



## Providence Community Health Foundation

Alberto Bello survived a “widow maker” heart attack, thanks to the care he received at Providence Medford Medical Center.

# Alberto beats the odds

Alberto Bello and his wife, Barbara, were running errands when he suddenly felt excruciating pain in his shoulders and broke out in a severe sweat. Before they made it out of the store, Alberto had to sit down due to chest pains

and numbness in his left arm. His wife, a nurse at Providence Medford Medical Center and familiar with the signs of a heart attack, called 911. Alberto was hooked up to an EKG during the ambulance ride.

As a retired Oregon Institute of Technology professor of radiology, with a specialty in cardiovascular interventional radiology, Alberto knew his results were not promising. Upon arriving at Providence Medford, the whole STEMI (ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction) team and cardiologist, Paul Gilmore, M.D., were ready for him. Alberto knew this type of heart attack was referred to as the “widow maker” because the survival rate is very low.

To his surprise, one of his former students, Angela Martin, registered radiologic technologist, happened to be working in the Cath Lab that day. Alberto shared that he had the unreal experience of watching the STEMI team work on him. It dawned on him that the expert on cardiovascular interventional radiology was now the patient. “It really is too bad I am retired. This would have been the greatest possible case study I could have brought to the classroom for my students,” Alberto said.

Alberto’s recovery has been great, and he has been able to return to his original lifestyle. “From the STEMI team, to the ICU caregivers, to the doctors, everyone was compassionate, caring and truly eased my way. Even the follow-up has been textbook, truly incredible.”

Today, Alberto is back to doing what he loves – running 5Ks, hiking, gardening, working on projects at home and traveling with his wife. Thank you for supporting heart services at Providence Medford Medical Center.

## 2019 Highlights

### Festival of Trees

2019 was a record-breaking year with more than \$700,000 raised at the Festival of Trees Gala Dinner and Auction. Donors generously gave in support of palliative care services during the special appeal. Palliative care offers comfort to alleviate symptoms – emotional, spiritual and physiological. The palliative care team gets to know the patient’s story outside of their illness to ensure the best care is delivered. Thanks to your gifts, we can expand this free service to more patients and families in the Rogue Valley. Other special services highlighted in 2019 included the Leila J. Eisenstein Breast Center, Swindells Resource Center and Providence Cardiac Services.

### It’s a girl!

Baby Middy arrived on August 20 to much fanfare. Middy is a newborn baby simulator that will help train caregivers in BirthPlace.



Generously funded by the Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund, Middy is named after Maybelle. Middy is designed to provide realistic training for complications that may arise. Having Baby Middy to practice on will prepare our BirthPlace caregivers to handle critical situations quickly and efficiently.

## 2019 total dollars raised by fund

