



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pokagon Band presents check to Beacon Health System

Proceeds from Four Winds Invitational will fund pediatric eye imaging equipment

[View images from today's check presentation here.](#)

SOUTH BEND, Indiana – August 20, 2019 – The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Four Winds® Casinos are pleased to announce a \$127,500 gift was presented to Beacon Health System today at a special ceremony in downtown South Bend. The ceremony took place in the Atrium of the Children's Hospital.

The donation represents proceeds from the 2019 Four Winds Invitational which took place June 7 – 9 at Blackthorn Golf Club in South Bend. This year's proceeds will underwrite the purchase of pediatric eye imaging equipment for Beacon Children's Hospital. The RetCam3® Pediatric Eye Imaging technology allows physicians to examine and evaluate the eyes of premature and full-term newborns for ocular diseases. Such images allow physicians to establish a baseline for future eye health. It also provides clear information that can be shared between physicians, ocular specialists and parents to make more informed decisions regarding the health of the child.

This is the eighth year of the partnership between The Pokagon Band, Four Winds Casinos and Blackthorn, with proceeds totaling \$672,500 for Beacon Health System.

"We are incredibly grateful for our long-standing friendship with the Pokagon Band, Four Winds Casinos and Blackthorn," said Larry Tracy, President of Beacon Children's Hospital. "In eight years, they have raised well over a half-million dollars to fund projects that directly help people when they need it most. We're a stronger community because of them."

"A guiding principle of the Pokagon Band is its commitment to the health and security of families and children," said Pokagon Chairman Matthew Wesaw. "This event is a time-honored tradition for our region—and one that aligns with our values through their willingness to support organizations like Beacon."

“Four Winds Casinos is proud to sponsor the Four Winds Invitational and support a great organization like Beacon,” said Frank Freedman, COO of Four Winds Casino. “Collectively, we all work hard to create an event that makes this tremendous impact on our region. We’ll continue to make it bigger and better each year—it’s going to be great for our community for many years to come.”

In years past, the Invitational has helped construct a multi-story building above the Memorial Leighton Trauma Center for the General Pediatrics Unit, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Newborn Intensive Care unit, and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic. The building, part of the hospital’s SHINE Campaign, features extended family rooms, single family rooms, playrooms and teen hideout spaces for patients, Family Enrichment Centers, a rooftop garden, a butterfly room for families grieving the loss of a child, patient power-load systems and portable radios. Funds have also allowed Beacon Children’s Hospital to purchase a pediatric ambulance, MedFlight incubator and ultrasound, giraffe warmers for the NICU, patient simulators to assist with educating and training area pediatric healthcare professionals, and power lifts for the pediatric ambulances.

About the Four Winds Invitational

The Four Winds® Invitational was established in 2012 as part of the Symetra® Tour - Road to the LPGA®, and is sponsored by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Four Winds® Casinos. It is held at Blackthorn Golf Club, located at 6100 Nimtz Parkway, South Bend, Ind. The tournament features a field of professional women golfers from around the world. More information is available at fourwindsinvitational.com.

About The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians’ sovereignty was reaffirmed under legislation signed into law by President Clinton in September of 1994. The Pokagon Band is dedicated to providing community development initiatives such as housing, education, family services, medical care and cultural preservation for its approximately 5,600 citizens. The Pokagon Band’s ten-county service area includes four counties in Southwestern Michigan and six in Northern Indiana. Its main administrative offices are located in Dowagiac, Mich., with a satellite office in South Bend, Ind. In 2007, it opened Four Winds Casino Resort in New Buffalo, Mich., followed by Four Winds Hartford in 2011, Four Winds Dowagiac in 2013 and Four Winds South Bend in January 2018. It owns and operates a variety of business via Mno-Bmadsen, the tribe’s non-gaming investment enterprise. More information is available at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov, www.fourwindscasino.com and www.mno-bmadsen.com.

About Four Winds Casinos

Four Winds New Buffalo, located at 11111 Wilson Road in New Buffalo, Mich., Four Winds Hartford®, located at 68600 Red Arrow Highway in Hartford, Mich., Four Winds Dowagiac®, located at 58700 M-51 South in Dowagiac, Mich., and Four Winds South Bend, located at 3000 Prairie Road in South Bend, Ind., are owned by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. Four Winds New Buffalo offers nearly 125,000 square feet of gaming with more than 2,500 slot machines, 48 table games, five restaurants, entertainment bars, retail venues, a pool, and a 415-room hotel, making it the premier gaming resort in the Midwest. Four Winds Hartford features more than 500 slot machines, eight table games, a 74-seat restaurant, and a 15-seat bar. Four Winds Dowagiac features 400 slot machines, seven table games and

one restaurant. Four Winds South Bend has over 55,000 square feet of gaming space, 1,400 games, four restaurants, three bars, a players lounge, a coffee shop, and a 10-table, live dealer poker room. Please play responsibly. You must be 21 years of age to gamble. For more information on Four Winds Casinos, please call 1-(866)-4WINDS1 (866-494-6371) or visit www.fourwindscasino.com. Additionally, be sure to like Four Winds Casinos on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fourwindscasino and follow on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/fourwindscasino.

About Beacon Health System

Beacon Health System is the largest, locally owned and operated non-profit health care system in the region. Beacon is our community's trusted partner and guide in creating and maintaining health as well as the majority provider of services to the underinsured and underserved. Elkhart General Hospital, Community Hospital of Bremen, Memorial Hospital of South Bend, Beacon Children's Hospital, Beacon Medical Group and Beacon Health & Fitness are powered by more than 7,000 associates and 1,100 physicians. Additionally, Epworth Hospital is St. Joseph County's only inpatient behavioral health facility. Beacon is also an education organization helping to train medical residents in the fields of family medicine and hospital pharmacy.

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