LifeCare's Birthing Center offers coaching, support

The concept of a hospital maternity ward has changed a lot over the past 100 years.

From humble beginnings at Roseau's Budd Hospital in 1915 to modern day state-of-theart private suites within LifeCare's Birthing Center, the transformation is profound.

Today, LifeCare labor and delivery nurses, along with a team of OB physicians, offer expecting mothers a calming, therapeutic

Here, patients experience labor, delivery, recovery, and postpartum care without switching rooms. A labor and delivery nurse is also with the patient from the time she is admitted through delivery.

"Our philosophy is to offer moms a patientcentered birthing experience," says Roxann Kjos, RN, LifeCare's Director of Nursing, Acute Care. "Our labor and delivery nurses are at bedside coaching, monitoring, and supporting throughout the entire experience."

Additional Care

LifeCare Medical Center in Roseau is currently the only facility within a 70-mile radius to provide maternal care for prenatal and labor delivery. As a result, patients include those from the Northwest Angle. Baudette, and the Lancaster area.

"Roseau County is surrounded by what I call 'maternity care deserts.' Some mothers and families may drive up to two hours to receive care," says Jessica Simmons, MD, of



delivery at LifeCare Medical Center.

LifeCare's Selena Barker, RN (left) and Corinn Shaw, RN, demonstrate a technique used to position the baby and help with pain control before childbirth.

LifeCare's medical staff.

As an investment in the region, LifeCare recently sent nine of its OB nurses to an allday Spinning Babies® workshop.

Spinning Babies® is a physiological approach to childbirth that includes a set of maneuvers and positions for moms to use.

These actions can help with pain control and assist in properly positioning the baby in an effort to provide greater ease in delivery.

The one-on-one nurse guides the birthing mom throughout labor using special maneuvers to ease pain and provide comfort.

"Our goal is to help the mother feel comfortable, honor her wishes in her labor, and ultimately have a smooth transition into parenthood," says Alicia Huston, RN.

LifeCare also offers prenatal classes for families, education from lactation educators, and newborn home visits after childbirth.

To learn more, call LifeCare at (218) 463-2500.

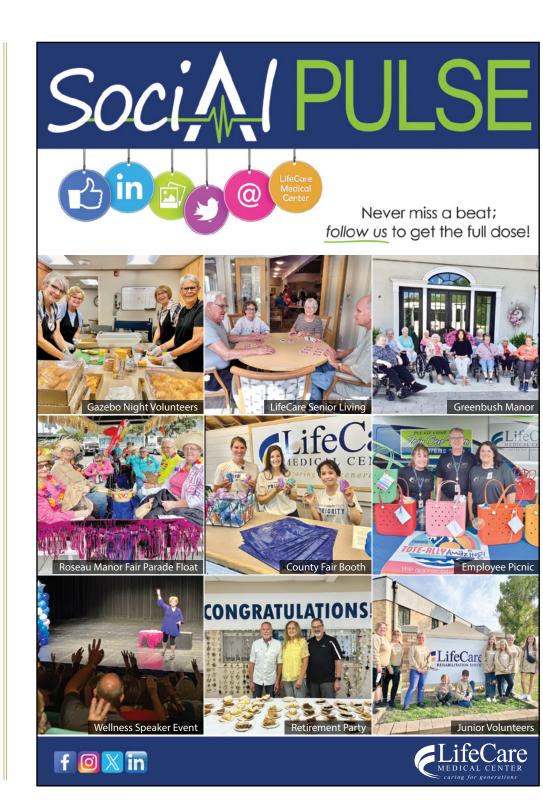




(Tuition Reimbursement + Student Loan Credit)

Contact: Brent Poole, People and Culture Business Partner

(218) 463-4768 or visit LifeCareMedicalCenter.org/Careers



CUST

healthmatters

Your regional healthcare publication courtesy of LifeCare Medical Center

Antibiotic resistance

scratch on the leg could lead to losing a limb, or a simple case of strep throat could lead to kidney failure. This is what life was like prior to the discovery and widespread use of antibiotics in the 1930s, and what it could be like in our future due to antibiotic resistance. Antibiotics have since revolutionized medicine, saving or improving the quality of life for countless individuals worldwide. Yet, ever since people began using antibiotics to kill bacteria, bacteria have developed methods to resist antibiotic effects.

Antibiotics are a common way to treat bacterial infections. The treatment works by killing bacteria or by preventing it from reproducing. Unfortunately, not every treatment works 100 percent of the time.

"When bacteria survive exposure to an antibiotic, they develop defenses against that type of treatment, passing this resistance to other bacteria when it multiplies," says David Simmons, Pharmacist at LifeCare Medical Center. "The resulting infection is often harder to treat and

is a classic case of survival of the fittest."

of such resistance strains can become impossible. This process is known as antibiotic resistance, and it is a growing concern in every area of health care. According to The Cen-

ters for Disease Control, an estimated 2 million people per year contract resistant infections, resulting in about 23,000 deaths annually.

Gordon Streiff

"As part of an ongoing commitment to raise awareness and provide prevention tips for health issues facing the community, LifeCare is here to provide the facts on antibiotic resistance," says Penny Black, Infection Preventionist at LifeCare Medical Center.

The CDC says any form of antibiotic use can contribute to the rise of antibiotic resistance.

"Our role, as healthcare providers, is to use our antibiotics judiciously and only when necessary," says Simmons.

Determining Appropriate Use

The coordinated effort to promote optimal of Health provides the following suggestions to lifecaremedicalcenter.org or call (218) 463-2500.

antibiotic usage is called Antimicrobial Stewardship. The CDC reports that up to 50% of antibiotic use in hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes is unnecessary or incorrectly prescribed.

To help combat this, LifeCare has created a multidisciplinary team of physician, nurses, Occasionally, treatment pharmacists, microbiologists, and infection preventionists to review the appropriate use of antibiotics for patients, residents, staff members,

> "Our practice for residents is aligned with the overall antibiotic stewardship mission," says Julie Pahlen, a member of the multidisciplinary team and LifeCare's Infection Preventionist at Roseau Manor and Greenbush Manor.

> The team also creates policies to optimize patient care by reducing unnecessary usage and minimizing over-prescribing of antibiotics.

> However, medical policy and practice is only one part of the solution.

> "We work very hard to promote responsible antibiotic stewardship through improved prescribing and treatment practices within our organization, but it's not a total solution. Safe antibiotic use is everyone's responsibility," says Gordy Streiff, Director of Pharmacy at LifeCare.

How To Help

So what can the average person do to help reduce the risk posed by antibiotic resistance in the community? The Minnesota Department help slow the problem of antibiotic resistance: • Wash your hands (20 seconds of vigorous

Antibiotics are used to treat bacterial infections. However, misuse or overuse can lead to

intibiotic resistance, a condition where bacteria develop defenses against the medication.

when sick to avoid spreading infection. Exercise proper food safety to help prevent

scrubbing), cover your cough, and stay home

- Never pressure a health care provider to prescribe antibiotics. Antibiotics don't work for viral infections like the common cold and influenza.
- · Ask your provider how to feel better without antibiotics. There may be treatment available without risking antibiotic resistance.
- · Take antibiotics exactly as prescribed. Do not skip doses or stop taking an antibiotic earlier than prescribed.
- Discard any leftover medication as directed. • Stay vaccinated to prevent illnesses treated

Following these guidelines can help keep the community safe from risks posed by antibiotic resistant infections. If you have questions or concerns, talk with your healthcare provider.

"Antibiotics are great, life-saving medications, but are not without risk. Antibiotic resistance is a major health concern, and it is all of our responsibility to reserve antibiotics for when they are appropriately needed," says Simmons.

To learn more about antibiotic resistance, visit:

Community celebrates with open house at the all-new LifeCare Warroad Wellness

Members of Warroad and surrounding communities showed up in droves June 14 to celebrate an open house at LifeCare War road Wellness.

The state-of-the-art facility, which began seeing patients in February, officially opened its doors in mid-May.

Located at 210 Main Avenue, the 13,000 sq. ft. structure houses LifeCare's local Rehabilitation Services and Behavioral Health offices as well as the 24-hour LifeCare Fitness Center.

Those attending the open house were treated to door prizes, giveaway items, refreshments, and free tours of the facility's the surrounding communities." brand new offices and treatment rooms where PT and OT professionals assist pa- is a community room and group fitness area ing our Behavioral Health Department tients and conduct pre-work screenings.

"Celebrating the opening of LifeCare groups and local organizations. Warroad Wellness comes after countless hours of research, layouts, and possibilities," Health at LifeCare Warroad Wellness are says Shannon Carlson, Chief Operating Of-self-referral, meaning no doctor's referral is ficer at LifeCare Medical Center. "We're so needed when making an appointment.



ellness is home to LifeCare's local Rehabilitation Services and Behavioral Health offices and the 24-hour LifeCare Fitness Center, complete with workout equipment and walking track.

excited for what this offers to Warroad and

Inside the LifeCare Fitness Center space available to reserve and rent by community for our communities and we are actively

Rehabilitation Services and Behavioral

recruiting another provider to enhance the services we offer."

"We are incredibly proud to provide these

important services," says LifeCare Presi-

dent/CEO Keith Okeson. "We are grow-

To learn more or to schedule an appointment, visit: lifecaremedicalcenter.org or call (218) 386-3155.



OUR MISSION: To provide care for a healthy life.

• Where employees choose to provide care. • Respect

• Where communities choose to be served. • Excellence

LifeCare is the region's healthcare center: • Where physicians choose to practice.

OUR VALUES: • Compassion • Accountability



ON THE COVER: Junior Volunteers bbels (right) share a smile with rofessional speaker Tami Evans ollowing her hilarious presentatior Laugh Your Glass Full" hosted by ifeCare in September.



www.lifecaremedicalcenter.org

Laughing **Our Glass** Full!

LifeCare's annual Wellness Speaker Event was held September 14 and featured our special guest Tami Evans and her hilarious presentation, aptly titled "Laugh Your Glass Full!"

Those who attended this fun night were treated to a master storyteller who taught us valuable lessons she learned

Our goal with this event was for people to come together not only to learn, but to LAUGH, as plenty of research out there supports the act of laughter as good for our health in more ways than one.

- Laughter relaxes the whole body. A good laugh releases physical tension and stress, leaving your muscles relaxed for up to 45 minutes after.
- Laughter boosts the immune system. Laughter decreases stress hormones and increases immune cells and infection-fighting antibodies, thus improving vour resistance to disease
- Laughter triggers endorphin release. Endorphins are your body's natural feel-good chemicals. Endorphins promote an overall sense of well-being and can even temporarily relieve pain
- Laughter protects the heart.
- Laughter increases blood flow, which can help protect against cardiovascular
- Laughter lightens anger's heavy load. Nothing diffuses anger and conflict faster than a shared laugh. Looking at the funny side can put problems into perspective and enable you to move on from confrontations without holding bitterness or resentment, which can be detrimental to your health.

While all of this information is great it might not mean much if you cannot find a lot of opportunities to laugh. If this is something you struggle with, here are some ways to begin to bring more laughter into your life:

Smiling is the beginning of laughter! It's contagious. If it's not something you do often, practice. Look at people when you pass by and smile at them. Hopefully, they will smile back. This is a good start to connecting with people.

Count your blessings.

Literally make a list. The simple act of considering positive aspects of your life will distance you from negative thoughts that block humor and laughter.

• Surround yourself with people who make you smile and laugh.

We all know people who we might describe as "bubbly" or someone who "lights up the room" when they walk into it. While smiling and laughter is contagious, so is negativity. When you can, find the people who make you feel happy rather than down. Your chances of engaging in laughter is much higher with this group!

Laughter is just one piece of the puzzle as we work to increase our overall wellbeing. What a fun way to get healthier! If you can incorporate it regularly into your life, it has the potential to take you to a place where you can view the world from a more relaxed, positive, and joyful perspective.

Source: HelpGuide.org

To learn more about this topic, call Dawn Hedlund, RDN, LD, at (218) 463-4773.

Overseeing daily life at LifeCare

— LIFECARE'S NEWEST DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS —

LifeCare's department directors Allyson Eidsmoe (Director of Se- who joined LifeCare as Digital Mar- are valuable assets when it comes to oversee the daily operations within the nior Living) is a Roseau native who keting Specialist in 2017. As director, protecting and improving the health organization. Together and separately, joined LifeCare's business office in she brings a wealth of knowledge and and well-being of individuals and the these directors work with their teams 2000, focusing first on insurance billto assess internal activities, make recing and later transferred to an acommendations for improvement, and report directly to the LifeCare execu- later. In 2016, she accepted the Directive team. A recent restructuring, due tor of Hospitality and Materials Manto retirements and organizational structure changes, resulted in some Service, Environmental Services, new leaders at the director level. A warm welcome to these new directors!

Kayla Barnum (Director of Nursing; Roseau Manor) is a Greenbush native who returned to the area after more than a decade exploring different areas of nursing outside the region. She began her career and discovered her love of nursing as a long term care nursing assistant. As an RN, she spent five years in acute care before stepping back into long term care, first as a



charge nurse, followed by a managerial role in long term care. "Caring for our geriatric population is what sparked my love of nursing and, as

Infection Preven-

tion and Employ-

ee Health, where

she continued her

love of caring for

patients and em-

ployees. "As de-

project. When

it is finished in

early 2026, this

tate-of-the-art

senior care facil-

ity will be well

positioned for

director, I look forward to continuing my career while giving back to the residents of LifeCare Roseau Manor," Barnum says.

Jodi Beito (Director of Quality & Risk Management) joined LifeCare as an RN in 2005. A dedicated provider of patient care, she spent 13 years in LifeCare's ER, obstetrics, medical surgical floor, and Infusion Therapy. In 2018, she accepted a position in



partment director, I look forward to ensuring quality healthcare continues to be administered to all patients," says Beito.

sion and renovation project.

Shannon Carlson

Medical Center.

renovation have begun."

accommodations.

years to come, says Shannon Carlson,

Chief Operating Officer at LifeCare

"We've been planning this proj-

ect for three years, but it was delayed

due to the pandemic," Carlson says.

"We're excited to see construction and

When finished, the facility will of-

fer several new services and upgraded

counting assistant position a few years agement position, overseeing Food

Laundry, and Purchasing departments in Roseau In 2022 she accepted the Director of Senior Living position when

LifeCare assumed ownership of Oak Crest Senior Housing. "I have truly enjoyed making connections with all my residents and their families. This opportunity has been just what my soul needed. I can't say enough for all the amazing staff and residents who have welcomed me in. I am truly blessed to be a part of this family."

Shelah Gust (Assistant Administrator Long-Term Care and Direc-



& Hospice) has been a LifeCare employee since 2004. Beginning as a nursing assistant at Greenbush Manor, she

transferred to Roseau Manor in 2006 after becoming an RN. In 2014, she was named Roseau Manor Nurse Manager and accepted the role of Director of Roseau Manor in 2015. She recently accepted the combined role of Assistant Administrator/Director. "With my experience in long term care and leadership skills, I plan to continue leading my teams by providing quality resident-focused care and striving for the best care for our seniors," Gust says.

Allison Harder (Director of Community Relations) is a Badger native



experience to the role. She graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead in 2004, and has worked locally in marketing ever

since. "I'm excited to creatively use new avenues to reach and educate everyone within northwest Minnesota about the hospital services and health prevention opportunities LifeCare provides," says Harder.

Paula Hedlund (Director of Community Health) brings close to 30 years of Public Health experience to her new role. As director, she oversees Public Health, Behavioral Health and Community



County before returning to her hometown of Roseau with her family in 2006. Since joining LifeCare in 2009, she has held several roles including Public Health Nurse, Wellness Coordinator, and Behavioral Health Nurse. "I be-

about infection prevention. This created a sound lieve this knowledge and experience, base as she advanced into nursing. along with a passion for these areas, She earned her BSN in 1997 while

Kelly Hulst (Chief Nursing Of-

ficer) joined LifeCare as a Nursing

Aide in 1993. The Roseau native

graduated from Northland Commu-

nity and Technical College and later

including two department director-

ships for the past 21 years. As CNO,

she is excited to continue learning

with and leading her team. "It's im-

portant to know the culture and his-

tory of LifeCare and be passionate

about providing high quality care to

Roxann Kjos (Director of Nursing;

Acute Care) has been with LifeCare

our communities," says Hulst.

furthered her edu-

cation in health-

care management

at the Univer-

sity of Minnesota

Crookston. She

served in a variety

of LifeCare roles

for over 32 years.

She began her

healthcare career

in housekeeping

where she learned



ifeCare's Director of Rehabilitation Services, Amanda Kvien (right), says one of her goals is to continue growing services people can receive close to home.



ership and Administration in 2020 and served as a staff nurse, Public Health Nurse, teacher, and manager prior to becoming Director. Passionate about rural health care, she advocates for the nursing profession and encourages nurses to pursue their dreams. "Experience provides an understanding of the difficult situations nurses face daily. My goal is to use this knowledge to design and implement



pist there in 2006. Growing up in Roseau, she returned to raise her family and be an active member of

chronic swelling. She has served her department in a managerial role since 2014. "I enjoy serving the communities and have set a goal to continue growing services people can receive close to home," Kvien says.

pitality) grew up in Duluth, attended college at the University of Minnesota, and completed an internship through Concordia College in Moorhead before landing in Roseau. She joined for food service, she worked her way



from Dietitian to Manager to Director in 10 years. She enjoys using her organizational skills and continually learning from departments

like Food and Nutrition Services, Environmental Services, Laundry, and Volunteer Services. "The best thing about this job is being able to support the departments that are the building blocks of such an amazing organization," Severson says.

Shirlene Wensloff (Director of Revenue Cycle) is a 25-year employee of LifeCare Medical Center and has been the organization's internal billing expert for much of that time. Over the past 12 years, hers has grown into a supervisory role as well as an advisory one regarding the hospital's electronic health record system, known as EPIC. the community. She holds a doctorate Most recently, she led the Admitting in Physical Therapy from the Univer- and Health Information Managesity of North Dakota and continues ment departments along with the to further her education. She holds billing team. As the Director of Revcertification in wound care, ostomy enue Cycle, she will coordinate the management, and lymphedema for activities of these three departments



LifeCare's Services

make LifeCare Medical Center the provider of choice for our region. Below are just some of the services available at LifeCare. To learn more, call (218) 463-2500 and ask to speak to the department that interests you.

• Women's Health: Pelvic,

breast, and 3D obstetrical

• General and 3D ultrasound

Vascular & Echo ultrasound

management including

RFA - Radio Frequency

ultrasound, full field digital

Imaging

- Level IV trauma center
- 24-hour Emergency Department

Emergency Services

- Advanced and basic life support ambulance
- Emergency helicopter and fixed wing air transport, provided by outside agencies
- Acute Stroke Ready Telestroke

Convenience Care

After hours care for non-emergency patients: • Monday – Friday

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m • Saturday – Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Inpatient Medical Care All populations including pediatric

Birthing Center Certified lactation

counselors

 Spinning Babies[®] Epidural options

Sub-acute Inpatient Care • Sub-acute Medical

Respite

Surgery Obstetric

 Foot and ankle Gynecological

 Cataract General surgery, including:

- -Appendectomy -Breast Disease
- -Endoscopy/Colonoscopy
- -Gall Bladder
- -Hernia Repair
- -Trauma
- -Skin Cancer (lipomas, cysts, etc., involving skin and subcutaneous tissues)

Respiratory Care

- Sleep studies Pulmonary function testing
- Pulmonary rehab Home respiratory
- equipment **Outpatient Services**

Gastroscopy

- Colonoscopy
- Infusion Therapy including -IV antibiotics -Fluid replacement -Infusion chemotherapy
- Lactation home visits • Altru's Renal Dialysis

density screening • 128-slice CT scanner

Nuclear medicine

Digital fluoroscopy

Interventional pain

Ablation (lumbar,

cervical, and knee)

Aspiration and biopsy

• Digital X-Ray (Roseau &

Teleradiology

procedures

Greenbush)

Rehabilitation

and Greenbush

• Physical Therapy for

injury and post-operative

rehab, wound care, pelvic

floor dysfunction, and

neurological conditions

Occupational Therapy for

fine motor coordination,

equipment, and training

• 24/7 Community Wellness

Centers – Reimbursement

programs and employers

through insurance plans

stroke rehab, custom

splinting, mobility

Nutrition Counseling

• Athletic development

Laboratory

Blood transfusion

Clinical microbiology

PT/INR and coagulation

Rapid molecular testing

- Altru Health System

Chemistry and

Immunology

Hematology

and virology

• Reference Labs:

- Mayo Clinic

Senior Services

Urinalysis

studies

- **Behavioral Health** and 3D tomosynthesis mammography, bone
 - Services for ages 6 and up

• Stress testing studies

Cardiac Rehab

• Individual, couple and

• Cardiac Rehab phase II & III

- family therapy Assessments including
- ADHD
- Intellectual functioning - Cognitive/memory
- problems
- Learning disabilities
- Autism spectrum disorder
- -Court-ordered issues
- Medical issues
- Mental health medication
- management Specialty services
- Treatment for eating disorders

Home Care

In-home care to maximize an • Sites in Roseau, Warroad, independent lifestyle through

- Skilled Nursing Home Health Aides
- Social Worker • Rehabilitation Services
- Physical and Occupational Therapy LifeCare Public Health

Promotes and protects health through education prevention, and advocacy

- Services include: Infectious disease
- response & investigation • Disaster response
- Promoting healthy
- pregnancies and lifestyles
- Family and child wellness
- Immunizations and disease prevention
- Environmental Health
- And much more

End-of-life care to patients and families using a health-

care team approach **LifeCare Specialty Services**

General surgery

- GYN services including management and treatment for female
- issues such as menopause Pre-employment and DOT incontinence, infertility, chain of custody collection endometriosis and others
 - Podiatry services related to toe, foot & ankle disorders sports and non-sports injuries, diabetic foot

exams, arthritis, and more

LifeCare Scholarships

preparing for careers in healthcare. Each received a \$1,000 scholarship:

Raegen Maahs (Badger) Social Work, Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Hannah Bergsnev (Greenbush) Nursing, Northland Community & Technical College, East Grand Forks.

Jasmine Dirks (Roseau) Nursing, Northwest Technical College, Bemidji. Alexis Phommachan (Warroad) Nursing, North Dakota State University.

LifeCare scholarships are funded by sales at the LifeCare Neighborhood Nook Gift and Coffee Shop located at the hospital and staffed by volunteers. Winners are selected by a scholarship committee based on application criteria and content.

Medical Student Scholarships

LifeCare also awarded \$1,500 scholarships to two college students currently en- Optometrist. rolled in medical programs

ton both attend the University of North this past summer. Her CNA experience, Dakota. They began as LifeCare Junior she says, spurred her interest in healthcare Volunteers in 5th grade.

Johnson, who served as a CNA at Roseau Manor and more recently at Greenbush Manor, says her work in healthcare necessary to work toward her future as an call (218) 463-2500.



Hannah Bergsnev



Leverington served as a Physical Ther-Ginerva Johnson and Erin Levering- apy Intern at LifeCare Rehab in Warroad and her future as a Physical Therapist.

has helped to grow and develop the skills opportunities or being a LifeCare volunteer,

Major upgrade for Roseau Manor

LifeCare breaks ground on \$16.5 million expansion and renovation

\$16.5 million unit will offer eight private rooms for cess as well as dedicated activity space,

the beginning phase of a major expansecured dementia unit," says Carlson. quieter environment. "The need for dementia care in our The full upgrade, which encom-Construction crews officially broke area is critical and we'll now be able passes the entire facility, includes an allow more daylight into the building. ground on September 26 and will re- to offer this level of care at Roseau updated heating/cooling and air con-

ditioning (HVAC) system. mately 2.5 years Located at the far end of the man- The renovated manor will feature to complete the or's north wing, the dementia care a new main entrance with easier ac-



ABOVE: A rendering of the spacious accommodations in the memory care unit currently under construction at LifeCare Roseau Manor. RIGHT: More renderings of the new and improved Roseau Manor. Images: Foss Architecture

Roseau Manor, one of LifeCare's "One of the biggest changes to Ro-residents, a dedicated dining area, and a new chapel, and larger dedicated two nursing home facilities, is now in seau Manor will be the addition of a nurses station, all in a calming and space for resident exercises.

The facility also will feature new furniture and additional windows to The renovated Roseau Manor will offer residents a more homelike atmosphere with private rooms, several of them with showers.

Other amenities include advanced wi-fi technology, a robust nurse call system, completely new environmental controls, and more activity space for residents, family, and employees. Carlson describes the overall interior design as sleek, clean, modern, and

"We've taken great care in coordinating the construction in such a way as to minimize noise and disruptions," Carlson says. "The project will be constructed in multiple phases so no residents will need to relocate."

To learn more about residential living at LifeCare Roseau Manor, LifeCare Greenbush Manor, or LifeCare Senior Living, please call (218) 463-2500.









quality care for all," Kjos says. Amanda Kvien (Director of Rehabilitation Services) has worked for LifeCare for 21 years. She joined in 2002 as a certified nurses aide and be-

policies that continue to provide safe.



Jessica Severson (Director of Hos-



the scenes to enhance the patient experience at LifeCare. "I'm excited to be part of the department director team and





and work behind

helping our patients so that they can concentrate on their health and wellbeing," says Wensloff.

LifeCare Greenbush Manor

Greenbush Assisted Living

LifeCare Roseau Manor

LifeCare Senior Living







For more information about scholarship