

A Year of Heroes; A Year of Compassion

Kinship and compassion are trademarks of Yakima’s people that we, at The Memorial Foundation, witness every day. Thank you for your care, this year above all years.

As we close on another year of continual challenges in health care, we are reminded of the resiliency of our community and dedication to one another. Everywhere we turn, people step forth to help one another. Read on for heartwarming highlights:



North Star Lodge outpatient pharmacy staff

- When a new breast cancer patient went to pick up her prescription, she was dismayed her copay was \$143 for a month supply. She contacted her nurse at North Star Lodge (NSL) and was moved to tears of gratitude when the NSL pharmacy staff were able to negotiate the price to \$12 for a 3-month supply.
- The NSL Pharmacy is audited yearly to assure all staff trainings, record keeping, and documentation are compliant. Once again, the dedicated NSL Pharmacy passed its audit with a 100% rate and are approved to continue to utilize and dispense these products onsite for another year. Thank you for supporting them!

- “When I took my 11-month-old son to a routine evaluation at Children’s Village I first heard the words ‘neurodevelopmental specialist’ and ‘cerebral palsy’ in disbelief. Without Children’s Village, I don’t know when we would have gotten that diagnosis. My wife and I are so thankful for the services we have received. From the initial evaluation to ongoing therapy for our son, we have all been learning how to help him reach his highest potential, as a family unit. Even with his challenges, he is a happy little boy.”

– Message from a grateful father

- Children’s Village providers, therapists, nurses, and social workers adapted to the challenges of the past year, continuing to provide every specialty medical care possible. With the addition of telehealth, fragile patients did not have to miss important therapy appointments, helping them earn this year’s Healthcare Hero Award from Yakima Chamber of Commerce.



Compass Care Services

A note from a grateful family member

“Dear Janice,
In my years of being around people who have passed away, I have watched the struggle some go through. It is agonizing and stressful for loved ones who want so much to do something to ease the pain. It borders on traumatic at times for the survivors. Lois’s struggle was no exception. When we got her to the emergency department at the hospital, she was practically in the fetal position from the cancer pain. We felt helpless to comfort her.

Someone at the hospital suggested hospice care. Lois said, right away, “That is what I want; I will sign the paper to go into hospice treatment”. After some discussion, the transfer to hospice care was started. As soon as we got to Cottage in the Meadow, Lois was able to get better pain relief and oxygen to help her breathe easier.

What a difference for Lois, and for all of us. Her whole body was able to relax, finally. The Cottage

welcomed our friends and family to be in the room with Lois and celebrate her life with her in her final three days. We were very grateful for Lois’ granddaughter to be able to stay there at the Cottage with her during the nights. We are grateful for having Cottage in the Meadow available, and the comfort and care you and your team provided. It made all the difference for her, and for us, her extended family. Thank you.”

The pandemic forced us to find innovative ways to provide care for a nearly non-stop wave of very sick people. Your genuine concern and well-wishes for all front-line workers and patients have been noticed with gratitude and deep appreciation. If you want to thank your local health care heroes, we welcome donations of small gift cards or notes of gratitude to be distributed to the dedicated, hard-working employees at Yakima Valley Memorial.

Drop them off or send them to The Memorial Foundation, 3111 Tieton Drive, Yakima WA, 98902.



YouthWorks volunteers

YouthWorks

“Volunteering truly changed my high school experience. YouthWorks opened my eyes and broadened my viewpoints on the world.” – Masen

YouthWorks, the Memorial Foundation’s mentoring initiative for Valley high schoolers, raised nearly \$80,000 this year. This money was used to fund equipment and services in the Family Birthplace, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Children’s Village. In addition, YouthWorks Council saw a need at North Star Lodge and coordinated a fundraiser selling inspiring word candles, raising over \$1,000 for cancer care.

Amid the pandemic 30 students from the Mr. Ike pageant coordinated a drive-by parade for Miracle Champion Rhys, complete with cheerleaders, encouraging signs, and horns honking, which delighted Rhys!

“YouthWorks allowed me to figure out that my ideas were going to be welcomed and it helped me figure out what kind of leader I wanted to be”. – Tori

What will the new year bring?

Besides yearly funding for tightly constrained programs and services, we are managing a capital campaign to expand services at Children’s Village, freshen Yakima Valley Memorial’s Family Birthplace, and update medical equipment for our new moms and newborns.

Learn more at champscampaign.org. You can help us share this campaign by contacting us to learn more about hosting an informal gathering of your friends and family or making a campaign gift. Your generosity will help give our tiny little ones the healthiest possible start in life, and continue care for those who need it at Children’s Village.



Thank you!

Your support provides comfort and joy to countless people receiving healthcare services.

If you are considering a year-end gift to support our programs, please be sure we receive it by 9:00 p.m. on December 31 to take advantage of your income tax credits!

give@memfound.org

