Fall Impact Report

2026



Dr. O'Dell shares books with patients through the Reach Out & Read Program, which is supported by the Parkview Health Foundation

PARKVIEW HEALTH FOUNDATION

Elevating care and innovation through philanthropy

Our Fall Impact Report offers a glimpse into how the Parkview Health Foundation is helping elevate health across the communities we serve. While these stories highlight the exceptional care, innovation, and compassion taking place throughout Parkview, the programs, services, and advancements featured in these pages are strengthened by philanthropic support made possible through our generous donors.

Philanthropy at Parkview serves as a catalyst for both access and innovation. By partnering with clinical leaders, we help advance research, invest in state-of-the-art technology, and create new ways to support patients and families. Our approach is simple: provide meaningful moments of comfort, encouragement, and joy today while investing in transformative initiatives, such as Precision Health, that will shape the future of medicine.

Thank you to the donors who have believed in Parkview for decades and continue to make this work possible. Together, we are improving lives today while advancing the bold ideas that will define the future of healthcare in our region.

Sincerely,

Denise Andorfer
Director, Parkview Health Foundation



Denise Andorfer
Director, Parkview
Health Foundation

PARKVIEW
HEALTH FOUNDATION

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Repairing the world: The Joe and Audrey Gerson Foundation

When Joe Gerson was a young boy growing up in a Brooklyn Hebrew orphanage in the 1930s, he felt the kindness of strangers who treated the children on winter holidays to a cup of hot cocoa and warm hats and mittens. This would fuel Joe's passion for philanthropy based on the Jewish saying *tikkun olam*, meaning to repair the world. Both Joe and his wife, Audrey, were big believers in this. Even as a young couple who didn't have much, they both volunteered for community causes, and Audrey knitted for area hospitals. They taught their children, including daughter Rhonda, to set aside one-third of any money they received or earned to help repair the world.

In 1964, Joe founded Gerson International, a successful automotive export management company, which allowed him and Audrey to help their community in various ways. Joe was passionate about feeding the hungry and was an avid volunteer handing out food for the Community Harvest Food Bank.

In 1977, when Rhonda's son was born via cesarean section at Parkview Randallia, he was placed in the pediatric intensive care unit (ICU). This was the Gersons' first experience at Parkview, but the excellent care ignited a gift to the ICU. Their beloved pediatrician, Dr. Donald Hoffman, formed a strong relationship with the family that lasted many years to come—as did the Gersons' support for Parkview pediatrics.

In his later years, Joe experienced cardiac health challenges that brought him to see a young Dr. Michael Mirro. The care and relationship flourished, and Joe never forgot how Dr. Mirro used his expertise to diagnose him and ultimately save his life.



Joe and Audrey Gerson in New York in 1948

After forming the Valiant Foundation in 1987, which was a lifelong vision for Joe, he and Audrey were certain they wanted to support the work of Parkview and Dr. Mirro. Rhonda remembers when they gave hours of thought to their first gift of $200 to the community. When the Mirro Center was built, in 2016, the family's foundation was there to support it. Joe passed in 2005, but Audrey and Rhonda then helped steer the philanthropic donations and connected again with the Parkview Health Foundation, to support the research being done at the Mirro Center.

In 2022, Rhonda found herself needing care for Audrey. She contacted Denise Andorfer, director of the Parkview Health Foundation, for assistance. Denise alerted Dr. Mirro, who reached out to a physician to see Audrey on short notice. Grateful for the swift action, Audrey and Rhonda awarded Denise, Dr. Mirro, and Audrey's physician with the Guardian Angel Award.

The Valiant Foundation is now doing business as the Audrey and Joe Gerson Foundation, through which the kindness Joe experienced as a child continues to ripple outward, supporting others and carrying his and Audrey's lifelong commitment to future generations through *tikkun olam*.





Care as unique as us

No two patients are alike. Everyone's health histories, families, and genes all tell a different story. Precision Health helps turn those unique stories into solutions, giving patients and their physicians helpful information they can use to make care truly personal, identify risks earlier, and choose treatments with greater confidence.

Behind every result is a team of genomic scientists, project coordinators, and specialized clinicians, all working together to connect scientific discovery with patient care. By piecing together genomic profiles, family histories, and molecular biomarkers, the team can create a highly customized care plan for each patient. This all means better, more personalized care is being delivered across the Parkview footprint every day, bringing new hope with it.

Key pillars of Precision Health

- DNA Insights population health: Parkview's flagship population genomics program offers screening to community members to identify hereditary risks for cardiovascular disease and cancers before symptoms manifest.
- Molecular oncology: Collaborating closely with clinical oncology teams, Precision Health evaluates complex tumor profiling to identify targeted therapies, resistance mechanisms, and novel clinical trial options for cancer patients.
- Genomic data and research: The Precision Health team ensures accuracy and accessibility of genomic result data for Parkview clinicians. The team also oversees all genomic research initiatives for the health system.

THE PARKVIEW HEALTH FOUNDATION

Philanthropic support directed through the foundation helps make this important work possible by allowing Parkview to launch pilot research projects, invest in specialized clinical data technologies, and offer genetic screening to people who face access barriers, ensuring that all members of our communities can benefit from this lifechanging medicine.

One example of this work is the ongoing clinical research on cancer-related cognitive impairment (CRCI), commonly referred to as chemo brain. Chemo brain affects a significant portion of cancer survivors, manifesting as memory lapses, difficulty concentrating, reduced processing speed, and executive function challenges. Despite its prevalence and profound impact on daily life, it remains incompletely understood. We're proud to be supporting research that's working toward a solution to treating this condition so that cancer survivors can feel more like themselves once again.

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"The partnership between Parkview's Precision Health team and the Parkview Health Foundation demonstrates how philanthropy and cutting-edge science come together to create transformative community health outcomes. By combining advanced genomic insights with clinical care and dedicated research, Parkview is not only treating illness—we are predicting risk, preventing disease, and restoring hope for cancer survivors and families across our region."

—Emily Powell
Principal Scientist and Manager
Precision Health

PARTICIPATE IN DNA INSIGHTS

As we mark one year of the DNA Insights program and celebrate over 30,000 individuals participating, we want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this screening opportunity that offers valuable, proactive health insights for you and your family. Anyone age 18 and over is eligible to participate regardless of whether they work for Parkview or reside in our region, so please feel free to share widely with your friends and family.

PARKVIEW DNA INSIGHTS



Making sure that care is within reach

Getting to a medical appointment shouldn't stand between a patient and the care they need. With support from the Fifth Third Foundation Access to Care initiative, the Parkview Health Foundation is helping remove transportation barriers for patients across our region.

Through a partnership with Uber Health and the Women's and Children's Hospital, expectant mothers and families of medically complex pediatric patients who don't have reliable transportation can now get to crucial appointments. For these patients and families, something as simple as a ride can mean one less worry during an already challenging time.

This isn't a one-size-fits-all approach, though. In our rural communities, Uber is not readily available, so Parkview has worked with local transit organizations to find other options. And for some of our Parkview Behavioral Health patients, riding with a stranger can be scary. That's why in May a strategy was launched allowing several case managers to transport their patients to intensive outpatient program sessions and attend with them. Having someone they know and trust beside them can be the difference between missing care and getting to the help they need.

This is about more than just rides to appointments. It's about breaking down barriers, building trust, and instilling hope in patients around our region—and it's made possible because of generous donors.

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"Many social drivers of health are difficult to navigate and improve quickly but the Foundation's help for funding of transportation needs provides immediate support and breaks down this significant barrier to care. The gift of transportation creates equitable access to health care. As a navigator, every ride is a success and brings a feeling of being able to care for patients in a meaningful way! Thank you for making this possible!"

—Karen Greuter, BSN, RN
Supervisor of Women's and Children's Outreach Services



IMPACT AT A GLANCE

296 Uber Health rides (average cost of $20 per trip)

19 Behavioral health rides with case managers

13 Rural access rides

Bringing mental health care closer to home

On a warm late-June day, Noble County began providing mental health services to their community through the opening of Park Center Kendallville. While residents could travel to other Parkview facilities to receive these services, having them closer to home means greater convenience and more people seeking the care they need.

The clinic currently focuses on youth and adult mental health, including care for anxiety, depression, PTSD, bipolar disorder, ADHD, and seasonal affective disorder. Services include assessment, therapy, individual and family counseling, medication evaluation and management, nursing services, and case management. In September, the clinic began offering assessment and treatment for substance use disorder, with the overall goal of providing outpatient care focused on healthy coping skills, self-worth, relationship rebuilding, and moving forward.

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"Every individual deserves timely access to compassionate, high-quality care, and this expansion allows us to strengthen support for individuals and families who have historically faced barriers to treatment. We are proud to partner with the community to ensure that mental health services are accessible, responsive, and rooted in hope and recovery."

—Laura Murphy, LMHC, MHA, FACHE
Director of Clinical Services
Parkview Behavioral Health Institute

Thanks to funding support from donors through the Parkview Health Foundation, the 1,680-square-foot space has been renovated, furnished, and decorated to provide a calm, welcoming environment where patients can seek the support they need for a more hopeful future.





Bringing lifesaving blood closer to rural patients

In an emergency, every second matters, especially for patients experiencing severe blood loss. That's why Parkview EMS crews in Noble and LaGrange Counties are now using blood product coolers and QinFlow Warrior Lite warmers.

This addition of blood product coolers and QinFlow Warrior Lite warmers has changed everything. This new equipment allows properly trained paramedics to carry, safely store, and administer blood products in the field, bringing lifesaving treatment to patients during some of the most critical moments of care. It also gives paramedics another tool to stabilize patients with blood loss while they are still en route to definitive care.

For rural patients, where distance can add precious minutes to an emergency response, that can make a meaningful difference. By equipping community paramedics with the technology and training to begin blood transfusions earlier, patients are getting lifesaving treatment sooner than ever before.

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"Since implementing this new protocol as of May 18, 2026, crews have already administered blood to five patients in the field—demonstrating its immediate positive impact."

—Kaitlyn Taulbee
EMS Supervisor

Removing barriers to accessing healthy foods

Eating fresh produce can make a huge impact on overall health, but it's not always easily accessible. It can be cost prohibitive, and for some, it can be confusing to determine what to eat and how to prepare it. That's where VeggieRx comes in. It's a produce prescription program proven to boost fruit and vegetable consumption by providing eligible participants with a monthly stipend of $50 in fresh produce for six months and access to four nutrition education sessions with Parkview registered dietitians. And it's making a noticeable impact in our communities, like Wabash.

August 1 marked two years since Parkview Wabash began offering Veggie Rx to local community members. Since then, 128 residents have enrolled in the program, redeeming over $25,000 in nutrition incentive dollars, supporting both healthy eating and local businesses. For Wabash in particular, local redemption with fresh produce farmers like Berry Hill Farm, Cordes Berry Farm, and those who vend at the Downtown Wabash Farmers Market is encouraged, which is a huge support for local farmers. This program has seen such success that access has been expanded to low-income and underserved residents of Wabash County by accepting referrals from the 85 Hope Clinic. And to support lasting healthy lifestyle changes, VeggieRx now offers a six-month YMCA membership to participants who complete all four nutrition education sessions through support from the Haldermann Wellness Fund.



For Wabash residents, VeggieRx is about more than making fresh foods easily accessible—it's about empowering people to make healthy changes that can have a real impact on their health and well-being. It's power through knowledge. And it's hope through feeling and seeing the difference simple changes can make.



YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"VeggieRx has created a space for our participants to become confident, and create long-term change within themselves and their families. Recent participants have included twin teenage boys who mentioned they had salads almost every day during the program. Others have messaged asking to confirm continuation of the program for others in the community. We have seen self-reported health improvements from participants stating that they have lost weight, feel better, and got the chance to try produce items they have never tried before."

—Kailey Canary
VeggieRx Project Coordinator

IMPACT AT A GLANCE*

- **50%** **Decrease** in emergency department visits, creating a 73.2% decrease in costs
- **13.6%** **Decrease** in total healthcare costs
- **5.5%** **Group mean weight loss** (14.3 pounds)
- **3 PT** **Decrease** in group mean blood pressure readings

*Data from 2024, 28-participcant cohort

Helping new moms and their babies thrive

The birth of a new baby comes with so many exciting experiences, and every mother deserves the support she needs to give her newborn a healthy start. One burden we don't want new mothers to carry is worrying about being able to provide adequate nutrition to their newborn. Parkview Logansport Family Birthing Center has seen many new mothers who want to breastfeed but may have difficulty because of latching, separation from their baby, or other medical circumstances. While many patients can obtain a breast pump through their insurance, others have no coverage or a plan that won't provide one. That's where the Parkview Health Foundation stepped in.

With this support, Parkview Logansport Family Birthing Center now has the ability to provide breast pumps and other supplies to patients in need. These tools provide the support to allow mothers to continue to be successful with breastfeeding after discharge, maintain adequate milk supply, and provide optimal nutrition for their infant.

While a breast pump may feel like a small gesture, it means so much to that mother in need who no longer has to worry about the barriers to giving her newborn the nutrition she wants them to have.



YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

"Through the donation from the Parkview Foundation, our lactation department has been able to purchase manual pumps and other breastfeeding supplies that may be needed to help our moms get off to a successful start with their breastfeeding journey. Breast milk is optimal nutrition and very beneficial in so many ways. Having these tools available to moms in need has been such a huge help and we are very grateful."

—Amanda Zarse, RN, CLC
Lactation Consultant

Spreading stroke awareness and education through our communities

Almost everyone knows someone whose life has been impacted by a stroke. It may be a parent, grandparent, spouse, friend, co-worker, or neighbor. A stroke can happen without warning and change a life forever. Yet many strokes can be prevented, and when people recognize the warning signs and call 911 immediately, outcomes can be dramatically improved.

That is why the Parkview Neurosciences Outreach team brings stroke education directly into the communities we serve. Through health fairs, school visits, community events and educational programs, individuals learn their stroke risk factors, recognize warning signs and understand when to seek emergency care. Blood pressure screenings, stroke risk assessments, and one-on-one conversations help community members take action to protect their health and the health of their loved ones.

The team also prioritizes outreach in rural communities where access to health education and medical care may be limited. In 2026, outreach efforts included both the Amish Health Safety Fair and the TinCaps Strike Out Stroke event, where more than 8,000 people attended.

For stroke survivors and caregivers, the Parkview Neurosciences Outreach team hosts a monthly Stroke Survivors Support Group that provides education, practical resources, and encouragement focused on recovery, independence and hope.



Stroke survivor Rico *(left)* meets with Bryson, nurse practitioner

Every screening, educational event, support group meeting, and community conversation has the potential to change a life. Through the generous support of the Parkview Health Foundation, these programs continue to reach individuals before a stroke occurs, help families recognize symptoms faster, and provide support for survivors on their recovery journey. Your generosity helps bring stroke prevention, education, and support directly to the people who need it most, creating healthier communities and better outcomes across our region.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

32
Community events in 2026

11,500+
Attendees at stroke prevention events this year

8,000+
Attendees at Strike Out Stroke, with 1,300 individuals connecting with the Parkview Neurosciences Outreach Team

2,000
Attendees at the Amish Health Safety Fair

Monthly
Stroke Survivors Support Group for survivors and caregivers

Note: Statistics are current as of August 30.

The power of a grateful heart

Every day across Parkview, extraordinary moments of compassion unfold. A nurse who never leaves a patient's side. A physician who takes a little extra time. A therapist who inspires hope. These moments may seem small, but for the people experiencing them, they become unforgettable. The Guardian Angel Program was created to celebrate moments like these.

Through this program, patients, families, friends, and community members have the opportunity to recognize a Parkview co-worker who made a meaningful difference during their healthcare journey. When a Guardian Angel is recognized, the honored co-worker receives a personalized certificate, a Guardian Angel lapel pin, and, for qualifying gifts, is celebrated during a special pinning ceremony surrounded by colleagues, family, and Parkview Health Foundation staff.

Whether you've honored a Guardian Angel, been inspired by one, or are learning about the program for the first time, thank you for believing in the power of gratitude.

INTERESTED IN RECOGNIZING YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL?

If a Parkview co-worker made a lasting difference in your healthcare journey, we invite you to share your story and honor them through the Guardian Angel Program. Your tribute will celebrate exceptional care while helping advance healing for patients throughout our region.

Share your story through MyChart, via the QR code, or learn more by visiting **parkview.com/guardianangel**.



Healthy Communities Fund partners to improve well-being

Through the Healthy Communities Fund, Parkview Health Foundation partners with local organizations and businesses to address critical needs and improve access to resources that support the health and well-being of our residents. Together, these investments are creating meaningful change across the communities we're proud to serve.

$565,360*

Amount committed in 2026

OUR IMPACT

Intervening to overcome health disparities

Partnering with Alliance Health Centers to support urgent patient needs and increase access to care for high-risk prenatal patients

Partnering to serve our downtown Fort Wayne residents

Supporting the Clean and Safe Downtown Ambassador Program, which provides much needed hospitality and referral services by engaging with those who live, work, and play in downtown Fort Wayne

Taking action to address childhood food insecurity

- Providing weekly backpacks to address food insecurity for all Levan Scott Academy students
- Feeding 2,375 children over the summer in Whitley County through a community weekly food distribution program in partnership with United Way of Whitley and Kosciusko and the Community Foundation of Whitley County

*This amount is in addition to the $2.3 million to nonprofit organizations across northern Indiana and northwest Ohio, along with more than $1.2 million to Parkview's Community Nursing program focused on improving access to care for underserved populations through Parkview Health's Community Health Improvement grants.



Scan the QR code or visit **parkview.com/thegiftofcomfort** to learn more about Parkview hospice.

The gift of comfort

Making every moment matter is at the heart of hospice care. This means caring not only for patients but also for the people who love and support them. Philanthropic support helps make that care more personal. That's why this year, as part of the opening of the new supportive care unit on the Parkview Regional Medical Center campus, the Parkview Health Foundation has partnered with Parkview Hospice on a campaign to bring comfort, dignity, and meaningful moments to those entering hospice care.

The campaign offers four unique giving opportunities.

Memorial patient room
$10,000

This gift supports hospice programs and services such as music therapy, massage therapy, and other compassionate care initiatives that promote quality of life and help patients experience greater peace and well-being.

Family presence and bereavement
$5,000

This gift supports grief and bereavement services, helping families receive compassionate care guidance before and after the loss of a loved one.

Hospice comfort
$1,000

This gift supports resources centered on enhancing comfort, connection, and peace of mind for patients and families through all stages of the hospice journey.

Circle of compassion
Any amount

This gift supports the areas of greatest need within hospice care, helping provide bereavement meals, fulfill Everlasting Wishes, and meet the individual needs for patients and their loved ones.

Ways to give

Your generosity helps provide compassionate care, comfort, and hope to patients and families across our community. Whether you prefer to give a one-time gift or maximize your impact through tax-wise giving, every contribution strengthens the care delivered close to home.

Thank you

Without generous donors like you, these stories of hope and strength could never be told. Words can't adequality describe the profound impact of every dollar that is generously gifted to the Parkview Health Foundation, but we hope you'll see it with every interaction, every visit, and every moment you spend at Parkview Health.

Visit **parkview.com/waystogive** for more information on the following:

- Donor-advised fund (DAF)
- Qualified charitable distribution (QCD)
- Required minimum distribution (RMD)
- Gifts of appreciated stock
- One-time gift
- Recurring monthly giving
- Planned giving: leave a gift in your will

Gifts can also be mailed to the following address:

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Fort Wayne, IN 46845

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