

# NEVADA HEALTH FOUNDATION

# applause

WINTER 2020/21

## Thank you

Our sincere appreciation to the following organizations and individuals for their generous gifts over \$5,000 received in 2020.

William N. Pennington Foundation  
Anonymous  
Children's Health Fund  
Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy  
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Las Vegas  
Engelstad Family Foundation  
National Health Care For The Homeless Council  
Silver State Health Insurance Exchange  
Delta Dental Community Care Foundation  
United Way of Southern NV  
Eaglemark Savings Bank / Harley Davidson Financial Services  
Cashman Family Foundation  
Centene Management Company LLC  
Capture Cares  
Susan G. Komen  
Anthem, Inc.  
Rodger & Kate Graef Family Foundation  
E.L. Cord Foundation  
Estelle J. Kelsey Foundation  
Thelma B. & Thomas P. Hart Foundation  
Robert S. & Dorothy J. Keyser Foundation  
Safeway Foundation  
Susanne & Gloria Young Foundation  
Chuck & Terry Glaser First Fruits Christian Fund Findlay-Hancock Community Foundation  
Community Foundation of Western Nevada  
Union Pacific Railroad Foundation  
National Breast Cancer Foundation  
NV Energy Charitable Foundation  
The Links Inc., Las Vegas Chapter

## Looking Back, Moving Forward

**What. A. Year.** No matter what we call it, unprecedented, extraordinary, or even downright bizarre, it has definitely been one like no other. 2020 brought unexpected challenges for all of us. Moments of loss, feelings of overwhelm, and a longing for community connection. It created a renewed focus on fundamental needs and a sense of urgency around community health.

As we reflect on the past months, we are filled with gratitude. Gratitude for the support and dedication you provided as we navigated a "new normal" in every aspect of our organization from safely caring for patients, to protecting staff, and engaging with community partners.

We were in it together from the beginning and together we adapted and evolved, making strides in expanding telehealth services, opening drive-thru clinics, procuring and distributing vast quantities of PPE, and increasing patient assistance programming. As we look forward to the new year, we are encouraged by remembering that nothing is permanent and nothing is impossible.

It's a genuine triumph of biomedical science that, in less than a year after the SARS-CoV-2 virus' genome was first published, multiple vaccines have been proven safe and effective.

We have now begun the urgent work of preparing for vaccine distribution. Partnering closely with state and local health officials, our team is committed to addressing areas of high transmission and will again be on the frontlines to stop transmission of the virus and to ensure that our seniors, rural communities, communities of color and unhoused neighbors all have access to the vaccine.



This work would not be possible without you. When you support the Nevada Health Foundation, you amplify and enable the work of the frontline healthcare professionals undertaking the crucial task of ending healthcare disparities in Nevada. This includes our physicians, medical assistants, behavioral health clinicians, social workers, dentists, health educators and specialist all dedicated to creating healthy, more inclusive communities.

Thank you for your continued support and Happy New Year from all of us at the Nevada Health Foundation.

# Building Healthy Neighborhoods

Bank of America names NVHC as 2020 Neighborhood Builder for Las Vegas.

We are excited to share that Nevada Health Centers has been selected by Bank of America to receive the 2020 Neighborhood Builders award and \$200,000 in grant funding.

NVHC shares Bank of America's vision to promote health, safety, racial equality and economic opportunity for all. To further this vision, NVHC will use the Neighborhood Builders award to expand our ability to deliver culturally and linguistically sensitive healthcare for our community's most vulnerable populations.

"As we consider the challenges that our communities are facing – from the health crisis brought on by coronavirus to the

need for progress on racial equality and economic opportunity – the Neighborhood Builders program is a relevant and timely initiative to support the communities we serve," said Al Welch, Las Vegas market president, Bank of America.



**BANK OF AMERICA**

NVHC will use a portion of the award to provide co-pay assistance to patients experiencing hardship due to the pandemic and to fund outreach and provision of care

to Southern Nevada's growing homeless population. Additional funding from the gift will be used to underwrite the cost of Language Line medical interpreter services.

"Language is increasingly becoming a major barrier to accessing quality healthcare," said Michelle Schmitter VP and Executive Director, Nevada Health



Centers Foundation. "Neighborhood Builder funding will help us to remove barriers, resulting in improved health outcomes for patients and the community."

Please join us in thanking Bank of America for their generosity and partnership in building vibrant, inclusive and healthy neighborhoods across Nevada.

## Coffee and Community

In 2019, Ardys Reed and James Boyle of Black Jack Coffee LCC, opened The Human Bean drive-thru in Henderson. Their location not only serves the brand's delicious coffee, but also extends its core value of "stewardship rooted in relationships and growing on a vision of global betterment," by holding fundraising events to support our local community.

In keeping with that commitment to community, Human Bean, hosted cancer awareness fundraisers during the months of October and November, donating a portion of sales to benefit Nevada Health Centers patient assistance programs.

Proceeds from the brand's October Coffee for a Cure event to raise



awareness for breast cancer care and research were donated to cover breast cancer screenings for Las Vegas area patients on the Mammovan. In November, the company held Mochas for Men, donating proceeds to support healthcare for the homeless programming at our Las Vegas Outreach Clinic.

It is because of people like Ardys and James that we are able to serve those who are in great need of care.

If you happen to be in the area, please help us say thank you by visiting their drive up & drive thru location at 71 E. Lake Mead Parkway, across

the street from our Henderson Family Health Center at Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican Hospital.

## Paying it Forward

Sharing supplies received from a very large in-kind donation from The Dentists Supply Company with community partners in Las Vegas, Elko, and Carson City. Quinn Sweet of Healthy Communities Coalition in Dayton picks up handheld thermometers from our Foundation office.





# A Conversation with Sandra Abdullah

Sandra Abdullah, LCSW, clinical director of behavioral health services, who, with compassion, grace, and a boatload of effervescent energy, leads NVHC's behavioral health service line.

Look high and low in Nevada and you'll be challenged to find an individual more committed to advancing the aims of behavioral health integration with traditional primary care services. Sandra is a force for good, and that's great news for our patients as NVHC expands the reach of its behavioral health program to more communities in need.

## What contributed to your interest in your specific area of medicine?

Service to others.

## What do you feel contributes to a great healthcare provider?

Mindfulness – being present when we are relating to/engaging with our patients.

## Share a specific milestone or



## achievement that you have had while working for Nevada Health Centers.

Launching and sustaining behavioral health services, including tele-behavioral health for our rural patients.

## Tell us about your most rewarding experience, or share a success story

## where you helped make a difference in a patient's life.

Following is a short email I received from a patient after seeing him weekly for individual cognitive behavioral therapy for approximately eight months for debilitating depression and chronic suicidality.

"Hi, I've been remiss in not dropping you a note earlier. I've wanted to let you know I'm using the techniques you've taught me, going to meetings, taking my meds as prescribed, and enjoying myself overall. You help a lot of people. I am glad to have been one of them."

## How can access to Behavioral Health contribute to or improve effective clinical outcomes?

Behavioral health and clinical outcomes are inextricably linked. Access to behavioral health results in improved outcomes related to chronic disease, medication adherence, and decreased mortality. Most importantly, it helps our patients achieve goals, experience success and lead more fulfilling lives.

# Tackling Breast Cancer

Nevada Health Centers' Mammovan Program was recently awarded a \$50,000 grant from the American Cancer Society and National Football League to increase breast cancer screenings in Nevada, especially to those patients reluctant to get screened during COVID. The grant funding, made possible through an ACS partnership with the NFL and the league's Crucial Catch campaign, will allow Nevada Health Centers to create and adopt new processes and protocols to tackle a backlog in breast cancer screenings.

With the focus on the pandemic, it can be easy to forget that routine cancer screenings can save your life. Early detection remains the most important aspect of breast cancer prognosis, and,

unfortunately, the statistics don't change because of COVID-19. Eighty percent of breast cancers diagnosed are invasive,



meaning they have the potential to spread to other parts of the body. Forty percent are found by the woman herself or her doctor and 85% occur in women without any family history.

"Nevada Health Centers' Mammovan Program is honored to be a recipient of the American Cancer Society and National Football League's generosity. Their support will help us to increase breast cancer screenings in Nevada, especially to those patients reluctant to get screened during COVID," said Lisa Dettling, vice president of ancillary services for Nevada Health Centers.

"These dollars will provide access to mammograms to women who would otherwise not obtain a screening as well as help patients feel safe and understand the importance of not delaying screenings during COVID. We are grateful for the opportunity to help support efforts to reduce cancer disparities."

## Sign Up for Our Digital Newsletter!

Please e-mail

[foundation@nvhealthcenters.org](mailto:foundation@nvhealthcenters.org)

to receive future editions of

Applause directly in your inbox.

This includes information about Nevada Health Foundation campaigns, events, community impact and more.

*\*We'll never share your contact information with third parties and will only contact you with relevant updates related to Nevada Health Centers and the Nevada Health Foundation.*

## NEVADA HEALTH FOUNDATION

1799 Mount Mariah Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89106-2150

## Giving is easy

The Nevada Health Foundation was established to secure gifts in support of the mission of Nevada Health Centers to provide access to quality healthcare throughout Nevada.

Please consider making a difference in the lives of others by supporting our programs and services.

To make a gift, visit our website at [nvhealthcenters.org/donate/](http://nvhealthcenters.org/donate/) and click "Donate Now" or contact us directly at 775.445.3505 or at [foundation@nvhealthcenters.org](mailto:foundation@nvhealthcenters.org).

Thank you for making a difference!

*Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law*

Quality healthcare is our priority  
Philanthropy is our passion

## Construction Underway in Elko

Renovation construction to expand the Elko Family Medical and Dental Center is underway. In addition to enhancing the interior and exterior of the building, the renovation will include:

- Newly expanded patient waiting area
- Larger exam rooms
- New dental care areas
- Onsite pharmacy

The project, made possible through community support and contributions to Nevada Health Centers' Elko Capital Campaign, will help us create a reimagined care center that expands access to healthcare services in Elko and surrounding rural communities.

Elko Family Medical and Dental Center sees more

than 7,000 patients per year, and we expect the renovation to open more than 4,000 additional appointments annually. For more information or to make a donation to the Campaign, please visit:

[www.nevadahealthcenters.org/elko-capital-campaign](http://www.nevadahealthcenters.org/elko-capital-campaign)



Nevada Health Foundation (NHF) is  
a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation

1799 Mount Mariah Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89106  
3325 Research Way, Carson City, NV 89706

Phone 775.445.3505  
[nvhealthcenters.org](http://nvhealthcenters.org)