



Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation

2023 Impact Report

What's raised here, stays here.

Throughout 2023, Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation (YVMCF) donors demonstrated a profound commitment to enhancing health care through generous philanthropic contributions. These efforts resulted in significant advancements across various departments, reflecting a dedication to patient care, employee development and community well-being. From supporting cardiology initiatives and continuing education for employees to investing in simulation labs, emergency department renovations, and childcare facilities, the Foundation's work is both diverse and impactful. This report highlights YVMCF's unwavering commitment to health care excellence in the Yampa Valley and the overall betterment of the communities we serve.

2023 Impacts

\$1,000,000 - CT Scanner replacement

The 2023 purchase of the upgraded Siemens Somatom Flash replaced equipment from 2012 and was made possible through more than \$1 million in donor-supported fundraising to the Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation. More than 7,050 patients utilized the hospital's CT Scanner services in 2023, and that number is anticipated to see a minimum of 3-5% annual growth. A CT, or computerized tomography, scanner is one of the most critical pieces of equipment at UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center and is used daily to diagnose and monitor acute and chronic injuries and illnesses. CT is frequently used with patients needing care for various oncology, cardiology, urology and surgical concerns. It is essential in the care of patients with emergent or traumatic injuries. Thanks to kind and generous donors, we exceeded our \$1M fundraising goal for the CT scanner replacement and continue to support UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center and its endeavor to provide safe and high-quality health care, close to home.



"The generosity of donors to Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation—be they former patients, community members, visitors to Steamboat Springs, or our own staff and providers—never ceases to amaze me. Our team is honored to provide patients with a safe and high-quality patient care experience, and humbled by the gifts of so many that allow us to do so." - Soniya Fidler - President, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center



\$9,443.78 - Continuing education

The Foundation invested over \$9,000 in support of continuing education for YVMC employees. Staff from OB, oncology, Lab and SportsMed departments were beneficiaries of these funds. We are grateful to be able to provide assistance for educational courses that ultimately enhance the care of patients at YVMC.

"The generous support by the YVMC Foundation allowed me to fund the education needed for my International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) certification, which allows me to be a resource for our moms and babies. Thank you so much for this opportunity! We are a small, community hospital that serves a critically underfunded area of the country and a region many consider to be a 'maternal care desert.' We know so much more about the lifelong benefits of breastfeeding than we used to and are now able to better provide essential lactation support to families in Northwest Colorado." - **Cara Ercolino, RN**

"I am so grateful I was given the opportunity to participate in an Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) training. The training itself has been fantastic and has added a level of understanding and approach to providing counseling that I could not have previously done. The fact that the Foundation is supporting me to attend this training shows me that they care that their providers are providing progressive and evidence-based approaches to our care. Without trainings, we cannot push ourselves to be better at what we do, and when we have these opportunities, we get to share them with the people we serve." - **Katie Keller, LCSW - Social Worker at Jan Bishop Cancer Center**

\$484.52 - Forensic nurse exams at Better World Child Advocacy Center

YVMC, in partnership with Brighter World Child Advocacy Center (CAC), provides specially trained staff to perform medical forensic exams in a nonhospital environment. In early 2023, an anonymous donor contributed funds to assist local individuals in need of these exams and the supporting lab work - costs from which, in some cases, are not covered by insurance or other entities and often become the patient's responsibility. This creates additional stress and anxiety for the patient and family during an already difficult time. Through this donor's generosity, the Foundation can cover these costs, giving these patients the opportunity to focus on healing.

"Having the medical forensic room there allows pediatric victims to be cared for in a calm and welcoming environment. Performing medical forensic exams at the CAC allows the forensic nurse examiner to make concessions for the pediatric patient's specific needs without the interruption and distraction of a bustling emergency department. The funds to support this service ensure no medical expense goes to the victim's family while also allowing our forensic nurse examiners to continue their expertise and stay up to date with current education."

- **Rachael Rangel - Forensic Nurse Examiner**

\$3,603.39 - Cardiology

This year, the heart and vascular team utilized Foundation funds to support the purchase of a new blood pressure cart and the installation of a patient 'tracker board' in the staff area of the clinic. The tracker board will increase efficiencies with patient encounters and timing.

\$11,948.96 - Simulation lab

The Foundation invested funds to help make improvements and enhancements in the Simulation Lab (SIM Lab) at YVMC. Our SIM Lab serves as a resource for staff to practice skills for high acuity care in a safe and controlled environment, so they are always prepared to provide patient care. Our surgical employees utilize this space monthly, and educators come on-site to provide education opportunities throughout the year. The SIM Lab is also open for use by other emergency responders in our community.

"The UHealth Simulation Program is dedicated to excellence in health care education by promoting collaboration, communication and clinical performance through state-of-the-art simulation-based learning experiences and research, thus improving patient safety, health care outcomes, and self-efficacy. We are grateful to be gifted with the technology to perform this service for our employees and community; we are ultimately leading to highly skilled employees performing high-quality and safe patient care." - **Sarah Clemmons MS, RN - Professional Development Supervisor**



\$38,641.23 - Financial assistance for patients

Last year, the Foundation invested over \$35,000 in financial assistance to patients through the 4 Yellow Foundation Fund of the Yampa Valley Community Foundation (YVCF) grant, the Lufkin Family Endowment of the YVCF grant, the EPIC Systems Grant, and donor funds. These funds help offset medical and non-medical costs for patients to help ease financial burden during difficult times. In 2023, 48 patients received support related to housing, utilities, transportation, prescriptions, home medical supplies and more.

"UCHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center is eternally grateful for the support it receives from the 4 Yellow Funds. Our team has been able to identify patient needs in a timely manner and facilitate financial support to patients through their cancer journey. The funds have been used to help those who are struggling to pay utility bills, fill propane tanks or keep a roof over their heads while battling cancer. This funding has helped with transportation for patients who live in rural areas to get access to life-saving treatments. Cancer can be a devastating diagnosis. In addition to physical and emotional stressors, many families endure financial struggles as an individual may lose their ability to work. Caregivers may also have to decrease their ability to work in order to care for their loved ones. Providing the right help to the right people at the right time has been something that we've been able to do, thanks to these funds generously provided by our community." - **Sanaya Sturm, BSN** - Nurse Manager

\$500,000 - ED regrant

In 2023, YVMCF regranting \$500,000 back to YVMC for pledges designated to the emergency department renovation. The project, which was completed in May 2021, enhanced the emergency department by increasing patient privacy, adding two designated trauma rooms, creating a specific room for medical forensic exams, and improving the layout of the department to better facilitate the arrival and treatment of patients. We have seen an increase in our patient satisfaction scores as we continue to provide care for a record number of patients.

"On behalf of the emergency department physicians and staff, we are forever grateful to Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation and its incredible donors for making renovations to our department a reality. From the simple things like having a stool in every room so we can sit eye to eye with our patients, to the more complex addition of two generously-sized trauma rooms and everything in between, the updates we have had, and will continue to have, tremendous impact. As a physician, I can say without question that we're able to provide better health care and an even better patient experience to those who come through our doors. Your contribution will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in saving lives, providing timely medical intervention, and offering solace to those in distress for years to come." - **Laura Sehnert, MD** - Chief Medical Officer and emergency medicine physician, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center



\$181,652.37 - UCHealth GrandKids Childcare Center

In 2023, grant funding provided UCHealth GrandKids Childcare Center the ability to enhance its facilities with a playground renovation and multiple updates, including new air purifiers, sunshades for the outdoor play area and new cribs for the infant room.

"The new cribs replaced ones that were outdated and larger than the cribs we have now. This makes it easier for our caregivers to safely place the infants into a crib. Thank you for helping us provide safe and loving care to our infants." - **Jenica Walker** - Director at GrandKids Childcare Center

\$300,000 - Community Health Benefit Fund

In its fourth year, the Community Health Benefit Fund awarded a total of \$300,000 to 14 local organizations with grants ranging from \$4,000 - \$50,000. We have now invested over \$1 million back into our communities through this program. The 2023 areas of focus were access to health care, mental health and substance use disorders. This program has been structured to ensure funding will be available to support the community and its population health initiatives in perpetuity, and are grateful to continue making an impact with these funds.

\$4,413.26 - Neil Twite honor funds

In 2023, a compassionate patient extended a generous donation to UHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center, expressing gratitude for the exceptional care received during his battle with cancer. The impact of this philanthropy is far-reaching, as the Patient and Family Assistance Fund has played a pivotal role in assisting numerous local individuals in managing non-health care expenses. These funds aim to maintain lifestyle stability and enhance the quality of life for families undergoing treatment. Additionally, funds from this donor have been instrumental in bolstering the mental health and resilience of the JBCC staff. The donor's support not only extends to those directly affected by illness, but also nurtures the well-being of the health care professionals who play a crucial role in the journey towards recovery.

"As our family was faced with such great obstacles ahead in the cancer journey, we knew one of the most important things was to keep our kids active and as close to a normal lifestyle as we could. With added medical expenses, it was comforting to know we could have financial support to help them engage and participate in outside activities that they love to do. This was instrumental in supporting their mental health and a sense of normalcy, when life didn't feel normal at all." - **Anonymous recipient of funds**

\$46,406.02 - Cancer services

Donor funds to the UHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center (JBCC) supported our patients with cancer, oncology staff, and facilities needs last year. The UHealth JBCC has also continued to offer the DigniCap Scalp Cooling system for patients undergoing chemotherapy in an effort to minimize hair loss.



Additionally, in conjunction with the Steamboat Stampede 19U girls hockey team, the Foundation sponsored pink jerseys for the home and visiting teams. The jerseys were worn in October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month and throughout the season, creating many opportunities for conversation about breast cancer awareness and education.

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Pictured: Foundation Board Members and Hospital Trustees

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