

FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP AWARD

Walter W. Born Foundation



Before his death in 1989, Mr. Born established the **Walter W. Born Foundation** through FirstMerit Bank to provide vital financial support to hospitals in Akron and the surrounding communities. Since its inception, the Walter W. Born Foundation has been a huge philanthropic asset to the Akron community. The foundation made its first investment in the health system in 2007, contributing a major gift to the capital campaign for the Jean and Milton Cooper Cancer Center. They have distributed more than \$3.3 million total to Northeast Ohio hospitals since 2004.

The foundation's latest gift to Summa supports the expansion of behavioral health services at Summa St. Thomas Hospital. The funds will be used to renovate space that will house a Behavioral Health Partial Hospitalization Program and serve 40 patients per week with a wide range of mental health conditions as an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.

In addition to its continued support of adult hospital systems, The Born Foundation demonstrates a profound dedication to Northeast Ohio's youngest patients seeking care at Akron Children's Hospital. The foundation has contributed nearly \$1 million to the pediatric hospital, supporting many clinical areas including cystic fibrosis, the Robert T. Stone, MD, Respiratory Center and sleep disorders. The foundation also helped to expand services within Akron Children's Hospital's NICU and its Integrated Preschool for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

The Born Foundation remains devoted to improving the health of the region by enabling healthcare organizations to make crucial equipment upgrades and complete much-needed capital projects.

nominated by
Summa Foundation