

The Madonna Minute

A briefing about the programs and innovations at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital

October 2007

Madonna celebrates “The Art of Rehabilitation” during National Rehabilitation Week

“Rehabilitation literally means ‘new life.’ The ‘art’ of rehabilitation taps deeply into the creative energy and human longing of every person to achieve something significant. Many of our patients find that their recovery process illuminates talents and interests they didn’t know they had.”

—*Marsha Lommel, President and CEO of Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital*

Through educational programs, activities, displays and entertainment, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital celebrated National Rehabilitation Week, Sept. 16-22. The theme defined the specialized role of Madonna’s expert rehabilitation teams, the science of applied technology and the creative spirit within all people. These elements come together in rehabilitation, helping patients overcome and adapt to challenges, achieving new goals as they fulfill meaningful life roles.

Educating peers

Madonna’s celebration of National Rehabilitation Week included the following free educational programs for clinical practitioners and the general public:



(L to R) Charles Bethea, Lied Center for Performing Arts Executive Director, discusses the Troika Ranch project with Madonna associates Dr. Judy Burnfield, Nancy Hall, Katie Graf and Linda Stones

- “Best Practices in Stroke Rehabilitation,” presented by Madonna Stroke Program Manager Amy Goldman, DPT
- “Solutions for Daily Living: Assistive Technology and Spinal Cord Injury,” presented by Spinal Cord Injury Program Manager Diane Ulmer, OTR/L, and Assistive Technology Specialist Colleen Spellman, OTD, OTR/L

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- “The Arts and Rehabilitation: a Look at the Troika Ranch Project,” presented by Lied Center for Performing Arts Executive Director Charles Bethea and Madonna’s Director of the Movement Sciences Center Judy Burnfield, Ph.D., P.T.
- “An Interdisciplinary Approach to Behavior Management of Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury,” presented by Brain Injury Program Manager Lori Terryberry-Spohr, Ph.D., ABPP.

According to Assistive Technology and Telehealth Coordinator Susan Fager,



Linda Ohnoutka, Madonna recreational therapist, explains her exhibit to one of the many participants at the ProActive Adaptive Sports and Rec Fair

more than 200 employees from Madonna and hospitals across Nebraska participated in these events through the Telehealth system. On Tuesday, Sept. 25, Dr. Eric Hartman presented a special evening Grand Rounds series titled, “Brain Injury Awareness.”

Community-focused activity

Rehabilitation week included Madonna’s second annual Adaptive Sports

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Now you can.

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and Recreation Fair at Madonna ProActive on Sunday, Sept. 23. The fair was free, open to the public and featured hands-on activities, interactive booths and live demonstrations, all of which illustrated the array of activities Madonna provides through its Adaptive Sports and Recreation program. Fair activities included quad rugby, wheelchair basketball, hand cycling, enabling gardening and a sip 'n puff Playstation.

A special event during the fair was a stunning, integrative dance performance of "Tango No. 4" by Kris Lenzo and Anita Fillmore. In 1979, Lenzo had both legs amputated above the knee after an



Kris Lenzo and Anita Fillmore performed a tango for the enjoyment of the ProActive audience on Sunday

industrial accident. He later achieved national championships in wheelchair track and basketball. Lenzo discovered dance a few years ago after agreeing to perform with his daughter for a school program. He now performs and teaches dance with MOMENTA, the premier dance company of Oak Park, Ill. Anita Fillmore holds a masters degree in dance performance and choreography from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Her work has been performed in Chicago, New York and Internationally.

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Goal Awards luncheon celebrates creativity, innovation

As guests arrived to the 13th Annual Chairman's Goal Awards luncheon on Sept. 26, they viewed a special art display, showcasing the artistic talents of former Madonna patients. The gallery display featured mouth sketching by Craig Cassell, drawing and painting by Gina Simanek, Michael Wilcox and Kelsay Parrott, photography by Paul Nathenson, welded sculptures by Dean Huber and musical artistry in loving memory of Anders Ukinski.

Kris and Anita were scheduled to perform during the Goal Awards, but Kris suffered a shoulder injury on Tuesday evening while he and Anita were rehearsing. For his health and well-being and for both dancers' safety, they did not perform at the Goal Awards luncheon as planned. In her comments to the luncheon audience, Marsha Lommel, Madonna president and CEO, assured the group that Kris was given thorough care by experts from Madonna TherapyPlus and Physician Services. In place of the live performance, the audience was treated to a DVD viewing of Kris and Anita performing at a MOMENTA show in Chicago earlier this spring. The Goal Awards event included a moving video, featuring the stories of this year's Goal Awards recipients: Fred Daigle, Heather Tice, Deb Spanyers and Brady Beran.

In her comments, Marsha remarked that, "Rehabilitation is fundamentally different from all other healthcare because it doesn't focus on a disease, like a stroke or a brain injury. It focuses instead on the person's life, job,



(Clockwise left to right) Chicago area performance artists Kris Lenzo and Anita Fillmore pose with 2007 Goal Award recipients Bill Siebert of Seibert & Associates, Brady Beran, Fred Daigle, Deb Spanyers and Heather Tice

relationships, spirituality, obligations, and creativity. Likewise, the specialty teams in rehabilitation must use their creativity to adapt emerging technology to serve each individual's needs. This is the most exciting time in the history of rehabilitation because technology advances make possible what we once thought was impossible," she added.

At the luncheon's close, Erynn Nicholson, Rachel Dahlin and Katie Barnett, three members of the ProActive Chase Dance Team and advanced dance instructors, provided a moving performance entitled, "Hide and Seek," choreographed in gratitude to Kris and Anita for sharing their knowledge and unique form of dance during their visit.