

UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation Impact Report | 2021

We empower our community members to live healthy,
generous and meaningful lives.



UCHealth Poudre Valley Hospital, Medical Center of the Rockies and Greeley Hospital strive to promote individual and community health and leave no question unanswered along the way. We exist to help our patients live extraordinary lives.

These hospitals, their affiliated clinics and UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation serve residents of northern Colorado as well as those living in southern Wyoming and western Nebraska.

Through the generosity of individual, corporate and foundation donors, as well as through public grant funding, UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation provides resources to support innovative research and education, patient financial assistance, community health programs and enhancements to patient care. Many critically important services offered to UCHealth patients and families would not exist without private donations made through the foundation.

Optimism and hard-won triumphs.

Miracles happen when there is a willingness to look beyond the present and initiate something we might not see come to fruition in our lifetime. Reinhold Niebuhr, a respected public intellectual in the early to mid-20th century, said it well:

"Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we must be saved by love."

Hope, faith and love might seem like pat answers to an intractable problem such as a pandemic, but these qualities are at the root of what inspires humanity to strive for the seemingly impossible. Without hope and love, no one would try. Without faith, no one would keep trying.

In the year that has passed since COVID-19 was first reported in our state, we have reasons to be hopeful. The vaccines and treatments developed to fight this virus come from decades of research by many generations of scientists and medical professionals. These people had the hope, love and faith to embark on work that today is helping the world address one of humanity's greatest challenges in living memory.

In December 2020, we made history at Poudre Valley Hospital, where Colorado's first COVID-19 vaccine was given. Kevin Londrigan, respiratory therapist with UHealth, received his vaccine.

"The vaccine isn't the end of it, but it is the light at the end of the tunnel," Londrigan said.

The hard-won triumphs would be impossible without your generosity. Our stories herein help demonstrate the power of the gifts you give. Across time, when we work together, we bring great things to fruition for our families, our friends, ourselves and our future.

With sincere gratitude,



Yvonne D. Myers

Yvonne Myers
Board Chair

Philanthropy and the fight against COVID-19.

Our response to the pandemic was strengthened by dollars from our Greatest Needs fund, our COVID-19 emergency response funds, and grants from state and federal sources for hospital emergency preparedness and ambulance services. From the earliest days of the crisis, these philanthropic resources helped our health care heroes fight COVID-19.

Your generosity helped equip our hospitals with technology to accommodate a higher volume of patients requiring intensive care:

- An additional medication-dispensing machine required on an expanded unit at Medical Center of the Rockies makes medication management more efficient for staff.
- Virtual technology for Poudre Valley Hospital's new progressive care unit (PCU) provides an extra level of care in the PCU and frees up space in the intensive care unit for even more severely ill patients.

"We could not be more grateful for this technology, which came just in time for the second COVID surge," said PVH Chief Nursing Officer Julie Nunley of the virtual technology for the PVH PCU. "My gratitude during this difficult time for your generosity, which has enabled us to care for our critically ill community and patients from around the state."

Your generosity helped with staff resilience:

- Donations to our COVID-19 response funds helped UHealth pay nearly \$712,000 to assist 691 employees with day care, housing, utility and other expenses to help them overcome disruptions to their own lives as they helped care for our community during the pandemic.
- \$25 food vouchers for take-home meals from local restaurants were provided for more than 2,000 employees working most closely with COVID-19 patients.
- Gourmet holiday cookie boxes were given to 3,500 employees across 85 departments working intensively in the COVID-19 crisis. An anonymous donor purchased the cookies through Fiona's Delicatessen—bolstering a local business and health care heroes in one magnanimous move.

Your generosity continues to help us rise to the challenge of fighting a new disease:

- Philanthropic dollars are helping support a COVID-19 biobank study. A team of scientists and clinicians at CSU and UHealth is collaborating on a biobank project to collect biological samples that will be used for future research on COVID-19. The biobank will also serve as a registry that documents how people react to being infected with SARS-CoV2 and how the human body fights the illness.



Community impact.

The UCHealth Family Medicine Center (FMC) food pantry, which partners with Food Bank for Larimer County, helps provide fresh, healthy food to people in need. Medicaid patients make up 65% of the FMC’s clientele, and many of the center’s clients struggle to afford groceries.

Addressing food insecurity in our community requires help from countless hands and hearts. In 2020, donations totaling more than \$100,000—including city, county, state and private grants as well as contributions from individuals and organizations—helped the pantry serve, on average, 391 unique households each month. By the end of 2020, as the effects of the pandemic endured, the pounds of food distributed per week had increased to 4,000, up from 3,000 in earlier months.

A food pantry client sent a note of thanks for the help she received to feed her family of four. Her husband lost his job due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and stocking their kitchen with healthy food had become challenging, even with his unemployment benefits.

“I was thrilled after my first pickup at FMC. We received ample fresh vegetables like cabbage and squash, fruit, eggs, meat, cheese, bread and yogurt. The food from the FMC pantry is making an enormous difference to my family. From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much!”



Blood-donation buses purchased through donor generosity are augmenting our community’s blood supply and saving lives. UCHealth Garth Englund Blood Center (GEBC) provides 90% of the blood needed at our northern Colorado hospitals. Through mobile blood drives, the O. Rex Story and the Don and May Wilkins Charitable Trust buses provide 45% of the red blood cells GEBC collects.

“I received quite a bit of blood. And if I hadn’t, I would not be here. I would not have a second chance.”

– Melinda Peterson, a patient who received 54 blood products provided by GEBC during her care at Poudre Valley Hospital.

In 2020, GEBC added 54 new mobile donation sites, hosted 249 mobile blood drives, and had 2,411 registered donors on the buses—resulting in 2,979 usable units for patients. Each donation can save up to three lives—having a profound impact in our community.



In 2020, **grateful patients in northern Colorado recognized 101 Guardian Angels** by donating in their honor to a range of programs the foundation supports, such as cancer patient assistance, medical research and COVID-19 response. A Guardian Angel is someone a patient acknowledges for making a difference in their treatment: a physical therapist, receptionist, nurse, doctor or any employee who had a meaningful impact on their care.

Expressing gratitude is a powerful part of the healing process for many patients, such as this one who recognized her physical therapist at Medical Center of the Rockies.

“Doug was the person who gave me my confidence all over again. I had no idea how I was going to get through this surgery, and he, single-handedly, hushed my fears with his kind words. Not once in my life (other than with my own mother) have I had someone both quiet my fears and instill complete confidence within myself in mere minutes. I owe this recovery to him and to myself.”



Philanthropy and the fight against cancer.

The desire to help others is strong in northern Colorado. Even as the world and our community experienced one of the more trying years in memory, helping cancer patients was foremost in many people's hearts.

Your generosity helped cancer patients in need pay for expenses not covered by health insurance:

- Donations and grants added over \$237,000 to our cancer patient assistance funds in 2020. Financial worries often compound the stress of families already facing challenging medical issues. The dollars from our assistance funds enabled us to help 304 cancer patients and their families in 2020, meaning they could worry less about basic expenses such as mortgage, utilities, gasoline and transportation and focus on healing.

"The kind and generous gift of your foundation has given us continued hope and faith for a better day. Your gift is a blessing, and we are very grateful," wrote a patient from Greeley who received assistance.

Your generosity is supporting local medical research:

- Dollars from our research and innovation fund were used to purchase equipment for research involving the use of virtual reality (VR) programs to generate 3D versions of radiographic images (e.g., CT and PET scans) of lung cancer patients. Then, researchers—including physicians from our cancer center—use the VR technology to "step inside" the lungs and view the tumor. They are studying whether this type of pre-surgical evaluation of early-stage lung cancer has the potential to improve surgical outcomes.
- Donor dollars are providing the opportunity for more patients to participate in the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN) Total Cancer Care (TCC) protocol. Equipment was purchased for Greeley Hospital so that this facility, in addition to the Harmony Campus cancer center and Medical Center of the Rockies, can process biological specimens. This equipment and ongoing research project enhance our local ability to deliver targeted therapies and the best trial opportunities to the people of northern Colorado.

Your generosity is helping us treat more women at risk of cancers of the reproductive system:

- Gifts to our cancer center and oncology services fund were used to purchase equipment to help establish a new UHealth North Region gynecologic oncology program, located in our Cancer Care and Hematology Clinic at Medical Center of the Rockies.

Gynecologic oncology is a unique surgical subspecialty that encompasses comprehensive gynecologic and obstetrical training, cancer surgery, and chemotherapy treatment if needed. These specialty surgeons work as a multidisciplinary team with our UHealth North Region oncologists, providing expert care close to home for patients. The equipment purchased with philanthropic funds is used to diagnose and treat precancerous and cancerous conditions of the cervix.



UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation fast facts.

Each year, more than **3,000 donors contribute** to UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation.

The foundation **disburses an average of \$3.2 million annually** to support a broad spectrum of programs at our northern Colorado hospitals and clinics. Funds have been used to support cancer care, purchase two new blood-donation buses and procure vital equipment during the pandemic.

Over the last five years, we have received nearly **\$17.5 million in gifts and grants** from individuals, businesses, private foundations, and state and federal grant sources.

About **23% of employees** in UCHealth's northern region give to the foundation.

WISH, a giving circle, has been seeding health care innovation in northern Colorado for eight years—awarding over **\$435,000 to 117 local programs.** Members pool their funds to support programs, projects and services provided to women, children and families through UCHealth and its partners.

Since 2014, the foundation has awarded **\$397,000 in scholarships to 275 employees.**

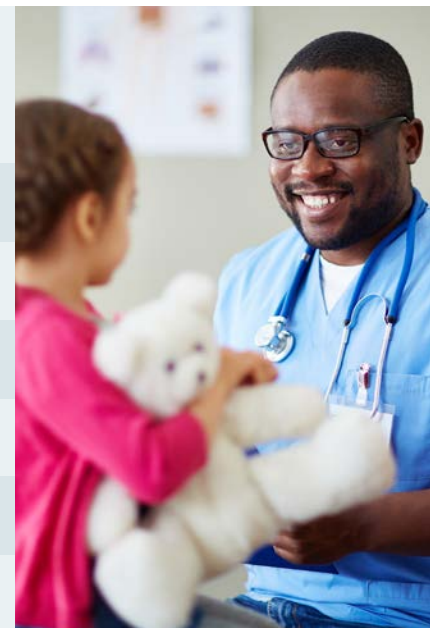


"I cannot express how thankful I am to have your help in supporting my further graduate education in clinical mental health counseling. It is my passion to pursue this degree so that I can work with first responders providing therapy and training that will help us to retain the quality providers we have invested in. These providers are full of expertise because of their experiences. They have spent their lives sacrificing and helping others. It is overdue that we help them be their best. I am grateful to have the support of UCHealth to help offset some of the cost of this education so that I can do more of what I love for our people."

– Jeanette Jennings
Emergency medical technician

Poudre Valley Hospital, Medical Center of the Rockies and Greeley Hospital BY THE NUMBERS, FISCAL YEAR 2020*

	PVH	MCR	GH	TOTAL
Available beds	303	189	54	546
Babies delivered	1,841	1,316	552	3,709
ER visits	63,840	29,725	37,869	131,434
Surgeries	7,974	9,282	1,544	18,800
Inpatient admissions and observation visits	17,324	13,788	4,428	35,540
Outpatient visits	298,737	43,158	41,189	383,084



*Annual totals based on UCHealth fiscal year July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.



Our mission.

The mission of UHealth Northern Colorado Foundation is to support its affiliated hospitals and clinics in the delivery and advancement of world-class health care in northern Colorado. The foundation realizes its mission through the development and stewardship of philanthropic resources in support of the hospitals' mission and strategic goals.

100% of every donated dollar goes to the foundation's philanthropic funds, with no overhead costs or administrative fees.

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