

Strike down barriers to health care!

Our first fundraising event was a huge success



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If you were not among the 165 people who attended our **STRIKE! Down Barriers to Health Care** event on October 9, know that we missed you! With tremendous thanks to all of our donors, including top King Pin sponsor, Cellnetix Pathology & Laboratories, we raised \$93,600!

Our evening was made special by our deputy executive director extraordinaire **Melissa Johnson**, celebrity emcee **Pat Cashman**, board president **Terri Rambosek** and our mission moment speakers **Jean MacKinnon** and **Lloyd Joynt**— both patients and friends of Project Access Northwest.

For more information or to donate (yes, there is still time to give!), please call, email or give online at: www.projectaccessnw.org.

For those unable to attend our event, my opening remarks are below:

The biggest honor I have as executive director of Project Access Northwest is working with an amazing group of volunteers and donors, a visionary board of directors and our team of 23 talented, committed and expert staff.

Because of their work, which each of you are supporting by your presence, more than 45,000 people served since our founding in 2006—roughly enough to fill every seat in Safeco Field—have already received access to health care.

Even with such an impressive number of people already reached, there is still much to be done to eliminate barriers to health care in our region.

In my 10-block walk to and from work, I interact with at least a dozen people each day that I believe to be homeless—people who I know are desperately asking and searching for the basic necessities, including—among other things—food, clothing, shelter and appropriate health care services.

That walk to and from work each day reminds me of growing up in Oregon and the struggles of poverty and homelessness that I experienced with my own family for the first 16 years of my life.

Fast forward to six years ago this month, my mother, still living in poverty, passed away after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. A year prior to her diagnosis, she felt something was wrong, but for many reasons, including a distrust of the health care system and lack of care coordination, didn't receive the help she needed in finding appropriate services that could have slowed her disease or even saved her life.

So, for those who are living in poverty, or who are on the edge of homelessness, or for those who for whatever reason may not be working or able to work, who have lost their insurance or not have access to the health care they need, this work that we do is personal.

Project Access Northwest is part of the critical safety net in the communities we serve that strives to ensure that unmet health needs aren't leaving people vulnerable to long-term issues, hunger or homelessness.

In short, we strike down barriers that people in King, Kitsap and Snohomish counties face accessing health care.



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A night out in support of
Project Access Northwest

We raised \$93,600 at our fundraising event, with the help of our 165 guests, in-kind donors and generous sponsors. Guests mingled and munched on delicious appetizers, played pool, bowled enthusiastically and then raised the paddle for a good cause—raising enough to serve 288 patients!*

1. Gary Renville, executive director of Project Access Northwest, and Kathleen Fondren, chief executive officer of our King Pin Sponsor Cellnetix, were among the featured speakers.
2. Patient Lloyd Joynt created a painting at the event, purchased by Tim and Carol Marsh after an exciting bidding war with Penny Edlund.
3. Penny Edlund received a one-of-a-kind illustration from Lloyd in appreciation of her bidding.
4. Celebrity emcee Pat Cashman enjoyed meeting our patient Jean MacKinnon.
5. Shannon Scott won the wine raffle!
6. Board President Terri Rambosek encouraged guests to give generously.
7. A small number of Project Access Northwest staff gathered for a quick photo at the end of their triumphant night.

* Based on our average care coordination cost of \$325 per patient

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Give thanks. Then give back.

Remember us on Giving Tuesday: November 27, 2018.

STAFF UPDATES: Welcome new staff members



Carla Wagner
Care Coordinator



Rachel Agamalian
Care Coordinator



Shanita Johnson-White
Care Coordinator



Yesenia Ramos
Care Coordinator

Project Access Northwest is hiring

If you're interested in stronger, healthier communities and doing your part to care for your neighbors in need, working at Project Access Northwest can be very rewarding! You'll be part of a great team of problem solvers and innovative thinkers.

We are currently hiring for two positions in our Health Home program.

Learn more about our available positions at: www.projectaccessnw.org

This newsletter is published by:



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OUR MISSION

Project Access Northwest collaborates with the health care community to open doors to medical and dental care for low-income individuals with limited access.

We invite your comments and questions.

Visit www.projectaccessnw.org to learn more.