

Women of Vision Grant Review 2022

MATERNITY

Program/Project: Special Care Nursery Infant Positioners

Amount of Request: \$1,850 **Impact:** 55-65 babies

Executive Summary: Babies born with pre-term or other conditions that may require medical monitoring may spend time in the Special Care Nursery. Due to the unique needs of these infants, additional positioning support may be required. Providing developmentally supportive positioning to these infants is imperative to meeting basic life goals such as eating and sleeping.

We would like to obtain two different supportive positioning devices: Fredrick T. Frog and Dandle PAL. This project would fund the purchase of (6) Frederick T. Frog devices with 150 disposable covers and a box of Wipeable dandle PAL positioning aids (10 per box) with 75 disposable covers.

See picture below



MATERNITY

Program/Project: Maternity Center Infant Bassinets

Total Project Cost: \$61,270 (\$3,829.40 per bassinet)

Executive Summary:

We are requesting funding as an investment in providing the Maternity Center with 16 new infant bassinets. Bassinets were last replaced in 2012. With ten years of use, some have fallen into a state of disrepair, while the remaining are well worn. Every infant delivered at Riverview Health requires the use of a bassinet for general safety. Infants use a bassinet for safe travel around our unit, as well as to

demonstrate safe sleep. At current, we have 13 bassinets remaining in the Maternity Center. We are asking for additional units due to the one that have broken, as well as the increase in deliveries we have seen. Over the past five years, we have seen an 11.9% increase in births. 646 infants were born at Riverview Health in 2021. We have received quotes on three bassinets, and although the Guardian are a slightly cheaper option, we are strongly considering the other two options: Stryker Nara and GE Halo. Guardian brand are a wood like finish and that is what we have currently, and they started looking bad after just a few years, so we would like to not go that route as to increase longevity in our equipment. Spec sheets and quotes for all three have been provided for your information.

We are asking for complete funding of \$50,176 to 61,270. We understand this is a large investment and this project may need to span across a few years. For example, if funding was spread across 3 years the total per year would be \$16,725.33 to 20,423.33. When considering partial funding over a set number of years, potential inflation must be factored into the decision. Our current quotes (attached) are only good for 90 days.

Benefits: State-of-the-art equipment will enable the baby to be cared for in a secure bassinet which is visible to the parents. This is an overall investment in the quality of services provided in the Maternity Center.

MATERNITY

Program/Project: Pregnancy and Infant Loss

Amount of Request: \$1,200

Impact: Number vary with losses. In 2021, Riverview Health had three almost full-term losses in a month and in another month 10 miscarriages. Prior to COVID: On average eight (8) people attend the monthly support group, and approximately 60-70 people attend either spring or fall memorial service.

Executive Summary:

Since we started this program several years ago, we have been able to provide an amazing number of services and support to the families of Riverview Health. We need funding to continue to provide support to the families in our community that are impacted by pregnancy and infant loss. Ways we have provided support in the past include mementos and photos that we are able to provide in memory of infants that have passed away due to stillbirth, ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, and neonatal death. We have also been able to provide literature and books that may help in healing during this time of loss. Funding is also used to provide two memorial services a year to those in the community that have suffered a pregnancy loss. One memorial service is held a year to those in the community that have suffered a pregnancy loss and one memorial service to honor all losses in the past year before 20 weeks gestation. This memorial is held at Crownland Cemetery. The second services are held in October, which is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance month. This service is a memorial for past patients and members in the community to come together and honor all pregnancy losses. Both services are well attended. With COVID being present for the past two years, we have not been able to hold in person meetings or ceremonies. For the past two years, we have provided yard signs to our patients that recognize Pregnancy and Infant Loss month in October. Additional funds are used to provide any comfort we can offer during our patients stay from toiletry items to food for families who often stay for hours at a patient's bedside.

Remaining Funding: To use the rest of the funds to purchase more educational and supportive reading materials to hand out to our patients and their families. We also had a successful bereavement

conference held in the fall where we offered education to our staff nurses, social workers, and chaplains. We had nurses from other departments in the hospital attend as well and we look forward to providing lunch and learn opportunities this year to our surgery staff, ER staff and staff from our OB/GYN offices. Some of our remaining money was intended to use for our ceremony's but due to COVID, those were cancelled. Support groups were also cancelled for most of 2021, which is why we have so much money remaining. We are asking for 1,200 to increase total budget to 3,000 for 2022.

Benefits: Support grieving parents and families

MATERNITY

Program/Project: Lactation Support, Sleep Sacks, Cart Seats, Period of Purple Crying

Amount of Request: \$11,160 **Impact:** 650 babies born each year at Riverview Health

Executive Summary:

Safe Sleep/Sleep Sacks: Many parents are not educated on the importance of safe sleep for their infants. They are unaware that loose blankets in a crib can be life threatening for an infant. The American Academy of Pediatrics warns against loose blankets in the crib and suggest the use of Sleep Sacks. Among the important recommendations is the acknowledgement of the vital role of hospital nurseries play in educating parents about Safe Infant Sleep at home. Paraphrasing these recommendations, they state: Newborn Nurseries in hospitals should model and implement safe sleep recommendations beginning at birth and well before anticipated discharge. We would like to not only use sleep sacks in the nursery to model behavior but give each family a sleep sack so they may practice safe sleep at home. We would also provide instructions/safe sleep tips brochure to stress the importance of using the sleep sack to reduce the risk of SUIDS. **(Request \$5,460)**

Period of Purple Crying Program: A statewide initiative continues to help reduce/prevent shaken baby syndrome. The National Center for Shaken Baby Syndrome has implemented the Period of Purple Crying Program in the United States and is currently working with hospitals in Indiana to implement the program. The program is focused towards providing education to new parents prior to discharge from the hospital after birth. The program provides a code that the patient uses on an app from the Period of Purple Crying. This gives specific details regarding normal crying in infants. **(Request \$1,300)**

Lactation Support Services: The Lactation support services at Riverview Health provides assessment, teaching and support for moms choosing to breastfeed their babies. Studies show that support from a certified Lactation Consultant increases the initiation and continuation rate of breastfeeding. Our services and support are available both in an inpatient and outpatient capacity for as long as the mom is nursing. The mission of this program is to provide personalized quality women's health care and education in a healing environment that supports, maintains, and restores the physical and emotional interests of our patients, families, and community. The funding from this grant makes it possible for the Maternity Center to ensure the exclusive breastfeeding is being supported and encouraged to better the health and wellbeing of the patients we serve. New this year we are requesting breastfeeding education bookmarks for parents. **(Request \$500)**

Donor Milk: By supporting and reaching out to the community we establish trust which leads to increased market strength and financial stability for Riverview Health. There have been several needs identified over the years. WOV funding helps provide education to families and donor milk to our infants who meet medical criteria, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. There has been an

increase in need for donor milk to meet the existing needs of our patients. On average spend \$250 per month on donor milk. **(Request \$3,000)**

Car Seats: There continues to be a need for families to receive car seats due to financial challenges. Riverview Health educates parents on car seat safety prior to discharge and ensures the infant are safely secured in appropriate car seats. Infants weighing less than five pounds need have different needs. **(Request \$500)**

Labor Support: Requesting Bluetooth speakers and labor positioning guides for patients. **(Request \$400)**

Benefits: Educate parents on the importance of safe sleep practices to reduce SUIDS, decrease shaken baby syndrome and educate parents about what is normal crying and continue to increase initiation and continuation of breast feeding. 646 babies were born in 2021 and the number is expected to increase.

REHAB AND FITNESS

Program/Project: Breast Cancer Survivor Fitness Program

Amount of Request: \$3,200 **Impact:** 24 Breast Cancer Survivors

Executive Summary:

The target population we will serve are breast cancer survivors and our goal will be to assist in closing the loop of care we offer. This exercise program would focus on helping women rebuild strength, flexibility, regain confidence and have support from other survivors and Exercise Specialists. Once survivors have undergone surgery and have been cleared to exercise, it is important to develop regular habits of doing exercises and maintaining mobility. Teaching proper form and technique when performing exercises will assist these women as they rebuild and continue to gain strength. Studies have shown that progressive strength training would be helpful for promoting health among survivors since they are a risk for diabetes, osteoporosis, fatigue, decreased quality of life and weight gain resulting from breast cancer treatment. We will provide a small group exercise program to 4-6 breast cancer survivors over a 13-week program that will meet twice weekly. The gym membership will be paid as part of this grant.

Benefits: The long-term goal is to build confidence in the survivors and continue their commitment to exercise and healthy living by creating a routine thus developing a habit and continuing a regimen once their program has ended. The Exercise Specialists will be dedicated to program development, direct contact with each participant, tracking progress on daily exercise logs and consistent communication with all enrolled program participants.

RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Program/Project: Breast Cancer Awareness Gifts

Amount of Request: \$1,500 **Impact:** 962 patients in 2019 and 969 in 2020 and 1073 patients in 2021.

Executive Summary:

We are asking for the funding to assist our department in purchasing thank you gifts through the month of October for our patient population who choose to get mammograms in October. The gifts to our

patients help to set us apart from our competition in the area and reinforce to our patients that they are all special to our facility. In the past the grant money has allowed us to reach more patients. We typically spend around \$2500 in the month of October to have special events to encourage patients to receive care. The small gift is a sign of our appreciation of our patients choosing Riverview Health. It has not been uncommon for a new patient to schedule with us because their neighbor or friend received a special bag or gift when they have come for their yearly appointment.

Benefits: To set us apart from other facilities in the area. Breast cancer awareness is advertised by all the local hospitals and outpatient clinics. These personalized gifts to our patients help to set us apart from others. We also put breast cancer materials and post-surgical pillows in these totes for our patients that are going forward with surgery after they leave the Bone and Breast center.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Program/Project: Touch of Love

Amount of Request: \$12,000 **Impact:** Over 650 births annually and reaching over 10,000 patients across the hospital.

Executive Summary:

The Touch of Love program is one of the essential programs that makes Riverview Health unique. Riverview Health provides the best care to our community and ensuring each patient's experience is personalized. This program is indicative of the tailored approach we take to make patients and their families feel special. Through the Touch of Love program every baby born at Riverview Health and pediatric patient receives a handmade blanket and/or a specialized bag of extra items they may need. This will include a couple of items of clothing, hats, shawls, and pillows. They also provide layettes (bibs, sleepers, blankets, socks, towels) to the patient if needed due to the lack of means. The program has expanded each year and is now covering pediatric surgeries, surgeries, the pastoral visits, and the infusion center. The program receives overwhelming gratitude from the community for their efforts.

Benefits: A better relationship with the patients and staff. We can serve our patients better by fulfilling some of their needs and making them somewhat more comfortable while they are here in the hospital. Impacting maternity center, Courtney Cox Cole Infusion Center, and outpatient surgery center.

WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE

Program/Project: Lymphedema/Compression Garments

Amount of Request: \$2,500 **Impact:** 40-45 Women

Executive Summary:

Lymphedema is a medical condition characterized by swelling in one or more extremities typically following cancer treatments especially for breast cancer. Once the lymph nodes are removed during treatment, the body's ability to remove fluid is compromised. Lymphedema is not only a cosmetic concern, but it can also increase the risk of infection and decrease the ability to use the extremity. Treatment for lymphedema includes the use of manual lymphatic drainage to increase activity in the lymphatic system and compression bandaging to decrease the size of the extremity. Following the completion of treatment, garments are used to maintain the size reduction obtained in therapy. Without

the garments, the swelling will once again increase. Insurance companies will cover the cost of therapy but will not always cover the cost of bandages or garments, so it is a 100% out of pocket expense for patients. The average cost for these compression garments is \$50 to \$1000. For many of our patients, this is a significant financial burden; The rehab gym will be sending the lymphedema to the boutique, so we incorporated the amount they ask for yearly. Outpatient Rehab has ample supplies and if needed will refer patients to the Women's Boutique.

Benefits: The goal of this program is to make sure that patient's undergoing lymphedema treatment at Riverview Rehab and Fitness or the Wound Center can afford compression garments to assist with long term control of this chronic condition. Success is dependent upon therapists identifying appropriate patients and the Women's Boutique staff assisting in ordering garments as needed.

WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE

Program/Project: Breast Cancer Post-Surgical Garments

Amount of Request: \$1,680 **Impact:** 25 women

Executive Summary:

Many women undergo breast surgery and have no post-surgery garment when leaving the hospital. After breast surgery, a woman is left with several tubes and drainage bulbs that simply hang from their body. This post-surgery garment is a soft cotton bra/camisole that not only allows a pocket to hold the drainage tubes and bulbs, but also has a soft puff where her breast is missing. Without this garment a woman is left pinning the post-surgery tubes and drains to her undergarments. In addition, these garments give the patient something to wear during the healing process as they cannot get fitted with a silicone prosthesis until at least 6 weeks after surgery. This also gives us a chance to educate women on future products/solutions available to them. Many times, women are not told about products available to them after recovery. I would like to continue to offer a post-surgery camisole, free of charge, to any women undergoing breast surgery using a Riverview Surgeon.

Benefits: No patient undergoing Breast Surgery, due to a cancer diagnosis, at Riverview Hospital will go without a post-surgery bra/camisole

WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE

Program/Project: Breast Prosthesis Program

Amount of Request: \$2,478 **Impact:** 12-24 women

Executive Summary:

There are many women in our community that have had a Mastectomy due to breast cancer but are uninsured or underinsured. Many of them can't afford a post mastectomy breast prosthesis or specially made bras to support the prosthesis. The Women's Boutique would like to provide women that have had a mastectomy AND show financial need with a free silicone breast prosthesis and bra. Approximately 4 silicone breast prosthesis per year at approximately \$300 each Approximately 18 bras per year at \$71 each.

Benefits: It is successful if we can provide ALL uninsured women with the necessary breast prosthesis and bras they need to look and feel their best and get back to a normal lifestyle.

WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE

Program/Project: Wig Program

Amount of Request: \$1,490 **Impact:** Approximately 7 wigs per year at \$170 each.
Approximately 15 hats/caps per year at an average of \$20

Executive Summary:

There are many women in our community that are undergoing chemotherapy due to cancer that will lose their hair. Many of them will not be able to afford a wig or head covering. The Women's Boutique would like to provide women that show financial need with a free wig or head covering (hat or cap). Currently, Medicare does NOT cover cranial prosthetics (wigs) for cancer patients.

Benefits: My hope is that every woman that loses their hair to chemotherapy has the option to get a wig even if they cannot afford one.

WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE

Program/Project: Breast Pumps

Amount of Request: \$2,280 **Impact:** 6 women

Executive Summary:

Under the Affordable Care Act, Women who give birth to a baby and wish to breast feed, are entitled to a breast pump through their insurance or Medicaid. Unfortunately, some mothers that are uninsured, and many insurance companies are only allowing manual pumps and some insurance policies do not cover because it was established before the Affordable Care Act was in place. It is very difficult for these mothers to continue to breast feed once they return to work without the help of an electric breast pump. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends breastfeeding for the first 6 months of a baby's life to help protect against childhood diseases and obesity.

Benefits: We would like every mother that wishes to breastfeed her newborn baby and needs a breast pump can obtain one regardless of financial situation

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Program/Project: Stronger than yesterday

Amount of Request: \$5,000 **Impact:** Improve overall well-being of our employees

Executive Summary:

We are requesting funding to increase access to physical activities, healthy food recipes, and encourage healthier lifestyles for Riverview employees. Increasing employee's physical activity can create a healthier workforce and increase employee productivity. Our target population is Riverview employees. Our employees reported through an anonymous employee satisfaction survey that access to the onsite employee gym is difficult due to limited hours and no childcare. We want to offer an online at home physical activity to employees with access to coaches who will offer advice, encouragement, and accountability check-ins. Access to coaches would allow employees to work out anytime and anywhere.

We think this program will appeal to women employees of Riverview Health. Historically, women engage in wellness activities and on a rare occasion a male may attend.

We are requesting \$5,000 for this project. Funds would cover 50% of the enrollment cost for a one-year subscription to an online fitness program that would include a coach, fitness tips, and accountability check-ins. The fund could also help cover the cost of the coaches to come on site and do in person workouts. Once the first quarter of membership has elapsed, it will be up to the employee to pay the remainder of the subscription.

Benefits: Improve overall well-being of Riverview Health employees through access to coaches and online workouts. The long-term goal is to get more employees physically active. We also want to create a culture of healthier living by giving people more options and ways to access workouts and healthy living tips. Anticipate impacting 50 employees during the first quarter