

Updates & Opportunities

from the Valley Health Foundations

SPRING 2022

Renewal is what I think of this time of year. When Spring has come, and as we move into summer, we're reminded of the renewal that happens year in and year out. With this season comes renewed resolve to continue supporting our community by improving health.

Despite the exceptional challenges in healthcare these past couple years, our supporters have helped us embrace the opportunity. The opportunity to look at things with fresh eyes and renewed inspiration to be **healthier, together**.

Giving matters. Giving creates the opportunity to do more – have more impact, make an immediate difference. The Compassionate Pharmacy secured over \$2 million in free and reduced price medications last year. Imagine the relief of those picking up their medication without having to decide between that and groceries. Rides to treatment were made possible and rent was paid for cancer patients in financial need. With renewed giving, this community stepped up, showing that we are **stronger, together**.

Thank you for your renewed giving, and together, we'll face every season ahead working on creative opportunities to improve the health of everyone.

- Jenny Grooms, Executive Director, Foundations



The President's Society

The President's Society is a special donation level that comes with several benefits from the Foundations of Valley Health. First, and most important, is the impact of a \$1,000 donation. A gift of this size, or greater, can have a huge impact.

- **\$1,092** is the average amount requested for financial assistance through the Angel Fund
- **\$1,000** provides four custom fit wigs for cancer patients
- **\$1,000** purchases car seats for the Community Baby Shower
- **\$1,500** provides 100 bike helmets to children in the community and promote bicycle safety
- **\$1,700** provides an Intubation Manikin
- **\$2,600** helps launch a Respiratory Muscle Training program
- **\$4,500** becomes a scholarship for a local athletic team to train together
- **\$5,000** supplies the NICU with welcome bags for families for an entire year



Every dollar makes a difference. President's Society members have provided opportunities for staff to enhance their skills, eased the burdens of patients, and supported our mission to improve health. Together, we can continue to make an impact in our local communities.

President's Society donors, with gifts of \$1,000 or more, are highlighted in our Annual Report and at Valley Health Foundations special events. These donors also receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year.



Your gift will help those in need and make a difference. Consider making a gift today and join us in our mission. You can make a gift by check or credit card and return it in the enclosed envelope, or give online at www.valleyhealthlink.com/donate. You can also make a donation of appreciated stock or an IRA rollover gift, simply contact the Foundation at 540-536-6939 to find out how.

For additional questions about becoming a member of the President's Society, please contact our Director of Annual Giving, **Sara Valentine** at **540-536-4736** or **ssims3@valleyhealthlink.com**.

Wellspring Update

As you may know, Wellspring is Valley Health's cancer resource center that puts the focus on the whole person and their journey with cancer or other chronic diseases. Our goal is to help patients and their families find the resources they need in a compassionate and non-clinical setting. Among many resources, Wellspring offers a care bag to all cancer patients, compliments of the Winchester Medical Center Foundation.

Wellspring has recently been able to expand their services to include custom prostheses and accessories, as well as post-surgical breast form and bra fittings by one of our two certified mastectomy fitters. Our center is an accredited supplier of breast prostheses



and accessories. In addition to standard breast prosthetic forms, we now offer custom prostheses. A laser-measured computerized breast/chest wall form is created to provide a custom fit for women following a mastectomy, reconstruction or breast conserving surgery.

Most recently, donations have provided Wellspring with a new pedicure chair and certification in Oncology Esthetics for two employees. Annually, the Foundation provides funding for: the Wellspring Care Bags – over 300 bags were given to patients, gas cards to help patients continue with their treatment, and custom wigs for patients who otherwise not be able to afford one.

An Unexpected Legacy

What is a legacy gift? A legacy gift creates something which continues to exist beyond one's earthly presence. It can be the creation of an endowment like the Marfing Trust that funds Physician Assistant scholarships in perpetuity, forever recognizing Dr. Marfing's contribution to mentoring the next generation of providers. It can also be a planned estate gift such as the Mitchells, whose story we'd like to share.

Paul and Audrey Mitchell enjoyed gardening and spending time outside together. The Middletown couple especially loved sharing what they'd grown. Paul would give tomatoes to chefs and wait staff at his favorite eateries, and the two would often take vegetables to the doctors and nurses who provided their care over the years. The couple's love of sharing continued after they passed away; Audrey in 2011 and Paul in 2019. In their will, the couple once again gave back to health care—but not in the form of vegetables. This time, Paul and Audrey Mitchell donated \$1.6



million to the Winchester Medical Center Foundation. The Mitchell's were grateful for the care they had received over the years. The couple wanted to help others and provide support for the nurses who had helped them along the way. They bequeathed most of their estate to a fund to support this. The Paul and Audrey Mitchell Fund is used to support nursing education, at the request of the Mitchells.



Paul and Audrey Mitchell are forever members of the Legacy Society, a group of generous supporters who have included the Valley Health Foundations in their estate plans or established an endowment to fund their wishes in perpetuity. Included is a list of extraordinary philanthropists who have chosen to be part of the Legacy Society.

For more information about the Legacy Society, contact our Executive Director **Jenny Grooms** at **540-536-2387** or **jgrooms@valleyhealthlink.com**

Legacy Society Donors

Anonymous (3)
Frank and Nellie
Armstrong*
Clara Barthel*
Stewart Bell*
Graham R. Blandy*
Shirley Carter*
Dr. Eugene* & Betty
Casey
Ms. Edith Corning*

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Williams, Jr.
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Please note, the donors listed with an * are no longer with us, however their generosity is still helping those in need.