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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Gift from Masonic Lodges and Foundation Funds AED Defibrillator for Three Pillars**

*Collaboration and matching grant brings new lifesaving equipment to Hickory Suites Rehabilitation*

**Dousman, WI, March 5, 2018** – Local Masonic Lodges Waukesha #37 and Dousman #315 have partnered with the Wisconsin Masonic Medical Foundation to fund a valuable automatic external defibrillator for Hickory Suites Rehabilitation at Three Pillars in Dousman.

When Three Pillars recently recognized the need for furnishing their rehabilitation unit with an additional AED, a particular piece of equipment was identified. A proven critical tool in the prevention of sudden death, it may be used in the case of cardiac arrest or to stop an extremely rapid heartbeat and restore normal rhythm.



Pictured: Terry Brown, Dousman Lodge #315 member (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) presents a check to the team at Three Pillars: (left to right) Mark Strautman, President & CEO and Waukesha Lodge #37 member, Rob Saess, Hickory Suites Rehabilitation Nurse Manager, Courtney Lange, Director of Nursing Services, Marge Gozdowiak, Administrator of Health Services, and Jane Olisar, Chief Development Officer.

When Masons Terry Brown and Larry Nines learned of the need, they sprang into action. Both members of the Wisconsin Masonic Home Outreach and Development Committee, Brown is also a member of the Dousman Masonic Lodge #315. Nines, a member of the Waukesha Masonic Lodge #37, also sits on the Wisconsin Masonic Foundation Board and the Wisconsin Masonic Home Finance and Audit Committee.

“It’s a goal of Masonic Lodges around the state to build connections in their community and donate to worthy causes,” explains Brown. “When we recognized the need for an AED at Three Pillars, Larry and I immediately thought of the Wisconsin Masonic Medical Foundation’s matching grant program through the Grand Lodge F&AM of Wisconsin. The program matches 50% of funds raised by Masonic Lodges to purchase AED defibrillators.”

Originally intended to fund AEDs in school settings, the program has since expanded to cover a more diverse range of important medical devices and a variety of settings. Today, any Masonic Lodge may apply for the matching grant on behalf of any public or nonprofit entity in need.

Brown continues, “Our Dousman and Waukesha Lodges decided to go in together on raising the first 50% and apply for the grant. We were pleased to learn that the Foundation accepted our application, which will make the purchase of this new piece of equipment a reality.”

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Jane Olisar, Three Pillars' Chief Development Officer added, "We're so appreciative of the generosity shown by these groups. Once they knew of our need, there was no hesitation in working to fulfill it. A new AED is critically important in our mission of meeting the needs of those we serve, so we're very grateful."

For more information about Three Pillars, or to learn how to fund a gift that fulfills a need for older adults at the nonprofit senior living community, visit [www.threepillars.org](http://www.threepillars.org).

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*For more information about this story or Three Pillars Senior Living Communities, please contact Kelsey Pangborn, Communication Strategist at 262.965.7333 or [kpangborn@threepillars.org](mailto:kpangborn@threepillars.org).*

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