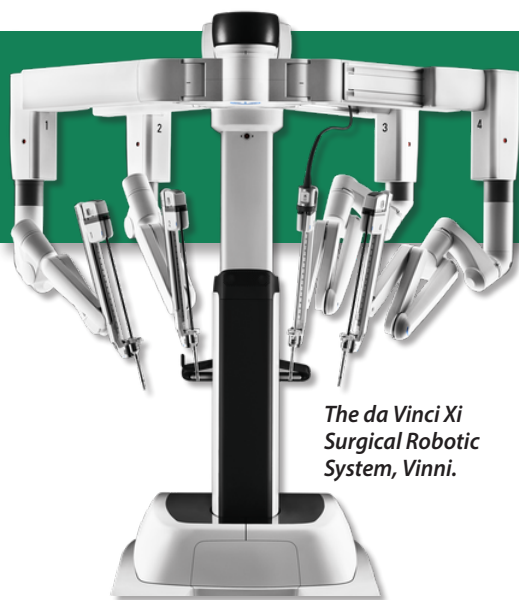




2020

CLARA BARTON HOSPITAL HEARTBEAT

Brought to you by the Clara Barton Foundation



*The da Vinci Xi
Surgical Robotic
System, Vinni.*

Here at Clara Barton Hospital we recently unveiled our newest technological gem, the da Vinci Xi Surgical Robotic System, or better known by our Clara Barton Surgical Staff as "Vinni." Just as Vinni shines as the latest and greatest in the surgical world, our donors shine for playing an integral part in bringing the best in medical technology to Clara Barton Hospital. Because of you, we now have the ability to provide our patients with robotically assisted surgical procedures, providing our patients with quicker recoveries and better outcomes.

Vinni is a robotic tool used by our surgeons for a variety of procedures. It enables them to operate through a few small incisions while viewing a high-definition, 3D image of the surgical site through a tiny camera on one of Vinni's arms. During a robotically assisted procedure, our surgeons are able to use Vinni's multiple robotic arms to translate hand movements into detailed, precise movements inside the patient's body.

VINNI SAYS, "THANK YOU!"

You helped a da Vinci Xi Robot dock in our Operating Room

Vinni has performed nearly 300 surgeries in our operating room thus far, but before he could make his way to the Clara Barton Hospital Operating Room, upgrades were needed for the existing sterilization system. Because of you, a new sterilization system was installed in the surgical department. In addition to the sterilization upgrades, the purchase of a robotic tilt table was also needed in order to fully utilize the capabilities of the robotic system.

"The addition of the robotic table is so important because it is able to sync with the surgical robot, further enhancing our capabilities," said General Surgeon, PJ Stiles, MD.

"This allows the table to lean and tilt as needed, without having to physically undock the robot and move it to a new position during the surgery. Not only has it increased efficiency in

the operating room, it further increases patient safety during procedures."

Thanks to the many generous donations made by foundation supporters, like you, coupled with the late Jean Cavanaugh's remarkable IRA contribution, the sterilization upgrade and purchase of the robotic table were made possible, and Vinni officially became part of the Clara Barton Surgical Family.

"The future of surgery is here at Clara Barton thanks to you," said Stiles. "We

are grateful to have loyal supporters that continue to invest in the health of our rural community, ensuring that we are able to keep top-notch, quality healthcare close to home."

Because of your generous support, patients can now experience a variety of benefits after their procedure including: less post-operative pain, shorter hospital stays, faster recoveries/quicker return to normal activities, less risk of infection, less blood loss/fewer blood transfusions, less scarring, fewer wound complications.

Your support of the foundation has allowed Clara Barton Hospital to bring the latest in surgical technology right here to rural central Kansas. Vinni thanks YOU for helping to bring him to Clara Barton, providing access to quality healthcare for your neighbors, friends and family.



“**We are grateful to have loyal supporters that continue to invest in the health of our rural community.**”

**- General Surgeon
PJ Stiles, MD**



PAST DONORS CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

It has been said that giving is not just about making a donation, it's about making a difference... and that's exactly what past donations to the Clara Barton Foundation have done. In times like these, it can be difficult to see the positive when so much remains unknown, but one thing is certain. The donations you've made to the Clara Barton Hospital Foundation over the last several years have continued to positively impact the way our organization has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Back in 2014 our focus was on the capital campaign "Complete the Dream...Continue the Vision" that expanded the physical therapy department and allowed for the addition of laundry services to our facility. While this project's fundraising was successfully completed last year, thanks to you, we never envisioned the way it would be utilized in the future. The addition of laundry services permitted better quality control and significantly cut costs. Now, it is a vital tool in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Every nurse that comes into contact with a COVID patient, or someone

symptomatic, is able to have their scrubs washed in our laundry department," said Michelle Schwager, Director of Environmental Services. "Knowing that we have the equipment that reaches state and federal sanitation standards for scrubs, cloth masks, and other PPE gives them that extra comfort knowing that they are taking every precaution necessary to keep their patients safe and their family safe when they return home."

Implementing in-house laundry services also allows our facility access to additional PPE options during the nationwide shortage. In the case that disposable gowns and masks aren't available, there are alternatives that can be ordered and washed as recommended.

Another unforeseen benefit of the capital campaign project was the additional entrance provided for therapy patients. During the shutdown as we

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**- Michelle Schwager
Director of Environmental Services**

strived to limit contact and exposure throughout the organization, important post-surgery therapy appointments and wound care treatments still had to continue. Before the expansion, patients needing therapy had to walk all the way through the hospital to get to the therapy services department in the northwest wing. The expansion included the addition of an entrance that leads directly into the therapy department, further limiting patient exposure and protecting at-risk patients needing therapy.

In 2016, while the foundation was still fundraising for the capital campaign, you supported the purchase of a new lab instrument called the Nanosphere.

The Nanosphere is an automated, multiplex instrument that allows molecular diagnostic testing in-house, providing additional testing, optimized patient treatment and improved hospital and laboratory efficiency.

As the pandemic swept the nation, testing facilities were overwhelmed with COVID tests and smaller hospitals, especially, struggled to get results back in a timely fashion. To help alleviate this problem, an updated version of the Nanosphere is now on the market, allowing facilities to do their own COVID testing in-house, pending FDA approval. Currently, because so many hospitals are in the market for these new machines, availability is limited. Thanks to you and your past support, Clara Barton Hospital is on the purchasing list to acquire this machine, once the FDA approves this method of testing.

"Facilities that don't have our current Nanosphere (funded by the foundation) aren't even being considered as potential purchaser," said Myrtle Whitmore, Laboratory Director. "This new machine will allow us to do gold standard RNA/DNA testing within our facility, meaning we would have the most accurate form of COVID testing, and no longer have to send patient samples to a reference lab. We're one of the few places in our area able to do any SARS antigen testing (rapid testing) to begin with and we are fortunate that donors have made it possible to provide these services to our community and put us on the fast track to getting this new equipment sometime this fall."

Along with overwhelmed labs, another issue this pandemic caused was a shortage of PPE (personal protective

equipment). But, thanks to your support in 2019, our upgraded sterilization equipment in surgical services have been dual-purposed to sanitize hard-to-come-by N95 masks.

The Steris VPro Max sterilization system was funded by foundation donors before the arrival of Vinni, the surgical robot. Now, that very machine is also sterilizing multiple N95 masks each day, allowing our nurses and other clinical staff to reuse their mask up to 10 times.

"The Steris VPro Max has helped us to conserve and extend our supply of N95 masks, which are the best protection for staff against COVID-19," said Surgery Director, Kim Tutak. "Our staff use tally marks to indicate how many times their masks have been ran through the Steris machine. Once a mask appears soiled, damaged, or has reached its decontamination cycle limit, it is discarded and a new mask is issued."

Because of the nation-wide shortage, without the Steris VPro Max staff would be forced to reuse their N95 masks without the ability to properly

"This equipment has helped us to conserve and extend our supply of N-95 masks. It not only plays an integral role in sterilizing surgical equipment, but now also provides better sanitation and protection for our staff from COVID-19 and other viruses."

***- Kim Tutak
Director of Surgery***

sanitize them between uses. Both the 3M company and the FDA approve of reprocessing N-95 masks in the Steris VPro Max, using the decontamination cycle to kill the COVID virus.

"We are extremely grateful for those who helped fund this sterilization equipment, as now we can reprocess up to 10 masks at a time in just 30 minutes," said Tutak. "This system not only plays an integral role in sterilizing surgical equipment, but now also provides better sanitation and

protection for our staff from COVID-19 and other viruses."

Without the generosity of our donors and supporters, it would not have been possible to make these important investments throughout the years. Thanks to you, we remain at the leading edge of patient care, even during this unprecedented pandemic. Our medical teams working on the frontlines and caring for COVID patients and members of the community, wouldn't be the heroes they are without you. As we look toward the future with hope, we are grateful that your donations have allowed us to continue to innovate and remain sustainable.



BRINGING YOU THE BEST!

You can be proud knowing that your scholarship gift impacted three of our employees continuing their education so they can continue to bring you the best quality healthcare services! Out of seven applications for the Dr. Robert Moore Scholarship, chosen were the three recipients listed below.

ALESIA SCHNEWEIS, DPT



Alesia has been employed at Clara Barton since 2014 and is currently working to attain her certification as a Wound Care Specialist from the American Board of Wound Management.

JENNIFER MICKLE, RN



Jennifer has been at Clara Barton Hospital for 18 years, working as an Registered Nurse and is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree to expand her capabilities and seek a nursing career in an administrative capacity.

KIRSTEN SULZMAN, CNA



Kirsten has been a CNA for 7 years and employed at Clara Barton Hospital since 2017. She is currently pursuing her LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) at Barton Community College.

For a complete list of 2020 Scholarship Recipients or if you'd like to contribute to any of these endowment funds, visit our website at www.clarabartonhospital.com/scholarships.

WELCOMING DR. RENNER & DR. BAXA



Kyle Renner, MD is the newest member of the Clara Barton healthcare team. Dr. Renner joins us as a family practice physician, seeing both children and adults.

Renner grew up in Garden Plain, Kansas. After graduating from Pittsburg State, he continued his education at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita and completed his residency at the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho in Boise.

Practicing family medicine, Renner enjoys the relationships he is able to form with patients and their families. This unique aspect drove him to family medicine and ultimately motivated him to return to rural Kansas to begin his career. Renner is now accepting new patients at both Clara Barton Medical Clinic in Hoisington and Great Bend.



Rheumatic diseases affect over 25% of the U.S. population. Those affected live with joint and muscle pain associated with musculoskeletal and autoimmune disorders and we are pleased to announce the addition of Rheumatology to our clinical services, as Dr. Ken Baxa joins the Clara Barton medical team.

Baxa grew up in Salina, Kansas. He attended medical school at the University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine and recently

completed his fellowship in Rheumatology at Bayonet Point Regional Medical Center in Hudson, Florida. Baxa and his family wanted to return to Kansas and give back to the communities that helped raise him.

He's passionate about the musculoskeletal system and uses a multi-faceted approach to treat such disorders. Dr. Baxa diagnoses and treats a variety of disorders affecting the joints, muscles, ligaments and autoimmune system, such as: inflammatory disorders, fibromyalgia, osteoporosis, arthritis, lupus, gout, tendinitis, and vasculitis. He is now accepting new patients at Clara Barton Medical Clinic in Hoisington.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

There are so many ways you can change lives through the Clara Barton Foundation. Whether you are making an online donation, preparing a more detailed legacy giving plan, or volunteering your time, you can rest assured that you are part of something big - something extraordinary that will continue to support the community with quality healthcare for generations to come.

We can guide you on how to best make an impact to match what is most important to you! Please consider a gift to the Clara Barton Foundation.



CLARA BARTON
Foundation

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We have a vision of where we want to go next. With your help, we can get there!