In this hopeful spirit of reuniting, we connected a handful of our most generous donors with the beneficiaries of their gifts, so they could experience firsthand the transformative power of their philanthropy.

Reunited

After a year spent separated by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 was a time for reuniting with those we hadn’t seen in so long. Thanks to effective vaccines and boosters, friends and families were able to reconnect in person and restore a sense of normalcy to their lives.

In this hopeful spirit of reuniting, we connected a handful of our most generous donors with the beneficiaries of their gifts, so they could experience firsthand the transformative power of their philanthropy.

This annual report tells the stories of their reunions: from a breast cancer survivor who received the care she needed close to home, to a stroke victim who regained his ability to walk. The beneficiaries impacted by philanthropy you’ll meet in these pages were able to say “thank you” to donors who supported them on their journeys.

Their reunions did not disappoint. As you might expect, these meetings were emotional. The compassion of our donors and the resiliency of our grateful patients and team members were on full display. Above all, these reunions remind us of why we give in the first place: to lift one another up, to connect to something greater than ourselves, to restore our own humanity.

And that is exactly what each of you did in 2021. In giving out of respect for the realities of others, out of empathy and out of kindness, you not only supported the essential work of IU Health, you imparted hope to those who benefitted from your gifts and, by extension, to those of us who saw your gifts at work every day. You joined us in living the IU Health values of purpose, compassion, excellence and team.

As you’ll see while you read these stories, your generosity made all the difference. Thank you for all you have done, and for all that you will continue to do to help us improve the health of Hoosiers.

These stories are just the beginning. And thanks to you, we will have many more connections to celebrate in 2022.

Sincerely,

Crystal Hinson Miller, MA, FAHP, CFRE
President, IU Health Foundation
Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer, IU Health

IU Health Foundation 2021
In 2021, our IU Health frontline heroes battled COVID-19 and administered life-saving vaccines to thousands, all while providing patients around the state with compassionate, world-class care.

A year of recovery
A 2,000-mile leap of faith

In July 2020, Vimal Patel shattered both of his heels in a car crash. He was rushed to the nearest trauma center in California. The diagnosis from the surgeons was dire: a double foot amputation.

Vimal’s brother-in-law, Suhag Patel, had a different idea. After researching trauma centers across the country that might offer Vimal other options, Suhag found IU Health. “He’d read about IU Health’s work in treating injured Indy 500 drivers,” Vimal recalled. “Suhag said, ‘This is where we need to go.’”

Inspired to fight
Vimal chartered a private air ambulance for the 2,000-mile journey to Indianapolis from California. When Vimal landed at midnight, the IU Health trauma team immediately went to work.

“They were working around the clock, taking me in at 2 in the morning for X-rays,” Vimal said. “That’s what inspired me to fight. I thought, ‘If they’re going to fight this hard for me, why shouldn’t I fight that hard for myself?’”

During his two-and-a-half months at IU Health Methodist Hospital, Vimal underwent successful surgery, received hyperbaric oxygen treatment and worked diligently with the rehab team to gain strength in his feet.

When it was time to fly back to California, Vimal remained connected to his IU Health clinicians. “A month later, two months later, if I had a question, the IU Health doctors would respond immediately,” Vimal said. “I was just blown away.”
Where the rubber meets the road
Much of the trauma care Vimal received was supported by gifts made to Rev, IU Health Foundation’s signature fundraising event. Over the last eight years, Rev has hosted supporters at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway for a night of food, music and interactive experiences. All proceeds from Rev support trauma care at IU Health.

In February 2022, Vimal connected with Duchess Adjei, a long-time Rev donor and committee member, on Zoom. Vimal shared that he can now walk, jog, jump and ride his bike. “What you do as donors means the world to patients like me,” Vimal told Adjei.

“This meetup that we’ve had today is where the rubber meets the road,” Adjei told Vimal. “I’m seeing someone who is a direct beneficiary of my gift, and it’s incredibly heartwarming.”

At the end of their reunion, Vimal shared with Adjei that he plans to return to Indianapolis this year. When asked why he wanted to come back, Vimal said, “I want to thank the doctors in person who helped me through all of this.”

“I’m seeing someone who is a direct beneficiary of my gift, and it’s incredibly heartwarming.”
Janelle’s son, Max, is a Division I soccer player who’s spent most of his 20 years on the planet excelling in a physically demanding sport. Until last year, he didn’t know he’d been playing with a potentially life-threatening heart condition.

After receiving a bid to play soccer for IUPUI, Max went in for a routine EKG as part of his student athlete physical. The doctors discovered that Max suffered from long QT syndrome (LQTS), a genetic heart condition in which the time between heartbeats is prolonged. In some cases, it can lead to fainting or sudden cardiac death.

**Unearthing a legacy of heart trouble**

Thanks to funding supplied by IU Health Foundation supporters Laura and Jon Pickett, Max’s immediate family members were able to receive a free genetic screening. Janelle tested positive for LQTS as well, uncovering a lineage of genetic heart trouble that led back to her father.

“In total, seven of my extended family members ended up testing positive for LQTS,” Janelle said. “Without IUPUI’s health requirements for their student athletes and support of donors like the Picketts, we would have never known.”

Soccer has taught our family a lot over the years,” said Janelle Guidry. “Like how to roll with the punches when things don’t go the way you hope.”

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Reunited on the field

In the fall of 2021, the Guidrys met Jon and Laura Pickett and their daughter, Lilly, at Carroll Stadium on the IUPUI campus where Max will one day play his first game for the IUPUI Jaguars. “Philanthropy at its core is rooted in humans and the love of mankind,” Laura said. “Meeting Max and understanding how many folks in his family got tested who wouldn’t have otherwise known they had this condition, that was powerful. You can imagine the dire outcome that can result from not knowing.”

For Janelle, meeting the Picketts was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

“I support various charities, but when do you ever get the chance to meet the recipients of your generosity? And vice versa?” Janelle said. “When I met the Picketts, I said to both of them, ‘Thank you for supporting the Foundation, because it’s people like you who affect people like us.’”

For Laura, walking onto the field at IUPUI and meeting the Guidrys took her back to her college days of playing Division I basketball. “It was evident that Max has poured his heart into his craft of soccer. Being aware of his condition will make all the difference as he continues to pursue his dreams,” she said.

Janelle and Max now travel with an AED and take medication every day to manage their LQTS. Max is practicing with his teammates and preparing for the day he can represent the Jaguars on the field. “It’s definitely a relief to know that I can be back out there pursuing my dream of playing Division I soccer,” Max said.
Putting the pieces together to fight poverty

For two decades, Mike and Sue Smith have committed themselves to addressing poverty in Indianapolis. “It is high time that everyone in our community becomes more aware of the devastating grasp that poverty and mental illnesses have on so many in our city,” Mike said. “I grieve every time I drive up Illinois Street and see people in obvious need of care waiting outside facilities for mental health services.”

To help mitigate those challenges, Mike and Sue made a generous gift to IU Health Foundation in support of the Mosaic Center for Work, Life and Learning.

A mosaic of services
Slated to open in 2023 in Indianapolis’ Near North Neighborhood, the new center will offer a “mosaic” of individualized and intensive services to help people chart pathways to meaningful careers at IU Health and beyond.

IU Health team members and partners will deliver career, financial and personal coaching, and will refer participants to resources for help with food access, transportation, substance use disorder and mental health treatment.

Recently, the Smiths connected with Mosaic Center Director Starla Hart. Hart has spent 20 years working in community engagement and development in Indianapolis.

If we prepare people from local neighborhoods for meaningful employment, we change the face of the city and the countenance of those lives.”
There’s a high need for talent. If we ‘the community’ can meet people who’ve been glossed over where they are, and foster their development, we can only go up,” Hart told the Smiths. “We’re only as strong as our weakest link, and we’re providing opportunities for people to get stronger.”

“If we can create a place where comprehensive services are available, we can build a beacon of hope for people who are anxious or in fear about their future,” Mike said to Hart. “If we prepare people from local neighborhoods for meaningful employment, we change the face of the city and the countenance of those lives. We replace fear and anxiety with hope and excitement.”
Rachel Gonzales Pinto didn’t know she was going into labor. She’d been drinking that day, and most days during her pregnancy. Seven minutes after she arrived at IU Health West Hospital, Gonzales Pinto gave birth to a baby girl, Milani.

Born premature and unresponsive, Milani was taken to the NICU. Gonzales Pinto had already lost custody of her two boys in 2019 as a result of her drinking, and she feared she might lose her daughter as well.

As she recovered alone in her hospital bed, IU Health West Addiction Treatment & Recovery Center Therapists Libby King and Trisha Palencer entered the room. They’d worked with Gonzales Pinto for two years at the center.

“I didn’t expect them to be there,” Rachel said. “It was amazing to have someone truly care about and believe in me. I will always remember that.”
“Being from a family who suffered from addiction, I can relate to how your son may have felt,” Jackson told Gonzales Pinto. “But I also know that feeling of everything being okay.”

A pattern is broken

Gonzales Pinto started drinking at 14 years old and had been through several treatment programs. She would stay sober for a few months, then relapse. It was a pattern that came to define her life.

But thanks to the IU Health West Addiction Treatment & Recovery Center, Gonzales Pinto was able to achieve sobriety. She participated in a variety of services such as group therapy, individual therapy, education, recovery coaching and skills training.

Recently, Gonzales Pinto reunited with Palencer and King, as well as Indianapolis Colts vice-chair and owner Kalen (Irsay) Jackson to talk about her progress.

“My oldest son hadn’t spoken to me in three years,” Gonzales Pinto shared with the group. “But now, we celebrated this past Christmas together as a family, and he told me it was the best Christmas he’d ever had."

Many of the programs Gonzales Pinto participated in are thanks to the Irsay family and the Indianapolis Colts. Last year, they donated $1 million to IU Health Foundation to increase access to addiction services for people in need. This is just one of their many recent gifts to organizations working in mental health in Indiana and beyond.

Jackson, who leads the Colts and Irsay family’s Kicking the Stigma initiative, was moved by Gonzales Pinto’s story.

“Being from a family who suffered from addiction, I can relate to how your son may have felt,” Jackson told Gonzales Pinto. “But I also know that feeling of everything being okay. All your son wanted was you, and it’s so nice to be able to see the joy on your face.”

Expanding services and restoring lives

Thanks to the Colts and Irsay family gift, the IU Health West Addiction Treatment & Recovery Center was able to expand its services in 2021 to serve more patients like Gonzales Pinto. “I got the notice of the gift, and I was in tears telling the team that we get to help more people,” said Palencer, the center’s director.

As a result of the gift, the center doubled its patient load, hired additional staff, increased its virtual counseling capabilities and bolstered its ambulatory detox offerings—a need that increased as hospital beds were occupied by those battling COVID-19. All of this equates to the center’s 59% patient success rate, which is significantly higher than the national average.

To understand the power of the center’s work, you need only to see Gonzales Pinto’s face light up when she talks about her sobriety. “I’m just truly grateful because so many people suffer,” Gonzales Pinto says. “But there is help, and you can recover.”

IU Health Foundation 2021
## Financials

$28,372,095 Total Contributions In 2021

### 2021 Disbursements by region

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Impact of donor gifts around the state

2021 Types Of Contributors

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2021 in photos. IU Health Foundation Annual Report 2021

A year of hope
Before I came to IU Health, I couldn’t see a future for myself. But now I can, and I’m excited.”
—Farook Ohab

In August 2021, Farook Ohab had run out of hope. Nine months earlier, he’d suffered a stroke that paralyzed the left side of his body. And before that, he contracted COVID-19 and lost 150 pounds. After his stroke, he was so weak he couldn’t even use the bathroom on his own.

That all changed when he arrived at Neurorehabilitation & Robotics at the IU Health Neuroscience Center. Ohab began a range of therapies—from using a robotic arm to strengthen his muscles and range of motion to intensive water therapy and stretching.

The power of positivity

But it was the positive feedback from IU Health therapists that helped Ohab make the most of his time in the lab. “They’re so positive here,” he said. “That’s what you need to hear after you’ve had a stroke. You don’t want to hear about what you can’t do. They make me want to work harder, and that’s helped me get better faster.”

The Neurorehabilitation and Robotics lab was established in part thanks to IU Health Foundation donors, including a generous gift from the Schahet family. The lab’s physical, occupational and speech therapists work closely with specialists at the IU Health Neuroscience Center to offer patients exceptional care using advanced technologies unavailable anywhere else in the state.
Continuing the Schahet legacy

Greg Schahet, of the IU Health Foundation Philanthropy Council for the Adult Academic Health Center in Indianapolis, has continued his parents and family’s philanthropic legacy with a generous gift to the lab in 2021. In early 2022, Schahet was able to connect with Ohab to see firsthand the power of his philanthropy.

“It’s so heartwarming to know that so many wonderful things are happening at the hospital,” Schahet said to Ohab. “I suspect that if I was at the hospital every day, I would hear a story like this every day.”

Ohab expressed his gratitude to Schahet and to all of the therapists who have helped him on his journey. Five months after he was wheeled into the lab, Ohab is now standing up on his own, walking and regaining the use of his arms.

Best of all, he’s no longer defined by what he’s lost, but by what the future holds. “I can’t wait to be able to play with my nieces and nephews again,” he said.
In January 2022, IU Health patient Stacey Goffinet met IU Health Foundation donors Jefferson and Mary Shreve at the new IU Health Bloomington at the Indiana University Academic Regional Health Center.

Six months before their reunion, the Shreves made the largest-ever private gift to IU Health Bloomington. Their donation is helping to integrate cancer care services in one location to ensure the most advanced cancer diagnosis and treatment options are conveniently accessible. This generous gift enabled Goffinet to receive life-saving comprehensive cancer care close to home, a fact that Goffinet credits with helping her persevere mentally through her treatment.

“I have cancer. It doesn’t have me.”
The best of the best in Bloomington

“It’s so comforting to know that you have the best of the best care here in Bloomington,” Goffinet said. “I had 157 appointments last year. Can you imagine if those were all up in Indianapolis? Everything has been within a 15-minute drive for me.”

Care close to home also means a patient’s network can help more. “There’s the clinical aspect of healthcare delivery, but so much of recovery comes from the support you get from family and friends,” Jefferson told Goffinet.

“I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you’ve done,” Stacey told the Shreves. “Everyone here has saved my life.”

The hardest year of her life

Goffinet’s bubbly demeanor during their meeting almost hides the fact that she’d just endured the hardest year of her life. Goffinet had just returned from a trip to Disney World in March 2021, when she felt a lump in her left breast. Five days later she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

“My first day of chemo, I was terrified,” Goffinet told the Shreves. “But I decided early on, ‘I have cancer. It doesn’t have me.’

Goffinet documented her cancer journey at IU Health on Facebook, even when the news kept getting worse. After finishing chemotherapy in August, she had surgery to remove both her breasts. Infections and excess fluid delayed her radiation treatments until right before Christmas. Then she caught COVID.

But nothing could stop Goffinet’s spirit. She wore her Mickey Mouse ears to every chemo treatment, often bringing extra sets so her care providers could pose with her for selfies.

She attributes her positive mindset to the support she received from her IU Health care team and Stephanie Grubb, her nurse navigator. Nurse navigators are oncology-certified specialists who help patients and their loved ones understand and manage the complex emotional and physical challenges of cancer.

“The oncology center saved my life, but the cancer support community and my nurse navigator Stephanie saved my spirit,” she said.

The Shreve gift has enabled the nurse navigator program to relocate to the third floor of the IU Health Bloomington hospital, easing the travel burden on patients and their families.
Britny High sat in her car in the parking lot of IU Health Blackford Hospital, happy tears in her eyes as she felt a weight being lifted from her chest. She’d just started working in outpatient registration and had yet to receive her first paycheck. Bills were due, but more urgently, her car was almost out of gas.

After learning about the IU Health Team Member Support Fund, High requested a gas card to make sure she could still get to work. What she received instead was enough support to cover other financial needs for her family until payday.
I didn’t realize how stressed out I was, and how much I needed that little boost.”

“Now I can help the next person.”

The Team Member Support Fund was created in 2018 to assist IU Health team members experiencing unexpected financial emergencies. In 2021, contributions to the fund increased 129% over pre-pandemic levels. In total, over a thousand team members received timely assistance.

“I’ve never worked at a company that’s like, ‘We’re here for you professionally, but we’re also here to help in your day-to-day life,’” High said.

Alan Henderson, an entrepreneur and retired NBA player, as well an IU Health Foundation board member, was one of the donors who contributed to the fund. “My father was a physician at the Methodist campus for many years,” Henderson said. “I know the good work that’s done at all IU Health hospitals, and that it takes the entire team—doctors, nurses, food service workers—to deliver exceptional care. For people to perform at their best, they can’t be worried about having enough gas in their car to get home.”

Henderson and High recently connected a year after she received her assistance. “If I didn’t have the Team Member Support Fund, I don’t know where I would be right now,” High told him. “I can’t thank you enough for contributing to it.”

After High and her family were able to get back on their feet, the first thing she did was give to the Team Member Support Fund. “I was helped. Now I can help that next person and make things easier for them,” High said. “That’s what we as a company need to do. We’re here for our patients, we’re here to care for the community, but we’re also here to care for our own employees.”
Workforce Development

Creating pathways to exceptional care

Nearly 10 years ago, Meghan Glass was working two jobs, attending the surgery technician program at Ivy Tech Community College, and juggling the demands of everyday life. “Eventually I couldn’t do it anymore,” Glass said. “I put my dreams on hold.”

One thousand miles south, Shelby Shedrow was also floundering professionally. After two years at Butler University in which she struggled to find her place, she took a job in guest relations at Walt Disney World. “When I was in Florida, I realized I wanted more—and I wanted to do something medical,” Shedrow said. “But at the time, I didn’t know what ‘more’ could mean for me.”

Little did Glass and Shedrow know that their paths would soon cross at IU Health Arnett Hospital as members of the first Pathways into Healthcare cohort.
I opened the email and saw ‘congratulations’ and I just cried at my desk. It’s the best opportunity an organization could offer its employees.”

New beginnings
As a service offered by the IU Health West Central Region Career Center, Pathways into Healthcare trains entry-level IU Health team members—such as those who work in environmental services and food preparation—to become certified medical assistants. During the 30-week program, 10 employees receive regular pay and benefits yet only work part-time to allow them the remaining work portion to spend in on-the-job training for their new profession. Additionally, the program covers the costs of courses, supplies and certifications.

Helping support this program are IU Health Foundation donors Gary and Shelly Henriott. In early 2022, the Henriotts connected in person with Glass and Shedrow and witnessed the power of their philanthropy up close and personal.

“When I saw this program, I was like ‘I have to do this.’” Glass told the Henriotts. “I opened the email and saw ‘congratulations’ and I just cried at my desk. It’s the best opportunity an organization could offer its employees.”

“To find out that I was accepted?” Shedrow said. “It was like a new beginning.”

Building a talent pipeline
Donors Shelly and Gary come from a long line of educators. “We share a passion for education and a responsibility to do what we can to help,” Gary said. “I don’t care if I have my name on anything. I’d rather have it here,” he said, gesturing to Glass and Shedrow.

Healthcare systems across the country face a shortage of qualified providers, and educating qualified medical assistants can address deficiencies across departments. “You can literally go anywhere and learn everything as a medical assistant,” Glass said. “I can step in wherever I’m needed, whether it’s pediatrics or neurology.”

“This program shows that IU Health is interested in investing in their team,” Shelly added. “You’re not just doing a job; you’re part of a family. And as a family, you want to lift everyone up to the highest level possible.”
2021 in photos. IU Health Foundation Annual Report 2021

A year of resiliency
Indiana University Health Foundation leverages the power of philanthropy to support the Indiana University Health goal of making Indiana one of the nation’s healthiest states. One hundred percent of dollars contributed supports the health of our patients and our communities.

To learn how your gift can make a difference, visit iuhealthfoundation.org or call 317.962.1777.