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Honoring the Heart of Care: Janet Beckmann's Gift to Snoqualmie Valley Health Nurses



SNOQUALMIE, WA – For Janet Beckmann, exceptional nursing care is not just something she appreciates, it is something she understands deeply.

As a former nurse, academic leader, and longtime advocate for improving healthcare quality, Janet knows the difference nurses make when patients are at their most vulnerable. After receiving care through Snoqualmie Valley Health's rehabilitation services on more than one occasion, she experienced that difference firsthand.

"I received excellent care," Janet said. "The nurses were outstanding."

Inspired by the compassion, attentiveness, and professionalism she experienced, Janet made a \$100,000 endowment gift to the Snoqualmie Valley Health Foundation named the George & Janet Pitts Beckmann Continuing Nursing Education Endowment. This is the first endowment of its kind for the organization.

Her motivation was simple: to recognize the people she believes are the backbone of hospital care.

"In a hospital, who are you interacting with most?" Janet said. "It's the nurse. They are essential to your care, because your nurse is with you 24 hours a day. The doctor is dependent upon a nurse to communicate changes regarding a patient's condition."

Throughout her career, Janet has seen how recognition in healthcare often flows toward highly visible areas such as physicians, research, or large capital investments. While those areas are important, she believes the everyday impact of nurses is often overlooked.

"People will send a box of candy to the unit," she said. "That is always appreciated, but as a nurse, I understand the importance of continuing education and wanted to honor them with that gift."

Janet hopes her gift will help shine a light on the critical role nurses play in patient care while also inspiring others to think differently about how they give.

Janet chose to create an endowment, allowing her gift to be invested and provide ongoing support. As an endowment, it amplifies the impact of the gift far beyond a one-time donation. She hopes others will follow in her footsteps, inspired by the lasting nature of endowments that will support healthcare far into the future. The fund will support continuing education and professional development opportunities for Snoqualmie Valley Health nurses.

Healthcare, Janet notes, has changed dramatically since she began her career. When she was a student, intensive care units were just being introduced and CPR training was still new.

“Continuing education is incredibly important,” she said. “Nursing has changed so much, and it continues to evolve rapidly.” Supporting that growth is exactly what she hopes her gift will accomplish.

Janet’s professional life has been devoted to improving healthcare. She served in academic leadership roles, maintained clinical practice while teaching, and later worked extensively in healthcare quality and patient safety. Her work examining negligence and standards of care helped bring attention to systemic issues and contributed to broader conversations about improving patient safety nationwide.

Despite her wide-ranging career, her gift to the Snoqualmie Valley Health Foundation was ultimately inspired by the care she received as a patient.

She recalls being struck not only by the skill of the nursing team, but also by the culture of the hospital itself.

“I was amazed,” Janet said. “Everything was done exactly the way it should be done.”

She also appreciated the personal nature of care in a smaller hospital environment, where patients are not just numbers and staff members truly know the people they serve.

“It’s a wonderful facility,” she said. “The people are so kind, and the care is excellent.”

Through her generosity, Janet Beckmann has created more than a gift. She has created a lasting investment in the nurses who care for this community.

Her hope is that this endowment will help elevate the visibility and support of nursing at Snoqualmie Valley Health while encouraging others to recognize the essential role nurses play in healthcare.

To learn more about supporting Snoqualmie Valley Health, visit <https://snoqualmievalleyhealth.org/foundation/> or contact Info@LiveBoldlySVH.org.

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About Snoqualmie Valley Health

Snoqualmie Valley Health is an independent public hospital district and the region’s trusted source for high-quality, compassionate care. Rooted in the Snoqualmie Valley community, SVH delivers patient-centered services through



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its Critical Access Hospital, three primary care clinics, and urgent care, supported by a growing network of specialty and outpatient programs. From therapy and rehabilitation to pediatrics, gastroenterology, allergy, rheumatology, neurology, cardiology, nephrology, and other specialty services, SVH is committed to improving access, strengthening health outcomes, and caring for the community at every stage of life.