

WINTER 2024

KARA AND NAZARIAN'S PATIENT STORY

The Nascentia Health Charitable Foundation selected five families from our pediatric program to receive gifts this holiday season. Among these recipients was Nazarian, a resilient two-year-old who faced a challenging start to his life due to premature birth and significant developmental delays.



Nazarian is currently under the devoted care of three family members, his father and two uncles, who navigate the complexities of providing around-the-clock support.

The Charitable Foundation, with the help of Kara Foti, a dedicated speech language pathologist, stepped in to make a significant difference in Nazarian's life. Reflecting on the impact, Kara says, "the therapy equipment and toys directly benefited his progress and development." Kara's frequent visits have created a child-friendly and safe environment for Nazarian filled with essentials such as new bottles, food, toys, books, blankets, and a crawl pad. Kara has become an indispensable part of Nazarian's support system, creating a nurturing 'village' for him.



FOUNDATION CHAMPION

Kara Foti,
Speech Language
Pathologist



In Graduate school, I told myself "I will never be a speech therapist for kids."

Here is where I insert my foot in my mouth. I was hired at Nascentia Health seven years ago to work with the adult population, but when I was approached to also take on pediatrics, I agreed.

Today, I feel so lucky that I get to work with both populations. The pediatric team sucked me in before I even realized what was happening. They took me under their wing and showed me what it means to take home care to a higher standard of care. I witnessed the most admirable treatment and support not only for their patients, but for their families as well. I noticed nursing getting things for patients that were not covered under insurance, and when I inquired how they were able to get these items, they mentioned the Nascentia Health Charitable Foundation.

When you take on a pediatric patient, you also take on their family. I quickly observed how many of the families were without basic things that would help improve patient outcomes and overall quality of life. The Foundation has been such a generous support system in helping these families get what they need. I was lucky enough to have one of my families get picked for Christmas this past year. My patient received therapy equipment and toys that would be beneficial to his development. In just a few weeks, he has shown significant progress with all of his therapies, when otherwise, his family did not have the means to provide these tools.

The Foundation is invaluable. I feel so grateful that we have access to it, and that they work so hard to raise the funds so that we can continue to provide support for our patients in the community.



HOLIDAY GIVING

Thank you to everyone who purchased gifts through our giving tree, helped with our wrapping parties, and delivered gifts to make the holiday bright for these kids! Because of your generosity, we were able to give back to dozens of kids and their families.



A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR

by Rachel Galusha

2023 was a great year for the Nascentia Health Charitable Foundation! Raise a Glass was a wonderful success, raising \$130,000.



This year, the Foundation used funds to support the clinician staff with the implementation of “Katana Safety” devices. This safety program provides clinicians security in all types of situations that they may find themselves in, giving them immediate access to connect with law enforcement with a push of a button. Additionally,

Foundation dollars were used to support five families this holiday season, gifting them toys, clothing, and food to provide a magical holiday experience that would not have been possible without the support of the Foundation.

The Nascentia Health Charitable Foundation receives support from the community, Nascentia Health staff, and from our board members. We want to say “thank you” to all of you who supported the Foundation. We are making a difference!



Save the Date!

Oct. 6, 2024

Timber Banks Golf Club, Baldwinsville

(315) 477-9547

FOUNDATION@NASCENTIAHEALTH.ORG