

# Power of giving

Donors *make*  
the difference

Fall 2023

## Carts put lifesaving equipment at the fingertips of care team

Driving home after his shift, Clif Dodson, RN, received a call: A patient in the operating room was bleeding severely. Clif wheeled around and headed to the hospital to help.

"I've been in trauma 30 years," explained Clif, trauma coordinator at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital. "And the patient was as pale from losing blood as any I've seen." Clif knew it was time to roll out a new tool, a special "code cart" – a set of drawers on wheels that holds life-saving equipment and supplies for massive bleeding emergencies.

With all the supplies at hand, the expert care team successfully treated the woman, who suffered from post-partum complications. "In these situations, it is critical that staff members have what they need, when they need it, right at their fingertips," said Clif, "because every second counts."

Similar carts have been used for cardiac and respiratory emergencies. Clif and other staff thought the carts would be beneficial in severe bleeding cases; he introduced the code cart concept for these events by "buying a tool chest from Home Depot" and stocking it with the necessary supplies.

"It worked like a charm," Clif said. Seeing its effectiveness, staff and administrators requested funding for carts made just for hospitals.

The result – thanks to your generous donations – are three code carts equipped and ready on key units at each level of the hospital: birth center, surgery and emergency, the areas where serious bleeding cases are most likely to occur.

"These carts could quite literally save the life of your loved one," Clif said. ■



The carts "could quite literally save the life of your loved one."

# Bus “brings joy” to seniors with dementia

A day outing can be hugely beneficial, if not downright joyful, for seniors with Alzheimer’s disease, dementia or related illnesses. “We love it,” said one such senior. “It’s great to have this much freedom.”

Thanks to the generosity of the community, we purchased a special bus that allows participants in the Sunshine Club to take day adventures regularly – out for lunch, for ice cream, trips to other towns and much more. “We will go anywhere,” said Tonya DeHart, Sunshine Club coordinator. “We love our bus. It brings us so much joy.”

The Sunshine Club provides a day program for seniors and offers a respite for families and friends who serve as part-time or full-time caregivers.



The new bus helps the Sunshine Club take enjoyable day trips.

Key to the club is providing a safe, secure and engaging environment and striving to ease the way for both the participants and their family. Taking day trips on the new bus is helpful in meeting these goals.

“The Sunshine Club provides caregivers with a break and brings incredible joy to participants and their families,” said Tonya. “The bus makes the program that much better. Thank you all for help making this happen.” ■

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– Tonya DeHart, Sunshine Club coordinator

# Scholarships improve education for caregivers

Better training for our employees means better teams for our organization and better care for our patients. Which is why the Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation is thrilled to offer scholarships to our caregivers and employees who are pursuing additional education and training.

"The scholarship is helping me on my education path of earning my master's degree in health care administration," said Meriah Solórzano, senior administrative assistant at Providence Hood River. "I was very appreciative of the help because I would not have been able to afford the schooling without it."

The scholarships remove barriers to education and help caregivers further their skills. Thanks to your support, we can offer these scholarships. ■



Meriah says she can now pursue an advanced degree, thanks to the scholarship she received.

# Headphones soothe dialysis patients



Headphones provide patients with privacy.

Sometimes you just want to put on a pair of headphones – to block noise, have some privacy or watch TV without being interrupted.

For patients undergoing dialysis treatment at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, headphones bring a measure of comfort to a difficult experience.

"The idea started during our construction, to have noise-canceling headphones to help our patients get through noise," explained Jennifer Marquez, RN, nursing manager, Ray Yasui Dialysis Center at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital. "We also see a need to provide privacy in the clinic. Plus, many patients can't afford their own headphones to watch TV during their long treatments."

Thanks to your gifts to the Providence Hood River Memorial Foundation, we were able to provide 24 sets of noise-canceling headphones.

"This is a huge benefit to all here," Jennifer said. "Thank you so much for providing these!" ■

# Bassinets keep babies safe and close to parent

Few things are more important for a newborn than having a parent close. Thanks to your donations, the Family Birth Center at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital has six new bassinets that keep babies safe and in touch.

"The bassinets are helping more parents to be more satisfied with their experience," said Tammi Wimmer, RN, nursing manager of the Family Birth Center. "For new parents, it supports them during these earliest, precious times with their newborn."

The bassinets swivel over the hospital bed similar to a tray table, allowing the babies to sleep safely inches from their parent. In turn, parents can sleep or rest while remaining with baby – even keep their hands on their newborn.

Nurses and care teams also appreciate that the bassinets are easy to move and durable, leading to more time with the patients. "These are a huge improvement," Tammi said. ■



The new bassinets swivel, allowing newborns to remain in touch with family.

## Our Mission

As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

## Values

Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Excellence, Integrity

Inspiring Generosity ♥

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