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\$25K anonymous gift will aid continuing education at GRMC

An anonymous donor has given \$25,000 to Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC) to support continuing education for staff.

"To say that we are immensely grateful for this kindness would entirely understate the matter," says Todd C. Linden, GRMC president and CEO. "Continuing education is absolutely critical to the mission of the medical center. Until now, we have never been able to meet all the continuing education needs of our staff right here in our own facility. In the past, our staff members have needed to drive and pay expensive course fees to meet the rigorous criteria necessary to maintain their certifications and licensure."

GRMC will use the donation to subscribe to classes via Mercy Health Network's Midwest Rural Telemedicine Consortium (MRTC) over the Iowa Communication Network (ICN). GRMC's affiliation with Mercy gives the medical center the option to make this connection for an annual fee. The donation will give

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GRMC staff access to the many classes annually offered by Mercy's MRTC for a ten-year period.

This type of distance learning allows for live audio/visual interaction between instructor and students throughout Mercy's telemedicine consortium. Multiple members of GRMC staff can attend the courses through the ICN at one time, and staff will save time and travel costs when needing continuing education requirements.

GRMC plans to put an ICN connection into its Tomasek Conference Room which can seat up to 48 people at tables. The conference room already has a projector and large-screen television. Connecting to the ICN will only require adding wiring and cabling. GRMC expects to be holding classes

in the conference room by this fall.

"This gift has the potential to benefit all GRMC employees and physicians," says Alex Thompson, RN, GRMC clinical educator. "The staff at GRMC touches hundreds of lives a month. Because of this donor's support, imagine how many patients will benefit from the knowledge our staff gains from this program over the next decade."

Linden adds that the indirect benefits from this gift are also immense. "In addition to helping us provide first-rate education to staff, we also believe the opportunity to receive continuing education credits right here at home will help us with recruitment and retention efforts," he says.

For information about the new clinical education program or about making a donation to GRMC, contact Denise Lamphier, director of communications and development, at 641-236-2589 or dlamphier@grmc.us.