

# Recognizing

## Outstanding Volunteer Programs

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### Overview of WAVE Awards Programs

The Wisconsin Awards for Volunteer Excellence (WAVE) program was established by Partners of WHA, Inc. to recognize outstanding contributions of organized volunteer programs, and is patterned after the AHA HAVE Awards program.

In addition to acknowledging the value of volunteerism to individual lives and institutions, the awards program is designed:

- To encourage service that greatly exceeds expectations, as a result of innovation, creativity and leadership.
- To promote visibility and goodwill toward the hospital or health care system.
- To increase allegiance among volunteers.
- To promote collaboration among organizations and community service.



## Partners of WHA

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# 2013 WAVE Awards

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Presented at the Partners of WHA  
Annual Convention

October 8, 2013

Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

**Category: *Community Service Programs***

**Winning Program: *"Mercy Hospice Care's Pet Peace of Mind Program"***

**Winning Organization: *Mercy Health System Association of Volunteers, Janesville***

The Mercy Hospice Care's "Pet Peace of Mind Program" was developed to support patients with a hospice diagnosis who have pets and concerns related to the care of those pets. The program focuses on preserving the relationship between the patient and his/her pet. Mercy Health System Association of Volunteers provide services that support the patient and ease concerns specific to his/her pet, including: daily pet care; financial assistance with pet food or medication; routine veterinary care, including transportation to appointments; temporary boarding or pet sitting if patient is hospitalized or transferred to a hospice facility; and placement for a pet after a patient's death.

**Category: *In-service Hospital Volunteer Programs***

**Winning Program: *"Stampin' With Dorothy"***

**Winning Organization: *Memorial Health Center Volunteers, Medford***

It began as a single volunteer – Dorothy Obenhoffer – gathering a few nursing home residents together to experiment with a new craft project 10 years ago. Today, "Stampin' With Dorothy" is a monthly offering as part of the formal recreational therapy activity calendar at Memorial Health Center's nursing home. The activity draws over 20 male and female residents a month, more than a quarter of the nursing home's population, and requires the assistance of up to six volunteers. With assistance and guidance from volunteers, residents make personalized greeting cards. At the end of the session, each resident has five or six cards to keep and send to friends and family. Additionally, the volunteer program has been able to incorporate the greeting card products into their fundraising activities, inviting employees and the public to make-your-own greeting card classes and/or purchase ready-made card sets.

**Category: *Fundraising Programs***

**Winning Program: *"Langlade Hospital Auxiliary Parade of Homes"***

**Winning Organization: *Langlade Hospital Auxiliary, Antigo***

For 16 years, the Langlade Hospital Auxiliary has been sponsoring the annual "Parade of Homes" as one of its major fundraising events. Each year, nearly 500 people purchase tickets to tour five or six area homes that vary in construction, architecture, age and style. In addition, local businesses and organizations sponsor the parade at various levels, as another way to increase the funds raised for Langlade Hospital. The event utilizes volunteers in a variety of ways, from one of the two event co-chairs, to members of one of 12 committees, to distributing posters, selling tickets, and working at the homes on the day of the parade. Funds raised are distributed to a designated hospital department, most recently to purchase a telemetry system for the cardiopulmonary rehabilitation department.

**Category: *Community Outreach and/or Collaboration Programs***

**Winning Program: *"ImPACT Concussion Testing Program"***

**Winning Organization: *Auxiliary of Riverside Medical Center, Waupaca***

In an effort to collaborate with the community on an increasingly important issue, the Auxiliary of Riverside Medical Center (A-RMC) has been providing annual funding to implement the ImPact Concussion Baseline Testing Program in area schools since 2009. ImPact (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) is a concussion management/identification program which helps identify concussions in high school athletes. The funding provided by A-RMC allows all student athletes in both the Waupaca High School and the Weyauwega-Fremont High School to be tested every two years. In addition, both athletes and parents are instructed on the dangers, symptoms and proper management of concussions every year; and post-tests are administered to student athletes when a concussion is suspected. Due to the implementation and continuation of this formal program in the schools, during the 2010-2011 school year, 24 concussion cases were documented through this program. In 2011-2012, the number increased to 64.