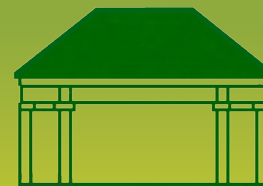


Fitzgibbon Hospital Foundation Focus

News for our Donor Community



May 2020



Our March edition of the Foundation Focus was ready to go to print when the COVID-19 pandemic sent all of us on a journey we'll never forget. The newsletter featured a story about Gayle Carter and her work on the original Community Cancer Center capital campaign. We showcased your amazing Live and Silent Auction donations and provided detailed information about the Foundation's largest fundraising event of the year, the Fling Gala.

As the virus continued to spread, Fitzgibbon's preparations for a response and a potential surge in patients consumed much of our leadership team's time. We then determined that our best course of action was to postpone The Fling. We watched our community struggle as local businesses shuttered, schools and colleges transitioned to online learning, and social distancing measures were implemented.

For a time, Fitzgibbon Hospital was the only facility in a 50-mile radius that offered COVID-19 testing; and to date we've conducted more than 2,200 swabs on patients from more than 30 Missouri counties in efforts to detect COVID-19. From the outset of the pandemic, we took exhaustive steps to make sure all patients, staff, vendors and guests were safe and well cared for. Triage tents were erected to conduct "symptom screening" for COVID-19 in accordance with CDC guidelines; a "no visitor" policy was adopted; a separate web page was launched to provide accurate and up-to-date information to members of our community; telehealth virtual visits were implemented at the hospital and all clinic locations; and stringent cleaning and disinfecting measures were established. The economic impact of responding to the pandemic has created an incredible financial burden on our 501(c)3 community hospital that recently celebrated its 97th Birthday.

In the midst of all of these activities and as fear over the devastating pandemic grew, our patients self-cancelled routine care. And, in an abundance of caution, we suspended or postponed routine testing such as mammograms, lung CT scans and pulmonary function tests. In fact, our monthly volume of services dropped 29% when comparing the month of April to the month of January 2020 – prior to the pandemic.

On Tuesday, April 21, we met to discuss the merits of postponing or canceling The Fling. Many of the Fling's donors are small business owners who are facing uncertain futures. We also rely heavily on Marshall High School and Missouri Valley College student volunteers to help us orchestrate a successful event. Social distancing requirements will only be eased slightly in the foreseeable future. In the end, we simply couldn't find a way to make postponing the event feel "right," so we decided to cancel The Fling for 2020. But please mark your calendars for Friday, April 9, for The Fling 2021.

Jackie Finnegan will be in touch with sponsors, donors, and guests with reservations to discuss their preferences regarding carrying donations over to The Fling 2021 or processing refunds.

Linear Accelerator Capital Campaign

Despite the significant impact on our community, our nation's economy and our hospital, the Fitzgibbon Hospital Community Cancer Center remains committed to providing the highest quality cancer care close to home. The Community Cancer Center opened in 1999 with the help of this community and surrounding area. We're asking for your help once again as we launch a capital campaign to replace a vital piece of radiation therapy equipment.

Fitzgibbon Hospital is committed to providing state-of-the-art care to our patients. In order to continue providing the latest treatment options to our patients, we will need to replace the linear accelerator that was installed when the Cancer Center opened in 1999. The linear accelerator is the primary tool used by our physicians in delivering radiation treatments to our cancer patients. The new linear accelerator will provide the same treatment to patients in a fraction of the required time. The new technology also will allow us to expand the types of cancer we are able to treat at our facility.

<Linear Accelerator, continued on next page>

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Traditionally, we identify a need at Fitzgibbon Hospital that is shared with our donors at The Fling. We were looking forward to launching the two-year, \$2 million Linear Accelerator capital campaign at The Fling 2020. The night has always been a special time for attendees to join together to support our community hospital.

Now, more than ever, we are asking for your help once again. We hope you will continue to provide your care and support to ensure that this vital investment in our community can be made.

Angy Littrell

President and CEO
Fitzgibbon Hospital

DID YOU KNOW?

The Fitzgibbon Community Cancer Center . . .

has **SAVED** patients and their families an estimated **128,000** miles of travel

has provided remarkable **CONSISTENCY OF CARE** the same **4** doctors have provided care since the center opened

administered its **1st** immunotherapy **BIOLOGIC** treatment in March 2016

has touched the lives of **1,700** patients in need of **CHEMOTHERAPY** treatments

since opening, has administered **33,000** doses of **RADIATION** therapy

was **MADE POSSIBLE BY 1,160** generous donors and memorials in the name of **246** different individuals

To learn more or to make a gift, visit fitzgibbon.org



Be proud of where we've been. Be a part of where we are going.

In recognition of the valuable contributions that Fitzgibbon Hospital has made and is making throughout Marshall and Saline County, I/we wish to support the **LINEAR ACCELERATOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**. Please bill me in accordance with the timing indicated below.

AMOUNT OF GIFT \$ _____

Billing Instructions:

- Cash enclosed with this form
- 24 equal installments
- 8 quarterly installments
- 4 semi-annual installments
- One bill to be sent
- Other _____

Signature _____ Starting Date _____

Please make checks payable to "Fitzgibbon Hospital Foundation." Thank you!

It's AMAZING what your donation can do!

**Compassion.
Commitment.
Community.**

Fitzgibbon Hospital
Foundation Office
P.O. Box 250
Marshall, MO 65340
(660) 831-3850
fitzgibbon.org/give