With community comes unity:

2021 showed us the strength of community in the Yampa Valley. Although COVID-19 changed our day-to-day lives, one thing remains the same: UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center (YVMC) is dedicated to providing exceptional health care services to improve the lives of our families, friends and neighbors in northwest Colorado. Our staff has adapted and persevered to ensure the quality of our services were uncompromised while facing the unique challenges that COVID-19 presented. Likewise, the continued support of our hospital from this community has not waivered. Because of this, the Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation (YVMCF) has been able to support health care services in a variety of ways, while our staff focused on keeping our community as safe and healthy as possible.

What’s raised here, stays here.

Nursing education:
Thanks to generous donations, YVMCF provided $12,400 in support to seven employees who were looking to enhance their professional skills in the workplace. We applaud our staff for continuing to seek learning opportunities, and are happy to be able to provide financial assistance for these individuals.

Sarah’s gift:
This program helped one of our YVMC nurses obtain training in how to manage and offer assistance with perinatal loss. While we hope these services will not be needed, we are grateful for this training opportunity that upgrades the services available to patients at UCHealth Birth Center in Steamboat Springs, and improves our ability to serve our entire community.

Susan De Wardt Writing Program:
Thanks to a generous donation in memory of Susan De Wardt, UCHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center partnered with the Center for Journal Therapy to offer a free, four-week online therapeutic writing class called, “Writing Your Cancer Story.” The class is available at no cost to former or current patients of our cancer center. To date, 19 patients and 39 caregivers have participated in courses, with another 45 patients on the waitlist for future sessions.

DigniCap machine:
Over the past year, UCHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center has offered the DigniCap Scalp Cooling system for patients undergoing chemotherapy in an effort to minimize hair loss.

The Lactation Fund:
Due to the exceptional lactation support a grateful patient received during her child’s birth, an initial donation was made to establish The Lactation Fund, which will support lactation service for new mothers. We are hopeful this fund will assist the many families choosing to have and raise their children in the Yampa Valley.

Emergency department renovation: $900,000
The Emergency Department renovation began in February 2020, and $500k was regranted from the Foundation to the first phase of this project. In 2021, $900k was regranted, and the renovation was completed in May 2021. The department contains two private major medical/trauma rooms, ten private treatment rooms, two private behavioral health rooms, a decontamination room, dedicated physical therapy space, physician and staff work stations and break areas, separate walk-in and ambulance vestibules, and direct access to the main hospital for patients and guests.

New equipment and technology:
Thanks to a generous donor, YVMC purchased 10 iPads for the patient care unit, devices to evaluate pediatric hearing, and an Abbott Afinion 2 analyzer for point-of-care testing at UCHealth Endocrinology Clinic. These resources all help to improve and support our patients’ care and experience.

Building community through giving:
Our community came together to show their appreciation for our health care workers time and time again in 2021. Donations from Mountain Valley Bank and Steamboat Christian Center provided delicious meals and treats for
our staff. During the holidays, the Rotary Club of Steamboat Springs and Ski Town USA® Morning Rotary Club worked together to offer a ‘gift of choice.’ A voucher allowed employees to receive a small gift of their choice from a variety of businesses in Steamboat Springs. Throughout the year, the Random Acts of Kindness Committee at YVMC provided surprise gifts to employees to show their appreciation. From pumpkin carving kits and holiday gift wrap to lunch boxes and squeezable stress balls, the Random Acts of Kindness Committee had something for everyone.

Community health benefit fund
$150,000 Routt County schools mental and behavioral health grant
YVMCF, in partnership with the Craig-Scheckman Family Foundation, continues to support an increase in mental and behavioral health services in the Steamboat Springs, South Routt and Hayden school districts. Now in the third year of the five-year commitment, our goals are to establish a broader collaboration and consistently collect data to drive programming opportunities and future funding decisions.

Community Health Benefit Fund grants $325,000
In its second year, the Community Health Benefit Fund awarded grants ranging from $8,000 - $60,000. The 2021 areas of focus were access to health care, mental health, and substance use disorders. Recipients included:
Brighter World Child Advocacy Center
Advocates of Routt County
Grand Futures Prevention Coalition
Horizons Specialized Services
Integrated Community
Mind Springs Health
Northwest Colorado Center for Independence
Northwest Colorado Health - Behavioral Health
Northwest Colorado Health - Home Health
Partners in Routt County
Reaching Everyone Preventing Suicide
Rocky Mountain Planned Parenthood, Inc.
Routt County Council On Aging
Steamboat Montessori
Yampa Valley Autism Program

YVMC is a non-profit, non-tax supported community hospital that is dedicated to serving the needs of residents throughout northwest Colorado.

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