

Gratitude

Creating a healthy community. Together.

SEQUOIA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION | WINTER 2024

Happy New Year!

As we embark on 2024, I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks for your support of the Sequoia Hospital Foundation. Your generosity has enabled us to continue our mission of providing high-quality health care services to our community. As we move forward, we remain committed to being exemplary stewards of your donations and ensuring that they are used in the most effective and efficient way possible.

This past year, we have lost three of our longtime and passionate supporters of Sequoia Hospital: Gloria Kennett, Marie Zahn, and Marty Bernard. Please join us in taking a moment to remember them and honor their impact both here at the hospital and within our community.

In this newsletter, we provide snapshots of the level of impact we provide to Sequoia Hospital. From a donor-funded musical therapy program to the new campaign for the Simulation Learning Center, we strive to support all levels of patient care.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the donors who generously contributed during our "Season of Giving" last November and December, raising more than \$120,000 for impactful health care areas of Sequoia Hospital.

We are equally appreciative of everyone who attended our fundraising events, the Stepping Forward Soiree and the 37th Annual Steven San Filippo Memorial Invitational, which were a great success. The proceeds of each event were directed towards the Stepping Forward Initiative and the Simulation Learning Center, respectively. We are looking forward to upcoming events and we hope to see you there — stay tuned!

Once again, thank you for your support. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing our work together.

With sincere gratitude,



Beverly Joyce, MD
Chair, Sequoia Hospital Foundation

P.S. 100 percent of donations received are transferred to the hospital, as the Foundation's overhead is covered through our parent company, CommonSpirit Health.



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Foundation Funds in Action

With Jeff Buenz, Therapeutic Musician

I have been working with Sequoia Hospital since 2006, when I was invited to join the Palliative Care Team. My health care training and background is in Therapeutic Music (CMP-Certified Music Practitioner), and Spiritual Care (chaplain, music ministry).

The scope of my work at Sequoia is broad, bringing live therapeutic music to most units/locations within the hospital, including bedside patient referrals from Palliative Care, medical staff and family. I use my music skills, intentionality, awareness, and presence to help create a healing environment throughout the hospital.

During one shift, I was asked by the nursing staff for musical support of an agitated, combative, and confused elderly patient. During a disruption, I calmly entered the room and walked up to the bedside while playing “Red River Valley” on my guitar. The patient’s demeanor shifted from loud/agitated to curious/quiet and then they smiled and started to sing the song with me while hand-tapping to the rhythm! We sang several songs with joy from the early 1900s. The tension in the room dropped noticeably as I proceeded to sit at the bedside and play soothing and familiar pieces. As I left, the patient warmly thanked me, as did the staff. This was a good example of a patient feeling “connection” and a calming, shared experience through music.

At another instance, I recall providing therapeutic music to a patient who was being discharged after a stay with successful outcomes from surgery/intervention. The patient was sitting on the bed along with their spouse, as I entered the room and offered music. I started to play a '60s ballad on guitar and the patient looked at me with teary eyes and a slight smile, then started to weep gently as I continued. The spouse asked their partner cautiously “is this okay for you?” The patient nodded yes, whispering, “it’s beautiful,” while looking forward with a smile and wet eyes. I played several more relaxing pieces and the music seemed to be a vessel to hold the emotions released from the patient. The couple thanked me warmly and expressed such gratitude for the care they received at Sequoia.

Sequoia is a very special hospital because of its history in the community, wonderful staff, world class medical care, and a warm, caring environment. Thank you to our community for funding this important work! I continue to feel inspired and grateful for my work with patients, staff and visitors here at Sequoia Hospital.



Jeff Buenz, CMP/ Hospital Musician



Lindsey Yee, from our Physical Therapy department, cuddles up with “Volly” for Foundation Friday.

Employees Take Care of One Another

Sequoia Hospital Foundation’s Employee Giving Campaign a success with “Foundation Fridays”!

During the month of December, our team conducts “Foundation Fridays.” On these days, we invite hospital staff members to learn more about our impact and participate in festive activities. This year, we invited therapy teams with support canines and held a “Dog and Puppy Play-Date.” Staff members had the opportunity to receive therapeutic snuggles from these furry friends and support our Employee Giving Campaign.

LifeMoves

Being of Service in Our Community

Each Foundation board meeting, we close with an act of gratitude to give back to our community, such as writing thank you notes. Recently, our dedicated board members and staff took part in a meaningful activity to create care kits in partnership with LifeMoves. Located in Redwood City, LifeMoves is a non-profit organization which provides temporary shelter and supportive services to families who are currently experiencing homelessness. It was a heartwarming experience to be of service and to see everyone work together and help families in time of need.



LifeMoves employees joined by Sequoia's board and staff members.



Events Recap

Stepping Forward Soiree

On August 19th, an intimate group of donors gathered at Menlo Circus Club to witness cutting-edge robotic technology in action and share an unforgettable evening of delicious food and cocktails! Funds raised from the evening were directed towards Sequoia Hospital Foundation's Stepping Forward initiative to bring the state-of-the-art Mako robot to Sequoia Hospital.

A big thank you to our host, Darlene Woodson, and to our committee members, Sabrina Hodgett, Bernie Mellott and Marisa San Filippo, for helping bring this successful event to fruition.



Brian Mead, Paul Mead, Austin Mead, Dr. R. Hardwin Mead, MD.

Steven San Filippo Memorial Invitational

On October 30, avid golfers and community members alike gathered for Sequoia Hospital Foundation's 37th annual golf tournament. Held for the first time at Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae, golfers embraced the Halloween season and came dressed in creative costumes while supporting a good cause. Players enjoyed a mobile pro shop provided by Maui Jim Sunglasses, along with multiple on-course contests, including hole-in-one and putting contests, and a 19th hole reception. Funds raised from the day, totaling \$80,000, benefited Sequoia Hospital's Simulation Learning Center.

Thank you to our sponsors, foursomes, players and volunteers, as well as our committee co-chaired by Dr. Beverly Joyce and Dr. Greg Engel, Julie Biglieri, Kim Costello, Suki Mann, Julie San Filippo, and Ken Tehaney.

Progress Towards the Simulation Learning Center

Educational Support for Sequoia's Care Team

Our current funding initiative, the Simulation Learning Center benefits our health care professionals and our community's health. Generous contributions will allow us to create a state-of-the-art educational facility in addition to acquiring advanced manikins, and cutting-edge equipment, and renovating a space to ensure our care team receives the best training possible. Once it's up and running, our Simulation Learning Center will benefit Sequoia Hospital and all Dignity Health hospitals by expanding access, knowledge, and care across California.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera and watch a quick video to learn more about Nico, one of our hundreds of nurses at Sequoia Hospital, and how the Simulation Learning Center will make an impact!



1950 Sequoia Society

The Sequoia Hospital Foundation's 1950 Sequoia Society recognizes those individuals in our community who have provided for Sequoia Hospital's future through an estate or planned gift.

We invite you to consider joining this important group dedicated to ensuring that Sequoia's award-winning programs continue for generations to come. Adding just a few specific words to your will or trust will keep your support local and will advance quality health care for the future of our community.

Let us help you plan a legacy that reflects what is important to you.

Learn more: mysequoialegacy.org



We Appreciate Your Support

To make a gift please use the enclosed form or scan this code with your mobile device to make an online donation at sequoiahospitalfoundation.org



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