



# Giving Matters

Autumn 2013

a publication of **KADLEC** FOUNDATION

Welcome to the inaugural edition of **Giving Matters**, brought to you by Kadlec Foundation.

Since 1999, the Foundation teamed with Kadlec Healthy Ages to bring you the **Healthy Foundations** newsletter. With the growth of both organizations, it was decided to create a newsletter devoted exclusively to each. Through **Giving Matters**, we hope to keep you informed of the activities of Kadlec Foundation, including highlighting donor gifts in action and ways to support the work of the Foundation.

## Remembering Kate

Ten years ago, the Brendels experienced the importance of the Kadlec Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and since that time, they have worked tirelessly to make a difference in the name of their daughter Kathleen "Kate" Brendel.

Sue Brendel has told her family's story hundreds of times, but she still gets emotional when she tells it. That story is about the birth of their daughter, Kate, at 23 weeks, weighing just 1 pound, 1 ounce and merely 12¾ inches long. After her birth, Kate was taken directly to Kadlec's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), where she lived for the entirety of her three-day life.

"During her life," said Sue, "we experienced amazing miracles. The NICU staff helped us see that Kate knew I was there. She knew my voice and touch, and she reached out and grabbed my fingers. Those are precious memories."

Sue and her husband, Brian, became determined to keep Kate in their lives and make a difference to honor her. They became involved in the local March of Dimes by creating Kate's Team for the annual fundraising event, March for Babies. They not only walked together with their then 4-year-old son, Sam, but they also enlisted others to join their team.

"We got hooked after that first year," she said. "However, we had no idea it would grow to what it is now."

Since then, during the nine years of the team, they have raised over \$230,000 for the March of Dimes and have ranked among the top five family teams in the country.

"Sam said he wanted to raise \$1 million and we have not given up on that goal," she said.

Last fall, she was named by the March of Dimes as the 2013 National Family Teams Co-Chair.

### NICU support, too

The effort of the Brendels has not been limited to the March of Dimes. They are also involved in the expansion of Kadlec's



Photo by Jana Shepard Rogers

**Sue and Brian Brendel with children Morgan (5) and Sam (13). Morgan holds the blanket her big sister Kate used in the NICU—a small way to keep Kate's spirit part of the family's daily life.**

NICU, providing financial support as well as time and energy to the campaign.

One unique way Sue is able to support the campaign is to lead tours through the NICU for potential donors, telling their family's story as a part of those tours.

"Our experience in the NICU was short but powerful," said Sue. "We know the emotional side of having a baby in the NICU."

The Brendels also understand the importance of having bassinets available in the NICU when a baby is suddenly born. "If there had not been enough room for her, and she would have had to go to Seattle or Spokane, I would have had to stay behind. I would have missed her life and the miracles the Kadlec staff gave me. We need to have room for these babies, because no family should miss these first moments."

For Sue, going to the NICU is "like going to Kate's home. This was the only 'home' she knew and the first 'home' for so many babies. Having a sick newborn can happen to anybody and we want to make sure that every baby and family can be taken care of in our community when they need it.

*continued on next page*

With donor support, we make a difference by enhancing Kadlec's ability to meet emerging health care needs.

(509) 942-2661  
kadlec.org/foundation

# Neonatal Intensive Care Unit expansion underway thanks to Foundation support

In early September, Kadlec kicked off the over \$9-million expansion of its NICU. The project includes enlarging the space from 3,000 square feet to 15,000 square feet, and the number of bassinets will grow from 17 to 27. It will also include private rooms and space to accommodate the most advanced technology.

Since 2010, Foundation efforts have raised nearly \$6 million in cash and pledges toward the project. Gifts from community members, families of NICU "graduates," Kadlec physicians, over 500 employees and 100 percent of the Kadlec boards and executive team are coming together to make the expansion a reality.

"The NICU is an important part of health care in our region," said Larry Christensen, Kadlec Health System vice president Resource Development. "With our increasing volumes, we just can't wait any longer to meet this urgent need."

## Fundraising efforts continue

Even with construction underway, the Foundation continues its fundraising to fill the gap between what has been raised and project costs.

"We are confident that with continued donor support, we can fully fund this project," said Christensen.

There are a number of ways to give, including:

- Cash and pledged donations
- Stocks and securities
- Real estate or other personal property
- Planned gifts

"We invite people to take a tour of our NICU and see the situation firsthand," said Christensen. "We know once someone sees the need, meets some of the families, and experiences the overcrowding, they will understand the urgency to support this project."

Meanwhile, the expansion work continues. In just over a year, the tiniest patients at Kadlec will have more room, their parents will have more privacy and there will be expanded space for critical, life-saving technology.

All thanks to the philanthropic support of donors. **K**

## 'Remembering Katie' continued

"People ask us why we do this, when our story is about our daughter who had such a short life," she said. "We tell it because we know what this feels like; if what we do can prevent even one family from experiencing the loss we experienced, then it is all worth it."

Kate is survived by two siblings, her 5-year-old little sister Morgan, and her 13-year-old big brother, Sam who has been a national youth top walker with the March of Dimes and has lobbied on Capitol Hill three times. "Together with our friends we are teaching all our children that no matter your size, you can make a difference," said Sue.

"The doctors and nurses in our NICU are amazing. So many have been there for a long time. In my opinion the level of care they provide is second only to the love they give each baby, each family.

"It is an honor to share my family's story. It's an honor to be able to help with the NICU campaign and make a difference for a member of our community and we never know who that might be," she said.



**Baby Kate holds mom Sue's finger in the Kadlec NICU. "This is one of my most treasured moments," said Sue.**

And, her passion for the NICU project has been contagious. Her parents, who live in Portland, have also been a financial contributor to the campaign.

It is families like the Brendels, who experienced the importance of the NICU that make the expansion project vital. And, thanks to the support of families like the Brendels, Kadlec Foundation is helping to make certain more babies will receive this critical care close to home. **K**

## Did You Know?

According to a National Vital Statistics Report, the rate of premature births in the United States has increased by 36 percent since the 1980s. Our area is keeping up with those statistics; from 2009 to 2010 there was a 20 percent increase in premature births at Kadlec. These numbers remained steady in 2011 and 2012. As our role in the care of premature babies in this region continues to grow, the level of care delivered in the NICU also continues to grow, and no one is turned away based on ability to pay.

## Make a Difference

Kadlec Foundation continues to seek contributions to expand Kadlec's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Consider making a gift that will:

- Increase the number of bassinets available to care for our region's tiniest patients
- Create privacy for families at a difficult time
- Provide space for critical new technology

**For more information about the pressing NICU needs, more details about the expansion and how to support the project, please contact Kadlec Foundation at (509) 942-2661 or visit [kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation).**

## Don't Miss the 2013 Kadlec 4 Kids-A-Thon

The annual 36-hour Kadlec 4 Kids-a-thon to benefit babies and children receiving care at Kadlec begins October 24 and continues through October 25. In the five years of the event, broadcast by Radio Tri-Cities ("The Wolf" 94.9 FM K10K), more than \$360,000 has been raised. This year, contributions are designated for expansion of the region's only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. **To sponsor or otherwise contribute, contact Kadlec Foundation at (509) 942-2661 or visit the website at [kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation).**

# “Because they believed in me...”

*Kadlec Foundation scholarships supported Tri-Cities nurse practitioner Brian Lloyd throughout his six years of schooling.*

Brian Lloyd had always been interested in the field of medicine and that interest led him to Columbia Basin College to earn a two-year associate degree in Applied Science in Nursing.

While going to school full time, he continued to work full time in retail. His wife had also just given birth to twin girls. One thing that made it all more manageable that first year was support for schooling from a Kadlec Foundation scholarship.

“Because of the scholarship, I did not have to work tons and tons of overtime to be able to afford to pay for college,” said Brian. “I could concentrate on school and family. It made a huge difference for us.”

The next year, Brian again applied for a scholarship, but did not assume he would get it again.

“I figured that they would tell me that I had it one year and that the scholarships would need to go to someone else,” he said. “When I got it again, I was really surprised.”

After earning his degree at CBC, he was soon working at Kadlec Regional Medical Center and has spent the last eight years in the Emergency Department.

But his schooling did not stop there. He went on to get both his bachelor’s degree and recently his master’s degree in nursing from Washington State University Tri-Cities. He recently started work as an orthopedic nurse practitioner.

Throughout the six years of education, Brian received support from Foundation scholarships.

“I received other scholarships, and while I appreciated them, it was the Foundation scholarships that really stand out to me,” he said. “They are very personal. You receive both financial and emotional support from the Foundation. This sets it apart.”

Brian had the opportunity to attend a dinner hosted by the Foundation, honoring donors.

“That dinner really opened my eyes,” he said. “I had no idea that there were so many people in this community who support and care about health care students. That encouragement helped keep me going.

“I discovered that people are not only willing to support your dreams, but also believed in you enough to help you financially through scholarships. You feel as if you owe it to them to do your very best in school, and now in your profession, because they believed in and supported you.”

Brian is one of hundreds of students studying in health care fields who have received the support of Kadlec Foundation scholarships. The program has been in existence for 15 years and since then, over \$450,000 has been given in scholarship support. **K**



Photo by Kim Ferrow

**Brian Lloyd**

## Make a Difference

Scholarships are an investment to ensure that we have optimal health care in our community for many generations to come. You can help health care students such as Brian, by making a donation to Kadlec Foundation. Your donation makes a difference.

**For more information, call Kadlec Foundation at (509) 942-2661 or visit [kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation).**



**The Kadlec Foundation Golf Classic, held in August, raised over \$42,000 in support of scholarships for local students pursuing health care degrees. The event was sold out with a total of 36 teams and 144 players. Many thanks to all our sponsors, including our premier sponsor, HAPO Community Credit Union.**

## Donor Spotlight: Thank You, Henry

### Kadlec Foundation

*Giving Matters* is  
published by:

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to visit our webpage at  
**[kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation)**  
or call us at **(509) 942-2661**.

Henry Jaske did not like to draw a lot of attention to his philanthropy. He just gave from his heart, desiring to quietly make a difference. And, Kadlec Foundation has been one of the recipients of his giving.

In 2005, Henry donated three large pieces of art, which hang in the lobby of Kadlec. The prints were created by Seattle-area and internationally renowned artist Dale Chihuly. Henry donated the artwork in memory of his parents.

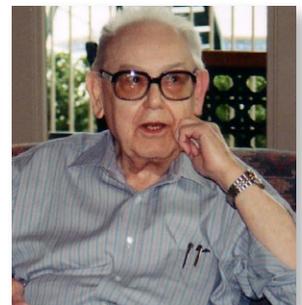
"Every day, our patients, visitors and staff enjoy this gift, which truly brightens our lobby," said Larry Christensen, Kadlec Health System vice president Resource Development. "It gave him great pleasure to see them displayed."

That was not the end of his giving to Kadlec. When Henry passed away earlier this year, his estate had a \$7,500 bequest to Kadlec Foundation. It was an undesignated gift, which allows the Foundation to use it for the greatest need.

"Henry was grateful for Kadlec's high quality of care and ever-expanding services offered to him and the community, especially for senior citizens," said Mary Ellen Jaske, one of Henry's nieces. "He really thought highly of Kadlec Foundation."

Kadlec Foundation is grateful for donors like Henry, who support its work in so many ways—by giving a gift in remembrance and also remembering the Foundation with a bequest.

***Thank you, Henry. Your gifts make a difference every day.***



***Henry Jaske***