Former TCU Patient Comes Full Circle
From recovery to making new friends and paying it forward

Former TCU patient, Jenn Mueller

September 1, 2014, my life was changed forever. After a serious boating accident, I suffered over 11 broken bones including neck and back fractures. I had a blood clot on the left side of my brain, both lungs punctured, a cracked tooth, and scars that will last a lifetime. I don’t remember any of the 10 days spent in ICU. My family researched and found that Providence Marianwood would be the best place for the long road of recovery ahead. They had the best trained caregivers, the right services for what I needed, a great location and a beautiful, clean facility.

On the ambulance ride from Overlake to Marianwood, a Paramedic told me “you are by far the youngest person we have transported to Marianwood.” This trip was the start of my memory on this road to recovery. During my stay I was truly under the best care. The caregivers were extremely accommodating, making sure I was comfortable and had what I needed. Whether it was assistance moving from my bed to the restroom, helping pull my hair back, dressing me (because I was unable to do it myself) or bringing me a snack, there was always someone there to help. I went through daily sessions of physical therapy, memory exercises and wellness activities to ensure that I stayed healthy in my mind and body. They were working me hard to get me as close as possible to pre-accident condition. I knew Marianwood had activities for the residents and patients to participate in daily. But for me, if I was not in my room you would find me out in the courtyard visiting with friends and family, enjoying the weather and fresh air. I even

“I have seen firsthand the difference that Marianwood has made in my life, and am a firm believer in giving back to things that I know will make a difference in others’ lives as well.”

Wine Tasting Event Sets New Record

Held at a new venue, this year’s sixth annual Providence Marianwood Foundation Wine Tasting event set new levels for fun and friendship. The gathering, on February 28th, saw nearly 90 friends arrive at Capri Cellars in Issaquah Washington. Owner Michelle Steele and her staff delighted guests with a selection of wines to savor, paired with sumptuous appetizers. Hundreds of dollars in donated ‘mystery wine’ were grabbed up, completely selling out in record time. Extravagant prizes were available to win in exciting games. A beautiful sapphire necklace, donated by Joanne Wright Jewelers, was raffled off. One of 75 keys opened this year’s Lock Box. This treasure chest of gift cards to Daniels Broiler and Costco, went to prize winner Cami Keys. Cami generously went on to donate her prizes back to the foundation,
How did you learn of Marianwood?

One of my co-workers had a family member who had been cared for at Marianwood up until her passing. He raved about the nursing staff and the excellent care which they gave to his loved one. He also conveyed how beautiful and well maintained the facility (both inside and out) was for the residents. This called out to me, because I had recently lost my father who required skilled nursing care near the end of his life, and unfortunately our family had a bad experience with the nursing home that we found for our dad in California. What Marianwood provides is the level of care, comfort and compassion that my dad deserved at the end of his life, and he did not get that ... my heart still aches over this.

How long have you served on the board and in what capacity?

I have served on the Foundation Board for 5 1/2 Years. During that time, I have hosted several events to benefit Marianwood; donating my money and time.

What resonates most for you about the work of Marianwood and Why are you most passionate about with the aging population?

No matter what someone’s ability to pay is, they will be cared for at Marianwood with love, compassion and the utmost respect for as long as they reside there.

Most residents are very vulnerable and I would imagine terrified, when they reach a point in their adult life where they are no longer well, and or strong enough, to take care of themselves. When faced with that level of vulnerability, no one should have to worry about being compassionately cared for, loved, honored or respected.

What do I appreciate about the model of caring for the residents and patients of Marianwood?

The residents and patients of Marianwood are someone’s mom, dad, brother, sister, colleague or friend. Every person that works or volunteers at Marianwood make these folks feel like part of their own family and they care for them each and every day with dignity, love and compassion.

Why are you motivated to raise money for Marianwood?

I don’t want anyone that calls Marianwood home to fear being asked to leave because they can’t afford to pay. The reality is that it’s quite expensive to care for someone 24/7 and many of the residents at Marianwood have outlived their retirement savings, and Medicare doesn’t bridge the gap for them. I feel that it’s incumbent upon each of us to help provide for the needs of our elders and ensure that at this extremely vulnerable time in their lives, they are cared for with dignity, love and compassion.

What have you enjoyed most about serving on the board?

If you have the means, it’s pretty easy to write a check to support a cause, what I’ve come to realize though, is that the most valuable commodity that I have to offer is my time. I strive to make my personal time outside of work devoted to things which I care about. Serving on the Board of Directors and helping to support the residents and patients of Marianwood meets that criteria for me, as it warms my heart and touches it in a profound way.
Welcome New Leaders

Josh Ndungi joined Marianwood in October of 2018, as resident care manager in the transitional care unit. Josh attended Green River College to earn his degree as a CNA. Josh has worked with the seniors for over 12 years. He enjoys working with patients to meet their specific needs and recovery plans. Josh appreciates spending time with his family, playing tennis and ping pong.

Michael Marchione started volunteering at Marianwood in 2010, coordinating volunteers, providing music for activities and leading the Rosary. He joined our staff as the Spiritual Care Coordinator in March of 2018. Michael has a B.A. in Psychology as well as a post B.A. certification in Music Education, both from Central Washington University. He has worked in pastoral care for over 25 years with the Catholic Church.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Michael works in collaboration with the activities department to help organize activities, both religious and non-religious.

“I enjoy working with the residents because they all have their own story and I like hearing them,” says Michael.

He enjoys spending time with his family, playing games, singing and playing music.

Brooke Wiles joined Marianwood in May of 2018 as the Foundation Executive Director. Brooke brings over 22 years of fundraising and marketing experience. As a resident of the Sammamish neighborhood, Brooke is immersed in the community she lives and works in. She is a member of the local chamber and partners with the Sammamish business community to host events to benefit Marianwood.

“I feel honored to lead the Foundation to the next level of success together with the Board of Directors to grow funds. I am proud to work alongside caregivers who are passionate and dedicated; providing the best level of care. The stories shared by residents and family members feed my soul,” she says.

Welcome Tim Barry

Tim Barry joined the Foundation Board of Directors in 2018. Tim first learned about Marianwood though his membership at Sammamish Presbyterian Church where he serves on the mission committee that supports many local ministries, including Marianwood. Tim is a Microsoft program manager who enjoys solving issues. He is not shy about finding ways to raise awareness, raise funds and reach new people to become involved with what matters most to him. Tim has attended the Marianwood Spring Luncheon and other events to support our ministry. “The more I learned about the work being done at Providence Marianwood, the more excited I became to help. I see the need in our community for the services that Marianwood offers and I am eager to increase community support to serve our elder population.”
Donor List

A Sincere Thank You To Our Donors During 2018!
Gifts in memory or in honor of someone are listed with the donor’s name. The Providence Marianwood Foundation makes every effort to provide an accurate and correct list. If you feel there has been an error, please contact the Foundation’s office at 425-391-2895. Thank you so very much for your support throughout 2018!

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Remembering Don: Giving back to others in service

This April, we lost a dear friend and devoted volunteer of Marianwood. Don Cumming dedicated much of his life in service to others in his community. Always a “doer”, he remained busy giving back until his final days.

Don felt strongly about helping seniors. He was a go-to person in the senior community at Providence Point, the Providence Marianwood Foundation and Eastside Friends of Seniors. Don had a special commitment to Marianwood. He served several years on the Foundation board. After his term was over, he saw to it there was always a Kiwanis member on the foundation board. In 2012, because of Don’s leadership, the Marianwood Foundation presented the Kiwanis group the annual Spirit of Marianwood award.

Always willing to lend a hand, in whatever project he was asked to take on, Don always did it with a smile and great sense of humor. One special memory was when he would regularly pick up donations at Trader Joe’s. They would donate flowers that hadn’t sold along with food items. He would take the food to the Issaquah Food Bank and afterwards he would swing by Marianwood with the flowers. The flowers were distributed around the units and the residents and staff really appreciated it. But because he was so lovely, he would always make sure to give a bouquet to the Foundation office as well. That was just how he was — charming, quiet, kind and caring. Don will be dearly missed and has a left a legacy of service that makes us proud to have been a recipient of his generosity.
Board members, residents, staff, friends and family all gathered at The Golf Club at Newcastle as we celebrated our 19th annual Spring Luncheon. On May 16th more than 250 generous individuals and community partners turned out in support of the Providence Marianwood Foundation.

With spectacular views and elegant surroundings, Newcastle made an inspiring venue for the event. White linen and silver cutlery, chandeliers and delightful food, completed the setting for the presentations and speakers. Dennis Bounds, emcee, welcomed all with heartfelt comments on the mission of Marianwood in providing “…home, hope and healing to our residents… when they are most vulnerable.”

Long-time volunteer, Doris Gilbert, received the Spirit of Marianwood award following her 20 years of music for, and service to, the residents here in our Issaquah facility. Last year’s recipient, Joanne Wright, a foundation board member and co-chair of the event, made the presentation, recognizing Doris’ dedication and compassion. “She has been touched by how familiar songs bring light into the eyes of our residents with dementia, and tapping of toes is always her reward.” said Ms. Wright. Doris uses music to not just entertain, but enrich the lives of our residents. Thank you, Doris, for all you do!

Co-chairs Lynn Johnson and Joanne Wright provided leadership for a compelling and meaningful program.

“I am awed by the Sisters who built this ministry; their discipline to hold us accountable to do the right thing. And most awesome of all, is to see how comforting love and faith are to those for whom we care.” Noting the increasing size of our aging population, and the nature of the work done here at Providence Marianwood, Ms. Wright reached out to attendees for help in keeping Marianwood going strong.

Lynn Johnson’s story was more personal. Having her mother at Marianwood for the last two and a half years with advanced dementia, Ms. Johnson knows Marianwood firsthand. She knows the residents, the staff and the costs. Without any additional resources, Ms. Johnson told of how her mother relies on Medicaid. She, along with many other residents, contribute almost all their monthly income towards their care. Of the $70 that Medicaid allows them to keep, residents cover small personal items and services. Some residents have family to supplement these funds. Unfortunately, there isn’t always family. “This could be us one day!”

Spring Luncheon Raises Over $130,000 to Benefit Residents and Patients of Marianwood
said Johnson. “For those who are wealthy, they certainly have more options, yet many choose Marianwood for its quality and location near family.” While many believe Medicaid covers all costs, it barely covers half the money it takes to care for our residents, said Ms. Johnson.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Eric Larson, a leading expert in the science of aging and serves as executive director of Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute, delivered a powerful message about longevity. He advises we all stay active, and stay positive. These, he contends, are essential ingredients in staving off disability until very old age. Much in keeping with the comprehensive health philosophy of Marianwood, Dr. Larson promotes “…building strong physical, mental and social reserves…” in his book *Enlightened Aging*. During his speech, Dr. Larson offered practical advice for growing old with ‘resilience and foresight.’

For 33 years, Providence Marianwood has served the poor and vulnerable older adults in our community. As Mr. Bounds commented at the event’s opening, “At a time in their lives when they are most vulnerable, we wrap our arms around them literally and figuratively. We treat them with dignity and respect, we honor their preferences, we listen. They are our family. We support and celebrate their abilities and care deeply about their quality of life.”

A huge thanks to Lynn Johnson and Joanne Wright for organizing the event and giving so much of their time, talent and passion on behalf of our residents.

“There’s really nothing else to do in your life but to do some good for others. That’s your purpose in life. If you cannot do something good for someone else, you might as well forget it … I think that keeps you going.”

— Margot Collins, Marianwood Resident Council President

The team of caregivers and professionals that work at Providence Marianwood, have a true passion for helping people. It shows in the way they run the facility and how they treat their patients. There is a huge demand for these type of services, but it is becoming more challenging to find great care providers offering a comprehensive range of services that patients can afford.

Providence Marianwood will always have a very special place in my heart. Never in a million years would I have ever thought at the age of 28 would be fighting for my life and having to rebuild myself. I have no doubt that I was in the best of care staying at Marianwood. I will be forever grateful for the incredible team that worked with me on my road to recovery.
Caregivers and Residents Celebrate
“Living Soulfully” — National Skilled Nursing Care Week

May was a month of recognition and celebration with National Skilled Nursing Care Week. Five days in celebration of dedicated staff who live and work here at Providence Marianwood and their generous spirits, the week’s theme was “Living Soulfully.” These few days, focusing on skilled nursing care, highlighted the many ways we, as the Providence Marianwood community, live and thrive in mutual compassion. As is expressed in the Providence St. Joseph Mission Statement, we live through our love shared with others. And while it is important and central to our mission to love others, this year’s theme placed more emphasis on remembering to love ourselves.

Kicking off the week with a fun filled scavenger hunt on Monday, prizes were won by caregivers showing off puzzle solving prowess, and knowledge of both co-workers and the facility. Tuesday saw residents and caregivers getting their images taken by professional photographer, Terry Rogers. Wednesday was relaxation day to get us over the hump. Exotic teas, scented candles, calming music and a beautiful, gently flowing stream projected on the wall, relaxed us in a room straight out of the Ritz Carlton day spa! With a spaghetti feast on Thursday to feed our tummies as well as our souls, caregivers were able to share a meal and much valued camaraderie. Wrapping up, Friday’s coffee cart, set up in our lobby, was a terrific hit! Cherry Blossom macchiatos, frappuccino’s, and good strong espressos, served up piping hot or icy cold, led to smiles all around.

Remembering to “Live Soulfully” helps to keep that spark of love in our work mission. As we live in community with those we care for and those who care for us, this week emphasized the importance of caring for ourselves. Happy minds and healthy souls combine to create a loving, productive and soulful life. So live soulfully! Remain mindful of yourselves, your health, your minds and your spirits. A week to remember, Skilled Nursing Care Week was a fun way to celebrate ourselves for the hard work we all do, and the reasons we do it. Working here at Marianwood is more than a job, it gives us all opportunities to feel that sense of belonging to an organization that values us and wants us to live soulfully.

Wine Tasting Event Sets New Record
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sparking a frenzy of guests purchasing additional raffle tickets and sharing in the winnings.

With over $20,000 raised, this year’s evening set a new record. Bob and Linda Collins were again the driving forces behind this popular event. Bob continues to show his commitment and compassion toward PMWF through generously planning the event. The Collins also picked up Capri Cellar’s tab for the entire evening, planned all the games, donated many prizes, and helped inspire a group of very generous participants. On top of that, Bob’s employer, Costco Corporation, made a stellar match of funds helping to make this a record setting year. Thank you Bob and Linda!

Watch for news on next year’s wine tasting event date.
Honored to support the patients, residents and the families of Providence Marianwood

The Marianwood Angels — a group formed two years ago, now number 34 members! These generous supporters have come together to provide sustaining support by making a $500 annual, 3-year commitment.

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If you are interested in becoming a sustaining member of the Marianwood Angels, please contact Foundation Director, Brooke Wiles at: brooke.wiles@providence.org or 425-391-2895
Thanks to Them, Every Dollar Goes Back To Our Ministry

Providence Marianwood’s Annual Spring Luncheon sponsors

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SAVE THE DATE!
3rd Annual Oktoberfest Beer-Tasting Event
Monday, October 14th, 2019
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