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Dear Friend of Aultman:

Health care is a fusion of science, technology and compassion. We have tools and technology to treat medical conditions, but the power of a tender touch cannot be overestimated.

Aultman Health Foundation exists to care for our community. We care for patients while they fight illnesses. We care for health plan enrollees, helping them navigate the complexities of insurance. We teach our students the importance of compassion in addition to clinical competence.

While we will continue to provide exceptional medical care, we’re focusing on wellness more than ever. This new health care model, called “population health,” aims at keeping healthy people well in addition to making sick patients better. But before we look ahead with a focus on health promotion and disease prevention, it’s important to reflect on our 2014 accomplishments:

- We formed the Midwest Health Collaborative, a network of independent health care systems including the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio Health, Premier Health, ProMedica and TriHealth on a mission to improve the value of health care services delivered in our communities.
- We launched the Independent Hospital Network Sourcing Group with hospitals in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana to engage in joint purchasing, education and other collaborative activities to reduce the cost of supplies and services.
- Aultman Hospital earned the National Research Corporation “Consumer Choice” award for the 19th consecutive year.
- PrimeTime Health Plan received a 4.5 star rating from the Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services and was recognized as the top Medicare Advantage plan in Ohio by U.S. News and World Report magazine.
- Aultman received site visits and favorable results from regulatory and credentialing organizations including The Joint Commission, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Insurance and Commission on Cancer.
- We worked together to handle the fall 2014 Ebola situation successfully, as we ramped up education and communication to ensure the safety of our patients, staff and community.

Our vertically integrated strategy has Aultman Health Foundation in good position for success in the population health framework. We will continue to fulfill our mission to Lead Our Community to Improved Health by caring for the “whole” person; improving care coordination among health care providers and community resources; using evidence-based decision-making; and engaging individuals in their own health and wellness.

We invite you to read our 2014 Annual Report and learn about the array of ways Aultman cares for our community.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Roth III  Joseph R. Halter Jr.
President and CEO  Chairman of the Board
Aultman Health Foundation  Aultman Health Foundation
Aultman is dedicated to improving the patient experience. In 2014, we launched new services aimed at enhancing clinical care and empowering patients.

**Interventional Radiology Suite**
Aultman added a new interventional radiology suite. General studies performed in interventional radiology include vascular angiography studies, dialysis access procedures and port insertion/removal.

**Outpatient Center Improvements**
Aultman Carrollton underwent a major renovation in 2014, including the immediate care relocation to provide more space. Aultman North and West launched kiosks that allow patients to check in and then wait comfortably instead of standing in line for their turn to register.

**MyAultman Patient Portal and Transition of Care Documents**
*MyAultman* is a personalized portal that provides patients access to their health information and promotes communication with their health care providers. With the *MyAultman* portal, patients can access a summary of their health care records, current medication lists, visit and procedure summaries and educational materials, along with radiology, lab and pathology results as they become available.

Aultman began providing inpatients with “transition of care” documents at discharge. These documents can be taken to primary care physicians to improve the patients’ transition from hospitalization to community care.

**Cardiac Rehab for Heart Failure Patients**
The Aultman Heart Center launched a cardiac rehab program for heart failure patients. The program is designed to educate patients and their families on self-care and new lifestyle habits; improve the patient’s ability to enjoy life and perform normal activities; and reduce future hospitalizations.

**Moving Forward Cancer Survivorship Program**
The Aultman Cancer Center developed Moving Forward to help Aultman patients transition from active treatment to careful observation. The monthly program, funded through a grant from the Educational Foundation of America, includes a support group and the opportunity to meet individually with a dietitian, physical/occupational therapist, financial counselor and genetic counselor. The goal of this free program is to engage and educate patients as they transition into survivorship.

**Providing a Place to Heal**
Aultman implemented daily “quiet hours” from 1-2 p.m. and 10 p.m.-5 a.m. to improve the healing environment for patients. Clinical caregivers contribute to the quiet environment by dimming hallway lights and using minimally necessary room lights for nighttime patient care; having quiet conversations in all patient care areas; closing patient doors when appropriate; and offering patients relaxation tools including earplugs, eye masks, and soothing music and guided imagery on the room TVs.
The most advanced technology is featured in Aultman’s Interventional Radiology Suite.
The Patients’ Voice
The inaugural Patients’ Voice volunteers completed their first year of service in September 2014. The group offered input on everything from medication and discharge information to the corporate dress code to hospital signage.

ICU Comfort Care Program
The Aultman Critical Care Medicine team launched a program to provide additional comfort for loved ones of dying patients. The “Comfort Care” program includes a brochure with common end-of-life signs; homemade blankets, quilts or shawls donated by local churches; a note or prayer to uplift the families; and packets of Forget-Me-Not seeds. The ICU staff also sends personalized notes to families around the one-year anniversary of their loved one’s death.
Aultman Critical Care Medicine Team
Safety and quality are hallmarks of patient care at Aultman. In addition to studying quality metrics and giving patients multiple avenues to provide feedback, we measure our performance by the industry awards, accolades and accreditations we receive. These achievements provide patients with peace of mind about the high-quality care they receive at Aultman.

“"A” in Hospital Safety Score

Designed to rate how well hospitals protect patients from accidents, errors, injuries and infections, the latest Hospital Safety Score honored Aultman Hospital with an “A” – its top grade in patient safety. The Hospital Safety Score is compiled under the guidance of the nation’s leading experts on patient safety and is administered by The Leapfrog Group (Leapfrog), an independent industry watchdog.

NRC Consumer Choice Award

Aultman Hospital earned the National Research Corporation Consumer Choice Award for the 19th consecutive year. The annual award identifies U.S. hospitals that health care consumers choose as having the highest quality and image.

Quality Achievement Awards for Heart Attack, Stroke and Heart Failure Care

U.S. News and World Report published its 2014 annual hospital recognition ad, featuring a list of hospitals that met the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association criteria for consistency in following the most up-to-date treatment guidelines. Aultman was the most highly recognized hospital in Ohio, with four total awards and three “gold-plus” achievement levels.

Mission: Lifeline Award – Gold Plus

Aultman Hospital received the Mission: Lifeline® Gold Plus Receiving Quality Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

Get With The Guidelines® – Stroke and Heart Failure

Aultman earned the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines Gold Plus achievement awards for providing high-quality stroke and heart failure care.
Gold Beacon Award
The Aultman Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) received a gold-level Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. Established in 2003, the Beacon Award offers a road map to help guide exceptional care through improved outcomes and greater overall patient satisfaction.

Nurses Improving Care of Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) Redesignation
Aultman recognizes growth in the older adult population, the unique needs this group has and the integral role nurses play in providing care for elderly patients. NICHE, the largest national geriatric nursing program, awarded Aultman NICHE redesignation for 2014-2015.

NICHE has four designation levels: Early, Progressive, Senior Friendly and Exemplar. Aultman received the “Progressive” designation, meaning Aultman has a fully developed NICHE infrastructure and implemented the Geriatric Resource Nurse Model on multiple units. A total of 37 percent of NICHE-designated facilities are currently at this level.

Aultman Home Health Care Earns 2014 Home Care Elite Award
Aultman Home Health Care was named a 2014 HomeCare Elite facility. This is a designation earned by the top-performing home health agencies in the United States. Winners are ranked by an analysis of publicly available performance measures in quality outcomes, best-practice implementation, patient experience (Home Health CAHPS), quality improvement and consistency, and financial performance. Aultman Home Health Care is one of five recipients in our five-county market.
Weight Management Achievement Awards

The Canton Aultman Weight Management team received the Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of exceptional performance and innovative contributions. The Aultman Orrville Weight Management team received the Center of Excellence Award for meeting New Direction criteria for newly opened centers. The recognition comes from Robard Corporation, the company that supplies the weight loss supplements for the Aultman New Direction and New Choices programs.

Aultman Earns Fit-Friendly Worksite Award

The American Heart Association named Aultman Health Foundation a platinum-level Fit-Friendly Worksite for promoting physical activity and employee wellness. A total of nine Ohio hospitals and health systems also earned platinum designation for promoting physical activity, nutrition and culture, and demonstrating measurable outcomes related to workplace wellness.
Aultman Cancer Center Earns National Accreditations

The Aultman Cancer Center recently received accreditations from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) and the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC). The CoC of the American College of Surgeons granted Aultman Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation. Aultman was also one of a select group of only 75 U.S. health care facilities with accredited cancer programs to receive the national Outstanding Achievement Award from the CoC. The award acknowledges cancer programs that achieve excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients.

In addition to the CoC accolades, the Aultman Breast Care Center received a three-year/full accreditation designation by the NAPBC. During the survey process, a breast center must demonstrate compliance with NAPBC standards in the areas of center leadership, clinical management, research, community outreach, professional education and quality improvement.

Chest Pain Center Earns Accreditation

The Aultman Heart Center received full, three-year chest pain center accreditation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care. The Aultman Chest Pain Center, adjacent to the emergency department, offers rapid diagnosis and treatment of patients with chest pain and other heart attack symptoms.
Caring for the Community
WITH LEADERS AT EVERY LEVEL

PHYSICIAN LEADERS

Hippocrates Honor Society
This lifetime achievement award created by the Aultman Hospital Medical Staff recognizes physicians who exemplify the qualities of excellence, compassion, integrity and leadership. The 2014 Hippocrates Honor Society class included Gregory Haban, M.D., primary care physician; Antonio Lazcano, M.D., emergency medicine physician; Jeffrey Miller, M.D., pulmonologist and critical care specialist; and William Wallace, M.D., radiologist.

Physician Leadership Academy
Aultman offered physicians a year-long program for individual and professional development. A total of 21 physicians from various medical specialties contributed – 16 fellows and five participants – covering curriculum on a variety of leadership topics. Physicians completed capstone projects and corresponding summary displays to present at the graduation event.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Employee of the Year
Gayle DeGasperis received a double honor at the 2014 Aultman Recognition Dinner. In addition to receiving her 40-year service award, she earned Employee of the Year honors. Gayle began her Aultman career as a bedside nurse and currently serves as a registered nurse care coordinator for the AultCare Home Medical department. She was recognized for consistently exceeding customer expectations, assisting patients in implementing lifestyle changes to improve their health conditions and positively representing Aultman in the community.

Keys to Success
The Keys to Success award program recognizes team members whose deeds or actions stand out as best representing Aultman Health Foundation to patients, peers and the community.

Pictured at the 2014 Hippocrates Honor Society celebration are (L-R) Dr. George Mitri, master of ceremonies; Dr. Timothy O’Toole, medical staff president; inductees Dr. Antonio Lazcano, Dr. Jeffrey Miller, Dr. Gregory Haban and Dr. William Wallace; and Aultman Health Foundation President and CEO Edward J. Roth III.
Pictured above are Keys to Success award winners (L-R): Katie Rummell, Medical ICU; Leila Storsin, Aultman Specialty Hospital; Jeremy Cline, Aultman North Therapy; Marilyn Rothermel, Orthopedics; Stanley Bryan, Aultman Orrville Security; Cheryl Royer, Aultman Cancer Center; and Denise Holben, Memorial 6 South. Not pictured: Jodi Pellegrini, Neurodiagnostics; and Cynthia Yarian, Neurodiagnostics.

Rising Stars
An additional seven Aultman employees received Rising Star awards. The Rising Star award recognizes employees with less than 10 years of service who show potential for advancement, enthusiasm in promoting Aultman and ways to improve services offered.

Pictured above are Rising Star winners (L-R): Marlene Kromi, Aultman Inpatient Medicine; Kasey Porter, Cardiovascular Consultants; Kelly Fisk, Memorial 6 East; Jerrod Plotts, Critical Care Services; Shannon Helfinstine, Aultman College; Maria Dillon, Post-acute Care Billing; and Tiffany Durstine, Aultman Orrville Lab.

Strong leaders are found throughout Aultman Health Foundation. Some provide the strategic vision for the organization, while others care for patients with commitment and compassion. Many team members also contribute behind the scenes to provide services and support for the Aultman organization.
Caring for the Community
WITH LEADERS AT EVERY LEVEL

Thank you to our 2014 Aultman Health Foundation board members for their dedication, direction and insight.

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Douglas J. Sibila Vice Chairperson
Patricia A. Grischow Second Vice Chair and Secretary
Christopher E. Remark Treasurer
Edward J. Roth III President and CEO

Board Members

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Sheila Markley Black, ESQ

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Timothy O’Toole, M.D.
Christopher E. Remark
Michael A. Rich, M.D.
Edward J. Roth III
Charles B. Scheurer
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Douglas J. Sibila
John A. Sirpilla
Todd M. Sommer
Vicky Sterling
William Wallace, M.D.
R. Clint Zollinger Jr., ESQ
The Aultman Health Foundation model is based on collaboration, a vertically integrated system that includes Aultman Hospital, the health care delivery system, AultCare and Aultman College. Aultman expanded relationships with other health care providers in 2014, with the goal of improving patient care and reducing costs.

AultCare

AultCare incorporated the concept of integration into its 2014 strategy by working with four health plan quadrants: administrative services, a network of providers and hospitals, consumerism and care coordination. Enrollees benefited from this integrated initiative because the entire model supports the concept of striving to put emphasis of managing the care of enrollees. AultCare’s high service standards remained at the forefront of everyday business interactions. The customer service department processed claims in 6.5 days, while AultCare met its goal of connecting customers to service representative within 30 seconds.


Aultman Specialty Hospital

The Acute Care Specialty Hospital celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2014. The hospital achieved a positive financial performance and improved brand recognition by changing its name to the Aultman Specialty Hospital. Clinical successes included improving ventilator weaning by nearly 10 percent, along with reducing the number of ventilator-associated events, falls and catheter-associated urinary tract infections.
The Power
Caring for the Community
WITH COLLABORATION

Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences

In 2014, Aultman College administrators, faculty and staff made significant progress on the 2013-2015 strategic plan. The plan focuses on capitalizing on opportunities for future, responsible growth; investing in human resources; strengthening financial and marketing positions; and enhancing technology for higher education delivery.

The Door to Discovery campaign met its goal in 2014 and funded the final phase of third-floor renovations. The new microbiology lab and restrooms completed the project.

Aultman College graduated 105 students in 2014. Eighty-nine students earned Associate of Science in nursing degrees, while 16 students achieved Associate of Science in radiography degrees. A total of 358 students were enrolled for the fall 2014 semester.

Aultman Orrville Hospital

Aultman Orrville Hospital transitioned from paper records to electronic documentation, as 23 systems went live simultaneously. The achievement allowed the facility to attest for Stage 1 of Meaningful Use, established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to help hospitals implement electronic health records with the goal of improving health care safety and quality.

Aultman Orrville also launched a patient portal in September 2014. The confidential, secure, Web-based system allows patients 24/7 access to their health information.

The integration of Aultman Orrville with Aultman Health Foundation continued in 2014, as all financial systems transitioned to the Aultman corporate systems. Aultman Weight Management expanded service to Wayne County by opening an office in the Aultman Orrville Sports & Wellness facility.
The integration of Aultman Orrville with Aultman Health Foundation continued in 2014. Together we are achieving goals of improving health care safety and quality.
Aultman North Canton Medical Group

The physician practice and employees of North Canton Medical Foundation joined Aultman Health Foundation in 2013 – and the physician practice became Aultman North Canton Medical Group. Efforts in 2014 focused on operational integration of IT systems, staff and policies; aligning quality initiatives that measure clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction; and planning improvements on the campus where Aultman North and Aultman North Canton Medical Group are located.

In 2014, Aultman Medical Group and Aultman North Canton Medical Group practices launched patient portals – providing patients with 24/7, online access to their personal medical charts. As part of the Affordable Care Act, these portals enhance the patient experience by providing secure messaging to providers and nursing staff, appointment requests, prescription refills and the ability to view lab and test results.

Wayne Health Services

Wayne Health Services & Supplies, a full-service home medical equipment company in Wooster, joined the Aultman family in July 2014. Wayne Health Services retained its name and Wooster location, giving Aultman a strong market presence in Wayne County.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Midwest Health Collaborative

The Midwest Health Collaborative (MHC) includes Aultman, Cleveland Clinic, OhioHealth, Premier Health, ProMedica and TriHealth. Representing 40 hospitals and hundreds of care sites across Ohio, the MHC mission is to improve the value of health care services through a commitment to coordinated, patient-centered care; the development of standardized care pathways; and the use of data and information to enhance the care delivered to patients in our community.

Aultman will remain independent and will work with its MHC partners to:

• Create a statewide provider network.
• Exchange best practices.
• Share resources.
• Reduce costs.
• Develop innovative ways to deliver health care across large populations.
• Reduce variations in care from one provider to another.

By sharing best practices, MHC affiliates can enhance the high-quality care and service excellence already provided to patients and families. This will bring talented team members together to find solutions to expand access to medical care, enhance quality, improve the patient experience and reduce costs.
Aultman Heart Center at Alliance Community Hospital

The Aultman Heart Center and Alliance Community Hospital are collaborating to provide exceptional, close-to-home heart care for the Alliance community. The partnership combines Cardiovascular Consultants, a cardiology group of 18 board-certified cardiologists, with the Aultman Heart Center to deliver the most complete heart care to the Alliance community. The program’s design affords the Alliance community access to Aultman Hospital’s expertise and cardiac care locally, while having the ease of transfer to Aultman Hospital to receive the specialized care Aultman provides when needed.

Independent Hospital Network (IHN) Sourcing Group

The IHN Sourcing Group is a cooperative service organization for nonprofit and governmental hospitals that want to engage in joint purchasing, education and other collaborative activities. Members include 22 independent hospitals in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Cooperatives such as the IHN Sourcing Group generate lower costs through group purchasing and contract negotiation, improved operational efficiencies and peer-to-peer connections that result in sharing best practices. Collectively, the members saved $8.2 million in the first six months of working together.

Safe Sleep and the Stark County THRIVE Project

The Aultman Birth Center and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) participated in multiple programs to reduce infant mortality. Aultman distributed “safe sleep kits” provided by the Ohio Hospital Association and ramped up efforts to educate families about safe sleep for infants. Aultman, Affinity Medical Center, Alliance Community Hospital and Mercy Medical Center are collaborating with the Canton City Health Department and other local organizations on the Toward Health Resiliency for Infant Vitality and Equity (THRIVE) infant mortality task force, aimed at reducing the infant mortality rate in Stark County.
Team members are filled with a strong sense of corporate responsibility, actively supporting organizations ranging from United Way to the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Here is just a glimpse of the ways Aultman employees positively contribute to our community.

**Cancer Screening Day**
A total of 261 free breast, cervical, colon, lung, prostate, head/neck, skin and oral cancer screenings were performed at the annual Cancer Screening Day event. Attendees also took advantage of Working on Wellness (WOW) consultations – including blood pressure screening, BMI testing and nutrition tips – and learned about Aultman’s “Give It Up!” smoking cessation program.

**Annual Walk Events**
Aultman team members and their loved ones are fixtures at annual fundraising walks to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association.

**Safety First**
Again in 2014, Aultman team members spread a message of bicycle safety to local first-grade students through the Safety First program. Aultman Health Foundation employees visited 85 schools and educated 5,567 students – while Aultman Orrville team members visited five schools and taught 384 students.
Aultman’s care for members of the community reaches far beyond the walls of its health care facilities.
Senior Day at the HOF
Aultman was well-represented with 25 departments at the 2014 Senior Day at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Nearly 1,500 local seniors attended the event, which also included educational presentations on healthy eating and heart disease.

Harvest for Hunger
Aultman Health Foundation participated in the 2014 Harvest for Hunger campaign to benefit the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Aultman employees collected 10,764 pounds of food and more than $16,200 in monetary donations.

United Way
Aultman’s annual fundraiser to benefit United Way of Greater Stark County generated nearly $470,000. More than 150 Aultman managers and executives, along with employees in the Aultman Exploring Leaders development program, participated in the annual United Way Day of Caring. The volunteers tackled painting and other improvement projects for local nonprofit organizations.

Working on Wellness
The WOW team participated in 363 events in 2014. WOW nurses provided health screenings for 2,610 community members, and nearly 1,000 people received referrals for health care resources. The WOW team also provided 14,804 people with health education to encourage community members to be active participants in health and wellness.

Honduran Nurses Visit Aultman College
Collaboration among the nonprofit Central American Medical Outreach (CAMO) organization, Aultman Hospital and Aultman College allowed four nurses from Honduras to join the Aultman family from July 14-Aug. 8, 2014. The Honduran nurses received training that will help them put standard nursing care practices into place.
Caring for the Community
WITH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

AultCare Outreach

During the seventh annual Wishes Can Happen Wish-A-Thon fundraiser for children with life-threatening medical conditions, AultCare volunteers answered phone calls and collected donations. The 2014 event resulted in a record-high donation total: $150,225 that will grant approximately 30 wishes for local children.

AultCare employees also gave back to the community by working with children at The Stuckey Family Interfaith Child Development Center and sprucing up the Stark Parks grounds at Sippo Lake Park.
Community Health Fairs
13 events, reaching an estimated 5,000 attendees

Drug Take-back Day
99 pounds of pharmaceuticals

Goodwill ComputersAgain Electronics Drive
20,000 pounds of equipment

Aultman Adopt-a-Need Program
10,502 items

Employee Donations
$585,000

Annual David J. Magoon Memorial School Supply Drive
3,364 items

Aultman Leaders Serving on Community Boards
85

2013 Community Benefit
Aultman provides exceptional medical care and compassion for all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. Aultman provided a substantial amount of the area’s total care for patients having no private or government health insurance and no significant level of income. Aultman also serves thousands of patients covered by public programs such as Medicaid, and payments from these federally funded programs do not always cover the total cost of service. The information provided to the right is for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2013, which is the most recent data available.

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This community benefit information includes Aultman Hospital, Aultman Health Foundation, The Aultman Foundation and Aultman Orrville Hospital.
For many families, ending up in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) is an unexpected and scary situation. The Seelman family of Canton can attest to the uncertainty of arrival in the NICU and the jubilation of going home.

“I had some complications when I was pregnant with our first daughter, Sydney, and was induced at 41 weeks,” Jenny Seelman said. “My whole pregnancy with my second daughter, Avery, was rough.”

Jenny experienced painful Braxton Hicks contractions one evening, and her water broke while she was having a prenatal massage. “I immediately called my obstetrician’s after-hours line. Dr. Sara Vance was the on-call physician, and she said to get to Aultman,” Jenny recalled. “I was supposed to go to another local hospital, due to our insurance, but Dr. Vance said Aultman had the expertise to handle a 32-week baby. She also didn’t want me separated from the baby.”

Jenny had been disappointed when her family’s insurance changed – and was relieved when Dr. Vance sent her to Aultman for specialized NICU care. The Yes, You Can program provided Jenny with access to Aultman.

Although the game plan was to keep Jenny from delivering for two weeks, the baby had other plans. “My husband, Jason, left to retrieve some necessities for my hospital stay. I called him at 11:30 p.m. to tell him to get back to the hospital ASAP,” Jenny said. “They rolled me into a labor and delivery room. Jason walked in the door, and I was ready to push. I screamed, ‘She’s coming’ – and Avery arrived at 11:50 p.m. weighing 4 pounds and 7 ounces.”

It took a team effort to coordinate care for 2-year-old Sydney, while Jason worked during the day and split NICU shifts with Jenny. “Our parents and our baby sitter watched Sydney every day while Jason was at work and I was at the NICU,” Jenny said. “Our family and friends rallied for us: visits, food, presents, calls, texts and prayers.”

The NICU nurses showed Jenny and Jason how to bathe, change, feed and do skin-to-skin “kangaroo care” with little Avery. “The NICU nurses and doctors were all very nice,” Jenny said. “Nurse Angela Brady made me feel comfortable and answered my questions. Even though I already had a baby, I felt like I knew nothing and was totally starting out new.”

Angela, a 20-year NICU nurse, knows the importance of bonding with the families as well as the newborns. “If you connect on a personal level – understanding parents’ fears and concerns – they’ll trust you. I tell families that I will take care of the babies like they are my own,” she said. “It is a blessing to be a NICU nurse and care for little miracles like Avery.”

Neonatologist Roger Vazquez, M.D., also made a special impression on the Seelman family. “He wore a Pittsburgh Pirates shirt one morning, and I told him Jason’s family is from Pittsburgh,” Jenny said. “Dr. Vazquez said he was going to the Pirates game that night. The next morning, there was a Pittsburgh Pirates mascot stuffed animal hanging from Avery’s crib! I cried happy tears immediately. It made me feel so good that Avery’s doctor was thinking of her even while he was out enjoying his own free time.”

Avery and all Aultman NICU babies receive handmade quilts from Nadine Mishler and the Tiny Hugs and Stitches group. “The NICU is a very sterile place, so the quilt added color and cheer to Avery’s room,” Jenny offered. “My family, friends and participants in the Regina Coeli/St. Joseph School Thanksgiving service project raised $875 for materials to thank the quilting group for their kindness.”
Thankfully, Avery did not have any major issues and went home after a 24-day NICU stay. “It was so awesome and so scary taking her home,” Jenny said. “We were happy she was finally able to be home where she belonged, but it was scary not having the nurses and doctors just outside the room.”

Avery is a bit behind on development but progressing well, while Sydney has embraced her new role as a big sister. “Sydney loves to hold Avery and call her ‘pretty baby,’” Jenny shared. “Sydney always asks where Avery is and wants to wake her up to play!”

Avery’s experience has been life-changing for the Seelman family. “We are so thankful every day that she is here and with us,” Jenny said. “We have great respect for the NICU doctors and nurses. They work so hard for such little babies. It’s absolutely incredible what they can do.”
Louisville resident Jacci Adams has had her share of health challenges, yet she remains upbeat and hopeful. She’s a two-time cancer survivor who actively participates in the Aultman Cancer Center’s new “Moving Forward” survivorship program.

Jacci faced open heart surgery at age 7 to repair a congenital heart defect. She received a diagnosis of Hodgkin’s lymphoma in her 20s. “I had the heart trouble taken care of when I was young, so I assumed the same would happen with the cancer,” Jacci said. “My mom is a nurse, and she cried when I was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s.”

Jacci fought the disease from 1986-1991. She was married in 1988 and, in 1991, had a bone marrow transplant at the Cleveland Clinic. Upon regaining her health, she and her husband adopted a daughter and enjoyed over two decades of cancer-free living. She had a clean 3-D mammogram in August 2013, but things changed a few months later after noticing some concerning breast issues. “When I went back for a mammogram after Christmas, it was abnormal,” she shared. “A biopsy revealed I had breast cancer.”

Upon hearing the news in the doctor’s office, Jacci burst into tears. Thankfully her husband, Dave, was there to console her. “I thought, ‘You’ve got to be kidding! I’ve already had heart problems and cancer,’” she explained. “I was younger and single when I had Hodgkin’s lymphoma. It’s different when you get diagnosed with cancer and you have a family.

With the goal of shrinking the tumor, Jacci underwent chemotherapy from February-May 2014. “Because of my Hodgkin’s treatment, we had to be careful because I was nearing the lifetime maximum for one of the drugs,” she shared. “The tumor did not respond well – it grew aggressively despite the chemo – so I underwent a mastectomy in June.”

Jacci credits surgeon Sabrina Shilad, M.D., for doing a wonderful job and minimizing the postsurgical scarring. “I chose not to have breast reconstructive surgery; I use a breast prosthesis instead,” Jacci said. “Dave has been fabulous, saying it was my decision on whether or not to have reconstructive surgery. He doesn’t look at me any differently now than before I had surgery.”

After recovering from surgery, Jacci’s treatment plan included radiation therapy five days a week for six weeks. She tolerated the treatment fairly well and has since transitioned from active treatment to careful monitoring. She joined the Aultman Cancer Center’s Moving Forward survivorship program, which offers everything from a support group to individual consultations with health care professionals including therapists and dietitians. “Moving Forward has been an amazing experience,” Jacci said. “There have been incredible strides made in cancer treatment and technology, so the Moving Forward participants have a lot of hope.”

After meeting with a physical therapist at Moving Forward, she followed the recommendation to seek occupational therapy. She obtained a referral from her physician and started therapy to improve shoulder strength and flexibility. “Even though the program is new, Jacci is a Moving Forward success story,” said Denise Rollyson, BSN, RN, Aultman Cancer Center survivorship program coordinator. “She took advantage of the therapy evaluation and is now receiving occupational therapy to help with
some of her concerns. She is a lovely person with great perspective and a real asset to the Moving Forward program.

Along with the medical care she received at Aultman and the support of the Moving Forward program, Jacci is grateful for having AultCare health insurance through Dave’s place of employment. “I thank my lucky stars every day that we’re taken care of financially. It takes a burden off everything else to know we don’t have huge medical bills.”

Despite all she’s been through, Jacci has maintained a positive outlook on life. “It’s just ‘part of me’ to be positive,” she said. “A good attitude means so much, especially when you’re facing something like cancer. You have to believe treatment is going to work.”
A bike ride at Riverside Park turned out to be a life-altering event for Milton Young of Canton.

Milton fell off his bicycle July 23, 2003. Landing awkwardly on his neck and shoulder, the 43-year-old was instantly paralyzed from the neck down. An ambulance transported him to the Aultman Emergency Department. “My first question was whether I’d be able to walk again,” he said. “The doctor said to stay confident and focus on trying to move something.”

After the initial shock of being paralyzed, Milton took stock of his life. “I played football at McKinley and one year at the University of Findlay. I served in the U.S. Army Reserves and four years the Air Force,” he shared. “I had a daughter who just graduated from high school before my accident. I did everything that I wanted to do – and I wasn’t going to let paralysis stop me from enjoying life.”

After being in Aultman Hospital for weeks, Milton transferred to Aultman Woodlawn for rehabilitation. “I asked the therapists what I could do to help them make me better;” he recalled. “My therapists pushed me and encouraged me to find that ‘next level’ athletes like LeBron James have.”

Throughout his rehabilitation, Milton relied on his faith. “I prayed a lot and thought about all of the trials Job in the Bible went through,” he shared. “God told me that whatever I wanted, I had to work for it.”

Milton also credits his girlfriend Marcia, a former co-worker at Diebold, with helping him progress. “When I couldn’t move, she moved for me. She kept my muscles in the game until they responded,” he said. “My accident changed her life as well. God blessed me with an angel. I love and appreciate her – and try to thank her every day for helping me.”

While at Woodlawn, a psychiatrist visited Milton. “He spent about five minutes with me and said I was fine,” Milton recalled. “I learned so much about perseverance from sports. My time in the military taught me about adjusting and adapting to your environment. After the accident, I didn’t dwell on what I used to be able to do. I concentrated on getting my mobility back.”

After three months of rehabilitation at Aultman Woodlawn, Milton’s finger moved. That was the start of movement in his hands, arms and chest. “My biggest accomplishment was to walk out of Aultman Woodlawn,” he said. “I used a walker, but I walked out under my own power.”

From there, Milton received extensive outpatient physical and occupational therapy at Aultman Tusc. “If you need a place to go for therapy, choose Aultman,” he recommended. “They’ll help in any way they can to improve your independence.”

Today, Milton is classified as “quad incomplete.” He can stand and walk a bit on his own, but he primarily uses a wheelchair. He calls Aultman Tusc his “home base” for exercising: lifting weights, using the NuStep machine and logging miles on the hand cycle. “I’m very healthy – no issues like diabetes or high blood pressure,” he said. “I attribute that to Aultman Therapy.”

Milton is one busy man. He’s a consumer reviewer for the U.S. Department of Defense, giving input on university and research center studies that may benefit veterans with spinal cord injuries. He’s a board member for the Buckeye Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America. He serves as hospital liaison officer at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, encouraging patients
on the spinal cord floor. He mentors local football players, explaining that the effort they put into life now will help them down the road.

He also travels across the country to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. “I didn’t think I’d be able to fly, being in a wheelchair. But once I got on a plane and traveled to Washington for the 2008 games, I haven’t stopped flying since,” he quipped. “Competing in events like the Wheelchair Games make you feel whole again. Once a competitor, always a competitor.”

Although he’s had challenges to overcome, Milton enjoys life to the fullest. “I rolled myself down the aisle when my daughter got married, and I’m thankful to be here for times like that,” he said. “I’m blessed with a wonderful family, including three grandsons.”

Milton’s goal is to change views on people with disabilities. “It’s not about a person’s disability but the ability in the person,” he offered. “I’m happy to get that message out in any way that I can.”
Mike Nasvadi freely admits he wasn’t sold on the Aultman Weight Management program when he started it in February 2013. “I thought it was just another gimmick, but I figured I had a 50/50 chance,” he recalled. “I remember thinking to myself, is this really going to work?”

Less than one year later, Mike answered his own question after he lost over 100 pounds. However, it wasn’t just about the scale. “I didn’t care about the numbers,” he said. “My focus was on how I felt and just getting to a good point in my life.”

Mike described being overweight as being in a “stuck in a slump” and not knowing where to start. He had tried other diets but didn’t stick with them; nothing worked long-term. “I was miserable,” he said. “I had the best intentions, but it seemed like an endless cycle of ups and downs.”

Two of Mike’s friends successfully completed Aultman Weight Management programs and recommended he give one a try. “When you’re overweight, you know you need to change,” Mike said. “It’s in your head every day. You don’t want to shop at the big and tall store. You don’t want to struggle to get a seat belt on or worry about sitting on a lawn chair and breaking it.”

Mike’s first few weeks in Aultman Weight Management weren’t easy, but the staff kept him motivated. “It was hard just getting through those first six weeks. I basically treated it like it was my job, and I had to go,” he shared. “The staff was so great, though. They are the real deal and truly try to help you. They made it so much easier for me.”

In addition to the staff support, Mike really enjoyed the weekly classes. “I gained so much knowledge on nutrition and exercise,” he explained. “It was so different than the gimmicks, pills and other things I tried in the past.”

Mike thinks the education aspect was the single most important part of the program, learning more than he did in his college nutrition courses! “Now I feel armed with that knowledge,” he said. “I have a game plan, which is what I need and what I think a lot of people probably need.”

Being physically active was another huge factor in dropping the weight. Mike never thought he’d end up enjoying exercise, but now he can’t imagine his life without it. “I had no concern for exercise before,” he said. “Now I can’t imagine not jumping on my bike to go for a ride or taking an afternoon power yoga class.”

After one year of weekly visits to Aultman Weight Management and a lot of hard work, Mike had lost all the weight. Since that time, he has gained a few of those pounds back, but he is OK with it. “I gained a ton of muscle mass, and my pants size hasn’t changed,” he explained. “I feel great. And that’s what really matters.”

Mike is quick to tell his friends who struggle with weight about Aultman Weight Management. However, he tries not to preach weight loss to his four children. “I hope to set a good example for my kids,” he said. “I want them to learn from my actions.”

Nearly two years later, Mike continues to check in with Aultman Weight Management once or twice a month as a way to keep on track. Plus, he just really likes the people there. “Aultman Weight Management truly changed my life,” he said. “I have confidence now. I don’t stand in the back of the room anymore – I stand in the front.”
LOSING TO GAIN
Linda Buchner is one busy woman. She has a loving family including a husband, children and grandchildren. She is the social chair of her condo association in Massillon and a Red Hat lady who enjoys going to lunch with her friends. She’s a member of Grace Community Church and actively supports the Canton chapter of the Philomatheon Society of the Blind. And, by the way, Linda is a 77-year-old who is legally blind and recently underwent total hip replacement surgery.

Linda has faced challenges most of her adult life. She and her husband, Carl, unexpectedly lost their 10-year-old son to cancer. Linda’s diverticulitis resulted in the need for a permanent ostomy bag. About four years ago, Linda started losing her eyesight due to macular degeneration. Her eyes are also affected by a disease called myasthenia gravis that could spread to other areas of her body. “I’ve been through a lot, and I have asked ‘why God’ sometimes. But most times when my plate is full, I just ask for a platter,” Linda quipped. “People ask how I can joke with all of the issues I’ve had to overcome. But the alternative is to be a big grump, and then no one wants to be around you.”

After dealing with considerable pain that impacted her quality of life, Linda decided it was time to undergo hip surgery. Orthopedic surgeon Jeffrey Dulik, D.O., performed the minimally invasive total hip replacement procedure. “The scar is so small,” Carl said. “I don’t know how Dr. Dulik got all of that hardware in there.”

Linda recovered at Aultman Hospital for a few days and then headed to Aultman Woodlawn for rehabilitation. “I love Aultman Woodlawn,” she offered. “After my hip replacement surgery, I begged to go to Woodlawn for rehab and hoped they weren’t full. I had been there before, and the staff is so nice.”

In addition to getting much-needed therapy, Linda also received tender care from the Woodlawn nursing staff. “She always had a wonderful attitude and outlook toward her care. She always tried her best in order to return home with her husband,” said Eric Manko, RN. “Linda was an ideal patient with a great sense of humor, and I’m very glad I got the opportunity to care for her.”

From Aultman Woodlawn, Linda was discharged home with an order for physical therapy at Aultman West three times a week. “When I arrived at West, I was using a walker and on oxygen,” she shared. “Now I can walk on my own again, but I carry a cane when I’m outside to ensure I don’t fall.”

Although her outpatient therapy is complete, Linda remains dedicated to exercise. “I faithfully exercise at home: leg lifts, standing on my toes and reaching to the floor,” she said. “The therapists told me to exercise 2-3 times a week; I do it daily.”

In addition to being physically active, Linda works on keeping her mind alert. Her computer monitor features a device to enlarge the text so she can read it. “I’m on Facebook; I chat and play games like Candy Crush Saga. I’m having another device installed on my computer that will type as I talk,” she explained. “An important factor in a long, happy life is to keep your mind going. If you stagnate, that’s it.”

Linda’s support system rallies when she needs a hand. “Our daughter, Terri, lives next door – and she’s a big help with shopping and picking out my clothes. Our son, Rick, lives in Byesville and calls almost every day to check on us,” Linda said. “Carl has handled cooking and laundry – he’s done it all
Overcoming Obstacles
with Determination and a Smile

when I’ve been down. We have five grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and many friends and neighbors who have all been very supportive over the years.”

Linda credits Aultman with helping her maintain an active lifestyle. “I wouldn’t be where I’m at today if it weren’t for Aultman,” she offered. “I’ve been on every floor of that hospital. I’ve had rehab at Woodlawn and therapy at West. I’ve been able to judge Aultman from many angles ... and I give them an A+ all around.”
Caring for the Community
BY GIVING BACK

“When you encourage others, you in the process are encouraged because you’re making a commitment and difference in that person’s life.”
– Zig Ziglar

Our team of board leaders, staff and volunteers at The Aultman Foundation has the good fortune to come in contact with exceptional people who step up and make changes in the lives of others and in our community. Whether it’s through gifts to The Aultman Foundation that make a difference in our patient care or a small nonprofit director making a change in our community, doing the right things for the right reasons is inspirational!

It is with great pride that we announce our Aultman Foundation grant giving for 2014. The grantees listed on the following pages are making a difference each and every day. We applaud their efforts to improve health, along with providing a helping hand, a caring smile and much-needed hope. We are thankful to be a part of their efforts and inspired by their dedicated missions!

We are also most grateful to the many donors, listed on the following pages, who care about advancing the services that Aultman provides. Thank you for your generosity and partnering with us to Lead Our Community to Improved Health.

On behalf of the board, our patients, physicians, nurses and the entire health care team, thank you for your encouragement, philanthropy and trust.

With gratitude,

George W. Lemon  Vicki Haines
Chair, Board of Directors  Senior Vice President
The Aultman Foundation mission is to raise and administer funds in order to support and promote education and wellness outreach programming that will improve the health of the community.
Caring for the Community
BY GIVING BACK

Fashion Show
The Women’s Board of Aultman Hospital hosted its fourth fashion show, Angels on the Runway, Nov. 12 at Brookside Country Club. The evening of fashion and fun started out with champagne, specialty hors d’oeuvres and desserts as guests shopped vendors including Celebration Day Spa, Scott Talbot Salon Spa, Expressions by Paula Mastroianni and more.

The event raised $17,000 to benefit the Women’s Board pledge to the Aultman Cancer Center.

Angel Auction – Angels on Broadway
The yearlong efforts of more than 100 Aultman Women’s Board members culminated May 9, 2014 with the 45th Angel Auction, “Angels on Broadway.” The annual black-tie fundraiser featured a fabulous dinner, silent auction and live auction.

The décor, complete with images of skyscrapers and Broadway playbills, transported attendees from Canton to New York City. Former STOMP member, percussionist, performer and motivational speaker Elec Simon provided the entertainment, joined by students from the Jackson School for the Arts. This signature Women’s Board event raised more than $400,000 for the Aultman Cancer Center.
The Women’s Board: Past and Present

At the June membership meeting, the Women’s Board honored members with 40 years of service or more.

The membership welcomed 21 new members at its May membership meeting. Prospects who are interested in joining must be sponsored by two members of the board. All prospective members have obligations to fill throughout the year prior to joining the membership. Once requirements are complete, the new members are welcomed to the board. Congratulations to our class of 2014!

Denise Hill ended her two-year term as Women’s Board president in June 2014, while Vicky Sterling assumed the role.
odd Sommer met Jo-Ann Ballanco in college in 1974. It didn’t take long for Todd, and everyone in their lives, to know he’d marry Jo-Ann. Todd and Jo-Ann had two daughters, whom Jo-Ann stayed at home to raise while Todd pursued an engineering career.

After the family settled in Dalton, Ohio, Jo-Ann was extremely involved in the community. She taught Sunday school, sang in the choir and served on many committees at St. Agnes Church in Orrville. She served on the Dalton school board, was a room mother and organized a private committee that raised $1.25 million for a Dalton High School auditorium.

Although Jo-Ann was physically active and health-conscious, she was diagnosed with lung cancer in late 2010. Jo-Ann and her care team, led by Dr. James Schomotzer, fought the disease aggressively.

Todd and Jo-Ann evaluated their bucket list, accelerating the schedule so they could do as much as possible together. Jo-Ann went on the Buckeye Cruise for Cancer with her daughters to help raise money for the Stefanie Spielman Foundation. Todd and Jo-Ann saw Ohio State play in the Sugar Bowl, caught some shows in Las Vegas and took several road trips in their RV.

In early March 2011, Jo-Ann began experiencing pain in her right lung. Testing revealed blood clots and, from that point, they knew it was a losing battle. The Aultman care team helped Todd arrange for a bed, oxygen, respiratory and IV treatments, and the other things he needed to care for her at home.

Todd arranged for the whole family to be together for Easter. Jo-Ann held private conversations with everyone – which she really cherished – and passed away peacefully a few days later.

Todd maintained a CaringBridge website to keep family and friends informed throughout Jo-Ann’s battle. He ended his last entry with a hymn refrain that he prayed for Jo-Ann many times.

“May the choir of angels come to greet you; may they speed you to paradise.
May the Lord enfold you with His mercy; may you find everlasting life.”

Todd reached out to Lisa Zellers, development officer at The Aultman Foundation, in July 2014. Through his involvement on the Aultman Health Foundation board of directors, he learned about the upcoming cancer center renovations and wanted to be involved. He remembered how spread out various departments were, how some areas were getting pretty dingy and he envisioned how these changes would really benefit future patients. “The treatment she received was great, and the caregivers were all wonderful,” Todd said. “But it was evident that things could be improved for patients and their families.”

Todd wanted to establish a tribute fund in Jo-Ann’s name to benefit the cancer center.
renovations. “Having an up-to-date facility will also help to attract the best physicians,” Todd explained. “These changes will impact cancer care in our community for years to come.”

Jo-Ann always thought of others first, even throughout her battle with cancer. “I think the Jo-Ann Ballanco-Sommer Tribute Fund is a way that, through her death, she can continue to help others – and we will be there right beside her,” Todd said. “Our family is excited to be a part of it, and we know that countless people will be helped as a result. She was such a compassionate person; she was loved at some level by so many people. I know the Aultman Cancer Center will touch thousands in the same way. They will be uplifted, strengthened, given hope. Some will be healed but, in all cases, they will receive truly compassionate care.”

“I think the Jo-Ann Ballanco-Sommer Tribute Fund is a way that, through her death, she can continue to help others – and we will be there right beside her.”

– Todd Sommer
Caring for the Community
BY GIVING BACK

To meet our mission through the important work at Aultman Hospital, it’s only through the generosity of our community donors who help make it all possible. We are deeply grateful to the following individuals and organizations who have kindly invested $500 or more to The Women’s Board of Aultman Hospital, Aultman Hospice, Aultman Hospital and/or the Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences in 2014.

Every gift is important, and every donor is valued. Each gift is allocated according to our donors’ wishes.

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Ms. Carol Zunic
Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Zurick

We’ve made every effort to ensure accuracy in our donor list. We apologize if we’ve made any omissions or errors. Please contact The Aultman Foundation at 330-363-4908 so we may update our records.
In 1891, Mrs. Elizabeth Aultman Harter donated 4.5 acres of land to build the first hospital in Canton. She and her stepmother, Katherine Barron Aultman, had the wish of creating a lasting memorial for Cornelius Aultman, Elizabeth’s father and Katherine’s husband. On Jan. 17, 1892, Aultman Hospital opened its doors to the community. That same year, the Aultman School of Nursing was established, and was further expanded by Elizabeth Harter soon after.

Because of this powerful act of philanthropy that helped transform a community, we have established The Elizabeth Aultman Harter Society. Like Mrs. Harter, who freely gave time, talent and treasure through the years, it is only fitting that we recognize our most generous donors. These contributors have cumulative giving of $20,000 or more since 2009 to advance our mission and ensure the future of Aultman Health Foundation.

We recognize with special appreciation and gratitude the following donors who are now members of The Elizabeth Aultman Harter Society:

$700,000 and above
Anonymous
George H. Deuble Foundation

$600,000-$699,999
R. Verne Mitchell Testamentary Trust

$500,000-$599,999
Harley C. & Mary Hoover Price Foundation
The Timken Foundation

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Susan G. Komen for the Cure

$200,000-$299,999
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Mr. T. Raymond Gregory
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Ann D. Black Charitable Trust
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Canton Aultman Emergency Physicians
Joseph A. Jeffries Co.
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$40,000-$49,999
AultCare
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Ambassador and Mrs. W. R. Timken Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. William R. Wallace

$30,000-$39,000
American Cancer Society
Sheila Markley Black and Warren M. Black
Caring for the Community

BY GIVING BACK

2014 GRANT GIVING

It has been said it takes a village to raise a child. It can also be said that it takes a community to create great change in that community. That is why The Aultman Foundation provides grant funding that makes an impact in the neighborhoods we serve. The foundation funded more than $1.5 million since its inception in 2007.

The following nonprofit organizations received grant funding from The Aultman Foundation in 2014. The organizations serve Stark, Wayne, Holmes, Tuscarawas and Carroll counties and provide programming in the area of wellness, health education or human services.

May 2014

**Alliance Pregnancy Center:** $5,000 to provide free STI/STD testing and treatment, which includes a risk assessment and counseling.

**American Rescue Workers:** $1,800 for male homeless services in Stark County.

**Area Agency on Aging Region 9, Inc.:** $4,500 to provide intermittent respite services to caregivers of adults 60 years of age and older.

**Aunt Susie’s Cancer Wellness Center for Women:** $3,000 to assist women, their families and caregivers, who have been diagnosed with cancer with transportation, meals and housekeeping.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Summit, Medina & Stark Counties: $6,000 to expand the community-based mentoring program which provides adult mentors to children ages 6-18.

Boys and Girls Club of Massillon: $6,000 to fund a comprehensive, multi-faceted program designed to help young people become healthy, active and learn new ways to handle stress, maintain a healthy body and form positive relationships.

Canton Calvary Mission: $5,000 for on-site fitness equipment for youth summer and after school programs.

EN-RICH-MENT: $5,800 to provide health and wellness component to youth programming.

Greater Stark County Urban League: $6,000 for a community-based educational service that uses the Stanford Disease Self-management curriculum to help those afflicted with type 2 diabetes and their caregivers.

JRC: $8,000 to support the Corridor Farmers’ Market, with the goal to increase access to fresh, healthy food for people living with a low to moderate income.

Oak Clinic for Multiple Sclerosis: $4,500 to present youth educational program on multiple sclerosis, and understanding those with disabilities.

PAL Mission: $6,000 for Genesis program, supporting youth aging out of foster care system.

Philomatheon Society of the Blind: $6,500 to help the working poor and low-income residents who do not have insurance to cover eye exams and glasses obtain these services.

Prescription Assistance Network of Stark County: $5,700 for medication needs of vulnerable population in Stark County.

Quest Recovery and Prevention Services: $4,500 for art therapy for adolescent females in a residential alcohol and drug treatment facility.

Refuge of Hope Ministries: $7,000 to support hot meal program to alleviate hunger in Stark County.

The First Tee of Canton: $5,000 to expand the Nine Healthy Habits—energy, play, safety, vision, mind, family, friends, school and community—to summer programming.

Turning Point of Stark County: $6,000 to fund program that provides underserved and at-risk women with the tools needed to develop healthy behavior and social skills.

Tuscarawas County Council for Church and Community: $5,500 to fund an educational program focusing on children in grades 6, 7 and 8, addressing substance abuse and the risks of premarital sexual activity.
In 2014, The Aultman Foundation awarded a grant to The First Tee of Canton to support its “Nine Healthy Habits” summer and fall programs intended to promote a healthy, active lifestyle for young people. The nine healthy habits include: energy, play, safety, vision, mind, family, friends, school and community. Combining with its existing Life Skills Education Program, this new initiative impacted 340 young people ages 5-18.

Known as a youth development facility and learning center, The First Tee of Canton provides young people an opportunity to learn life-enhancing values, character development and healthy habits through the game of golf. It is a chapter owned and operated nine-hole, par-3 golf course with irrigated fairways and synthetic Tour Turf greens along with a putting green and a 17-station driving range. The indoor facility has 10 holes for putting practice and lessons. In 2014, more than 7,500 kids in the community were impacted by programming.

Children who participated in the summer and fall programs were given a scorecard to track what the First Nine Healthy Habits meant to them and how they can apply them in their everyday lives. Parents also shared feedback. Some of the responses from the children included:

“Playing video games all day will make you tired and lazy. When I am more active, I end up with more energy. Be active.” Erica

“If I look in the pantry and see a doughnut and a banana, the smart choice is to pick the banana.” Sam

“We sit down at the table and eat together as a family. This leads to healthy eating habits.” Ellie

“Every time I ride my bike, I will wear my helmet in case I fall.” Pete

“The First Tee of Canton prides itself on teaching young people our nine core values and nine healthy habits through learning the game of golf. With the support of The Aultman Foundation, we’ve been able to share with the kids the importance of health in all aspects of their lives including handling stress, eating right, taking care of their environment and staying protected in the sun.”

Angela Palomba, Executive Director