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Cass Regional Foundation Legacy Dinner Honors Those Who Give

Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation hosted its triennial Legacy Dinner Saturday, November 3, at Carnegie Village Senior Living Community in Belton. The event was held to honor donors and to present two awards, the Foundation Award and the Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Award, for exceptional service to Cass Regional Medical Center.

Ginger Friesz, RN, Sheryl Knox, RN, and Kathy Selley, RN, received The Foundation Award. This award is given to individual(s) who have demonstrated steadfast dedication to the mission of Cass Regional Medical Center and to improving the quality of health care in Cass County.

Friesz, Knox and Selley started the Healthy Angels Ride, a motorcycle ride fundraiser, in 2005, and organized the event every year through 2015. The nurses had participated in fundraising rides across the Kansas City area, and wanted to host an event to benefit patients at Cass Regional. Through their efforts, Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation created the Patient Assistance Fund, and to date it has provided over \$50,000 in assistance to approximately 900 patients.

Dr. Marvin C. Cohen, who died in August 2016, received The Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Award. This award is given to one who is deceased, who made a memorable, long-standing contribution to the medical center and to Cass County.

Dr. Cohen was a general surgeon at Cass Regional Medical Center from 1992 through 2011, and for most of that time, he was the only general surgeon on the medical staff. In 2010, Dr. Cohen was selected by the Cass Regional nursing staff as the first recipient of Cass Regional Medical Center's annual Physician Excellence Award.

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(L. to R.) Sheryl Knox, RN; Ginger Friesz, RN; and Erin Rees; Ashley Kracht; and Bill Selley
(on behalf of **Kathy Selley, RN**) accept The Foundation Award at the Legacy Dinner.



During the Legacy Dinner, **Denise Ashby-Cohen** accepts The Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Award on behalf of her late husband, **Dr. Marvin C. Cohen.**



Dr. Marvin C. Cohen, recipient of The Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Award.



Legacy Dinner, *continued*

Dr. Cohen was born in Jacksonville, Florida, moved to the Kansas City area as a youth. He graduated from Shawnee Mission East High School and received degrees from the University of Kansas in pharmacy, medicine, and surgery. He was a Fellow of the American Board of Surgery.

Prior to the awards ceremony, Administrative Director Sonya McLelland shared how the foundation's donors have impacted the hospital and community over the last 10 years. She noted that 912 people had been helped by the Patient Assistance Fund, the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assistance Fund, the Employee Assistance Fund, and/or by the eight scholarship funds administered by the foundation. McLelland noted that countless other lives had been positively affected by donors' support of the Gardens Fund, which provides for the gardens and wind sculptures on the Cass Regional campus. She also shared remarks about the meaningful impact of life-saving equipment and facilities, such the MRI machine and patient care simulation lab, which were made possible in part by donations to fundraising events.

To learn more about Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation, contact **Sonya McLelland** at (816) 380-5888, extension 4650, or email smclelland@cassregional.org.



These Boots Are Made for Walkin'

Cass Regional Foundation will once again host the "Boots & Bar-B-Que" fundraising dinner in 2019. You and all of your friends are invited to attend on Saturday, June 1, at Big Iron Town in Pleasant Hill, Missouri.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour and silent auction, which will be followed by dinner and a live auction. The fundraising goal for the event is \$65,000. Proceeds will benefit the development of a new walking trail on the Cass Regional campus.

Additional information will be available later this spring at www.cassregional.org and on Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation's Facebook page. For questions, please contact Becky Welch at (816) 380-5888, extension 4810, or email rwelch@cassregional.org.





\$12,000 in Scholarships Awarded in 2018

Through the generosity of donors just like you, seven local students received scholarships in 2018 to help them achieve their career goals in health care. The Foundation would like to thank all of the scholarship donors and congratulate the recipients of these prestigious awards.

Alma Brown Scholarship

The Alma Brown Scholarship was established in 2013 with a bequest from Alma Brown of Harrisonville. This \$1,000 scholarship is offered once a year and was awarded to Laura Hill, Raymore, Mo. Hill is attending Grand Canyon University to obtain a bachelor's degree.

Wanda Brown Scholarship

The Wanda Brown Scholarship was established in 1999 with a gift from Wanda A. Brown. This \$1,000 annual scholarship was awarded to Susan Miller of Harrisonville, Mo. Miller is attending Metropolitan Community College to become a registered nurse.

Elvin S. Douglas, Jr., Scholarship

The Elvin S. Douglas, Jr., Scholarship was established by friends and colleagues to honor Mr. Douglas' 25 years of service to the hospital board. This scholarship* is offered once a year and was awarded to Joseph Dryer of Pleasant Hill, Mo. Dryer is attending Vanderbilt University to pursue a degree in

pre-med/chemistry.

Geraldine Kidd Scholarship

The Geraldine Kidd Scholarship was established by colleagues, family and friends in memory of "Gerri" Kidd, who was an LPN for over 20 years at Cass Regional. This scholarship* is offered once a year and was awarded to Brianna Greene, Drexel, Mo. Greene is attending Missouri State University and is pursuing a degree in physical therapy.

Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Memorial Scholarship

The Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Memorial Scholarship was established with a gift from the estate of Dr. Kirsch's widow, Evelyn. At her request, two scholarships* are awarded annually. The first Kirsch Scholarship of 2018 was awarded to Susan Miller, who also received the Wanda Brown Scholarship. The second award was given to Maria Bueno of Raymore, Mo., who recently received her master's degree in dietetics and nutrition from the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Jan Perry Scholarship

The Jan Perry Scholarship was established in 2002 by Jan Perry, who was a member of the Cass Regional Auxiliary, and her husband, Wirt. This \$2,000 scholarship is awarded twice a year. The first Perry Scholarship offered in 2018 was awarded to Morgan Bayers, Raymore, Mo. Bayers is attending

William Jewell College to pursue a degree in nursing. The second award was given to Laura Hill, who also received the Alma Brown Scholarship, and Makenzi Lockhart, who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

Since its start in 1989, Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation has awarded over \$140,000 in scholarships to nearly 90 students.

**The scholarship amount varies from year to year and is dependent upon the investment earnings available.*



Laura Hill, RN



Susan Miller, LPN



Joseph Dryer



Brianna Greene



Maria Bueno, RDN



Morgan Bayers



Makenzi Lockhart, CNA

Scholarships Available in Spring 2019

Beginning February 1, several scholarships will be open for application:

- Alma Brown Scholarship
- Wanda Brown Scholarship
- Elvin S. Douglas, Jr., Scholarship
- Dr. Harold E. Kirsch Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Gail G. Kroenke Memorial Scholarship
- Jan Perry Scholarship



Log on to www.cass-scholarships.fluidreview.com to determine eligibility and to submit an application. For more information, contact Becky Welch, Foundation assistant, at (816) 380-5888, extension 4810, or via email at rwelch@cassregional.org.

Upcoming Events

Boots & Bar-B-Que

Saturday, June 1, 2019, 5:30 p.m.
Big Iron Town, Pleasant Hill, Mo.

Save the Date

Annual Plant Sale (Benefits the Gardens Fund)

Friday, Sep. 27, 2019, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Saturday, Sep. 28, 2019, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
(or until sold out)

The Healing Garden on the Cass Regional Campus

10th Annual Grin and Bear It 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019, 8 a.m.
Cass Regional Campus

“Like” Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation on Facebook to keep up with the latest information and upcoming events.

Our Mission

The mission of Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation is to support the medical center in its quest to provide exceptional quality health care for the community. The Foundation encourages private philanthropy to further the vision, values, and goals of the medical center, especially in community outreach.



Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) charity (EIN 43-1501416).



Please remember Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation in your will.



We hope you have enjoyed this issue of “Making a Difference.” If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email rwelch@cassregional.org or call (816) 380-5888, extension 4810.