



NEWSLETTER

EDITION
FALL 2025



At the starting line of the 3rd Annual Foundation's 5k (pg 2)

Letter from our Director...

Dear Friends,

While the beginning of autumn reminds us that our region's seasons are always changing, the work of the Foundations never really stops. In this issue, you'll hear about our 3rd Annual Community 5K Run and Walk, which happened in August. You'll hear about the students we're supporting through healthcare scholarships. You'll learn more about the celebration we'll be throwing local cancer survivors this October. Above all, you'll be reminded about the impact you're making on our community through your generosity to the Foundations.

Thank you for your support,

Adam Nowland, *Director*

UPMC Horizon Community Health Foundation

UPMC Jameson Health Care Foundation

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2025 UPMC Foundations **Community 5k**

The UPMC Horizon and Jameson Foundation recently hosted our 3rd Annual 5K Fundraiser at Westminster College, an important event dedicated to supporting local community health initiatives. Funds raised will help enhance critical Foundation programs designed to support UPMC Horizon and Jameson, local patients and community health.



This year, we raised over \$13,000 and had 179 participants registered, along with 12 dedicated volunteers who helped the day run smoothly.

Our top finishers ran exceptional times:

- Race Winner and 1st Place (Men): Raynen Jackson – 18:53
- 2nd Place (Men): John Erdesky V – 19:51
- 3rd Place (Men): Mike Garver – 20:26
- 1st Place (Women): Nicolette Devincentis – 22:12
- 2nd Place (Women): Kylee Lewis – 22:35
- 3rd Place (Women): Raeann Erdesky – 22:42



Notably, both Nicolette Devincentis and John Erdesky III also posted top times in last year's race demonstrating their consistent excellence. To honor their achievements, each winner received a cooler bag and YETI cup, along with gift cards generously donated by Vince's Family Shoes, Joseph's Marketplace, and Neal's Shoes. Age group winners were also recognized with prizes tailored to their categories.

We extend special thanks to our committee chairs, Adam Shrawder and Scott Graubard, who helped coordinate the event, as well as to our primary sponsors Walberg Family Pharmacies, UPMC, and the UPMC Rehabilitation Institute and the other sponsors who helped make the event such a success.



Congratulations **Scholarship Recipients**

The Foundations are proud to announce the recipients of several healthcare-focused scholarships for 2025.

The Dr. Edgardo Lob Memorial Cancer Care Fund is proud to honor Kyndra Seddon as the recipient of its 2025 scholarship, being selected from a very competitive pool of applicants. Kyndra is a 2025 graduate of Lakeview Area High School and is pursuing her degree in Physician Assistant Studies at Duquesne University.

The Kirk L. Works, M.D. Memorial Scholarship has awarded scholarships to Lily Bailey, Alexandria Marchetto, and Haley Pears. Lily is a 2025 graduate of Greenville High School and is studying Chemistry/Pre-Pharmacy at Slippery Rock University. Alexandria is a 2025 graduate of Sharpsville High School and is pursuing her degree in Biochemistry/Pre-Medicine at Carnegie Mellon University. Hailey is a 2025 graduate of Mercer High School and is studying at the University of Notre Dame, earning her degree in Physics-in-Medicine.

The UPMC Horizon Medical Staff Scholarship, established through the generosity of a group of local physicians, has selected four current medical students to receive the 2025 scholarship awards. This year's recipients include Dustin Moffett, a D.O. candidate at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Alina Nguyen, a D.O. candidate at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine at Seton Hill, Nicholas Viggiano, a D.O. candidate at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Emily Wood, a D.O. candidate at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The Foundations are also proud to support students at the UPMC Jameson School of Nursing in New Castle through the generosity of donor-funded scholarships. Four second-year students were selected to receive scholarships to support them as they complete their nursing degrees:

- The Victoria N. Price Memorial Scholarship is provided to a student demonstrating exceptional skill, dedication, and care for others and has been awarded to Halle St. Clair.
- The Marg Pommersheim Memorial Nursing Scholarship is awarded to a student exemplifying compassion and dedication in their nursing studies and in 2025 is provided to Samia Bechara.



Scholarships – continued

- The Friends of Hospice Scholarship is provided to a student with an interest and demonstrated skill in the characteristics of a hospice nurse and is provided to Kaya Gander.
- Finally, the UPMC Horizon and Jameson Foundations' Nursing Scholarship is made available to a student who demonstrates expertise and accomplishments in their studies as a nursing student and has been awarded to Terriauna Murphy.



The Foundations offer congratulations to each of these deserving students and wishes them the best of luck as they continue their academic studies in healthcare fields!

To learn more about these scholarships and how you can support the future of healthcare in Mercer County, please visit the Foundations' website at upmchorizonfoundation.org/scholarships



Next Gen Giving Spotlight

Zac Lombardo is showing that generosity doesn't have an age limit. The young entrepreneur recently supported the Foundation's Annual 5K Run and Walk through a \$50 donation, funds he raised by baking and selling cookies through his business, Atomic Cookies.

Zac visited UPMC Jameson to deliver a check to the Foundations. Zac's initiative is a wonderful example of how young people can make a meaningful impact in their community. His creativity and commitment to giving back inspires us all. The Foundations are grateful for Zac's generosity and baking talents!

Learn more about Zac's talents and how to snag a tasty treat by following Atomic Treats on Facebook at facebook.com/atomic treats



2025 Event to Celebrate Cancer Survivors

The UPMC Horizon Community Health Foundation, through its Dr. Edgardo Lob Memorial Cancer Care Fund, is honoring local cancer survivors at its second annual Cancer Survivor's Celebration on Sunday, October 26th from 1-4pm at the Hickory VFW in Hermitage, PA.



This event, which is complimentary to survivors and one guest, will feature a lunch, activities, and live entertainment from Jack Lindey and the Greenville Steel Drum Band. This uplifting afternoon seeks to bring survivors together to share stories, connect with others who understand the journey, and celebrate resilience and hope.

The celebration will feature a special presentation by Rita Abdallah, LISW-S, ACSW, a licensed social worker and national speaker in the fields of mental health and wellness. Rita inspires audiences with practical and uplifting talks on resilience, grief recovery, work-life balance, and thriving through change. Her work as an oncology social worker and community advocate reflects her dedication to helping others find strength in challenging times.

For more information, visit upmchorizonfoundation.org/cancerevent

Registration closes October 17, and reservations are required. A limited number of seats may still be available. Survivors are encouraged to contact Kelly at 724-656-4106 or hauxkj@upmc.edu to reserve your spot.



Preparing for Emergencies Local AED Delivery

The UPMC Horizon and Jameson Foundations were proud to donate and deliver a brand new AED to the River Valley Community Resource Center in Pulaski, PA. This device will ensure that the Center's users have access to potentially life-saving equipment in the event of an emergency. Zenia Goodge and Sharon Mast, representatives of the Center, were on hand to accept the device on its behalf.



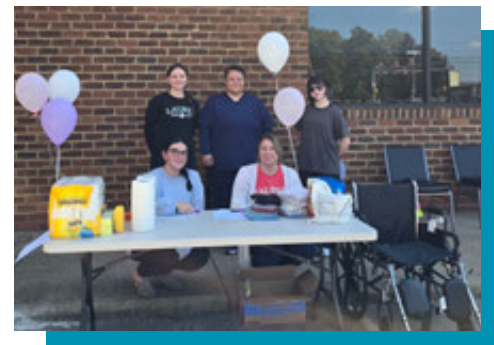
MERP's First Annual Wheelchair Wash

The Medical Equipment Recycling Program, an initiative of the UPMC Horizon Community Health Foundation, hosted its first annual wheelchair wash at MERP's Farrell location on September 11, 2025.



The free event was open to the public and offered wheelchair users the opportunity to have their equipment cleaned, inspected and checked for safety. In addition, the event was joined by the UPMC Health Plan's mobile screening unit, offering free bone density screenings to attendees. UPMC for Life, UPMC Community Health Choices, and UPMC for You Kids Dental also participated, providing education and information about their services. Representatives from UPMC Horizon and UPMC Jameson were also in attendance to spotlight specialty services and providers within our region.

A number of attendees signed up to have their wheelchairs washed and safety checked, and attendees had the opportunity to pick up free giveaway items and enter drawings to win prizes. MERP staff and volunteers performed equipment checks and were joined by students from Laurel Technical Institute, who gained valuable insight and experience related to durable medical equipment.



This event successfully gathered community members for the aligned purposes of caring for their equipment, highlighting MERP and the services it offers, and highlighting other opportunities for medical care in the region. Our dedicated MERP team of workers and volunteers look forward to hosting the event again next year!

To learn more about MERP, visit upmchorizonfoundation.org/merp



Updates from **UPMC Jameson School of Nursing**

By Mary Beth Langdon, Director, UPMC Jameson School of Nursing

UPMC Jameson School of Nursing welcomed a new class of nursing students on September 2, 2025. Over 100 new students began their nursing education journey and in one week will also initiate their first clinical experiences at our regional UPMC Horizon/Jameson hospitals. This is both an exciting and terrifying time for some students. The faculty work tirelessly to help to smooth over this transition into practice. The students have already learned to check patients' temperature, pulse, respirations, and blood pressure. There are also many new skills they have learned and practiced in the skills lab. They are poised to initiate their care at the actual bedside. If you see one of our students, please offer them kindness and a smile. They need support from all angles!

The school continues to prepare for a second admission cycle that begins January 2026. An additional 50 students will begin the program on January 5th. There is an opportunity to eventually add 80 more candidates annually in spring to the enrollment each fall of 120 candidates. We are very excited that nearly 45 applicants have already accepted to attend the School of Nursing this spring. UPMC Jameson School of Nursing is eager to impact the region with more nurses to care for those in the community.

Thank you, **VacationLand**

The Foundations are incredibly grateful to Goddard Park VacationLand Campground and its residents for an incredibly generous contribution to the Dr. Edgardo Lob Memorial Cancer Care Fund!



This summer, residents of the Campground raised more than \$11,000 through community events and fundraising, which was then donated to support local cancer patients and those who care for them. Particular thanks to Maria and Josie Cannon for helping coordinate fundraising efforts and to all those whose donations and energy helped make such a wonderful donation possible.



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Breast Cancer Awareness Month Mammogram Screening

On Saturday, October 18th, a mammogram screening event will be held at UPMC Horizon and Jameson Imaging location at 26 Nesbitt Road in New Castle from 1-4pm.

Women 40 years of age and older regardless of insurance status, along with those under 40 with breast health concerns, are eligible to participate in the event. In addition, the event will include:

- 3D mammograms
- blood pressure screenings
- free flu shots
- free boxed lunch
- a basket raffle and giveaways
- and education on breast health and wellness, imaging, surgery and radiation therapy.

The UPMC Jameson Foundation is proud to sponsor this important community service.

Schedule a mammogram and learn more the event by calling 724-698-1037. Walk-ins are welcome but registration is recommended.