



COMPASSIONATE giving

Biannual News from Good Samaritan Foundation | Fall 2020

STILL INSPIRED



SPECIAL DIGITAL EDITION



Good Samaritan
Foundation

Interactive!

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Still Inspired...

“ Good Samaritan was ready and able because of you—our family of donors.

This year, our daily lives drastically changed. Words and phrases such as “positivity rate,” “PPE,” and “social distancing” that were once foreign or unknown are now the norm.

However, as I reflect on Fiscal Year 2020, there is one phrase that rises above the rest—still inspired. I find myself inspired by our collective ability to adapt, to remain connected, and to make a difference.

During these challenging times, I have been inspired through witnessing firsthand how all of us have stepped up and out of our traditional roles to provide the care our community has needed. Within our Foundation team, we quickly helped each other figure out how to work remotely and safely while ensuring philanthropy responded to the immediate needs before us. Hospital operations changed seemingly overnight with new care teams, a new COVID-19 unit, and people in all capacities doing whatever was needed to take care of our patients and each other. And, across our community, I saw how all healthcare systems worked together at an unprecedented level of collaboration. Good Samaritan was ready and able because of you—our family of donors.

While it may feel at times that COVID-19 has taken over all aspects of life, we know that is not the case. The community still needs high quality healthcare in women’s services, cancer care, neurosciences,

advanced surgery, and more. In Fiscal Year 2020, the Foundation raised a record \$5 million and reinvested \$3.8 million into Good Samaritan Hospital, College of Nursing and Health Science, and Free Health Center, impacting countless lives.

As just one example, recently I took part in the blessing of hands during a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for our newly renovated OB-GYN Center for at-risk mothers. This was only possible because of the dollars raised to transform the care model to improve maternal and infant health outcomes. Our Annual Report highlights many accomplishments such as this.

As you read the stories of our Good Samaritan community and the impact you made this past fiscal year, I urge you to think about this question—what still inspires you for the future? For me, I am still inspired that we will continue to have a high level of community collaboration that creates a healthier, brighter future for all. I hope you will remain on this journey with us.

With gratitude and hope,



Mary L. Rafferty
President and Chief Executive Officer
Good Samaritan Foundation



Why Digital?

We have decided to make this and all future issues of Compassionate Giving in a digital-only format. There are two main reasons for doing this: to create a better experience for you that is more in-depth and interactive, as well as be the best possible stewards of your generosity.

If you did not receive this issue by email but would like to have all future issues delivered directly to your inbox, [click here to sign up for electronic communications](#) or call us at 513 862 3786. Be on the lookout for even more features in the future!

Good Samaritan Foundation Board Kicks Off Fiscal Year 2021

Like all of us, the Good Samaritan Foundation Board has adapted. They are moving forward in their commitment to lead our organization to fulfill our mission. The Board held their first meeting of FY21 in early September with a continued resolve to help Good Samaritan provide the highest quality, compassionate care for all we serve. As you can see, it was a meeting in the “new normal” format we all have had to learn!



Welcome New Members



Neal Schear

Neal Schear, CPA is a Partner and Owner of Schear & Schear, CPAs. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Neal has worked as a Certified Public Accountant in the Cincinnati area for nearly 40 years. He has a deep commitment to community, having served on numerous Boards. He is looking forward to serving the Good Samaritan community as well.



Brendan White

Brendan White, CFA is the Senior Vice President and Co-Chief Investment Officer of Fort Washington Investment Advisors, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Western & Southern Financial Group. With more than 30 years of industry experience, Brendan has also been involved in Boards throughout the community and is eager to make a difference at Good Samaritan.

The Board is eager to serve our organization, family of donors, and community at large. Please join us in welcoming our new Members, congratulating our new Officers, and offering our deepest gratitude to our outgoing Members for their years of service.

Congrats, FY21 Officers

Chairman

Phyllis Adams

Retired CEO, Professional Data Resources, Inc.

Vice Chairman

Christopher (Kip) Heekin

Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel

Secretary

Bob Schiller

Cassady Schiller & Associates, Inc.

Treasurer

Jim Shanahan

J.P. Morgan Investment Management

Thank you, Outgoing Members

R. Daniel Fales

Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

Greg Olson

Urban Sites

Matt Sheakley

Sheakley

Pam Sibcy

Sibcy Cline



Tulips donated by the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. The zoo was closed during Zoo Blooms, and they generously donated some of their flowers to brighten the days of our patients and team members.

Why Philanthropy? Why Now?

Today, we all see the world a little differently. We've been reminded that we're vulnerable, not so different from one another, and perhaps even more connected to our Cincinnati area neighbors than we were when 2020 first began. For us at the Foundation and throughout our Hospital, we've seen, experienced, and truly felt the kindness we all possess. In the Greek tradition, philanthropy means the 'love of humankind'. While we aren't entirely through the many ordeals this year has brought, we did want to pause for a moment and reflect on why philanthropy matters, and why it maybe matters now more than ever before.

Philanthropy Is About...

The Unexpected

Gratitude is at the very core of philanthropy. Often, a deep sense of gratitude originates from an unexpected act of kindness. If you walk the halls at Good Samaritan or throughout our neighborhoods, you'll notice there is barely a moment that passes without seeing the smiling eyes of a team member (even behind a mask), a simple yet thoughtful word of encouragement, or a physician who holds a scared patient's hand. Doing the unexpected is contagious—it spreads faster and with greater impact than any virus.



NICU Team Members.

Serving

For most, stepping up is natural and happens without hesitation or thought. So many of our frontline physicians, nurses, and support staff only do what they know how to do—answer the call. Our community is also grateful to the many great volunteers and donors, some of them new to healthcare and are maybe seeing this publication for the very first time. Maybe that's you. When we serve in this mission together, miracles happen. Being a part of something bigger than ourselves and bigger than our problems brings us a sense of purpose, an awareness that altruism was a part of us all along.

Gratitude is at
the very core
of philanthropy.

Bringing Hope

Anne Lamott once said; "Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don't give up." When PPE shows up on your doorstep from strangers, it brings more than protection—it brings hope. When a nurse makes a special effort to connect a patients' family to a loved one through a tablet—it brings hope. When leaders work through the night to ensure every resource is extended to their clinicians and community—it brings hope. Hope saves lives and is a currency that feeds our very souls.

When we serve
in this mission
together,
miracles happen.

Philanthropy Is About...

A Belief

When Good Samaritan first opened its doors in 1852, it was because of a belief of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. A belief that every person, regardless of their ability to pay, deserved wellness of the mind, body, and spirit. Because of philanthropy, this belief was made into the reality that is Good Samaritan Hospital, and is the reason Good Sam has been ready and able to respond to the urgent needs of our community with skill and compassion, even in the most trying of times. Belief is a powerful and palpable ally, a driving force and at the center of our very existence.



St. John's Hotel for Invalids, given to the Sisters of Charity in 1852 as the first private hospital in Cincinnati to care for everyone in need, which eventually became Good Samaritan Hospital.



Patient and visitor screening station.

Inclusion

Philanthropy obliterates social-economic, political and racial divides. Philanthropy is, after all, is the "love of humankind." This means everyone—without exception. When we participate in philanthropy, we send a message that "it is not good enough until it benefits everyone." We chose to put love above our differences and bring life-changing and life-saving opportunity out of the darkness. Philanthropy is a lifeline to togetherness, to change, and to forming a community of compassion and joy.

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Stained glass at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Philanthropy Is About...

A Shared Legacy

Throughout this year we've heard from so many of our donors—individuals whose partnership over the years has supported new technologies, research, education, and advancements that would not have been possible without them. Their understanding that their gift “to” the Foundation is really a gift “through” the Foundation—a gift to their community, both for this generation and the next. Many of these donors have asked the same question: “What else can I do to help?” We know that sharing in this endeavor together will leave a lasting and immeasurable mark—because we can already see it working.

The Future

Inspiration leads to action. Action leads to change. Change leads to a brilliant tomorrow. Philanthropy is about the “what-ifs.” Philanthropy is about asking what you want to change in the world and setting out to make it happen. Overnight, healthcare and philanthropy have become the business of everyone. For us at the Foundation, this is a time to believe, a time to work tirelessly, and a time to recommit ourselves to ensuring the power of philanthropy changes the world. We are proud to call you partners on that journey.

...this is a time to believe,
a time to work tirelessly,
and a time to recommit
ourselves to ensuring the
power of philanthropy
changes the world.

Philanthropy matters because the beauty of humankind matters. It matters now as much as ever before because humankind needs it most. So go—be philanthropic today. You might just change the world.



STILL INSPIRED

Stories of Gratitude and Hope

We are honored to share the following stories with you from team members, care providers, patients, volunteers, donors, and more—in their own words. As you will see, every person has a unique story about how they have navigated this challenging time and why they are still inspired.

Please share
YOUR
story with us!



[Click here to send us an email and stay connected.](#)

There is so much that stands out to me about this time. In particular, one night, we had a patient experience a death on our unit. Family could not be with him during this time. Prior to his death, the sister was notified and requested the presence of a chaplain. Unfortunately, there was not one who could arrive prior to the patient's impending death. So, the team quickly worked together to coordinate the care for the other patients while arranging for another group of nurses to stay at the patient's bedside and pray with him as he was passing. The most memorable moment was when I spoke with the sister over the phone afterwards. There was so much comfort and solace in her voice to know he was not alone when he crossed over, but that the staff walked with him as far as they could during his final journey.

I could not be more grateful for the team that I serve as a Manager. I am continuously impressed and inspired by each and every one of them! This is very sincere. Daily, I watch them give their all to our patients and each other. During this pandemic, for me, they have been one of the few consistent and dependable experiences during this time of so much uncertainty. They have often been my piece of sanity outside of my home! There's lots of great energy, support and love for each other and it seamlessly flows over into the work they do every day for the people we serve.

There are two bible verses that keep me motivated daily and especially during trying times:

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me;

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

*-Latrice Behanan MSN, RN, PCCN, CNML, NE-BC, CMSRN,
Nurse Manager Good Samaritan Hospital 15AB*



Latrice Behanan, third from left, and some of her team members prior to the pandemic.

“
There's lots of great energy,
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Clinical team members on 15AB.

When the COVID-19 Pandemic became the primary focus for our hospital, I had only been in my role for a few short months. The focus of our department, executive leadership for the hospital, changed dramatically in one week. There were many days our leaders spent 8-12 hours on the phone discussing recommendations from physician leaders, changing processes, assessing newly formed teams and making very difficult decisions. And at the same time, people in the community started to realize the immense burden that was going to be resting squarely on the shoulders of our medical professionals—they had seen what happened in China and Italy and they were witnessing the terrible toll the virus was starting to take on New York City. Everyone felt helpless.

But almost immediately, our community stepped up to show they cared about Good Samaritan and fully understood the pressure we were under—the only thing they could do was to send us food!

One of the first groups to contact us also had another group they wanted to support—their local restaurant group—it was a perfect fit. The community donated money to “Clifton Cares” and in turn, Clifton Cares bought meals from local restaurants, and donated them to us. It was a logistical challenge, but over the course of 5 to 6 weeks, this group donated 1,000 restaurant meals to our team members. All of these restaurants offered our team members free meals for pick up as well. It was a pleasure to work with the coordinators of this group and many others as they did their best to ensure the fabric of their communities remained intact, and that we could do the hard work of saving lives with one less item on the “to-do” list.

Many other restaurants and groups in the community provided our teams with meals, cookies, pizza—I was overwhelmed most days with planning—but it was a joy to witness the true caring nature of our community.



-Theresa Burke
Executive Assistant
Good Samaritan Hospital

“
When people don’t know what to do, they feed us—and in this case, they also fed our souls with their generosity.”
”

These donations started at the beginning of April and continue to this day—500 donuts are arriving next week as I write this! When people don’t know what to do, they feed us—and in this case, they also fed our souls with their generosity.



For me, "stepping up" during COVID-19 has meant stepping down from my volunteer time at various local nonprofit organizations.

It has been better to step away and keep others safe. Because of this, I turned to making brown bag lunches to pass out to those in need and to donate to our neighborhood food pantry. I wish I could have done more, but my age put me in the group to stay away from crowds.

What stands out most to me about this time is having two more grandchildren arrive as Covid-19 was "closing in." They were both due right when lockdown started, but they must have known something was up, and arrived two weeks early (February 21 and March 6). I was fortunate to have the chance to hold them both, in two different cities.



I have witnessed the "we'll get through this together" spirit in those around me. I believe we will be OK. We lived through 9/11; our ancestors made it through the Spanish Flu of 1918, and World War I and II, so we can make it through this—and, not complain because we have it much easier than they did. I consider myself blessed to witness history in the making.

Most of all, I am grateful that my family and friends have remained healthy. I have been reminded that our community is resilient and will do what needs to be done. And, I am very thankful for those at Good Samaritan and all those risking their health to take care of those in need of medical help. Their selflessness does not go unnoticed.



*Emilie Dressler,
Good Samaritan Foundation Supporter*

I have witnessed the
"we'll get through this together"
spirit in those around me.



Members of the MSICU team celebrate a COVID-19 patient's return home.

The past six months heaped unprecedented challenges on the Intensive Care Unit. It's one thing to simply deal with the volume of a pandemic but quite another when that volume reflects a disease we had never dealt with. There was no playbook and trying to strike a balance between learning and doing was a daily challenge. When there are no evidence-based data, the cornerstones on which we deliver medical care, a different principle was pressed into action. If I had to sum up what I leaned most heavily on it would be that I trusted in the team and that the challenge would not be too big for them. Indeed, it was not. While many ancillary services and departments were either shut down or greatly reduced, the ICU team soldiered on. It has been disconcerting to most to come to work recognizing the personal dangers that we never even thought about pre-COVID. Going home and changing clothes in the garage, monitoring oneself and friends and family for early symptoms was stressful.



In many ways, they were as empathetic and encouraging to us as we were to them.

Yet, throughout all the individual fears that existed below the surface, the staff in the ICU always placed the patient's priorities and needs first. Established processes and protocols often were torn down and rebuilt in new and unfamiliar ways. Rather than question or complain, everyone I work with in the MSICU (Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit) upped their game, had trust in the team, asked and gave assistance and support, and accepted that we were all in this together and we all had each other's backs. To single out an individual or provide a particular

example would be a disservice to all the others which were literally too numerous to count. Situationally, what I was most gratified by was the personal interactions the ICU team had with family. At its peak, there was a strict "no visitation" policy and full PPE was required for all patient interactions. While recognizing and honoring the necessity on medical grounds, no one trains for something this unconventional! It is difficult to fathom the stress and heartbreak of a family member unable to see a critically ill loved one or the isolation and fear a patient experiences without a familiar face during the most vulnerable time of their life. Instead, multiple daily phone calls replaced visitation hours for families and masked, gowned, and gloved team members replaced children, siblings, and church friends for patient contacts. Yet, on an unprecedented scale, families expressed enormous gratitude for the calls, the efforts, and the concern that was being shown. In many ways, they were as empathetic and encouraging to us as we were to them.

Medicine uses a term called "supportive care." In its usual sense, it refers to providing the body what it needs to preserve organ function and allow healing. These past few months have highlighted a much broader definition of that for me. It means supporting not just patients but coworkers, staff, and all those who punch that 7th floor elevator button every day. When the nightly news is filled with political tribalism, protests, riots and discord over seemingly every conceivable topic, it's nice to be reminded that that's not who we are and that we can come together in spectacular ways for common good and to make a difference.

Christopher Hayner, MD, Good Samaritan Hospital MSICU

Throughout this time, I have seen and know of many who went out of their way to help older friends and parents with meals and picking up things at the grocery in order to keep them from having to go out and be exposed to the virus. Personally, I have stepped up by helping deliver meals and shop as well as keeping in close touch with some friends who are especially vulnerable, including our good friend, Grey, who has recently turned 106!

Throughout this time, I have been most grateful to be able to see our kids and grandkids. We have done our best to stay safe by wearing our masks, maintaining the appropriate distance from others, not gathering in large groups and washing our hands often. The memory that stands out most is our trip out to Colorado to see our youngest daughter and her husband. Because of COVID, we were hesitant to travel but finally decided to go see them in late July. We had a great trip with them to Crested Butte. We had not seen them since Christmas.

I feel I have learned that I live in a community who is taking this virus seriously and taking the necessary precautions to keep themselves and their neighbors safe. I feel Good Samaritan Hospital was very proactive in ensuring they were prepared in the event of a surge of COVID patients. With The Good Samaritans' Gala, of which I am the Chair for 2021, we made a collaborative decision with the Foundation to postpone the event in order to keep everyone safe. I am grateful to volunteer with such a caring and impactful organization.

I have an eternal optimism that things are going to be okay. It is how I try to live life as I need and want to stay positive to make the most of every day.

-Renita Homan, President, The Good Samaritans and Good Samaritan Foundation supporter



Dancing through the decades

Click to visit our Gala webpage for additional details, as well as sponsorship and underwriting opportunities!

The Good Samaritans of Good Samaritan Foundation request you save the date for our 37th Annual Gala. Because we value your safety, February may be a little too soon for all of us to "dance through the decades."

Our new date for the 2021 Gala is:

Saturday, June 5, 2021

Beneficiary: Creation of a Cellular Therapy Program at the TriHealth Cancer Institute at Good Samaritan, along with annual support of Good Samaritan Free Health Center and Medical Education Research Fund.

More Information, call 513 862 1258 or visit our website.

During this time, I primarily stayed at home with my two young boys for fear of exposing my unborn baby or myself to the Coronavirus. I thought about how I could give back and one of the ways I determined I could was by calling to check in with older friends who were stuck at home or sending cards to friends who were not able to be in close contact with others. This way, we were able to stay in touch and feel connected even if we couldn't be together...This was my third delivery at Good Samaritan Hospital where I have had three incredibly positive birth experiences. This most recent one in June 2020 was the best.

I am so grateful to live in a community with excellent healthcare. I am most grateful for unfailing support both in and out of the hospital. At Good Samaritan Hospital I received such exceptional care from each individual who entered my hospital room that I was relaxed and at peace even right after the birth of my new baby. Then when I returned home, I had the love and support of my family to make the transition a joyous one.

I am most grateful for unfailing support both in and out of the hospital.

Once I got home after the birth of my daughter, Solenne, I needed some additional breastfeeding support. The breastfeeding clinic was closed but Lisa at TriHealth Lactation talked to me on the phone multiple times



Kathleen Smith, MD, honored by Lauren with a gift made in her honor through the Foundation's Grateful Patients and Families Program, with Kristin Coppage, MD.

and walked me through what to do to make the process better. Her support was instrumental in relieving my pain and ensuring that I could continue to breastfeed successfully.

Each night during the first five weeks of my daughter's life, my husband Gary would get up with me every night even though he needed to go to work the next day. He would change her diaper, comfort her, get me water or snacks and assist me in any way that I needed while I nursed our newborn daughter. Feeling like we were a team made our bond together and with our daughter that much stronger.

When I drive around Cincinnati or happen to go into a place of business and everyone is wearing a mask, I am reminded that we are all in this together. We all have a collective goal to keep our community healthy and safe. I strongly believe that the good you send out to the world you will receive much more in return. One of my favorite quotes is by William James: "The greatest discovery of any generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitude."

-Lauren Hudson, Grateful Patient



Click the photo to honor a caregiver!

From right to left holding flowers: Emily Helferich and Lisa Oeters, Lactation Consultants honored by Lauren through the Foundation's Grateful Patients and Families Program, with the Perinatal Programs Team.

The memory that stands out the most during the period of COVID-19 for me is walking through an empty hospital: a time where visitors weren't permitted and team members were working from home or on furlough. I've been with Good Sam Hospital for 22 years, so it was a very sad feeling. For those of us who reported to work, it was amazing to see how much we cared for and supported each other.

I witnessed many special moments of kindness, but for me it was the moments I was blessed to be a part of that meant the most. The one most touching for me was witnessing a nurse in the COVID unit speaking to the daughter of a patient whose mother wasn't going to make it. The daughter asked if she could say something specific to her mother. The nurse put her PPE on and went into the isolation glassed room. The nurse stood next to her mom and put her hand up as if to hold the daughter's hand while she shared the words she requested. At that time the chaplain said a prayer. We had an iPad set up for family members outside in the parking lot so they could be in this moment with us.

We all "stepped up" during this crisis. I remember a day where there were at least 30 family members outside of Good Sam because they found out their loved one wasn't going to make it. With leadership's permission, I was able to transport 2 family members at a time from Dixmyth Lobby to the COVID unit. I then walked those 2 down to the lobby and got 2 more family members and so on. This took most of the day, and I wouldn't say I "stepped up," but that I did the right thing and I got to be a part of something very special.

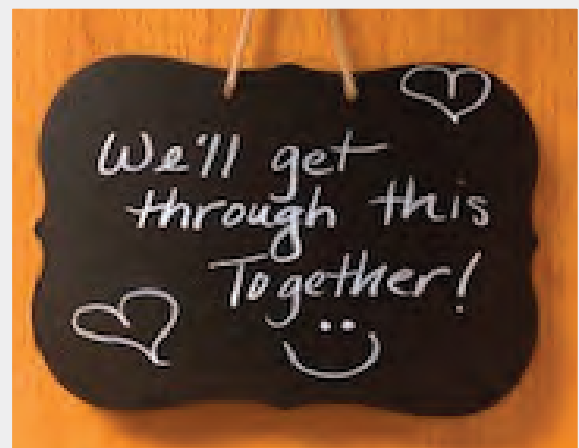
I have been most grateful for TriHealth leadership throughout this experience. The support, strength, honesty, and dedication was amazing! What I learned about Good Sam is this...we are strong, we are a team, and we will get through this together!

I believe if you do the right thing, and do it with love, things will be okay.

*-Diana Krauser, Patient & Family Liaison,
Good Samaritan Hospital*



The one most touching for me was witnessing a nurse in the COVID unit speaking to the daughter of a patient whose mother wasn't going to make it.



Sign hanging outside Diana's office.

When I reflect on the last six months at TriHealth, what I remember most is the call to action by so many in various areas of the operation.

It didn't matter what you were "responsible" for in the organization, this was "other duties as assigned" in order to meet the needs we knew of at the time. We were truly going down a path that none of us had been on before.

Throughout this time, so many acts of kindness stand out, such as nurses caring for those that were alone in the hospital with no loved ones around. These nurses contacted patients' families, who were not allowed to visit, so they were updated on their loved one's status.

Personally, I was touched that nursing homes, such as where my mother lives, reached out to me and other families to let us know how our family member was doing.

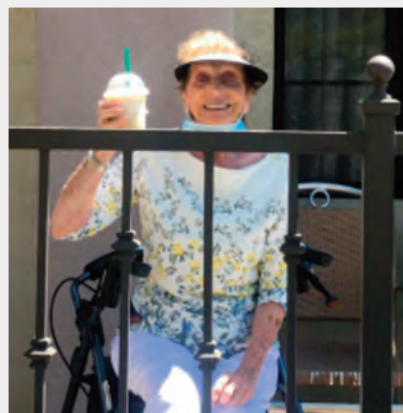
I worked with the area nursing homes to ensure they had the Personal Protective Equipment. At TriHealth, I assisted in getting what was needed to continue patient care and give them the confidence needed to support the hospitals.

“
What has kept me going has been the collaboration amongst the various healthcare providers in Greater Cincinnati.”
”

I have been grateful for the transparent communication of Mark Clement [TriHealth President and CEO] to all our team members at TriHealth. For some time, there were weekly virtual Town Halls for all team members, weekly leadership calls, and more. As a result, leaders had the most up to date materials to share with team members as we all navigated this unprecedented time together, as one team.

What has kept me going has been the collaboration amongst the various healthcare providers in Greater Cincinnati. Weekly meetings have really allowed great communication and dialogue, and provided us all the confidence that if one system is overloaded, another will step in to assist. This time allowed me to view our entire healthcare community as one that is focused on SERVING, not focused solely on each of our hospitals. We truly all knew we were in this together.

- Steve Mombach, Senior Vice President, Ambulatory Services & Network Development



Steve's mother and nursing home resident, who recently celebrated turning 94.



The memory of this time that stands out the most to me is when my youngest, Ellie, graduated from St. Ursula Academy in Paycor's Parking lot off of the Norwood Lateral at the end of June—it felt like a graduation tail gate party.

I have been grateful for 4 straight months of working from home and being back in the same house with my bride and 3 adult children as they finished their respective school years remotely. We enjoyed cooking, watching shows, and putting together puzzles, mostly by the side of our dog of 15 years as she passed away.

I have also witnessed many acts of kindness. As an example, my friend Matt Woods—owner and CEO of Woods Hardware—was making sure people had PPE even if they could not afford to pay full price or pay at all. That man knows that the situation we are all living in is bigger than all of us right now and he will and continues to step in to the gap time and again for many, many others. For myself, I helped the Over the Rhine Chamber of Commerce raise \$170,000 of a total \$450,000 in Small Business Restart Funds for the small businesses impacted by mandatory COVID-19 closures and civil unrest.

The belief that encourages me for the future is that Americans and Cincinnatians are resilient. In my 50 years of life, I've seen many dark days. We all seem to find a way to adapt and bounce back better than ever and this will happen again! I have learned there are so many great organizations that banded together to help out those in most need...I saw TriHealth and Good Sam leadership put together a COVID Task Force to deal with a possible worst-case scenario of hospitalized virus patients. The focus was not on profit but in the true sense of the Good Samaritan—helping your neighbor regardless of the cost. That's leadership and compassion!

We all seem to find a way to adapt and bounce back better than ever and this will happen again!

*-Greg Olson, CEO, Urban Sites
and former Good Samaritan Foundation Board Member*



This is a world-wide situation unlike any other. This virus is affecting so many people. All of us are vulnerable. Bill and I are high risk and we really had to consider that we too may be affected and possibly lose our lives. The hardest thing was not seeing our loved ones, especially our granddaughter who was born last Thanksgiving Day. She is especially vulnerable as she was hospitalized with respiratory issues in January.

Despite all this, I am amazed how people showed up to meet the needs of others: the essential workers, the long hours, the entrepreneurs who created new ways of doing things, so many people putting their lives and their livelihoods on the line to help everyone through this.

These last six months have been a time to take a look at who we are as Americans and individuals, and all our blessings. We've had time to reflect and consider what's most important in our lives, what is God calling me/us to be and how can we risk a caring response to that call. We were deeply touched by a special act of kindness by our son and daughter in law, who both work at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in direct patient care.



I believe that God is working in the middle of this pandemic walking with us, listening to our concerns, holding us up, uniting us and opening our hearts to see how interconnected we all are.

They took on extra hours at work. Yet, they called us to see what groceries we needed and brought them to us. It was humbling. There's so many people coming together to help one another.

For Bill's and my part, we have a special concern about the homeless and underserved and veterans. We supported the charities that would serve these groups the most. We took groceries to our parish food pantry. I sent notes to friends in nursing homes, and checked on neighbors. And most of all, I prayed for strength for all those struggling with this illness and those on the front lines.

We are grateful that we have been financially secure, and that we have been able to share those gifts with the organizations that mean the most to us. We are also grateful that our state and community took charge right away and worked to do everything we could to protect the citizens of Ohio. We are grateful for all the caregivers, the researchers and the scientists, looking for ways to find treatment and hopefully a cure. We are also grateful for the technical support available to allow us to stay connected.

Most of all, we are grateful for the love and support we have received from family and friends during this time when we've been so isolated, which has been the hardest part.

My Catholic faith has been a great source of strength during this time. I believe God is always with us, even in the storms of life. I believe that God is working in the middle of this pandemic walking with us, listening to our concerns, holding us up, uniting us and opening our hearts to see how interconnected we all are. It truly seems to be a time of transition. My mantra has always been, "if you help one, you help them all, if you hurt one, you hurt them all."

I have seen this faith in action. Locally, we've seen the commitment of all agencies to reach out to help those in need. The churches, the teachers in the schools, the food pantries, the volunteers for distribution of goods, and the determination to get everyone in our community through this unforeseen time. I've seen the cooperation of all of us who gave up Baptisms, First Communion, Weddings, Graduations, and other celebrations to keep others safe.

I worked at Good Samaritan Hospital for over twenty seven years. Bill volunteered for almost twenty years. We have seen the dedication and team spirit that unites all the caregivers of Good Samaritan Hospital every day and especially in a time of crisis. We have experienced the loving care the staff gives to patients and each other. We lifted each other up and encouraged each other to carry on.

Pat Stetter, Good Samaritan Hospital Guild Board Member and Retiree, and Bill Stetter, former Good Samaritan Hospital Volunteer

For me, the one memory that stands out the most was the day my boss at XU alerted our team that a shutdown was imminent. It was not the announcement that stands out, but rather the complete willingness of the team to come together as a whole and figure out how we were still going to provide an adaptive learning environment that would create more nurses to assist with COVID-19. My team and I literally locked ourselves in a room for about 16 hours and worked together to create a learning environment that would allow our nursing students to continue to be successful. The overall memory that stands out the most through these past 6 months is the amount of teamwork I saw occurring. Everyone stepped up to help one another and make sure that the job was still done while still caring for each other. I saw a lot of great people come together during a really trying time, which was a reminder of how adaptable and how strong the human spirit is.

I witnessed many of my medical friends leave their families to go help in heavily hit places, such as New York. That in itself is a special act of kindness. These individuals sacrificed time away from their family, their health, and hours of sleep to aid others in a time of need, and did so without hesitation.

I would have loved to have gone to New York with my peers to help on the hospital floors; however, I was needed here to continue providing education to upcoming nursing students. My hours as a College professor doubled during this time, as did many individuals'.

I had to redesign entire clinical courses to now be completely virtual so that my students, especially my seniors, could finish their degrees. This became even more important when many boards of nursing throughout the United States



“
This was a challenging time
for the nursing students as
there was a lot of change
quickly occurring.”
—



Jackie Wright, left, receives the Nancy M. Powell Nursing Education Scholarship in August 2019 to support GSC graduates with their continuing education. She is pictured with Nancy Powell (center) and fellow recipient, Rebecka Sayne-Meyer.

announced that the graduating nurses would need to immediately enter the field, even prior to actually sitting for the exam and obtaining their licenses. This was unprecedented as this has never happened before. This was a challenging time for the nursing students as there was a lot of change quickly occurring. I spent many days doing video chats with students and instructors or answering phone calls and emails to keep everyone on the same page, or to even just calm one's anxiety and fear.

Throughout this experience, I have been most grateful for my friends and family. Those were the people that often reached out when I was working long hours to check on me, commiserate with me, and provide a much-needed laugh at times. I am also very grateful that I continued to have a job during this time. This job both allowed me to continue to care for myself and use my skills to educate more highly qualified nurses to provide more helpful hands during a time of need.

I think, overall, I was reminded that in my community as well as many others there are a lot of really great people. I witnessed many communities come together to help one another. I saw neighbors reaching out to their medical neighbors offering

daycare or meals. I spoke with many people who were doing grocery runs for their elderly family members or neighbors. I witnessed people thanking and displaying their gratitude and appreciation for medical personnel on the frontline. It was a reminder that when we all work together we can accomplish really great things and weather any storm.

I have been raised to believe that everything happens for a reason. I may not know or understand that reason initially, but there is a reason. I also believe that light always comes out of great darkness. While times are scary and trying currently, I know that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and I have faith that one day it will appear. I chose to focus on the good throughout this time and that has made all the difference. I have seen people sacrifice, come together as a team, and provide kindness to others through this pandemic and that provides comfort to me. It is a reminder that if we continue to work together and be kind to each other, we can find the light at the end of the tunnel together.

Jackie Wright, Good Samaritan College Class of 2008 and Alumni Association President, Nursing Professor at Xavier University

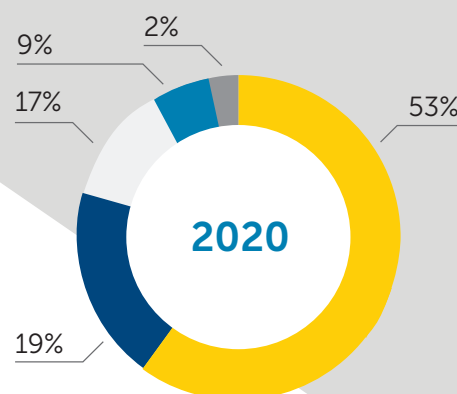
I also believe that light always comes out of great darkness.

You Still Make a Difference

Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report

Contributions:

● Foundations	\$2,680,493	53%
● Trusts/Estates	\$941,361	19%
● Individuals	\$863,564	17%
● Business/Corporations	\$468,194	9%
● Guild	\$115,707	2%
<hr/>		
Total	\$5,069,319	100%



Distributions: Areas of Impact

	Caring for the Community	\$2,131,023	56%
	Educating the Caregivers of Tomorrow	\$639,051	17%
	Creating Healing Environments	\$371,117	10%
	Innovating the Future of Care through Research	\$342,264	9%
	Supporting Patients and Families	\$326,561	8%
<hr/>			
Total		\$3,810,016	100%

*Unaudited financials July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Areas of Impact

Caring for the Community



COVID Response and Impact: More than \$116,000

- Created **COVID-19 Relief Fund** to support frontline effort, such as PPE.
- Coordinated **in-kind gifts**, from meals to PPE and more.



Good Samaritan Free Health Center served patients in more than **9,400 visits** during **6,140 volunteer hours** for an estimated donated value to the community of **\$3.2 million**.



Supporting Patients and Families

Team Member Emergency Fund: supported **58 team members** through crises.



The Good Samaritan Hospital Guild awarded more than **\$190,000 in grants** to support many areas throughout the Good Samaritan Region.



Educating the Caregivers of Tomorrow

Donors provided **\$170,050 in scholarships** to **77 students** at Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science.



Creating Healing Environments

The Good Samaritans' Gala provided **\$218,000** to support the installation of **Viz.ai software** to more quickly diagnose and treat strokes.



The Greatest Needs Fund supported NICU physical upgrades as well as the **NICView Camera System** in the amount of **\$355,900**, so families can see and stay connected to their babies at any time.



Innovating the Future of Care through Research

The Medical Education Research Fund supported studies that will advance both Resident education and the quality of future care.



Want to learn more?

[Click here to find out all the ways your gifts make a difference.](#)

Two Powerful Words

THANK YOU

Good Samaritan Foundation dedicates this special edition of Compassionate Giving to all the heroes of this challenging time: our frontline caregivers, administrative leaders, community partners, and—most of all—our family of donors who make a difference, every single day.

We are still inspired because of you!



Are you inspired? If so, please consider making a gift to the special COVID-19 Response Fund to support our frontline caregivers. [Click here.](#)



To make a gift to an area close to your heart, [click here.](#)

Chalk art at Xavier University, who welcomed our team members in need of alternative housing to keep their own families safe.

Tribute Gifts

Gifts made in honor and memory of caregivers, family, friends, and loved ones are meaningful and impactful acts of gratitude.

To view the most recent Tribute Gifts, [click here.](#)



375 Dixmyth Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

If you do not wish to receive future issues of Compassionate Giving magazine or other communications from Good Samaritan Foundation, you may opt out by calling 513 862 3786 or emailing gshfoundation@trihealth.com.