A message from Dana Braner, M.D.
Meet Hope: Doernbecher's new hospital facility dog
No one plans for this: OHSU building new housing facility for Doernbecher families
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What’s next?

**Doernbecher Next** is a publication for the friends and supporters who help OHSU Doernbecher Children’s Hospital achieve what’s next.

**Next** is new cures and better treatments to improve the lives of children.

**Next** is the broadest range of healthcare services available to kids and families.

**Next** is meeting the exploding need for future children’s health experts.

**Next** is advocating for innovative ways to improve children’s health.

**Next** is what we do today through philanthropy to change the world for our next generation.

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On the cover: Hope, Doernbecher’s new hospital facility dog, snuggles expertly with three-year-old Randell Donovan of Prineville, Ore. See story on page 5.
Welcome to the Summer 2015 edition of Next. In this issue you will learn about Hope, Doernbecher’s new chief canine officer, and get an up-close look at how we’re supporting families who have travelled far from home for specialized care at Doernbecher. But first, I would like to say a few words about our outgoing leader, Stacy Nicholson, M.D., M.P.H.

When Stacy arrived in 1997, Doernbecher was a great children’s hospital. After nearly 20 years under his transformative leadership, Doernbecher is now a world-class children’s hospital. I am honored to be asked to run this outstanding institution upon his departure.

Like Stacy, I believe it is our duty to be an extraordinary resource to every child in this state and region. We will continue to drive the future health and prosperity of our communities through providing exceptional care to children, training a new generation of caregivers, finding new cures through research and advocating for practices and policies that improve health for all children.

I am proud to be a member of Doernbecher’s incredible community of healers, teachers, researchers and advocates. Philanthropy has been crucial to everything we have achieved. Thank you for the role you play in our success.
It’s not always easy to snuggle. If you’re a kid confined to a hospital bed and hooked up to an I.V., even simple shows of affection and comfort can get complicated. That’s where Hope comes in. OHSU Doernbecher Children’s Hospital’s new full-time hospital facility dog – aptly named Hope – knows more than 70 commands, but “snuggle” is by far the most popular. Hope has been trained to jump up on the bed, lie down and get in close. She is a young and lively 50-pound English cream golden retriever with the poise and reassuring calm of a seasoned health care professional.

“Hope’s influence is huge. She brightens the atmosphere,” said Sandra Westfall, Hope’s handler and manager of Doernbecher’s Child Life Program.

Doernbecher Children’s Hospital Foundation board member Kate McCoy and her husband Craig were instrumental in bringing Hope to Doernbecher. On vacation in Hawaii, the McCoys met Mo Maurer, co-founder of Assistance Dogs of Hawaii, who introduced them to the organization’s special training program and facility.

“We were so impressed by what we saw. Our immediate thought was, we need to do this for Doernbecher,” said Kate. The McCoys followed through, bringing the idea to Doernbecher leadership and making a generous gift to help establish the Hope Fund within the Doernbecher Foundation.

There was little doubt that a hospital facility dog would greatly enhance Doernbecher’s child-centered care, but it wasn’t clear who would be willing to take on the responsibility for a full-time facility dog. Sandra Westfall saw the opportunity and volunteered herself.
“My staff thought I was crazy, because I was already so busy,” said Sandra. “But it’s worked out beautifully. Hope helps us do our job – caring for the emotional and developmental needs of our patients and helping them cope with being in a hospital.” Sandra and Hope trained together for five days in Hawaii before returning in January to Portland as a team.

Routine happiness
Hope and Sandra have settled nicely into their new routine. Hope sticks to a schedule, with regular visits to the many wings of Doernbecher. Every time Hope meets a new patient, the child receives a Hope dog, a small stuffed animal specially made for Doernbecher.

“When the kids have Hope on their bed, I stand back and give them the opportunity to open up. The conversations are often therapeutic. They tell me about being scared or frustrated about losing their independence. Hope is often a break from a terrible day,” said Sandra. “Her presence is so soothing, kids often fall asleep when she’s on their bed. And then she’ll fall asleep, too.”

Contact with Hope is especially important for kids recovering from severe medical issues, such as the patient who is recovering from a virus that causes paralysis. The opportunity to pet Hope is helping him to regain strength in his arms. Hope also inspires kids in physical therapy to get up and move. Sandra lets them walk Hope up and down the hallway on their own, as she watches close by.

Hope’s therapeutic value can be subtle. “Hope recently visited a little girl on the hematology-oncology ward who is going through a very hard time. She laid down and put her paws on the girl’s feet, which made her giggle. Her dad started to cry, because it was the first time he had seen his daughter giggle in a very long time,” said Sandra.

No ordinary dog
Trainers at Assistance Dogs of Hawaii selected Hope at a young age based on her calm temperament and intelligence. She went through months of intensive training and screening to make sure she would be a good fit for Doernbecher patients and families.

With a $50,000 gift to Doernbecher, the McCos have established the Hope Fund to help cover costs for everything from veterinary care to dog food. The Doernbecher Foundation will continue to add to the fund by asking for additional donations and by selling the Hope stuffed animals in the OHSU Hospital gift shop. If you are interested in making a gift to the Hope Fund contact: dchfinfo@ohsu.edu.

“No one wants to be in the hospital. The more we can do to improve the experience, the better,” says Dana Braner, M.D., interim chair of pediatrics, OHSU School of Medicine.
There is a growing body of scientific research to back up what many have intuited for years: dogs can heal. Researchers at the University of Missouri-Columbia Center for the Study of Animal Wellness have published data showing that when a human pets a dog, within minutes they get a massive release of beneficial hormones known to be associated with health and feelings of well-being, such as beta endorphin, prolactin, dopamine, oxytocin and beta phenylethylamine. The release of these hormones not only makes people happy, they also decrease the stress hormone cortisol. Other studies have shown that a short visit with a therapy dog lessens anxiety and lowers blood pressure.

Proven healers
NO ONE PLANS FOR THIS
No amount of planning can prepare you for the heartbreak of a seriously ill child — or the stress of uprooting your household.

OHSU is building a new five-story housing complex on Portland’s South Waterfront to provide families in crisis with an oasis of healing and stability.

The Carrion family of Bend, Ore., is making the best of an impossible situation. Five-year-old Tristan (pictured right) is fighting rhabdomyosarcoma, an aggressive form of muscle cancer. The family is putting everything on hold so Tristan can receive the best cancer care in the region — an intensive, five-day-a-week regimen of radiation and chemotherapy at OHSU Doernbecher Children’s Hospital.

Tristan, his father and three sisters stay at Ronald McDonald West House Waterfront (and sometimes other lodgings, depending on availability) during the week while Tristan’s mother stays in Bend to work.

“My wife Sara stays in Bend so she can continue working. I home-school all four kids to work around Tristan’s clinic visits and then we return to Bend on weekends,” said Chris.
Tristan’s family is one of hundreds that arrive in Portland from Alaska, Idaho, California, rural Oregon and elsewhere to help their loved one recover and thrive under the care of Doernbecher experts. Many of them will struggle to find a place to stay that can accommodate their family — and their budget.

Approximately 49 percent of Doernbecher patients reside in rural Oregon or neighboring states.

“Excellent medical care is only one aspect of healing a child — you have to consider the whole family. When a child is seriously ill for a long time, everything is put under strain — the marriage, the job, the other siblings. We do everything we can to ease that pressure, so the family can focus on healing. Family housing is the backbone of our ability to support the whole family,” said Dana Braner, M.D., interim chair of pediatrics.

Families travel to Doernbecher for specialized services that other regional hospitals don’t offer:

- advanced cancer care
- access to Phase 1 clinical trials
- pediatric bone marrow transplants
- pediatric epilepsy surgery
- advanced fetal therapy
- pediatric brain tumor surgery

Not enough of a good thing

Doernbecher is able to offer housing to some families, but not all. In 2014, the hospital housed approximately 500 families for 5,039 nights at West House Waterfront. That same year Doernbecher had to find alternative accommodations for 1,058 families, due to lack of space at West House. Located on the fifth floor of the Marriott Residence Inn, the facility is operated in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington. Ronald McDonald House’s staff and volunteers offer comfort and support in many forms, including hot meals, family activities, therapy dogs, movie nights and shuttle drivers.

“This is not only a place to stay — it is a supportive community,” said Jessica Miller, executive director of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington.

“I work here. I thought I understood what this was like, but I really didn’t get it until my son needed a bone marrow transplant when he was 18 months old. It was devastating. Parents are pulled in so many different directions. Any help we can offer to parents is critical to healing our patients.”

— Sarah Power, L.C.S.W., social worker manager, Doernbecher Children’s Hospital
Building a solution

OHSU plans to build a five-story patient and family guest house on its South Waterfront campus designed to support and extend the exceptional level of care provided at Doernbecher. Scheduled to open in 2018, the guest house will provide comfortable, affordable housing and an array of support programs for families who must put their lives on hold while their child heals.

OHSU has contracted with ZGF Architects and Edward Weinstein to start designing the facility. The plans are still evolving, but OHSU currently intends to offer 80 guest beds in 68 units. One of the house's five floors will be devoted to community gathering spaces. They are also looking at the possibility of a roof-top garden and play area. Two floors will be reserved for pediatric patients and the remaining two floors will be open to families or caregivers of adult OHSU patients. The house will significantly expand Doernbecher's capacity to accommodate families. Ronald McDonald House Charities will continue to deliver its excellent services in the new location, and also provide building management to the adult floors of the guest house.

“We often see parents who can’t bear to leave their child’s bedside, even though they are exhausted and uncomfortable. They can’t stand the thought of not being there if something goes wrong. Knowing they are only a short tram ride away allows family members to go get the rest they need to stay sane,” said Jodi A. Coombs, R.N., M.B.A, vice president for Women & Children’s Services at Doernbecher.

How you can help

The OHSU and Doernbecher Foundations must raise $40 million through philanthropy to support this ambitious project. Even as hospital leadership is finalizing plans, donors have come forward with significant contributions. The Ford Family Foundation already has committed $2.5 million to the project. With your help, we can create a supportive and healing environment for patients and families facing the stress of a medical emergency. E-mail dchfinfo@ohsu.edu to make a gift today.

OHSU’s new patient and family guest house will:
- Enable families to stay close while their child is in treatment.
- Promote healing — studies show family involvement helps children recover.
- Allow patients from out of town to participate in clinical trials of new drugs and treatments.
- Promote social interaction and support.
- Provide an affordable housing option for out-of-town patients and families by offering sliding-scale rates.

Not all health insurance plans cover housing costs for those who must travel for care. This creates a financial hardship for even the most financially secure families, but it is especially difficult if one or more members of a family must give up a job to be with a hospitalized child. A 2012 survey found that six out of 10 families of children with cancer reported spending between $1,000 and $10,000 on non-medical expenses like transportation and housing on top of thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket medical costs for cancer care.
Brylee Jeanne Gabby: 8

Brylee is in treatment for acute myeloid leukemia. She and her parents Rob and Monica traveled to Doernbecher from Boise, Idaho. “Monica and I take turns sleeping at the hospital and at West House. Brylee’s four-year-old brother Zayden is staying with his aunt in Boise until day 100 of chemo. We’re lucky: Monica was able to arrange a virtual workplace with her employer for the next six months while Brylee is in recovery,”

Tristan Carrion: 5

Tristan has rhabdomyosarcoma, a form of muscle cancer. He is being treated with both radiation and chemotherapy five days a week. He stays at West House with his father Chris and sisters Ireland (9), Kaitlin (6) and Trinity (3). “The social workers at Doernbecher are great about finding us places to stay and making it affordable, but it’s stressful to not have a consistent place to call home. West House gets filled up quickly,” said Chris.
The Koumentis triplets weighed little more than 2 pounds each when they were born at OHSU Hospital. They spent 63 days in Doernbecher’s neonatal care center. Because Marshall still has health problems, his parents Bre and Cameron Koumentis of Salem will continue to stay at West House while he goes in for surgery and ongoing care. “Bre has been at the hospital every day we’ve been here, and it’s really helped a lot staying so close by. The nurses said her closeness to the babies has helped them thrive,” said Cameron.

Sylvia travelled to Portland with her mother Brittany shortly after being born in Anchorage. At Doernbecher they learned she has campomelic dysplasia, a severe disorder that affects development of the skeleton, reproductive system and other parts of the body. “I had to quit my job and leave my other two children with family members in Anchorage. When we Skype, my oldest boy always asks when I’m going to come home,” said Brittany.
Freestyle goes to 11

More than 600 sneaker-loving Doernbecher supporters attended last year’s Doernbecher Freestyle XI auction and shoe unveiling in November at the Portland Art Museum. After 11 years and $11 million raised for seriously ill patients, this Doernbecher - Nike collaboration is still going strong. Every year, a new group of talented Doernbecher patients are transformed into shoe designers, working with top Nike stylists to create customized and highly collectible Nike shoes and apparel sold internationally to raise funds for Doernbecher.

Last year’s group of patient-designers included Missy Miller, 14, of Turner; Caden Lampert, 10, of West Linn; Alejandro Munoz, 8, of Portland; Tim Haarmann, 15, of Tigard; Chase Crouch, 8, of Wilsonville; and Addie Peterson, 15, of Clackamas. The young designers, all of whom have faced serious health challenges, jumped at the chance to express their creativity. The unveiling event offered Freestyle donors a chance to meet this year’s designers, preview the latest collection and bid on one-of-a-kind celebrity-autographed shoes. The evening raised $3.1 million for Doernbecher, including a $2.7 million contribution from Nike reflecting its net sales proceeds from the 2013 collection.

From bottom left: Caden Lampert works on his shoe design at Nike; Missy Miller models her shoes and apparel line; Tim Haarmann kicks back with his custom kicks.
Clockwise from left: Addie Peterson shows off her shoes and apparel; Chase Crouch shares the stage with Nike Product Director Lee Banks; Alejandro Munoz enjoying his sneakers.
Heart of Doernbecher raises $1 million for kids with cancer

Over 450 community leaders gathered at the Sentinel Hotel on May 28 to celebrate Doernbecher at the 17th Annual Heart of Doernbecher, presented by Wentworth Subaru. It was a magical evening that raised more than $1.1 million for Doernbecher’s pediatric cancer program.

Chaired by Linda Rae Hickey, Cathy and Jim Rudd and Craig Wessel, the event began with a cocktail reception, silent auction and “Experience Doernbecher” activities in which guests could try their hand at surgery simulation or meet Hope, Doernbecher’s new hospital facility dog. Guests then headed to dinner, where OHSU President Joe Robertson, Jr., M.D., M.B.A. addressed the crowd before Governor Kate Brown took the stage to thank everyone for supporting Doernbecher. The live auction included many one-of-a-kind packages such as a hand-painted Vespa, dinner with Cheryl Strayed and a week-long stay in a Cabo San Lucas penthouse. The highlight of the evening came when 7-year-old Lauranne Ackelson shared her cancer survival story. She was happy to report that her blood work was clear after her recent visit to Doernbecher.
From left: Doernbecher Foundation board member Mike Hagel and his wife Shawn; board member Terry Porter; George and Monica Hosfield, Patricia Fisher Robertson and OHSU School of Medicine Dean Mark Richardson, M.D., M.B.A.

Below left: OHSU President Joe Robertson, M.D., M.B.A., introduces Governor Kate Brown. Below right: Shine Children’s Chorus welcomes guests.
A grand Grimm evening

The cast of the popular television series *Grimm* hosted a gala auction in February that raised more than $300,000 for Doernbecher. The sold-out Grimm Gala brought more than 300 Doernbecher supporters and volunteers to the Exchange Ballroom for an evening with the stars and crew of the NBC fantasy drama set in Portland. The gala benefitted the newly established Grimmster Endowment, a financial assistance fund for Doernbecher patients and families who need help with medical expenses, travel, lodging and other services.

“Over the past few years, my fellow cast and crew members and I have fallen in love with the city. Since Portland has given us so much, we wanted to give something back,” said Grimm star Sasha Roiz, who plays Captain Sean Renard. “The cast visited Doernbecher not long after coming to Portland, and we were moved by the families, kids and everything the hospital does to ensure patients receive the best possible care in a supportive, family-centered environment.”

Speakers included Dana Braner, M.D., and 10-year-old patient Jake Dering, whose rousing and humorous remarks got the crowd fired up to bid. Among the notable items on the auction block was a one-of-a-kind pair of Nike Rosche boots designed by Nike’s Tinker Hatfield, vice president of creative concepts. The red leather boots were graced with laser images of five Wesens – the shape-shifting supernatural villains at the center of Grimm’s storyline.

The event was underwritten by Comcast and NBCUniversal. In-kind donors included Nike, Vinum Importing, Old Town Brewing, B&B Print Source and the Grimm production team, who handled the gala design and set-up.

14th annual 99.5 The Wolf Radiothon a howling success

The 2014 “Hunt for a Cure” Radiothon was a huge success, raising $299,147 for Doernbecher. That incredible number would not have been possible without an all-out effort from Wolf radio personalities and their loyal listeners. Over the last 14 years, the radiothon has raised $4,812,184 for Doernbecher.
Tillamook High School: First in class

When it comes to raising money for Doernbecher kids, Tillamook High School students are in a class by themselves. This year, after 20 years of silent auctions, walk-a-thons, donkey basketball games, car washes and other high-energy fundraisers, Tillamook became the first high school to surpass $1 million in cumulative giving to Doernbecher through the Kids Making Miracles program. The school’s annual Charity Drive has been raising big bucks every year since 1993, with a total this year of more than $80,700. Students and members of the surrounding community rally behind the program each year, with a bit of healthy competition between classes helping to fuel the excitement. Participants and families celebrated their million-dollar milestone over cupcakes at this year’s Charity Drive Coronation.

Outstanding individuals

Doernbecher Children’s Hospital Foundation board member Kate McCoy and her husband, Craig, pledged $1 million to Doernbecher in support of the Knight Cancer Challenge. The gift will help establish the Kate and Craig McCoy Professorship in Pediatric Oncology. The McCoys also committed $50,000 to establish the Hope Fund at the Doernbecher Foundation, which helps support Doernbecher’s new full-time hospital facility dog (see story on page 5).

Bill Blount has been a champion for sick kids at Doernbecher since 1961, when he became involved with the Doernbecher Guild. He went on to serve on the Doernbecher Children’s Hospital Foundation board from 1966 to 1989, and his commitment to Doernbecher continues. This year Bill made a $1 million gift to establish the Nancy Jaggar Blount Professorship in Pediatric Oncology, in memory of his late wife Nancy (pictured with Bill). In addition to helping us meet the Knight Cancer Challenge, his gift will enhance Doernbecher’s ability to recruit the nation’s most accomplished and innovative pediatric oncologists.

Steve and Lynn Pratt made a $250,000 commitment to Doernbecher’s Division of Neonatology. The Pratt Fellowship and Excellence in Neonatology Fund will support fellows at a critical point of specialized education and professional development in neonatology. It will also allow Doernbecher to invest in areas that show promise in improving neonatal care and outcomes.

The estate of Rozanne Morgan Van Zyl of Tigard provided $66,000 to Doernbecher’s Area of Greatest Need fund. Generous unrestricted gifts such as this one allow Doernbecher to allocate resources where and when they are needed most. Rozanne spent her professional career helping children, working at the Kerr Center for Handicapped Children, Oregon School for the Blind, Mountain Park Pre-School and Edgefield Children’s Center.
Golfing for Doernbecher

In 2014, Doernbecher was one of several lucky beneficiaries of the first WinCo Foods Portland Open golf tournament presented by Kraft and supported by Nabisco and others. Ticket sales and donations yielded more than $22,000 for Doernbecher. The second annual WinCo Foods Portland Open will take place this summer at the Witch Hollow course at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club, host site of Tiger Woods’ historic U.S. Amateur “three-peat” and several other national championships. Mark your calendar for August 24-30, 2015. Visit www.wincofoodsportlandopen.com for more details. The competition will be fierce as 25 PGA TOUR cards will be on the line.

Charter Mechanical Employees step up to the Knight Cancer Challenge

Charter Mechanical and its employees donated more than $75,000 to Doernbecher in December. The gift was a result of an annual employee giving campaign, which included a company match. Charter Mechanical directed its gift to the 17th Annual Heart of Doernbecher auction as a matching gift to inspire additional gifts at the event.

Miracle Aisles supports diabetes care for children and adults

Miracle Aisles is entering its 28th year of fundraising for Doernbecher. Since its inception, the program has raised more than $3 million for the hospital, thanks to the generous support of our partners in the grocery industry. Money raised for the 2015 Miracle Aisles program will support the Harold Schnitzer Diabetes Health Center at OHSU. The diabetes center treats children and adults with diabetes, trains current and future diabetes specialists and provides resources that improve the standard of care for diabetes patients across Oregon and southwest Washington.

You can join us in supporting this wonderful program by purchasing tagged items in participating grocery stores across Oregon and southwest Washington from September 1 to October 15. When you purchase these items you are supporting the kids at Doernbecher.
Credit Unions for Kids goes all out for Doernbecher

In May, Credit Unions for Kids committed $3 million to create an endowed fund for pediatric cancer clinical trials research at Doernbecher. Many of the treatments we use today were proven safe and effective through clinical trials in the past. By expanding our ability to test the safety and efficacy of new drugs and therapies, Doernbecher can provide future generations of children with the best possible options.

From 2010 to 2012, Credit Unions for Kids raised $1.1 million in support of the neonatal intensive care unit at Doernbecher, allowing Doernbecher to invest in our finest faculty. In March, Dean Mark Richardson appointed Robert Schelonka, M.D., to the Credit Unions for Kids Professorship in Neonatology. Dr. Schelonka joined OHSU in 2009 and is professor of pediatrics and head of the neonatology division.

“I’m humbled and honored by this prestigious award,” said Dr. Schelonka. “The babies and families we care for don’t have a strong voice. Credit Unions for Kids heard that and came through in a big way. I accept this professorship on behalf of the over 1,000 critically ill babies we care for each year.”

To date, Credit Unions for Kids has raised more than $12 million for Doernbecher and we could not be more thankful for this partnership.
The Doernbecher Children’s Hospital Foundation welcomes six outstanding new and returning members to its board of directors.

**Brittany H. Conant**  
Community volunteer  
Lake Oswego, Ore.

**Ronald L. Graybeal**  
Managing director, Brown and Brown  
Portland, Ore.

**Michael P. Hagel**  
Community volunteer  
Lake Oswego, Ore.

**Terry Porter**  
Retired NBA player  
Portland Trail Blazers ambassador  
Portland, Ore.

**Sasha Roiz**  
Actor, NBC series Grimm  
Portland, Ore.

**Candace D. Young, Ph.D.**  
Clinical psychologist  
Vancouver, Wash.
Doernbecher earns top rankings with U.S. News & World Report for sixth consecutive year

For the sixth year in a row, Doernbecher ranks among the best children’s hospitals in the United States, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2015-16 Best Children’s Hospitals.

We received recognition in the following pediatric specialties:

- 27th in Cancer
- 49th in Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- 31st in Neonatology
- 25th in Nephrology
- 34th in Neurology & Neurosurgery
- 40th in Pulmonology
- 49th in Urology

“This consistent national recognition is a testament to the extraordinary care provided by OHSU Doernbecher physicians, nurses and staff,” said Jodi Coombs, R.N., M.B.A., vice president for Women’s & Children’s Services, OHSU Doernbecher Children’s Hospital. “It is important that families have complete confidence in their pediatric care, and we are proud to be able to provide this comfort across Oregon, southwest Washington and beyond.”

Since it first applied for consideration in 2009, Doernbecher remains the only medical center in Oregon whose pediatric specialties meet U.S. News’ criteria for:

- Level and quality of hospital resources, including staffing, technology and special services.
- Delivery of care, such as reputation among pediatric specialists, programs that prevent infections and adherence to best practices.
- Clinical outcomes, including patient survival infection rates and complications.

U.S. News introduced the Best Children’s Hospitals rankings in 2007 to help families of sick children find the best medical care available. The rankings offer families an exclusive look at quality-related information at the individual hospital level.
Thank you

Your gifts help Doernbecher provide exceptional care to children, train a new generation of caregivers and find new cures. For more information about supporting Doernbecher or including Doernbecher in your will, please contact us at 503-294-7101 or visit www.doernbecherfoundation.org.

Doernbecher has treated Freestyle XI designer Addie Peterson as an infant, a toddler, a new student and a pre-teen. Now as a teen, her doctors and other caregivers are slowly preparing her for life as an adult cystic fibrosis patient.

“Doernbecher does a great job encouraging their patients to live life to the fullest. And as she gets older, they empower our daughter to make her own decisions.”

— Jennifer Peterson (Addie’s mom)