

GIVING MATTERS

EvergreenHealth
Foundation

SUMMER 2024

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Dear Friends,

It's with great pleasure and gratitude that I welcome you to the inaugural issue of *Giving Matters*, a new publication from the EvergreenHealth Foundation. Periodically, this newsletter will seek to celebrate the power of philanthropy and the impact generous donors are making right here in our community.

We're grateful for the many ways we stay connected with our community – from events and celebrations to hospital programs and volunteer initiatives, we appreciate all the ways you support the work of our foundation to advance the health of our community.

In addition to these important touchpoints, *Giving Matters* holds a special place in our efforts. It serves as a dedicated space for deeper connection, where we can delve into the stories behind our shared mission, amplify the voices of those impacted by your generosity, and foster a sense of belonging among our supporters.

Our hope is for *Giving Matters* to be more than just a publication, and instead for it to be a testament to your collective impact. Through your support, we've been able to make significant strides in improving health care access, investing in the latest in advanced medical technology, all in order to enhance the well-being of those we serve.

In this issue, you'll meet Doug Oberst, a 77-year-old grandfather from Bothell who made a full recovery from prostate cancer thanks to treatment with the TrueBeam linear accelerator, made possible through your generosity.

We'll also highlight Mike Hallman, who is passionate about the high level of education possible through simulation after his long career in the tech and aerospace industry. Mike and his late wife, Mary Kay, gave the incredible gift of the Clinical Excellence Training Center, where EvergreenHealth nursing and clinical staff practice their skills and run complex, specialized drills on sophisticated medical mannequins.

We hope you'll enjoy discovering these and other inspiring stories highlighting the difference giving is making for our EvergreenHealth community, along with helpful news and updates, invitations to upcoming events, and recognition of those who are making an impact.

Thank you for joining us here and reading along. We look forward to sharing the remarkable achievements made possible by your generosity, as we highlight opportunities for continued collaboration and support.



With gratitude,
Lori Kloes
Lori Kloes
Chief Philanthropy Officer
EvergreenHealth Foundation

GIVING MATTERS

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Welcome to our inaugural issue!

Giving Matters features inspiring stories designed to celebrate the impact of philanthropy

2024 Evergreen Gala Raises \$1.3 Million

This year's Evergreen Gala, held April 26, was a resounding success! Guests gathered at Sparkman Cellars in Woodinville for a night of food and wine pairings with celebrated chef John Howie, an auction, and music and dancing after dinner. We also celebrated our newest Spirit of Giving honorees, Dr. Jeff and Merrie Tomlin.

Presented by Bellevue Healthcare, the 2024 Evergreen Gala supports a series of initiatives to ensure EvergreenHealth has the most advanced technology, innovative programs and comprehensive services available for our growing region.

A heartfelt thanks to our guests and sponsors for your continued support. Your generosity will create a lasting impact in the lives of patients in our community, from exceptional maternity services to compassionate end-of-life care. As economic factors put financial pressure on the health care industry, community philanthropy matters more now than ever.



Save the Date

Meaningful Medicine Luncheon

Benefiting EvergreenHealth Hospice



Presence Matters: The Power of Showing Up
Often, the most significant impact you can have on your job, your family, your children, and others is simple...just show up.

You won't want to miss this event, featuring Seattle Seahawks legend Ray Roberts. Ray is a Senior Advisor in Urban Development for Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools, and is renowned for his advocacy of underrepresented and marginalized communities. This special event will benefit Hospice Care Services, ensuring that compassionate care is available to our community when it is needed most.

Stay tuned for formal invitations and ways to get involved.

Thursday, October 24, 2024
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Redmond Marriott

FEATURED SPEAKER
Ray Roberts,
first pick in the 1992 draft and current member of the Seahawks' broadcast team

EMCEE
Steve Raible,
Seattle Seahawks legend and voice of the Seahawks on KIRO radio



PATIENT SPOTLIGHT:
‘A Miracle Machine’

Doug Oberst is profoundly grateful for the TrueBeam radiation treatment, supported by your philanthropy, that eradicated his prostate cancer

For Bothell resident Doug Oberst, cancer treatment was both lifesaving and life-changing. He describes his time in the radiation oncology department of the Halvorson Cancer Center with fondness and reverence, recalling the peace and community he found there – and still experiences to this day.

“I came to think of the waiting area as the Sanctuary of Solace,” Doug said. “It’s where patients sit quietly and respectfully, waiting their turn to receive treatment and take another step closer to the restoration of themselves.”

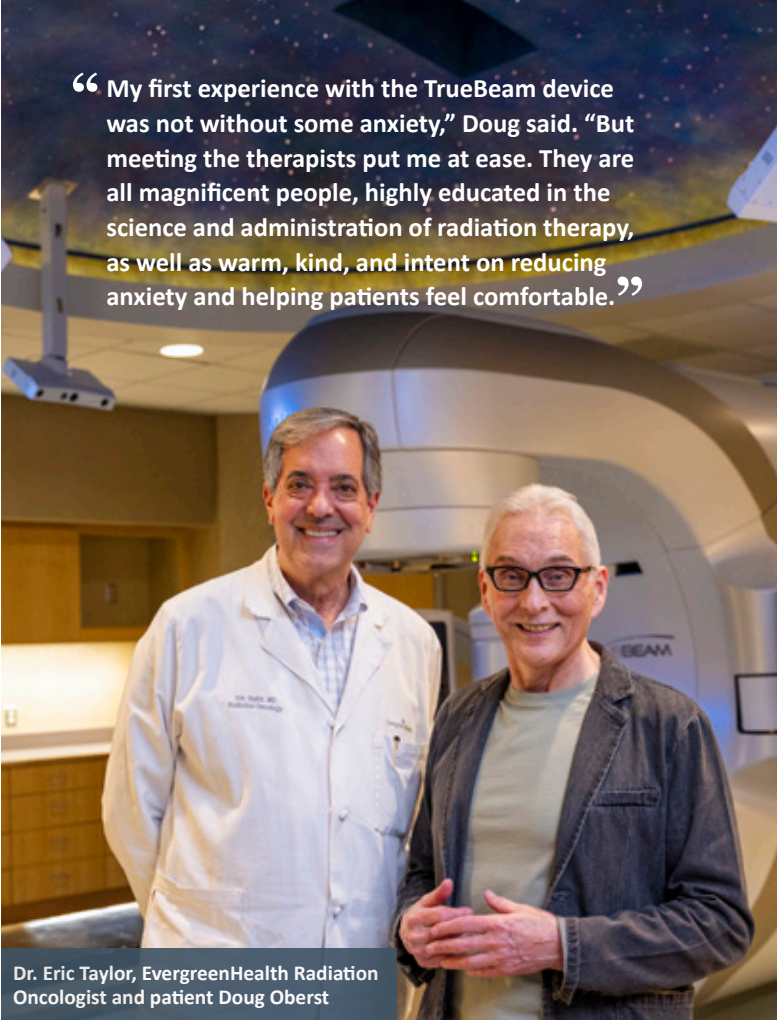
Doug, 77, is a proud grandfather who loves photography. He was diagnosed with prostate cancer after a routine blood test revealed elevated levels of prostate-specific antigen (PSA). His treatment options included surgery, which is a radical step with major lasting effects.

Eric Taylor, MD, radiation oncologist at EvergreenHealth, proposed treatment with the TrueBeam linear accelerator. This state-of-the-art instrument was funded by \$3 million in community philanthropy.

The Halvorson Cancer Center is one of very few facilities in the Pacific Northwest fully equipped with the latest TrueBeam instruments – two linear accelerators, accommodating a full patient roster with coverage for maintenance, equipped with movable patient tables that tilt automatically to achieve the greatest precision, targeting tumors and sparing healthy tissue.

“This tech is the best available in cancer care,” Dr. Taylor said. “Our Eastside community is so tech-savvy, and our donors knew it was important to have the very best.”

A series of treatments with the TrueBeam linear accelerator shrank Doug’s tumor completely in less than 6 weeks, with no invasive procedures and no pain. His PSA levels are now undetectable.



Dr. Eric Taylor, EvergreenHealth Radiation Oncologist and patient Doug Oberst

“My first experience with the TrueBeam device was not without some anxiety,” Doug said. “But meeting the therapists put me at ease. They are all magnificent people, highly educated in the science and administration of radiation therapy, as well as warm, kind, and intent on reducing anxiety and helping patients feel comfortable.”

“It’s such an astonishing process,” said Doug. “So easy and non-invasive. It’s extraordinary that this instrument exists – like a miracle machine.”

For Doug, the most profound part of this journey was the community he found during treatment.

“At the end of my treatment program I felt sad – which says so much in itself,” Doug said. “I miss seeing my fellow patients, Dr. Taylor, oncology nurses Hanna and Rosanna, therapist Heather who shared my love of Ambrosia’s ‘How Much I Feel’, and so many others. Everyone involved in this therapy, bringing it here and making it happen, should feel so proud of their contribution to humanity.”

This lifesaving treatment option is available in our community thanks to donor support. To learn how your gift could make an impact today, contact us or give directly at evergreenhealthfoundation.com/donate.



When Doug returned to the radiation oncology department, he characterized it as making a pilgrimage: “The area represents so much to me. It’s a sacred place where so many lives were changed and blessed, mine included.”



Doug Oberst and Hanna Kelker, BSN, RN Radiation Oncology Nurse



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: Investing in Clinical Education

The Kae Peterson Clinical Excellence Training Center facilitates state-of-the-art simulation drills to train clinical staff, supported by donors Mike and Mary Kay Hallman

Unexpected scenarios and rare complications happen every day in patient care. When those situations arise, clinicians have to work quickly to perform procedures and treat conditions that they may see only once or twice in their careers. Hands-on, continual clinical training is essential to be prepared.

At EvergreenHealth, clinical staff undergo continuing education at the newly dedicated Kae Peterson Clinical Excellence Training Center, a classroom and simulation lab made possible by donors Mike Hallman and his late wife, Mary Kay.

“Having seen EvergreenHealth’s superb patient care, and with the ongoing crisis in health care finances and staffing, Mary Kay and I saw an opportunity to support the hospital in a way that directly benefits patient care,” Mike said. “Current staff get top-of-the-line practical training, and the hospital is more attractive to highly qualified staffing candidates.”

During his long career in the tech and aerospace industry, including roles at IBM, Microsoft, Boeing and NASA, Mike saw firsthand how high-quality simulation training instills the muscle memory needed in an emergency situation. “Education has always been top-priority for Mary Kay and I in our philanthropy, and for me now that she has passed,” he said. “Investing directly in the hospital where my granddaughters were born was a very natural thing to do –

there are so many benefits to this training center, and it’s truly amazing to see in action.”

A major part of that investment is four very special “patients” – clinical mannequins designed to simulate symptoms and scenarios that real patients experience. They include an obstetric mannequin to simulate complications during childbirth and a tiny “preemie” mannequin to support neonatal drills. The high-fidelity adult mannequins can simulate breathing, sweating, eye movement, and a host of other physiological symptoms. They also have interchangeable parts with varying skin tones to further reflect real-life patient care.

“Historically, clinical education involves a lot of imagination,” said Deann Edgers, Director of Educational Services and Professional Practice at EvergreenHealth. “It’s often patched together with very few resources – which is why our training center is so special. As an educator, Mike and Mary Kay’s dedication to this training warms my heart.”

This is the difference just one gift can make in our community. It’s a direct investment in healing at a time of financial uncertainty across the health care industry. Get in touch with us to discuss how your gift could make an impact, or give directly at evergreenhealthfoundation.com/donate.



Welcoming Dr. Ettore Palazzo, EvergreenHealth CEO

Following a distinguished 20-year tenure with EvergreenHealth, Ettore Palazzo, MD, FACP, was appointed CEO in December 2023, following the retirement of Jeff Tomlin, MD.

Throughout his career with EvergreenHealth, Dr. Palazzo has embodied EvergreenHealth’s culture while demonstrating his skill as a physician and strong, relational leader.

“Over the past 20 years, some of the greatest, as well as most challenging, moments of my personal and professional life have taken place at EvergreenHealth. It is the honor of a lifetime to work for this organization and serve its community as the next Chief Executive Officer.”

Dr. Palazzo joined EvergreenHealth in 2003 as a hospitalist and served as managing physician of the Internal Medicine hospitalist service. He continued to see patients while spending nearly nine years as the IT medical director of inpatient services. He began working on quality initiatives early in his career at EvergreenHealth, spearheading critical work to study 30-day readmission rates. In 2014 he was appointed Quality Medical Director and continued working on quality initiatives resulting in achievable, sustainable strategies that have led to EvergreenHealth’s recognition by multiple organizations – including Healthgrades, Leapfrog, the Lown Institute and CMS – for patient safety and exceptional outcomes.



We look forward to serving EvergreenHealth’s mission under Dr. Palazzo’s leadership.

Introducing the Dr. Jeff Tomlin Fund for Excellence

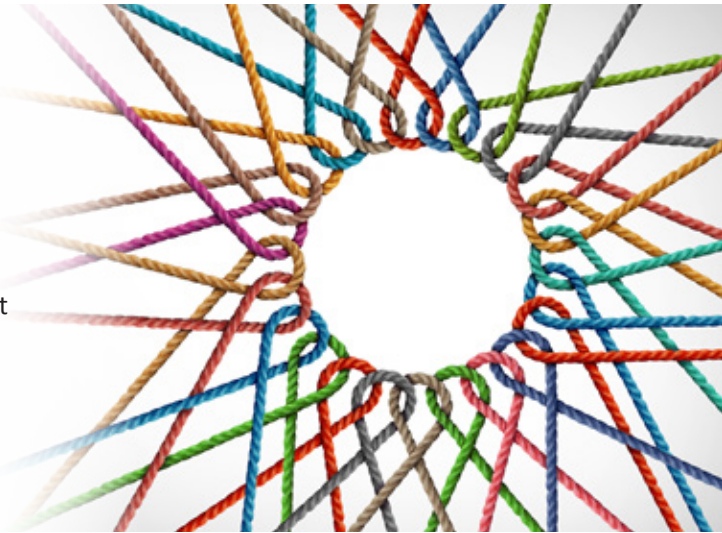


To honor the legacy of EvergreenHealth CEO Dr. Jeff Tomlin, the EvergreenHealth Foundation has established the Dr. Jeff Tomlin Fund for Excellence. The fund will impact future initiatives that proactively and innovatively address the greatest health care needs of EvergreenHealth. All gifts of \$1,000 or more will be acknowledged publicly with special recognition. If you’d like to join in helping support this fund, please scan the QR code below or visit evergreenhealthfoundation.com/fund-for-excellence.



Get to Know our Newest Board Members

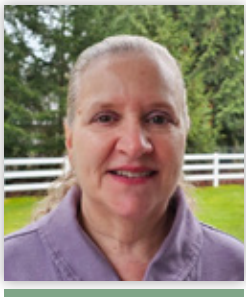
The EvergreenHealth Foundation Board of Trustees is made up of 20 community members of diverse business and community-engagement backgrounds who provide strategic oversight and guidance for the EvergreenHealth Foundation in support of our mission. Two new trustees joined the board in late 2023 and early 2024, bringing their deep local roots and fresh perspectives to support community health.



DANIELLE O’MALLEY, DIRECTOR OF REVENUE ACCOUNTING, BELLEVUE HEALTHCARE

Danielle O’Malley joined the board in November 2023. She is a graduate of Washington State University with a degree in Political Science. She is currently the Director of Revenue Accounting with Bellevue Healthcare, our presenting sponsor for the Gala. She is responsible for supporting the business needs of Bellevue Healthcare’s 18 branches in three states.

Danielle is excited for an opportunity to put her time, skills and energy into working for a non-profit that is committed to serving the community. She first became interested in EvergreenHealth after her mother served as a hospice volunteer and several family members experienced EvergreenHealth hospice care. She has a passion for helping people and advocating for causes that support families in need. She was most recently on the Foundation’s committee for the Meaningful Medicine Luncheon and is eager to again serve and help support the growth of the event.



MARGERY YETMAN, COMMUNITY MEMBER

Margery Yetman joined the board in January 2024. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Salem State College in Salem, MA with a degree in Mathematics and Computer Science. She worked in materials management for Teradyne and in software support during her time in the Northeast. Margery and her husband, Chris, moved with their three children to the Puget Sound area in 2010. They reside in Woodinville now, close to their daughters as well as their three grandchildren.

Margery has been extensively involved in every community she’s lived in, volunteering in her children’s schools and as part of her church. For years, Margery led a community initiative that matched volunteers with people in the community who needed support including rides to doctor’s appointments, snow shoveling, lawn mowing and other needs. For nearly a decade, Margery also volunteered several days a week at the food bank, helping collect donations, box food and organize gifts for families in need around the holidays. Now Margery volunteers with the Northshore Senior Center’s Wranglers Inclusion Program and serves on their 5K fundraising committee. Margery’s youngest daughter is developmentally delayed and has received support and services through their programming, making it a cause close to their hearts. Through her experience, Margery knows firsthand EvergreenHealth’s commitment to excellence and compassionate patient care. She and Chris have been supportive of several key Foundation initiatives and Margery looks forward to supporting EvergreenHealth in a greater capacity and helping advocate for the advancement of vital community health initiatives.

Ways to give

EvergreenHealth is your community hospital, where every person and every outcome matters. Together we invest in care that impacts you and your family and serves the greatest needs of our diverse, growing community. As a non-profit, public hospital district, your support makes all the difference in advancing the health and well-being of our community. Visit evergreenhealthfoundation.com/ways-to-give to explore giving options.



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For more information, contact the EvergreenHealth Foundation at 425.899.1900 or foundation@evergreenhealth.com.

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