



## Providence Community Health Foundation

Amy Fisk relaxes on the steps of a trailer provided through your generosity after her home was destroyed in the wildfires.

# Trailers become homes after wildfires destroy neighborhoods

When Amy Fisk, a medical assistant at Providence Medical Group-Medford Neurology, left her apartment on Sept. 8, 2020,

she thought she would be back in a few days.

That was before the Almeda fire destroyed over 2,400 residential structures, including houses, apartment buildings, mobile and manufactured homes. More than 160 Providence caregivers were displaced, and 28 – including Amy – lost their homes.

Amy and her fiancé, Jeff, slept in their car in parking lots those first nights. Amy had sent her teenage daughter to stay with her grandmother. Providence arranged for a one-month hotel stay, but finding a permanent place to live was next to impossible.

Providence Foundations of Oregon purchased RVs for caregivers to live in while they get back on their feet. Construction firm S&B James built two temporary RV parks on land near the Providence Central Point Medical Plaza and Providence Medford Medical Center to house 16 families. The Providence Guild purchased basic items, including cookware and bedding, for the families.

In October, Amy and Jeff along with their two dogs and a cat moved into a trailer next to the Central Point clinic. Amy’s daughter was able to rejoin them.

Jeff was a World Trade Center volunteer after 9/11 and now has COPD and other health issues as a result. The smoke from the wildfires made it even harder for him to breathe. Having a safe and stable home helped ease his symptoms.

“I don’t know where we would be right now without Providence,” Amy said. “We lost a lot a lot, but we’ve got each other.”

## 2020 Highlights

### YMCA emergency child care keeps kids safe

Thanks to your generosity, when schools in southern Oregon closed due to the pandemic, Providence was able to partner with Rogue Valley Family YMCA, to fund emergency child care so caregivers could continue to work. “Being able to send my kids somewhere safe allowed me to care for my patients and give them the care they needed while being fully engaged at work,” said Nicole McPheeters, Providence Breast Center supervisor. The YMCA also provided support for school-aged children to assist them with classwork.

### Festival of Trees goes virtual in 2020

Providence Festival of Trees in southern Oregon celebrated its 29th anniversary with a virtual gala and a TV Christmas special. Because of you,



both events were a success, raising funds to support caregivers and critical services at Providence Medford Medical Center. Highlights included an online auction with large trees, a sidewalk window display in downtown Medford, and interviews with tree designers.

## 2020 total dollars raised by fund

- Area of Greatest Need | 23%
- Birthplace | 1%
- Cancer Care | 9%
- Festival of Trees | 34%
- Hospice/Palliative Care | 6%
- Leila J. Eisenstein Breast Center | 5%
- Nursing Education | 5%
- Other Funds | 17%

