Mobile Mammography Unit Fights Breast Cancer in Rural Communities

Green Bay – During October’s Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Prevea Health and its hospital partners want to remind everyone about the importance of breast health and breast screenings.

In May 2018, Prevea Health, in partnership with HSHS St. Vincent, St. Mary’s, St. Nicholas and St. Clare Memorial Hospitals, launched a 3-D and digital, mobile mammography unit to provide residents in rural communities greater access to breast health screenings.

The mobile mammography unit is equipped with mammography technology that has the capability to provide 3-D and/or digital images. It features two changing rooms and a waiting room, and is staffed by a registered mammography technologist. It travels on a regular basis to Prevea Health centers in Kewaunee, Luxemburg, Manitowoc, Plymouth, Shawano, Pulaski, Seymour, Oconto, Marinette, Gillett, Mountain and Lena, as well as to area businesses.

Between May 2018 and September 2019, the mobile mammography unit and its staff have provided 1,346 patients in these rural communities with mammograms. Out of those 1,346 patients:

- 129 patients required additional imaging for suspected breast cancer
- 9 patients were diagnosed with breast cancer
- 99 patients received a mammogram for the first time
- 15 patients had not had a mammogram in more than 8 years

“Many of these patients are women who may not have otherwise received a mammogram due to the burden of having to travel to another community far away where services are available,” said Tammy Piehl, radiology manager at the Prevea Breast Center in Allouez. “Our mobile unit allows us to take these lifesaving breast screenings directly to them. If we can catch cancer early with a mammogram, it is likely more treatable.”

All women should talk with their health care provider about the appropriate timing for screening mammograms, especially women who are age 40 or at high-risk. A schedule will be based upon an individual’s health. At age 40, any woman may wish to begin regular screening mammograms. By age 45, women should have a screening mammogram and continue to have one at least every other year.
To learn more about Prevea mammography and the mobile mammography unit, visit:
www.prevea.com/mammo

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About HSHS St. Vincent Hospital and HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center

HSHS St. Vincent Hospital and HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center have been delivering quality health care to Green Bay and its surrounding communities since 1888. With HSHS St. Vincent being the largest tertiary care hospital and HSHS St. Mary's location on Green Bay's west side, patients from Northeastern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan benefit from a comprehensive range of services that include cancer care, women's services, emergency and trauma care, preventive care across the lifespan, digestive health, orthopedic, cardiac care, neurosciences, rehabilitation and pediatrics. Affiliates of Hospital Sisters Health System, the hospitals primary purpose is to continue Christ's healing love through the delivery of competent and compassionate health care in an environment sensitive to the needs of all people. Both hospitals are accredited by The Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

About HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital

HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital has been delivering high quality health care to Sheboygan and its surrounding communities since 1890. HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital provides a comprehensive range of services that include cancer care, women's services, 24-hour emergency care, digestive health, orthopedics, cardiac, home health and hospice care. The hospital's primary purpose is to continue Christ's healing love through the delivery of high quality and compassionate health care in an environment sensitive to the needs of all people. HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. An affiliate of Hospital Sisters Health System, we draw on the history of St. Francis of Assisi as we move to continue serving the health care needs of our area in Christ’s healing ministry, caring for all people. To learn more, visit www.stnicholashospital.org.
About HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital
HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital serves Oconto Falls and the surrounding communities as a federally-designated critical access hospital with a 24-hour emergency department, urgent care, general, vascular and orthopedic surgical services, inpatient and outpatient surgical and diagnostic services, rehabilitation, oncology outpatient clinic and women's care. HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital, in affiliation with Prevea Health, has six regional health center locations in Gillett, Lena, Mountain, Oconto, Oconto Falls and Suring. HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital Pharmacies are located in Gillett and Oconto Falls. Founded in 1921 as Community Memorial Hospital, in 2014, HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital became the fourteenth hospital in Hospital Sisters Health System. As an affiliate of Hospital Sisters Health System, we draw on the history of St. Francis of Assisi as we move to continue serving the health care needs of our area in Christ's healing ministry, caring for all people. For more information about St. Clare, visit www.stclarememorial.org.

About Hospital Sisters Health System
Hospital Sisters Health System’s (HSHS) mission is to reveal and embody Christ's healing love for all people through our high quality, Franciscan health care ministry. HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care to our patients and is dedicated to serving all people, especially the most vulnerable, at each of our 15 Local Systems and physician practices in Illinois (Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Greenville, Highland, Litchfield, O’Fallon, Shelbyville and Springfield) and Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Oconto Falls, Sheboygan, and two in Green Bay). HSHS is sponsored by Hospital Sisters Ministries. For more information about HSHS, visit www.hshs.org. For more information about Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, visit www.hospitalsisters.org.

About Prevea Health
Founded in Green Bay, Wis. in 1996, Prevea Health is a health care organization that provides high-quality, primary and specialty health care in 80+ locations across Northern, Eastern and Western Wisconsin in clinic and hospital settings. It is partnered with six Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) hospitals across Wisconsin to provide patients a system of highly-coordinated care, close to home: HSHS St. Vincent Hospital and HSHS St. Mary’s Hospital Medical Center in Green Bay; HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital in Sheboygan; HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls; HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire; and HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital in Chippewa Falls. For more information, visit www.prevea.com.

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