You Can Make a Difference

Send your donation today!

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At Woman’s, we see what is happening in our community every day. We see the joy of a family meeting their new family member for the first time. We see the relief of a woman who had suffered silently from an illness made better with our care. We see an HIV-positive mom agonizing about her unborn child’s future. We see a sexual assault victim numb from shock. We see a mother worrying if her baby will ever leave the NICU.

It is our mission to improve the health of women and infants in our community. Through your support of vital community programs, which provide much-needed assistance to the underserved and uninsured, we achieve our mission. Maintaining these programs becomes a greater challenge each year, and we must look to friends like you for support.

When you partner with Woman’s, you strengthen our community. Please know that your gift will help those who need it most.

Will you join us?
Woman’s mission: to improve the health of women and infants. We can’t achieve it without you.

**NICU Challenge:** Some of the most critically ill infants in the region are born at Woman’s or transported to Woman’s to receive care.

**Make a Difference:** Your gift can help the sickest babies in our region receive the most advanced medical technology and expert care from a team of pediatric specialists. Private, single-family rooms allow parents to stay overnight with their baby in the days, weeks and even months ahead. Should an emergency arise, an operating room designed especially for babies is located within the NICU.

**Maternal-Fetal Medicine Challenge:** Women with high-risk pregnancies potentially face many serious complications and require specialized care.

**Make a Difference:** Woman’s Maternal-Fetal Medicine physicians are specially trained to care for women with high-risk pregnancies. Your gift can provide nutrition counseling, physical therapy, social services and genetic counseling.

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Breastfeeding

Challenge: Breast milk can prevent disease, provide the best nutrition and even lower the risk of allergy and dental problems in babies. Though breastfeeding is a natural process, it’s not always the easiest.

Make a Difference: Your gift can give babies the healthiest start in life by supporting Woman’s Lactation Warmline, a free service that provides advice and support from a member of our lactation team.

Louisiana has one of the lowest breastfeeding rates in the country.

Human Donor Milk

Challenge: A sick or premature baby is at risk for necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), a serious, often fatal illness in which the small intestine becomes inflamed and starts to decay. Breast milk is the best protection against NEC; unfortunately, some mothers cannot breastfeed for health and other reasons.

Make a Difference: Your gift can help babies get the nutrition they need to survive; it can enable Woman’s to obtain human donor milk from licensed human milk banks.

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Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission Prevention

Challenge: Without intervention, up to 40 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women could transmit the virus to their babies.³

Make a Difference: Your gift can help decrease the chance of a baby contracting the HIV virus during birth by providing HIV-positive mothers with assistance from diagnosis to one year after delivery. Babies will receive six weeks of anti-retroviral medication. Since 2005, Woman’s has not had an HIV-positive baby born to a mother enrolled in the program.


Palliative Care

Challenge: A life-ending condition or illness in a loved one is extremely difficult.

Make a Difference: Palliative care can provide the best quality of life for an ill patient or a newborn with a life-limiting condition. Woman’s Palliative Care team provides compassion and support for parents facing stillborn delivery, extreme prematurity and more. The team also supports adult patients with late-stage cancer. Your gift can provide training for the Palliative Care team and memories for families in the form of hand and foot casts and other keepsakes.
Care for Victims of Sexual Assault

Challenge: Women who have been sexually assaulted need emotional support, expert medical care and evidence gathered in a timely and professional manner.

One in five women will be raped in her lifetime.4

Make a Difference: Healing after sexual assault begins with compassionate medical care. Justice begins with carefully collected evidence during an expert forensic exam. At Woman’s, a woman will receive care in a private, designated exam room. Her forensic exam will be done by an OB/GYN and a nurse with extensive sexual assault training.

Her privacy is respected by sharing her experience in a private consult room. Your gift can provide clothing and toiletries for sexual assault victims as well as continued education for sexual assault caregivers and advocates.

Cancer Care and Support Services

Challenge: Cancer is a life-changing battle, and many patients experience physical, emotional, financial and lifestyle challenges.

One in eight women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.5

Make a Difference: Your gift can ease the burdens of breast and gynecological cancer patients by providing them with one-on-one guidance navigating their journey from diagnosis to survivorship. Assistance can include understanding insurance, finding doctors, managing medical paperwork and other barriers that prevent access to medical care.

4 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm?s_cid=ss6308a1_e

Healing Arts

Challenge: From women on bed rest or receiving infusion treatments to sitting beside a baby’s bed in the NICU, many patients and their families call Woman’s home for extended periods of time.

Make a Difference: Your gift can enhance the hospital experience for patients and their families through music, writing, dancing and art, including monthly concerts, scrapbooking for NICU parents and art activities for cancer patients. On the horizon are painting classes and more.

Swim Strong

Challenge: Many children face mobility challenges related to cerebral palsy, spina bifida, traumatic brain injury and more.

Make a Difference: Your gift can help children build independence and strength in a fun, social environment. Swim Strong is a water program instructed by a pediatric physical therapist that helps children graduate to traditional swimming programs.
Funded through generous support, Woman’s programs and services meet the critical needs of women and babies in our community, many of whom are underserved and uninsured. Nearly 50 percent of the babies born at Woman’s are covered by Medicaid.

In 2014, these vital community services cost $51.8 million more than payment received. Of this amount, Woman’s provided more than $36.5 million in care for Medicaid patients for which there was no reimbursement.

Our community supported these programs and services in 2015:

**NICU:**
- Cared for 1,259 sick and premature babies.

**Human Donor Milk:**
- Fed 32 sick and premature babies weighing less than 2.2 pounds with 848 bottles of human donor milk.

**Breastfeeding:**
- Provided 18,848 breastfeeding consultations to new mothers.
- 70% of new mothers were breastfeeding at time of discharge.
- Answered 3,500 breastfeeding “Warmline” phone calls.

**Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission Prevention:**
- Provided education and treatment for 43 HIV/AIDS-infected pregnant women, resulting in reduced mother-to-child transmission rates. Since 2005, Woman’s has not had an HIV-positive baby born to a mother enrolled in the program.

**Palliative Care:**
- Provided immediate support for families of 67 individuals.
- Provided 24 grief and loss support group meetings for 114 attendees.

**Care for Victims of Sexual Assault:**
- Treated and provided clothing and toiletries for 85 women, or 53% of all known adult female sexual assault victims in the Baton Rouge area who presented at a healthcare facility.

**Cancer Guidance and Support:**
- Guided 235 breast cancer patients through treatment for a total of 1,278 individual breast cancer consultations.
- Provided 1,570 individual gynecological cancer consultations.
- Provided 10 breast cancer support groups for 138 patients and 10 gynecological cancer support groups for 30 patients.
- Offered 3 survivorship luncheons and 5 educational seminars.
- Provided 538 inpatient nutritional consultations for breast and gynecological cancer patients.

**Mammography Coach:**
- Provided mammograms for 4,784 women, of which more than 50% were indigent.
- Traveled 16,143 miles for a total of 215 trips to 67 locations in 17 parishes.

**Healing Arts:**
- Offered 18 classes in cooking, painting, jewelry, wreath making and writing.
- Provided 17 concerts.
- Provided “Doses” notecards to patients during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Will you join us?