Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation

Madeline Bierle, M.D., checks a patient’s record.
Training for doctors working in rural areas

This is a collaborative program between Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, One Community Health and Providence Milwaukie Family Medicine Residency. Your support funds equipment, training and seminars for the residency program each year.

Growing up in a small town in southern New Mexico, Madeline Bierle, M.D., understands how important access to health care is for rural populations. “People in those communities don’t always have as much access to care as those in larger communities. I like the community aspect of small towns, so it just made sense to do a Rural Track residency,” she said.

Physicians taking the three-year Rural Track residency live in Portland the first year and train alongside residents from Providence Milwaukee. In the second and third years, they live in Hood River and return to Portland occasionally for higher volume rotations in obstetrics, adult medicine and electives. Throughout all three years, the residents practice family medicine at One Community Health in Hood River.

“We get to practice care in all types of settings – from emergency care to outpatient care,” said Madeline. “That helps us feel more comfortable when we’re on our own. We’re better equipped to handle critical situations in any setting.”

Madeline learned Spanish in both Mexico and Guatemala and gained the skills and cultural knowledge to provide quality health care to Latinos by taking a Spanish language immersion program designed for health care professionals. “I was drawn to Hood River because of the patient population. We serve a large Spanish-speaking population and it helps to communicate with them in their language.”

2020 Highlights

Radio Tierra Diabetes Prevention Program

Nurse and community health worker Silvia Maciel was concerned about the high incidence of diabetes in the Latino community she serves. In May 2020, she launched a diabetes prevention program on Radio Tierra in Hood River. Twice a month, Silvia shares tips to help manage diabetes. “Small changes in your lifestyle can improve your health in big ways,” she said. Listeners have the chance to win a $10 grocery gift card by answering a health-related question during the broadcast. The program has been well received in the Latino community and was made possible through your gifts to the foundation.

New van makes transporting residents easier

Thanks to your generosity, Down Manor and Brookside Manor residents are getting around Hood River more comfortably. The old bus had high mileage and required frequent repairs. The new van makes it easier to transport residents who need a wheelchair lift to appointments, events or home from the hospital. “The van has eased the way for the staff and the residents by allowing easy access to tight locations, less transferring, and a comfortable ride to appointments. We are very grateful,” said Jamie Hanshaw, director, Senior Village.

2020 total dollars raised by fund

- Area of Greatest Need: 64%
- Cancer Support Services: 1%
- Heart: 1%
- Hospice/Palliative Care: 7%
- Community Outreach: 3%
- Senior/Long Term Care: 22%
- Other Funds: 2%

Total amount raised: $526,967