GIVING MATTERS

EvergreenHealth Foundation

WINTER 2024

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Message from the Chief Philanthropy Officer

Dear Friends,

As the holiday season unfolds, we feel so fortunate to be part of a community focused on supporting deserving causes that inspire and lift each other up all year round. The season reminds us that giving and gratitude come in many forms throughout the year, but that during the holidays, your generosity carries special warmth and meaning.

I've always felt that the holidays – while it can be a busy time with gatherings and to-do lists – provides us all a time of reflection, and an invitation to extend gratitude and kindness and connect with others in meaningful ways.

It's in that spirit that I'd like to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks for your continued support and dedication to our mission and to community health. Your generosity has played a vital role in enhancing the care EvergreenHealth provides to our community, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment and continued partnership.

This season, we invite you to consider the impact of charitable giving on EvergreenHealth and the patients and communities we serve. Your contributions fund essential initiatives and innovative programs, which you'll read about in these pages of *Giving Matters*.

As we look ahead to a new year, we continue to be inspired by all the ways we get to witness the generosity of your contributions – whether they are of time, talents or resources – and the power they hold in making a profound difference for our patients, families and the greater EvergreenHealth community.

As you'll read in this issue, thanks to your contributions, EvergreenHealth has expanded behavioral health care by embedding it in primary care locations. The hospital also established an accessible vaccination clinic for patients, staff and families, among many other advancements that have improved access to care on the Eastside.

Thank you for being a vital part of our mission. We wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season filled with peace and good health.

With gratitude,

Lori Kloes
Chief Philanthropy Officer
EvergreenHealth Foundation

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ON THE COVER:
Ray Roberts, Meaningful Medicine Luncheon featured speaker and Seattle Seahawks legend, and Hope A. Wechkin, MD, Medical Director of EvergreenHealth Hospice and Palliative Care.

Meaningful Medicine Luncheon Raises $200,000 to Benefit EvergreenHealth Hospice

On October 24, our community came together for the annual Meaningful Medicine Luncheon in Redmond, presented by Wise Hospice Options, to celebrate the power and compassion of EvergreenHealth's renowned hospice.

At the luncheon, which benefitted EvergreenHealth Hospice, we heard several examples of how hospice has touched the lives of patients and families in our community, including Kayla's story. In 2023, while Kayla's mother Robyn was receiving hospice care at the Gene & Irene Wockner Hospice Care Center, the team welcomed Kayla to host her wedding on hospice grounds so that Robyn could see her daughter get married. Kayla will forever cherish that day with her mother and all those who made it possible.

Our featured speaker was Seattle Seahawks legend Ray Roberts, who spoke about the 'Power of Showing Up' for others, and drew parallels from his playing career at the Seattle Seahawks and the teamwork it takes to provide exceptional health care. The emcee for the afternoon was Steve Raible, another Seattle football legend and voice of the Seahawks on KIRO radio.

Thank you to the more than 240 guests who joined us to support these important services at EvergreenHealth. Kayla shared her story through a touching video, which you can view at www.evergreenhealthfoundation.com/kaylas-story.

The Gala
EvergreenHealth's Spring Soiree
PRESENTED BY
BellevueHealthcare

2025 Evergreen Gala
Friday, April 25
Columbia Collective, Woodinville

Save the Date

This year's gala will benefit an array of comprehensive services that are close to the heart for many of us: access to behavioral health care, end-of-life care, and programs that care for victims of violence and trauma. As other health systems cut back on community health programs, EvergreenHealth continues to invest in closing the gap to accessing care within our community.

What matters most to you, matters most to us.

Filling the Behavioral Health Care Gap

Integrating behavioral health with primary care fosters a better patient experience

In her 20 years of practicing medicine, EvergreenHealth primary care physician Amy Hoing, MD, says that connecting patients with behavioral health care has often presented years-long challenges. Similarly, as a primary care doctor, Donya Hosseinian, MD, has filled the gaps with her patients, researching medications and treatments to address behavioral needs when patients face barriers to accessing specialty care.

Amy Hoing, MD

Donya Hosseinian, MD

But this system is changing at EvergreenHealth, starting with the primary care clinic at Canyon Park where Dr. Hoing and Dr. Hosseinian practice. In 2023, EvergreenHealth began integrating behavioral health professionals into the practice. The clinic now has four therapists and a psychiatrist available to existing Canyon Park patients age 13 and older.

This model allows patients to schedule talk therapy appointments in a familiar setting, taking into consideration other primary care needs. The goal is to provide immediate, short-term service that aims to help people connect with longer-term support if they need it.

"It's incredible to have this dedicated therapy team here to consult with," said Dr. Hosseinian. "Patients have the benefit of their primary care and mental health providers collaborating on their care – neither provider has to start from scratch."

Dr. Hoing says the new model has been a game-changer for many of her patients: "It's so great to say 'I have a therapist who can help you, she's right down the hall' or 'our psychiatrist can see you today' to a patient in crisis. That personal connection has made a huge difference."

Kris Stone, Director of Care Management, said the program has been successful not just in patient care and access, but also in attracting talented new primary care providers to EvergreenHealth: "Having this integrated model is a major plus for primary care doctors, who are often left with limited resources to help their patients with behavioral health needs."

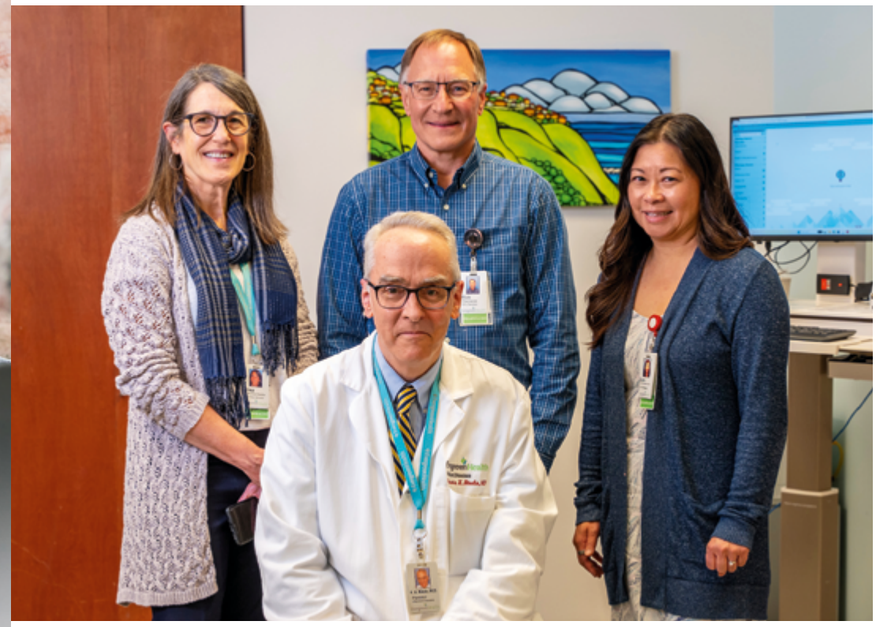
How your gift helps

Donor support helped EvergreenHealth develop this patient-centered model that has proved so successful in Canyon Park. Now we have the goal of expanding to more primary care locations. The largest barrier to this is the high startup costs of standing up the practice and hiring behavioral health specialists. Philanthropic contributions will directly help expand these services on the Eastside.

To make your gift in support of the critical needs of Behavioral Health at EvergreenHealth, scan the QR code or visit www.evergreenhealthfoundation.com/ways-to-give/behavioral-health-care.

Behavioral health clinicians at Canyon Park have served more than 350 patients so far. Here's what a few patients had to say:

- **"I was never able to see these strengths about myself, and [therapy] has made a huge difference in how I see the world and myself."**
- **"Thank you for listening to me and helping me to get connected to a psychiatrist. I feel like I have finally found what works for me, and it has changed everything."**
- **"Thank you for everything you have done [for] me. I feel so much better and feel like life is totally different from how it was a few months ago. From learning grounding skills to treating myself better. I am feeling good about what's next."**



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: The Weidner Vaccination Clinic Meets a Crucial Community Need

VACCINES OFFERED

- COVID-19
- Flu
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal
- Pneumonia
- Shingles
- Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella

With cold and flu season upon us, the Weidner Vaccination Clinic at EvergreenHealth is busier than ever. Since opening in June 2024, the clinic has offered essential vaccines for EvergreenHealth patients, staff, and anyone in the community who needs them, operating as part of the existing pharmacy at the Kirkland hospital.

"The clinic is so helpful for high-risk patients who need vaccines right away as they're being discharged," said Elisa Vila, RPh., CACP, Executive Director and System Leader of Pharmacy Services. "It helps ensure EvergreenHealth staff can conveniently get needed vaccines, as well, which benefits our patients too."

The clinic was made possible by a generous donation from Ana and Dean Weidner, who worked closely with EvergreenHealth's Infectious Disease Medical Director Francis X. Riedo, MD, on supporting infection control and hand hygiene practices since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Infection control and good vaccination practices are more important than ever before," said Dr. Riedo. "Lack of access is a major barrier to vaccination, so expanding access with a convenient place to get vaccinated in the hospital is a simple yet vital step toward a healthier community."

The clinic is open to anyone in the community. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are recommended during the busy season. Scan the QR code and select Pharmacy to make your appointment.

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 2024, bringing their diverse insights and fresh perspectives to support community health.

JUSTIN C. DIME, CDFA, CFP, CHFC
WEALTH ADVISOR, BORDEAUX WEALTH ADVISORS

A Washington native, Justin is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University and earned his MBA from the University of Washington. He also served for eight years in the Washington State National Guard as a medical officer.

Before transitioning to wealth management, Justin held multiple roles in health care, including as a practice administrator for an orthopedic practice, where his focus was financial performance, innovation, and growth management. His current role allows him to combine his financial expertise with his health care background, providing services unique to many physicians and health care professionals. His blend of skills and experience in health care and finance make him a valuable addition to the board.

He names expansion of services and improved access to care as top priorities for community health care in the coming years, and hopes to make an impact on access to care on the Eastside.

In his free time, Justin enjoys traveling with his wife, Heather, and their fluffy Samoyed.

ABBY NEWTON
SENIOR BUSINESS PROGRAM MANAGER, MICROSOFT

In her role at Microsoft, Abby has earned a reputation as a superstar networker, connecting people and teams who do great work together. Colleagues praise her dedication, enthusiasm, dynamic personality and attention to detail as she spent many years working to recruit top-notch technical talent.

A lifelong resident of the Eastside, Abby earned her bachelor's degree from Washington State University before returning home to embark on her career. She has been a patient of EvergreenHealth a handful of times over the years, including for the births of her three sons. EvergreenHealth also cared for her sons when later health issues arose. Abby cites the compassionate staff and excellent quality of care in her family's continued health, and tells everyone she meets to go to EvergreenHealth for childbirth and other needs.

After three years of volunteering to help put on the Evergreen Gala, Abby is excited to bring her expertise and passion for quality health care to our Board of Trustees. She will lend her networking talent to spread the word about community health and the value of philanthropy, emphasizing that even smaller contributions can make a major difference and help improve access to care.

Honor a Loved One and Help Restore the Rose Garden

The Gene & Irene Wockner Hospice Center is a haven of compassionate care, devoted to easing the end-of-life transition for patients and their loved ones. One of the most cherished features is the Rose Garden, skillfully and lovingly maintained by the EvergreenHealth grounds crew and hospice volunteers. However, time and weather have taken their toll.

We invite you to partner with us on a special initiative to restore and enhance the rose garden. You can purchase a memorial brick within the garden to create a lasting tribute for your loved one or simply make a gift to help fund essential updates and enhancements that will preserve this serene space for years to come.

To purchase a memorial brick, contact Beth Roberts at 425-899-1906 or bgroberts@evergreenhealth.com.

EvergreenHealth was nominated for a grant by Peter Henrich, Engineer IV, Quality from Crane Aerospace. The $4,500 grant from Crane Charitable Funds went to support the Halvorson Cancer Care Center Patient Assistance Fund. The gift will support patients undergoing extensive chemotherapy and radiation treatments with transportation, resources, and additional financial needs.

Left to right – Jay Harris, EvergreenHealth Foundation, Beth Roberts, EvergreenHealth Foundation and Allison Tuuri, Engineer from Crane Aerospace.

EvergreenHealth Foundation
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Celebrate the Season of Giving

The holiday season is a time to reflect on family, community, and the power of generosity.

As a donor, you are making an investment in care that impacts 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 **www.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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