

Every Gift, Every Minute, Every Heart

When a cardiac event occurs in the community, every minute counts in the race for survival. While Harrison Medical Center has always endeavored to provide patients with the fastest, most advanced care possible, it has continuously looked for ways to be even better. Thanks to the Harrison Foundation's Touching Hearts, Saving Lives initiative and generous gifts from donors like you, cardiac care at Harrison has now reached a new level of excellence.

The two-year comprehensive campaign wrapped up recently. More than \$650,000 was raised, making it possible to implement all of the elements that were identified as key to maximizing the chain of survival in a cardiac event. Members of the community, EMS personnel, and hospital staff are now equipped with the most up-to-date education and technology necessary to save lives within a limited window of time.

Community

Harrison Medical Center serves a growing population spread across 6000 square miles of Kitsap, Mason, Jefferson, and Clallam counties. In outlying areas, transport time to the nearest Harrison facility can present a serious challenge. To jumpstart care out in the community, where the majority of cardiac events occur, the *Touching Hearts, Saving Lives* initiative sponsored CPR training events to increase the number of trained bystanders who can help a heart attack victim before EMS arrives. To date, more than 2000 citizens have been trained, and that number continues to grow.

In addition, PulsePoint Respond and PulsePoint AED were introduced in Kitsap County. The smart phone app will alert registered community members trained in CPR when a victim of cardiac arrest has collapsed nearby so they can aid in resuscitation. It also notifies the user of the location of the nearest AED (Automated External Defibrillator). PulsePoint empowers community members to help save lives by reducing the time between collapse and resuscitation or defibrillation.

Emergency Medical Services

EMS agencies are the link between the community and the hospital. Technology is the key to bridging the time and distance gap between the two for the best patient outcomes. To this end, the *Touching Hearts, Saving Lives* initiative provided EMS agencies with LUCAS 2 chest compression systems, state of the art heart monitors, and wireless modems that transmit data from ambulances to hospitals. LUCAS 2 chest compression systems manually support circulation, ensuring a steady supply of oxygen to the heart and brain following sudden cardiac arrest. Because the LUCAS 2 operates independently, EMS technicians are free to focus on other life-saving measures. Heart monitors evaluate a patient's heart activity, provide defibrillation if necessary, and transmit data from EKG readings directly to Harrison, where physicians can form initial diagnosis, assemble a team, and activate the cath lab. This advanced

preparation saves vital time in the restoration of blood flow to the heart. The purchase of several wireless modems completed the initiative's goal of equipping every EMS agency with the capability to transmit data directly to Harrison while en route. This is critical to guarantee the most timely diagnosis and treatment once patients reach the hospital.

Grant money sought by the Foundation for use in the initiative funded the purchase of ESO software to support data sharing between Emergency Medical Services and Harrison. With ESO, patient information gathered in the field can be transferred directly into patients' medical records to be used by hospital personnel immediately. The hospital, in turn, can share outcome data with EMS. The use of ESO eliminates the timely process of exchanging data by hand.

Harrison Medical Center

When a heart attack patient is wheeled through the doors at Harrison, the clock is already ticking. Restoring blood flow to the heart within 90 minutes is crucial to reducing permanent damage. This door-to-balloon time depends on all of the procedures put in place from 9-1-1 dispatch to emergency services to hospital diagnosis and treatment. Every minute shaved off this time improves the mortality rate of a STEMI (ST-elevation myocardial infarction) patient by 3%.

While 90 minutes is the national door-to-balloon standard, Harrison was already well below that prior to the initiative and has since decreased significantly. Door-to-balloon times at Harrison have fallen from an average of 53 minutes in 2015 to 43.5 minutes in 2016. Early results from 2017 have been lower still. These numbers are so impressive that Harrison is one of only two hospitals in Washington to have received a Gold Performance Achievement Award from the American College of Cardiology's National Cardiovascular Data Registry.

To further enhance Harrison's cardiac care and outcomes, the Touching Hearts, Saving Lives initiative provided the hospital with four LUCAS 2 compression devices as well as code training and CPR equipment and software. Code Management modules and Code Stat software will be used to evaluate and improve processes during in-hospital cardiac arrest. The American Heart Association's Resuscitation Quality Improvement Program provides staff with a new, cutting edge system for CPR training. Quarterly simulation practice with immediate feedback will help staff master their technique for optimum patient outcomes. Harrison is the first hospital in Washington to implement this best-practice program.

Thanks to You!

Because of your support, the Touching Hearts, Saving Lives initiative has ensured that the community is receiving the highest standard of cardiac care at Harrison. You have touched hearts and saved lives with your generous donations!