Cherry Health Recognized as National Health Leader in 2019

So far, 2019 has been a tremendous year in the work of Cherry Health. Earlier this year, our staff was honored by the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan for its work in reducing health disparities by closing the hypertension gap among historically marginalized communities with the Innovations in Health Care Award. (pictured)

Recently, our care was again recognized for excellence at the national level through the Health Center Quality Leader Silver Level Award. This achievement puts Cherry Health in the top 20% of all Federally Qualified Health Centers in the United States.

High praise for lower pressure was also highlighted by Cherry Health’s recent receipt of the Target BP Gold Award from the American Heart Association and the American Medical Association, recognizing Cherry Health’s significant work with patients in controlling blood pressure.

With donor support making excellent care—not just “better than nothing” care—possible, these are the results we can achieve for community wellness. Thank you for funding care that counts!

Be Immersed in Our Story

Have you or a loved one ever faced a health challenge that seemed overwhelming? Have you ever come up against wall after wall, only to feel like things could and should be different in health care? Now, imagine approaching these hurdles with limited resources (education, transportation, etc.) and under the stress of poverty.

When you take part in a Cherry Health Tour, you witness how integrated care breaks barriers and dramatically impacts patient wellness. Go behind the scenes to see how patients connect to care and hear how your help has the power to positively change community health.

Tours are offered throughout the year from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at Heart of the City Health Center, 100 Cherry Street SE, Grand Rapids. Lunch is provided, and pre-registration is requested.

616.965.8254
@bit.ly/cherrytour
foundation@cherryhealth.com

Investing in New Moms & Babies

On October 4, over 150 new and expectant moms gathered for Cherry Health’s first Community Baby Shower. Sponsored by the collaborative efforts of the area’s health insurance providers and offering gifts like strollers, portable cribs, sleep sacks, and diapers, these new parents were informed about and encouraged to make healthy starts! Cherry Health offers continual support for new moms (and dads!) through pregnancy and infancy.

For more information on how to support and connect with Cherry Health’s Women’s Health and/or Pediatrics programs, contact Anna Goddard Clifford, 616.965.8217 or annaclifford@cherryhealth.com.
Marty Patin's family made his recovery possible. By surrounding him with support, while simultaneously reaching for help, he was rescued from the edge.

When Marty was young, he was in an accident that left his body with 3rd degree burns. As part of the treatment for his pain, he was given morphine. His brain was trained to escape through chemistry. An accident here, a broken wrist there — each time, he was prescribed pain medication that his brain craved. He began using pills to avoid his emotional pain, too. Knowing he was entering an endless cycle of ups and downs, Marty worked to release himself of the prescription addiction, only to find himself descending into alcohol. Homeless, unemployed, and losing important relationships, he was sinking in the undertow of addiction.

Marty was hospitalized, near death, a little over a year ago. He was told he would need a liver transplant, and quickly. But Marty was not ready to let go of hope. He was ready for change. His family had a friend that worked for Cherry Health and connected him to the right services.

The team at Cherry Health took action immediately. Marsha Mooney, a Recovery Coach at Leonard Street Counseling Center, arrived to plan the next steps. Marty entered Cherry Health's Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP). This program is designed for individuals with a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) who require more services than weekly counseling. The program provides connection in a supportive group setting, meeting three times a week for three hours for an average of five weeks.

The IOP was exactly what Marty needed. He began learning everything he could from his Cherry Health therapists. He let hope guide him to health.

Because of Cherry Health's affordable access to care, Marty could build the physical and emotional recovery resources that powered his fight. Marty no longer needs a liver transplant. He is evidence of how hope, work, and growth can win against overwhelming odds.

**Join us for this newsworthy event, as we 'scroll through our feed' to highlight headlines celebrating success in serving under-resourced communities.**

**Thursday, November 7, 2019 ● Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**

6 p.m. Reception
7 p.m. Dinner & Program
8:30 p.m. Conclusion

$100 per person ● Business attire ● Complimentary on-site valet parking

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities:

cherryhealth.org/donate 616.965.8254 foundation@cherryhealth.com

**Giving is Contagious**

At Cherry Health, we believe all of our patients deserve the best care and the utmost respect. Through Cherry Health Foundation, our community rallies behind that belief, providing essential financial support for solutions that work.

Don Lawless & Sherri Jones
Attorney, Barnes & Thornburg LLP & Owner, Patrick's Woods Embroidery Designs
Cherry Health Foundation Care Team*

With all the debate about health care in our country, Sherri and I feel compelled to do something tangible right now in our community to help those who need better access to affordable health care — without having to resort to ER visits. That is why we support Cherry Health Foundation in our annual giving plan. We hope that you will join us on November 7 at Cherry Health's Celebration event at Frederik Meijer Gardens to learn more about what Cherry Health does, its unique approach to caring for the whole person, and why all of the major health systems in our community support it.

*The Foundation’s Care Team are those donors giving $1,000 or more annually. To find out more, visit cherryhealth.org/donate/your-impact/