



the INDEPENDENT

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals

Winter 2020

ENHANCING THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

The future of the Lincoln Campus

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Examining the past year
2019 IN REVIEW
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BACK IN THE GAME
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Burn survivor inspires
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MISSION STATEMENT

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals is a Catholic hospital system that provides physical medicine and rehabilitation services to children and adults throughout the nation. We rehabilitate those who have sustained injuries or disabling conditions so they can fully participate in life. We lead research to improve outcomes and prevent physical disabilities and promote wellness through community programs.

Core Values

Our core values reflect Madonna's history, mission and beliefs.

Collaboration

Hospitality

Respect

Innovation

Stewardship

Teaching

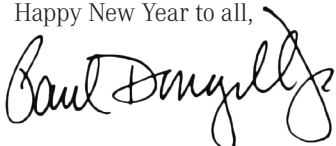


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A letter from the President & CEO

As 2019 comes to a close, I am thankful for many things—the blessings of my family, health, the support of our community and the great staff at Madonna. I speak for our 2,100 employees when I say we are anxious for the new year. 2020 will usher in a new decade of growth for Madonna. We are eager to break ground in the spring on expansion projects at both the Lincoln and Omaha Campuses. The Lincoln Campus expansion will change the face of Madonna. This massive project will result in 59 new patient rooms, provide additional outpatient treatment space, improve the patient experience and reinforce our reputation as a state-of-the-art national provider of rehabilitative care. In this issue of the Independent, we outline the details of this exciting project. We also showcase our spinal cord injury program that provides care for some of the most complex patients. The patient stories on the following pages illustrate the road to recovery is a difficult journey. But, it is clear that with Madonna's expert caring staff, leading-edge technology and culture of hope, all things are possible. Finally, an expression of gratitude to the generous individuals contributing to the Madonna Foundation. Madonna's second annual Miracle Night gala was a huge success. Support from the event sponsors enables us to provide first-class rehabilitative care to those in Nebraska and beyond.

Happy New Year to all,



Paul Dongilli Jr., Ph.D.,
President and CEO

The INDEPENDENT is a magazine published three times a year for friends of Madonna. Direct questions or comments to: 402.413.4290 or info@madonna.org.

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Tami Rudder
Marketing, Media and PR Specialist

Lora Vohl
Marketing, Media and PR Specialist

Nicole Cousins
Marketing, Media and PR Specialist

Jeremy Wegner
Brand Strategist

Sue Carraher
Development Coordinator

Brian Pickering, APR
Director of Marketing and Communications



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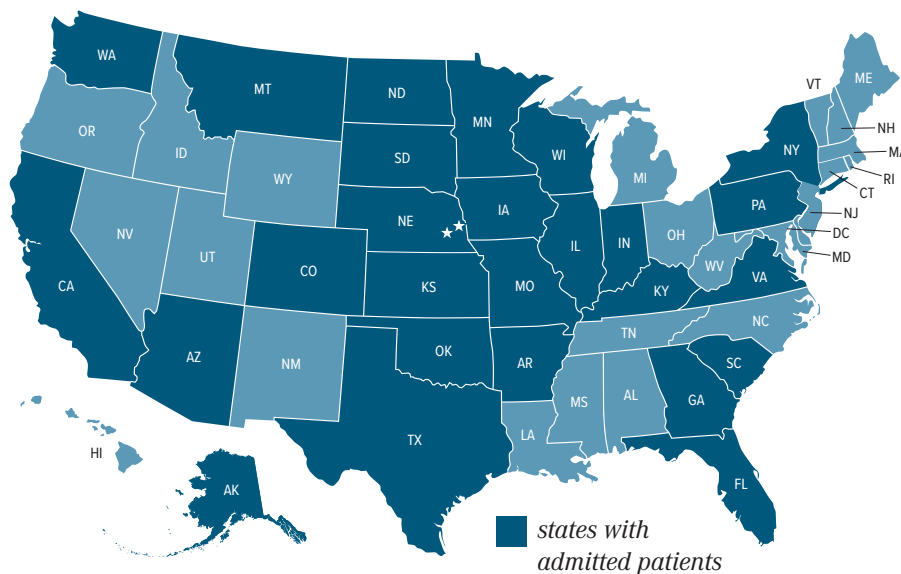
Staff honored for compassion &
COMMITMENT

Providing world-class rehabilitation

COAST TO COAST

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals continues to be a destination of choice for world-class rehabilitation of both adults and children, and 2019 was our biggest year yet. From a record number of admissions, to the announcement of a major construction and renovation project on our Lincoln Campus, Madonna continues to grow and serve the best way we know how: with passion, grace and a commitment to excellence in rehabilitation.

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals continues to expand its footprint locally, regionally and nationally.



In 2019, Madonna admitted **2,377** patients from **26** states, spanning from Washington to Florida.

2019 MADONNA BY THE NUMBERS

\$167 million

Consolidated net operating revenue

29

Admissions team members who met with potential patients and their families across the country

7

GOAL AWARDS recipients honored on the 25th anniversary of saluting outstanding patient recoveries

19,000+

Friends like Madonna on Facebook

2,100

Employees dedicated to caring for patients and families in need of hope and healing

DECADE IN REVIEW

2010 The 14-bed Alexis Verzal Children's Rehabilitation Unit opens, providing specialized inpatient and outpatient pediatric services for children.

2012 Madonna partners with SportsArt Fitness Inc., on international distribution of the ICARE, patented technology created in Madonna's Institute to help patients with disabling conditions relearn to walk.

2014 Madonna and the University of Nebraska Medical Center establish an academic affiliation creating the first Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency program in the region.

2016 Madonna expands its unique, individualized rehabilitation services by opening a 110-bed hospital campus in Omaha.

2018 Madonna celebrates 60 years of providing specialized, state-of-the-art rehabilitation programs for children and adults with complex injuries and illnesses.

2019 Announces a \$57 million construction and renovation project of the Lincoln Campus and expansion of the Omaha Campus.

Marin Salisbury, physical therapist, works on balance with Sidney Doane in the Lincoln Campus Zender meditation gardens. In 2015, Sidney suffered a severe traumatic brain injury in a one-vehicle car crash. During her courageous journey to independence, Sidney has moved through the continuum of care in Madonna's specialized brain injury program.



LEVELS OF CARE

Madonna is one of the largest, freestanding rehabilitation hospital systems in the United States. We provide a full continuum of rehabilitative care across two campuses, including:

SPECIALTY HOSPITALS

A step down from the intensive care unit (ICU) in acute care, this program focuses on rehabilitation of patients with complex medical conditions, chronic illness or catastrophic injury with a goal of tolerating increased activity to move to the next level of care. Specialty Hospital (complex medical care based on a rehabilitative philosophy) includes daily physician visits.

REHABILITATION HOSPITALS

A comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary medical rehabilitation program with a goal of three-plus hours of therapy per day and discharge to a community setting. Rehabilitation Hospital care includes daily physician visits.

TRANSITIONAL CARE UNIT (TCU)

A skilled nursing and rehabilitation program providing patients with daily nursing and therapy services.

REHABILITATION DAY PROGRAM

Provides coordinated, intense outpatient therapies with physician and nursing oversight focusing on patients' reintegration to community, work or school.

SPECIALTY HOSPITALS

LINCOLN CAMPUS

OMAHA CAMPUS

Number of Patients Discharged

489

454

Percent of Patients No Longer Needing Ventilator Assistance

73%

64%

Average Length of Stay

31 Days

26 Days

Patients Who Would Definitely Recommend Madonna to Family and Friends

93%

87%

REHABILITATION HOSPITALS

LINCOLN CAMPUS

OMAHA CAMPUS

Number of Patients Discharged

617

714

Percent of Patients Discharged to the Community

72%

74%

Severity of Patients

Top 2% Nationally

Equal to National Average

Average Length of Stay

28 Days

20 Days

Patients Who Would Definitely Recommend Madonna to Family and Friends

94%

96%



Joining hands and hearts in our COMMUNITY

Madonna's mission and values are evident in the hospitals' daily activities and in the ways the organization gave back to the community.

Charity Care

Services provided to patients unable to pay for health care totaled **\$2,457,410** in 2019. Madonna offered two avenues for patients to qualify for free or reduced-cost services: charity care provided by Madonna based on patient income level and St. Benedict funds provided by donors to the Madonna Foundation to assist patients and families in crisis.



*Hope and healing
thrive in a welcoming
atmosphere where
the unique strengths
of every individual are
valued and nurtured.*

Unpaid Cost of Public Programs and Subsidized Health Service

Madonna absorbed **\$4,187,053** in losses due to shortfalls between patient care costs and amounts paid by Medicaid and **\$12,361,194** in losses due to shortfalls between patient care costs and the amounts paid by Medicare for the hospitals, TherapyPlus and St. Jane de Chantal Long Term Care Services.



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS GIVE BACK TO **MADONNA**

During 2019, Volunteer Resources at both the Lincoln and Omaha Campuses gratefully acknowledged **382** volunteers serving **20,537** hours, saving Madonna more than **\$475,000** in paid staffing costs. Serving in **75** different positions, volunteers provided extra attention to patients, residents and visitors while expanding the work of Madonna staff.

Community Medical Transportation

Because people with disabilities and the elderly have increased health care needs, isolation from providers can have a profound impact on the quality of their life, health and safety. Madonna's community medical transportation program allows individuals to get the timely medical care they need, decreasing the amount of emergent situations that often result in emergency room trips and increased costs. Madonna transportation provided **19,292** rides to and from non-emergency medical appointments in 2019.

Educational Presentations

In 2019, **43** Madonna employees made **98** educational presentations on various rehabilitation and health topics to **6,434** people. Local presentations accounted for 53 of the 98 total presentations, while 37 presentations were made regionally and nationally and eight internationally.

Clinical Training

In 2019, **370** clinical staff and physicians spent **24,229** hours providing a clinical setting for training **302** medical students, nursing students or physicians not affiliated with Madonna.

Madonna's Adaptive Sports & Recreation Program

During 2019, **415** individuals, including **159** patients and **256** community members with disabilities, were served. The programs offered to participants enabled them to participate and experience a variety of competitive and recreational sports and activities.



Members of the Madonna Magic wheelchair basketball team celebrate after being crowned 2019 division champs. Madonna Magic travel throughout the region competing in tournaments and exhibitions.

Community programs, services complete CONTINUUM OF CARE

TherapyPlus

TherapyPlus partnered with more than **1,000** physicians in the Lincoln and Omaha areas, focusing on a shared goal of helping **5,601** outpatients overcome injuries and improve health and wellness.

Several new services were implemented, including functional dry needling, visual impairment and feeding therapies, bioptic driving evaluations, walking clinics and enhancement of sports medicine therapy services. These programming enhancements paired with the existing suite of outpatient rehabilitation services—sports injuries and orthopedic sprains, strains, post-operative care and comprehensive rehabilitation for neurological conditions—contributed to a nearly **8%** growth in volumes across our four clinic locations last year.

ProActive Medical Fitness

ProActive continues to be an integral part of Madonna's continuum of care. Providing medically-based health and fitness solutions for adult members of all ages and abilities sets the facility apart from big box and studio gyms in the Lincoln community.

Additionally, continued collaboration with TherapyPlus and Madonna's Institute for Rehabilitation Science and Engineering resulted in the development of the ICARE (motor-assisted elliptical) personal training program and implementation of a supervised exercise therapy program for peripheral artery disease.

ProActive membership remained steady last year at more than **3,600** with an increase in overall member retention and member satisfaction.

Fit For Work

Fit For Work successfully welcomed two new major clients needing a partner to provide pre-employment screenings, adding to its portfolio of **177** eastern Nebraska companies accessing its injury prevention, injury treatment and wellness services.

St. Jane receives prestigious Silver Award

St. Jane de Chantal Long Term Care Services was named a 2019 recipient of the AHCA/NCAL Silver Award – Achievement in Quality. The award encourages applicants to learn and develop effective approaches that help improve performance and health care outcomes.



“I’m proud of the St. Jane staff for going the extra mile to help us meet the rigorous silver level criteria,” said Melody Gagner, long term care administrator. “The team effort shows our commitment to providing high-quality, person-centered care to our residents and their families.”

The award is sponsored by the National Quality Award Program, and presented by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), the leading association for long term and post-acute care.



“Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals continues to be blessed by the people who enter our doors each year. From our dedicated staff to the patients in our care to the families that support and love them, it’s the people who make Madonna so special. Working together, we provide thousands of children and adults hope of rebuilding their lives. Last year alone, we cared for individuals from 26 states. Our reputation for providing world-class rehabilitation is growing. Our outcomes are leading the industry and people in need are choosing us in greater numbers than ever before. Our future is bright.”

Kevin Werts

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital Board Chair



“The Madonna Foundation is grateful to our friends and donors who have forged a special connection to our mission and vision through their generous gifts. Children and adults return to their families, schools, jobs and communities because friends like you invest in world-class rehabilitation. Thank you for helping Madonna to be a recognized national leader in rehabilitation through your support of our Lincoln and Omaha campuses.”

Dan Vokoun

Madonna Foundation Board Chair

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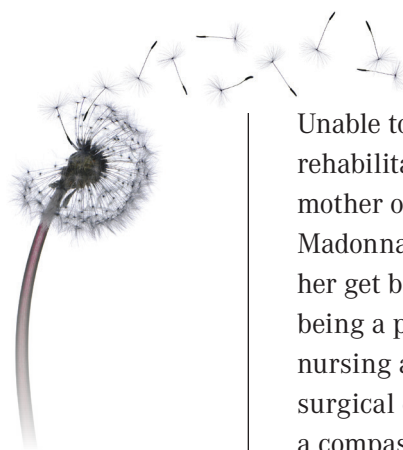


A nurse becomes the patient: ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

Kelli Pellman gained a deep appreciation for the role her Madonna team played during her recovery from a spinal cord injury. She found their altruistic attitude a blessing and credits the staff as “the wind beneath my wings.”

Being a caregiver comes naturally to Kelli Pellman, a registered nurse. In a role reversal last spring, Kelli suddenly found herself on the other side of the hospital bed.

On June 8, 2019, Kelli was dancing with her husband on the deck of their home in Lenexa, Kansas, when their feet tangled, pitching the couple to the ground below. Rushed to Overland Park Medical Center, both suffered injuries, but Kelli’s were more serious and required surgery to fuse her fractured C5-C7 spinal vertebrae.



*“Life is short and
in one instance can
change its course.”*

KELLI PELLMAN
SCI survivor

Unable to walk and needing specialized rehabilitation, Kelli, a 46-year-old mother of two teenage sons, chose Madonna’s Lincoln Campus to help her get back on her feet. Initially, being a patient felt awkward to Kelli, a nursing administrator at a Kansas City surgical center. She quickly discovered a compassionate network of support in her Madonna team of doctors, nurses and therapists sharing in her primary goal: to walk. “It was emotional to say because I didn’t know if that was going to happen or not; but I thought I’ve got to do whatever it takes to walk again.”

Five months after fracturing her spinal vertebrae, Kelli Pellman, RN, returned to her role as facility manager at NS Surgical Center in Kansas City, Kansas.

hands, re-educating her fingers to grasp and pinch. By August, physically and mentally stronger, Kelli stood and traced a path across the therapy gym with a walker.

“I saw, from a different perspective, that giving patients hope and comfort, day in and day out, is an amazing gift,” Kelli said. “It becomes clear when you are cared for by such a person and I was blessed to have many on my team who were the wind beneath my wings.”

Five months after the accident, a grateful Kelli resumed work and family commitments. “Life is short and in one instance can change its course,” she reflected. “It’s in journeys like this God gives us the opportunity to grow closer to him. I have learned to focus on appreciating what has been given.”

During her recovery from a spinal cord injury, Kelli Pellman gained a confidant in Kipp Ransom, a counselor and spinal cord injury survivor. His expertise, compassion and personal insights motivated Kelli toward her goals.



NEUROPSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

The Neuropsychology Department at Madonna supports adults and children who have experienced a life-changing injury or illness as they work to reclaim their lives. The team includes a diverse group of neuropsychologists, rehabilitation counselors, post-doctoral residents and graduate student interns. Neuropsychology staff is an integral part of the care team who work with patients to address difficult problems, such as substance abuse, altered sexual functioning and changing life roles.

ATTITUDE

Kelli considered rehabilitation a full-time job and smiled through every difficult challenge. She trusted the process as her team introduced various technologies to strengthen her body. Kelli’s legs regained muscle memory and proper gait during repetitive sessions on the Lokomat, robotic-assisted treadmill training. Aquatic therapy furthered those gains as she celebrated taking first steps in the warm water pool. Occupational Therapist Emily Rumery, programmed the Bioness H200 to electronically stimulate nerves and muscles in Kelli’s



Leading with empathy and expertise

DR. PAUL KRABBENHOFT

During morning rounds, Dr. Paul Krabbenhoft, spinal cord injury program medical director, listens as a new patient shares her frustrations. Dr. K, as he's affectionately known at Madonna, nods his head in agreement. His response of "I can relate" elicits an audible sigh of relief from the young paraplegic.

When he was 12 years old, Krabbenhoft fell out of a tree and broke his back, paralyzing him below the hips. The accident physically changed him, but it's never defined him. "I had a very supportive family and outgoing personality that allowed me to pursue whatever interests I had," said Krabbenhoft, a native of Mankato, Minnesota.

The interest in medicine surfaced during his junior year at Mankato State University. His career path led to the University of Minnesota where he completed medical school and a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R). The unique aspects of the specialty appealed to Krabbenhoft. "Physiatry focuses on long-term functional gains with the opportunity to facilitate progress

over time." Additionally, he'd never forgotten the PM&R physicians who impacted his recovery.

In June 1996, Krabbenhoft joined Madonna in his current leadership role at the Lincoln Campus where he also mentors PM&R residents. Connecting with patients comes easily through his years of practice and openly sharing personal experiences. "My primary motivator is giving my patients all I have, placing their needs first and devising creative solutions."

Krabbenhoft is an active role model. He's played competitive wheelchair softball and basketball for 25 and 33 years, respectively, and was recently inducted into the National Wheelchair Softball Hall of Fame. Family time is a priority and includes his wife, Lisa, and their two sons.

Making a difference in a patient's life motivates the doctor. "I find small, everyday successes extremely rewarding," Krabbenhoft said. "It's been a pleasure providing quality healthcare to so many patients over the years at Madonna."



Dr. Paul Krabbenhoft visits with Eric Bartel, spinal cord injury survivor from Peabody, Kansas, during his patient rounds.

Dr. Andy Moellering

HOSPITALIST

Medicine piqued Dr. Andy Moellering's interest at a young age. During high school and college, his personal experiences volunteering at a hospital burn unit and working as a health aide influenced his career choice.



Moellering, a Lincoln, Nebraska, native, graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). During his fourth year of medical school, Moellering narrowed his specialty to internal medicine. "It felt comfortable and where I could connect with patients and families the most." Completing a residency at UNMC reaffirmed his decision. "I found my niche," said Moellering, who served as assistant professor in the department of internal medicine.

In 2018, Moellering joined Madonna as a hospitalist with the Lincoln Campus specialty hospital team. His diverse patient population includes those with complex medical issues and spinal cord injuries. It's a daily challenge he thrives on. "The complexity of issues and solving the occasional medical mystery is intriguing." Moellering shares a collaborative care approach with nurses, therapists and other team members, including Dr. Paul Krabbenhoft, spinal cord injury program medical director.

Outside of work, Moellering cherishes time with his active family, including his wife, Tara, and their three children. He finds relationships with patients and their families rewarding on another level. "At Madonna, I get to witness and be a part of their recovery—that's special."



The driving simulator helped Drew Casper hone his cognitive skills during his recovery from a traumatic brain injury. The Madonna Foundation celebrates the many generous donors whose gifts empower patients and make specialized technology possible.

SPINAL CORD INJURY

PROGRAM

Madonna is a national destination for spinal cord injury rehabilitation. We help patients of all ages return to their life roles, regardless of the level of injury. Our intense rehabilitation program helps patients maximize their strengths and integrate assistive technology tailored to their needs. We provide specialized comprehensive education and training for patients and caregivers.

Madonna has a dedicated rehabilitation unit, staff and physicians specifically for persons with spinal cord injury. An interdisciplinary team of clinicians, each with varied roles and areas of expertise and training, assists patients in reaching their goals.

The unique rehabilitation environment includes spaces that simulate life at home, work and the community. Independence Square allows patients to relearn to grocery shop, cook, do laundry and practice skills needed for parenting or returning to work. Madonna's Lincoln Campus received the highest level of accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities as a Spinal Cord System of Care.



Enhancing the patient EXPERIENCE

A major construction and renovation project on Madonna's Lincoln Campus highlights the importance of the patient experience. The project, which is expected to break ground in spring 2020, will include 59 state-of-the-art patient rooms, a new entrance and a renovation of areas dedicated to outpatient registration and overall support services.

It has long been regarded a “hidden gem” in Lincoln, Nebraska. Nestled back on the corner of 56th and South Streets, many people who drive by Madonna's Lincoln Campus may not even know about the world-class rehabilitation care offered in their backyard. Scores of patients, past and present, have said, “Madonna wasn't a place I needed to know about until I needed to know about it.”

But that's about to change.

Madonna recently announced a massive, 112,000-square-foot expansion and renovation of the Lincoln Campus, including a 3-story patient wing composed of 59 patient rooms, additional space for rehabilitation



***Room modernization
will allow for innovative
care at every stage of the
rehabilitation process.***

services and a brand new façade that will change the face of rehabilitation in Lincoln, the state and the region.

“This project will strengthen our position to provide access to care that is available nowhere else in this region,” said Paul Dongilli Jr., Ph.D., Madonna president and CEO. “Some of our rooms are original to our campus and as a result no longer meet the changing face of the patients that we serve.”

Patients seeking Madonna for rehabilitation are admitting with increasingly complex injuries and illnesses. With the primary goal of promoting greater independence, this project will replace Madonna's small and outdated rooms with larger, fully



private ones with greater capacity for technology, including environmental controls, video monitoring and ventilators for those requiring respiratory assistance.

Room modernization will allow for innovative care at every stage of the rehabilitation process, whether a patient is just arriving from an acute care hospital and needs continuous monitoring, or is preparing to return home and practicing navigating their bedroom. These rooms will complement the 61 private rooms that were updated in 2000.

“We know from experience that a warm and inviting environment both in and out of therapies is critical to providing a positive patient experience,” said Susan Klanecky, Madonna’s vice president of Patient Care. “The new patient rooms will allow us to further develop and integrate the latest rehabilitation programming and technology directly into patient care, ultimately helping

our patients to recover faster, return to their communities sooner and be best prepared for their new lives.”

Construction projects are no stranger to the Madonna Campus. The original hospital building was constructed in 1971. In addition to room updates in 2000, Madonna added a therapy gym, pool, chapel and other ancillary services in the 1990s, the Research Institute in 2001 and the 14-bed Alexis Verzal Children’s Rehabilitation Unit in 2010.

“The new project will enhance the patient and family experience by making campus navigation easier, improving recreation activities for use after hours, increasing on-site family housing, and upgrading the kitchen and café,” said Dan Griess, vice president of Facilities and Ancillary Services. “It’s an exciting time for Madonna.”

Larger patient rooms will create space for loved ones and family members to be an integral part of therapy sessions. Madonna has found that family participation in rehabilitation contributes to greater outcomes, and better prepares the patient and their family for life once they return home.



PROJECT FACTS

- ▶ More than 2,300 patients were treated across our system in 2019, with 1,100 of those admitted at our Lincoln Campus
- ▶ Madonna employs more than 2,100 employees—1,600 in Lincoln and 500 in Omaha
- ▶ \$57 million project cost, including renovation of the site, entrances and parking
- ▶ 112,496 total square feet being added to existing 460,000 square foot facility
- ▶ 59 new hospital patient rooms (120 rooms total)
- ▶ 50,000 square feet of existing outpatient registration and support services space will be renovated
- ▶ Davis Design will provide design/architecture/engineering services
- ▶ Sampson Construction will construct the new building
- ▶ Groundbreaking is anticipated in spring 2020
- ▶ Completion is anticipated by January 2023

Teen athlete and SCI survivor **BACK IN THE GAME**

A sledding accident instilled Ethan Newell with a newfound appreciation for life. On Jan. 19, 2019, Ethan jumped on his toboggan and raced down a snow-packed hill in Ames, Iowa. His sled hit a bump, sending the then-17-year-old airborne. A crash landing flipped him backwards, slamming his neck against the frozen ground.

“Instantly, I lost all feeling to my body,” Ethan said. Years of lifeguard training kicked in as the teen warned his friends not to move him and to call 911 and his parents. Ethan’s father sensed the fear in his son’s voice: “Dad, I think I’ve broken my neck.”

Surgeons at MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center confirmed the trauma had shattered Ethan’s C5 spinal vertebrae and operated to repair the damage. Losing mobility and use of his hands devastated the football and track athlete, who spent 11 days in the intensive care unit.

Hope began the morning after Ethan arrived at Madonna’s Lincoln Campus pediatric unit when, flanked by his therapists, he stood. “Ethan sustained an incomplete spinal cord injury meaning some signals were still passing up and down his spinal cord at the level of injury,” explained Dr. Adam Kafka, medical director, Lincoln Campus rehabilitation hospital.

Photo courtesy of Debbie Gray



Gilbert High School senior Ethan Newell reflects on his memorable career in football and track competition. After injuring his spine in a 2019 sledding accident, Ethan tapped into his athletic discipline to reach his goal to walk again.



Learn more about the SCI Program at:
Madonna.org/SCI

Ethan applied the discipline from his sports training to rehabilitation. His game plan included rigorous physical, occupational, recreational and aquatic sessions. The EksoGT and AlterG Bionic Leg, computerized, wearable technology, targeted Ethan's lower-extremity weakness. Cooking in the therapy kitchen strengthened his fine motor skills and mastering the driving simulator restored his confidence behind the wheel.

On March 28, Ethan walked out the doors of Madonna to a hero's welcome on returning to school in Gilbert, Iowa. More victories followed—dancing at prom, a

beach run during vacation and lifting weights with his friends again. Rejoining his football team in a support role was monumental. "That's when I knew I had come back from something that could have been a very different outcome," Ethan said. He's excited for track season, May graduation and says college plans will stay true to his Iowa roots.

A silver cross hangs around Ethan's neck, a gift from his parents, worn throughout his lengthy recovery. "You've got to have faith to get through something this traumatic."

PEDIATRIC NURSING TEAM



BriLei Ford of Wichita, Kansas, was a passenger in a car hit by a suspected drunk driver. The high-speed impact nearly crushed BriLei's body and he suffered a traumatic brain injury. Throughout his rehabilitation, BriLei relied on his support system, including the nursing team, whose compassion and expertise helped the teenager return home.

Highly skilled registered nurses with pediatric experience and rehabilitation training care for infants and children ages 0-19 in the pediatric unit. The nursing team ensures each patient's physical, emotional and developmental needs are met. Madonna's nursing model supports a 24/7 rehabilitative approach offering patients additional opportunities to practice daily skills learned and supported by therapy throughout their stay, even outside of

scheduled therapy sessions. Nursing staff also provides ongoing education and training for parents and other caregivers so they feel confident in caring for their child's medical needs once they return home.



Generosity in action at MIRACLE NIGHT

Excitement and holiday cheer were in the air as generous friends of Madonna invested in the hospitals' future at the 2nd Annual Miracle Night for Madonna.

Guests at the sparkling event on Nov. 15, 2019, at Shadow Ridge Country Club in Omaha, Nebraska, came together to celebrate and advance world-class rehabilitation at Madonna. One of the highlights of the evening was a message of gratitude shared by recent patient Jay Noddle, president and CEO of the Noddle Companies. A short video presentation recounted Jay's recovery journey at Madonna's Omaha Campus following a stroke.

The gala evening featured a cocktail hour, a gourmet dinner and a wide variety of silent and live auction packages, such as tickets to sporting events and music venues, and even the chance to see the Olympic swimming trials in Omaha next summer.

Thank you to our event sponsors for their significant support in advancing Madonna's mission and vision:

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- Silver Sponsors:
Cline Williams Law Firm and Harry A. Koch Co.

Special thanks go to the hard-working gala committee, including: Karla Cassels, Marilyn Dongilli, Julia Gale, Tacy Griess, Adam Hayes, Lisa Kiechel, Liz Koop, Kacey Lempka, Maria Lighthall, Kris Love, Britta Muhleisen, Sean and Pier Mulhall, Melissa Murante, Lauren Pugliese, Alison Ritter, Kim Shirk, Fred and Patty Suarez, Audrey Svane, Dan Vokoun and Amee Zetzman.

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MADONNA
FOUNDATION

SAVE THE DATE 2020 EVENTS

DISH & BLOOM

March 31, 2020
Country Club of Lincoln

MILES FOR MADONNA

Oct. 3, 2020
Zorinsky Lake, Omaha

MIRACLE NIGHT FOR MADONNA

Nov. 20, 2020
Country Club of Lincoln



Jay Noddle, president and CEO of the Noddle Companies, shared his Madonna recovery journey with guests at the Miracle Night gala.

Treating you like **FAMILY**

By Colby Johnson
Madonna Foundation Board Member



I knew very little about Madonna before my paralyzing diving accident in 2010. Seeing things from a past patient's perspective has really helped me in my role as a Madonna Foundation board member. There is truly something special about the delivery of care at Madonna, from the nurse aids who get you going each morning, to the nurse aids who get you ready for bed at night and every care team member in between.

I lost a lot on July 4, 2010. However, over the past nine years, I have gained more than I could have ever imagined through a supportive network of Madonna rehabilitation professionals who continue to treat me like family and fellow patients who are friends for a lifetime. Today, I have much to celebrate. I am back to work and also keep very busy at home as a dad to my sons, Bo and Cooper. Madonna also offers so much hope. It seems like no matter what your level of injury, Madonna is always pushing you to the next step toward recovery.

My wife, Jo, and I are proud to support Madonna. I am honored to serve as a Foundation board member to help Madonna grow for the benefit of the many people who need world-class rehabilitation. I tell everyone, when you need the best, Madonna is the place to go.

Madonna Ambassadors

AMBASSADORS KICK OFF **TECHNOLOGY FUNDRAISER**

Madonna Ambassadors, a team of past patients, raised more than \$5,000 in the days before the Miracle Night for Madonna gala to inspire event guests to match and exceed their gifts to fund a new driving simulator.

The 2019 Ambassadors included Shannon Belk, McKinley Blue, Graci Garcia, the family of Stephen Little, Jessica Lode, Michael Shearer and Levi Weber. Friends and family of the Ambassadors pledged their support through an online campaign. Sampson Construction stepped forward with a significant sponsorship adding to the Ambassadors' gifts.

During the gala's live auction segment, generous guests donated additional funds to combine with the Sampson sponsorship and the Ambassador gifts to help make the driving simulator a reality, by raising more than \$68,000.

The simulator presents up to 80 realistic driving scenarios for patients to practice important skills on their road to independence including hand-eye coordination, decision-making, understanding signs and other key driving proficiencies.

Thank you to all who help bring cutting-edge technology to Madonna.

Couple gives back through ANGEL WINGS PROGRAM

For South Carolina resident Margie Jones, a trip to see her daughter in Iowa took an unexpected detour in November of 2018. As she prepared to return to the balmy coast for the winter, an accidental fall landed Margie in the hospital, and ultimately, at the Lincoln Campus.

Over the next five months, Margie experienced the full continuum of inpatient care while recovering at Madonna. During that time, she got to know and trust her care team and wanted to do something special for them. Margie and her husband, Bill, were excited about the Madonna Angel Wings Program, in which a grateful patient, and/or a family member, can make a gift to the Madonna Foundation in honor of someone who provided exceptional care.

Margie honored her aquatic therapy staff as well as nine individual care team members with Angel Wings pins, including nursing staff, case managers, physical therapy and occupational therapy staff.

A few of her special messages that appeared on personalized certificates included:

- “Rhonda makes hard work fun and is a real asset to Madonna. She has become more than a therapist to me; she is truly a friend.”
- “Jacque is a pro in managing nurses, aides and patients.

Thank you, Jacque, for your time, your attitude and your helpful ways.”

As a special gift to Madonna, Bill and Margie donated one-week stays, at two of their vacation properties, as auction items for two special Madonna Foundation fundraising events in 2019. Week-long getaways at a cozy mountain cabin retreat in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina and a breezy beachfront condo near Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, leveraged generous donations at the Madonna events.



Margie Jones with Madonna staff

Thank you to Bill and Margie Jones for sharing your grateful hearts.



HONOR A CAREGIVER

The Madonna Angel Wings Program was initiated in 2011 as a way for grateful patients to honor caregivers who go above and beyond through a gift to the Madonna Foundation. Since the program began, grateful patients have honored more than 1,000 employees, departments and volunteers. For information on how you can honor a Madonna nurse, therapist, volunteer or other staff member, visit [Madonna.org/foundation/honor-a-caregiver](https://www.Madonna.org/foundation/honor-a-caregiver).



2019 FOUNDATION SUPPORT BY THE **NUMBERS**

\$6,512,303

Total gifts/pledges to
Madonna Foundation

1,756

Number of donors

672

Number of employee donors

387

Number of loyalty donors
giving five or more
consecutive years

213

Number of Angel Wings
Awards from grateful patients

39

Number of states
representing donor gifts

40

Number of corporate donors

343

Number of patients helped
through the Madonna
Foundation's financial
assistance funds

Claussen Award recognizes **EXCELLENCE**



Rich Claussen (left) and his brother, Bill Claussen, were proud to present the 2019 Georgann Claussen Memorial Award of Excellence to Janelle Hansen, physical therapist.

Janelle Hansen, a physical therapist at Madonna since 1984, is the recipient of the 2019 Georgann Claussen Memorial Award of Excellence.

Lincoln residents Rich and Bill Claussen established the award in memory of their mother to honor compassion and excellence in helping children and adults with disabilities rebuild their lives. They credit Madonna's staff with giving their children two more years to get to know their grandmother, thanks to the excellent patient care Georgann received.

"Patients fondly refer to Janelle as 'sergeant, general or captain' because of her unique way of encouraging them toward achieving a goal," said her nominator Tami Rudder, Madonna marketing, media

and public relations specialist.

"Beneath her firm exterior is a compassionate heart, cheering every recovery milestone—big and small. Patients have repeatedly commented that they would not be where they are today without Janelle on their care team," she added.

The first Claussen Award and stipend was presented in 2001. Since that time, the award has honored nurses, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, a physical therapy aide, a recreation therapist, a respiratory therapist and a social worker—all critical members of the patient care team.

Thank you to the Claussen Family for your generosity in helping Madonna recognize excellence in patient care.

Burn survivor inspires IN RECOVERY

When you strike up a conversation with 13-year-old Dale Anderson, it's not the kind you would expect from your average middle school-aged boy. The wise-beyond-his-years, outgoing young teen from Council Bluffs, Iowa, carries himself more like a Dale five times his age, and draws on one very traumatic life experience when he offers advice to others.

"If anything happens to you, don't just give up. Push through it and it gets better."

Dale was severely burned in May 2019. He said he was horsing around a campfire when fumes from a gas tank

built up and exploded. He suffered burns to 79% of his body, including third-degree burns on his arms and legs. Dale was airlifted to CHI St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he spent three months in the burn unit before being transferred to Madonna for rigorous inpatient therapy. He decided to dedicate himself to getting stronger and aiming to inspire.

"I made a dumb decision by playing with fire," Dale said. "I'm just glad to be alive, but through my experience I hope to inspire others to push through their problems."

Stretching is a key component of therapy for burn survivors to prevent the hardening of new skin tissue. Dale Anderson, burn survivor, practices stretching exercises with Brooke Murtaugh, occupational therapist.





**Learn more about the Burn Rehabilitation Program at:
Madonna.org/Burn**

Despite the often excruciating pain he endured during therapy, Dale heeded his own advice, persevering through each session. Working closely alongside Madonna's Burn Program Leader and Certified Burn Therapist Brooke Murtaugh, Dale transitioned from being unable to put weight on his bandage-covered legs to walking with minimal assistance of a cane in just three weeks. Murtaugh attributes Dale's remarkable progress to his determination to get better.

"Burn is of its own nature with the incredible pain and trauma that the patient goes through," Murtaugh said. "For Dale to have done so well and come out on the

other side smiling, we don't see that very often with survivors of burn injury."

After more than a dozen surgeries and hundreds of hours of therapy in Madonna's inpatient, Rehabilitation Day and outpatient programs, Dale returned to school in October and accomplished his mission to inspire others. The mayor of his hometown proclaimed Oct. 4 as Dale Anderson Day, and Iowa's governor also recognized the teenager for his bravery and strength in recovery.

ABOUT MADONNA'S BURN PROGRAM

Madonna's Burn Rehabilitation Program is a holistic program with outstanding outcomes by patients of all ages. Spearheaded by Murtaugh, patient care starts before arriving at Madonna. A pre-admission team visits each patient during their acute stay to ensure a successful transition. Clinicians specially trained in burn rehabilitation assist Murtaugh in helping patients reach maximum mobility, function and independence.

Patients undergo rigorous therapy at Madonna while coping with pain and scar management associated with burn injuries. Our experts use a collaborative approach to treatment and the latest, research-based interventions. Most importantly, our environment fosters trust by demonstrating acceptance and respect for burn survivors throughout their recovery.



Students' design streamlines REHAB APPROACH



The UNL Student Design team members are pictured above (L to R): Dennis Feng, Bryan Borer, Joshua Martin, Joey Novotny, Andrew Buckwalter, Alex Chmelka, Benjamin Morris, Ryan Witkowski, Tommy Boswell and Shichen Zhao.

In rehabilitation medicine, time is of the essence. Patients admitted to Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals can have upwards of five hours of therapy per day. Their therapists, meanwhile, must document key progress—including distance walked and heart rate—to help define the impact of therapy on recovery, keeping in mind patient safety.

To increase safety, reduce the room for human error and streamline the data collection process, a group of engineering students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) have partnered with Madonna's Research Institute to develop the Madonna SMART System. In its second year of design, the Madonna SMART System will eventually better serve patients in all stages of rehabilitation.

"This technology is going to allow our clinicians to spend more of their time focused on the patient and less time acquiring the data needed for documentation,"

Institute Director Dr. Judy Burnfield said.

The relationship between Madonna and UNL's Department of Computer Science and Engineering initiated with the department's senior design project, where student groups are assigned to different Lincoln-area businesses and organizations with a need for new technology. At Madonna, a group of 10 students is developing a software application that receives, analyzes and stores wireless sensor-driven performance data. They also are designing and integrating the hardware components that will collect all information.

To date, the team has improved a pedometer design created by last year's team to monitor steps taken, velocity, cadence and stride length, and has updated a software application that automatically collects and stores information in a database. They plan to integrate a heart rate monitor as well.



Learn more about the Madonna Institute at:
Madonna.org/Research

“It’s really exciting to see the project being built from scratch,” said Andrew Buckwalter, a senior software engineering major in his second year working on the SMART System.

Buckwalter said the SMART System goes beyond a school project: it allows his team to directly contribute to the healthcare industry. Students work side-by-side with the Institute’s clinical researchers and engineers, Madonna’s IT department and therapists to develop a system that is universal and easy to use. More importantly, it allows college students to make a positive impact in the lives of patients.

“Working on this project is really exciting because I wanted to work on a project that would be helpful for

people, and this will do just that,” Buckwalter said. Development of the SMART System is expected to continue for several more semesters, giving more students an opportunity to work on this real-life application. Ultimately, the system shows how data is recorded, allowing therapists to focus their time and energy on their most important mission: helping Madonna’s patients get back to their daily lives.

The SMART senior design project was made possible by funding from the Cintani Family Foundation. The Cintanis have a long history with Madonna as donors and board service, and have recently received Madonna’s Innovation Award for supporting this project through UNL.

ICARE INSTALLED IN KANSAS CITY




Institute Director Dr. Judy Burnfield (right) works alongside clinical staff at Ability KC. The rehabilitation center is the first in Kansas City to install the motorized elliptical. Burnfield was onsite to teach the team how to integrate the ICARE into therapy.

Recently, the Madonna Institute for Rehabilitation Science and Engineering sold a Madonna ICARE by SportsArt to Ability KC, an outpatient rehabilitation provider in Kansas City, Missouri. Ability KC is the first facility in Kansas City to implement the ICARE motor-assisted elliptical.

Institute Director Judy Burnfield, Ph.D., PT, visited Ability KC to teach therapists and exercise physiologists how to integrate the ICARE into therapy.

“It was awesome to see how easily the team integrated the ICARE into their care for patients, and how excited the patients were about the whole-body challenge it provided,” Burnfield said.

The ICARE patented technology was developed by Madonna researchers in 2010 and is used around the world to improve walking, fitness and functional independence in individuals with a wide range of physical disabilities.



Staff honored for

COMPASSION & COM

The backbone of Madonna is outstanding staff whose heartfelt encouragement and expertise help patients reach their goals. Compassion and a strong commitment to ongoing growth and education exists at all levels of the organization, as highlighted by these four award-winning team members.

Richeson recognized for excellence in nursing



Anne Richeson, RN, CRRN, CBIS, was one of 10 nurses honored during Celebrate Nurses, a campaign sponsored by the Lincoln Journal Star highlighting outstanding nurses. Anne was featured in a special section of the newspaper on May 5, 2019, and acknowledged at a recognition breakfast on May 10 at the

Graduate Hotel in Lincoln, as part of National Nurses Week.

Faye Weckle, RN, nominated Anne, a nurse therapist for the Lincoln Campus brain injury and stroke units. An excerpt from her glowing nomination stated: “Anne is a very compassionate, energetic, loving nurse. She’s a terrific listener, always has a smile, laughs readily with an optimistic spirit. Anne is a learner, always wanting to do more for her profession.”

A selection panel of experts in the local health care industry selected the top 10 winners. Six other Lincoln

Campus nurses were among the nominees including: Jody Bowen, RN, MRSH; Leah Dawn, RN, VAU/SN; Patty Duncan, RN, case manager, MRSH; Jenny Dunn, RN, AR; Terasa Farlin, RN, nurse manager, AR; and Asia Green, RN, MRSH.

Starr honored for clinical teaching

Melissa Starr, PT, DPT, CCS, is the 2019 recipient of the Signe Brunnstrom Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching. The prestigious award, sponsored by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), honors a physical therapist who is actively engaged in clinical teaching for a minimum of five years. The clinician must demonstrate exceptional teaching effectiveness, excellence as a role model in clinical teaching and a distinct expertise in at least one area of practice. Starr received the award at the June 2019 APTA NEXT Conference in Chicago, Illinois.





Starr began working at Madonna's Lincoln Campus shortly after earning her doctorate in physical therapy in 2006 from Creighton University. Her clinical focus is with patients in the specialty hospital. Starr began serving as a clinical instructor for physical therapy students in 2008. "It's one of the favorite parts of my job," said Starr, who teaches at her alma mater, and at Southeast Community College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Kremeier celebrated for leadership efforts



Andrea Kremeier (right) accepts the 2019 Young Leadership Award from Sheri Jones, president of the Nebraska Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Andrea Kremeier, MS, CCC-SLP, received the 2019 Young Leadership Award from the Nebraska Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSLHA) for her efforts and engagement at the state level. The award recognizes current students or young professionals who have demonstrated leadership abilities and/or who show potential to become leaders of NSLHA. Kremeier, an inpatient speech-language pathologist on the brain injury unit of the specialty hospital at the

Lincoln Campus, is actively involved in speech-language-hearing associations at both the state and national levels. She is currently the NSLHA Region II representative, serving professionals in the Lincoln area by fostering engagement in NSLHA, planning and hosting regional events and serving on the membership committee.

Peers select Benson as respiratory therapist of 2019

Lauri Benson, RRT, LRCP, was awarded the Respiratory Therapist of the Year by the Nebraska Society for Respiratory Care (NSRC) at the 40th annual NSRC state conference on May 2, 2019, at the Lied Lodge in Nebraska City. Lauri is the day shift lead respiratory therapist based in the pediatric unit at the Lincoln Campus. Every day, Lauri upholds Madonna's core values of collaboration, hospitality, respect, innovation, stewardship and teaching, as a passionate advocate for patients and families.



At Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals, we combine heartfelt hospitality with unmatched innovation and education. Our rehabilitation programs are world class. Our clinical expertise, rehabilitation research and state-of-the-art equipment provide the tools to help all patients, even those whose diagnoses pose the most complex challenges. Our investment in exceptional talent, groundbreaking technology and progressive treatments is changing the face of rehabilitation.

On the front: Sheila Copley, spinal cord injury survivor and 2019 GOAL Award honoree, rebuilds core strength playing catch with her husband, Arlyn. The couple survived a plane crash last September and spent months in specialized rehabilitation at the Lincoln Campus. Also pictured is Janelle Hansen, physical therapist, and 2019 Georgann Claussen Award recipient for outstanding excellence in patient care.

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Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals is committed to healing the whole person—mind, body and spirit. The Lincoln Campus is fortunate to have a serene environment to nurture the spiritual side of rehabilitation. The James E. Ryan Memorial Chapel was created in 1993 from proceeds of the James E. Ryan estate. The fully accessible chapel offers daily Mass and a weekly interdenominational service. It serves as a haven for private reflection for patients and their families, as well as staff.

Hospital: 402.413.3000

Admissions: 402.486.8260

Toll Free: 800.676.5448

Locations in Omaha and Lincoln

Madonna.org

