IMPACT Allen Hospital Grant Program Announces Inaugural Awards

December 1, 2015 was Giving Tuesday, and the Allen Foundation IMPACT Committee was doing just that. In July, managers of each department of Allen Hospital and its affiliates were encouraged to apply for a new Allen Foundation grant program, one where they could be awarded up to $10,000 to help support projects that would further the mission, vision, and values of UnityPoint Health – Allen Hospital.

Thirteen different departments applied for funding for various initiatives, all centered around improving the patient and family experience. Members of the IMPACT Committee called on different leaders from around the hospital to help review these applications and make recommendations on awards.

Those decisions were announced in December when members of the "prize patrol" delivered large checks and balloons to the following departments:

- Allen Inpatient Units ($8,151.40) Discharge EZ
- Allen Women’s Health ($4,165.01) Digital Warming Cabinet
- Call Center ($3,400) Transport Staxis
- Cardiopulmonary ($2,000) Allen Pulmonary Support Group
- Dietary/Volunteer Services ($4,054.72) Cookie Time
- Volunteer Services ($3,285) Electric Scooter Replacement

Thanks to the generosity of donors, and the willingness and excitement from associates to improve the patient and family experience a total of $25,056.13 was awarded this grant cycle. Grants will continue to be awarded twice a year.

To learn more about the IMPACT Allen Hospital Grant Program or the programs that were most recently awarded, contact the Allen Foundation at (319) 235-3960 or visit www.unitypoint.org/waterloo/foundation.
CDO Perspective

Dee Vandeventer, CFRE

Exciting news for taxpayers from the Federal Government.

In December, the House and Senate made permanent the Charitable IRA rollover. The important benefit allows individuals age 70½ and older to transfer directly from their Individual Retirement Accounts to qualified charities, up to $100,000 annually per taxpayer. The distribution is not treated as taxable income. Although you don't qualify for a tax deduction for your generosity, you aren't taxed on the distribution like you would normally be, either.

Additionally, Allen College students will be happy to learn that Congress also made permanent the American Opportunity Tax Credit. This is the most generous tuition benefit available to students and families, allowing a $2,500 credit against tuition expenses annually for individuals earning less than $80,000 for single filers, and $160,000 for married/joint filers. This benefit was set to expire on December 31, 2017.

If you have any questions or would like any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Allen Foundation. I can be reached at 319-235-3960 or email dee.vandeventer@unitypoint.org.

Cheers!

Thinking about Estate Planning?

The Allen Foundation offers complimentary assistance sessions each month in a one-on-one or small group setting.

Dr. Eddie Thompson, long-time Allen Foundation partner and founder of Thompson & Associates, has helped many Allen employees, board members, volunteers, alumni and other supporters through the estate planning process. This free service ensures that you reduce/eliminate estate taxes so you can leave more to your loved ones and charitable organizations. Thompson and Associates does not sell any products and partners with local tax professionals to implement plans to your wishes. Even if you already have a plan in place, Eddie Thompson can offer a “second look” or help with updates and changes.

To find out more or to schedule your confidential appointment, please contact the Allen Foundation at 319-235-3960 or email michael.lind@unitypoint.org.

Former Allen Hospital CEO Donates Hand Crafted Dollhouses for Scholarship Fundraiser

Former Allen Hospital CEO, Larry Pugh, started handcrafting dollhouses for his three granddaughters following his retirement 17 years ago. Now it's become a hobby he still enjoys. Over the years Larry has crafted more than two dozen of these detailed tiny houses, each one taking two to three months to complete. Inside, the houses are complete with miniature furniture, different paints and wallpaper for each room, and all the interior details you would expect in the full size versions. Larry says he works on them for a couple of hours at a time, allowing paint and glue to dry before continuing.

After each of his granddaughters got their own dollhouse, Larry continued to make them to donate to other community charities for their fundraisers, including the Solon Foundation, Children's Art Museum and the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation in Kansas City who treated one of his granddaughters. The houses range in size and value depending on the detail and time that goes into each structure. "I'm working on one now that's a little bigger, that will probably go for $750," Larry said.

The two dollhouses pictured above were donated by Larry and his wife Virginia for the 6th annual Donate to Educate scholarship fundraiser at Allen College. The event will be held on Thursday, March 3rd in Winter Hall on the Allen College campus beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are $40 per person or $600 to sponsor a table of eight. Table sponsorships include special recognition and event keepsakes. To reserve your spot or to learn more about this silent and live auction event, call 319-226-2016 or email Allison.Jensen@allencollege.edu.