



a healthy future

Celebrating extraordinary care made possible through your generous gifts.



Legacy Oregon Burn Center

For nearly half a century, Legacy Oregon Burn Center has been the only facility in our region providing specialized treatments for severe burns and wounds.

In preparation of the center's landmark 50th anniversary, learn about some of the people and programs helping burn survivors heal and thrive.

Aftercare: healing the emotional wounds of burn survival

For many burn survivors, a big part of the healing process begins after they leave the hospital. Their bodies mend further, and they begin coping with the experience of surviving a traumatic event.

That's why the Legacy Oregon Burn Center (OBC) is forward-thinking in supporting the survivor's entire journey. We ensure survivors and their families have access to programs where they can share experiences with other survivors and families.

Anne Scott is OBC's new aftercare coordinator and oversees several events to provide burn survivors with support. These include:

- A peer support program which connects survivors with current burn patients
- Monthly support groups for burn survivors and families
- Camps for child survivors
- Programs through LEAP, a nonprofit that creates empowering wilderness trips for adults overcoming adversity and trauma
- Writing workshops through Write Around Portland for survivors who want to share their stories with others



Collectively, these events create camaraderie, provide comfort and much more.

"This can a very lonely injury," says Anne. "You have to learn so much, so fast, because nobody really expects to know a lot about burns until you have to. I know it sounds weird, but it's also terrifying to leave a hospital where you've been treated because everybody knows how to take care of you there."

Anne doesn't just oversee these programs. She's experienced them as a survivor.

One summer, she and a friend were driving outside Twin Falls, Idaho. Their car was hit from behind and a fire erupted. Both were burned significantly, but they survived. Anne, who was burned on more than 36 percent of her body, was initially airlifted to the University of Utah for treatment.

She returned home to Portland and received ongoing care at OBC in the following years. At one point, another burn survivor visited Anne at home and shared her own story and recovery. It left a moving impression on Anne.

Anne began to volunteer at the Burn Center, too. In the time since her initial experience at the Burn Center, she's visited many burn patients to provide compassion, love and inspiration. Volunteering ultimately led her to the opportunity to take on this role, where she has even greater opportunity to support burn survivors.



"This can a very lonely injury. You have to learn so much, so fast, because nobody really expects to know a lot about burns until you have to." – Anne Scott

Q&A with Curtis Ryun



For forty years, Curtis Ryun has been a fixture at Legacy Oregon Burn Center (OBC). After 27 years in nursing, he transitioned to the role of outreach coordinator.

In his position, Curtis spreads the word on how to deal safely with burns and fires. This means traveling along the West Coast to teach best practices classes for professional groups, high schools, fire departments, power companies and more. Attendees could number anywhere from two to 400.

Recently, Curtis reflected on his time at OBC, including the scope of his work and his connection with survivors.

Q: What kind of patients come to OBC for care?

A: We get all ages. We take care of everyone. We've had little ones as young as five days old and of course, many much older.

We help people with all different types of burns: contact burns from touching hot things, people with diabetic neuropathy burning their feet from walking on hot surfaces, people having accidents around campfires and barbecues. We've seen people with injuries resulting from all sorts of fires, flashes and explosions.

In addition to burns, we see people with skin conditions or difficult wounds that require surgical intervention and complex care.

Q: How long do survivors stay at OBC?

A: Well, it's rare that we have survivors in the hospital just overnight. Most burn survivors are here for a few weeks; the longest I have ever helped a survivor was for 11 months.

Q: What kind of relationships form when you care for someone for that long?

A: That relationship is one of the things that's kept me around here. We don't see people just when they're really sick. We also see them as they get well and we see them when they go home. And some of these people are like family.

One patient, in particular, we took care of him for months. I remember when he left OBC to go home with his girlfriend. Later, they got married. After that, I visited them in the hospital when their first child was born. So, I've seen this 19-year-old kid grow into a 47-year-old man. We're connected.

Q: How is the Legacy Oregon Burn Center different from other burn treatment facilities?

A: Our culture sets us apart, and that started with Dr. Philip Parshley, who was one of the founders of the OBC. He made sure everything was a team effort. Everybody has an equal say. Everybody contributes to patient care. Everybody knows what everybody else is doing. A lot of burn centers adopted that culture but ours has been like that for a long time.

To me, this will always be a very special place.



A new facility for the next chapter of burn care

After 20 years in our current facility, the Legacy Oregon Burn Center (OBC) is planning to move on up — to the third floor of the new Legacy Emanuel Medical Center tower.

The new OBC facility will occupy 50,388 square feet, drastically expanding our size, adding capacity for several more patient beds, and providing the opportunity to revitalize our equipment and facilities. Countless details to rooms and services will also be incorporated — details that consider, first and foremost, the survivor's experience, needs and comfort level. For example, the windows reduce glare so survivors can look out at views without having to deal with intense brightness.

Legacy Health's philanthropy team is preparing for a fundraising campaign to complete the tower. The funds will be used to finish design work and complete construction.

One element of the proposed Legacy Oregon Burn Center that has already been completed is the updated Burn Center Healing Garden. The new garden was planted in advance so it will be lush and fully grown by the time the facility opens. Like many therapeutic gardens, it emphasizes relaxation and promotes physical and emotional therapy.

One intention of the garden is to quietly let the families of survivors know that their loved ones are in capable, compassionate and thoughtful hands. It is also designed to aid patients recover their mobility with a series of physical features that offer increasing challenges.

The healing garden was designed with input from OBC staff. It has cinematic views of the West Hills and downtown Portland, which are particularly dazzling during the evening. Physical surroundings matter during a survivor's healing journey, and this new garden makes that beautifully emphatic.



Thank you to our community partners

Legacy Oregon Burn Center is fortunate to have many active and generous partners in the community who help raise funds supporting patient care. The organizations listed below each raised or contributed over \$4,000 in support of our programs and services.

We are deeply grateful to these organizations for their steadfast commitment to helping survivors heal and thrive.

Benefit Golf Classic
Cowlitz-Skamania Fire District #7
IBEW 659
IBEW Local 125
Legacy Emanuel Hospital & Medical Center Medical Staff
Northwest Natural Gas Company
Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association
Pacific Northwest Lineman's Rodeo Association
Pacific Power
Portland General Electric
Surgical and Burn Specialists Group
Wilson Construction Company, Inc.

For more information on philanthropy at Oregon Burn Center, please contact:

Joshua Goldstein
Major Gifts Officer
jgoldst@lhs.org or 503-413-3501

Heather Martin
Executive Director
hgmartin@lhs.org or 503-413-7384



A moment in history

At 8:32 a.m. on May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens erupted. It was one of the most devastating volcanic events in the history of the United States.

The eruption amounted to one of the most unforgettable moments in the Legacy Oregon Burn Center's 50-year history, as several people injured from the blast were brought here for treatment. There are still many records that were kept from that time, including archival pictures, articles and patient charts.