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HEALTH FOUNDATION



# impact

ELKHART GENERAL HOSPITAL

YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



## High School Internship Program

Since 2014, Elkhart General Hospital (EGH) has partnered with eight of our local high schools; educating students who are interested in healthcare. This program is a half-day, one semester, school credit internship offered to seniors. Students select from several career tracks including nursing, pharmacy, therapy, radiology, and phlebotomy.

Interest in the program continues to grow, with about 90 students a year participating and more than 350 graduates, thus far. The program is an excellent opportunity for students to gain real-world experience before pursuing post-secondary education and has shown to be beneficial on the trade-school or college application process.



## Goshen Boy Honored with First Pediatric Honor Walk

Malachi Southern would've thought it was the coolest thing. He would've loved seeing more than 250 people line the hallways for him. He would've loved being the center of attention in the first Honor Walk for a pediatric patient. And the kind-spirited 12-year-old, who loved to tell corny jokes, emulate Fortnight dance moves, and ride his red motorized dirt bike, would've loved knowing he saved the lives of three people by donating his organs after his dirt bike accident in Goshen.

"We all hoped he was going to recover. But if that wasn't going to happen, we knew this would be something he would want to do."

Melissa and her husband, Josh, broke down at Malachi's bedside as they listened to what they could expect during the Honor Walk, just a short-time before their son would take his last breath.

They looked over at their son, his face swollen, but peaceful. Malachi never



regained consciousness after arriving at the hospital on June 10. His room was dimly backlit in red, Malachi's favorite color, as the staff prepared to say their good-byes to the young man, and move him for the last time.

Melissa laid by her son's side during the Honor Walk. Malachi's head tilted toward his mom, her eyes never leaving him, as the doctors and nurses rolled the bed down the silent hallways brimming with people. "When we got downstairs I could hear people crying and they didn't even know my boy. It was overwhelming, how everyone was taking time out of their day to respect him."

Melissa and Josh took comfort in knowing Malachi's final act was a gift of hope to others. "Malachi was very empathetic, always wanting to help people, so I know it's what he would have wanted," she said.



## Mr. Wilkie Bush

When Wilkie Bush was a young man in Elkhart, he didn't have a lot of money so he just gave of himself. He came from humble beginnings, growing up on a farm in Michigan. "My motto was if you're going to spend your time doing something, spend it on helping people," he said. Wilkie, now 101, remembers Basil Tuner hiring him as a young graduate of Michigan State University from their Electrical Engineering program, back in 1939. And, by the time he retired as VP at CTS, he had three patents to his name.

In the community, Wilkie was a quiet leader. He helped design Faith United Methodist Church, was a trustee for the University of Indianapolis and served in many other roles including secretary of the board for Elkhart General Hospital, beginning in 1967.

In 1973, Wilkie set up his first trust so he could give back some of what he had earned. That trust is still in place today, and benefits Elkhart General and Greencroft Communities. He's grateful for a good life and believes in giving back when possible. "I just don't complain about my life at all", he said.



## EGH Designated as Level III Trauma Center

When a person suffers a traumatic injury, the care they receive is critical. Nationally, trauma is the number one cause of death for ages one to 46, which means response time could be the difference between life and death.

Indiana law requires first responders to transfer trauma patients to the closest trauma center within 45 minutes of their location. Designated centers maintain a continuous team of medical experts with the tools and resources to stabilize a trauma patient. Elkhart General began working towards certification in March of 2018, and joins Memorial as the only two Trauma Centers serving Michiana.

## Celebrating 110 Years

Back in 1909, thanks in part to a \$10,000 gift from Dr. Franklin Miles, local business leaders and the community would set out on a four-year campaign to raise \$80,000 (the equivalent of about \$2.1 million today) to build Elkhart General Hospital. By 1916, the 35-bed facility would add a training school for nurses with dormitory housing adjacent to the facility.

Today, EGH is a full-service 402-bed facility which serves more than 19,000 patients a month. EGH has 190 volunteers and a medical staff of 330 physicians, representing more than 30 specialties and more than 2,000 employees who service in clinical, administrative and support services. And let's not forget, more than 1,300 babies arrive at Elkhart General every year.

## Best Hospitals in Indiana

In August of this year, your Elkhart General Hospital was ranked #2 in Indiana by U.S. News & World Report after evaluating 162 regional hospitals!

## EGH is Making Progress

We are working hard to improve your patient experience! Located in the Arthur J. Decio Pavilion, a new Outpatient Pharmacy opened in September. In addition, an expanded Cancer Center will with direct 1st floor access will be opening by the end of the year.



We believe in the power of YOU. Talented, generous and dedicated individuals in our community who help make patient experiences exceptional. For more information on how you can support Nursing Education, Community Impact Programs, Children's Services and more, please contact:

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## Elkhart General Hospital Celebrates 110 Years!

