

# Foundation Focus

Helping Redlands Community Hospital Care for Generations



## Message from the President

**BENGT GUSTAVSSON**

I am thrilled to share with you the latest edition of Foundation Focus, where we highlight the inspiring stories of generosity and the exciting advancements happening within our community. Your unwavering support continues to drive our mission forward, and we are profoundly grateful for your commitment.

In this issue, you will read about a retired nurse whose dedication to caring for others has extended beyond her career through her generous donations. Her story is a testament to the enduring spirit of giving and the profound impact it has on healthcare in our community. We also feature a touching narrative from a Redlands couple whose personal experiences with our hospital have inspired them to give back in meaningful ways. Their journey underscores the importance of community and the difference that each of us can make.

Additionally, we are excited to introduce you to our latest capital campaign in support of the Center for Radiation Oncology. This brand new facility will bring the innovative radiation treatment options to our cancer patients, ensuring they receive the best care possible close to home. Your contributions are instrumental in making this project a reality, and we look forward to the incredible advancements it will bring to our community.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Together, we are making a lasting difference. Until next time, *stay in focus!*

## In This Issue

Nurse Celebrates Retirement  
With Generous Gift



Redlands Couple Turns  
Hospital Tours Into Action



RCH Foundation's 42nd  
Annual Golf Classic



Brand New Center for  
Radiation Oncology

## RCH Foundation Board of Directors 2023 - 2024

Betty Auton Beck  
Don Berry  
Suzanne Browning  
Caryl Clover  
Bob Driessnack  
Bill Emmerson  
Bengt Gustavsson  
Crista Hatfield  
James Holmes  
Craig Kavanaugh  
Olivia Knudsen  
Tyler Miner  
Michelle Mok  
James Odum  
Bryan Reid  
Renee Regalado Kern  
Kirk Shelby  
Cherie Towers  
Dr. James Watson  
George Webber

## National Make A Will Month, Securing Your Legacy for the Future

### Leave a Gift in One Sentence

You probably know a will is important for distributing your assets to the people and causes you care about, but did you know that creating one has personal benefits? This is especially true when you use it to give a gift to a cause you love, such as Redlands Community Hospital.

Here's how including a gift in your will benefits you:

#### 1. It can lessen anxiety

Thinking and planning ahead can make it less daunting to talk about what happens when you're gone. How? It gives you reassurance that the people and causes close to your heart are taken care of.

#### 2. It can lend perspective

Taking stock of what's important can help you focus on your goals and be more aware of how you want to impact the world.

#### 3. It just feels good

Giving makes you feel good. Really! Research shows that the act of giving reduces stress-related activity in one area of the brain while increasing reward-related activity in another.

Of course, loved ones are the first people to consider when creating your will. Then, think about the nonprofits you want to support. Providing for Redlands Community Hospital is an excellent way to demonstrate your values, help you gain a better understanding of what's important to you and set an example for others to follow.

### I Can Help

Contact the Foundation at 909.335.5540 or BGustavsson@redlandshospital.org when you're ready to discuss how your will can help patients we serve in our community.

### Leave a Gift in One Sentence

Including Redlands Community Hospital Foundation in your will is as simple as providing the following to your attorney:

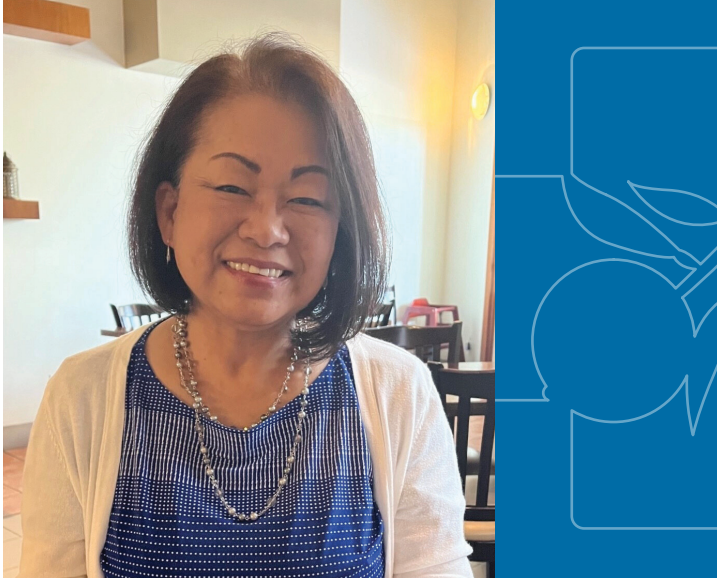
"I give to Redlands Community Hospital Foundation, a nonprofit corporation currently located at 350 Terracina Blvd., Redlands, CA 92373, or its successor thereto, \_\_\_\_\_ [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted charitable use and purpose."

### Join Others Like You

Providing for Redlands Community Hospital Foundation in your will or other planned gift means you share a vision with others who have joined our Orange Legacy Society. Contact the Foundation to let us know about your gift. It would be our honor to welcome you into this group of exceptional supporters.

If you have already remembered a nonprofit in your estate plan, it is important to keep it updated. Perhaps since your last estate plan update, you have had children or grandchildren, changed jobs or have had another significant change in your life. Also, much has changed in the world of estate taxes since 2001, as heirs are now expected to pay more federal tax than before. As time passes, it is essential to ensure that your estate plan continues to reflect your intentions.

## Nurse Celebrates Retirement With Gift That Spotlights Her 23 Years at RCH



### Chikako Gray

Donors discover Redlands Community Hospital (RCH) in a variety of ways—sometimes through the death of a loved one, other times through their own personal illness, and often inadvertently. Chikako Gray's journey began in Japan. Born and raised in Japan, Chikako graduated from the St. Luke's College of Nursing in Tokyo and worked as a registered nurse on a pediatric unit in that city for two years. While there, she met her husband, who was serving in the U.S Air Force, and the two were married. They had three children before relocating from Tokyo to East Highland and later Beaumont in 1989.

When her daughter started school, Chikako decided to return to work. After working as a certified nursing assistant she was hired on the 3200 Telemetry Unit, or Definitive Observation Unit, at Redlands Community Hospital in 2001.

"A couple of my classmates were working at the hospital and I felt comfortable there," she said. "The woman who hired me looked at my resume, saw that I had been a nurse in Japan, and encouraged me to seek licensing as a registered nurse in the U.S. I became an RN in 2004 and continued working on the Telemetry Unit for 23 years."

When the recent pandemic hit, all Covid patients were admitted on the third floor, where Chikako worked. Many were critically ill and intubated and were ultimately transferred to the Intensive-Care Unit. As Chikako and the other staff worked diligently to save them, they could not help but feel sad and sympathetic for those who were struggling.

"I saw how much money the hospital spent during Covid and I wanted to give something back," she said. "When I retired in 2024, I decided I'd like to contribute to the 3200 Telemetry Unit, which is a comprehensive unit and one that is challenging for the nursing staff. I really appreciate all that I was taught there and the many opportunities I was given to grow during the last 23 years. I enjoyed working with everyone, providing excellent care with compassion and integrity, and I wanted to help the staff continue to grow and provide wonderful care for their patients."

With that in mind she recently donated \$2,300 to the Redlands Community Hospital Foundation—\$100 for each of the 23 years she worked at the hospital. It was not her first gift—she began donating to RCH during the Covid pandemic and has given generously several times since then.

"Redlands Community Hospital means a lot to the people who live in the community," said Chikako, who often assisted stroke patients when she worked at RCH. "The hospital is a Thrombectomy Capable stroke center, and the quick, accurate diagnosis and treatment of patients has saved many lives while preventing serious disabilities."

Even though she's retired, Chikako still considers RCH her family's hospital. "I trust the doctors there and I trust the rest of the hospital staff," she said. "Everyone is so compassionate, not only toward the patients but toward their families. Even though I'm retired I'd like to continue to support the hospital in the future."



## Redlands Couple Turns Hospital Tours Into Action With Gifts Supporting ER, Cancer Center



### Julie and Tom

As Lake Arrowhead residents, Tom and Julie Cutler gladly supported their local hospital. They saw the good that a community hospital can do, stepped forward and enthusiastically became involved.

In 2010 they moved to Redlands, and decided to support another local medical center: Redlands Community Hospital. They're glad they did. "When we lived in Lake Arrowhead we were active with a small hospital there and we realized how important a community hospital is," Tom said. "When we moved to Redlands, the community hospital concept went with us."

Tom and Julie are both native Southern Californians—he attended Menlo College and she a local community college. Tom writes insurance for religious organizations, while Julie describes herself as a "muralist"—having painted in homes, hospitals, restaurants and other locations.

They first gave philanthropically in 2016, supporting the Emergency Department expansion and renovation with a major gift. However, it was after that when the hospital's value to Redlands and the surrounding areas came into sharp focus. "It really became important to me when I had a diverticulitis attack on Christmas night of 2020, right in the middle of Covid," Tom said. "There were tents and patients outside and

I've never seen people work so hard to take care of people in my life under impossible conditions—there was nobody walking, staff were running all the time. They had to—there were so many people in dire straits. I really became a believer in our local community hospital at that point."

Prior to that the couple had toured the Emergency Department. It was then that they decided to support an exam room in the new facility. "We had no idea how the hospital works and how interesting everything was," said Julie, who at one point was treated in the Emergency Department for a foot injury. "We got a chance to look behind the curtain and see the opportunities that were there to eventually support the Cancer Center."

During COVID especially but even today, when you drive by the hospital it appears like a pleasant building with many trees. However, when you enter the front door, everything changes! So much activity, staff comforting and helping the patients. Both large and small miracles happening every day.

They liked what they saw. The Cutlers are currently in the process of providing another major gift, this time to support the new Radiation Oncology Center. Tom's mother suffered with cancer, so the gift seems appropriate. "I thought, 'That's where I'd like to help out,'" Tom said.

Their support hasn't stopped there. Tom also is on the hospital's committee for the annual Redlands Community Hospital Foundation Golf Classic for the Ken Corwin Cup; he runs the putting contest, which each year makes available more than \$10,000 in prize money.

"After touring the hospital and seeing all of the advanced technology, the hospital is very reassuring to us," Tom said. That success is in large part due to the Redlands Community Hospital Foundation, the hospital's fundraising arm. "The Foundation is very important," Tom said. "It's really critical that it continues to help the hospital upgrade technology so that care remains at a premium. The hospital is indispensable. It is so important to become involved at Redlands Community Hospital."

## Philanthropic Support from Redlands-based Esri Helping to Transform Cancer Care at RCH



Esri, a Redlands-based leader in GIS software recently provided a substantial and transformational gift in support a new Radiation Oncology Center at Redlands Community Hospital. This gift will provide access to the latest technologies in cancer radiation treatments close to home for patients and families in the Inland Empire. Cancer care close to home is becoming a reality. Esri's gift reflects the company's and Jack and Laura Dangermond's longstanding commitment to the Redlands community.

### A New Radiation Oncology Center at RCH

Redlands Community Hospital (RCH) is home to some of the most exciting innovations in cancer screening, detection and treatment. The Nancy Varner Center for Women's Health shines as a beacon in the Inland Empire for success in early breast cancer screening. A new 8,000 sq. foot Center for Cancer Care opened in June 2022 boosting infusion therapy capacity and connecting cancer patients with a network of physicians, social workers and other members of their cancer care team. The Center for Cancer Care was partially funded with philanthropic support from the community.

Cancer patients in the Inland Empire who require cancer diagnostic services and radiation therapy treatments are seeking access to the advanced services in these critical areas of cancer care close to home. To provide our patients with access to some of the latest innovations and

technologies in cancer radiation treatments, RCH will build a new Radiation Oncology Center directly across the street from the main hospital, at 245 Terracina Blvd. The new Center is expected to open in early 2026.

The new Radiation Oncology Center will house a new innovative Linear Accelerator (LINAC) machine along with a special space for the new PET/CT scanner. This new space will allow for expansion of radiation therapy as the demand for this treatment grows.

### Philanthropic Funding for the Project

As was the case with the Center for Cancer Care, philanthropy will play a major role in helping to ensure the new Radiation Oncology Center becomes a reality. In late 2022, the Redlands Community Hospital Foundation appointed a Steering Committee, chaired by foundation board member Betty Auton Beck, to lead a fundraising initiative for this project. With Esri's gift along with the support of key community members, \$5.6 million has been raised in the recently completed quiet phase of this initiative. The Committee is now seeking support from the community-at-large in order to complete this fundraising initiative by late summer. Want to learn more on how you can contribute to cancer care at RCH? Please contact the Foundation at 909.335.5540.



## RCH Foundation's 42nd Annual Golf Classic Raised \$220,000 for Radiation Oncology Center



More than 140 golfers teed off at the 42nd Annual Redlands Community Hospital Foundation (RCHF) Golf Classic for the Ken Corwin Cup this week. This year's event held at the Redlands Country Club raised \$220,000 for the new Radiation Oncology Center at Redlands Community Hospital (RCH)

To provide patients with access to the latest innovations and technologies in cancer radiation treatments, RCH will build a new Radiation Oncology Center directly across the street from the main hospital, located at 245 Terracina Blvd. The new Radiation Oncology Center will house a new innovative linear accelerator machine along with a special space for a new PET/CT scanner. This new space, which is expected to open in early 2026, will allow for expansion of radiation therapy as the demand for cancer treatment grows.

The tournament was coordinated by more than 60 dedicated volunteers, including members of the RCH Auxiliary, hospital staff, community members, and Redlands Country Club members.

The event also featured dinner and an auction where guests bid on Los Angeles Angels tickets behind home plate, donated by Tim Rochford and the Rochford Foundation; a luxury suite for 18 at an Angels game, courtesy of Hangar 24 Craft Brewery; a Lake Arrowhead cabin getaway donated by RCH Golf Committee member Tom Cutler, and a whiskey tasting experience donated by RCH Foundation board member Bob Driessnack. The raffles also offered a variety of golf related gifts, including clothing and equipment.

This year's tournament was co-chaired by Wendy and Guenter Posjena, longtime hospital volunteers and donors who have supported many hospital initiatives, including the building of the Redlands Community Hospital Center for Cancer Care.

"Redlands Community Hospital is extremely important to the community and we are grateful for everyone who participated and supported this year's event," said Wendy Guenter Posjena. "Redlands Community Hospital is a special facility in our community that has provided patient-centered care in family-friendly environment."

The Golf Classic attracted nearly 100 sponsors, including Madison Grove Post-Acute, SEI, Lockton Insurance Brokers, and the Redlands Community Hospital medical staff. Hatfield Buick returned as the Hole-in-One sponsor, offering participants a chance to win a three-year lease on a new GMC Hummer EV on the par-3 third hole.

"We want to thank everyone from participants, volunteers and sponsors who attended our largest fundraiser of the year to benefit RCH's new Radiation Oncology Center," said Bengt Gustavsson, president of the RCH Foundation. "Through this wonderful event, the community's camaraderie was able to raise significant funds for cancer care for patients in our community."

The Ken Corwin Cup honors the legacy of Kenton W. Corwin, the longtime president of the Redlands Community Hospital Foundation and a driving force behind the tournament's inception. His dedication continues to inspire the success of the Golf Classic.

## Getting to Know the Newest RCH Foundation Staff



**Olivia Seheult, Director of Major Giving**

### **Q: How long have you been with Redlands Community Hospital Foundation?**

**A:** I joined Redlands Community Hospital Foundation in April 2024, so I have only been here for a short time. However, I grew up in the Redlands area and attended the Redlands public schools, so I am quite familiar with the area.

### **Q: How did you get started in Philanthropy?**

**A:** In 2007, having just received a master of public policy degree with a specialization in nonprofit policy from UCLA, I knew I wanted to work in the nonprofit sector. I applied for a grant proposal writing position at a large nonprofit nearby, and I was hired for the role. While I enjoyed writing grants, I also ventured into major and planned gifts when an opportunity presented itself at work. So, for many years, I wore a few hats, and I'm grateful to have had that experience.

### **Q: Did you always want to be involved in healthcare?**

**A:** While several of my family members have gone into the healthcare field, it was never an aspiration of mine. Academically, I have always gravitated towards the arts, humanities and social sciences, and I spent quite a few years of my career engaged in higher education development. However, now that I am working at RCHF, I can appreciate that there are unique benefits and rewards associated with working in healthcare development.

### **Q: What is your current role for Redlands Community Hospital Foundation?**

**A:** I am the director of major giving which in short means I spend the majority of time cultivating relationships with individuals and organizations and aligning their philanthropic goals with our hospital's greatest needs. The foundation is a small shop so all of the staff involved get to wear many hats and are part of the full development process.

### **Q: What is it about fundraising that you like the most?**

**A:** The most enjoyable part of fundraising, for me, is the chance to get to know people better and to build relationships. I also love connecting them to a need here at RCHF that inspires them to do something with their philanthropic dollars that they are passionate about. For me, the development process is the act of taking an outsider and making him or her an insider. Our donors aren't merely giving us contributions; they are investing with us.

### **Q: What do you enjoy doing when you are not busy working?**

**A:** I enjoy going for evening walks with my husband, Leo, and my eight-year-old son, Wyatt. We also love going to the beach, visiting museums, aquariums and zoos and traveling internationally.

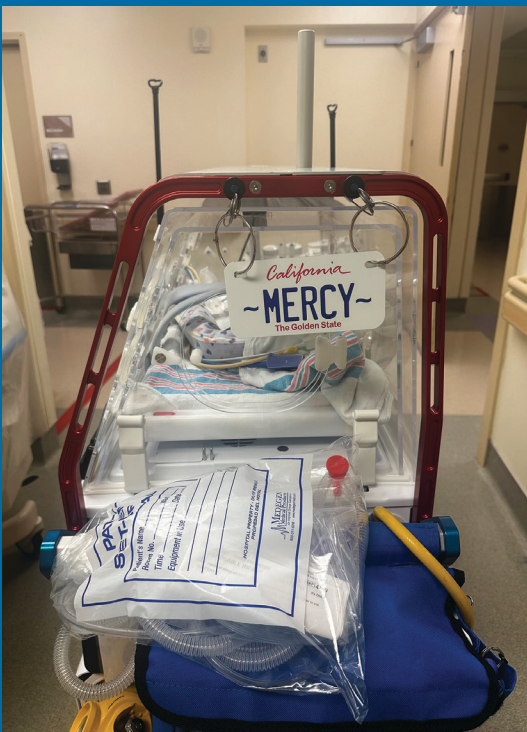




Helping RCH Care for Generations.

350 Terracina Blvd.  
Redlands, CA 92373  
[redlandshospital.org/foundation](http://redlandshospital.org/foundation)

Meet "Mercy." Because of your generosity, the Foundation was able to purchase a brand new NICU isolette transport unit to help our tiniest and most vulnerable patients receive the care they need. Thank you for supporting Redlands Community Hospital Foundation so we can better serve our patients.



If you are interested in making a gift to support the greatest needs of Redlands Community Hospital, please contact us by calling 909.335.5540 or visit our website at [www.redlandshospital.org/foundation](http://www.redlandshospital.org/foundation).