

GREAT NEWS

JANUARY 2021

Great River Friends Offers Scholarships for 2021-2022 Year

Applications for Great River Friends scholarships for the 2020-2021 school year are available. Two types of scholarships are offered to students pursuing health care careers.

Applicants for high school scholarships must be seniors with minimum 3.0 grade point averages. They must live in or attend schools within Great River Health's service area (about 60 miles).

Applicants for continuing college student scholarships must have graduated from high schools in Great River Health's service area in the last 10 years and have completed at least one year of college. Students in graduate school may apply.

Scholarship applications must be postmarked or delivered by Saturday, Feb. 15.

Great River Friends is a community of donors and volunteers that supports Great River Medical Center with the gifts of time, talent and treasure. For more information, please call Volunteer Services at 319-768-3340.



On the Dec. 18 casual day, Autumn Shacklett, Patient Financial Services, received Employee of the Month recognition from President & CEO Matt Wenzel.

Shacklett Named Employee of the Month

Autumn Shacklett, Patient Financial Services, is Great River Medical Center's newest Employee of the Month. She showed great commitment to the hospital by being willing to learn an entirely new job during the COVID-19 pandemic. When her "helping out" turned into seven months, she remained respectful to her coworkers, knowing she was doing the right thing. Shacklett was recognized for going over and above what is expected of her and doing it with true commitment.

New Provider



David Waddell, MD

Internal Medicine

Great River Health-Keokuk
3285 Main St.
Keokuk
319-524-6274

Medical degree: Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio

Residency: Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

Certification: American Board of Internal Medicine

March 30 Deadline for State Health Care Scholarships

The Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation (IHERF) is offering 60 scholarships for the coming school year. The goal of the Health Care Careers Scholarship program is to fill Iowa health care positions that have a notable number of openings by offering significant financial support to students seeking health care education or training.

In exchange, each \$3,500 award recipient must commit to working one year in an Iowa hospital for each year of the scholarship award. Recipients of \$1,000 awards must commit to working one year with a hospital-based or hospital-contracted emergency medical service.

IHERF will identify placement opportunities in each Iowa Hospital Association geographic district (a district map is included with the application).

Scholarship applicants must be enrolled in an accredited program and be within two-years of completing their professional education. The application deadline is Tuesday, March 30. [Get more information.](#)

January Casual Days

Employees purchase \$2 stickers for the opportunity to wear jeans to work on designated Fridays. The January casual days and organizations they benefit are:

Jan. 8 Great River Friends

Jan. 22 Klein Center Sunshine Club

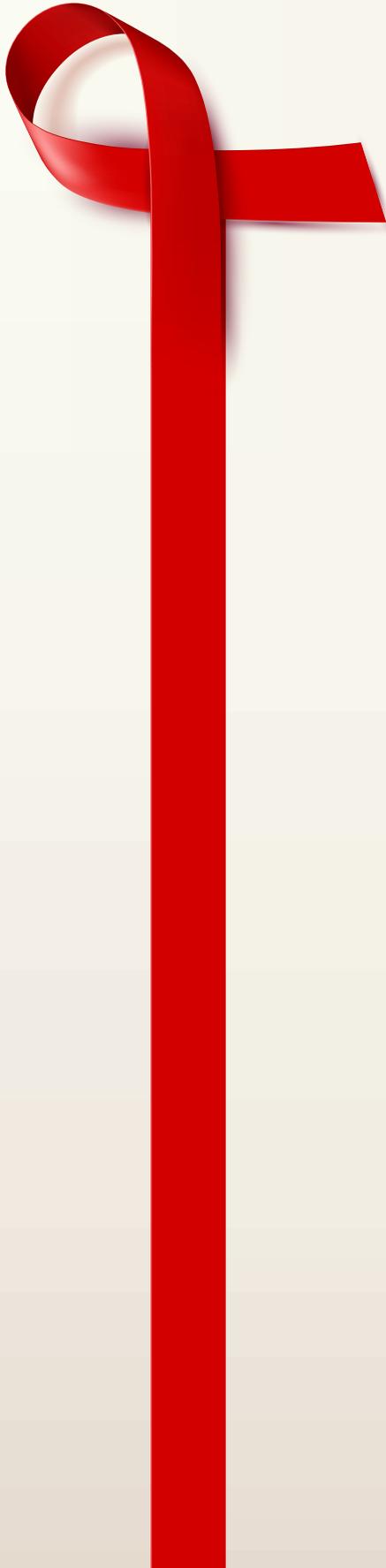
Letters

On behalf of Hetta Gilbert Children's Medical Organization, thank you so much for your recent donation of \$274. Because we weren't able to have our annual resale this year, your choosing us for your September casual day funs is especially appreciated. Thank you for your kindness in remembering us.

— Diane Stanbary, treasurer

Thank you so much for the donation of \$357 [Dec. 4 casual day]. This donation goes strictly to pay RSVP volunteer drivers 45 cents per mile to transport low-income Des Moines County residents to their medical appointments. We have suspended our trips until it is safe to resume with this pandemic. We have been helping a few clients that can't wait for their appointments. This is such a rewarding program, and I'm so happy that we can continue for another year.

— Mary Maine
RSVP volunteer coordinator



Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

The mission of the Iowa Ryan White Part B Program is to fund primary health care and support services for low-income patients living with HIV to control the disease and improve their quality of life. Program help is available at Great River Medical Center.

Through the Ryan White Program, the Iowa Department of Public Health provides funding to local agencies. This includes providing direct access to lifesaving medications through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). ADAP provides free medications for the treatment of HIV/AIDS and opportunistic infections, which are infections that occur more frequently and are more severe in people with weakened immune systems. These drugs treat symptoms and can help people live longer.

ADAP can help people who are not fully covered by other payers under certain circumstances. Case managers help clients:

- Make and keep appointments
- Follow their medication schedule
- Manage other aspects of their lives

Great River Medical Center's case manager is Pam Bloomer-Pinkston. For more information or to enroll in HIV/AIDS case management services, please call 319-768-3200 or 319-800-5430.

Besides increasing access to care underserved populations and improving quality of life, the intention of the program is to reduce the use of more-costly inpatient and urgent care, and decrease transmission of HIV.

Employee Profile

Abby Abel Sonographer Diagnostic Imaging



Start date:

Jun 17, 2019

What I do:

A lot of people think ultrasound is only about examining unborn babies or hearts. I do ultrasound examinations to help diagnose vascular disease, blood clots, ectopic pregnancies and many other things. I also provide ultrasound guidance for radiologists performing biopsies. My examinations take 15 to 20 minutes. I love interacting with patients during this time!

What I wanted to be when I grew up:

I realized I wanted to be a sonographer when I was 16. I went to radiologic technology school and specialized in this field.

Hometown / Where I live now:

Mediapolis

Family:

I married Josh Abel in June and moved three miles from my family's home.

- My parents: Dave and Karla Eberhardt
- My in-laws: Brian and Anne Abel

Things I enjoy:

Spending time with family, playing card games, helping on our family farms and traveling

My motto or personal mantra:

Put God first in everything.

Who I root for:

My husband and I are big Hawkeye fans. We had a Hawkeye-themed entrance to our wedding. Although my husband went to Iowa State, he wore a Hawkeye T-shirt every day!

My biggest achievement:

Graduating from radiologic technology school and passing my board examination.