

# Giving Matters

Fall 2014

a publication of **KADLEC** FOUNDATION

## New NICU opening, thanks to Foundation support

In October, the tiniest patients at Kadlec Regional Medical Center will have a new home in the hospital's expanded Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

The new unit:

- Is five times larger than the previous NICU
- Increases the number of bassinets from 17 to 27
- Provides private rooms for the babies with individual light control and a sleeping chair so family members can stay with the baby
- Has extended visiting hours
- Includes a fun "Welcome to the World" theme

In all, it's a \$9-million expansion of the area's only Level III NICU, which treats high-risk newborns needing specialized care.

Some of the babies who will be cared for in the new unit are tiny—from 24 weeks gestation on and weighing as little as 500 grams (1.1 pounds).

Some of those will be full-term babies who need extra care the first few days of life.

The expansion couldn't have happened without the collective support of generous Kadlec Foundation donors.

Through Foundation efforts, more than two-thirds of the total cost was raised. The outpouring of support came from Kadlec employees, community members, the region's medical community, and many others who came forward with financial gifts.

"Donors to the Foundation made this new unit a reality," said Kelly Harper, RN, Kadlec Maternal Child Services manager. "We have been overwhelmed by the support. We are so pleased, and impressed, that the community understands the important and quality work that happens in our NICU, how it changes lives, and how much need there was to expand so we can provide care to more babies in our region."



*You're Invited*

**Kadlec Regional Medical Center  
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit  
Open House**

**Thursday, September 25  
2-6 p.m.**

*Please use the entrance on Swift Blvd.  
Valet parking will be available*



Kim Farrow, Kim Farrow Photography

***Kadlec NICU graduate Kaylee Riesenweber identifies the animal designs in the floor of the new NICU facility. For more about the Riesenweber family's story, see their Donor Profile on page 2.***

In addition to community donors, U.S. Sen. Patty Murray and U.S. Rep. Richard "Doc" Hastings helped secure a \$1.4 million federal grant in support of the project.

In 2013, the unit cared for nearly 500 babies; now with more bassinets, even more babies from the region will be able to receive this critical and life-saving care close to home.

So thank you, Foundation donors. Your support of this project will make a true difference for years to come. **K**

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

(509) 942-2661  
kadlec.org/foundation

## Giving Back

Five years ago, Kaylee Riesenweber made an early arrival. The daughter of Kennewick residents Matthew (Matt) and Deidre Riesenweber was born by emergency caesarean section 10 weeks early. She was tiny—2 pounds, 14 ounces. Kaylee spent the first 25 days of her life in Kadlec’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

“She didn’t have any problems with her lungs,” said Deidre. “She was just really tiny. They wanted to continually monitor her as she grew to make certain her lungs and other organs continued to work.”

The Riesenwebers didn’t expect to start life as parents with a baby in the NICU.

“She is our first child. We were so excited, but we didn’t get to bring her home with us,” said Deidre. “It was a scary time for us, and we didn’t know what to expect.”

While Kaylee was in the NICU, what helped the Risenwebers was the quality of the care, and caring, she was getting.

“It was an awesome experience,” said Matt. “We always knew she was in good hands. So much so, in fact, we felt comfortable leaving her if we needed to go home.”

Kaylee was, according to Matt, “a true miracle. She has had no long-term problems.”

What they did experience, however, was a crowded NICU.

“The NICU was just small,” said Matt. “There was very little privacy. When the doctors or nurses were with Kaylee, you had to move out of the way. The care was great, but the facility was small.”

So when they learned about the Foundation’s campaign to expand the NICU, they stepped up to help, making a financial donation.



Kim Fetrow, Kim Fetrow Photography

**Matt and Deidre Riesenweber tour the new NICU with daughter Kaylee**

“We didn’t hesitate at all,” said Deidre. “We wanted to give back for all the wonderful care Kaylee received.”

And, when getting an early glimpse of the new unit, what were their thoughts?

“It is amazing to see,” said Matt. “We saw how important the NICU is and for the new unit to be able to help even more families is important. The care was already great in the NICU. Now the facilities will make it even better for families. To be able to have a private room with a chair to sleep in will be wonderful for families.”

Deidre agrees. “It’s tremendous.”

Meanwhile, throughout the tour, Kaylee was busy identifying all the animals on the floor of the new NICU. And, she got them all right. **K**

## 2014 Golf Classic Update!

The annual Kadlec Foundation Golf Classic, held on August 11, raised over \$47,000, which goes directly toward providing scholarships for local students being called to work in health care. This is an increase of 12 percent over last year. In addition, the community donated over \$9,500 in in-kind donations.

Kadlec Foundation would like to thank everyone who participated to make this such a great success, from golfers, in-kind donors and sponsors. Special thanks to our Premier Sponsor HAPO Community Credit Union, Reception Sponsor Apollo Mechanical Contractors, Cart Sponsor Bouten Construction Company, and Hat Sponsor Garrett Electric.

*Members of the System Tech team enjoy the 2014 Foundation Golf Classic.*



Rob Palmer of On Location Photography

## DONOR PROFILE

# Helping NICU Families

When Kadlec's new NICU opens in October, one new addition to the expanded unit will be its Family Haven. It's a place where families, who are often under a great deal of stress by having a baby in the NICU, can gather, sit around a table for a meal, do a load of laundry, relax in front of a fireplace, or just get away from the hustle and bustle of the NICU.

The Family Haven was created thanks to a donation to the Kadlec Foundation in support of the NICU campaign by Ron and Tracey Asmus.

"We first started working with Kadlec eight years ago," said Ron, who owns R.E.A. Commercial. "One of the things I learned through those years is that I could trust the people who run Kadlec. In business, that's important. We respect how Kadlec operates."

So when Kadlec Foundation contacted Ron and Tracey about supporting its NICU campaign, it was not because of personal experience with the unit that prompted them on to give, but that personal experience of trust in the organization itself.

"We had wanted to do something to support Kadlec for some time," said Ron. "So when this campaign came along, we knew it was right."

Giving is a way of life for Ron and Tracey. Their first giving is to their church, and then beyond that, they look for ways to



Kim Fetrow, Kim Fetrow Photography

*Ron and Tracey Asmus stand in the main hallway of the expanded NICU.*

help within the community.

"We have been blessed and believe that it is important that if we have the means, we need to give," he said. "After our church, Kadlec is our first choice for giving. I like how Kadlec does business. I know our gift will be well spent and well respected."

Now, thanks to their support, many families will benefit from their gift for years to come. **K**

# Thank You...

to all the donors who supported Kadlec Foundation's campaign to expand the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Families from throughout the region will benefit from your generosity.

## K-LIFE Giving

Looking for a unique way to give a charitable gift while receiving income for life, tax benefits and leaving a legacy?

Call the Kadlec Foundation at **(509) 942-2661** or visit [www.kadlec.org/k-life](http://www.kadlec.org/k-life) to learn more about K-LIFE!

## Mark Your Calendar Now

The annual Kadlec 4 Kids-a-thon is set for October 23-24. The live, 36-hour radio event is in its seventh year, and has raised over \$400,000 to support health care for children hospitalized at Kadlec. So mark it on your calendar now and tune into "The Wolf" at 94.9 FM.

## Make a Difference

Kadlec Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to supporting a healthier region. Every gift makes a direct impact. If you would like to be a part of our important work, please give us a call at **(509) 942-2661** or visit [www.kadlec.org/foundation](http://www.kadlec.org/foundation).

Giving Matters is published by:

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Richland, WA 99352

If you would like to learn more about Kadlec Foundation, or make a gift online, we invite you to visit our webpage at [kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation) or call us at (509) 942-2661.

**KADLEC** FOUNDATION

888 Swift Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99352

## A Monster Success



Photos by Rob Palmer of, On Location Photography



The monster truck was revving, the horns were honking, the car crusher was in action, and smiles were all around! Thank you all for another turbo-charged year of Kidz Dig Rigz in May!

It was the most successful year yet, thanks to sponsors, committed rig participants including local fire and police, countless volunteers, and 5,000-plus attendees.

Over \$40,000 was raised to ensure pediatric patient services will continue to be well funded at Kadlec.

Through the years, Kidz Dig Rigz funds have helped purchase:

- Electronics, iPads, toys and other items that offer education, comfort, and distraction for pediatric patients
- Toys for the Don and Lori Watts Pediatric Center on an ongoing basis
- "What to do if Your Child is Sick" booklets
- The Purple Crying Program to educate parents and prevent shaken baby syndrome
- HALO Sleep Sacks for NICU babies to take home (promotes safe sleep)
- MamaRoo infant seats with calming and therapeutic movements
- Pediatric glideslope device for safe intubation
- Specialized pediatric positioning chair that safely positions children for x-rays
- High-tech pediatric patient simulator for clinical training and education of staff
- Coping items for bereavement support for pediatric patients throughout the hospital
- Educational videos for families delivering babies at the hospital
- Hotel rooms, gas vouchers, phone cards, and basic necessities for indigent patients and their families
- Pediatric Courageous Kids Program, which celebrates a pediatric patient every month 

