



a healthy future

The COVID-19 crisis has dramatically impacted our people, our patients, our communities and our world. However, we are inspired by the generosity of our donors during this critical time. We remain grateful for your support and are honored to have you as our partner in helping patients and families heal.



COVID-19 testing partnership supports Latinx communities

In October, more than 240 people were tested for COVID-19 at Latinx community clinics hosted by Legacy Health in collaboration with our community partners. Testing access is particularly critical for underserved communities and communities of color as both are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

Generous donations to Legacy Health Foundation covered testing supplies, and Legacy's partnership with other nonprofit organizations helped make these no-cost clinics a success. We are grateful to our donors for their support and commitment to our mission of providing good health for all.



Donors offer a helping hand to Legacy employees

When COVID-19 descended on Portland, Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler knew immediately that they wanted to help. So, they considered the pandemic's impact on local institutions and quickly identified two priorities.

First, they wanted to provide support for those who faced the biggest financial hardships with limited financial means.

Then they committed to helping medical providers and staff at Legacy Health who had been thrust into the middle of a deadly crisis.

Levin and Fowler contributed to Legacy's Helping Hand Fund, which was created to aid employees dealing with financial crises.

The Helping Hand Fund was established decades ago as a safety net, providing short-term financial help for employees. This year, it's been crucial for employees and their families facing economic fallout from the pandemic and summer wildfires. Funds can be used for food, housing, utility bills, clothing, prescription drugs, hospital and physician bills and more.

The fund is supported by Legacy employees and donors and managed by Spiritual Care teams at each Legacy medical center.

In addition to financial assistance, Fowler and Levin also donated thousands of face masks they acquired, thanks to a relative who worked in China. They wanted to protect frontline healthcare workers.

But they were especially concerned about behind-the-scenes employees who are often absent from news coverage. With their generosity, Levin and Fowler honored the dedication of a wide range of Legacy staff.

"They were putting themselves at great risk as well," Fowler says. "I don't know if the general public realizes that and understands the tremendous effort from all sorts of sectors in a hospital that go into treating a single patient."

"There's a whole group of people," Levin says, "who are less visible or invisible, without whom the hospital wouldn't work."



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– Irving Levin, Legacy Helping Hand Fund donor

COVID-19 crisis brings generosity and goodwill for Legacy Health

COVID-19 swept into Oregon and Southwest Washington in February, bringing with it the fear and uncertainty of an international health crisis.

However, it also brought an outpouring of goodwill and generosity. Community members contributed masks and face shields for frontline providers. They bought meals for hospital workers and provided financial assistance for Legacy employees facing economic hardship.

"I was amazed," says Melinda Muller, Legacy's interim senior vice president and chief medical officer.

"But at the same time, I wasn't surprised given how we come together for all kinds of crises and urgent situations. It is what we do."

Support came from all corners of the community. ConMet, a Vancouver-based company that makes parts for commercial trucks, donated hundreds of face shields. Portland State University's Center for Entrepreneurship organized students and other volunteers to produce Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

And a social media request resulted in overwhelming support from the local Chinese-American community, which donated thousands of medical masks, protective goggles and gloves.

"I even had one of my patients who is a tattoo artist and had a bunch of N95 masks donate them to us since she couldn't use them when she was closed," Muller says.

As COVID-19 cases multiplied, Mary and Ryan Finley contributed \$1.5 million through the RMF Foundation, which supports a variety of youth programs, low-income housing groups and organizations fighting hunger.

It was a major gift at a critical moment early in the pandemic. It was also a call to action.

"We hope that if people are looking for a way to help," Mary Finley said, "they can join us and contribute to these COVID-19 response funds."

When Legacy Health President & CEO Kathryn Correia offered her thanks to the Finleys, she spoke for thousands of Legacy employees and their families who were touched by the generosity of donors.

"We are here to care for the communities we serve," Correia said, "and it is reassuring to know that the community is here for our providers and employees."

A specialty treatment that saves the lives of critically ill coronavirus patients

Alec Adams can't remember much about those first few days. He had a fever, a cough and difficulty breathing.

"It all happened pretty quick," he says. "I started to feel sick one day and then it got worse. I went to the hospital and when I woke up it was (two months) later."

Alec is one of 32 critically ill coronavirus patients who were treated at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center with a life-saving respiratory treatment known as extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO). He was flown to Legacy Emanuel by the ECMO transport team.

ECMO is a specialty treatment offered at Legacy Emanuel to support the heart and lungs as a patient's blood is temporarily drawn from the body. Oxygen is added and carbon dioxide is removed. Then the blood is warmed and pumped back into the patient. ECMO is especially helpful for coronavirus patients who are too sick to survive on a ventilator. It saved Alec's life.

Alec, who is 28, started feeling sick in late June. He waited a few days, hoping his symptoms would pass. But as his condition worsened, he went to the hospital in Richland, Washington, near his home. Ten days later, the ECMO transport team flew him to Portland for treatment.

He arrived at Legacy Emanuel on July 9 and remained on ECMO for nearly two months. His parents visited every chance they got. Grace Adams, Alec's mom, held his hand and spoke to him even when he couldn't respond. Eventually, she noticed tears in his eyes each time she prepared to leave.

"It was gut-wrenching," Grace says. "I think that's what probably made me cry the most." After six weeks, he squeezed his parents' hands. And by the end of August, Alec was their charismatic son again, peppering them with questions. He went home in early October.

"Thanks to the ECMO Team," Grace says. "They were Alec's daily cheerleaders. They were all genuinely so caring and comforting. We are truly blessed to know them."



Legacy donors feed frontline providers

One former cancer patient sent sandwiches. The friend of a physician fed employees and their spouses.

And a group calling itself Feeding Silverton's Essential Workers collected donations from as far away as New York to buy meals from local restaurants, all to honor frontline workers at Legacy Health in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The food – pizza, sushi, hot wings, donuts, salads and more pizza – arrived mostly without fanfare at Legacy hospitals, clinics and offices. Donations started in late March and didn't slow down until the end of July.

"It was crazy," says Colleen Peters, Legacy's director of food and nutrition. "Just because there was so much of it. But it was really well-received by the frontline workers."

The donations fed housekeepers, surgeons and staff, many of whom were working grueling hours with few breaks and limited dining options. Meals, drinks and snacks came in all quantities: eight cases of sparkling water, 39 pizzas, 40 servings of Easter candy and 20 cases of organic nitro cold brew coffee.

A sub shop provided 180 sandwiches a week to Legacy Meridian Park Medical Center. A Vancouver restaurant delivered 150 meals to Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center.

Anonymous chains chipped in, too. But gifts from local restaurants were especially meaningful, a spontaneous outpouring to feed family, friends and neighbors at a time of crisis.

"People show their love through food," says Gerry Howick, the manager of food and nutrition at Legacy Salmon Creek. "We're in a situation where we can't touch each other. We're physically disconnected. But this was a way to show love."



A 6-year-old's lemonade stand supports nurses at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center

Sophie Stover had been in quarantine for two months when she decided she absolutely had to do something for the nurses working on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center.

Sophie is six, so options were limited. Still, she asked her mom if she could set up a lemonade stand to raise money.

"One night we had lemons in something," Sophie says. "It just kind of came into my head to do a lemonade stand. Then I forgot about it and then I remembered again."

Kelly Stover, Sophie's mom, thought it was a great idea. So, on a warm Saturday in May, Sophie put on a dress with a lemony design, and went outside to the Stovers' Vancouver driveway with a cooler full of lemonade and a cashbox.

Both grandmas supported the cause. A neighbor gave her \$10. A family friend sent \$20. Some people turned down the lemonade but gave her money anyway. After three hours, Sophie raised \$90. Sophie's parents matched her gift, for a total of \$180, which was donated to Salmon Creek Hospital Foundation.

Sophie's generosity funded Personal Protective Equipment and hand sanitizer, just as she had requested.

"Well," Sophie says, "I wanted to help nurses and I wanted to give them money so they could buy supplies, doctor supplies and nurse supplies. I mean hand sanitizer. Anything that nurses and doctors use."