



# KGH FOUNDATION

FEATURED PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

## Strengthening Health Care, **Together.**

At the KGH Foundation, we support our physicians and health care teams at Kelowna General Hospital (KGH) and community care facilities. As the needs of the southern interior evolve, we are committed to advancing the resources, technology, and knowledge essential for delivering world-class care close to home.

By funding priority equipment, research, and quality improvement initiatives, we aim to empower our medical teams with the tools and training they need to achieve excellence in patient care and improve the overall health care experience for the communities we serve.

On the following page, you'll find some of the specific initiatives the KGH Foundation is currently funding, each selected to address pressing needs in recruitment and retention, education, patient and family experience, and quality improvement. These efforts reflect our dedication to supporting both the immediate and long-term needs of our health care teams, ensuring that every professional working within KGH and its associated facilities has the support to thrive in their role. If you have questions or would like to discuss potential projects or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out.


Together, we can continue to raise the standard of health care, building a stronger, healthier future for the interior of BC.

*Melina Moran*



### **Melina Moran**

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# CLINICIAN EDUCATION AND WELLNESS

## Recruitment and Retention

Several efforts have been made to help attract and retain physicians amidst intense competition from other hospitals in order to support KGH's ability to meet the growing demand for exceptional patient care. These include:

- [Physician recruitment welcome bags in collaboration with the Physician's Society](#): The purpose of the welcome bags is to create a warm and memorable welcome for visiting physicians during their site visit, highlighting the unique appeal of Kelowna and the Okanagan. By providing gift bags filled with local experiences and thoughtful items, the goal is to create a positive impression of the community, making the physicians feel welcomed and appreciated.
- [Hospitalist and pediatric recruitment support](#): Supporting physician attendance at national and international conferences to strengthen recruitment efforts and attract top talent to KGH.
- [Hospitalist resident support - travel/accommodation](#): Travel and accommodation support for hospitalist fellows to complete electives at KGH, with the goal of inspiring them to join the team after experiencing our work environment.
- [Neurology fellowship support - travel/accommodation](#): Support for a neuromuscular fellow's rotation at KGH to cover patient care needs following the departure of the region's specialist, ensuring local access for approximately 100 complex cases.

## Education and Training

Investments in advanced education and specialized training have equipped KGH physicians to deliver high-quality care across complex medical scenarios, addressing gaps and supporting the highest standards of patient care, including:

- [PALS Training for non-pediatricians at KGH](#): Specialized training to equip adult care physicians in providing high-acuity pediatric support amid pediatrician shortages and anticipated increases in respiratory cases, enhancing patient care quality and safety.
- [Advanced Pediatric Life Support training for ED and ICU physicians](#): Support for advanced training in critical pediatric care through the Advanced Pediatric Life Support course, covering emergency assessment, life support, trauma, and respiratory management.
- [CaSE Course Pilot to simulate HALO events](#): An 18-month pilot at UBC Okanagan will provide KGH emergency physicians with cadaver-based training to simulate High Acuity Low Occurrence (HALO) events. This program offers a critical opportunity to refine skills and enhance preparedness for managing rare and complex emergencies.

# PATIENT & FAMILY EXPERIENCE

- [Deep Brain Stimulation \(DBS\) Outreach Program](#): Led by Dr. Wile, the semi-annual outreach clinic with 2 DBS nurses from Coastal Health brings essential follow-up care closer to home for over 100 local Parkinson's patients, eliminating the need for them to travel to Vancouver.
- [Project IMPACT: Weltel Pediatric Diabetes Texting Project](#): The initiative utilizes secure SMS messaging to enhance communication between care teams and families of pediatric Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) patients. Initiated at VJH, the project has significantly increased interaction frequency, reduced hospital stays for newly diagnosed patients, and expanded to other hospitals, including Kamloops, Penticton and Kelowna. This platform promotes timely adjustments and reduces the burden on families, aiming to improve long-term outcomes for pediatric T1D patients.

# QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- [EVOLVE](#): The EVOLVE Awards in Brain Health at KGH fund physician-led initiatives in stroke care, dementia, and movement disorders, advancing program development, recruitment, and knowledge transfer. By enabling neurology physicians to lead research and quality improvement, the awards improve patient outcomes, reduce wait times, and attract top specialists, advancing both patient care and neurology leadership for the future.