



Gratitude Report





To Our Community:

With support from our loyal community, St. Charles has had one goal: to be a steady and reliable partner in delivering transformative health care to Central Oregon residents. Today demand for essential health care services in Central Oregon exceeds supply and our rural communities are counting on us to preserve, strengthen and evolve our services to address access and care gaps now and sustainably into the future.

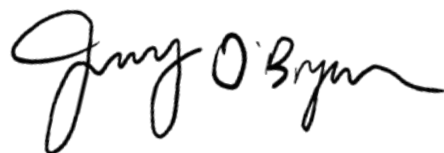
Philanthropy fuels our progress as we continue to navigate complex challenges in the health care industry. More than ever, your support provides a pathway to delivering exceptional care that would not be possible with operational funding alone.

In 2023 St. Charles Foundation invested \$1.1 million in new and cutting-edge technology, education and training of our future workforce and patient support programs that will improve quality of life. Some of these examples include:

- Providing seed funding for Cancer Wise, a new program that provides genetic testing and support for those at high risk for certain types of cancers.
- Raising critical funds to support our Hospice program providing dignity and peace for patients and family members.
- Giving more than \$55,000 in scholarships to support caregiver education and training.
- Purchasing a new retinal camera for the NICU to help prevent early blindness in premature infants.

These are just a few examples of the important ways that donors are leading the charge in helping St. Charles address the needs of our community. **We are honored that you have trusted us to make every dollar count and look forward to working with you in the coming year as we continue our pursuit to improve the health and well-being of our region.**

With gratitude,



Jenny O'Bryan
Executive Director
St. Charles Foundation



CHANGING LIVES

One Test At A Time

Leo Gonzalez was directed to the Cancer Wise, Know Your Risk program for genetic testing after undergoing surgery for thyroid cancer last year. He learned that he carried a gene mutation called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 2, that leaves carriers with a 50% chance of developing thyroid cancer. Leo encouraged his family to take advantage of the free genetic testing, with multiple family members ultimately testing positive for the gene as well.

His brother Baldemar was one of the family members who carried the gene, and subsequent scans revealed a cancerous tumor in his thyroid, which was successfully removed.

Because of the funds raised from last year's Saints Gala, Baldemar's children also received free testing and it was discovered that his young daughter is also a carrier of the gene. With that information, doctors will closely monitor her for any early signs of cancer and provide the family with lifestyle modification strategies for cancer prevention and risk reduction.

“Without the **Cancer Wise program**, our family members may not have known about their cancer diagnoses so early on. That's a big deal and we are all grateful for this program and the providers,” said Leo.

Many more patients will share a similar story in the years to come. As St. Charles Health System expands cancer care services and opens a second center in Redmond in early 2026, the Cancer Wise program will continue to be a priority for cancer prevention and risk reduction strategies.

“In the past year, the Cancer Wise program has made a huge difference for families through early detection and resources that the program offers,” said Dr. Linyee Chang, Cancer Services Medical Director. “We're thrilled to see patients getting answers, treatment and prevention strategies for themselves and younger generations. We are grateful to the community for helping us make this program possible.”

To learn more about St. Charles Cancer Center Programs, visit:

<https://www.stcharleshealthcare.org/services/cancer-care>



COMPASSIONATE CARE Inspires Family to “Pay It Forward”

“Despite those being the hardest days of our lives, the compassion, empathy and support shown by staff made all the difference,” said Scott Kelly as he described the care his late parents received at St. Charles hospitals. “From the doctors and nurses to the staff who brought the food and cleaned the rooms, they all went out of their way and gave our parents the best care you could ask for. I honestly can’t praise them enough.”

After the loss of their parents, brothers Craig and Scott Kelly formed the **Gordon and Sandy Kelly Caregiver Education Fund** – in memory of their parents and also in gratitude for the compassionate care their parents received while in St. Charles hospitals. The St. Charles caregivers in Bend and Redmond who took care of Sandy, who passed in 2020, and Gordon, who passed in 2022, left a lasting impression on the brothers.

“We were very touched by the phenomenal care our folks received, and we want to encourage other caregivers to follow their lead,” said Craig Kelly.

The scholarship fund they formed through St. Charles Foundation invests in St. Charles caregivers who wish to further their careers in health care. It was the family’s way of honoring the generosity and spirit of their parents: Sandy, who was known for her compassion, encouragement and boundless energy, and Gordon, who was always willing to help others.

The brothers also hope the scholarship recipients will have a passion for helping others and will provide to others the same exemplary care shown to the Kellys. “Our hope is that in our giving a helping hand to caregivers, they’ll pay it forward someday and maybe be the angel in disguise who will help another family going through difficult times,” said Craig.

Since its creation in 2023, the fund has awarded 17 caregiver scholarships. In a thank you letter, one caregiver wrote that the scholarship “has made a significant impact on my life, allowing me to focus more on my studies and clinical experiences, without the added stress of financial constraints. Your investment in my education is not only an investment in my future but also in the well-being of the communities I will serve as a health care professional.”

St. Charles Foundation continues to raise money for the scholarship fund and is grateful for the individuals, businesses and caregivers who invest in caregiver education. And paying it forward is already taking place, as a former scholarship recipient shared that they are contributing to the scholarship fund through regular payroll deductions.

To learn more about the Gordon and Sandy Kelly Scholarship Fund, visit:

<https://foundation.stcharleshealthcare.org/our-impact/scholarships>



INNOVATION At Work

Since 2011, St. Charles Foundation has awarded \$1,000,000+ to departments to pilot caregiver-driven projects with the goal to improve the patient experience across the region. Here are two of the projects St. Charles Foundation funded:

Pediatric Grief Libraries

All four St. Charles hospitals are now offering expanded bereavement resources for Hospice caregivers to aid children and youth experiencing the loss of a loved one, thanks to a grant from St. Charles Foundation.

While the Bereavement program has ample resources for adults experiencing the loss of a loved one, the pediatric resources were not as robust. The mini grant from St. Charles Foundation provided funding to expand pediatric resources for families, including the addition of 25 workbooks and reference books on death and grief for the resource library, as well as materials for 100 grief bag kits to hand out to children.

“The Pediatrics Grief Resource libraries will aid our Hospice staff in helping kids and teenagers begin to process their emotions that are often very hard for them to name, to understand and begin to work through in healthy ways,” said Aaron Contreras, St. Charles hospice bereavement coordinator.



“Hospice care doesn’t just focus on the patient but also the family unit. **These libraries will help us improve the quality of care we can offer the entire family.** We are grateful to have been gifted the opportunity to expand these resources.”

Promoting Bike Safety In Sisters

St. Charles Foundation recently awarded a grant to the St. Charles Family Care Clinic in Sisters to purchase 90 helmets to help protect the active youth of the Sisters community.

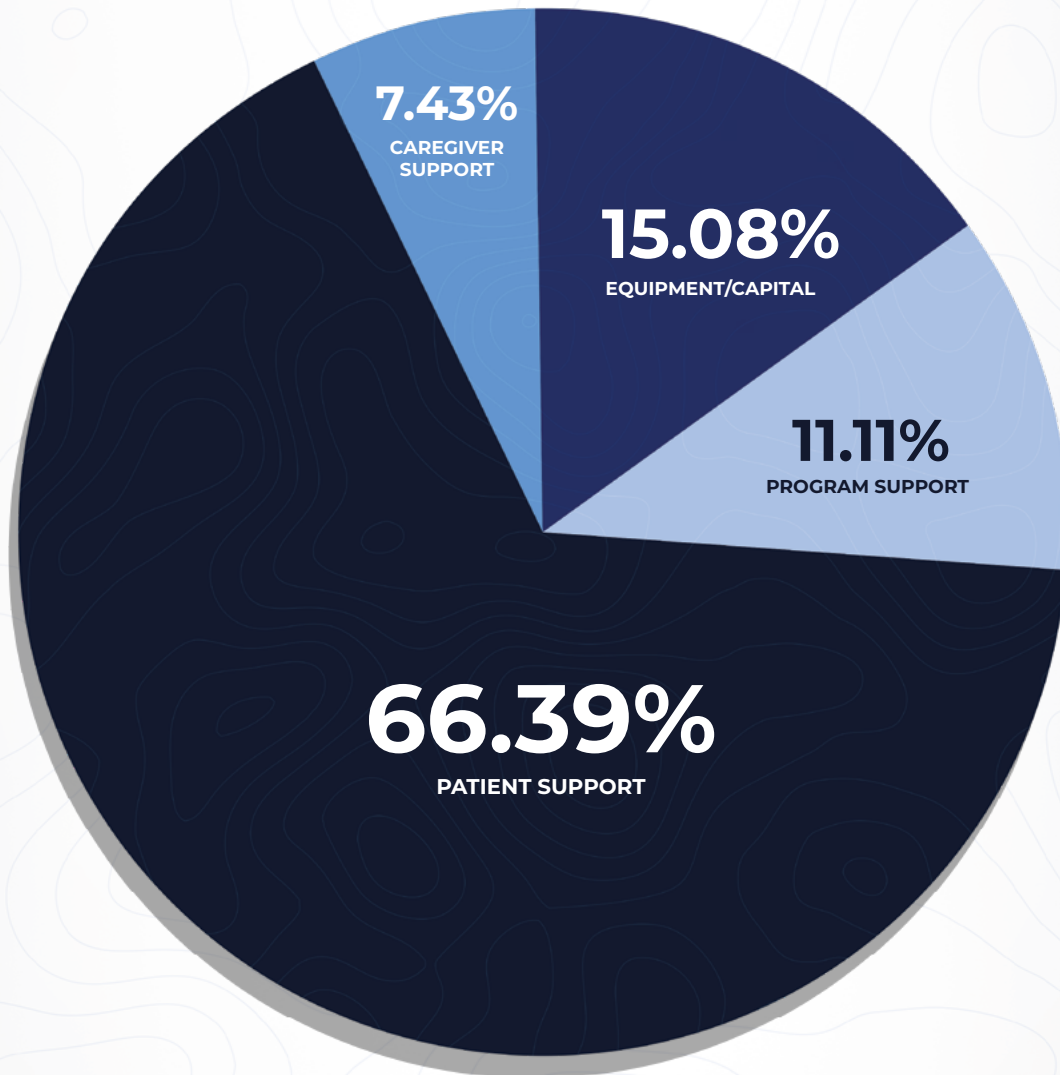
Purchased in cooperation with Blazin Saddles bike shop, the free helmets were distributed by the Sisters Parks and Recreation District at the re-opening celebration of Bike Park 242 in October. Any remaining helmets were given to the Sisters Parks and Recreation District to continue handing out to the growing community.



2023 FINANCIAL Summary

St. Charles Foundation partners with the community to address the ever-changing needs of our region's health. Currently the demand for essential health care services in Central Oregon exceeds supply and we know our rural communities are counting on us to preserve, strengthen and evolve the care available.

Last year, \$1.1 million in community donations provided education opportunities to caregivers, purchased new technology to improve patient care and created and sustained programs across the region.



Patient Support	\$685,746.30	66.39%
Equipment/Capital	\$155,765.78	15.08%
Innovative Program Support	\$114,721.52	11.11%
Caregiver Support/Education	\$76,713.42	7.43%

THANK YOU FOR Joining Us

We are so grateful to every person who joined us for St. Charles Foundation's signature events;
Saints Gala, Heaven Can Wait 5K and Prineville's Hospice Auction.



Saints Gala:

In February, St. Charles Foundation hosted its annual Saints Gala at the Riverhouse Convention Center in Bend. During the gala, St. Charles Foundation **raised \$480,000 to support its mission and St. Charles Health System's Three Sisters Rural Track Residency Program.** A special thanks to our presenting sponsors, CORA and Genentech.

Hospice Auction:

Each December the Prineville community kicks off the holiday season by attending the Prineville Hospice Auction. This year proved to be the most successful event in a decade, **raising a staggering \$180,000 for education support services, grief counseling, bedside volunteers, spiritual counseling and more for St. Charles' hospice programs.** Kevin Cole, president and CEO of Mid Oregon Credit Union, made a surprise \$10,000 donation from the credit union in honor of a local retired educator and volunteer, Jan Uffelman, who was in attendance.





Heaven Can Wait 5K:

2023 brought the second year of hosting the Heaven Can Wait 5K in Redmond and kicking off Breast Cancer Awareness Month. More than 1,000 community members walked and ran in solidarity with the people in their lives who have been touched by breast cancer, including the 176 survivors in attendance. **Raising over \$80,000 for breast cancer survivorship programs and research**, we are so grateful to CORA and St. Charles Oncology doctors for their annual support of this event.

Community Organized Fundraiser, Breast Cancer Awareness Tournament:

The Tetherow Breast Cancer Awareness Tournament (BCAT) began in 2015 with just 10 participants - playing golf, having lunch together and thinking about their breast cancer experiences. Most of them were breast cancer survivors or knew someone who had gone through breast cancer and realized how important it had been for them to get outside and play golf with friends during and after treatment.

Over the last nine years, the golf tournament has become a successful community-organized fundraiser, **raising a total of \$125,000 and counting to support Sara's Project.**

Judy Cushing, the tournament organizer, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008 while living in Olympia, Washington. She made the decision to receive her cancer care in Bend.



"I felt so very fortunate to receive my care at the St. Charles Cancer Center and benefitted greatly from services made possible through Sara's Project. In particular, **I noticed that Sara's Project benefitted many women in greater need than myself**, and after I retired, I began to look for ways to give back." - Judy Bayard Cushing

To learn more about community-organized fundraisers, email COF@stcharleshealthcare.org

ST. CHARLES

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SAVE THE DATES!

Heaven Can Wait 5K
Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024
Redmond High School, Redmond

Central Oregon's signature breast cancer awareness event brings more than 1,000 community members together to honor their loved ones who have received a cancer diagnosis and raises funding for community education, early detection and support services to ease the challenges of breast cancer for people in Central and Eastern Oregon.

Prineville Hospice Auction
Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024
Crook County Fairgrounds Indoor Arena, Prineville

This must-attend event of the year in Crook County grows each year. The lively dinner and auction provide attendees the chance to win elaborately decorated Christmas trees and handmade, custom quilts as they raise funds to provide hospice care for critically ill community members.

Saints Gala
Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025
Riverhouse Convention Center, Bend

More than 450 business leaders and influential community members gather for a fun-filled night highlighting the mission and impact of St. Charles Foundation. Guests look forward to a seated dinner, live and silent auctions and exciting philanthropic activities that support St. Charles Foundation.



St. Charles Foundation

2023-2024 Gratitude Report

The St. Charles Foundation works with the community to develop and steward philanthropic resources to fund programs and projects that improve health, prevent disease, enhance quality of life and provide the highest quality care possible.

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