership with Senior Life Solutions in January.

Cherokee Regional's Senior Life Solutions is an intensive outpatient group therapy program designed to meet the unique needs of older adults typically ages 65 and over struggling with symptoms of depression and anxiety, stress from age-related health concerns, or difficult life transitions such as the loss of a loved one. Individuals may benefit from the Senior Life Solutions program if they are experiencing any of the following common indicators or triggers of depression and anxiety:

- Recently experienced a traumatic event
- · Loss of a spouse or close family member
- Loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities
- Changes in appetite
- · Difficulty sleeping
- Loss of energy
- Feelings of sadness or grief lasting more than two weeks
- Feelings of worthlessness or hopelessness

Following an individual assessment, patients meet up to three times per week in a supportive, encouraging group setting. The program staff includes a board-certified psychiatrist, licensed social workers, a registered nurse, and other healthcare professionals dedicated to the emotional well-being of the seniors in our community.

"We are excited to partner with Senior Life Solutions to bring these much needed services to the Cherokee area," says Gary Jordan, CEO/President of Cherokee Regional Medical Center. "Senior Life Solutions has an excellent track record and we feel this partnership will continue to be extremely beneficial to the patients and families we serve."



Cherokee Regional Medical **Center and Senior Life Solutions** hosted their first ever Suicide Prevention Awareness Virtual Walk during the last week of September 2020. Participants were encouraged to walk - anytime, anywhere - to promote Suicide Prevention. Suicide Prevention Walk Selfies and stories were shared throughout the week on a special Facebook Event Page and various Cherokee Regional Departments shared videos on the importance of suicide prevention from their prospective.

SEPTEMBER

Marcus Clinic's 20th Anniversary

In September, Cherokee Regional Clinic in Marcus celebrated 20 years in their building.

Cherokee Regional Clinics have had a rich history in Marcus and we look forward to serving the Marcus community for many years to come.



Pictured: Abby Tentinger ARNP-C, Karen Rupp ARNP-C, Jody Holmes, Receptionist, Stephanie Spieler RN

OCTOBER

MercyOne Clinic Acquisition

After learning of MercyOne's decision to close their Cherokee Clinic location one year after purchasing the clinic from Dr. Stephen Veit, Cherokee Regional's CEO/ President, Gary Jordan, wasted no time in pursuing the possibility of acquiring the clinic.



Initially working with Dr. Veit, who still was the primary physician of the clinic, Jordan was able to negotiate a contract with Dr. Veit to join Cherokee Regional as a family physician in October 2020. More importantly, the hiring of Dr. Veit and the subsequent acquisition of the clinic medical records from MercyOne, allowed their clinic patients more time to make important decisions regarding their future health care needs.

"When we heard that the Cherokee MercyOne Clinic would be closing, we started to put our heads together to come up with a plan for Dr. Veit to continue serving the Cherokee area while also providing a smooth care transition for his patients that he has so conscientiously cared for over the years," says Jordan.

In addition to acquiring the MercyOne Clinic practice, Cherokee Regional explored the opportunity to purchase the clinic building as well. As a result, Cherokee Regional closed on the property in December 2020 with plans to perform some minor remodeling and updating prior to relocating Cherokee Regional's Home Health, Hospice and Public Health Departments to the newly acquired 212 E. Bow Drive location in Cherokee. Jordan anticipates the relocation of these services to occur sometime in April 2021.

JANUARY

Merle Mack

Cherokee Regional announced the appointment of Merle Mack as Vice-President of Human Resources and Compliance effective January 6, 2020. Mack brings with him vast knowledge and experience having served in similar roles for the Pizza Hut, Target, and Kohl's corporations prior to joining Cherokee Regional.

NOVEMBER

Storm Water Project

After conducting a facilities assessment in 2019, it was determined that there needed to be some upgrades to the infrastructure of Cherokee Regional's storm water system. With the addition of roof and concrete paving square footage through various construction projects over the years, the original storm water system



simply did not have the capacity to adequately divert storm water runoff from the Cherokee Regional facilities and campus.

Due to COVID-19, there were many discussions over delaying this project, however it was determined that the project needed to start as planned to avoid drastically increasing costs in the future. As a result, construction started in March 2020.

In hindsight, Cherokee Regional couldn't have selected a better time to complete the project. With hospital and Wellness Center services limited by COVID-19, parking disruptions were held to a minimum and the uncharacteristically dry spring and summer weather was favorable for this type of project. As a result, the project was completed on schedule in November 2020.

DECEMBER



Alan Faith

Cherokee Regional announced the appointment of Alan Faith as the Director of Emergency Services effective November 1, 2020. Faith oversees the Emergency Department, Ambulance Department, while also serving as the organization's Trauma Coordinator. Before joining Cherokee Regional, Faith served in a leadership role within the Emergency Department at UnityPoint Health-St. Luke's in Sioux City, Iowa.

DECEMBER

Pharmacy Project

After months of planning, Cherokee Regional started construction of a new hospital pharmacy in April of 2020. The project was necessary due to the requirements outlined in USP 800 government regulations for pharmacies in relation to the safe handling of hazardous drugs to minimize the risk of exposure to healthcare personnel, patients and the environment.



Some of the main changes in the new pharmacy focused on the implementation of negative pressure rooms for the mixing and storage of chemotherapy drugs for Cherokee Regional's oncology infusion services.

In addition to the negative pressure areas, the new pharmacy features additional counter space and storage areas all within the new pharmacy area itself. According to Cherokee Regional Pharmacy Manager Dawn Ruehle, RPh, the new layout provides much better work flows.

"We used to store items and work out of three separate rooms in our old pharmacy," says Ruehle. "The new pharmacy has helped us to avoid bottlenecks in our processes and has greatly improved our efficiency."

The new pharmacy is also more secure with the implementation of badge tap door access and multiple cameras within the pharmacy itself. The new prescription pick-up window has also been well received as it allows the pharmacy staff to fill prescriptions without the distractions or potential safety risks of people waiting in the pharmacy itself.

"Overall, we couldn't be happier with the new pharmacy," claims Ruehle. "We now have a much safer and secure work environment, which will provide long term benefits to our staff and patients."

Oncology program at Cherokee
Regional by taking on this pharmacy
project," explains Gary Jordan, CEO/
President of Cherokee Regional. "We
plan to increase our oncology services
in the near future because there are so
many people in our service area that
need these treatments. Being able
to receive chemotherapy infusions
locally is much more convenient for our

patients and their families alike."

Supporting the Communities We Serve

Cherokee Regional Pledges \$30,000 to The Holstein Aquatic Center Project

Stressing the importance of fitness and quality of life initiatives within the communities we serve, Cherokee Regional pledged \$30,000 to the Holstein Aquatic Center in 2020. The pledge signifies the ongoing commitment of Cherokee Regional's Board of Directors to contribute to worthwhile endeavors that fall within the scope of Cherokee Regional's mission.

Accepting the donation were Holstein Mayor Kathy Breyfogle, and Holstein City Council Member Terri Schimmer.





The pictures just don't do justice to the Cherokee Regional SPIRIT lights. Permanent, decorative lights were installed around the outside of the hospital in December. Watch the colors change for holidays, awareness, and supporting our local schools!

Cherokee Regional Continues to Support Cherokee Trails System

Citing the main objectives of the Cherokee Trails program to promote safety, wellness, and community enhancement, as well as addressing needs recognized in the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment, Cherokee Regional pledged \$160,000 to the trails program in 2020. When factoring in a previous donation from 2015, Cherokee Regional's overall support of the Cherokee Trails Program now stands at \$185,000.



Blessing Baskets

In November, Cherokee Regional teamed up with Lutheran Services in Iowa to assist local area Foster Families in need of support.

Danette Morgan, trainer at Lutheran Services in Iowa, supplied Cherokee Regional with information on 12 families in need and our staff answered the call with baskets that went above and beyond.





In October, Cherokee Regional donated \$50,000 to help make the Cherokee Schools Turf Project a reality. Accepting the donation from Cherokee Regional administrators Gary Jordan, CEO/ President, and Kent Lundquist, VP of Development and Support Services, were turf project representatives Josh Landhuis, Adam Timmerman, and Natalie Barkley.

Cherokee Regional Employees Donate to Toys For Tots

Representatives from Cherokee Regional presented a donation check in the amount of \$6,100 the Cherokee Police Department for the Cherokee Area Toys for Tots program. 2020 marked the 13th consecutive year that the employees of Cherokee Regional have supported this great cause.



Mask Donations to Area School Districts

As a way to give back to the communities that so generously supported Cherokee Regional during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cherokee Regional gave every student and school employee within our service area a reusable mask to protect the families within each of these wonderful communities.















Cherokee Regional Receives NEW Quality-Based Accreditation

Cherokee Regional Medical Center is proud to announce the successful completion of its new accreditation process from DNV GL Healthcare.

By earning accreditation, Cherokee Regional has demonstrated it meets or exceeds patient safety standards (Conditions of Participation) set forth by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. DNV GL's accreditation program is the only one to integrate the ISO 9001 Quality Management System with the Medicare Conditions of Participation.

"The DNV GL program is consistent with our long-term commitment to quality and patient safety," says Gary Jordan, CEO/ President of Cherokee Regional. "The ability to integrate ISO 9001 quality standards with our clinical and financial processes is a major step forward."

Cherokee Regional has three years from the date of its accreditation to achieve compliance with ISO 9001, the world's most trusted quality management system used by performance-driven organizations around the world to advance their quality and sustainability objectives.

"We have taken an entirely different approach to accreditation, and hospitals are really responding," says DNV GL Healthcare CEO Patrick Horine. "Accreditation is a must-have credential for just about every hospital in this country, so we have strived to make the process more beneficial for participating facilities. That's where ISO 9001 comes into play. It truly turns the accreditation process into a quality transformation."

DNV GL's accreditation program, called NIAHO® (National Integrated Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations), involves annual hospital surveys – instead of every three years – and encourages hospitals to openly share information across departments and to discover improvements in clinical workflows and safety protocols.

About DNV GL Healthcare

DNV GL is a world-leading certification body. We help businesses assure the performance of their organizations, products, people, facilities and supply chains through certification, verification, assessment, and training services.

Within healthcare, we help our customers achieve excellence by improving quality and patient safety through hospital accreditation, managing infection risk, management system certification and training.

The DNV GL Group operates in more than 100 countries. Our 16,000 professionals are dedicated to helping our customers make the world safer, smarter and greener.

For more information about DNV GL hospital accreditation, visit www.dnvglcert.com/healthcare.



Gary Jordan, CEO, and Sara Wester, Quality Manager at Cherokee Regional, proudly display the DNV Accreditation Certificate.



Your Place. For Exceptional Care.

Check us out ... While we have updated our logo, our passion and dedication to make a difference in **Your** healthcare is unwavering.

We have a stable, long-standing history and look forward to a bright future providing Exceptional Care for you! Of the 100+ years we have been serving Cherokee and the surrounding communities, 2020 was one of the most challenging – for everyone!

We grew stronger because of you ... Because of the support you have given to Cherokee Regional Medical Center, we know this truly is **Your Place** to come For Exceptional Care.

We are proud of our past and look forward to the future with excitement and our fresh, new look!

Cherokee Regional Medical Center 300 Sioux Valley Dr Cherokee, IA 51012





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