

# PHILANTHROPY THAT HEALS



2016

Your Gifts, Your Impact

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# Philanthropy That Heals

## YOUR GIFTS, YOUR IMPACT

### AREA OF GREATEST NEED: YOUR GIFTS SUPPORTED THESE PROGRAMS

#### Providence Connections

Adapting to the changes that accompany a life-limiting illness can seem frightening, confusing and overwhelming. Thanks to your gifts, Providence Connections is there to help when patients and their families are coping with a serious, life-limiting illness. Connections can help patients and families when they need: help to understand information about an illness and the challenges it may present, information about financial assistance or concerns, emotional or practical supports during end of life or terminal illness, or assistance with how to write and implement advance health care directives. The Connections professionals and volunteers will offer support and companionship, help with chores and meal preparations, and offer respite breaks for family or caregivers. Services provided through this program are free of charge and anyone diagnosed with a serious, life-limiting condition, which may include a life expectancy of one year, is eligible for the program.



#### Patient Navigation Suite – Cancer Center

The impact of cancer on our Alaskan community is something we recognize and treat very delicately. The Providence Cancer Center Patient Navigator’s Suite provides anyone impacted by cancer a welcoming place to address the emotional, medical, and psychosocial impact of a cancer diagnosis.

To illustrate the invaluable nature of this support, especially for those who are most vulnerable, we’d like to tell you about “Stephen.” Stephen had been battling an aggressive form of brain cancer and came to Providence after surgery and chemo therapy that he received in the



lower 48. He lived alone with his two cats, and his pets were his only source of support. He was on disability and had some memory issues after treatment, but appeared to be doing mostly well, all things considered.

Just a short year after his treatment ended, his cancer returned and he received news that he could not get surgery and would need several weeks of daily radiation. Stephen's doctors, nurses and his entire caregiver team became concerned about him and reached out to a patient navigator when they noticed a dramatic decline in Stephen's physical appearance midway through treatment. They were worried about his wellbeing, and requested a navigator meet with him regularly.

Although he lived alone, prior to treatment Stephen was independent and "together." However, he found himself in the Navigation Suite several times when he lost a shoe in the snow bank, had his clothes on backwards, or lost his pants while walking out of the lobby (because he forgot his belt after receiving radiation). Stephen was clearly vulnerable and in need of compassionate care to help restore his dignity. Navigation provided resources and support to Stephen as his decline became apparent.

During his treatment, Stephen was hospitalized and it was clear he was not progressing. Things were not good for him. He was not coping and started to revisit his life choices and loneliness at the end of his life. A Navigator was there, providing comfort, support, encouragement and resources during a long hospitalization.

Navigation was able to be the family Stephen chose to have support him during his end of life battle with advanced brain cancer. A few short weeks after he passed away, an estranged brother from the lower 48 came into the center and presented the navigation team with a picture of Stephen with his cats, saying that his brother's wishes were to provide this picture to his "cancer family" and ask that they not forget him, and we won't.

## THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT PROVIDENCE (TCHAP)

### TCHAP Educators

From a remote village in Alaska, Talitha arrived at Providence with prenatal complications and faced months of bed rest. Hundreds of miles from home, coupled with the anxiety of her future and what would be next for her and her baby, what was the biggest concern for this 17 year old mom-to-be? Finishing high school! When Maurice, teacher and educational liaison at The Children's Hospital at Providence, met Talitha he knew right away she needed to complete high school before this baby came. And make it happen they did! Maurice arranged for Talitha's homework to ship back and forth to her high school and proctored her tests in the hospital room. Together the two worked relentlessly to finish her senior year.

Two important things arrived here at Providence for Talitha: her healthy new baby and her diploma! Her nurses and care team had double the reason to celebrate the accomplishments as Talitha became the first patient to receive a graduation party in the prenatal unit. Teacher Maurice even framed and hung her diploma for everyone to see and celebrate.



*Entry to pediatric activity & learning space*

## Philanthropy That Heals

The mission of Providence calls us to care for the *whole* person. In The Children's Hospital at Providence that extra care comes in the form of assisting families in their desire to continue life as close to normal as possible while juggling healthcare procedures and treatments. For Alaskan kids, some from remote locations who spend months at a time on our campus, staying plugged into school proves a complicated obstacle. Providence recognizes the importance of helping kids keep a focus on schooling in the midst of health issues and, thanks to community philanthropy, employs teachers and educational liaisons.



*Pediatric Activity Room*

This service, while critical to a pediatric patient's overall wellbeing, is not something usually considered in a healthcare setting.

From Talitha, whose diploma will ensure a better future for her and her daughter, and from children with chronic illness who may spend significant portions of their life here, thank you for generously sharing and ensuring these important compassionate care elements are part of the care we provide!



*Educator's office in Pediatric Activity Room*

## Thibault Family



Recently, the Thibault family stopped by our office at Providence Alaska Foundation with bags of Legos and an amazing story. They were celebrating the anniversary of a scary automobile accident that left their family banged and bruised and one son, Caeden, recovering from a head injury. While in the hospital, Caeden would play with Legos that were provided from donors in the community. Turns out these building toys played a crucial role in helping Caeden make big strides in his recovery and rebuild his brain functioning! A year later, the Thibaults decided to give Legos back to other kids in The Children's Hospital at Providence. Caeden said, "Legos helped put my brain back together!"

**Thank you!!!**



And their giving created more giving! While shopping the toy aisle in a local Fred Meyer store for the Legos to donate, a Fred Meyer employee asked if they needed help locating their items. When they shared their plan, the Fred Meyer employee personally paid for the toys himself!

You never know when your story will inspire others to participate in helping our community! Thank you for joining the Thibault Family in giving to other kids receiving care in The Children's Hospital at Providence and continue spreading the joy of passing it on.

## NICU Mother's and Father's Day Celebrations



Thanks to your generous gifts, new moms and dads who spent their first Mother's and Father's day in the NICU with a struggling new baby were able to celebrate with comfort packages and cards recognizing the important milestone of becoming a parent. Something like this gift may seem small, but has a huge impact on families who may be scared, feel alone, or uncertain during such a difficult time. One new father, Scott, recalls his time in the NICU. He and his wife came in for a check-up on their baby, and ended up needing an emergency delivery. As soon as the baby was out, she was whisked away through the pass-through window. Mom's blood pressure plummeted. Suddenly Scott was neither with his wife nor his new baby. He was just in a dark room, he recalls, waiting to see whether his wife and newborn baby would survive. He was not alone, however. Someone was in the room with him, a parent navigator. Scott shared, "At a lot of places I may have been left alone, but here, the parent navigator stayed with me during that time."

## Kimi's Story – Alaska CARES

We want you to meet "Kimi." Kimi's story is a heartbreaking and yet incredibly hopeful and courageous story of healing. Kimi was just 8 years-old when she was the victim of sexual abuse by her neighbor. At the time she experienced the abuse she knew something was wrong and worked up the courage to tell the perpetrator "NO" then left the room. But her little sister was left with the offender. She worked up the courage to tell someone about the abuse and an appointment was set for her to be evaluated at Alaska CARES.



*Dr. Cathy Baldwin Johnson sharing Kimi's story with donors at this year's All Aboard for Children fundraiser*

It was determined during her visit that seeing a mental health therapist at Alaska CARES would be essential to starting the healing process. The first picture Kimi created (above with Dr. Baldwin-Johnson) was completed during the first two weeks of her therapy just after the traumatic incident. "Anger, Hurt, Sad, Guilt, Nervous, Scared" were the words Kimi used for this painting in the first few weeks of her therapy. She used all of the colors that she didn't like as she began to process the trauma she experienced.

Alaska CARES is a multi-disciplinary child advocacy center supporting child victims of abuse by providing a safe space appropriate for children to make reports of harm and begin their healing journey. Kimi's whole family was able to work together with law enforcement, medical and mental health professionals as well as victim advocates, to receive all the services and support they needed during their long journey to healing.

## Philanthropy That Heals

Guilt...was how Kimi described her painting after six months of therapy (right). Yet, her therapist noted that she was much more present in her session and no longer withdrawn! Although these colors look dark, they were colors that she actually liked and she placed an X to represent “Danger” or “Do not enter,” similar to a poison bottle. She labeled this drawing “Guilt” which was significant in her progress toward being able to identify and resolve the more specific emotion relating to leaving her sister behind with the abuser.



The issue of child abuse is a moral, social and human issue that impacts our entire community. Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, Alaska CARES is there for every child in need. The earlier the intervention, the better the intervention, and the more likely it is that you can change the trajectory of children’s lives as they grow up into adulthood.



After one year of care at Alaska CARES, “Peace,” was what Kimi called this painting (left). Kimi, her sister, and her family were able to work through many emotions and develop tools to navigate their healing process. Because Kimi was brave and disclosed the incident, her offender was held accountable for his actions. The care she received in her healing journey helped change the trajectory of Kimi’s life, thanks to a caring community!

## PLANNED GIFTS – LEAVING A LEGACY

Margaret “Lee” McCool lived a life dedicated to healing others as an operating room nurse. As she and her husband, John, planned their estate, they made sure that their value of helping others was included in their plans. Both Lee and John decided to create Charitable Gift Annuities at Providence Alaska Foundation.

"Lee never met a stranger," says John. "She had a way of calming nervous patients about to enter an operating room." As she aged and developed Alzheimer’s, John was grateful for the care Lee received at Providence Horizon House.



Sadly, Lee passed away last March. She is missed dearly by her husband and loved ones, while her legacy of healing lives on through the planned gift she decided to make many years ago. Her gift will now help others living with Alzheimer’s at Providence Horizon House by providing training to staff and music therapy to residents. John says, “I’m quite certain Lee would have wanted to help others going through the same struggles and things she did.” **We are grateful to Lee and her legacy of healing.**

If you would like to make a planned gift to a cause you care about, we can help you. Planned gifts are great ways to have major impact, honor the memory of loved ones, and leave the legacy you want behind.

## PATIENT ASSISTANCE LAUNCHES UNDER FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

A young Mom waits with her three year-old daughter by her side in the Emergency Department to be discharged. The treating physician notices that the young girl is getting ready to leave without a coat and is wearing worn flip flops on her feet, even though the weather has just dropped to subzero temperatures. The physician knows that the care this young family has received will be covered by the charity care that Providence provides. The physician also knows that **there is a program to safeguard this child** and ensure she will be discharged safely, even once she leaves the ER doors. Through our Patient Assistance fund, this mom can go home with a winter coat and boots for her young child, keeping her safe, warm and on the road to full recovery.



**The Patient Assistance program was created to provide for patients' basic needs via essential items and services.** This is a new program and is projected to help hundreds of patients with items such as cab vouchers, prescription drug assistance, clothing, meal tickets, or other identified basic needs essential to their total healing and recovery.

Your gifts in support of this program impacts hundreds of vulnerable lives, helping to provide for their basic needs beyond their direct medical care, and ensuring that they remain safe, healthy, and have the very best chance of recovery from their illness or injury that brought them to Providence.

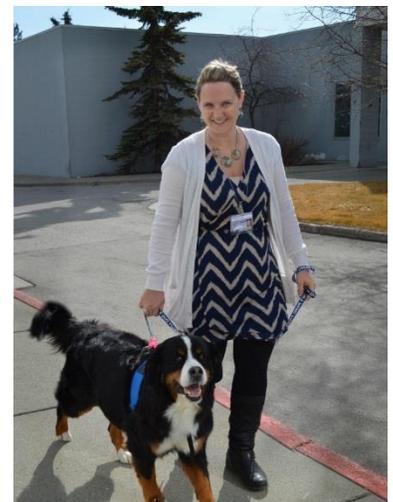
## PET ASSISTED WELLNESS SERVICE (P.A.W.S.)

Mary Troll, the foundress of PAWS, was a dog lover and compassionate person who loved to give her time and care to hurting people at Providence. Her legacy continues as her brother, artist Ray Troll, donated a t-shirt design that sells in the Providence gift shop year round. The sales of this t-shirt support the PAWS program.

What is PAWS? It's best to tell the impact of PAWS by sharing some vignettes of patients who received the TLC of our animal volunteers.

Disfigured by an accident, "Sam" had avoided contact with others because he was afraid of repulsing them. When offered an opportunity to hug a dog, he wept, saying, "He likes me anyway. I had no friends, but now I have one friend; I have this friend."

A blind patient said, "I can 'see' her with my heart."



*Katelyn and Deshka, PAWS volunteers*

One patient who could not bear to be touched, was distracted by the PAWS animal long enough to allow caregivers an opportunity to complete taking vital stats.

A teen who had been non-responsive for three days, woke up and started talking to the dog, who had been placed on her bed to comfort her.

A young boy who just lost a family member offered, "I know why your dog's here ... he's here to let us know that we're going to be okay."

Working with her therapist, one young child bravely used her walker to reach the PAWS animal and owner in the hallway. "Look at my trick," she said, "I can walk."

PAWS is a series of exceptional stories – amazing acts of generosity and love - experienced here at Providence every single day. PAWS includes trained and talented therapy dogs of all sizes and types, from tiny toys to gentle giants, and their humans. This program is supported by your philanthropy and makes a tangible difference every day for our patients and families.

## Subscribe and Stay in the Know!

**We want to connect with you** and share the stories of how your gifts are changing lives and healing patients and families!

**Our job is to help you realize your philanthropic dreams.** To understand the good you want to create in the world, the change you want to make, and the legacy you want to leave behind. We would love to get to know you and your passions, and help connect you to the work that is most *meaningful to you*.

Call the foundation office at **907-212-3600** to speak with a philanthropy officer today.

You can also **follow Providence Health & Services Alaska on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!**

**You can subscribe to our e-News** that shares monthly stories of your philanthropy at work by emailing [info@providencealaskafoundation.org](mailto:info@providencealaskafoundation.org) .

**From all of us on the Providence Alaska Foundation team, thank you for the many ways your philanthropy truly healed in 2016!**