

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Cardiac Champ Challenge: A Wet, Windy and Wild Success!

Although the weather was wet, windy and wild, the first-ever Cardiac Champ Challenge event was a big bright spot of success. About 150 people attended the fund-raiser which was the brainchild of the St. Albans Rotary Club, raising funds for NMC's cardiology programs.

21 teams, each with eight members competed in short paddling races in inflatable boats at KillKare State Park.

The event raised an incredible \$135,000 for heart care in our community from sponsorships and donations of every size.

"At NMC, we take care of our friends, our families and our neighbors, so it's really personal to us," President and CEO Peter Wright said at the awards ceremony. "It's really hard to find the words, and it's completely overwhelming to see everybody come together today to raise money for our cardiac program," he said.

Top Sponsors – donating \$10,000 each

AN Deringer, Inc
Med Associates, Inc / The Garibay Family
In Memory of Gladys Mr. Rocheleau, NP, RN



Champ Challenge Results

Cardiac Champ Challenge Champions: Got Heart!

2nd Place: NMSeaworthy

3rd Place: Row Hard or Go Home

Biggest Team Fundraisers: St. Paul's Queen of Hearts

Most Team Spirit: Franklin County Women's Leadership Circle



First Vermont Baby of 2025 Born at NMC

On Wednesday, January 1, at 12:09 am, Tricia and Dawson Wright welcomed baby girl Evelyn Jean into their family.

The Dawsons live in Swanton, and were happy to meet their first child – who was a healthy 7 pounds, 5 ounces, measuring 20 inches long.

Butt Litter Clean Ups Mark 10-Year Milestone

For the 10th year in a row, the Franklin Grand Isle Tobacco Prevention Coalition and its partners and volunteers picked up cigarette butt litter in our community gathering spaces. Between June and August, events took place in the Georgia Industrial Park, Alburgh, Village of Swanton, Richford, Enosburg Falls, Downtown St. Albans, the St. Albans Industrial Park, and St. Albans Bay Park.

During those 8 events, 133 volunteers cleaned up over 29,000 butts, representing 1,450 packs of cigarettes.

NMC was one of the organizations volunteering at butt litter cleanups, along with the Knights of Columbus #297, Rotary Club of St. Albans, the Franklin County Senior Center, Swanton Library Camp, LEAPS Summer Camp in Richford, Coalition for Tobacco Free VT, Franklin County Stormwater, and Hey Neighbor Hey!



NMC Begins Selling Jenna's Promise Coffee

In the fall of 2025, NMC began selling Jenna's Promise coffee our Courtyard Cafe, a product from a Vermont-based company that is part of the Jenna's Promise recovery community.

Jenna's Promise provides recovery housing for women seeking treatment for substance use disorder as well as workforce development opportunities through the coffee company and a discount store.

"I love that we can offer great coffee and at the same time, support the important work that Jenna's Promise does," said Executive Chef Carrie Consentino.

"The Jenna's Promise approach of longer-term treatment and skill building for sustainable employment are so needed in Vermont," said Jonathan Billings, NMC Chief Operating Officer. "We hope this new partnership helps them continue to grow to meet the need."

Learn more about Jenna's Promise here: <https://jennaspromise.org>



NMC's Auxiliary: Powerful Positive Support

NMC's Auxiliary is an organization committed to supporting to support the hospital through fund-raising and positive community relations. The Auxiliary is made up of 180 members who meet four times each year in September, November, February and April. Guest speakers at membership meetings this year included Dr. Kevan Sternberg of Northwestern Urology, Dr. Benjamin Chaucer of Northwestern Pulmonology, Dr. Alicia Imada of Northwestern Orthopaedics and Katie Shattuck, NP of NMC's Pediatric Developmental Clinic.

In September of 2025, the Auxiliary donated \$65,000 to NMC to purchase a new ultrasound-guided nerve block machine.

NMC is grateful to the Auxiliary for its many years of support of the hospital – we are fortunate to have such an active group of passionate people supporting our mission.



Dr. Katie Montagne of NMC's Anesthesia Department and Wayne Hobbs, Chief Ambulatory Officer make a request for a donation to support a new ultrasound-guided nerve block machine during an Auxiliary membership meeting.



Chief Operating Officer Jonathan Billings and Auxiliary member Bonnie Evans pose with a quilt that was raffled off by the Auxiliary to raise money for their organization. The Auxiliary holds regular fundraisers at NMC, and is also supported by funds generated by the popular Gift Gallery at NMC.



Katie Shattuck, NP of NMC's Pediatric Developmental Clinic spoke to the Auxiliary membership at a meeting in September 2025. She spoke about autism and the services that the clinic provides with developmental evaluations for children. [Learn more here.](#)



Abenaki Nation Flag Raising Ceremony

On October 14, The Abenaki Circle of Courage youth drummers and Chief Brenda Gagne of the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi led a flag raising ceremony at Northwestern Medical Center. NMC was honored to take part in the ceremony as part of our recognition of Indigenous People's Day.

Community Partners Classic Golf Tournament

This year's Community Partners Classic golf tournament raised just over \$36,000 for Northwestern Counseling & Support Services and Northwestern Medical Center.

In its 17th year, the collaborative tournament was a great success with 40 teams enjoying a round of golf at the Champlain Country Club and 33 sponsors supporting the tourney.

Funds raised from the event are split between the two organizations and help support the physical and mental health of the Franklin and Grand Isle communities.



Watch this video thanking our incredible sponsors and see golf in action through photos from this year's tourney held at the Champlain Country Club. Special thanks to Irons & Ale for the delicious food at the tournament!

NMC By The Numbers

NMC BLOOD DRIVES IN FY2025



41

*Total Blood
Drives Hosted*



6

*2025 Blood
Drives Hosted*



1,267

*Total Units of
Blood
Donated*



27

*Units Donated
Last Blood
Drive*



1,336

*Number of
Donors*



90

*Total First
Time Donors*



6

*First Time
Donors in
2025*



505

*Units Given
by Top Donor*

NMC's Support for Our Community

NMC remains steadfast in our commitment to supporting our community through generous donations and sponsorships despite facing financial challenges and uncertainty about the future of healthcare in Vermont.

In addition to the many ways we partner with local organizations and businesses, NMC also donates to worthy causes – especially those that relate to the health and well-being of our friends and neighbors.

Just a few examples of donations we made this year included funds presented to Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the Samaritan House, Laurie's House, and the St. Albans Pride Corps. We are also proud of our annual United Way campaign and support for Operation Happiness at the holidays.



The Samaritan House

The Samaritan House received a donation from NMC of just over \$700. The funds were raised as part of a basket raffle fundraiser which was raised during a hospital week.

[Click here to read more](#)



St. Albans Pride Corps

St. Albans Pride Corp. received a donation from NMC from funds raised during a bake sale held on hospital week. They were presented with a check for just over \$600. Thank you to all our team members who participated in the bake sale. Thanks for making a difference in the lives of our patients and their families and helping us deliver exceptional care to our community!

[Click here to read more](#)



Spectrum Youth & Family Services

NMC's President and CEO Peter Wright and Chief Operating Officer Jonathan Billings presented a donation to Spectrum Youth and Family Services in St. Albans. This donation was in support of their 10-bed youth homeless shelter on Lake Street.

[Click here to read more](#)



Voices Against Violence

NMC presented a \$1,000 donation to Voices Against Violence. This was part of a celebration for the opening of a second shelter for survivors of domestic violence.

[Click here to read more](#)



Haddad Subaru of St. Albans

Haddad Subaru of St. Albans donated blankets to our patients as part of the Subaru Loves to Care initiative, a partnership with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society supporting patients facing cancer. Representatives from the dealership dropped off boxes filled with 80 warm and fuzzy blankets, shaped as hearts, to encourage messages of hope during their stay.

[Click here to read more](#)

NMC Raises \$15,000 for the United Way

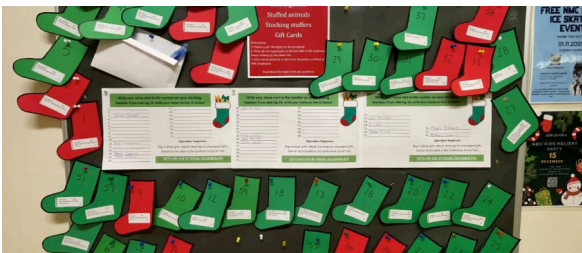
In the fall of 2024, Northwestern Medical Center celebrated the spirit of giving with another impactful United Way Campaign. This year we raised \$15,000 for the United Way of Northwest Vermont.

This year's campaign included bingo, which sent our team on a hunt for facts about United Way and their impact they have on the community. Those who participated gained an additional entry into our grand prize giveaway of a premiere reserved parking spot on campus. The winner was Stephanie Koch, our RN Clinical Educator in the Family Birth Center!

We also hosted our annual cookie sale with cookies made by Executive Chef Carrie Consentino! It raised \$2,492!



Operation Happiness Stockings Success



Operation Happiness was a huge success with our team taking 50 stockings! Operation Happiness is a volunteer initiative supported by the United Way of Northwest Vermont. Operation Happiness provides food and toys for nearly 1,000 families and their children (16 and under) in Franklin and Grand Isle counties during the holiday season.