

A Report on the Impact of Your Generosity RYAN DONALD BASILE MEMORIAL **FUND FOR NICU FAMILIES IN NEED**

Thank you for supporting the Ryan Donald **Basile Memorial Fund for NICU Families**

in Need. This fund helps financially vulnerable families face the challenges of an extended NICU hospitalization and helps prepare them to care for their babies once they return home. You have made it possible for Holy Cross Health to meet these families' needs when they have nowhere else to turn.

IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY

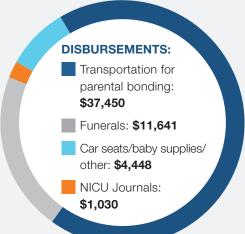
2022 numbers

Funds Raised: more than

Philanthropic Partners 96

Gifts 158

\$47,000



"We gave one mom a prepaid phone. She couldn't pay for her cellphone service and could only get WhatsApp or emails," said Sipi Hawk, a NICU social worker. "Our neonatologists update families daily but were unable to call this mom. Through this fund, we were able to get her a prepaid phone so she could get daily updates."

HELPING PARENTS BE PARENTS— THE LEGACY OF RYAN BASILE



The NICU team is a family all unto its own. And when something happens to a member of this family—social workers, nurses, doctors, administrators—they unite to provide whatever is needed for support and healing.

In this family are two physicians who have worked closely with Susan Basile, Nurse Practitioner in the NICU, for more than 30 years, and have been

championing the Ryan Basile Memorial Fund: Sharon C. Kiernan, MD, who has served in the NICU since 1994, and Matthew B. Picard, MD, who began in 1996.

Drs. Kiernan and Picard expressed that this is a tangible way to demonstrate their love and respect for Ryan and his family. "The fund is important in trying to start an infant's life on the right footing, with parental involvement, parental bonding and care," says Dr. Picard.

Most of the fund goes to helping parents be in the NICU or be available to participate in their child's care—be that a phone or Uber gift card.

"The fund enables parents to be more present for their babies in the NICU which enhances the parental experience," says Dr. Kiernan. "You're helping families. It's different from contributing to an MRI machine, which is also important but has a

different individual impact."

Enabling parents to be present is crucial to the babies' health. Dr. Picard notes that medical studies have proven that parental involvement in child's care right from the beginning, on day zero, will improve long-term outcomes. "So you're contributing to improved outcomes, neurodevelopmental and survival," he says.

A Member of Trinity Health



Sharon Kiernan.



Matthew Bruce Picard. MD, Neonatologist MD, Neonatologist





MORE THAN \$25,000 RAISED

to honor the retirement of long-time neonatologist Dr. Janel Hino

In celebration of her retirement as chief of neonatology at Holy Cross Hospital, Dr. Janel Hino asked her friends and colleagues to donate to the Ryan Donald Basile Memorial Fund for NICU Families in Need. She had a modest goal of \$2,400—\$100 to celebrate each of her 24 years of service to Holy Cross. Once donations reached \$2,400, she promised to match that amount as a retirement gift to herself.

Dr. Hino reached her goal. In fact, gifts to the fund in her honor total more than \$25.000!

"It struck me that this is what people in the NICU do. We support our NICU families in times of need, in times of stress," Dr. Hino says. Many times, families who had a baby in the NICU ask how they can help. Contributing to this fund is a perfect way to give back, she says.

"Gifts to this fund go 100% to our families who struggle with the unexpected expenses of a long NICU stay," says Dr. Hino. "We use it to buy car seats, formula and clothing. One of the biggest uses is to buy Uber cards, allowing mothers with no transportation to get to the hospital and be with their babies. And when a baby is unable to survive, the fund covers burial and cremation expenses to help bring closure for grieving families."

She says she has loved her career at Holy Cross and has worked with the most caring and dedicated people. Together, they have taken care of thousands of babies and their families.



Janel Kelly Hino, MD, Neonatologist

"Recently, I was at the birth of the daughter of one of my first patients," she says. "The circle was complete; it was a good time to retire. I look forward to the next chapter of my life which will include staying active with the Basile Fund and working a few shifts here and there – I'm not quite ready to give up taking care of babies!"

If you would like to start a fundraiser in honor of a loved one or in recognition of our NICU staff, please contact Eric Miller at Eric.Miller@holycrosshealth.org or (301) 754-7101.

Holy Cross Health Tiny Baby Program



Low-birth weight babies and micro preemies—tiny babies—are our most vulnerable population. The smallest tiny baby to survive at Holy Cross Health was born at only 280 grams, less than a can of soup. The Holy Cross Health Tiny Baby Program provides ongoing critical care training for doctors, nurses and all NICU staff to ensure the best possible outcome for NICU babies and their families.

And the impact is phenomenal.

The Tiny Baby Program provides care for the many underserved, uninsured, immigrant and under-insured local families who otherwise would not have access to quality health care. Holy Cross addresses healthcare disparities head-on by offering a network of support to treat the whole family like the Ryan Donald Basile Memorial Fund. The program also helps to lessen the economic strain on families by being a one-stop-shop of trained staff, physicians and team members who are educated and skilled at providing critical care. When the unexpected happens, families know that they are in the best possible place for care for their tiny baby.

ABOUT THE HOLY CROSS HEALTH FOUNDATION: A 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, the Holy Cross Health Foundation exists to improve the health of our community through the generosity of our patients and families, colleagues, community members, foundations and corporations. Your partnership enables us to continue providing equitable care to our most vulnerable patients and their families. *For more information, please visit HolyCrossHealth.org/Donate or call us at 301-557-GIVE (4483).*



