



## Providence Seaside Foundation

Sherrie Chojnacki, mammography technician, ensures the mammography machine is properly adjusted before performing a biopsy.

# Breast biopsies can now be done in Seaside

Thanks to your generosity, in 2017 we brought Tomosynthesis (Tomo) or 3D mammography to Providence Seaside Hospital.

The quality of the image in Tomo is very detailed, which can help improve cancer detection rates and decrease callback rates, giving patients more peace of mind. Radiologists are able to detect small cancers earlier with greater accuracy in identifying the size, shape and location of any abnormalities.

Fewer biopsies and tests are required with Tomo. And in 2020, we added new, minimally invasive breast biopsy capabilities for north coast patients. This technology will be used for patients that have an abnormality seen on their mammogram or breast ultrasound.

With this new specialized equipment, patients who need to have a suspicious area examined in more detail can have it done close to home.

Historically, if a biopsy was needed, the patient had to travel to Portland or one of our other hospitals. "This is really significant for our community," said Tim Hardin, diagnostic imaging manager, Providence Seaside Hospital. "We are now able to provide biopsies locally without having to send patients to Portland or elsewhere. And we use the same team of radiologists who perform these specialized biopsy procedures at Providence St. Vincent to provide patients with the same high caliber of care."

Since the installation of the Tomosynthesis machine, we have increased the number of mammograms done at Providence Seaside. The new biopsy equipment will help continue this trend by allowing patients to have the test performed locally without hours of travel.

## 2020 Highlights

### Helping patients breathe easier

Because of you, a new body plethysmograph machine (or pulmonary function tester) was installed at Providence Seaside Hospital. The machine measures lung capacity and volume, rates of flow, and how well blood is carrying oxygen to the rest of the body. It is used for patients with asthma, COPD, after lung cancer surgery and more. This machine replaced an older model that had stopped working. "Patients are happy they can have the test done here," said Lisa Bertin, respiratory therapist. "And, they are more likely to get the test done because they don't have to go to Astoria or Portland."



### New car keeps Community Connections rolling

Community Connections offers rides at no cost to county residents who have limited options for transportation. Besides local trips, the program also provides transportation to and from clinics in the Portland area. All that driving takes a toll on the vehicles we use. It became crucial to replace the current vehicle. "There was always the worry - is this the trip where the car breaks down?" said Mark Squire, volunteer coordinator. "We can now use the older car locally, and our driver Jodi can transport clients to Portland in the new Toyota Rav4 with no worries."

## 2020 total dollars raised by fund

- Area of Greatest Need | 3%
- Dental | 4%
- Festival of Trees | 6%
- Heart | 83%
- Pet Therapy | 2%
- Other Funds | 2%

