Evan Yaney is Sparrow’s 2012 Miracle Child

When 4-year-old Evan Yaney visits Sparrow Children’s Center for chemotherapy, the Physicians and Caregivers cater to his every preference, down to the dinosaur stickers at the receptionist’s desk.

“It really makes us feel like we’re not just another Patient,” said his mother, Wendy Yaney of Grand Ledge. “There’s a real personal touch.”

Evan is Sparrow’s 2012 Miracle Child. He will be featured in promotions for the upcoming Sparrow Children’s Center Telethon. Evan was diagnosed with leukemia in July 2010 and has undergone chemotherapy. He still has two more years of treatment to complete.

“We could have gone anywhere in the world for his treatment, and we chose to stay here,” said his father Kent Yaney, DO, a Sparrow Emergency Department physician. “I don’t think we did just as well as we could have anywhere else in the world, I think we did better, because (Sparrow Caregivers) are so personal. They’re so caring.”

The Sparrow Children’s Center Telethon will air 9-11:30 p.m. June 1 and noon-6 p.m. June 2 on WILX-TV 10.

For more information, to donate and for a behind-the-scenes look during the telethon, visit sparrow.org/telethon.

Caregivers should be prepared for quality assessment

At Sparrow, we know the Patient comes first, and that is why our vision is to be recognized as a national leader in quality and Patient experience.

As part of that vision, an eight-person team from the Michigan Quality Council (MQC) will visit Sparrow sometime between June 11 and July 15.

The purpose of this visit is to allow the team to ask questions and gain more information about the application Sparrow has submitted for a Michigan Quality Leadership Award.

During the visit, the team from MQC will conduct rounds to talk with Caregivers at random to see if they understand Sparrow’s Mission, department goals, current performance, plans for improvement, and the reward system.

Caregivers should be able to answer the following questions:

1. What is Sparrow here for (Our Mission)?
2. What are the goals in your department/unit?
3. How is Sparrow performing? How is your area performing? How do you know?
4. How does your department/unit improve performance?
5. In what ways are you recognized and rewarded?
Sparrow volunteers help local students connect education to the workplace

Sparrow volunteers recently teamed with Junior Achievement of Mid Michigan and other local organizations to help bring the workplace into Eastern High School classrooms.

The JA Reverse Job Shadow Program has business professionals from the Lansing area teach daily classes for 9th and 10th graders and International Baccalaureate students.

John Rinck, Sparrow Manager of Outpatient Pulmonary Services, spoke to science classes about the many career options in respiratory care while David Kruger, Vice President of Physician Practice Administration, spoke to multiple classes about the leadership and business aspects of healthcare.

"It was a gratifying experience to teach students about real-world applications for their education and get them excited about potential career paths that are right next door to them," Rinck said.

Out of the 21 local volunteers for the program, Sparrow had eight individuals step up and help make the day a success.

Bill Coderre, President of the Junior Achievement Mid Michigan and Great Lakes branches, expressed his gratitude for Sparrow’s involvement:

"The community support provided by Sparrow, along with other organizations in Mid Michigan, had a tremendous impact on Junior Achievement’s ability to deliver its first Reverse Job Shadow Program for the Lansing Public Schools. JA is grateful for Sparrow’s support in helping students explore and learn more about the many career opportunities in the Lansing area."

If you are interested in volunteering for the program, contact Chris Hocquard from Junior Achievement Mid Michigan at 517.896.2002 or chris.hocquard@ja.org.

Sparrow Hospital Patients and Caregivers enjoy donated flower arrangements

Sparrow was the recipient of about 200 flower arrangements donated by the Michigan FFA Association, following a competition at Michigan State University.

Volunteer Services staff received and delivered arrangements that included pink carnations, yellow daisies with greenery and corsages. The flowers brightened the hospital and were much appreciated.

GET MORE CONTENT ONLINE

For more Sparrow News content, visit sparrow.org/mysparrowassociates. Scroll down to “Sparrow news” and click on “Additional online content.” You’ll see stories and photos on:

» Rocking chairs donated to Mother Baby
» W3 Volunteer of the Year
» Sparrow Specialty Hospital Caregiver celebration
More than 250 people have signed up to race for the health of it with Team Sparrow so far. Some are shown outside the state Capitol during the recent Race for the Cure.

Team Sparrow MAC members show their stuff at Lansing Marathon

Caregivers from the Michigan Athletic Club participated in the recent Lansing Marathon as part of Team Sparrow.

Congratulations to the following for completing the full or half marathon: (Back row, from left) Emily Prevo, Josh Bosma, Lindsey Walker, Nicole Brillantes. (Front row) Janet TenHove, Cheri Salazar, Ricardo Salazar.

Sparrow Specialty Hospital recognized for exceptional respiratory care

Sparrow Specialty Hospital is among about 700 hospitals nationwide to receive Quality Respiratory Care Recognition (QRCR) from the American Association for Respiratory Care.

“We are really proud to have earned this designation, which communicates our commitment to providing the best care to our Patients,” said Kira Carter-Robertson, president and CEO of Sparrow Specialty Hospital. “I credit our respiratory care team at Sparrow Specialty Hospital for their hard work toward earn this achievement.”

To earn this recognition, a facility must have respiratory therapists available 24 hours a day, all respiratory therapists employed must be credentialed or certified by the state, and the facility must meet other stringent standards in respiratory care.

Team Sparrow kicks off 2012 race season

Team Sparrow has gotten off to a strong start with hundreds of participants in the Komen Mid-Michigan Race for the Cure and the March of Dimes March for Babies, among others.

There are still more chances to get involved in Team Sparrow this year, including Ele’s Race, JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes, and the Women Working Wonders (W3) 0K/5K/8K.

Help raise funds for local charities while showing your Sparrow pride, and we’ll send you free Team Sparrow gear, including T-shirts, water bottles and hats. You’ll get one item for each race you participate in, up to four items per person.

For more information or to sign up, visit sparrow.org/teamsparrow.
Caregivers lauded over national recognition

Sparrow is celebrating our Caregivers’ commitment to quality Patient care.

Banners around the health system promote Sparrow being named a top-performing U.S. health system by Thomson Reuters and Modern Healthcare. This ranking is based on our performance in such important measures as Patient safety, Patient experience and other quality benchmarks.

Sparrow was the only health system in mid-Michigan to receive this honor, and we are joined on this list by such prestigious organizations as Mayo, Advocate Health, Geisinger Health System, and Scripps Health.

Thank you, Sparrow Caregivers!

Drs. Smith, Kepros honored with top physician awards

Longtime Sparrow family doctor George Smith, MD, received the Sparrow 2012 Physician of the Year award, while John Kepros, MD, was given the new Sparrow Physician Leadership award at the 7th Annual Physician Recognition Dinner.

The dinner, attended by hundreds at the Country Club of Lansing, also featured the induction of five notables into the Sparrow Physician Hall of Fame.

“This is one of the best days of the year for me,” said Michael Clark, MD, himself a former Physician of the Year.

Hall of Fame inductees were Dominic V. Barberio, DO; John S. Dunn, MD; Wayne J. Hanish, DO (given posthumously); Edward C. Sladek, MD; and Preecha Supanwanid, MD.