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FOUNDATION IN FOCUS

Confluence Health Foundation Biannual Newsletter

The Sparks' Legacy Lives On

The Confluence Health Foundation realized a remarkable legacy gift from the estate of Hershel & Bette Sparks. "Hersh" and Bette's $1.7M gift was established during their estate planning process to ensure their impact would live on long after their lifetime through support of programs that are fundamental to the health and vitality of North Central Washington.

The Sparks were deeply connected to our community and wanted to give back to a place that had given them so much opportunity and joy. Through philanthropy, their foresight and generosity tell us about their enduring love for their community and their hope for its future.

CHF Board President John Stoll (middle right) and VP of Philanthropy Suzanne Carté-Cocroft (far right) with Wenatchee Valley College Foundation leadership Rachel Evey and Josh Wood. Both Foundations received generous gifts from the Sparks Estate this year.

Students learn to draw blood on simulated arms.

Dr. Stahler Invests in the Future of Care

Dr. Chris Stahler may have hung up his scrubs a few years ago, but his interest in local care is still keen. As a retired physician, he understands the significant needs facing independent healthcare systems like Confluence Health and so he set out to make an investment that would have an immediate impact on patients and employees.

Dr. Stahler chose to fund two critical initiatives. The first is a state-of-the-art simulation lab so caregivers can continuously advance their skills. The second is a system called TeleSitter, which improves patient safety at the bedside. Dr. Stahler's investment is transforming healthcare today and laying the foundation for a healthier future for our community. We are grateful for his gifts!

Remembering Carol & Al

This year, two longtime friends of the Foundation passed away. Carol Wardell and Al Cordell each left their mark on North Central Washington because of their professional careers, philanthropic spirit, and commitment to the place they called home.

Beyond her successful, trailblazing legal career, Carol Wardell was known for prioritizing community service and causes she cared deeply about, including local healthcare. In 2002, Carol joined the Confluence Health Foundation Board of Trustees, serving until 2018. In 2019, Carol was honored with the prestigious Confluence Health Foundation "Spirit of A.Z. Wells" Award for her significant contributions to community causes in our region. In a statement prepared for the award announcement, Carol was described as "... a smart, funny, decisive, resilient, loyal, tenacious, goal-directed, boisterous, big-hearted, larger than life overachiever and a natural leader." Carol will be remembered as a kind, compassionate soul and fierce advocate for our community's best interest. This world is better because Carol was in it.

Al Cordell was a CPA and founding member of Cordell, Neher & Company PLLC. He instilled a strong ethos of community service in the firm by starting a company-wide community service day tradition. In his personal life, Al participated in Wenatchee Central Lion's Club, Washington State Apple Blossom Festival, Confluence Health Foundation board, Confluence Health board and much more. He was recognized by his Lion's Club with the International Melvin Jones Fellowship Award for Community Service and Al and his wife Millie were awarded the 2008 distinguished "Spirit of A.Z. Wells" Award recognizing their philanthropic leadership. He will be missed by the many friends who admired him in family, business, and community. We are saddened by the loss of a remarkable individual, whose contributions will endure beyond his time with us.

Congrats
SCHOLARS!

This year, the Confluence Health Foundation awarded $52,500 to 39 deserving students. Donor-funded scholarships transform the careers and lives of recipients and ensures a legacy of talented healthcare professionals locally.

Armada Golf Classic Raises More Than $84,000 for Local Healthcare!

THESE SPONSORS WERE *DRIVING* FOR A HEALTHIER NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

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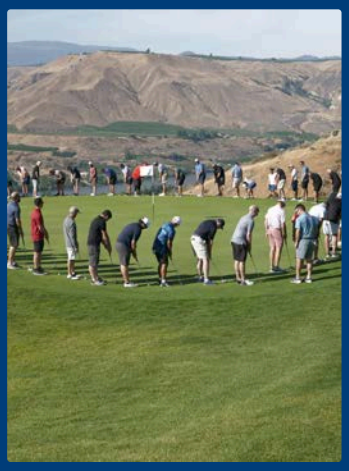

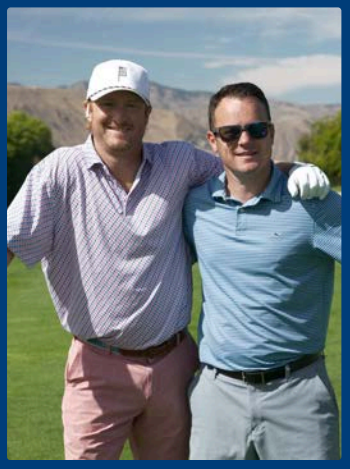

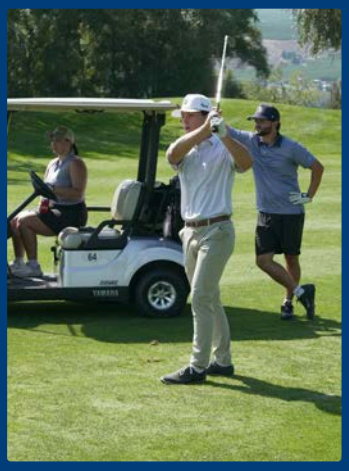

CONFLUENCE HEALTH FOUNDATION

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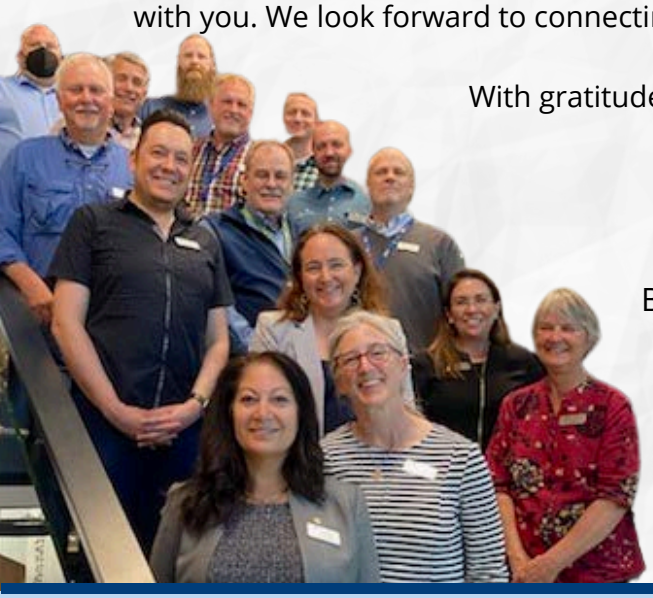
Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past year since we took on our leadership roles at Confluence Health Foundation, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible work taking place here, made possible by your generous support. Together, we have made significant strides toward advancing a shared vision for a healthier region.

This summer, our Board of Trustees and staff engaged in a strategic planning process that revealed a powerful theme: opportunity.

- We have an opportunity to strengthen our connection with you and ensure our efforts align with your values and the vision for our community.
- We have an opportunity to amplify our impact by aligning the Foundation's philanthropic priorities with those of our health system.
- And ultimately, we have the opportunity to make significant advancements in healthcare in North Central Washington, creating lasting change together.

The outcome of our planning is an 18-month roadmap that will guide us toward a healthier, stronger region for all. There's still much work ahead, and we're excited to continue this journey with you. We look forward to connecting and sharing more over the upcoming year.



With gratitude,

John Stoll
Board President

Suzanne Carté-Cocroft
Vice President of Philanthropy

Photo: Confluence Health Foundation Board at their strategic planning retreat in April 2024.

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