

Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

NOTES FROM MELINDA

I'm so excited to be back! After some time away for surgery, I'm feeling energized, grateful and ready to jump back into everything that makes WHC such a special place. Thank you to everyone who reached out, checked in, or helped keep things running smoothly — your support truly means the world to me.

With spring just around the corner, there's so much to look forward to. I'm especially thrilled to be here as we celebrate the WHC Auxiliary's 65th anniversary — such an incredible milestone for a group that has given so much to our patients, families and community. What an honor to celebrate this legacy together!

Here's to renewal, teamwork and a wonderful season ahead. I'm so happy to be back and can't wait for everything coming our way this spring at WHC!

Melinda

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Volunteer of the Year

We are now accepting nominations for the 2026 Volunteer of the Year!

Nominations will be accepted through May 1. The Selection Committee will review all submissions and present a recommended nominee to the WHC Auxiliary Board for final approval on May 11.

Nominees should meet the following criteria:

- Have at least one year of current, active volunteer service with WHC
- Demonstrate an outstanding commitment to service, which may include:
 - A willingness to go above and beyond in their duties and responsibilities
 - Compassion and caring interactions with patients, staff and visitors

We invite Auxiliary members and WHC staff to submit nominations. If you feel a volunteer exemplifies these qualities and deserves recognition, please complete the nomination form. Let Melinda know if you need a paper form.

We can't wait to hear your stories of exceptional service and dedication!

Nominate a volunteer here:

👉 <https://forms.office.com/r/bbH4d5fdPJ>

Volunteer of the Year 2026



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TRAINING CORNER


Sharing online can be enjoyable, but oversharing personal details can put your privacy and security at risk. Information like your routines, travel plans, workplace or family details can give others more access to your life than you intend. Hackers can use this information to guess passwords, answer security questions or impersonate you online. Always make sure to check and update your privacy settings so you control who can see what you share.



Fun Facts for March

 March is a month of renewal

The name March comes from Mars, the Roman god of spring and growth — not just war. It marks the beginning of the planting season.

 March has its own flower

The March birth flower is the daffodil, symbolizing hope, new beginnings and resilience.




 St. Patrick's Day wasn't always green

Blue was actually the original color associated with St. Patrick. Green became popular later because of Ireland's nickname, "The Emerald Isle."

 Many migratory birds return in March

March marks the beginning of spring migration. Robins, red-winged blackbirds and sandhill cranes are often among the first to appear.

 March 1 is World Compliment Day

 Daylight Saving Time begins March 8th
More daylight = more energy

 March 20 is the Spring Equinox

It's one of only two days each year when day and night are almost exactly the same length.



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WHC Auxiliary 65 years



Waverly Health Center (WHC) Auxiliary is celebrating 65 years of service to the hospital and its surrounding communities.

Established in March 1961 with 41 charter members, the Auxiliary has grown into a key partner in advancing patient care, supporting health care education and strengthening WHC through volunteerism and philanthropy.

Volunteerism remains central to the Auxiliary's mission. WHC volunteer services now includes 112 active on-site volunteers, approximately 40 Wartburg College volunteers annually and 37 off-site volunteers who create baby caps, blankets and other comfort items. In fiscal year 2024, volunteers contributed 14,983 hours across 18 service areas. All volunteers are automatically Auxiliary members and support the mission of connecting Waverly Health Center to the community through volunteer service in order to provide high-quality, person-centered health care.

The Auxiliary has donated more than \$425,000 to support hospital growth and modernization. This includes \$65,000 to the Beyond the Building campaign, which expanded the Emergency Department, Specialty Clinics and improved the Green Entrance. Additional recent gifts include \$26,400 for three power stair chairs for the ambulances, \$10,000 to the pediatric therapy campaign and \$10,000 to the WHC Foundation to purchase an MRI breast coil for enhanced breast imaging.

The Auxiliary invests in future health care professionals. It has awarded \$226,650 in scholarships since 2001 to area students pursuing medical and health-related careers.

To celebrate its 65th anniversary, the Auxiliary invites the community to visit the WHC Gift Garden during the month of March to enter special door prize drawings and receive free post it notes.



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January Auxiliary Board Meeting

Highlights from the WHC Auxiliary January meeting 1/12/26. There was not a meeting in February.

- CEO Jodi Geerts shared that WHC will be going live with EPIC October 2026. WHC is awarded a state grant to purchase a da Vinci Robotic Assist machine to aid in general, OB_GYN and urology surgeries. A premier showing of "All Access" by Andy Garcia will be at the end of February. All active volunteers will be invited. The Emerson's scrub and shoe sale moved to March 31 & April 1.
- Auxiliary finances show a balance of \$12,175.22.
- Giesmann and Haaland will attend market for the Gift Garden in Vegas January 25 - 28.
- Anniversary subcommittee reported that they are having post it note pads made, the Gift Garden will give away 3 gift cards for the celebration. A banner will be put up on the outside of the Gift Garden.
- The date for the Annual Meeting will be Thursday, May 28, 2026.
- Staff Appreciation event will be March 25 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the CG conference room. Members of the Auxiliary will be asked to help support funds and volunteer for the event.
- The Auxiliary Annual Meeting will be May 28, 2026. 9:30 - 10:00 social time, 10:00 - 11:00 business meeting. The Auxiliary will be installing new officers.

The March meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2026, at 9:00am in the CG room. All are welcomed!

AUXILIARY ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR TWO KEY INITIATIVES

The WHC Auxiliary is now accepting monetary donations to support two important programs that make a meaningful impact on our patients, staff and community. Send donations to WHC Auxiliary 312 Ninth St. SW Waverly, IA 50677

Auxiliary Scholarships

Each year, the Auxiliary proudly supports students pursuing careers in the healthcare field. For 2026, our goal is to again award \$20,000 in scholarships to deserving individuals continuing their education.

Your contribution helps shape the next generation of health care professionals!

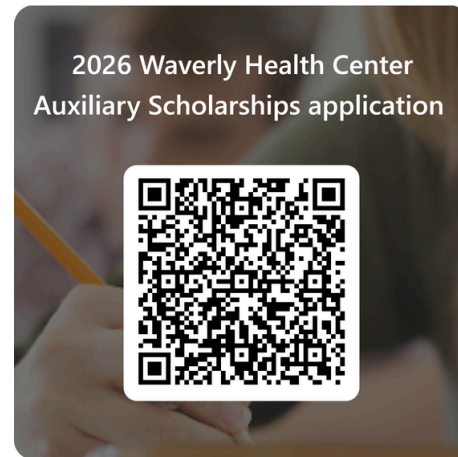
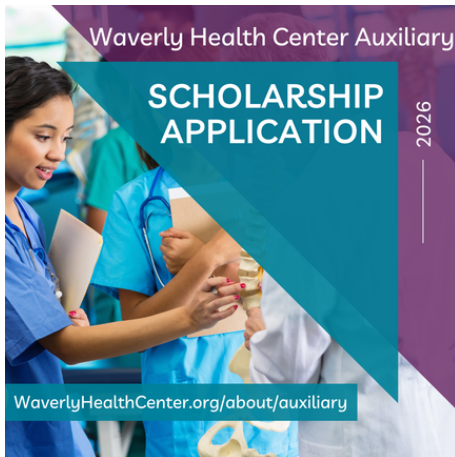
Staff Appreciation Event — March 25

The Auxiliary hosts an annual celebration to recognize our exceptional WHC staff—both in the hospital and across our four off-campus clinics—for their dedication to patient care and their support of Auxiliary events and fundraisers.

This year's Staff Appreciation Event will be held on Wednesday, March 25.

Your donations help us thank our team in a meaningful way!

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The Waverly Health Center (WHC) Auxiliary is now accepting applications for its annual scholarships. These scholarships are given to those who are currently full-time OR part-time students and persons within the WHC service area who have completed or are completing one year of higher education in a health career field.

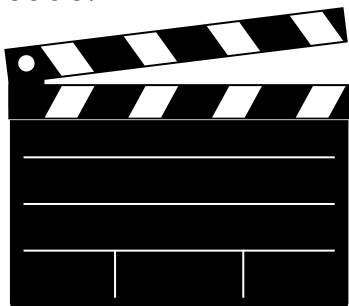
Selection is based on scholastic standing as well as financial needs of the applicant. An Auxiliary committee will choose this year's recipients. Scholarship amounts are a minimum of \$1,000.

These scholarships are funded by the WHC Auxiliary projects such as the Gift Garden, Fundraisers (Linens, Scrubs, Nutman and Designer Bag BINGO) and membership dues.

If you would like to support our scholarship fund, donations are accepted at any time. Donations can be mailed to WHC, 312 Ninth Street SW, Waverly, IA 50677.

The deadline for submitting an application is April 10, 2026.

The link to apply can be found at waverlyhealthcenter.org/about/auxiliary or on above QR code.



Thank you to everyone who joined us last week for the All Access prescreening opportunities! In case you missed it, you can view the segment here:

<https://youtu.be/6H2yWf6HjCk>

The full piece with Andy Garcia will air for one year on Public Television beginning March 30. During that time, it is expected to reach an estimated 60 million households. Beyond the broadcast, the segment will also be distributed to one million email addresses here in Iowa and a 30-second commercial version will appear during primetime television. This segment offers a great behind-the-scenes look and highlights the important work happening across our organization. If you have any trouble accessing the video or have questions, feel free to reach out.



2026

DATES TO REMEMBER:

2/25 - 3/2 Melinda out of the office

3/1 Sandy Neitzel

3/2 Ron Flory

3/4 CJ Hisler

3/8 Ruby Robertson

3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins

3/9 Deb Freeseemann

3/9 Auxiliary Board Meeting 9:00 - 10:00 am CG Room-
everyone that receives this newsletter is welcomed!

3/10 Breast Cancer Support Group 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Tendrils

3/16 Denise Flory

3/17 Sunny Horner

3/17 St. Patrick's Day



3/19 Parkinson's Support Group 1:30 - 3:00 pm in CG Room

3/25 Auxiliary hosting WHC staff appreciation event

3/28 Gwen Paulsen

3/31 Kathy Mulder

3/31 Auxiliary Fundraiser - Scrubs/Shoes/Clothing in Tendrils
8:00 - 4:00

4/1 Auxiliary Fundraiser - Scrubs/Shoes/Clothing in Tendrils
7:30 - 1:00

Shop the Gift Garden the month of March to celebrate the
Auxiliary's 65th anniversary.

- Win a prize- no purchase required
- Free 65th anniversary post-it notes



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