

In This Issue:

July 2016

Featured

- [Presidents Reception 2016](#)
- [Grant to Building Blocks](#)
- [Power of the Purse](#)
- [Arizona Rattlers Partnership](#)
- [Dancing for Stroke Patients](#)
- [Donate Now](#)

Our Mission

To support Dignity Health health care facilities and programs in the Southeast Valley through philanthropy.

For more information, [click here.](#)

Thank You Foundation Board

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With Deep Appreciation to Gene Martell & His Family



There are very few people who have dedicated thousands of hours of service to Dignity Health in the East Valley - first Chandler Regional and later Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers. Even fewer people give of their time, talent and treasure. Gene and Pat Martell are two of these very unique people, both having earned emeritus status on our

Foundation Board of Directors and joining our [legacy giving society.](#)

Gene Martell recently passed away leaving all of us with a huge debt of gratitude and a heartfelt thank you from all of the many patients and employees whose lives he improved.

Gene spent his entire life helping others. True to his giving nature, Gene received a bachelor's degree in both finance and English and went on to graduate school at the University of Toledo, turning down a professional football contract with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Thus, began his career in guidance counseling and administration affecting the lives and career choices of many people. After two successful careers and raising a family together, Gene and Pat retired to the Sun Lakes, and turned to the hospital among many volunteer locations.

Having been friends since the first grade, and finally marrying while in graduate school, it's not a surprise that Gene and Pat came to Chandler Regional Medical Center as a package deal. They served as co-presidents of the volunteer board (2004-2005), and were together involved in both the Volunteer and Foundation boards for many years. You can see Pat and Gene together volunteering at the Foundation's George Rozsa Golf tournament in the photo above, and you may have noticed both of their portraits on the Foundation photo board in the hospital.

Gene Martell was once a star lineman for the Notre Dame Fighting Irish and we were lucky enough to engage his fighting spirit for our hospitals. Sincere condolences go out to his beloved wife of 58 years, Pat, as well as his family and friends. Gene will certainly be missed, yet his legacy and example of service will last well into the future.

Presidents Reception Thank You Event

Presidents Tim Bricker and Aaron Peace have been thanking donors and volunteers in unique venues the last three years. This is the check representing \$2.7 million dollars to the hospitals and community programs in the past year.



Les Presmyk
Sheila Schmidt
Dave Sobeck
Mark Tobler, MD
Ed Tokatlian, MD
Felicia
Vandermolen



This year the Foundation added several new Corporate Partners by unveiling a partnership program to provide value to local businesses.

Call the Foundation team to support the lifesaving programs offered through Dignity Health, we'd love to have you join us at next year's Presidents Reception in May 2017.



Thank you to all of the donors and board members. And special appreciation to all of the volunteers who helped to bring the special event together.

Building Blocks for Children



Building Charitable Partnerships One Donor at a Time

Preparing children for school is more than buying shoes or backpacks. It includes making sure they are able to hear the teacher and see the pages of their books. Dignity Health's Building Blocks for Children (BBC) school readiness program offers free hearing and vision screenings, free/low cost referrals and education to underserved children in our community who face barriers to obtaining such care. Research has shown that gaps in learning are significantly reduced or eliminated by early detection and treatment of hearing and vision loss in children. The sooner a child has glasses to see to read or a hearing assisted device to hear, the sooner that child can concentrate on learning. The Building Blocks for Children program targets youngsters 0-18 years of age in the East Valley with the goal of ensuring their hearing and vision is optimal for such learning. Its outreach into the community is extensive and includes a school based clinic, a family resource/migrant population care center, daycare centers and WIC centers. Screeners also visit an alternative women and infants birthing center.

Building Blocks for Children is currently funded through grants from the City of Chandler as part of the Chandler Unified School District's full service family resource center, the Chandler CARE Center, the Executive Council Charities, the Sundt Foundation and the Dignity Health Foundation - East Valley. Our foundation recently applied for and received the full \$5,000 amount requested from the Arizona Community Foundation. The generosity of the Arizona Community Foundation will enable us to expand services in the Gilbert and Queen Creek areas.

Power of the Purse Making a Difference in our Community



**POWER
of the
PURSE** | *Women's
Philanthropic
Society*

The women of the Power of the Purse had an amazing time organizing in the Clothes Cabin and thinking of all the families who will benefit. Plan now for upcoming fall events by visiting: www.powerofpurse.org and mark your calendar!

The proceeds from membership, fundraisers, and sales of purse charms are all going toward funding a stroke camp in August, that was chosen as the annual project this past fall. The current total is nearing \$40,000 raised. Thank you to everyone who has participated! Join today by contacting Bridget.Doherty@dignityhealth.org.



Thanks Arizona Rattlers and Coach Kevin Guy!

Striking back at Stroke.... the Dignity Health Foundation joins forces with the Arizona Rattlers this season. Come to the July 9th Arizona Rattlers arena football game and see Jimmie, one of our stroke survivors, as he becomes honorary captain as a salute to all of his hard work. Look for more fun opportunities events and fundraising as together we strive to create more Neuro Wellness and post-stroke opportunities and awareness. Catch more information on the Coach's show before each game.

- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Rattlers Coach Kevin Guys' Show at **Majerle's at Chandler Mall** from August 3rd, 2p-9p, 20% give back



Making a Difference in the Lives of Stroke Patients

Here you see patients ready for the Charles Schwab dance event. They went to cheer on their favorite dancers and thank all fo the volunteers for making a real difference by providing post-stroke programs. And, they even showed off the dances they have been learning!

Charles Schwab hosted their very own Dancing for a Cause event which benefits the programs Dignity Health offers stroke survivors and their caregivers in the southeast valley. Last week ten Charles Schwab employees performed, choreographed routines they began learning in January with professional dancers from the Arizona Ballroom Champions, in front of their colleagues. The dancers competed not only for the best dance, but also for the individual who was able to raise the most money to support programs such as a weekend stroke camp, hippotherapy programs, dance classes, chimes choir, support groups and more for the stroke survivors and their caregivers. The stroke survivors and their caregivers attended the event and also performed a routine during the production that they learned during their free weekly lessons at the Arizona Ballroom Champions, that are provided to stroke survivors and their caregivers every Tuesday.



The Dancing for Stroke black tie event will be back October 1st!

Other interesting events benefiting the stroke survivors:

- Team Stockton Bella Gusto Pizzeria event all day July 13th, 20% give back
- Rattlers Coach's Show @ Majerle's Chandler Mall from Aug.3rd 3p-9p, 20% give back

Remember www.dancingforstrokeaz.com and check both Facebook and the website often for more details including information on how neurowellness programs are helping patients! [Buy a ticket now.](#)



charles
SCHWAB

We would like to thank the amazing leaders of Charles Schwab for helping raise over \$25,000 for Stroke Survivors and their Caregivers! It is organizations like yours that help make these programs available. #Schwab4Good #humankindness

Thank you to all of our donors who have given more than \$125 since our last newsletter - you make a difference and we appreciate you!

Advanced Foot & Ankle Specialists of Arizona, Air Methods Corporation, Mr. Rudy Apodaca, Arizona Spine & Joint Hospital, Keith Crowder, Essential Rehabilitation Services, Express Home Services, First Things First, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Fitzgerald, Mary Ellen and Robert Franz, John F. Long Foundation, Johnson & Johnson, KJB Enterprises, Ms. Sara Lidman, Dr. and Mrs. Terry Miller, Neurology Associates of the East Valley, Sophie Norman, Irene Rankin, Tanja and Davis Romney, Ruth McCormick Tankersley Charitable Trust, Ms. Cathy Schloeder, Serenity Hospice, StartLine Sports, LLC, Mr. and Mrs. Steven E. Sterbach, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tate, Trammell Crow Company, Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign and *Thank you to our benefactors who wish to remain anonymous*

More Information on Your Dignity Health Foundation - East Valley

Team Member Bridget Doherty: Bridget has been with Dignity Health Foundation East Valley for four years and works with Annual Giving and Development for the Foundation. She has the great opportunity to engage with a number of hospital staff and community members. She has also enjoyed building the Women's Philanthropic Society. This opportunity has allowed her to engage with amazing women who want to be a part of a support network helping the hospital, but also serving in the community. Bridget has been with Dignity Health Arizona for almost 11 years, in marketing, education and now fundraising. Bridget is truly proud of what she and the development team are able to accomplish and of making a significant difference in the community. If you would like to learn more about the women's philanthropic society, employee giving or explore your passion, please contact her at bridget.doherty@dignityhealth.org.



Join Bridget and learn about why she is choosing to Dance for Stroke this year:
<https://www.facebook.com/DancingforStroke/videos/503594763170710/>

We are happy to speak to you to answer your questions or assist you with fundraising requests. Call [480.728.3931](tel:480.728.3931) or send us an e-mail eastvalleyfoundation@dignityhealth.org. Please LIKE our [Facebook](#) page or watch our [website](#) for more information.

To donate to the Dignity Health Foundation East Valley, please [click here](#).

Photo & Video credits: Mark Skalny Photography, Randy Bigham Photography, Shawn Nerdahl of Arizona Ballroom Champions, Catrina Boppart, Connie Johnston and Rex Albright. Thank you!

Dignity Health Foundation - East Valley for more information or to opt-out call [480.726.3931](tel:480.726.3931)

This message was sent to julieaka@gmail.com from:

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