

## HELLO FROM MILE BLUFF!



In the whirlwind of Christmas, the start of the New Year, seasonal illness, and an epic snowstorm, I found myself being the owner of a 6-month-old puppy.

Trudy is a golden doodle. She really is quite sweet and well-behaved; however, she is still a puppy who has a lot to learn. My growing lesson plan for her includes: why she shouldn't steal socks from the laundry, cats are our friends, and the vacuum is not trying to attack her.

Admittedly, we were not actively looking for a dog, but Trudy checked all of our boxes for a canine friend. My children are in love, and we have adapted our home and life to fit this wonderful new addition into our family.

In life, having to adapt to circumstances is inevitable. By stepping outside of our regular routine, we grow and develop new skills. When we struggle, adapting helps us stay afloat when life seems to be sinking around us. The need to adapt can be something we try to avoid or something we embrace.

At Mile Bluff, we are adapting. As an organization, we are welcoming new opportunities, improving our internal culture, and implementing new technologies and services for our patients. In healthcare, you cannot sit still and turn away from growth. Here at Mile Bluff, we are certainly on the move, and the foundation is happy to help in the push forward.

In the past two years, we have been embracing growth and adaptation here at the foundation. This meant welcoming a new board of directors and focusing on making strategic decisions for our organization. It has meant trying new events, like an online auction, to engage different audiences in philanthropic efforts. There has also been quite a bit of soul-searching as we ensure our funding priorities still align with the medical center's goals and mission. Lastly, we have taken on new challenges, like a capital fundraising campaign.

As the foundation continues to grow and adapt, I know we will continue to reach for great heights in order to support sustainable healthcare in our communities. I am thankful that our donors and supporters are with us along the way.

In gratitude,



Katie Nuttall | Foundation Director | 608-847-2735 | knuttall@milebluff.com

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Dueling Pianos

Saturday, April 6

The Lodge at Mauston

Join the foundation for an evening of fun and music as musicians from Piano Fondue will keep you singing along with everything from country and current pop hits to oldies and Broadway classics. Tickets are on sale now.

Visit [www.milebluff.com/piano](http://www.milebluff.com/piano) to find your tickets today!



'Like' Mile Bluff Medical Center Foundation on Facebook to stay up-to-date on events and initiatives!

1050 Division Street,  
Mauston, WI 53948

[www.milebluff.com/our-foundation](http://www.milebluff.com/our-foundation)

# FOUNDATION NEWS



This holiday season, Mile Bluff donated \$30,000 in personal care items to area schools. We were busy delivering laundry soap, shampoo and conditioner, toothbrushes, deodorant, and many other items. Area schools that received the donations include Mauston, Necedah, New Lisbon, Royall, Wisconsin Dells, and Wonewoc-Center.

This contribution was made possible through a grant from the Roots and Wings Foundation, which supports a strong start for kids, strong communities, and strong minds.



Several individuals and businesses, including the Bank of Mauston, have already made a commitment to the *For You. With You.* fundraising campaign. Molly Scully, and JK and Kim Walsh, presented the Mile Bluff team with a \$25,000 pledge to support this initiative and to help build Mile Bluff's future. We are very grateful to our community partners at the Bank of Mauston!



New equipment is starting to arrive! The Diabetes Education team was happy to test out the new vitals monitor that Mile Bluff Medical Center Foundation purchased for their department.

# 2023 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the foundation was able to approve \$29,948 in equipment requests.

## 2 BLANKET WARMERS - \$7,928

**Awarded to: Crest View Nursing & Rehabilitation Center**

These blanket warmers will be used in the tub rooms at Crest View. Nursing home residents are often cold, especially after a bath or shower. The warm towels will provide comfort to residents.

## STAND-IN BARIATRIC LIFT - \$5,704

**Awarded to: Rehabilitation Department**

This lift will be used at Fair View Nursing & Rehabilitation Center by the rehabilitation team. It is used for therapy activities for patients who are dealing with mobility issues. The ergonomic design also reduces the risk for injury for the care team.

## NUSTEP - \$5,000

**Awarded to: Cardiac Rehabilitation**

The NuStep cross trainer helps improve the physical fitness, endurance, and strength of patients through each phase of their cardiac rehab program. It combines upper and lower body movements for a full-body workout while in a seated position.

## NUSTEP - \$4,989

**Awarded to: Fair View Nursing & Rehabilitation Center**

For Fair View residents who are motivated to improve their strength and mobility, the NuStep bike is a safe and effective option. Residents often want to decrease the level of assistance they need for transfers, and maintaining their strength is a great way to do that.

## SIMULATION HEADWALL - \$3,613

**Awarded to: Education Department**

The Education Department is developing a training room which simulates the set-up of a patient room. With this, staff can train without interrupting direct patient care. The headwall will allow clinical and non-clinical staff to practice using call lights, oxygen hook-up, emergency response, and a multitude of other medical scenarios.

## VITAL SIGNS MONITOR - \$2,714

**Awarded to: Diabetes Education**

A vital signs monitor (pictured left) is used daily in Diabetes Education to assess blood pressure readings for each patient to monitor cardiovascular health as diabetes is managed.



# Strengthen local healthcare - For You. With You.

When it comes to the long-term well-being of a community, one thing makes a critical difference: having access to local, independent healthcare. For over a century, Mile Bluff has worked hard to meet and exceed the community's healthcare needs while preparing for future ones. In 2024, Mile Bluff will undertake a two-phased remodeling project that will enhance the care that we currently provide and put us in a good position to meet the healthcare needs of tomorrow.

## *Changing Needs, Changing Spaces.*

### **Phase One - From storefront to healthcare excellence**

In November 2022, Mile Bluff purchased the former Shopko building in Mauston. Now referred to as the "Gateway Building," it will serve as the new home to Mile Bluff's Mauston dialysis unit, urgent care clinic, and Mile Bluff Pharmacies (formerly Phillips Pharmacy). Work has already begun to turn this empty storefront into a home for healthcare excellence. Check out the artistic renderings at the top of the page for a sneak peek!

### **Phase Two - Dedicated space for emergency care**

Currently, Mile Bluff's emergency and urgent care departments share a space at the main hospital campus. As the need for emergency services continues to grow, and patients request more convenience from urgent care, we are eager to give each service area its own space.

Once urgent care services move to the Gateway Building, remodeling will begin in the Emergency Department. A new floor plan for the Emergency Department will provide more space for patients, a more efficient set-up for staff, and increased security and comfort for all.

## *Gifts to transform local healthcare.*

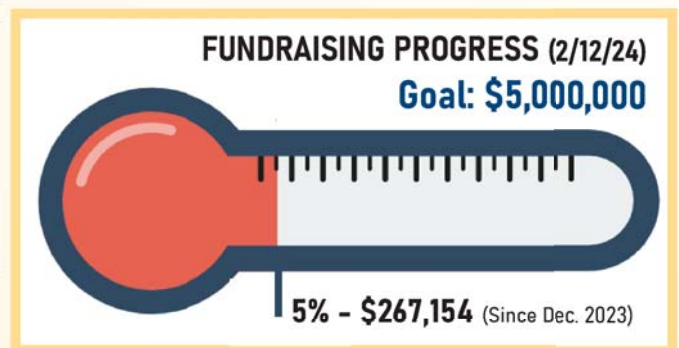
To support the Gateway and Emergency Department expansion project, Mile Bluff Medical Center Foundation has launched a capital fundraising campaign - *For You. With You.* - with the goal of raising \$5 million to help offset the costs of this \$17 million project.

A capital campaign is an intense effort on the part of a nonprofit organization to raise significant dollars in a specific period of time. The foundation is asking the community to help raise \$5 million to support this project and is working with individuals, area businesses, granting bodies, and other partners to meet this goal.

Gifts of any size can make an impact, and can be made through:

- » Cash or check contributions
- » Online donation portal - [www.milebluff.com/donate](http://www.milebluff.com/donate)
- » Pledge payments - 3-5 year pledges are accepted
- » Stock gifts, donor advised funds, and other investment contributions

We are asking you to join us in creating a brighter, healthier future for the community. For more information, please contact Katie Nuttall at [knuttall@milebluff.com](mailto:knuttall@milebluff.com) or 608-847-2735.



## *Meet the Campaign Cabinet*

These community members have joined the foundation in leading this fundraising initiative.

- » Tim Benson
- » Bobbi Brandt
- » Lynn Erickson
- » Jill Finley
- » Melissa Herek
- » Natty Kranz
- » Molly Scully, Advisor
- » Linda Walker

# For You. With You. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What are the project priorities?

Given the growing demand for robust, convenient healthcare services, Mile Bluff believes the time is right to undertake new projects. Doing so will enhance the care Mile Bluff currently provides and position the organization to meet the healthcare needs of tomorrow.

Through the remodeling of the Gateway Building and Emergency Department, the remodeling project will focus on these priorities to improve patient outcomes and the overall quality of care available at Mile Bluff.

- Increase patient privacy, accessibility and comfort
- Strengthen services and amenities for patients and their families
- Secure the future of Mile Bluff Medical Center for the health of the region

## I was not aware that Mile Bluff Medical Center was a non-profit organization. Can you explain the financial structure of the hospital and the foundation?

Mile Bluff Medical Center and Mile Bluff Medical Center Foundation are both registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. While they share this designation, they are separate entities with separate governance boards. To maintain the 501(c)(3) status granted by the IRS, not-for-profit organizations must use income and excess revenue to reinvest in their organizations and the communities in which they serve. This differs from for-profit entities, which use their excess revenue to distribute money amongst their shareholders.

## Why is Mile Bluff asking the community to support this project? Don't they have enough money?

Healthcare is a unique industry. While patients see the high costs of medical expenses, that does not always translate into high profits in the non-profit healthcare world. In today's current business environment, a 2.0% net operating margin would be very healthy.

What that means is that for every \$100 medical bill patients pay, approximately \$60 goes toward paying for the costs of doctors and staff. Another \$20 goes towards paying for the medications and supplies we use to take care of the patient. Buying medical services, paying for waste disposal, utilities, and upkeep on our current buildings takes up another \$18. This leaves approximately \$2 out of every \$100 paid to us left over to reinvest into long-term projects, large building renovations, etc. As a non-profit organization, Mile Bluff is covering our 'normal' reinvestments, but to do large, one-time projects like Gateway, community support is appreciated.

## How will this campaign impact the foundation's annual fund?

The annual fund may be impacted by donors redirecting their gifts to the capital campaign, but typically the total percentage lost is quite small. Campaigns are an exciting, time-limited endeavor that can connect and re-engage donors in a way that is positive for an annual fund after a campaign concludes.

**\$50**  
TICKET

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

» Mile Bluff Medical Center | Mauston

» [www.milebluff.com/piano](http://www.milebluff.com/piano)

RESERVED TABLES & SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE



Scan to buy tickets!

# Dueling Pianos

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

**TWO ELKS EVENT CENTER  
THE LODGE | MAUSTON**

**ENJOY AN EVENING OF MUSIC TO SUPPORT LOCAL HEALTHCARE!**

**APPETIZERS • RAFFLES • CASH BAR • AGES 21+**