

# Foundation Luncheon showcases pharmacy renovation, kitchen updates



In April, the Unity Medical Center Foundation invited donors from calendar year 2025 to the annual Friends of the Foundation Luncheon to see first-hand the impact of their support, including the soon-to-be-renovated Pharmacy Department and new kitchen lighting.

Approximately 44 people attended over two days. The program recognized the top 20 donors from 2025, as well as 98 Giving Clubs members. Seven new members were added this past year, including Mark & Pam Bertilrud, Dakota Medical Foundation, Tim & Cori Dvorak, MDU Resources Foundation, Mark & Mia Presteng, Tollefson Funeral Home and Wipfli LLP. Foundation Executive Director Jessica Sobolik highlighted the impact of donor gifts over the past year, including a new LUCAS automated CPR device in the Emergency Department, a new patient lift in the Radiology Department, new LED lighting in the kitchen, a Pharmacy Department renovation, new blood pressure monitors and a new NuStep recumbent bike for the Rehab Department.

The Foundation also awarded two scholarships for staff pursuing nursing and leadership degrees, and supported the working groups formed after a Community Health Needs Assessment was completed. The groups are focused on addressing obesity and mental health, as well as helping elderly people stay in their homes.

UMC CEO Mark Bertilrud detailed the Park River Family Clinic project, as well as the Rural Health Transformation grants available from the federal government. The grants were created to offset cuts made to the federal Medicare and Medicaid programs, and are facilitated by the state Health and Human Services Department. The first grant application, focused on workforce retention, was due April 30, and Bertilrud reported that UMC had just submitted its application.

He closed his comments by sharing two notes received from patients and patient families recently. One read: "Words cannot express the warmth and passion we received from everyone at the Grafton hospital. It felt like we were the only family in the hospital. It meant so much to all of us. We appreciate you more than you'll ever know."



The second read: "Our bricks and mortar are as good as the rest, so it's not the windows or cement that makes the difference. It's the staff and how they interact and react to each other and to the patients. It's my observation that Unity functions like a well-oiled machine and allows me to believe that the leaders



of Unity not only know what needs to be done, they've assembled the perfect staff of well-qualified individuals to accomplish the task. My thanks to everyone involved at Unity. Know you have made me and our community extremely proud."