



Support for the Core of Care

Nurses provide transformative service—grateful patients and families, employees, and others recognize their contributions.

Today's health care environment is complex and fast-moving. Technology and science have brought remarkable medical advancements, but nothing can replace the human connection. Patients still need to feel seen and heard. To be involved in decision-making. To understand what's happening and what's to come. To know they are not alone.

Nurses spend more time at the patient's side than any other clinician, whether in a hospital or an outpatient setting. Shift to shift, nurses build the most comprehensive understanding of a patient's journey and are in a position to foster a level of connection that for many patients is transformative.

Charitable giving provides clear pathways for grateful patients and families, community members and local businesses, clinicians and staff to recognize nurses' professional contribution to health care and their equally valuable contribution to "human" care. These gifts provide immediate, mutual benefit; help drive continual advancements in best practices; and help shape the experience of tomorrow's patients.

Research, wellness, recognition and education are four pathways through which philanthropic investments are delivering proven impact for UVM Medical Center nurses. Following are a few of the funds providing financial resources in each pathway, along with the faces of their founding donors.



(Above) Milton Rosa-Ortiz, RN, devotes himself to the care of patients battling cancer



To learn more about empowering nurses through philanthropy

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RESEARCH

Leveraging nursing science to improve nursing practices, patient safety and care

The Felis Nurse Scholars Program Fund supports training in evidence-based practice and nurse-led research.

Founding donors:
Sandi and Ken Felis



WELLNESS

Initiatives uniquely tailored to support nurses' satisfaction, retention and well-being

The Sample Fund supports mentoring for recent UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences graduates assuming employment at the UVM Medical Center to assist with their transition into practice, improve retention and help mitigate obstacles.

Founding donor: **Sally Sample, RN**



RECOGNITION

Award programs that validate and celebrate exceptional care and leadership

The Riley Olson Critical Care Nursing Award annually recognizes a critical care nurse who consistently demonstrates excellence.

Founding donors:
Melinda and Mike White



EDUCATION

Advanced certification and degrees, skills training and professional development

The Ellen Seuss Evans Nurse Education Fund provides annual awards for nurses seeking enhanced training.

Founding donors:
John Evans and Josie Mercure