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MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION

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An update on your gift to Where the need is greatest

More than a century ago, Swedish was founded by caring citizens who wanted to provide our region with the best medical care possible. Today, thanks to loyal supporters like you, we're the largest not-for-profit health care provider in the Greater Seattle area—and our commitment to providing the best care remains unchanged. With your generous support, we're delivering extraordinary care to improve the health and well-being of patients across our region.

Following are some highlights that illustrate the impact your donation had on patient care at Swedish last year. Together, we're giving our community access to the best health care available—thank you!

You gave transplant patients like Leo a second chance at life

When Leo Cruz found out that he needed a new kidney, his devoted daughter Maria Smythe immediately agreed to help. For Maria, donating a kidney was a small price to pay to ensure her father's survival.

But when Maria and Leo went in for testing before surgery, they were confronted with devastating news—their blood types were incompatible, making a kidney donation from Maria impossible. Worse, further testing revealed that no one in Leo's family was a match.

When Leo's situation appeared hopeless, his physicians at the Swedish Organ Transplant and Liver Center had an idea that could



Father and daughter, Maria Smythe and Leo Cruz, took part in a three-way kidney transplant that saved Leo's life.

change everything. They suggested that Maria and Leo participate in a three-way paired kidney exchange, where three willing but mismatched donors would be paired with three recipients in urgent need, including Leo. Maria readily agreed to take part in the exchange—ultimately helping to save her father's life and that of two other patients who needed a kidney transplant.

Thanks to you, families like Maria and Leo can count on Swedish for such extraordinary health care. Gifts from loyal supporters like you directly impact our ability to offer innovative health care solutions to save the lives of our sickest patients.

With generous donations from our community, the Swedish Organ Transplant and Liver Center became the first transplant program in the nation to provide all transplant services (except surgery) in one location and on the same floor. By centralizing our services, we can

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better facilitate our patients' access to all the specialists and services they need to have the best possible outcomes. We've also grown our research capabilities to bring our patients access to alternative therapies for their kidney, liver and pancreas diseases.

This lifesaving work is all possible because of dedicated supporters like you. Thank you!

You made the seemingly impossible become possible for patients like Janette, who has MS

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, unpredictable disease that can affect your brain, spinal cord and eyesight. Of the 400,000 people living with MS in the United States, 12,000 are right here in the Pacific Northwest—and experts still don't know why.

As a family who's lived with MS for nearly 40 years, Janette Garner and her husband, Tucker, intimately understand the life-changing nature of this disease. Because MS has left Janette mostly paralyzed, she has limited mobility and relies on a wheelchair to get around. For many years, Janette's condition made it near impossible for her to engage in physical and recreational activities.

This all changed when Janette and Tucker participated in Swedish MS Center's Adventure Program. Our innovative program, which is funded by philanthropic donations, offers fun recreational experiences for people with MS and MS-related conditions and their families, friends

and caregivers. Using special adaptive equipment, last summer Janette and Tucker went kayaking and sailing—activities that previously seemed beyond Janette's abilities. Through the Adventure Program at Swedish, the couple saw the seemingly impossible become possible—all thanks to you!

With your help, programs like the Swedish MS Center and the Swedish Cancer Institute (SCI) offer supportive care services to address our patients' physical, emotional, social and vocational needs. These services include physical therapy, mental health counseling, yoga and Pilates classes, music therapy, vocational counseling and many other resources to help our patients live their healthiest, most fulfilling lives possible. Without your support, Swedish wouldn't be able to offer such resources to our patients who need them the most.

Together, we're delivering comprehensive care that treats the whole person—not just their medical symptoms. Thank you for sharing our vision to improve the health and well-being of our community.

You give patients like Kristin access to lifesaving cancer care and hope for a cure

After visiting her doctor for a wellness exam, Kristin Johnson received news that no one ever wants to hear—she had stage IV metastatic breast cancer. Having already survived one bout of breast cancer, Kristin was devastated to learn



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that her disease had returned so aggressively. Worse yet, she was given only 18 months to two years to live. Her first thought was that she wouldn't live to see her two young sons graduate from high school.

But Kristin gained a new sense of hope after a friend referred her to Henry G. Kaplan, M.D., medical oncologist at SCI. In addition to being a world-class physician, Dr. Kaplan is renowned for his research on innovations to detect, treat and ultimately cure cancer—research that's directly fueled by gifts from our community. To Kristin, it was clear that he was the best ally she could have in her fight against cancer.

After being treated at SCI with leading-edge therapies, Kristin is still here to talk about the care she received at Swedish. The two years she was given to live have turned into two decades.

Thanks to gifts from donors like you, Swedish is able to provide lifesaving cancer care to patients like Kristin. Your support this past year helped SCI make significant strides toward our goal to expand the frontiers of cancer medicine. Most notably, this past March our research program expanded with the opening of the *Robert and Jean Reid Family* Innovative Therapeutics & Research Unit (ITU). A critical component of SCI's Personalized Medicine Research Program, this state-of-the-art clinical trials unit helps physicians identify the most effective cancer treatments for their individual patients.



Kristin Johnson, enjoying life on her ranch in Montana two decades after a stage IV cancer diagnosis.

SCI's unique model delivers the best of both worlds, bringing together the patient care of a top-ranked medical center and the lifesaving research often found in large university-affiliated hospitals. Thanks to you, we're enhancing patient care, using the newest technologies, and conducting research to answer some of the most perplexing questions about cancer.

Thank you!

Thank you for your wonderful support of Swedish. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in our ability to care for our patients. You can learn more about the ways you're helping to enhance patient care at Swedish at: [Swedishfoundation.org/greatest-need](https://swedishfoundation.org/greatest-need).



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