

# Foundations

BUILDING EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE



## MUSIC THERAPY

Enhancing Patient Recovery

## BRINGING VINNI HOME

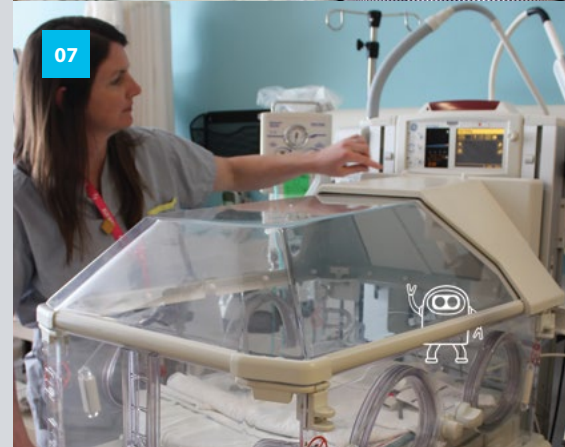
A Record-Breaking Day of Giving

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Innovations in Stroke Care

# CONTENT

- 03. **Finding hope (and Vinni) in every corner**  
A message from Allison Young, the CEO of the KGH Foundation.
- 04. **Surgical robotics move one step closer to home**  
A record-breaking Day of Giving.
- 06. **Donors power AI breakthrough at KGH**  
KGH embraces leading AI to enhance stroke care.
- 07. **Tiny patients, big advances**  
New technology for our most vulnerable newborns.
- 08. **Her last wish, my greatest honour**  
The power in fulfilling someone's last wishes.
- 09. **A region united for Joeanna's House**  
Growing together and opening doors.
- 12. **The healing power of music**  
Music therapy in KGH's acute psychiatric program.
- 13. **Planting the seeds of system change**  
Proactive mental health care in the community.
- 14. **Philanthro-PICS**  
See some of the faces who put the fun in fundraising.



We humbly recognize and acknowledge that Kelowna General Hospital (KGH) and the KGH Foundation operate on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the syilx people.

Cover Image: The team from Moxies Kelowna volunteered at JoeAnna's House for the Share a Meal program, providing extra comfort though a delicious dinner for our very deserving guests.





**Allison (Allie) Young**  
Chief Executive Officer  
KGH Foundation

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

# FINDING HOPE *(AND VINNI)* IN EVERY CORNER.

If you're reading this with a cup of coffee in hand and a pencil nearby, you're probably already searching for Vinni—our charming little robot who has somehow managed to steal the spotlight (and a few hearts) around here.

We tucked Vinni throughout this issue of Foundations not just for fun (though yes, that too), but because they represent something important. They're a symbol of quiet, powerful change, the kind built through years of dedication, shaped by countless acts of generosity, and brought to life one courageous "yes" at a time.

Ten years in the making, bringing surgical robotics to KGH is no small feat. Neither is expanding JoeAnna's House by 10 rooms. Or building trust between systems to reimagine mental health care. These are bold moves—but they didn't begin with a headline. They started with people. A physician who dared to ask, "What if?" A donor who chose to give. A citizen who chose to volunteer. A family who found the courage to share their story.

And they continue because of people. People like you.

And at a time when trust in our systems feels shaken—when decisions like the closure of the pediatric department leave so many feeling unheard or uncertain—this work becomes even more important. We exist to bridge the gap between what is and what should be. And we'll keep listening, advocating, and doing the work that brings people closer to care, not further away.

Maybe that's what Vinni reminds us of, in their own mechanical way. That real progress isn't always loud or fast. Sometimes it arrives quietly, in small but powerful acts of hope. In the way we show up for each other—in conversations, in care, in every corner of the hospital. Every step forward, no matter how small, is a victory, and together, they move us closer to something extraordinary.

So, as you count up the Vinnis, know this: every one of them represents years of dedication, and a community that's choosing to keep going. Not because it's easy—but because it matters.

And that's the best kind of story to tell.

With care,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allie".

**Allie Young**  
CEO, KGH Foundation

# VINNI MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER TO HOME



KGH Foundation staff Gary Rozak, Jessie Billey, and Shauna Nyrose are joined by surgical robotics patient Brenda Rayburn (centre), and donor & former Board Chair Darrell Porubanec (right).

It's official. Vinni has captured imaginations, inspired kids to write heartfelt cards, and become the name on countless donation envelopes. The community has fallen in love with KGH's new superstar robot—Vinni. While the character is cute, the actual robotic assisted surgical system will be a game changer for our surgeons, enhancing their skills to a superhuman level they couldn't achieve otherwise.

This year's record breaking Day of Giving only proved how invested our community is in bringing Vinni home. Thanks to many, many generous individuals, families, and organizations, a record breaking \$1,236,527 was raised to help transform surgical care at KGH.

The funds will support the acquisition of Vinni who, once implemented, will be the first system of its kind in the Interior Health region and a pivotal step toward establishing KGH as a Centre of Surgical Excellence in BC.

Among the most powerful moments on Day of Giving was a surprise phone call from Cliff and Lois Serwa, who pledged an additional \$500,000 matching donation. Their gift was timely as we were about to exceed our original match of \$500,000 and kept the momentum going to inspire giving beyond the event.

Guided by their family's simple but powerful philosophy, "If you've got it, give it," the Serwas' generosity ensures that every new donation

will continue to be matched, dollar for dollar.

The Day of Giving has pushed the total surgical robotics campaign past \$4.06 million of its \$6 million goal. Now, the dream of bringing Vinni home is well on its way to becoming a reality.

Kelowna resident Michele Therriault experienced the life-changing benefits of robotic-assisted surgery firsthand when she had to travel to Vancouver to save her kidney.

"I feel incredibly lucky my surgeon could use robotics," Michele shares. "By the second day, I was up and moving, people couldn't believe I'd just had surgery. My incisions were about 1 inch each. By the second week I was able to do a lot and care for myself. People need to understand this technology made my major surgery feel much less than that. This is the future of health care, and it's going to change everything."

Michele's experience reflects a growing challenge. As the Southern Interior's primary referral hospital, KGH serves nearly one million people, yet many patients still must travel to other centres for advanced procedures, adding financial strain and emotional stress to an already difficult time.

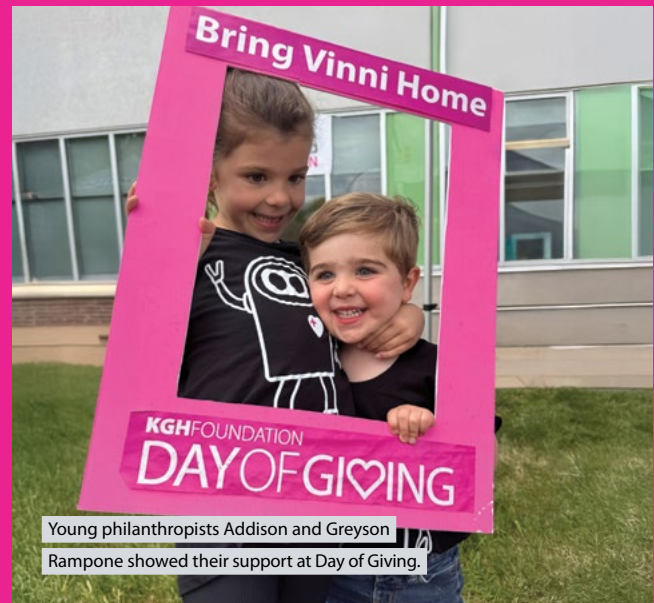
“

If this surgery had been available in Kelowna, I could've walked to the hospital, had my family by my side, and recovered sooner in my own bed," adds Michele. "I was blown away by how quickly I am healing. I truly hope we can bring this care to our community soon."

The surgical robotics campaign is part of the Foundation's broader Closer to Home Than You Think initiative, a bold \$40 million effort to transform health care at KGH and across the Southern Interior. With over \$30 million already raised, momentum is strong.

The overwhelming success of this year's Day of Giving is proof of what's possible when a community rallies behind a bold vision. With every gift, our region moves closer to a future where world-class surgical care is not the exception but the standard. To everyone who stepped up, thank you. Your generosity is not only transforming patient care at KGH—it's changing lives.

Together, we can bring Vinni home and ensure KGH remains at the forefront of surgical excellence.



“

On behalf of myself and the team at KGH, I want to express our deepest gratitude for the overwhelming support shown during this year's Day of Giving. The response from our community was truly extraordinary and inspiring to witness.

To see such a powerful collective effort to bring surgical robotics to KGH is deeply moving. Your generosity is helping turn a ten year long dream of mine into reality, and will greatly enhance surgical care for generations to come."

#### **Dr. Joshua Wiesenthal**

Head of Urology and Urological Surgeon,  
Kelowna General Hospital





# DONOR DOLLARS POWER AI BREAKTHROUGH AT KGH

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming industries across the globe —and thanks to your generosity, it's now transforming lives at KGH

Artificial intelligence is changing the world, and now, thanks to your generosity, it's saving lives right here at home.

With donor support, the KGH Foundation funded a two-year pilot of RAPID AI, a cutting-edge brain imaging software revolutionizing stroke care across the Southern Interior. Launched in September 2023 by the Interior Health Stroke Network, RAPID AI analyzes CT scans in real time to identify the severity of a stroke and immediately alerts the neurologist at KGH via secure mobile app.

Thanks to your support, RAPID AI is now live at all nine CT-enabled hospitals across Interior Health. This marks the first model

of its kind in Canada to overcome rural and regional access challenges for timely stroke treatment. When it comes to stroke, faster diagnosis means a better chance at survival and recovery. Every moment matters.

The impact in just one year has been extraordinary:

- Median scan-to-review time: 7.22 minutes
- System live across all nine sites in IH
- Return on investment already nearing the original grant amount

Even during two 2024 Code Grey outages, when other systems went down, RAPID AI stayed fully functional thanks to its independent server, ensuring stroke care continued without delay.

RAPID AI has united specialists across neurology, emergency, radiology, digital health, and interventional care to create a faster, smarter response for stroke patients, no matter where they live.

Thanks to your support, this advanced technology is helping our care teams deliver faster diagnoses, better outcomes, and renewed hope to patients in every corner of our region.

This is not just innovation—it's intervention that's saving lives across the Southern Interior.

Stroke team members Dr. Tkach, Cory Bendall, Dr. De Korompay, Sonya Messerschmidt, and Erin Tingley.





NICU team members Karen, Erynn, Danielle, and Jess with the Giraffe Omnidex.

## INNOVATION IN NEONATAL CARE

# TINY PATIENTS, BIG ADVANCES

How new technology is transforming care in the NICU for our most vulnerable newborns

Welcoming a baby into the world is one of life's greatest moments, but when complications arise, it can quickly become overwhelming. For families whose newborns require care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), the journey can be both emotional and uncertain. Recent additions to NICU technology and care are helping to ease that stress, providing the best possible outcomes for our littlest patients.

For premature and critically ill newborns, every breath matters. But thanks to the generosity of Axiom Mortgage Solutions, our NICU's fleet is equipped with two more of the most advanced tools in neonatal respiratory care: the Servo-n ventilator.

This ventilator is gentle on small lungs and works in harmony with a baby's natural breathing. It works as a great partner to the clinicians, giving them the tools to respond quickly and accurately and most importantly, improves outcomes and gives that much needed peace of mind to families.

Thanks to The Sandra Schmirler Foundation, the NICU also now has a Giraffe Omnidex Carestation, a two-in-one neonatal device that combines the functionality of a radiant warmer with an incubator.

"The Giraffe helps regulate a baby's temperature and aims to create a peaceful and healing environment for both the baby and

the family by promoting stability and reducing stress," Danielle Bird, NICU Patient Care Coordinator shares. "This piece of equipment has been impactful for our NICU families. It's been amazing seeing the difference this device has made to provide developmentally supportive care."

Additional NICU equipment recently made possible by donors include comfort items for skin-to-skin contact, safe bathing experiences, and phototherapy.

Because of these latest advancements in the NICU, KGH teams can now provide even more specialized care for our littlest patients, helping them thrive during their earliest moments.





Best friends Nancy and OJ years ago.

## LEGACY GIVING

# HER LAST WISH, MY GREATEST HONOUR

When Nancy Green passed away, her close friend OJ Taylor held the role of Executor for her will. OJ shared the meaningful experience with us in her own words—reflecting on the lasting impact of Nancy’s legacy:

I’ve served as power of attorney before, but being Executor for my best friend, Nancy Green was the most meaningful. Nancy was an extraordinary woman, and it was an honour to carry out her final wishes.

We met through Welcome Wagon, where Nancy was very well known for her volunteer work and deep commitment to the Lake Country community. Her compassion and generosity were inspiring, so it came as no surprise to learn she had thoughtfully included charitable gifts in her Will.

It wasn’t easy to lose her after celebrating her 70th birthday. Before she passed, Nancy appointed me as her Executor. Knowing I would carry out her final wishes brought me a sense of purpose and comfort. Being an Executor is a serious responsibility, but it’s also filled with meaning and reward. It took me four months to settle Nancy’s estate,

during which I found healing and learned even more about my dear friend.

Nancy often spoke about how grateful she was for the care she received at KGH for her pacemaker. In her will, she left generous gifts to both the KGH Foundation and the Red Deer Heart Foundation to support future cardiac patients.

Nancy’s careful planning ensured her peace of mind, and carrying out her legacy gave me mine. Through her charitable gifts her story will continue to touch countless lives, bringing healing and hope to those who need it most.

I was truly blessed to have a friend like Nancy. Her legacy now lives on not just in the hearts of those who knew her, but also in the lives of the many patients who will benefit from her extraordinary generosity.

“

It’s powerful and beautiful to know you’ve honoured and fulfilled someone’s last wishes.”



OJ with the plaque displayed at KGH in Nancy’s honour.





# JoeAnna's House

Better together.

OPENING MORE DOORS:

## A REGION UNITED FOR JOEANNA'S HOUSE

Every day, families from across the Southern Interior arrive in Kelowna under the most stressful of circumstances, seeking urgent medical care for a loved one. For them, JoeAnna's House is more than just a place to stay; it's a sanctuary of comfort, connection, and care; a door held open when they need it most. As the walls of JoeAnna's House begin to expand, so too does the spirit of community that surrounds it.

Since first opening its doors in 2019, JoeAnna's House has provided over 27,000 nights of care to more than 1,000 families. Owned and operated by the KGH Foundation, the house was built thanks to the extraordinary legacy of Joe and Anna Huber, founders of Prestige Hotels & Resorts, and

the generous donors who believed in their vision. Built on philanthropy, and sustained entirely through community support, JoeAnna's House exists to keep families close during life's most challenging moments.

But demand has far exceeded capacity. With over 950 families turned away last year, the urgency to expand is clear. That's why the KGH Foundation has committed to adding 10 more rooms, a 50% increase, ensuring we never have to close the door on families in need.

The goal: to raise \$5.3 million to ensure more people can stay close to care, and close to family when it matters most.

Leading this effort is the JoeAnna's House Build Team: Chuck Cullen, Tim

Spiegel, and Terry Brown, along with KGH Foundation staff.

Now, the Community Cabinet has stepped in to volunteer their time and help with fundraising. This 14-member team of passionate, local leaders from across sectors; business, philanthropy, healthcare, and tourism, bring a unique perspective and a shared purpose to help more families in crisis find a place to rest, recover, and regroup.

"JoeAnna's House has always been the community's house, built and sustained by generosity," says Carly Malchuk, Director of Community Engagement. "This expansion is only possible because of community champions like our Cabinet members, who are using their voices and networks to open even more doors."

Expansion Community Cabinet members in front of JoeAnna's House.

## Together we grow... and open doors

For some, the project hits close to home.



To see JoeAnna's House grow is incredibly meaningful," says Chuck Cullen, a returning Cabinet member and the original build's Project Manager. "It's more than a build, it's community compassion in action."

While JoeAnna's House stands in Kelowna, its impact spans the entire region. Over 25% of patients at KGH come from outside the Central Okanagan. More than 80% of JoeAnna's House guests are from the BC Interior: Kootenays (41%), Thompson Cariboo Shuswap (22%), and the North and South Okanagan (20%). Families arrive for a wide range of urgent medical reasons including (but not limited to) cardiac events, stroke, pediatric care, cancer treatments, and trauma. JoeAnna's House becomes their home away from home.

Recognizing this shared need, four regional hospital foundations have also stepped forward in support: the East Kootenay Foundation for Health, Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Foundation, South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation, and the Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation. Together, they are helping to fundraise, increase awareness, and affirm that JoeAnna's House is a critical extension of care for families from every corner of the Interior.

This isn't just a Kelowna initiative, it's a regional collaboration, one rooted in unity, compassion, and a belief that health care doesn't stop at city limits. When families from across the Southern Interior stay at JoeAnna's House, it becomes their home too. This expansion is a shared investment in compassion, and regional health equity.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, community and our regional foundation partners, we've taken the first bold steps toward expansion. But to reach our \$5.3 million goal, we will need to enlist all our neighbour's support.

Join us in opening the door for more families, because no one should have to face a medical crisis alone and far from home.

To learn more visit [joeannashouse.com](http://joeannashouse.com).



## Meet the Community Cabinet

### ADRIA AUGUST

Adria August is a dedicated community advocate and proud Kelowna resident with a passion for building connection and impact across the Southern Interior. Known for her collaborative spirit and commitment to philanthropy, Adria brings a deep understanding of community needs through her experience at the YMCA of the Southern Interior and current work with the August Family Foundation.



### AL HILDEBRANDT

Al Hildebrandt is a Kelowna-based entrepreneur, philanthropist, and founder of the CIDO Group of Companies and the Valley First UBC Okanagan Foundation. Known for his visionary leadership and unwavering support for health, education, and innovation in the Okanagan, Al brings a wealth of experience and purpose to the JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet. Through both business and philanthropy, Al continues to champion initiatives that keep care and compassion close to home.



### BERNIE RYAN

Bernie Ryan is a fierce community advocate known for his decades-long support of BC Children's Hospital Balding for Dollars initiative and JoeAnna's House through his signature event Bands, Beers, BBQ and Balding, while also adding a new event North End Community Day, to his resume. As a Cabinet member, Bernie champions connection, compassion, and the belief that we are truly better together.





# Big White Ski Resort Marketing and Community Team

Led by Michael J. Ballingall, the Big White Ski Resort marketing and community team, Charley, Joe, and Deanne (pictured left), are steadfast supporters of our region and JoeAnna's House. Through initiatives like Better Together Day and Winter Wonderland, their creativity and generosity help amplify connection, raise awareness, and open more doors for families in need.



## MAEGAN MERRIFIELD

Maegan Merrifield is a dedicated in-house volunteer at JoeAnna's House and a passionate advocate for community care. With a Master's in Clinical Psychology and a history of supporting local organizations, Maegan brings compassion, insight, and warmth to her role on the Expansion Cabinet and beyond.



## CHUCK CULLEN

Chuck Cullen, a Gold Seal-certified Project Manager and trades instructor at Okanagan College, served as the project manager for the original build of JoeAnna's House. Honoured with the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Canadian Home Builders' Association, Chuck is known for his unwavering passion, generosity, and kind-hearted leadership.



## KATHY CONWAY

Kathy Conway, former President and CEO of Interior Savings Credit Union, is a distinguished leader in finance and philanthropy. Known for initiatives like the Day of Difference and co-founding Volinspire (now Do Some Good), she continues to champion community well-being as a KGH Foundation Board Member and JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet member.



## CLARE MALLOW

Clare Mallow has been a dedicated Kelowna General Hospital volunteer for over 50 years and a beloved presence at JoeAnna's House since its opening. As the leader of the volunteer-led Garden Club, Clare's care and commitment help keep the house, and its gardens, blooming with beauty, warmth, and heartfelt welcome.



## STEVEN TUCK

Steven Tuck is a lifelong community builder whose leadership has shaped Kelowna's philanthropic landscape. As founding president of the Okanagan University College Foundation, he helped establish a \$6.5-million endowment. A recipient of the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, Steven continues to champion compassionate care as a member of the JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet and an Honorary Lifetime Director on the KGH Foundation Board of Directors.



## GAVIN BENSON

Gavin Benson, Managing Partner at Lloyd Sadd Insurance Brokers in Kelowna, is a dynamic business leader and community advocate. As a member of the JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet, Gavin brings his professional expertise and commitment to regional well-being.



## CAIRY HOLTBY

Cairy Holtby, Senior Portfolio Manager at RBC Dominion Securities, brings a powerful blend of financial insight, philanthropy, and a can-do attitude to the JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet. Known for her commitment to community and compassionate leadership, Cairy is driven to create meaningful impact for families across the Southern Interior.



## DARRYL REUTER

Darryl Reuter, founder of the Reuter Kotler Real Estate Team, is a Kelowna REALTOR® with over two decades of experience. A passionate philanthropist, Darryl has supported numerous causes, including JoeAnna's House. Known for his creative fundraising and extensive network, he exemplifies community spirit and generosity at his core.



## FRANCES FARR

Frances Farr is a passionate advocate for volunteerism, known for her boundless energy and active presence across Kelowna. As a member of the JoeAnna's House Expansion Cabinet, and a familiar face at countless community events, Frances leads with heart, always ready to lend a hand where it's needed most.





Music therapy session at KGH.

## PATIENT CARE AND COMFORT

# THE HEALING POWER OF MUSIC

## How Music Therapy at KGH is Transforming Patient Recovery and Mental Health

Most of us have experienced how a favourite song can brighten even the most difficult day. Now, through the addition of a music therapist in the KGH Acute Psychiatry program, the transformative power of music is impacting the lives of patients in a meaningful way.

Music therapy is a clinical discipline that uses music to support patients through their recovery. Delivered by Certified Music Therapists, it is an evidence-based practice that promotes emotional, physical, and mental health, contributing to holistic healing. It helps in improving the overall well-being of patients, reduces the length of stays, and encourages positive coping skills, stress relief, relaxation, and self-expression.

Since its inception in September of 2023, over 165 patients have participated in more than 230 music therapy sessions. And thanks to Music Heals Charitable Foundation and event proceeds from Rock the Foundation, this essential program has continued in 2025.

Working alongside, physicians, nurses, occupational therapists, and rehab assistants, music therapist Kayla Turnbull, provides a space for exploration and self-expression to patients in the McNair Inpatient psychiatric unit.

"I love seeing patients coming out of their shells and discovering there's so much more to them than their illness," Kayla says.

With continued support, Kayla is exploring new ways of integrating music therapy with

other education groups and health care disciplines including collaborations with Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, and Rehabilitation Assistants.

"Kayla's music program and her sincere wholehearted way of sharing the healing effects of music was a huge blessing and a vital part of my recovery," shares an anonymous patient from the McNair psychiatric unit, "I looked forward to every session and believe music therapy is and was vital to the progress I made. Music has the potential to change lives."

Music therapy has been a transformative step forward in patient centered care, offering a holistic and human approach to healing – one that resonates at the heart.



# PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SYSTEM CHANGE

Thrive Okanagan facilitates multi-sector collaboration in support of mental health and community well-being in the Central Okanagan



Our KGH Foundation Director of Philanthropy Bettina Muller, and her dog, Kona, enjoy a mental health walk.

In 2022, inspired by the community's desire to improve mental health care, the KGH Foundation launched the We See You campaign. The call to action focused on raising funds for two urgent mental health care priorities: addressing immediate program needs of local providers, and investing in long-term, system-level change. The campaign was an unprecedented success, and funds were immediately distributed to community service agencies including CMHA Kelowna, the Child and Youth Advocacy Centre, and more.

Donations also supported a review of the barriers to working as a mental health system of care. Guided by a review of the many strategies and plans from all levels of government, expert research, and input from over 30 social sector leaders, the findings identified key priorities—stronger coordination among service providers, deeper trust between sectors, and a strategic shift toward prevention of illness and crisis. It was from this shared vision that Thrive Okanagan was born.

Thrive Okanagan's driving mission is to support the system changes needed in local mental health care by facilitating collaboration and community-led solutions focused on prevention. To guide this work, the initiative developed a Mental Well-Being Goal Framework for the Central Okanagan, facilitated gatherings for multi-sector collaboration, and seeded new community-led initiatives.

Projects in year one included Community Disaster Planning to strengthen climate and emergency response for vulnerable groups, an Intimate Partner Violence research trial integrating child-centered supports, a youth dating violence study exploring technology-based prevention, youth mental health services mapping, and a primary care and immigrant services prototype co-designing clear care pathways for newcomers.

By bringing together emergency services, local government, health providers, Indigenous partners and non-profit agencies, these pilots tackled service gaps, reduced duplication, and built the foundation for a

more resilient, inclusive support system.

Early momentum has led to promising funding partnerships, including a \$40,000 commitment from the Central Okanagan Divisions of Family Practice and meaningful engagement from funders like Valley First, a division of First West Credit Union.

Shelagh Turner, who is well-known for her leadership and impact in the mental health care community, has been engaged as a lead since its inception.

"I am really optimistic. This is vital, foundational work," says Shelagh. "Thrive Okanagan is about catalyzing trust, collaboration, and building a shared vision of the future where well-being is the norm, not the exception. We are deeply grateful to KGH Foundation donors and the community for believing in the possibility of better mental health care in our community."

To learn more about Thrive Okanagan, visit [www.kghfoundation.com/thrive-okanagan](http://www.kghfoundation.com/thrive-okanagan).



# PHILANTHRO-PICS

Over the past six months, we've had the privilege of celebrating with our incredible supporters at events that truly put the FUN in fundraising. While we couldn't include photos of everyone, this spread showcases just a glimpse of the generosity and community spirit driving our mission to bring world-class health care close to home. To all who have supported us, thank you for making an impact and inspiring others along the way!



BBBB 2025 'head shavers' (left to right) Rebecca Chin, The Mayne Brothers, and event organizer Bernie Ryan.



A team from Acera volunteering their time (and selling out!) on Fritter Friday in the Centennial Lobby of KGH.



Michael Conway chats with KGH Foundation Board Director (and his wife) Kathy Conway and Director of JoeAnna's House, Darlene Haslock at Redbird for the launch of the Robotics Campaign.



Chief of Surgery, Thoracic Surgeon, and 'Vinni' Champion, Dr. Maurice Blitz.



The team from Argus Properties - Eldorado Resort enjoy some beverages and good conversation at the first annual Slices of Gratitude event at Redbird.



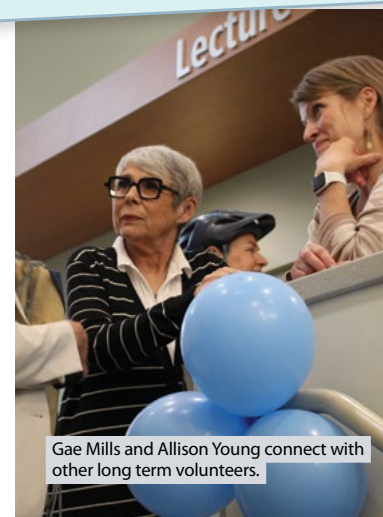
Most Creative Fundraiser winner, Orchard Gardens, for their 'Walker-a-thon' at Slices of Gratitude 2025.



Moxies Kelowna provided a delicious meal to our JoeAnna's House guests back in April during their Share a Meal night.



The Priebe Family officially kicked off BBQ season at JoeAnna's House when they treated guests to BBQ chicken breasts, roasted veggies and rice as part of our Share a Meal program.



Gae Mills and Allison Young connect with other long term volunteers.





The KGH Foundation and Tim Horton's teams celebrating raising over \$4500 from their pink sprinkle donuts.



Loose Moose joined in on the Day of Giving fun too! With \$5000 donated, the Big White team shows up, doing what they do best...giving back!



Celebrating a record-breaking day for the Okanagan, Kelowna Mayor Tom Dyas celebrate with the KGH Foundation team.



Director of Philanthropy, Sean Ayers, gets a trim from Tommy Gun's at Day of Giving 2025.



Big love to the team from Save On Foods who, for a second year, provided an awesome BBQ by donation for staff, patients, donors, and guests alike at the 2025 Day of Giving.



KGH Foundation Board Director, Christy Lovig, showed up to help "bring Vinni home!" at Day of Giving.



Making sure the fun continued inside KGH, AM1150 Host Phil Johnson, VP of Philanthropy Chandel Schmidt, CEO of the KGH Foundation Allison Young, and Head of Urology Dr. Josh Wiesenthal celebrate Vinni.





# (w)healthy Podcast

## Discover the Stories Behind the Impact

Curious about allergies, brain health, fertility, or strength training?

As a valued supporter of the KGH Foundation, you already play a vital role in transforming health care in our community. Now, we invite you to go deeper and explore the stories, knowledge, and innovations that shape our community. Through expert insights and storytelling, we hope to empower and inspire listeners to live their (w)healthiest lives.

Our (w)healthy podcast explores several dimensions of health, taking listeners behind the curtain with local leading experts including KGH surgeons, dieticians, mental health experts, people with lived experience, and many more.



Tune in on your favourite platform  
or visit [kghfoundation/whealthy](https://kghfoundation/whealthy)  
to start listening.



Vinni Counter: 30

  
**Heart of BC**  
50/50 LOTTERY  
**Big Cash Prize.**  
**Big Impact for Health in BC.**

Thank you for all your support on our first every Heart of BC 50/50 Lottery!

Because of your participation, the **inaugural jackpot reached \$361,110** with half going to one lucky winner and half supporting healthier communities across the region.

**Stay tuned for upcoming ways to  
have an impact in the Heart of BC.**



 Giving **Changes** Everything.

**KGH**FOUNDATION

KGH Foundation  
2268 Pandosy St  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1T2

Name Lastname  
1234 Somewhere Street,  
Kelowna, BC V1V 1P5  
Canada

