

Power of giving

Donors *make*
the difference

Winter 2023

New eye microscope fully funded by Leonard and Bernice Netzorg

The Netzorgs were longtime Milwaukie residents with hearts for helping others.

Leonard was a lawyer who regularly provided pro bono legal services. Bernice was an active volunteer at the Ledding Library where she lovingly repaired book bindings. Together they gifted a portion of their estate to the Providence Milwaukie Hospital Foundation.

When Phil and Greg Netzorg were notified of their parents' bequest, they were not surprised. Both Leonard and Bernice received excellent health care at Providence Milwaukie Hospital and were especially grateful to have medical services so close to home.

Along with their wives Prudy and Sue, Phil and Greg chose to direct funds toward the purchase of a ZEISS eye surgery microscope. "We chose to support ophthalmology because Phil's mom had macular degeneration," said Prudy, "We saw firsthand how losing your eyesight impacts your quality of life and we wanted to prevent that for future generations."

Eye surgery requires precise visuals. The ZEISS digital microscope is premier surgical equipment that can provide detailed imaging for all regions of the eye. It will help surgeons care for more patients in less time while providing excellent outcomes.

The Netzorgs are proud to support Providence Milwaukie Hospital and offer the most up-to-date eye care to patients in Milwaukie and throughout Oregon. ■



Bernice and Leonard Netzorg were married on Valentine's Day, 1948.



The ZEISS Opmi Lumera 700 is the leading surgical microscope for every ophthalmologic specialty.

Teaching kitchen adds garden produce, Spanish-speaking instructors and fresh salsa giveaway

It is hard for patients to follow a doctor's advice to eat healthy if they don't know how to cook. Thanks to your support, the Community Teaching Kitchen at Providence Milwaukie Hospital has provided nutritious food and cooking classes for more than six years.

One client with Type 2 diabetes shared that the program saved her life. Growing up she watched family members pass away from diabetes because they didn't know how to make healthy food choices. By learning how to cook with vegetables, whole grains and other healthy foods, she has reduced her blood sugar to pre-diabetic levels and is teaching her family how to do the same.

The Community Teaching Kitchen has always sourced food locally for classes but in 2022 celebrated a new milestone by using food from the hospital's own Garden of Giving. Located on the Providence Milwaukie campus and run by Providence caregivers, the garden produced 2,000 pounds of produce including lettuce, onions, broccoli, tomatoes, berries and apples.



Local salsa band Son de Cuba performed live during the first Salsa in the Garden event on October 6, 2022, at Providence Milwaukie Hospital.

To help make healthy eating affordable and equitable, gardening classes were added in partnership with the local non-profit Growing Gardens. Taught by both English- and Spanish-speaking instructors, 100 individuals were given seeds and plant starts, and learned how to properly water, prune and harvest produce in their own backyards. Mentors will continue to guide new gardeners for three years.

On October 6, the Community Teaching Kitchen hosted the first annual Salsa in the Garden event. Community members received fresh salsa made with ingredients grown in the Garden of Giving and enjoyed live music from Son de Cuba, a Portland-based salsa band. Everyone who attended the event was invited to enroll in future classes and left with a smile on their face. ■

Safe shelter provided to woman afraid to go home from hospital

Before discharging a patient from the hospital, caregivers review a plan for at-home care. When a patient reveals they do not have adequate resources, caregivers can offer food, medication, transportation to follow-up medical appointments and other emergency assistance, thanks to the hospital's Patient Support Program.

"The Mission of Providence is to care for those who are vulnerable, and this is a promise upheld every day in the Milwaukie community – to serve anyone who has a need," says Victor Carrasco, chief executive, Providence Milwaukie Hospital.

Your donations in 2022 allowed us to help more than 600 patients beyond just their direct medical care. "This program is essential," says Providence social worker Shipra Singh, MSW, "I use it on a daily basis to help patients be successful in their healing process."

"Jessica" was forever affected by the patient support program. When working on Jessica's discharge, her caregiver noticed Jessica was quiet and asked what was wrong. Jessica explained she was living with an abusive boyfriend and was afraid for her safety. With no friends or family to help and limited financial resources, Jessica faced a barrier to discharge and recover safely.

The Patient Support Program allowed Providence Milwaukie to pay for five nights in a hotel until a spot was secured at a domestic violence shelter. Because of your generosity, Jessica was given the opportunity to recover in a safe place. ■



Your donations helped more than 600 vulnerable patients experiencing hardship.

Partners in Health event back in person and better than ever

The 2022 Partners in Health event was held in person for the first time in three years and was a smashing success. Chaired by Mike Richardson, David Lucas and Ken Hick, attendees enjoyed fabulous silent auction packages and a raffle for a Disneyland vacation.

Musical performances included the acapella singing sensation, The Brown Sisters. Born and raised in Portland, they have performed for more than 30 years making appearances at Trail Blazers games and the celebration of life for Dr. Maya Angelou.

Thanks to many dedicated volunteers, donors and sponsors, the Partners in Health event raised \$310,000 for the Patient Support Program at Providence Milwaukie Hospital.



Leah Harrison (left), Dorcas Smith (center) and Rachel Harrison (right) of The Brown Sisters performed a live set of gospel favorites.

In addition to providing excellent local medical care, Providence Milwaukie offers resources to nearly 600 patients each year who have very limited income.

The donation-dependent Patient Services Program connects these individuals with prescription assistance, medical supplies, nutritious food, transportation to medical appointments, safe housing and much more.

If you were unable to attend Partners in Health, you can still enjoy photos and videos from the event by visiting ProvidenceFoundations.org/partners and consider joining us for the next event in October of 2023. ■

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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