

For Immediate Release

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New Respite Lounge for Staff at PLHS Made Possible by Donations

WATERTOWN, S.D. – March 16, 2021 – Prairie Lakes Healthcare System is excited to announce the opening of its first Staff Respite Lounge, an extension of programs Prairie Lakes has implemented for staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. This lounge was made possible by a \$4,000 donation from the Watertown Rotary Club and a \$3,000 donation and interior design services from Montgomery's Furniture.

Respite rooms are one way to help caregivers take care of themselves, providing a respite or chance to relax from the stress and trauma they may face throughout their shift. The need for a room such as this has never been greater, as healthcare workers face long hours, stress and worry as they face. Prairie Lakes Healthcare System CEO and President K.C. DeBoer said, "This past year has been very demanding on all of the staff at Prairie Lakes as they have worked to take care of the patients and communities we serve throughout the pandemic. We are very appreciative of Watertown Rotary and Montgomery's Furniture and their generous gifts to make the Staff Respite Lounge a reality."

In addition to creating the Staff Respite Lounge, Prairie Lakes Healthcare System has implemented wellness resources and tools to help their healthcare providers during this unprecedented time. Prairie Lakes provides information regarding stress management and healthy lifestyle habits, counseling and chaplain services, access to virtual fitness classes and other offerings aimed at ensuring healthcare workers have the support when they need it most.

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Enclosed: Photos of the Respite Lounge