



Photo by Jonathan Hillenbrand/ENH

Caring Within Our Communities

To care for the members in its communities, ENH must have a clear understanding of their health needs and concerns.

Phyllis Weiland arrived at 3 a.m. to Evanston Hospital's Emergency Department in February 2008 after what she describes as "30 hours of screaming pain." Doctors responded with medication and a battery of tests over the next six hours. They kept her at Evanston Hospital for three and one half days to be certain that emergency surgery could be avoided.

to get well again. Now I have the energy of a 35 year old."

ENH solved Weiland's nonhealth-related problem as well. She cannot afford health insurance and only earned \$8,700 in 2007 as an independent child care worker, which is substantially below the federal poverty level of income at \$10,400.¹ The ENH Financial Aid Office paid for 100

whose incomes are at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level—a level that is twice the national benchmark. Patients whose income is above 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, or are uninsured, may qualify for discounts ranging from 10 percent to 85 percent.

During the past year, ENH has broadened its community benefits efforts to include an even wider variety of wellness and health education programs. At the same time, ENH has maintained its position as a leading institution for cutting-edge research and medical education.



After care and surgery through ENH, child care worker Phyllis Weiland, 63 (center), now claims she has the energy of a 35 year old.

Teaching the Doctors of Tomorrow

"ENH offers the perfect blend of the community hospital environment with academic strength in its research and education programs," said Andy Anderson, M.D., Program Director and Vice Chair of the Department of Medicine at ENH and a Senior Attending Physician at ENH. "We capture the best of both worlds."

Translating Research Into Better Care

The ENH Research Institute is ranked No. 1 in Illinois and ninth nationally among multi-specialty independent research hospitals in funding from the National Institutes of Health. The research performed in ENH's three Hospitals and laboratories results in better care for patients now and in the future.

During the past year, ENH has broadened its efforts to provide care to needy and uninsured individuals in its communities. All told, ENH contributed more than \$150 million of community benefits, including \$12.4 million in charity care, \$16.5 toward education and \$5.2 million in research. ■

ENH Surgeon, Glen Balch, M.D., found the 63-year-old grandmother had a 4.8-centimeter gallstone that had inflamed and infected her gallbladder. Due to her severe inflammation, Dr. Balch waited for a few months to perform the surgery, while Weiland ate a low fat and low cholesterol diet to calm the inflammation.

On April 25, 2008, Dr. Balch successfully removed Weiland's gallstone at Glenbrook Hospital. "The doctors and nurses at ENH absolutely took the best care of me," she said. "They didn't do anything until they knew my condition. I knew that above all else, they wanted me

percent of Weiland's two hospitalizations and surgery at a cost of \$32,449.

"Without this help, I would have been in debt for the rest of my life," Weiland said. "ENH has given me back my health at no risk to my financial well-being. I don't even have the right words to express how grateful I am."

Providing Care for All Patients

Regardless of their financial circumstances, ENH reaches out to patients in need. It's part of the ENH commitment to being involved in its communities. ENH provides free care to qualifying patients

¹ Source: Federal Registry, (74, FR 3971-3972) Jan. 23, 2008.