



2024 **Impact Report**

40

Years
of Impact

About the Foundation

Founded in 1985, Union Health Foundation is dedicated to enhancing community health and wellness. Through the generous contributions of donors, we have invested \$45 million towards initiatives such as advanced clinical staff training, state-of-the-art medical equipment, patient assistance programs and community health initiatives. Our objective is to continually strengthen the health of our communities.

Our Mission

Union Health Foundation develops financial support for partner programs, patient assistance, education and equipment that improve health and wellness in the Wabash Valley.



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Letter from the President



Dear Valued Partners,

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Union Health Foundation, we find ourselves reflecting on a remarkable journey — one defined by unwavering commitment, transformative impact and a collective vision to create healthier communities.

Since our inception in 1985, Union Health Foundation has been at the forefront of improving health outcomes and enhancing access to quality care. Together with our dedicated health care partners, we have worked tirelessly to address the health care challenges faced by our communities. From pioneering innovative programs to strengthening health access, our foundation has become a beacon of hope for countless individuals and families.

Over the past four decades, we have witnessed inspiring stories of resilience and healing. We have celebrated meaningful milestones, from expanding preventive care initiatives to

supporting mental health programs that uplift and empower those in need.

This year's impact report captures the essence of our journey. Within its pages, you will find compelling examples of impact, showcasing the initiatives that have flourished thanks to your support. The stories of individuals whose lives have been changed remind us of the profound impact of community and collaboration.


As we look to the future, we are inspired by the possibilities that lie ahead. We envision a world where healthy communities are not just a goal but a reality. With your continued support, we are committed to expanding our reach and enhancing our impact for another 40 years and beyond.

Thank you for being an integral part of our story. Your generosity, advocacy and belief in our mission have propelled us forward, and together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

With heartfelt gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Becky Miller". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'B' and 'M'.

Becky Miller, Union Health Foundation President



“ It’s more than financial help—
it’s encouragement to keep growing.
— Abbey Jaeger, nursing student and scholarship recipient

A Legacy of Learning and Care: **The Jaeger Family’s Story**

As Union Health Foundation celebrates 40 years of supporting health care professionals and advancing patient care, few stories reflect that mission more powerfully than the Jaeger family.

Spanning generations of caregivers, Jen, JJ, and Abbey Jaeger have each built their careers within Union Health—and each has directly benefited from the Foundation’s enduring investment in education, scholarships and innovation.

ROOTED IN UNION HEALTH

For Jen Jaeger, a nurse in Maternal Child Services

since 1995, Union Health is more than a workplace—it’s been a second home. Starting in the Child Development Center while still in school, Jen eventually moved into the NICU and later became the coordinator for both the NICU Developmental Clinic and the hospital’s STABLE Program for newborn care. When she saw a new type of neonatal bed at a national conference, she brought the idea home—and Union Health Foundation made it a reality, funding two Leo Beds that now serve the region’s tiniest patients.

"I saw the need, and the Foundation said, 'Let's do it, but why ask for one when we need two.' That support allows us to stay on the cutting edge of care for our babies and families," Jen shared.

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

Jen's husband, JJ Jaeger, began his own Union Health journey in 1992. Over the years, he's held multiple roles—from telemetry nurse to critical care educator, and now as Executive Director of the Rural Health Innovation Collaborative (RHIC), which brings simulation-based education to health care workers throughout the region.

"The Foundation has helped fund our mobile simulation ambulance, task trainers and so much more," JJ said. "That investment doesn't just help Union—it supports education for students and professionals at Indiana State, Ivy Tech, St. Mary-of-the-Woods and beyond."

Today, JJ and Jen both serve as educators with the RHIC, helping bring vital training to rural hospitals across Indiana—funded in part by Union Health Foundation.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: ABBEY'S JOURNEY

Their daughter, Abbey, represents the future of health care—and of Union Health. She began her journey in 2022 as a Patient Care Tech (PCT) while still in high school, after previously working as a CNA in a nursing home. Starting as a float PCT, she stayed and gained experience on the Progressive Care Unit.

Now part of the nursing apprenticeship program, Abbey is currently working in the emergency room while finishing her final semester. She's on track to graduate in December—and her path has been shaped and sustained by scholarships from Union Health Foundation.

"Each year, the Foundation has helped cover my tuition," Abbey said. "I've received multiple scholarships, and that support made nursing school possible. It's more than financial help—it's encouragement to keep growing."

For Abbey, the Foundation's investment isn't just about education—it's about being seen. "The scholarship ceremonies make you feel valued. They celebrate your potential, and not every student gets that. It really means something."

THE POWER OF GIVING BACK

For the Jaegers, Union Health Foundation has done more than fund education—it's helped build careers, strengthen care and create lasting impact in the Wabash Valley.

"Without the scholarships, I don't know if I would have finished nursing school," JJ said. "They made all the difference for me." Jen added, "My first two years were covered by Foundation scholarships, and the last two through the hospital's tuition reimbursement program—so my entire education was funded. Abbey's has been too. We've only had to pay for one of our kids to go to college—our son," she stated.

Together, their story reflects the impact of Foundation support across a lifetime—from student to nurse, mentor and leader.

Now, as educators and caregivers, the Jaegers give back every day—helping patients, mentoring peers and training the next generation of health professionals. As donors themselves, they understand the power of paying it forward. All three—JJ, Jen and Abbey—have been lifted by Union Health Foundation's support at pivotal moments in their education and careers.

"I tell small hospitals across the state: reach out to your foundation," Jen said. "Union Health Foundation provides meals, gas cards, education, equipment—everything to ease the burden for patients and caregivers. It changes lives."

As Union Health Foundation marks its 40th year, the Jaeger family's story is a powerful reminder of what's possible when a community comes together to invest in people—and in the future of health care.

For more information about Union Health Foundation scholarships, visit unionhealthfoundation.org/scholarships.

In 2024, Union Health Foundation awarded grants totaling **\$775,529** to improve the health and wellness of our patients and our communities.



\$131,821

Investing in Workforce

- Continuing Clinical Education for Nurses and Therapists
- Equipment and Curriculum Strengthening Employee Onboarding and Retention
- Scholarships Investing in Future Health Care Workforce

\$13,944

Improving Community Health

- Hygiene Supplies for Outreach Clinics
- Community Oral Health Screenings
- At Home Blood Pressure Monitors for Vulnerable Populations
- Vibrating Floor Pad for Pediatric Outpatient Therapy Clinic
- Alcohol Impairment Simulation Goggles and Maze Driving Mat for Experiential Learning for Community Education
- Medical Equipment for Conducting Community Health Risk Assessments

\$102,905

Caring for Patients, Families & Caregivers

- Pregnancy Loss and Infant Bereavement Assistance
- Toys and Activities to Help Pediatric Patients Cope with Hospital Stays
- NICU Eat, Sleep, Console Program Supplies
- Cancer Survivors Day Event
- Mammography Assistance Program
- Cancer Patient Assistance Fund
- Support for Happy Wheels Cart
- Car Seats and Pack and Plays for New Families in Need
- Wigs for Cancer Patients
- Pediatric Therapy Patients Assistance Fund
- Blankets for NICU Babies
- Hux Center Patient Comforts
- Caring for Caregivers



\$526,859

Providing Equipment

- Full Body Phantom Simulator Enhancing Imaging Training and Patient Care
- Bedside Patient Monitors to Optimize Patient Care
- Blanket Warmer to Ensure Cardiac Patient Comfort and Maintain Body Temperature During Nuclear Medicine Procedures
- Patient Transfer Aids to Enhance Safety, Stability and Comfort During Patient Movement
- Equipment to Support Cryotherapy Reducing Side Effects for Chemotherapy Patients
- Transport Chairs Improving Safety and Comfort for Patients and Staff
- Equipment to Enhance Care for NICU Babies
- Bladder Scanner for Radiation Oncology Improving Patient Comfort and Safety
- Surgical Table Expanding Spinal and Neurosurgery Capabilities
- Specialty Trauma Stretcher Improving Emergency Patient Care
- Rapid Infuser Providing Faster and Safer Delivery of IVs and Blood for Emergency and Surgery Patient Care
- Wheeled Workstations Improving Flexibility During Patient Care
- Maxi Move Patient Lift Supporting Patient Movement
- Playground and Early Learning Equipment for Union Health Child Development Center
- aRNI Mobile Licenses to Monitor Patients
- Support of Hospice of the Wabash Valley
- Equipment for Patient Therapy

Precision in the OR: How One Gift is Changing Surgery at Union Health

When Union Health Foundation granted funds for the purchase of a TEG 6s machine—a cutting-edge blood analysis system—it marked a turning point for the cardiovascular surgical team, transforming patient care with one strategic investment.

The TEG 6s (Thromboelastography) machine analyzes how blood clots in real time—measuring not just how fast, but how well a clot forms and holds. That may sound technical, but its implications are powerful. This insight allows surgical teams to tailor treatment with precision, which is especially critical during high-risk procedures like open-heart surgery.

“Before the TEG 6s, we had to make our best clinical guess,” explained Dr. Charles Cochran, Union Health’s Chief Anesthesiologist, who helped implement the machine in the cardiovascular operating rooms. “We’d often give multiple blood products—red blood cells, plasma, platelets—just to cover our bases. Now, we can individualize each patient’s care based on exactly what their body needs—no more, no less. That means safer care, better outcomes and smarter use of our hospital’s resources.”

Since its arrival, the TEG 6s has had a swift and measurable impact—most notably by helping physicians avoid unnecessary transfusions. One key advantage is its ability to detect residual heparin, a medication used during surgery to prevent clotting. Its reversal can now be confirmed with more accurate testing, decreasing the need for broad use of blood products. Real-time results let teams act fast and precisely—cutting transfusions, shortening hospital stays and conserving vital blood supplies.

That precision matters. Blood products are costly, limited and not without risk. “Every time you give blood, you’re essentially doing a mini organ transplant,” said Dr. Cochran. “The TEG 6s helps us ensure we only use blood products when absolutely necessary.”



Dr. Cochran (right) and Dr. Atiq Rehman, Union Hospital Cardiovascular Surgeon (left) with the TEG 6

The benefits go beyond the operating room. Surgeons can now quickly determine if patients—like those on blood thinners—are safe for urgent procedures, reducing wait times from days to hours.

“We’ve seen real savings in cost and time—but more importantly, our patients are benefiting,” said Dr. Cochran. “The Foundation’s support changed the way we practice cardiovascular surgery and elevated patient care overnight.”

The Foundation’s investment is inspiring interest across the hospital, from trauma to the ICU. What began with one machine is now expanding system-wide—proof that philanthropy drives lasting change. With your support, Union Health isn’t just keeping up with the future of medicine—we’re helping define it.



Empowering Patients to Take Control of Their Health: **How a Foundation Grant Helped Bring Blood Pressure Monitoring Home**

At Union Health Foundation, we believe access to basic health resources shouldn't be a luxury. Thanks to generous donor support, a grant allowed Union Health's Population Health team to distribute more than 175 home blood pressure monitors—completely free to patients across our communities.

For many patients, buying a home blood pressure cuff isn't financially feasible. Insurance rarely covers it, and with tight budgets, it's often a low priority—despite being life-changing for those managing conditions like hypertension or heart failure.

The monitors were distributed through Union Medical Group's primary care offices by social workers, nurses and care coordinators—often during annual wellness visits or care transitions, when a patient's needs are being reassessed after hospitalization.

What made this program especially impactful was the immediacy of support. If a patient mentioned they didn't have a cuff—or couldn't afford one—the care team could respond on the spot. No wait times. No transportation challenges. Just solutions, delivered with dignity.

One patient, J.V., an 82-year-old woman working closely with an RN Navigator, didn't have a blood pressure monitor at home and couldn't afford one. She was experiencing dangerously low blood pressure from her medications but had no way to track her numbers. She received a BP cuff, batteries, a logbook and in-home education. Her care team was able to adjust her medication based on her readings—and her health began to improve. "I was able to get my medication adjusted and finally feel better," she shared. "You put the care back in health care."

Stories like J.V.'s are why this work matters. Patients didn't just receive equipment—they received education, support and a renewed sense of control. Blood pressure control improved. Satisfaction rose. Long-term health outcomes strengthened. One participant put it simply: "It reminded me that someone truly cared about what happened next."

It's hard to quantify how many hospital visits or emergencies were avoided, but the ripple effects are real—one less fall, one fewer stroke, one more life improved because someone had the tools to stay healthier at home.

This is just one way your gifts to Union Health Foundation make a lasting impact—closing gaps in care and helping our neighbors live healthier, safer lives.

Collective Strength

United by purpose, our generous donors and team members have built a foundation of lasting impact—growing resources to fuel healthier communities for generations to come.



675

COWORKER DONORS



\$137,786

COWORKER CONTRIBUTIONS



1,220

TOTAL DONORS

25%

FIRST-TIME DONORS



17,984

TOTAL GIFTS



\$1,350,797

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS & OTHER SUPPORT

\$19,803,965

NET ASSETS

Ways to Give

At Union Health Foundation, we offer a variety of ways for individuals, companies and foundations to contribute to and support Union Health's mission of delivering exceptional health care and enhancing wellness across our communities.

Your support directly impacts Union Health's ability to provide top-quality care and services. Discover the many ways you can make a meaningful gift:

1. Online Gifts



**SCAN HERE
TO GIVE NOW**

Flexibility is key to addressing urgent needs. Your online gift, whether unrestricted or designated, ensures we can respond promptly to our most pressing priorities. Make a difference today by using the QR code or visiting unionhealthfoundation.org.

2. Coworker Giving

Union Health's dedicated coworkers are crucial to our mission. Their support has consistently strengthened Union Health's services and programs. If you're a coworker or know someone who is, consider contributing to our shared vision of compassionate, high-quality health care.

3. Stock Gifts

Donating securities is a straightforward way to give that might also offer you tax benefits. Your stock gift will be valued based on its average high and low sales price on the transfer date, providing crucial support to our foundation.

4. Matching Gifts

Maximize the impact of your donation through your employer's matching gift program. Many companies match employee contributions, and some even extend this benefit to retirees and spouses. Check with your employer to see if you can amplify your generosity.

5. Tribute Gifts

Honor someone special or commemorate a loved one with a tribute gift.

- **Honor Gifts** Celebrate milestones such as birthdays, weddings or anniversaries. Recognize a doctor, nurse, housekeeper, volunteer or other caregiver who made a difference in you or a loved one's care.
- **Memorial Gifts** Create a lasting tribute to someone who has passed, while offering comfort to their family.

6. Endowments

Endowments are transformative gifts that provide a stable, long-term source of funding. They ensure that your support continues to benefit our community for years to come.

7. Corporate and Foundation Partnerships

Join forces with us through sponsorships, patient support or innovative initiatives to help advance our mission and services.

8. Planned Giving

Leave a legacy with a planned gift. Whether through a life insurance policy, will, trust, retirement plan, real estate or gift annuity, you can create a lasting impact on our community's health and well-being.

Union Health Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts to the Foundation qualify as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. The Union Health Foundation is an independent organization that acts for the benefit of Union Health.

For more information on how you can contribute, please reach out to us at 812-238-7534 or email foundation@union.health. Your generosity helps Union Health provide outstanding care and foster wellness throughout the Wabash Valley.



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