

Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation - Spring 2024

FOUNDATION FOCUS

Furthering the mission of Washington Hospital Healthcare System since 1983



In April, the Foundation received thoughtful donation of hand-knitted sweaters, scarves and hats from Woolly Warmth founded by Mythri A. These hand-knitted items were distributed to the Pediatric Department and Emergency Room to share with young patients and families.

From the Desk of the Executive Director



I hope this letter finds you well and filled with pride in the incredible impact your generosity continues to have on healthcare in our community.

I am thrilled to share some exciting updates with you, highlighting the significant progress we've made together. Firstly, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the **37th Annual Golf & Bocce Tournament** on May 2nd. Thanks to your participation, we raised over \$124,000 in gross proceeds,

I am also excited to announce that in April, the Foundation made its **largest disbursement in history to the Hospital, totaling \$4.7 million.** These funds will support a range of clinical services and programs, with a significant portion earmarked for the new UCSF-Washington Cancer Center, slated to open in 2026. Over the past year, we have distributed over \$6.7 million to the Hospital, bringing our total disbursements since inception to an impressive \$30 million.

earmarked for essential equipment for our hospital's operating rooms and future trauma center.

In further news, I am delighted to announce that our **trauma center is on track to open on July 1st** with a provisional status. This milestone represents a crucial step forward in our commitment to providing comprehensive, life-saving and live-sustaining care to our community. Your steadfast support over the years has played a vital role in making this possible.

I am also pleased to share that we will be honoring all founding **Legacy Society** members for planned giving with a special recognition event this summer to unveil our new dedication mural. For those interested in joining the Legacy Society for planned giving, please do not hesitate to reach out. Your enduring legacy of generosity will continue to impact lives for generations to come.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for the **38th Annual Top Hat Gala scheduled for October 12th**. Keep an eye out for additional details in our next newsletter. Additionally, a friendly reminder to our trustees that our **next quarterly meeting will be held on July 30th at 4:30 PM**.

In closing, I want to express my sincere appreciation for your ongoing support. Your contributions to Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation have been instrumental in strengthening our community's healthcare infrastructure and ensuring access to high-quality care for *everyone*. Thank you!

Warmest regards,
Sarah G. Gemski
Executive Director, Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation

37th Annual Golf & Bocce Tournament

Proceeds totaling over **\$124,000!**

On May 2nd, The Foundation welcomed golfers and bocce players, to the **37th Annual Golf Tournament** at The Club at Castlewood. The tournament brought together friends and community members to raise money for surgical services at Washington Hospital. Funds raised will help meet the rising patient demand for critical and lifesaving surgical procedures by funding state-of-the-art surgical equipment and technology for the Hospital's Operating Rooms and future Trauma Center.

For 36 years, the golf tournament has raised money for Washington Hospital. The Foundation is thrilled to announce it was yet, another successful year, with proceeds totaling over **\$124,000!**

The day featured an 18-hole golf tournament, bocce ball competition, putting contest, prizes on the golf course, silent auction, a cocktail reception with an award ceremony and much more! This year, the tournament was held on the Hill Course with 120 golfers enjoying a spectacular day among friends and colleagues, while 28 bocce players battled it out on the bocce courts.

The tournament is held in memory of **Gene and Laura Pessagno**. Gene was a founding member of the Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation and Laura



was a founding member of our Service League, a longtime Foundation trustee, and a vibrant contributor to our Hospital. We are grateful to the entire Pessagno family for their support over the years.

“I would like to thank our generous sponsors, especially Platinum Sponsors, Fremont Bank and Gonsalves & Kozachenko, and all of our golfers, bocce players and volunteers who generously supported the tournament and Foundation” said Sophia Ahmad, President of the Foundation. Click [here](#) for the complete list of sponsors and donors.

Foundation Updates



38th Annual Top Hat Gala

Save the Date for 38th Annual Top Hat Gala on **Saturday, October 12th**. Contact the Foundation to secure your sponsorship or reserved dinner seat. More details to come.



Scholarships Announcement

The Foundation announces the open application cycle for **Dr. Albert V. Assali Scholarship** for high school & college students in the Tri-City area. Details are available [here](#).



Meeting Reminder!

A reminder for all Trustees & Members that the next Quarterly Meeting of the Foundation will take place on **Tuesday, July 30th at 4:00pm reception/4:30 pm meeting begins**.



Foundation member, Jasmine Basrai with her brother Josh

Ranger Josh Fund for Mental & Behavioral Health

We are delighted to announce a groundbreaking collaboration between Haller's Pharmacy and Washington Hospital, the **Ranger Josh Fund**. This initiative aims to pave the way for essential **mental health services** in our community, specifically designed to support individuals like Josh and their families. Through this partnership with Alameda County and the Hume Center, we will establish a dedicated facility to provide a safe haven for those facing mental health crises, going beyond the traditional emergency room setting. Moreover, the Ranger Josh Fund will prioritize community education, ensuring that vital resources are easily accessible to all. Join us in this noble cause by contributing to the Ranger Josh Fund and together, let's create a brighter and healthier future for our community. Make a gift [here](#).

Trustee Spotlight

The Foundation would like to congratulate Honorary Trustee, **Fran Stone** for receiving the 2024 Unsung Heroes of Assembly District 24 on April 13, 2024 by Assemblymember Alex Lee. The award is in recognition for individual's contributions and commitment to the betterment of the community.

Trustee, **Doug Laidlaw** recognized the Food & Nutrition staff for their service and their wonderful menu choices for the patients of Washington Hospital.



Where action speaks louder than words



We would like to highlight one of our exceptional Emergency Department nurses, **Krystal Bodily** for her community activism. A few years ago, Krystal embarked on a journey to Guatemala with a mission to learn Spanish and seek volunteer opportunities to leverage her nursing expertise. Witnessing the dire need for healthcare in rural Guatemalan communities, Krystal took it upon herself to establish Resol Global Health, a non-profit organization (official non-profit status pending) focused on providing urgent care, family practice clinical services, and empowering health education programs for women. Collaborating with local doctors, Krystal ensures that these underserved areas receive essential healthcare through monthly visits. Krystal's unwavering commitment to making a difference is truly awe-inspiring, and we are privileged to have her as a valuable member of our team. May Krystal's remarkable story ignite a spark in others to seek out ways to create positive change in their communities and beyond.

Charitable Giving - Estate Planning

You do not need to be wealthy to leave a legacy.



Make your core values known by joining the **Washington Hospital Legacy Society** with a gift in your Will to Washington Hospital. Members of our Legacy Society are generous and forward-thinking individuals who are committed to the health and wellbeing of district residents, now and for generations to come. Through planned giving, donors establish their personal financial goals in a tailored estate plan that includes a gift to a charitable institution like Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation.



**Washington Hospital
Healthcare Foundation**

Give Today

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