Grateful for 40 years

And there’s still more work to do

On May 25 of this year, I had occasion to pause and think about where Rosecrance came from and where we, as an organization, are going.

That day was my 40th anniversary with Rosecrance. My overwhelming emotion on the occasion was gratitude. How fortunate I’ve been to spend my career at an organization whose mission it is to provide help, hope and recovery to people in need of care.

I came to work at Rosecrance straight from college with my social work degree on May 25, 1971. Back then, Rosecrance was a children’s home with 14 employees serving 24 boys. Today, six months into the affiliation with Janet Wattles Center, Rosecrance has 560 staff serving more than 13,000 patients and consumers each year.

My anniversary was a time to reflect on the many people who gave me guidance and inspiration over four decades. I’ve had the honor to work with so many dedicated board members who shared their time and wisdom to guide our organization. Through the years, I’ve been privileged to work alongside countless staffers who chose to devote their energies and talents to helping others.

Their efforts have changed and saved thousands of lives, and I’ve been witness to those daily miracles. What a gift these years have been to me!

When I walk through the lobby at the adolescent campus, I often see worried parents and very unhappy teenagers who are there for assessments. Seeing them, I know with absolute certainty that we have the professional staff to help those families survive and thrive.

When I see a young couple at the adult campus with a couple of little kids in tow, I am filled with confidence that we have programs in place to help them find stability and move on with their lives.

Recently, I was inspired by the courage of the Stars of Light theatre troupe as I watched them perform. Our wonderful staff members at Janet Wattles Center give them the support they need to maintain recovery and enjoy life.

Yes, we’ve come a long way from passing the hat at the children’s home to pay the milkman. I want to thank our many generous friends who helped us in the early years. Those loyal friends and many new donors now support our charity care fund, which every year helps hundreds of people get the treatment they need.

The past 40 years have been immensely rewarding, but my thoughts have turned toward the future. Many days, I feel as if my work has just begun.

Philip W. Eaton
President/CEO
**Feature Story**

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Six months into the formal affiliation between Rosecrance and Janet Wattles Center, the organization has moved quickly to integrate staff cultures, combine work systems and embrace opportunities that are presented by healthcare reform.

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**Director of Communications:** Judy Emerson  
**Design and Communications Specialist:** Billy Kulpa

**On the cover:** Phil Eaton, left, Mary Ann Abate and Bruce Parks pose outside the Mildred Berry Center, where Parks is the director.
Six months into the formal affiliation between Rosecrance and Janet Wattles Center, President/CEO Philip Eaton says the organization has moved quickly to integrate staff cultures, combine work systems and embrace opportunities that are presented by healthcare reform. The appointment in late May of Mary Ann Abate to lead mental health services is a key step toward the future, Eaton said. Abate, a nearly 30-year employee of Janet Wattles, accepted the post of Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Mental Health Services for Rosecrance Health Network.

‘Better Together’ becoming reality

New leader, renovations mark first six months

Six months into the formal affiliation between Rosecrance and Janet Wattles Center, President/CEO Philip Eaton says the organization has moved quickly to integrate staff cultures, combine work systems and embrace opportunities that are presented by healthcare reform. The appointment in late May of Mary Ann Abate to lead mental health services is a key step toward the future, Eaton said. Abate, a nearly 30-year employee of Janet Wattles, accepted the post of Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Mental Health Services for Rosecrance Health Network.
“She understands fully that behavioral healthcare is primary healthcare — that it is equally essential to wellness,” Eaton said in making the announcement. “That’s the direction this nation is going, and Mary Ann is going to help Rosecrance lead the way in the Midwest.”

Abate worked alongside Frank Ware during his 22 years at the helm of Janet Wattles Center. Ware died in February.

“His legacy of excellence will motivate me every day,” Abate said. She said the affiliation already has created a new direction for Janet Wattles Center, and her challenge is to maximize opportunities for integrated treatment for substance use and mental health disorders.

“Now it is time for me to establish another legacy that I will influence working within Rosecrance Health Network,” she said.

Rosecrance is the parent company under the affiliation.

Moving forward, Eaton and Abate both embrace a “No Wrong Door Policy,” which means that individuals who come to any building in the network seeking treatment for substance use or a mental health disorder would receive appropriate answers on the spot.

“Regardless of whether they show up at Janet Wattles or Rosecrance, we would like to be able to meet their needs,” Eaton said.

As a first step, Rosecrance will seek licensing to deliver treatment for substance use disorders at Janet Wattles’ downtown facility at the corner of West State and Winnebago streets. A significant portion of Janet Wattles’ adult clients seeking mental health services also have experienced some kind of chemical dependency, Abate said.

Integrating treatment for substance use and mental health disorders is a significant step toward the eventual goal of having behavioral health be accepted as essential to primary care and overall wellness, Eaton said.

“We are strategically planning to be a significant behavioral health player in the larger picture of healthcare reform,” he said. “We are looking to cross the lines or ignore the lines to really focus on the patient.”

As for progress on the affiliation, the organization has merged such functions as human resources, payroll and information technology and made progress in finance and communications. Integrating treatment services is going to be the most meaningful part of the affiliation to the community, Eaton said.

Meanwhile, the downtown Janet Wattles building recently went through renovations to take advantage of the building’s interesting external architecture and to provide better service to consumers inside the facility. The changes include creating a new lobby, renovating the lower level and making improvements to other floors in the building.

An open house will be planned for late summer. Abate’s office will remain in the downtown building.

Written by Judy Emerson

Affiliation timeline

Nov. 22, 2010 Announcement of affiliation between Rosecrance Health Network and Janet Wattles Center

Dec. 17, 2010 Agreement signed by Rosecrance President/CEO Philip Eaton and Janet Wattles Center President/CEO Frank H. Ware, their respective board chairs and corporate officers

Jan. 1, 2011 Agreement becomes effective

Feb. 13, 2011 Frank Ware, Rosecrance Vice President/COO for Mental Health Services, dies

May 23, 2011 Mary Ann Abate named Rosecrance Vice President/COO for Mental Health Services

More on Mary Ann

Mary Ann Abate holds a master’s degree in community mental health from Southern New Hampshire University and a bachelor’s degree from Edgewood College in Madison, WI. She is a licensed social worker in the state of Illinois. She serves on numerous professional committees and review boards and is active in an array of community organizations. She has been with Janet Wattles Center for nearly 30 years.
New youth treatment program launched

Rosecrance is accepting patients for a new Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program in the Frankfort satellite office for youth ages 13 to 18.

The new program, which opened March 14, 2011, is designed to help teenagers develop skills to achieve abstinence from drugs and alcohol and sustain recovery.

 Convenient after-school hours allow families to get help for their children with minimal disruption to school schedules and daily activities.

The Frankfort office is located at 20635 Abbey Woods Ct. N., Suite 301. For more information, call 888-928-5278.

Free workshop offered on effects of bullying

Top-level behavioral health professionals from Rosecrance and Connections Counseling of Madison addressed the growing crisis of bullying among adolescents at a free workshop April 29, 2011, at Madison’s Lussier Family Heritage Center.

The session was titled, “Peeling back the layers of bullying.”

The workshop came in the wake of several high-profile cases of suicide by young people who were the targets of relentless bullying.

The Family Resource Center at the Mildred Berry Center offers resources for parents who are concerned about bullying. Call 815-332-8003 for information.

Kids’ mental health event ‘great success’

Rosecrance certified child and adolescent psychiatrists Dr. Carol Lynn Craig and Dr. Thomas Wright were the keynote presenters at the annual Best Practices in Children’s Mental Health conference May 26 in Rockford.

The conference, presented by Mildred Berry Center, highlighted the best and latest methods for diagnosing and treating children’s mental health issues. Seventy-four people attended.

“I think the conference went very well,” Craig said. “The audience was very receptive to that material that was presented.

Craig’s presentation emphasized the importance of recognizing mental health disorders in children and adolescents.

“There is a definite need for conferences like this in the future so everyone is on the same page,” Craig said. “It’s important that we identify any issues and concerns early, and that we provide a comprehensive treatment plan for the children and their families.”

Charity Shaw-Moyado, associate director of the Emergency Services Department at Janet Wattles Center, and Emily Schroeder, a therapist at Mildred Berry Center, also spoke at the conference.

Charity Shaw-Moyado spoke about handling potentially suicidal children and teens.

“My hope was to teach people to feel comfortable enough to ask directly about suicide, and be able to connect people at risk with help,” Shaw-Moyado said.  

Written by Billy Kulpa
The Theatre troupe delights Griffin-Williamson teens during stigma-busting 200th performance

Theatre troupe delights Griffin-Williamson teens during stigma-busting 200th performance

Stars of Light, Janet Wattles Center’s groundbreaking and award-winning theatrical troupe, reached the 200-show milestone in Rockford this spring, and the group is set to perform for a national audience in July. The Stars’ bottom-line message is that help for mental illness is available to those who seek it.

Now in its 16th season, the troupe includes consumers, family members and staff from Janet Wattles Center. The group presented its 200th show March 30 before an audience of teenagers in treatment for substance abuse at the Rosecrance Griffin Williamson Adolescent Treatment Center.

On July 9, the troupe will take the stage in Chicago at the annual convention of the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill. Stars will present a show they wrote entitled “On the Path,” which depicts interactions between people with mental health issues and so-called normal folks who encounter one another on a bike/walking path.

Under the direction of veteran Rockford actor Stephen F. Vrtol III, the group has performed for more than 14,000 people through the years. Vrtol lauded the actors’ courage for going public with their stories to fight stigma and help others who suffer.

“This is a no-fault disease,” Vrtol said. “They didn’t do anything to deserve it and no one chooses it.”

Presenting the mental health story in a theatrical format helps audiences realize that people with mental illness are just like everyone else in most ways, he said.

Written by Judy Emerson
Rosecrance

2011 featured ‘Under the Streetlamp’ and a record-setting 815 guests

The 2011 Rosecrance Foundation Benefit was all about raising the roof with rousing entertainment and raising records for attendance and donations.

A group called Under the Streetlamp, made up of former “Jersey Boys” leads, delighted the audience with hit tunes from the Four Seasons and other music legends. Meanwhile, the sold-out event attracted a record 815 guests and brought in more than $350,000 for charity care to benefit area families.

In addition to the entertainment, the evening included presentation of the Castle Award to the families of John and Linda Anderson and John Graff and Judy Anderson Graff.

The annual Rosecrance Foundation Benefit is the primary source of fundraising to support The Kinley Charity Care Fund, which helps families in need of financial assistance for treatment. Through the years, thousands of families have benefited from more than $4.5 million in assistance.

“I am overwhelmed by the number of new and returning guests who supported the Benefit this year,” said Lynne Vass, Rosecrance’s Sr. VP of Development.
The 2011 Castle Award was presented to two families whose vision and philanthropy helped to create a Healing Garden at the adolescent treatment center, which opened in 2004.

The families of John and Linda Anderson and John Graff and Judy Anderson Graff received the award. Presenting the award were Rosecrance President/CEO Philip W. Eaton and Jean Castle, wife of the late Millard Castle and daughter-in-law of the late Clarence Castle, longtime Rosecrance board members for whom the award is named.

Eaton said the Healing Garden has become a central element in the treatment program. It would not have been possible without the Andersons’ leadership and the support of many donors.

“Because of these families — and others in this room who generously supported this project — teens in treatment for addiction at Rosecrance are reminded every day that God is near and peace of the soul is possible,” Eaton said.

Alumni Peter P.’s Story of Hope

Rosecrance alumni Peter P. brought the audience to its feet for an ovation after telling his “Story of Hope.” Peter recounted how drug addiction affected his high school and college years and how he spiraled downward to the point that he was sleeping in his car.

With the support of his family, he reached out to Rosecrance for help. Peter spoke of the importance of working the 12 Step program and being mindful of his recovery every day.

Giving options that may work for you

The IRA Charitable Rollover, a part of the Tax Relief Act of 2010, continues to benefit individuals who are 70 ½ and are required to take withdrawals from an IRA or other qualified retirement account.

If you qualify, you may exclude from your taxable income any IRA funds up to $100,000 that are directly transferred to a charity. This provision is extended through Dec. 31, 2011, and gives you an opportunity to make charitable gifts using all or a portion of your mandatory withdrawal. Giving through your IRA in this way may have little or no tax impact for you when you file your return.

Another viable option to consider this year is giving non-cash assets such as gifts of appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds that you have owned for more than one year. Gifts of these appreciated assets can eliminate tax on up to 30% of your AGI, and you do not have to pay capital gains tax when you gift these assets to charity. If you would like more information, please contact your advisor, or call Lynne Vass at The Rosecrance Foundation, 815.387.5602.
People we can’t do without
2011 Rosecrance Foundation Benefactors

$15,000 and above
Kelley Williamson Company
Aqua-Aerobic Systems/Bob and Ingrid Wimmer

$10,000 — $14,999
Dave and Cherry Beto
Ms. Wally Beville
ExxonMobil Fuels Marketing
John and Kim Griffin
SwedishAmerican Health System

$5,000 — $9,999
Anonymous
George E. and Carol Bates
Butitta Bros. Automotive/Howe Freightsworks
Jean A. Castle
Joe and Sharyn Castrogiovanni
Mary A. Castrogiovanni and Joe and Sue Castrogiovanni
Coye-Varland Insurance
CWB Foundation
The Charles DiBenedetto Family
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Franchini
Furst Companies/Darlene and Tom Furst
Harris Bank
Larson & Darby, Inc.
Meirtran, Inc.
John and Robbie Mink
Morrison Management Specialists
OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center
Dan and Kristin Pecora
Popovits & Robinson, PC
Robert and Patty Rhea
RK Dixon
Rockford Health System
Rockford Career College
Ryder Family Foundation
Sjostrom & Sons Inc. Foundation
Joan Stonecipher
WilliamsMcCarthy LLP

$2,500 — $4,999
Randy and Mary Alex
Aramark Uniform Services
Lon and Dick Behr
Benefit Planning Services, Inc.
Jeffrey and Ashley Beto
Philip and cheri Eaton
Focus Financial Advisors Inc.
HayesBeer/MillerCoors
Dana and Brenda Kiley
Michael and Kathryn J. LaMonica, Jr.
Lou Bachrodt Chevrolet - BMW - Volkswagen - Buick - GMC
Nexxus Office Systems, Inc.
Kate O’Malley
Pepsi Cola of Rockford
Doug and Mary Perks
John and Mary Sanders
Lynne Denham Vass
Williams Manny, Inc.

$1,500 — $2,499
Anonymous
Mary Ann and Mike Abate
Ack Ack Nursery Co.
Warren and Barb Adam
Alpine Bank
Tom and Johanna Backer
Rick and Cheryl Bischoff
Charlie and Ann Bown
Drs. Jeffrey and Leann Burch
Paul and Cheryl Callihan
Chambers & Owen, Inc.
Clifton Gunderson LLP
Commercial Carpet Co.
John R. Cook Associates
David and Cathy Cyrs
Drs. Jay and Carol DuBois
Judy Emerson
Judith K. Jobe Ewers and Steven Ewers
Forest City Gear
Raymond C. Garcia, M.D.
Tom and Lisa Gillis
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Hagney Architects, LLC
Portia M. Hanebuth
Brian and Kari Helm
Dr. Kent and Marilyn Hess
Holmstrom & Kennedy, P.C.
Hoover Horticulture
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Howard
Dr. Shahina Jafry, M.D./Dr. Masood Athar, M.D.
JP Morgan Chase Bank
Mark and Nancy Kalchbrenner
Art and Fran Kneller
Randy and Carol Krup
Michael Kuna, M.D.
Mark and Lisa Lindman & Family
Rod and Anne Link
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Lowrie
Kent and Marti Mallquist
Dr. and Mrs. Arturo Manas

Dave Mark
RSM McGladrey
Gloria McFadden
Randy and Claire McIntyre
Mid-City Office Products
Dr. and Mrs. Kamal Modir
Netsmart Technologies
Nobel and Sara Olson
Northern Illinois Optical Co.
Connie and Jerry Paris
Bruce Parks and Emily Hathaway
June and Michael Parks
Charles and Gloria Pernacciaro
Pierce Box & Paper Corporation
Powmet Inc.
Riverside Community Bank
Rockford Bank & Trust
Rockford IT
Rockford Spring Company
Dr. Angela M. Rodriguez
Tom and Karen Shifo
Bill and Julie Snively
Drs. Madhav and Uma Srivastava
Dennis and Darcy Staaland
Stenstrom Companies
Try-Beta Club
Phil and Paula Turner
University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford
George and Janis Waddell
Jeff and Denise Welch
Tom Wright and Dave Wilcox
Carma and Amos Yoder
The latest

Cooking Up Hope fundraiser set for Oct. 2

Mark your calendar for Oct. 2, the date of the second “Cooking Up Hope” chef’s tasting hosted by The Rosecrance Foundation Chicago Board at Naperville Country Club. Last year, 12 chefs from popular suburban restaurants delighted a crowd of more than 200 Rosecrance friends by preparing their signature dishes on the spot. This year’s event will feature return appearances by some chefs and some surprises. The event raises money for the Kinley Charity Care Fund to serve suburban Chicago youth whose families need financial assistance for treatment costs. Sponsorships are available for the event. For more information, contact Lynne Vass, Sr. VP of Development, at 815.387.5602 or lvass@rosecrance.org.

Dr. Wright recognized for excellence in psychiatry

Dr. Thomas E. Wright, Rosecrance’s Chief Medical Officer, received the 2011 Faculty Recognition Award from the University of Illinois College of Medicine to recognize his excellence in the field of psychiatry education. Dr. Wright is certified as a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and in addiction medicine by the American Society of Addiction Medicine. In addition to University of Illinois, Dr. Wright has served on the faculty of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago. He specializes in working with adolescents who have a co-existing or secondary diagnosis in addition to an addiction disorder.

Rosecrance a Rockford PRO/AM beneficiary

The Rockford PRO/AM committee selected Rosecrance and three other organizations to receive proceeds from the 2011 event, set for July 11 at Forest Hills Country Club. The gift to Rosecrance will support a 14-bed expansion at the Harrison Adult Campus to serve patients with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders. The new program offers priority admission to veterans suffering from addiction and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Dr. Jason Gorham, M.S.
Administrator of Residential Services, Rosecrance Griffin Williamson Campus

Jason Gorham has been promoted to the position of Administrator of Residential Services at the Rosecrance Griffin Williamson Adolescent Campus. The 21-year employee of Rosecrance moved up from the post of Assistant Administrator to which he was appointed in February. In his new position, Gorham will oversee operations at the 84-bed adolescent campus, which is a licensed treatment facility in Rockford for youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

Jada Miller, M.S.A.T.
Art therapist, Rosecrance Harrison Campus

Jada Miller is the first art therapist hired in the experiential therapies department at Rosecrance Harrison Campus. Miller joined Rosecrance in May 2010 in the detoxification program at RHC before transferring in February 2011 to her new position. She earned her Master’s degree in art therapy from Mount Mary College and her Bachelor’s degree in art education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She previously interned at Rosecrance.
Upcoming events

**Cooking Up Hope:**
*Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, at noon*

Naperville Country Club,
25W570 Chicago Avenue,
Naperville, IL

**Tickets:** $125 per person

*For more information, call 815.387.5608 or email dyoungberg@rosecrance.org*

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**Understanding Adolescent Addiction:**
*Monday, July 11, 2011, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

Rosecrance Griffin Williamson Campus,
1601 University Drive, Rockford, IL

**Free registration,** up to 7 CEUs and CPDUs offered

*For more information, call 815.387.5615 email swalters@rosecrance.org*

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**Ethical Practice in Behavioral Health:**
*Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011, 2 to 5 p.m.*

Mildred Berry Center,
8616 Northern Avenue, Rockford, IL

**Registration:** $25 and includes three CEUs for social workers, counselors, LMFTs, and IAODAPCA. Three CPDUs for teachers.

*For more information, call 815.720.5097 or email mglee@janetwattles.org*

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*Reach* is published by the Rosecrance Health Network three times per year to inform friends of Rosecrance about events, programs and services of interest. Rosecrance, a not-for-profit organization, has been serving families since 1916.

Rosecrance and Janet Wattles Center are licensed and partially funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services. They are accredited by The Joint Commission, certified Medicaid providers and approved by most insurance companies.

*For more information: call 815.391.1000 or 888.9 AT LAST / email: info@rosecrance.org*