

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Truman Medical Center Charitable Foundation  
Receives \$120,000 Grant from *Grandma's Alzheimer Fund*

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**Kansas City, Mo** — Truman Medical Center (TMC) Charitable Foundation will receive a \$120,000 grant from Grandma's Alzheimer Fund at 3:30 pm on Thursday, June 16, during a presentation ceremony at TMC Lakewood (7900 Lee's Summit Road. The grant will establish the Grandma's Alzheimer Endowment Fund and annual distributions from the fund will support the Alzheimer's Unit at TMC Lakewood.

“We are extremely grateful to be entrusted with the Grandma's Alzheimer Fund Endowment,” said TMC Charitable Foundation Executive Director Jim Dawson. “The creativity and passion that Kathleen and Joe Woods exhibited in starting this program is inspiring, and to see it grow as it has is remarkable. We will make sure the funds are put to use in ways that improve the quality of life for those with this insidious disease.”

The fund was established in 2000 by Kathleen and Joe Woods of Sugar Creek. It is in memory of Kathleen's mother (Caroline Rozgaj Kobe) who died of Alzheimer's disease in 1997. The fund is maintained and managed by the Truman Heartland Community Foundation. Grants from the fund have benefitted Alzheimer's units at The Groves in Independence and, since 2010, the unit at TMC Lakewood.

“We had heard about TMC Lakewood and last year we took a tour,” said Kathleen Woods. “We're really impressed with the staff and with the facility.”

The majority of the fund's money has come from the proceeds of annual “Grandma's Dinners” that Kathleen, Joe and their family first organized and hosted in 1999. The dinners included invited friends and members of the community from throughout Eastern Jackson County. For the first several years, the Woods' and their family cooked and served all the dinners and also solicited donated items for silent auctions to raise

additional funds. Some 300 guests attended the final dinner in 2007 at the Community of Christ auditorium in Independence and the dinner was sponsored by community corporate sponsors such as Lafarge Concrete and BP Petroleum.

“Grandma’s Alzheimer Fund is our effort to bring comfort to local Alzheimer’s patients in language written of deeds and not words,” says Joe Woods. “We remember with love a special someone we knew as mom and grandma.”

The fund will continue to make grants to care facilities selected by the Woods’.

### **About Truman Medical Center Charitable Foundation**

Truman Medical Center Charitable Foundation is a not-for-profit organization established in 1979 to support Truman Medical Centers through the deliberate identification of funding sources and the stewardship of donations from generous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please call (816) 404-3430 or visit [www.trumed.org](http://www.trumed.org). -TMC-