



When Richard “Dick” and Phyllis Clark, Forest River, N.D., sat down with Altru Health Foundation Executive Director Jon Green to discuss charitable gift annuities, they were well prepared on two levels: the logistics behind CGAs and the needs of Altru patients.

“I’ve known about annuities for a long time and read up on them,” explained Dick. “I’m no expert, but when I received annuity information from Altru, I knew it was something good to look into.”

Dick’s interest and knowledge of CGAs wasn’t the only reason for their gift. The Clarks’ compassion for Altru patients goes back to the inception of the Foundation. Dick served on the board of directors when the organization was started in 1983.

“The Clarks are wonderful people,” shared Ken Svedjan, former executive director of Altru Health Foundation. “Dick was a charter member of our board and a very good one, I might add.”

Prior to and during his stint on the board, Dick continued farming. He had started farming in 1956 with his dad and uncle and gradually took over the business. The Clarks were successful in their farming operation and raised four children along the way: Dan, Jolyn, Jane and Susan. When they retired in 1990, their son-in-law, Tim Nelson, took the reins. Since retirement, Dick and Phyllis have stayed active and spend time with their children and grandchildren.

“We’ve gotten along all these years and we have all we need,” shared Phyllis. “If we can help our kids and grandkids and help others who really need it, we feel honored and grateful to do so.”

Having the strong tie to Altru dating back more than two decades, the Clarks wanted to help patients who, without Altru’s nonprofit mission, would go without health care.

“It really struck me when Jon told us that Altru had given away more than 17 million dollars in free care this past year,” said Dick with a shake of his head. “Where would people go without this care?”

With those figures in mind, Dick and Phyllis decided to purchase two CGAs. These annuities will provide the Clarks two important benefits: support for areas they are most passionate about and guaranteed payments for life.

Dick’s CGA will support Altru Cancer Center patients while Phyllis’ unrestricted CGA will be used for highest priority patient needs. “We feel very fortunate to be able to support these efforts,” said Dick. “That’s most important to us. But it’s also a good tool for estate planning.”

Working side-by-side with Jon Green, the Clarks were able to complete the necessary paperwork to make the CGAs official.

“Sometimes you wonder how complicated setting these things up will be. But working with Jon was a great experience,” said Dick. “He was very thorough and worked closely with our other advisors. He made this an exciting and very satisfying experience. We feel very fortunate to be able to support Altru Health Foundation’s efforts.”

A charitable gift annuity is a simple and satisfying way to show how much you care for patients and their families while maintaining a steady stream of payments for yourself. Contact Jon Green at (701) 780-5837 for more information or for a free CGA consultation.



Jon Green
Executive Director
Altru Health Foundation

Longtime friends and supporters of Altru Health System, Richard and Phyllis Clark, made a major gift in support of patients through two charitable gift annuities (CGAs).

Ways of Giving: **Charitable Gift Annuities**