Six amazing kids are serving as our Children's Miracle Network Hospitals® Heroes for 2013–2014. Their inspiring stories can be found by visiting gundersenhealth.org/cmnhospitals, where making a gift is as easy as clicking a button. Your generosity changes lives by making miracles for children and families throughout the Tri-state Region!

HEROES OF THEIR OWN STORY

Delainey Hayden
age 2
Sparta, Wis.
Her story: Synovial Cell Sarcoma

Emily Martell
age 10
La Crosse, Wis.
Her story: Type 1 Diabetes

Tanner Novak
age 2
La Crosse, Wis.
His story: Complex Congenital Heart Condition

Jason and Cory Ingram
age 13
La Crescent, Minn.
Their story: Twin-to-Twin Transfer Syndrome

KayCee Sanders*
age 16
2/14/1997–9/23/2013
Black River Falls, Wis.
Her story: Osteosarcoma

*It is with a heavy heart that we had to say good-bye to KayCee, who passed away this fall. Her family has graciously continued fundraising efforts for Team KayCee on behalf of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. They are honoring their daughter’s memory and they say it is “what KayCee would have wanted.”
CARDS FOR KIDS…
A HOLIDAY TRADITION

For 27 years, Empire Screen Printing has donated time and materials to create miracle cards that support CMN Hospitals. A local child provides the artwork, and 100 percent of their card sales help local families and kids facing medical challenges.

2013 Holiday Card
FaithRose Wateski believes pets love Christmas, too! FaithRose, 11, is an animal loving fifth grader from La Crosse who dreams of becoming a consultant to the US Olympic equestrian team. FaithRose was born with a bilateral cleft lip and palate, requiring facial plastic surgery and several hospitalizations. Grants from CMN Hospitals have funded horse therapy activities for FaithRose, helping improve her concentration, self-esteem, and ability to relate to both animals and humans.

Hero Cards (available January 2014)
Our young heroes are creating colorful works of art for a variety pack of blank cards suitable for any occasion. Look for their one-of-a-kind originals to be auctioned at the Emerald Ball on Friday, April 4, 2014.

Available in packages of 20 for $8.00 plus tax at the following locations:
• Degen Berglund
• La Crosse Children’s Museum
• Gundersen Gift Shop
• Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals office, 775-4424

SAVE THE DATE!
Emerald Ball ~ Friday, April 4, 2014
An evening of entertainment and celebration to support Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals®, a service of Gundersen Medical Foundation

Volunteers welcome!
Help us create a memorable event by joining our Planning Committee. Contact Amanda Vandehey for questions or details at 608-775-0012 or ajvandeh@gundersenhealth.org.
The American Heart Association defines tachycardia as an abnormal rapidity of heart action, usually considered to be a heart rate of more than 100 beats per minute (BPM) in adults. In children, a normal heart rate is age dependent, and the definition of tachycardia varies. For pediatric cardiology patient Morgan Mulholland, “It’s an autonomic dysfunction she was probably born with,” says mom Tricia. “Her symptoms gradually increased to where it was a significant problem and disability when Morgan was in 8th grade.”

When a heart’s rate is too rapid, it’s unable to effectively pump blood to the rest of the body, depriving organs and tissues of oxygen. Tachycardia patients often experience dizziness, lightheadedness, shortness of breath and fainting. Now a 17-year old senior at West Salem High School, Morgan explains that “I pass out every couple of weeks, sometimes more often with increased activity like going to school.” Her reclining wheelchair is designed so her feet can be raised quickly to restore consciousness.

For years the Mulholland family researched the possibility of a service dog for Morgan to help increase her independence. Her unique case required a service animal capable of alerting Morgan when her symptoms were severe, and also do things like turning on lights or picking up pill bottles.

Thanks to a grant from Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals®, Morgan got her puppy, Jordan, in January of 2013 and has been training him with the experts at Paws 4 Independence, a non-profit organization based in Caledonia, Minnesota. Working together, Morgan and Jordan have made amazing progress. He is already able to alert others to Morgan’s symptoms, both at home and at school. Morgan notes with pride, “He’s a smart boy. Jordan is almost two years ahead of schedule in his training.”

Tricia Mulholland is grateful for the wonderful care Morgan receives from Gundersen Health System specialist Susan MacLellan-Tobert, MD, FACC, who is the only pediatric cardiologist in the area. “Having a child with these kinds of medical conditions means lots of different medications and many appointments,” says Tricia. “It adds up. We were trying to do it all on our own. We just got to a point where we needed to start asking for some help.”

As donors to CMN Hospitals, Tricia says being on the receiving end “was definitely a new experience for us.” Jordan is turning out to be of greater service than the family ever imagined. “When you feel sick every day, all day long without any break, it’s hard,” says Tricia. “He brought Morgan some smiles, and we hadn’t seen that for a year. The bond between these two is just incredible.”

A LIFE CHANGED: MORGAN MULHOLLAND

A LIFE CHANGED: MORGAN MULHOLLAND

Morgan and her service dog, Jordan, have formed a powerful bond.
WHERE A LEGACY OF LOVE LIVES ON

Raenel Meyer’s mother loved children. Raenel was one of Lorene (and Ray) Greene’s nine children; the family’s next generation grew to include 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and two great grandchildren (and counting). “There are a lot of us,” laughs Raenel, who remembers her mother as someone who always had time to play. “Mom would get down on the floor for cards and games with us kids. She was always joking around.”

Lorene Greene, a longtime West Salem resident, passed away on June 7 at the age of 94. To honor her lifelong love of children, Lorene’s family chose Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals®, a service of Gundersen Medical Foundation, as a beneficiary of her memorial gifts. Raenel credits her oldest sister, Mary Swart, with the idea. “Mary gives to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals and knew the money stays right here in the area,” says Raenel. “That was important to all of us.”

The idea of their mother’s memorial gifts providing comfort to children in need was a perfect fit. “My mother loved to hold babies and rock them,” says Raenel. “Anytime there were fussy babies or little ones around, she would end up with them in her arms, calming them down.”

This fall, Raenel and her husband, Lynn Meyer, took their support of CMN Hospitals a step further by becoming a Miracle Maker sponsor of CMN Hospitals Heroes Cory and Jason Ingram. Recently, the Meyers hosted a live radio broadcast at their business, American Home Fireplace and Patio in West Salem, raising funds and awareness of how CMN Hospitals helps families like the Ingrams. It was a great day for a great cause.

Together, we help children

Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals®, a service of Gundersen Medical Foundation, is dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children. We directly assist children and their families, and support pediatric programs and services that help kids battle diseases and injuries of every kind. In the Gundersen service area, Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals has raised more than $13.6 million since 1986. Each charitable donation—whether through special events, annual gifts, business partnerships, sponsorships, or planned giving such as bequests—benefits children in this region and provides support for specialty medical care, research and preventive education.

To give, text MIRACLE to 80077

To learn more about Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals and the work we do, please visit us online at gundersenhealth.org/cmnhospitals.