

Power of giving

Donors *make the difference*

March 2018

Doctor gives back

When Glenn Rodriguez, M.D., retired from work, he didn't retire from supporting Providence.

Donors made a difference when Dr. Rodriguez worked at Providence Milwaukie Hospital. As the program director for the Family Medicine Residency program, you supported his efforts to build up the program and make quality primary care available to everyone.

Now Dr. Rodriguez and his wife Molly are donors to the program. "Throughout my 20-year career at Providence, I was grateful for the commitment of the Sisters of Providence 'to reveal God's love for all, especially the poor and vulnerable through our compassionate service,'" he said.

Early in his career, Dr. Rodriguez served the people of the Navajo Nation. He learned firsthand how important a robust primary care program is to helping the most vulnerable patients, their families and the community. He brought that passion with him when he joined Providence.

Now serving on the board of directors for the Providence Milwaukie Foundation, his dream is to help shape the future of health care by applying Providence's core values, while protecting the program to train doctors in the Mission for years to come.

In his free time, Dr. Rodriguez likes to get outdoors, enjoying running, biking, gardening and backpacking. He also has grown to love poetry. "Before my mother died, I spent many hours reading poetry aloud to her." ■



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– Glenn Rodriguez, M.D.

Partners In Health

Alicia learned a healthier way to cook

Before her diagnosis of cancer at age 29, Alicia worked out four times a week and thought she had a healthy diet.

After cancer, life was different. "The medications caused high blood pressure and high cholesterol," said Alicia. "They made me gain weight and made me pre-diabetic. They also put me into medical menopause. I needed to get control of my health – for my family, for my future, for me."

Alicia's doctor referred her to the Community Teaching Kitchen program. She enrolled in the Cooking Matters class. "I was not a chef by any means – how could I pull off cooking on my own in a way that was healthy and affordable?"

Over the course of six weeks, Alicia learned how to prepare healthy meals that were affordable. Most of the recipes feed a family of four for less than \$10. "The kitchen changed my approach to food for good," she said. "I am happy to say that I've lost 18 pounds and my wife has lost 40! We are healthier and happier. We love to prepare meals together with our son, and cooking is a fun activity that brings us all together." ■

"The kitchen changed my approach to food for good."

– Alicia



Angela and Alicia thanked donors for their support of the Community Teaching Kitchen at Providence Milwaukie Hospital.

In 2017, your gifts made it possible to add more Cooking Matters classes, add office space on the second floor of the Teaching Kitchen building and hire a second Patient Navigator who evaluates patient needs and helps them find solutions.



Keith Hyde, Jill Christiansen, M.D., Andy Scott, Jan Lee and Mark Stehn

Donors give generously for Community Teaching Kitchen



Mike Richardson served as Master of Ceremonies.



Donors Sheri Cooley-Hick, Linda Zmrhal, Randy Zmrhal and Ken Hick



Aaron Meyer and Michael Allen Harrison provided entertainment for the evening.

Thank you to those who were able to join us for the Partners in Health fundraiser in October 2017. Donors generously gave **\$124,000** to support the Community Teaching Kitchen. We welcomed many new guests to the event, which featured entertainment by Aaron Meyer and Michael Allen Harrison.



New Phaco machine

Thanks to your generosity, the surgeons performing cataract surgery have a new phaco machine. The machine removes the old lens from the eye during cataract surgery.

“We’re so appreciative of this generous contribution,” said Sasha Meyer, RN manager for clinical operations in surgery services at Providence Milwaukie Hospital. “Our old machine was nearing its end of life and we needed a new one – now.”

Additionally, Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center no longer offers cataract surgery. Those patients are now seen at Providence Milwaukie. The increased volume was putting a strain on the old machine.

“This new machine has made it easier for surgeons,” said Sasha. “Thank you for helping us provide the best care!” ■

Inspiring Generosity ♥

Sherri Kulink assumes role of hospital chief executive

Sherri Kulink began her new role as chief executive of Providence Milwaukie Hospital on Jan. 7, replacing Keith Hyde, who retired after 38 years of service to Providence. Most recently, Sherri was chief operating officer for Providence Milwaukie Hospital and Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center. She has been with Providence since 2004. “I am humbled and excited to move into this new role,” Sherri said. “Our outstanding caregivers and providers dedicate themselves every day to improving the health of our community.” ■



Mother Baby Clinic provides safety net to new mothers



Sara was about to give up on breastfeeding her son. He wasn’t gaining weight and breastfeeding was hard. But thanks to you, she had the Mother Baby Clinic to turn to.

Sara’s experience is not unusual. For new moms and babies, the first week at home is a vulnerable time. Babies lose weight. Moms might experience pain and have trouble breastfeeding, leading many to give up in frustration.

The clinic serves as a safety net for moms and babies. A nurse visits new moms two days after they go home from the hospital. The nurse provides breastfeeding support and checks the baby’s weight. She can connect families to primary care providers if they need one and will also screen them to make sure they have enough food.

Your generosity gives Sara and other Milwaukie-area families the help they need for breastfeeding success. ■

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

Providence Milwaukie Foundation
10150 SE 32nd Avenue ■ Milwaukie, OR 97222

Lesley Townsend, Executive Director
503-513-8325 ■ Lesley.Townsend@providence.org
www.providencefoundations.org/milwaukie