



# 2024

A YEAR OF *good*



Dear Friends,

Thank you for all the good you gave in 2024! Your generosity helped us generate nearly \$6.4 million in philanthropic impact, advancing our mission to share God’s love through the work of health, healing and comfort for patients and residents of all ages.

Among the thousands who made gifts to the Good Samaritan Foundation in 2024, many were grateful patients, residents and families whose gifts of gratitude through our Guardian Angel program celebrate caregivers and staff who went above and beyond to provide compassion, care and comfort. Learn more about our Guardian Angel honorees on page 9.

Since our founding more than 100 years ago, our work has been fueled by philanthropy. Here, 100% of every dollar given through the Good Samaritan Foundation supports enhancements to care, meaningful programming, facility updates and more — ensuring those we serve can find health, joy and belonging.

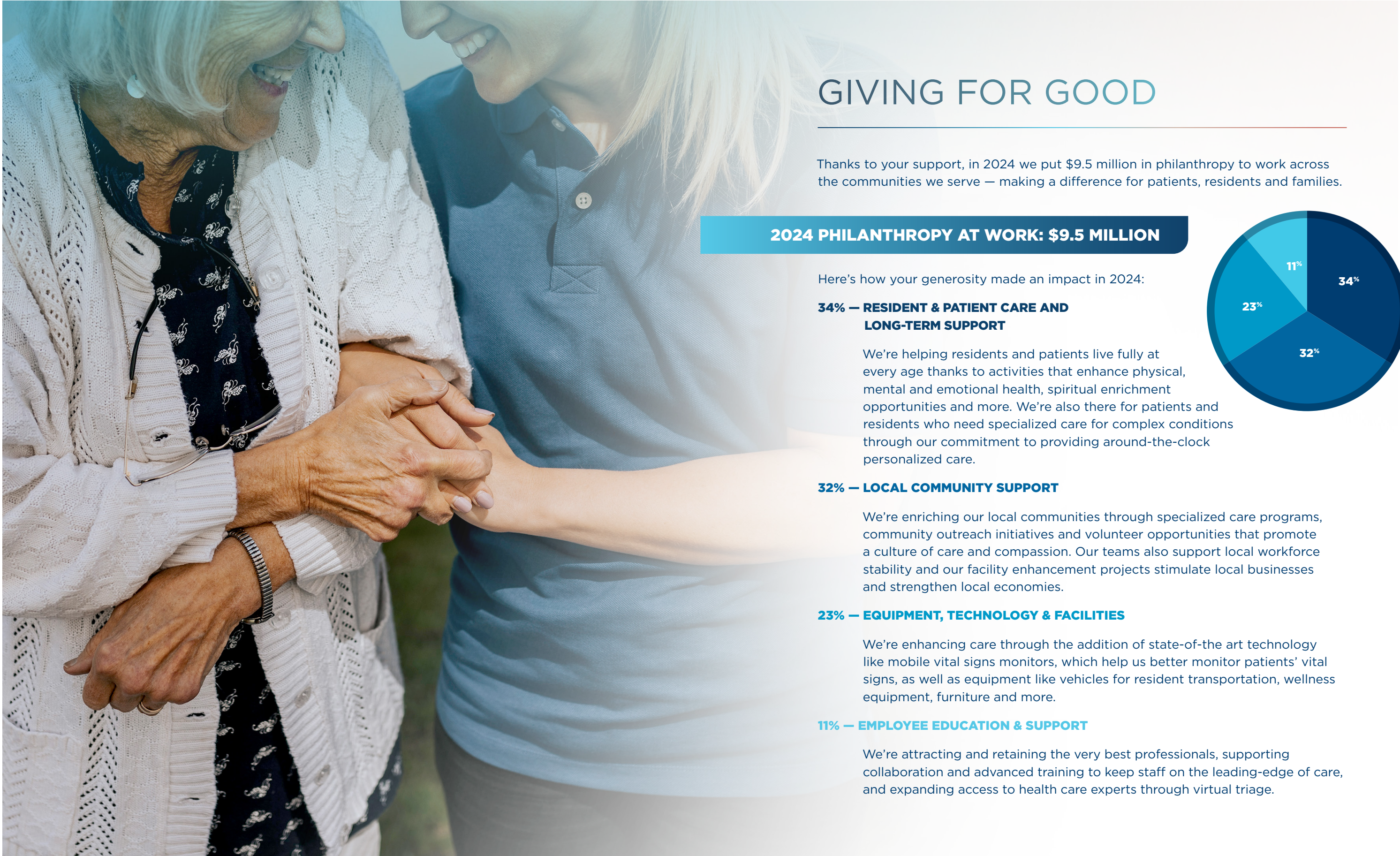
Thank you for believing in our mission, entrusting us with your charitable wishes and Giving for Good. We couldn’t do this work without you — your partnership means the world to us.



With gratitude,  
  
Ali Hofer  
Vice President  
Good Samaritan Foundation







# GIVING FOR GOOD

Thanks to your support, in 2024 we put \$9.5 million in philanthropy to work across the communities we serve — making a difference for patients, residents and families.

## 2024 PHILANTHROPY AT WORK: \$9.5 MILLION

Here’s how your generosity made an impact in 2024:

**34% — RESIDENT & PATIENT CARE AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT**

We’re helping residents and patients live fully at every age thanks to activities that enhance physical, mental and emotional health, spiritual enrichment opportunities and more. We’re also there for patients and residents who need specialized care for complex conditions through our commitment to providing around-the-clock personalized care.

**32% — LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

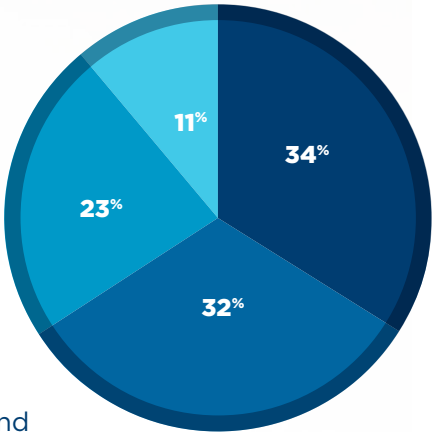
We’re enriching our local communities through specialized care programs, community outreach initiatives and volunteer opportunities that promote a culture of care and compassion. Our teams also support local workforce stability and our facility enhancement projects stimulate local businesses and strengthen local economies.

**23% — EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY & FACILITIES**

We’re enhancing care through the addition of state-of-the art technology like mobile vital signs monitors, which help us better monitor patients’ vital signs, as well as equipment like vehicles for resident transportation, wellness equipment, furniture and more.

**11% — EMPLOYEE EDUCATION & SUPPORT**

We’re attracting and retaining the very best professionals, supporting collaboration and advanced training to keep staff on the leading-edge of care, and expanding access to health care experts through virtual triage.







## COLORADO

Thanks to philanthropy, we're enhancing facilities across Colorado to create warm and welcoming spaces so residents like Jay Grooters and Marianne Bednarz at Estes Park Village can experience more moments that matter — like finding love again.

"It's just the perfect place for us. The size, the people, the atmosphere and the community they create. It's a great place to be," Jay said.



## NEBRASKA

At Auburn, the spirit of philanthropy shines through in community partnerships that bring people of all ages together for the greater good. In 2024, Future Farmers of America students from Auburn High School not only spent time planting succulents with residents, they also learned the importance of engaging with the community and explored career opportunities in long-term care.



## SOUTH DAKOTA

Across Sioux Falls, your generosity supports initiatives that build community and bring patients and residents joy and laughter, including visits from therapy dogs.

"Many of our residents grew up on farms or had dogs growing up, and these therapy dogs evoke so many wonderful memories for them. You can hear the laughter and storytelling between them. We find joy in making our residents happy, and these dogs bring them so much happiness," staff said.



## KANSAS

At Valley Vista in Wamego, philanthropy ensures we can provide around-the-clock care for patients and residents at every age and every stage of life — including those who are facing complex health conditions like Larry Heiserman, who needed care and support following a traumatic brain injury.

"We took Larry in with open arms," said Megan Matthews, the social services and activities supervisor at Valley Vista. "I think the most important thing we've been able to show Larry is kindness."

## NORTH DAKOTA



Volunteerism highlights the essence of philanthropy at Lakota, located 63 miles west of Grand Forks. Here, local volunteers like 12-year-old Peyton Marquart are giving of their time and talents to bring patients and residents together to foster connections and build community.

Depending on the day, Peyton will spend time playing games with residents or entertaining them with cartwheels. She'll also bring goats from her family farm to visit.

"When they see her bringing the goats or when they see her smile, they really light up," said Lakota Administrator Anna Halvorson.

## MINNESOTA

At Heritage Place in Roseville, your generosity supports everything from arts workshops to exercise classes, fellowship gatherings and more so residents like Leona Russell can remain physically, mentally and spiritually healthy. For Leona, it's the chance to pursue her passion for art.

Today, her artwork is displayed throughout the building — filling Leona's heart with joy and purpose and inspiring fellow residents.



## IOWA



At Waukon, philanthropy supports state-of-the-art rehabilitation equipment and technology so patients like Marcia Kruse, a stroke survivor, can get better, faster, close to home.

Marcia's physical therapy took place on-site, while her occupational and speech therapy took place virtually with Good Samaritan caregivers in Minnesota and Texas.

"Telehealth being available to us is wonderful being in a rural area," said Kara Cina, lead therapy assistant at Waukon.



# CELEBRATING GUARDIAN *angels*

The Guardian Angel program is a special way grateful patients, residents and families can recognize exceptional caregivers and staff who've made a difference. 100% of their gifts of gratitude go toward helping future patients and residents in their communities.

Join us in celebrating our 2024 Guardian Angel honorees, who each received special recognition and a Guardian Angel pin they can wear to share the power of kindness.



Learn more about how you can celebrate a caregiver through our Guardian Angel program.



COLORADO

Faith Atteberry  
Laura Avalos  
Lacey Bigler  
Lori Boyd  
Drake De La Pointe  
Barbara Erbes  
Roxann Fedder  
Jennifer French  
Keith Fry  
Jasmin Giese  
Water Valley Staff  
Regina Herrington  
Windy Johnson  
Jerrold Kelch  
Caleb Kirlin  
Samantha Leal  
Jane Lennon  
Jennifer Lewis  
Dantas Lima  
Loveland Village -  
Nursing Department  
Susanne Martin  
Richard McGlothlen  
Mariah Medrano  
Hailey Michal  
Angela Ortiz  
Andrew Pouncy  
Jenaill Rivera  
Christine Rogers  
Amy Ryan  
Jill Schaefer  
Ray Shostrom  
Olga Sponsler  
Pamela Williamson

IOWA

Paige Blazina  
Lisa Fox  
Debbie Gonnerman  
Sally Henry  
Amanda Hook  
Tracy Kilburg  
Connie Lauer  
Cynthia Nelson  
Heather Parchert  
Melody Patrick  
Jenny Riley  
Miranda Simmers  
Tracy Stack  
Krista Struecker  
Cynthia Swanson

Steve Walker  
Lynette Wall  
**KANSAS**  
Kari Baker  
Shannon Cogdill  
Desiree Dorman  
Hien Goss  
Cassidy Nadeau-  
Martens  
David Sparks

MINNESOTA

Mentor Addicks  
Krystal Albers  
Erika Anderson  
Jason Anderson  
George Bewick  
Brandon Bjerke  
Kali Blaeser  
Janet Bleichner  
Paige Bloom  
Emily Boone  
Elizabeth Burton  
Marjorie Caird  
Dawn Christensen  
Emily Cochran  
Kertee Cole-Kraty  
Sangai Crawford  
Melissa Cyr  
Michael Deuth  
Laura Dilley  
Patricia Dirkes  
Jacob Dobrava  
Sei Anna  
Ekthanitphong  
Laura Erickson  
Kendell Floyd  
Sherri Ford  
Patience Freeman  
Carolyn Geisel  
Christine Golly  
Jennalynn Hammock  
Sharon Harding  
Carson Hattz  
Emily Henderson  
Grace Hinojos  
Melissa Hoffman  
Anthony Janusz  
Susan Jensen  
Nicole Jenson  
Justin Jones  
Latasha Kennedy  
Michelle King

Norma Kolander  
Tiffany Kuznia  
Lori Larson  
Denise Leonhardt  
Amyah Lett  
Kassie Lindemoen  
Nicole Marquart  
Kari Mayer  
Stephanie McCann  
Melissa McCorquodale  
Travis McGary  
Stacy Mertens  
Anna Minske  
David Moreno  
Kelsey Moulzolf  
Elizabeth Murillo  
Melanie Murillo  
Jennifer Neely  
Debra Nelson  
Antoinette Nimpson  
Kathleen Noska  
Karla Obregon  
Sabrina Ohl  
Robin Olson  
Marie Orth  
Izabela Pavlicek  
Belen Perez  
Katie Petersen  
Kaley Pobanz  
Kimberly Quam  
Anita Quast  
Lisa Quigley  
Dana Ramig  
Anne Reese  
Kiona Rogers  
Lorene Rozalez  
Marjorie Ruud  
Laura Salonek  
Nicole Schauer  
Amy Schuette  
Sue Shoemaker  
Melissa Smith  
Shayla Solberg  
Clara Stitt  
Sunny Ridge Staff  
Mary Swanson  
Matthew Trammel  
Marie Walker  
Dorothy Waller  
Nancy Wepplo  
Meegan Wiese  
Patsy Wolvert

Taylor Zimbelman  
Emma Zimny  
**NEBRASKA**  
Angela Beed  
Honey Booth  
Ashley Fitzgerald  
GSS Bloomfield Staff  
Noreen Lind  
Erica Mangers  
John McDermott  
Paul Mick  
Mary Schaaf  
Aimee Schleicher  
Sherrie Smith  
Brenda Werner

NORTH DAKOTA

Princess Harris  
Tricia Kenworthy  
Robert Reff  
Kimberly Sayler

SOUTH DAKOTA

Shannon Aadland  
Bobbi Anderson  
Hunter Atherton  
Mary Barber  
Charity Bear  
Michelle Boever  
Adriana Boyd  
Ashlyn Bunker  
Roeshell Canion  
Paula Chavie  
Crystal Connot  
Carsa Davis  
Katie Davis  
Salynda Duran  
Megan Edel  
Amy Evenson  
Bill Gassen  
Christine Graham  
Kelsey Hartzler  
Patricia Helgeland  
Micah Hettinger  
Bruce Heying  
Jodi Higgins  
Lindsey Hixson  
Emily Hoffmann  
Kittina Hoffmann  
Nicole Holty  
Megan Howe  
Diedra Hrdlicka  
Jaimee Jandl

Angela Jangula  
Carolyn Janson  
Alfreda Johnson  
Kaelin Johnson  
Nanette Johnston  
Raymond Jones  
Melissa Jordan  
Sara Klaustermeier  
Stephanie Klecker  
LeAnn Kniffen  
Natalie Korell  
Danielle Lanier  
Kristi Lindblad  
Jennifer Marco  
Kathi Mauck  
Kara McCormick  
Karen Mercural  
Jamie Merrill  
Schroeder  
Celeste Myers  
Thomas Neff  
Mateel Nipp  
Elizabeth Ostrom  
Chad Pepper  
Sara Poehler  
Pablo Ramos  
Sharee\* Ring  
Rachel Rislov  
Katie Romero  
Julie Rothschadl  
Shelley Safar  
Kaia Sarles  
Rachel Schauer  
Nathan Schema  
Mrs. Julie Schenkel  
Scott Schleis  
Sheryl Schoenwald  
Gwyn Sexton  
Melissa Singletary  
Ames Smallfoot  
Lora Snow  
Karen Stiltz  
Joshua Sullivan  
Brenda Thedens  
Amanda Tieszen  
Gia Tornabene  
Sheri Vetsch  
Bryan Wagner  
Cindy Walters  
Eli Whitaker, Jr  
Veronica Williams

\* Deceased



# GIVING FOR *good*

Jerry Kjer’s gift of gratitude recognizes the care he received during his rehabilitation, celebrates the life and legacy of his late wife, and benefits residents and patients who need care close to home.



## JERRY’S STORY

When Jerry Kjer reflects on his life, he sees “blessings from God everywhere.”

The blessing of his late wife, Lee Ann, and their loving 32-year marriage. The blessings of their three daughters. And, most recently, the blessing of compassionate care from the Inpatient Rehabilitation unit at Good Samaritan – Ottumwa.

“I’d been in the hospital and went to the Inpatient Rehabilitation unit for ongoing recovery,” Kjer said. “I was there for about two months and was just overwhelmed by the care I received. Not just medically, but from a spiritual perspective as well. Everyone was outstanding, from the food service staff to the physical and occupational therapists, to the nursing staff and CNAs. They were all so motivating and uplifting. They helped me, at age 72, remember what’s important in life. They reminded me the good Lord gave me a life to live, so I’d better live it.”

So living is exactly what Kjer has been focused on. Living, he said, with a grateful heart.

To express his gratitude for the care he received, and to celebrate the life and legacy of his beloved wife, who passed away in 2023, Kjer made a \$50,000 gift to the Good Samaritan Foundation to benefit residents and families who need care close to home in Ottumwa.

“I wanted to do something meaningful while I was alive,” Kjer said. “I don’t know what the good Lord has in store for my future, but for now, I have the satisfaction and joy that comes from thanking these people and recognizing the good that’s happening here — all in memory of my loving wife.”

Above: Jerry Kjer and his late wife, Lee Ann. Learn more about Jerry’s story and the impact of giving through the Good Samaritan Foundation. »



# SECURE YOUR FUTURE, LEAVE A *legacy*



## THE POWER OF ESTATE PLANNING

Inspired by their care and motivated by the chance to leave a lasting legacy, many residents and patients choose to include the Good Samaritan Foundation in their estate plans.

It’s an opportunity for your charitable passions to live on, fueling the health and healing of tomorrow, while helping you and your loved ones maximize significant tax advantages.

## FREE ESTATE PLANNING RESOURCES



Creating your estate plan today provides advantages that begin now and continue forever. Contact us to receive your free estate planning guide or, access our free online estate planning resources.

[good-sam.giftlegacy.com](https://good-sam.giftlegacy.com)



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**Good Samaritan Foundation**

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THANK YOU FOR THE *good* YOU GIVE.

100% of every gift changes lives through the  
work of health, healing and comfort.