

January 2022

# Philanthropy in Action



## Your generosity breaks another record

The year 2021 was an historical one for healthcare. We weathered the urgent need for advanced personal protective equipment to safeguard our frontline workers and expanded safe ways to meet your ongoing health needs throughout COVID. We also watched as our community united and ignited untold generosity toward friends and strangers alike to deliver transformational healthcare.



Your generosity helped HonorHealth Foundation exceed its fundraising goals for 2021 and for the third year in a row! Final numbers will be announced next month. Together, we are truly helping to deliver the most advanced and innovative healthcare to vulnerable Arizonans—from patient assistance post-care to ground-breaking research and diagnostic technology.

“My sincere and heartfelt thanks for your personal generosity. Every one of you help us transform lives and uplift the vulnerable in our community,” states Jared A. Langkilde, president and CEO of HonorHealth Foundation.

Your gifts impacted lives in countless ways. Because of you, we will be opening the first comprehensive Cardiovascular Center of Excellence in the southwest. We have opened new holistic and integrated primary care clinics with providers credentialed in functional and lifestyle medicine. Neurosciences research and physical therapy equipment now support stroke victims and system-wide standardization of the cardiognostics program now includes a new uniform fleet of echocardiogram machines at every HonorHealth medical center across the Valley. At Desert Mission, clients are receiving not only food but job resources. So many good things are happening because of your generosity.

We are so honored to live in a community that weathers the storms together.

### **Patient says innovative study at HonorHealth Research and Innovation Institute "saved my life"**

While it's been a whirlwind since Marybeth was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer, she's now enjoying brighter days and the promise of more tomorrows — all thanks to HonorHealth Research Institute.



Diagnosed at another hospital in August 2020, Marybeth turned to HonorHealth Research and Innovation Institute in search of healing, hope and better care. After meeting with an expert team, she enrolled in the innovative “Grand Slam” clinical trial, which involves a regimen of five drugs — three chemotherapy agents, a drug to help the immune system attack cancer cells and a form of vitamin D to enable chemotherapy agents to work more effectively. Results recently reported at an American Association for Cancer Research Pancreatic Cancer conference show that tumors shrank substantially in 84 percent of patients in the Grand Slam study.

Marybeth is grateful to be one of those patients. After six months on the Grand Slam regimen, she'd done so well that she was placed on a maintenance program in early 2021.

“HonorHealth Research Institute saved my life,” says Marybeth gratefully. “Pancreatic cancer is a terrible and gloomy diagnosis. But doctors at the Institute gave me hope

when other medical institutions didn't. Their team supported me in so many ways — physically and emotionally — and it's meant more to me than I can say."

Today, Marybeth is busy swimming five to six miles weekly and planning her March 2022 wedding. "In the not too distant past, I wouldn't have been here to do any of that," she says.

*Your contributions make access to leading-edge clinical trials possible for patients like Marybeth. Learn more about [HonorHealth Research and Innovation Institute](#) and hear directly from Dr. Mark Slater, CEO.*

*For more information on oncology clinical trials at HonorHealth Research and Innovation Institute, please call the Oncology Nurse Navigation Team at 480-323-1364 or [clinicaltrials@HonorHealth.com](mailto:clinicaltrials@HonorHealth.com).*



### **HonorHealth featured on NBC's The Today Show**

Grateful patient Elizabeth O'Connor shares her journey, and her struggle, through a Stage 4 pancreatic cancer diagnosis.

"I just felt numb [at the diagnosis] — I had just had a baby," offers Elizabeth.

Working with the doctors at HonorHealth, who employed innovative targeted therapies, along with conventional chemotherapy, Elizabeth credits our medical staff with saving her life. [It was truly our honor.]



### **Shop at Basha's and support victims of abuse**

This January, your grocery shopping directly supports the HonorHealth Forensic Nurse Examiner Program (FNE). Did you know that approximately 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men have experienced domestic abuse or interpersonal violence by a partner?

During the month, you can help end domestic abuse by making a donation at the register at any Bashas' or Food City store.

Our very own Dr. Erkut Borazanci is also featured.

Hear her story in this [interview on The Today Show](#).

This innovative program has become a national leader, providing direct medical assistance as well as the collection of medical samples and documentation of injuries to help law enforcement.

*"The nurse who took care of me was wonderful. I was in pain, shock, scared and heartbroken. She made it clear that I didn't need to be embarrassed to cry and treated me with extreme compassion. It was so comforting to have someone so professional, yet caring..." FNE patient*

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## HonorHealth priorities affirm Foundation focus in 2022

As HonorHealth leaders consider the needs of our community, they publish an annual list of strategic priorities. The Foundation, in turn, uses this to craft its own focus for the year. Here are three of the priority programs that donors can support to benefit our patients and our community:



1. **Heart and Vascular Programs** — building on last year's success, where donors gave generously to the HonorHealth Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, we now focus on expanding services at HonorHealth Deer Valley Medical Center, to provide the West Valley with greater access to the best in cardiovascular care. The HonorHealth team brings together elite expertise in cardiovascular surgery, interventional cardiology, arrhythmia and vascular surgery, all with a commitment to excellence and innovation. Your gift to the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence helps provide leading-edge heart and vascular care and advance clinical research.
2. **Desert Mission Endowment** — With a 95-year history of neighbors helping neighbors, Desert Mission is committed to addressing hunger, serving our vulnerable seniors and giving children a strong foundation to their education. Each year, we work to raise the donations needed to meet Desert Mission's annual needs. To secure the future of these vital programs, the Foundation has established an endowment to ensure a reliable source of revenue in perpetuity. This protects Desert Mission from unforeseen crises like a pandemic or economic downturn that increases the number of people in need.
3. **Greatest Needs Fund** — When you give to HonorHealth's greatest needs, you allow hospital leaders to direct funds where they will do the most good. These may be emerging or urgent needs that weren't anticipated, such as COVID. But unrestricted gifts do so much more. As a locally governed, community non-profit health system, HonorHealth can act quickly on recommendations from our physicians and hospital



leaders. This unrestricted fund enables us to invest in the areas that will make the biggest difference in the lives of our patients and our community.

Watch for future issues of *Philanthropy in Action*, where we'll introduce you to even more priorities for us to drive transformational care and community well-being together.

## COVID continues to impact hospital operations, Foundation events

The health of our staff, donors and community is always a priority. We continue to keep a watchful eye on the evolving COVID environment. We know that the more people who interact, the more closely they gather and the longer they are in that setting, the greater the risk of spreading the virus. In consultation with HonorHealth physician experts, the Foundation has determined that events are subject to revision or cancellation based on our best assessment of the current situation, with a focus on your safety and that of our community.



As a result, we have made the following event changes:

**NEW COVID PROTOCOLS:** [The Honor Ball](#) now requires proof of vaccine or a negative COVID test, as this large event is held indoors.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate this changing landscape.

## Give where the need is greatest

With a gift to the [Greatest Needs Fund](#), you give HonorHealth the ability to meet needs that arise unexpectedly or that may otherwise go unfulfilled. These include germ-zapping robots to safeguard patients and staff; workplace support for front-line healthcare workers; wrap-around patient services that aren't covered by insurance and much more.

Over the past two years, donations to this unrestricted fund have helped HonorHealth leaders respond to unprecedented needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.



Watch the [Greatest Needs Fund video](#) to learn more.

To learn more about opportunities to advance the mission of HonorHealth or for personalized assistance in a variety of giving options, please contact us to speak with a gift officer at 480-587-5000 or [Foundation@HonorHealth.com](mailto:Foundation@HonorHealth.com)



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HonorHealth Foundation

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