

# Your Impact

How your support is making a difference.

HARRISON  
FOUNDATION

Spring/Summer 2014

## Your Support Matters

I am so grateful that you have chosen to support Harrison Medical Center. As a donor you are a vital and valued member of the Harrison family.

Providing our community with the best healthcare has never been more important. As our hospital faces the realities of declining payment for services and the need to continually reinvest in facilities and technology, you are there.

You are providing the resources needed to advance our capabilities to serve our community at the highest possible level. No matter the type or the size, every gift makes a difference and every donor matters. Your giving results in the shared success of making healthcare better, for our region, our community, and you.

We are excited to share the difference your gifts make. We have highlighted a few of our recent projects that have benefitted from the gifts of our valued donors.

Gratefully,



Stephanie Cline  
Executive Director

## The Harrison Green Team *Healing the Community and the Earth*

Donors to the *Great Nurses for a Great Community Campaign* led the way for the debut of the Versant RN Residency Program at Harrison in 2009. A program that helps nurses transition from the classroom to the bedside, Versant has now proven that its effects are much further reaching than first imagined. One of the unexpected outgrowths is the Greening Harrison Initiative spearheaded by four Versant alumni, Ilana Gubarik, BSN; Elyse Snelson, BSN; Elizabeth Willis, BSN; and Julie York, BSN. Attempts to institute recycling at Harrison have been made before but never really took off. Recently, however, this enthusiastic team of nurses decided to revive the program – joining many other hospitals in their efforts to become more environmentally friendly – an accomplishment that ultimately leads to better patient health. Research has shown that 85 percent of hospital waste could be composted, reused, or recycled—guiding the mission of the new Green Team, who are encouraging staff to increase their accountability to the community by pursuing alternative and innovative waste management strategies and developing purchasing policies that will decrease pollution output at Harrison. The team is currently implementing or researching ways to reduce pollution in three different areas: decreasing the amount of overall waste produced; increasing the amount of waste that is disposed of in an environmentally conscious way; and using products that do not release harmful pollutants into the air, water, or soil. The Greening Harrison Initiative is not only steering Harrison toward a healthier community, it is also helping the hospital move forward in its Journey to Magnet designation. This important recognition by the American Nursing Credentialing Center is awarded to healthcare organizations that exemplify exceptional care and excellence in nursing. We are grateful to the donors who supported the *Great Nurses for a Great Community Campaign* as it has become a gift that keeps on giving through these nurses' commitment to creating better healthcare.



## Help Us Go Green

We want to go green too! You should have received this newsletter in your email. If you did not, give us a call at (360) 744-6760 and let us know you would like to be added to our email list!

# You Call it a Charitable Gift.

## We Call it Compassion

Last year, the HOPE (Harrison Offering Peaceful Endings) Program provided support for twenty-four families during their stay at Harrison Silverdale's Labor and Delivery. Since January of this year, six families have already leaned on HOPE companions to help them get through the death of their child. Launched in 2008 with funding from Harrison Medical Center Foundation, HOPE is designed to provide one-on-one, structured bereavement care for women and their families. Nurses who volunteer to become HOPE companions attend bereavement courses and receive on-the-job training. These nurses then devote their entire time and attention

to providing bereavement services to a grieving family, while another nurse is responsible for medical care. "We want to make the worst day of their life the best it can be," says Michele Kulhanek, RN, Bereavement Coordinator and HOPE Companion. "We help guide them through the journey," explains Michele. "Anything we can do to impact the quality of parents' healing is important." Our HOPE companions provide important keepsakes; they take pictures and gather mementos such as handprints, footprints, and locks of hair. All of the items are placed in a memory box, along with a baby ring, for parents to take home with

them. Recently, HOPE gifts helped to replenish keepsake supplies and funded a rolling cart that now contains all of the HOPE materials. Previously these items were kept in a closet on another unit and nurses had to run back and forth to get them. While nothing can make the heart-wrenching pain of losing a child easy, HOPE strives to help families begin the healing process.



## We Call it Educating New Parents

Funding from Harrison Medical Center Foundation will support the launch of the Period of PURPLE Crying Program at Harrison Medical Center. Most parents would agree that there's nothing more joyful than bringing home your newborn child and nothing more frustrating than hearing that child cry inconsolably for hours on end. When no amount of pacing, rocking, singing, or bouncing helps, the anxiety mounts, leaving some parents feeling helpless. For most families, this period of crying passes and becomes a distant memory. But for some, this tumultuous time ends in tragedy when the child becomes a victim of shaken baby syndrome. Designed by the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome, the Period of PURPLE Crying Program focuses on educating new parents about: the natural patterns of newborn crying; ways to soothe babies; coping with anger and frustration; the dangers of shaken baby syndrome; and the importance of communicating this knowledge to other caregivers in the child's life. All proven strategies for reducing the number of infant injuries and deaths that result each year from shaking babies.



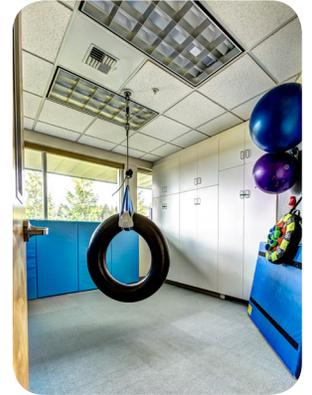
## We Call it Stretching the Safety Net

Harrison Medical Center Foundation has been collaborating with a local network of providers to offer free screening exams to low-income, uninsured, or underinsured women. We are helping to shore up the known gaps in the system – using the Women's Health Screening Fund to cover the cost of these exams when the federal/state funding runs out, or when women don't meet the age criteria (40–64). Last year, our donors made it possible for 47 women to get their routine screenings as well as needed diagnostic screenings and biopsies. Recently, donor support also allowed us to provide funds to Peninsula Community Health Services (PCHC) for colon cancer screenings. PCHC is now able to provide their female patients aged 50-74 who are under/uninsured with iFOBT/FIT colon cancer screening kits.



# We Call it Exceptional Healthcare.

Since Harrison's Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinic first opened in 2007, the number of children needing extensive services has steadily increased. With a never-ending list of children in the County waiting to receive therapy, the staff constantly strive to keep their schedules as full as possible without compromising the safety and progress of the children. As the sole provider of multi-disciplinary services that accepts Medicaid in Kitsap County, Pediatric Rehab sees children with a wide spectrum of disorders requiring a variety of spaces, equipment, and environments. Thanks to our generous donors, a renovation of the clinic has enhanced treatment for all pediatric rehab patients. The remodel of the clinic, along with the provision of new therapy tools, was essential to meeting the individual needs of every patient that walks through the clinic's doors. The largest structural change was the conversion of space into two new therapy areas. One is now a complete speech sensory room with padded walls, locked cabinets, and an enclosed wall-mounted computer station. The other room, designated for physical therapy, is now partially padded and has a wall of built-in cabinets as well as a new swing. The remodel also included installing additional padding beneath all of the new carpeting in the main areas, including the gym, which absorbs the impact when a child falls, lessening the physical and emotional trauma for fragile patients. "The whole clinic is a more useful space now," says Pediatric Rehab Supervisor Cheryl Thompson, who is excited about the bright future for their patients. "We use a small space to do amazing things."



## We Call it Better Prepared Nurses

A recent grant from our Ob Hospitalist Group (OBHG) will fund an education program for perinatal nurses at Harrison Silverdale. The program benefits include helping orient new nurses, delivering advanced education to senior staff, ensuring that every nurse provides evidenced-based care and practices, and establishing consistent care across the unit. At Harrison Silverdale last year, OB/GYN hospitalists had 2,696 patient interactions, and delivered about 10 percent of Harrison's 2,000 births. The 24-hour in-house availability of OB/GYN hospitalists helps reduce risk, manage emergencies, and support our community's private physicians and Harrison's nursing staff. This education grant reflects the strong relationship between Harrison Medical Center and OBHG, and our shared commitment to providing exceptional healthcare to our new mothers and babies.



## We Call it Healthcare that Makes Sense



More than half of the patients who visit Harrison's Wound Care, Hyperbaric

Medicine & Infusion Center for treatment of acute wounds either have or develop a separate, yet related, condition known as chronic vein insufficiency (CVI), which prevents wounds from closing. "The gold standard of treatment and

prevention for CVI is compression stockings," says Julie Wellborn, Program Director of Harrison's Wound Care, Hyperbaric Medicine & Infusion Center. Unfortunately, compression stockings are more expensive than regular socks and the patients who can't afford them end up developing CVI. Once this happens, their wounds won't heal without some form of medical treatment that is far more costly and inconvenient. Thanks to our many generous donors, the wound clinic now has a supply of stockings. One patient had been coming to Harrison for wound

treatment on and off for several years, shares Julie, because she didn't have the money to buy compression stockings to treat and prevent CVI. When the woman was given a pair of free stockings, she broke down and cried, knowing how much they could improve—or even save—her life. "That wouldn't have happened without the support of donors," says Julie. "You don't realize how big an impact something like that can have on a patient who really needs it. It's amazing what one simple little thing can do for someone."

# More Ways to Make a Difference

## Dates to Remember

### Include Harrison in Your Will

Most people share a simple wish: to make a difference. With a simple gift you can. By including Harrison in your estate plan you can make a difference for years to come. If you have belongings, you have an estate. Deciding who receives your assets after you pass is estate planning. You don't have to be wealthy to benefit from charitable planning; nor does the gift have to be monumental, to be meaningful! There might also be benefits to your heirs. To learn more about the opportunities and the potential benefits, please visit our website at [www.harrisonfoundation.org](http://www.harrisonfoundation.org) and take a look at our Planned Giving page.



Join us in downtown Bremerton the evening of August 1, 2014 for our first annual Pink Lemonade Party at Purpose Boutique. This event will provide the perfect excuse for a dose of retail therapy, all while raising money for potentially life-saving cancer screening for women in need in our community.

### KITSAP WINE FESTIVAL *at* HARBORSIDE FOUNTAIN PARK

Plan to join us on Saturday, August 9, 2014 for the sixth annual Kitsap Wine Festival. Visit [www.harrisonmedical.org](http://www.harrisonmedical.org) and buy your ticket today!



Macy's tenth annual national "Shop For A Cause" charity shopping event is on August 23, 2014. Purchase a \$5 Shopping Pass from Harrison Foundation—you get exclusive savings in every Macy's store on Saturday, August 23, and we get to keep 100% of the proceeds of all Shopping Passes sold.

## Thank You to our Foundation Partners

Our Foundation Partners are organizations who make a contribution of \$10,000 or more annually, demonstrating a commitment to Harrison Medical Center and the health of the community. For more information contact the Foundation at (360) 744-6760.



As the philanthropic arm of Harrison Medical Center, the Foundation's purpose is to nurture relationships that inspire community support through charitable giving and volunteering. These gifts help support Harrison's mission to make a positive difference in people's lives by providing exceptional healthcare ... now and in the future. For the most up-to-date news become a fan of the Foundation on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter by searching for Harrison Medical Center Foundation.

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