Your generosity in action

Thank you!
“This expansion allows us to keep care local and grow in a way that meets the needs of our patients while reducing travel and making care more accessible for our rural communities,” said Brad Henry, chief executive, Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center.

Your generosity has helped thousands of cancer patients in our community in so many ways, including:

- Building and opening the Carol D. Suzuki Cancer Center
- Increasing capacity for chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments
- Providing new access to surgical oncology services
- Funding oncology resource specialists, oncology nurse navigators and other staff to support patients
- Enabling patients to participate in innovative treatments and clinical trials
- Giving chemotherapy kits to patients entering treatment
- Reducing travel to appointments – which means more precious time with family and friends

Both patients and caregivers at Providence are profoundly grateful for you!
Carol D. Suzuki Cancer Center brings hope, healing and innovation close to home

On April 4, 2023, cancer patients and survivors, caregivers, grateful family members, generous donors and community members gathered to celebrate the opening of the Carol D. Suzuki Cancer Center at Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center. “We’re excited to invest in the health of our community and elevate care for our patients and their loved ones,” said Brad Henry, chief executive, Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center.

An affiliate of the Providence Cancer Institute, a leading provider of cancer care services in Oregon, the center is named in memory of Carol Danielson Suzuki. She was a role model of love, purpose and joy who courageously battled cancer for more than two years with family by her side. Carol was dedicated to serving others in the places she called home, which included Oregon City.

Like you – a generous donor who supported this project – Carol provided hope, healing and comfort in her own community, caring for her neighbors and easing their way: a true reflection of the Providence Mission.

Now, Carol's spirit of service has manifested in the new center for cancer patients. As one of only two cancer treatment centers in Clackamas County, the Suzuki Center now offers:

- cancer diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.
- increased capacity for chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments.
- access to surgical oncology services and clinic visits.

In addition, Lyn Dobrunick, MN, FNP, AOCN, executive director, Providence Cancer Institute, noted, “The new center makes it easier for Clackamas County residents to participate in innovative treatments and clinical trials that offer patients the very latest in cancer care.”

Previously, many patients had to undertake time-consuming, tiring and costly trips to downtown Portland for most or all their care.

Because of your gifts, more patients can access cancer care closer to where they live, allowing more quality time with family and friends. Thank you!

Shane O. Rogosin, M.D. and Janet C. Ruzich, D.O., two physicians treating cancer patients at the new center.

Your gifts built the cancer center and much more

Generous community members like you came together to build local care for cancer patients close to home. Your donations to the Providence Willamette Falls Medical Foundation also built the donor-funded endowment for patient support. Distributions from the endowment provide important personalized support not covered by insurance and other tools to help cancer patients tolerate treatment.
Caregivers serving in roles as oncology resource specialists, oncology nurse navigators and other support staff, fully funded by your gifts, assist newly diagnosed patients with appointment scheduling and transportation, as well as strategies to manage their cancer journey. They help patients cope with the many changes that a cancer diagnosis brings. Without support from donors like you, these meaningful services would not be available.

In addition, gifts to the foundation are funding chemotherapy welcome kits that will include several specialized care items – such as warm socks and a special cookbook – to aid patients entering treatment, making them as comfortable as possible.

Being seen and supported by the community means the world to cancer patients; your gifts are deeply appreciated.

New patient grateful for nearby cancer clinic and community that funded it

On March 2, 2023, Lisa Hammond received a diagnosis of Stage III breast cancer. “It was my birthday,” she recalled. “I never thought in a million years that I would have two weeks to figure out my life.”

Thanks to outstanding donor support, one thing Lisa did not have to figure out was where to receive her chemotherapy. She was one of the first patients at the newly opened Carol Danielson Suzuki Cancer Center at Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center, just “a mile and change” away from her home in Gladstone.

Donors gave more than $3.5 million to help build the center, which has eased access to the world-class care offered at Providence Cancer Institute. At the Suzuki Cancer Center, patients can receive chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments, as well as consultations, clinic visits and surgery. The center brings innovative research from the physicians and investigators at the Earle A. Chiles Research Institute directly to the patients.

Lisa did not relish the idea of driving to Portland for chemotherapy. “I wasn’t sure how I would feel after my treatments,” she said. “I was so excited I could have them at Willamette Falls. Having them close to home was very helpful.”

Lisa looks at the donor wall in the Suzuki Cancer Center each time she visits. “I don’t know if they have been through cancer, but I am very thankful for the people who donate. I feel a lot of gratitude.”
Donors help the Providence Cancer Institute arrive “Within Reach”

Recently, Providence Foundations of Oregon, in partnership with ZP Productions, completed *Within Reach: The Fight to Finish Cancer*, a compelling documentary film that illuminates one of the fronts in our shared battle to finish cancer.

The movie takes you behind the scenes of an immunotherapy clinical trial at Providence Cancer Institute, where doctors and scientists race against the clock to develop gene-engineered T cells for patients who have exhausted all other forms of treatment. Watch as Providence researchers make international headlines with a breakthrough in pancreatic cancer; meet the patients who are the first-in-the-world to receive this type of innovative immunotherapy.

Breakthroughs like the ones featured in the film happen when brilliant minds have the resources to test innovative ideas. Donors are the catalyst, providing 70% of all our research funds. Without you, we cannot push the limits of research. But with your help, we can finish cancer for good.

Please join us on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m. at the Providence Willamette Falls Community Center for a showing of this compelling story—in which YOU play the lead role!

Can’t join us?
Watch “*Within Reach: The Fight to Finish Cancer*” on Vimeo using this QR code.

Because of your gifts, more patients can access a wide range of cancer care, treatment and support services closer to where they live, allowing more quality time with family and friends.

Thank you!
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.

OUR VALUES
Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Excellence, Integrity

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