



Matthew & Crystal
Ellerbrock and their
Family

Keeping Our Promise

BVHS Mission, Vision & Values

OUR MISSION

Caring for a lifetime.

OUR VISION

Extraordinary people.
Exceptional care.

OUR VALUES

Compassion, Collaboration,
Innovation, Integrity,
Skill & Humor

Campaign Co-Chairs

Bluffton has been home to us for more than 10 years. While geography initially brought us here, the community has kept us from ever calling any other place home.

Bluffton is an anomaly: a thriving rural community with a vibrant downtown, active Chamber of Commerce and a growing population. The people of Bluffton hold true to their roots putting strong faith, education and families first.

Bluffton Hospital echoes those same characteristics. When faced with today's challenges, the organization defies the standard expectations and evolves. While holding true to their mission, they are growing to meet the demands of a new healthcare environment.

We are proud to work hand-in-hand with our health care partners to develop Bluffton Hospital into a leader of women's care. This project will not only benefit patients but will also benefit our community from an economic development standpoint. The Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital will be a destination location that will welcome patients from across Ohio. This could mean a positive impact on local commerce such as hotels, restaurants and small business owners.

We are elated to be part of the team that will work to shape the future of health care in our community. At this time, we strongly encourage our friends and neighbors to show support for this initiative. This type of investment into our community will benefit families for generations to come...

Matt and Crystal Elle

Pictured with their family on cover

"When faced with today's challenges the organization defies the standard expectations and evolves."

**- Matthew and Crystal Ellerbrock,
Campaign Co-Chairs**

Campaign Cabinet

Crystal Ellerbrock (Co-Chair)

Dr. Matthew Ellerbrock (Co-Chair)

Mandy Gerken-Snyder

Vanessa Greer

Jenn Reese

Steve Ritter

Fred Rodabaugh

Dr. Robert Schutz

Dima Snyder

Jeffrey Stratton

Dr. Lorie Thomas

About Bluffton Hospital



Established in 1908, the Bluffton Hospital has been a vital institution in the community for more than 100 years. Started in the home of Dr. Sutter, Bluffton Hospital became part of the now Blanchard Valley Health System in 1995.

A promise was made to always provide quality health care to the area through Bluffton Hospital.

Bluffton Hospital continues to offer greater technological resources to their patients than many small hospitals, but still provides the comfort and convenience of a “hometown” facility.





Why Now?

Already encompassing a welcoming environment, Bluffton Hospital is poised to become a center of excellence that features measurably elite diagnosis and treatment of women's health issues. The Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital will be a featured service line while Bluffton Hospital maintains the array of services that have been previously offered to our patients. We need to work together to secure and ensure local, superior health care for generations to come.

BVHS has made significant investments into expanding services in Bluffton – most recently for the emergency room, surgical services and a clinic setting. And now, we are planning for the future with even more expanded services including robotics. By providing robotic surgery options to Bluffton, our 25 patient bed hospital can be more fully utilized. Facility changes are needed to accommodate the new equipment. This renovation provides an opportunity to enhance current services for long-term viability and remain competitive with other hospitals.

State of Rural Health

- 35% of rural hospitals are operating at a loss
- 58 rural hospitals have closed since 2010
- 14% of total employment in rural areas is attributed to the health sector
- Health care often represents up to 20% of a rural community's employment and income

source iVantage and NRHA

Facts about Bluffton Hospital

- Designated a Critical Access Hospital
- 25-bed inpatient facility with an average daily census of 1.6 patients
- 200+ associates

Recent Improvements/Expansions:

- New emergency room with 24/7 physician coverage
- Renovated operating room
- Medical clinical space

Goals for the Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital:

- Continue and expand quality patient care to the community
- Reduce operating costs
- Reduce total cost for services
- Revitalize by focusing on maximizing assets

Improvements Include

- Renovation of central processing department (CPD) to accommodate robotic and medical equipment for expanded gynecological and general surgeries
- Relocation of diagnostic testing services to provide a centralized, efficient location for patients
- Expanded services in a Pelvic Pain Center providing care for women and men
- Expanded waiting areas for surgery for patient and family comfort
- Equipment for patient and infant security
- Cafeteria improvements for Bluffton Hospital visitors
- Additional parking
- Renovation for new medical spa including the following features:
 - Treatment of skin issues by a licensed aesthetician
 - Botox injections
 - Therapeutic massage
 - Cosmetic surgery
- Partnerships with providers for the following services:
 - Wellness services
 - Dieticians
 - Weight loss experts



By the Numbers: Construction Costs:

- **\$3 million** – Movement of radiology to the current shelled space, creating a centralized diagnostic area for patient convenience. Central processing department (CPD) expansion into vacated radiology space. CPD expansion allows for a new robotic surgery program in Bluffton
- **\$1 million** – Medical spa, OB security and comfort technology, renovated surgery waiting areas and cafeteria renovations
- **\$.5 million** – Parking improvements for expanded offerings and increased visitors
- Programmatic and staffing improvement investments ongoing by BVHS

Although construction is planned to begin in early 2016, there will be several phases which may result in new services for patients prior to the official opening. We envision welcoming the first patients to the completed Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital in the fall of 2017.

Bluffton's Newest Physicians

Lorie Thomas, DO

I am thrilled to be a part of this landmark opportunity for the Bluffton community! As a physician, I have been involved in the development of Blanchard Valley's "Center of Excellence" in both minimally invasive gynecological surgery and robotics surgery – a place where patients can go to receive high quality, high value surgical care. I am equally excited to bring these exceptional health care offerings to Bluffton as a cornerstone of the Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital. Our ultimate goal is to treat each woman, based on her unique needs, and empower her to make knowledgeable health care decisions.

It will be my privilege to serve the Bluffton community and to see this extraordinary vision come to life! I hope you will join me in supporting the development of the Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital.

Specialty
Gynecology

Education
The University of Toledo
College of Medicine -
1986

**Board
Certifications**
American Osteopathic
Board of Obstetrics &
Gynecology



Specialties
Obstetrics &
Gynecology

Education
The University of
Toledo College of
Medicine - 1986

**Board
Certifications**
American Board
of Obstetrics &
Gynecology

Robert Schutz, MD

"Bluffton's best kept secret. A hidden gem. A home away from home." These are but a few of the accolades used to describe the labor and delivery unit at Bluffton Hospital. With the collaborative effort of both traditional obstetricians and certified nurse midwives we aim to provide patient centered care focused on excellent delivery outcomes and memorable birthing experiences. For more than a decade I have had both the privilege and the pleasure to work at this truly remarkable facility.

Therefore, I am elated to be a part of the development of the Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital. This destination location for women will offer new services such as gynecological surgery including robotics, a pelvic pain center, cosmetic surgery and a medical spa.

As a provider with nearly 30 years of obstetric and gynecologic experience I, along with many of my very skilled colleagues, wish to extend the Bluffton experience to the surrounding community and welcome you to our family.

...and did I mention the milkshakes?

Message from Leadership

In 1995 a promise was made to the Bluffton community. Blanchard Valley Health System vowed to always provide quality health care to the region through the doors of Bluffton Hospital. We have honored that commitment through significant investments for expanded services and enhanced facilities including the completion of a \$2.85 million renovation and expansion in 2001 and a \$12 million ER, OR and clinic expansion that opened in 2011. In both cases individuals, businesses and organizations stepped up to support the plans through their generous contributions.

Once again, the leadership and board of BVHS have carefully assessed the current status and potential of Bluffton Hospital and researched opportunities that would best serve the health, culture and economy of the community. The Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital is an important strategic initiative that will mark 2016 as another key moment in the hospital's 108 year history.

Our vision is further revitalization of Bluffton Hospital through the development of a center of excellence that features measurably elite diagnosis and treatment of women's health issues while maintaining the strength of current services. Please join us in supporting this project as part of our promise and your legacy. Let's plan for our future together!



According to the National Rural Health Association, "Rural hospitals and the rural economy rise and fall together." As a critical access hospital, Bluffton provides crucial 24 hours per day, 7 day per week emergency care to the community. It also has a reputation for quality obstetrics and personalized attention fostering a strong position to expand its offerings to benefit the entire surrounding area.

The right opportunities, strategies and providers are falling into place at the right time to develop Bluffton Hospital into an innovative leader in the delivery of women's health care. Renovation will include additional space to support the central processing department required to sterilize robotic equipment. Respected and experienced physicians are committed to providing high quality obstetric and gynecologic care and world-class robotic surgery in Bluffton. Safety equipment and improvements for patient comfort will enrich the maternity department. A medical spa and pelvic clinic are being developed along with roomier waiting areas and additional parking all of which will enhance the patient experience.

By becoming a destination location for women's health, The Women's Center of Bluffton Hospital will be welcoming patients from across our region and beyond. We look forward to partnering with you on this, the next phase of quality health care in Bluffton.



Scott Maloney

Chris Keller

Blanchard Valley Health System Board Members

Duane Jebbett, *Chair*

Paul Worstell, *Vice-Chair*

Karen Klassen Harder, *Secretary*

Garry Peiffer, *Treasurer*

Scott Malaney, *President*

Cheryl Buckland

Karen Cline

Dr. Frank A. Cosiano

Maile Doyle

David Eubanks

Mark Gazarek

Ginger Jones

Andrea Koepke

Joseph Longo

Randall Myers

Rodney Nichols

Dr. Richard Polder, *Ex-officio*

William Reist

Dr. LeRoy Schroeder

Dr. Robert Schutz

Kimberly Stumpp

BVHS Emeritus

Donald Badertscher

James Brucklacher

Richard McCord

G. Norman Nicholson

Alberta Pritchard

J. Alec Reinhardt

James Shrader

James Woodward

Blanchard Valley Health Foundation Board Members

Dr. Richard Polder, *Chair*

John Reineke, *Vice-Chair*

Roger Miller, *Secretary*

Marcia Armes, *Treasurer*

David Kuenzli, *Member-at-Large*

Dennis Bishop

Dr. Frank Cosiano, *Emeritus*

Linda DeArment, *Ex-officio*

Beverly Fisher

Jane Heminger

Sarah Hughes

Diana Kirk

Scott Malaney, *Ex-officio*

Barbara Plaughner

John Quaid

Fred Rodabaugh

James Shrader

Dr. Emil Ziegler



Your Support

Gifts to the project will provide the financial resources to construct the new and enhanced spaces within Bluffton Hospital. The campaign offers donors lasting opportunities to be part of a new era of excellence at BVHS and Bluffton Hospital for the benefit of future generations of men, women, children, and their families.

Blanchard Valley Health System and Blanchard Valley Health Foundation are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations, under Internal Revenue Service regulations. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Please consult your personal tax professional to determine how a gift may benefit your philanthropic plans.

Contact the Blanchard Valley Health Foundation for questions or confidential assistance with your support.

General Line: 419.423.5457

Linda DeArment: 419.423.5590

ldearment@bvhealthsystem.org

1908



1937



2012



Four Generations of Care at Bluffton Hospital

When it came time to deliver our children we did not consider having them anywhere but Bluffton Hospital.

Many years ago, one of my great-great grandfathers helped start the hospital on the very ground where the public library now stands. Grandparents and parents have worked at the facility, parents, aunts and uncles and siblings were born there...but none of these were the reasons we chose Bluffton Hospital as the destination for having our children. Our first child was born at Bluffton Hospital because of proximity and our second and third children were born there because nothing else compared. A few of our friends had children in other local hospitals, but it became abundantly clear what a wonderful facility we had in our own backyard.

Our family chose Bluffton Hospital because it excels in personalized service! We loved the large, private suites, the welcoming environment and, best of all, the delicious milkshakes from the night shift nurses. Although those things were important, it was the staff that made the hospital shine.

When our babies weren't with us in our room, we knew the nurses were keeping them safe and giving them love. If we woke up in the middle of the night and walked down the hall, more often than not, we would see a nurse holding and talking to our baby. During our first pregnancy, my wife, Leisa, had to have an unplanned C-section, the doctors and nurses explained everything in great detail, held our hands, wiped her tears, and provided constant reassurance.

We feel eternally blessed to have had our children at Bluffton Hospital and know that there is not any other place for us. My family and I support the development of the Women's Center so that other families may also have this type of caring, one-of-a-kind experience on such a joyous occasion.



Jeff and Leisa, Jeff's parents
Steve and Susie, with Jeff's
grandmother Elnora



