

NEIGHBORS JOIN TOGETHER!

When an expert once asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus responded with one of the most iconic parables in the New Testament.

The central figures of this story are familiar: a traveler in desperate need of medical care without the means or opportunity to care for himself; various community and religious leaders; and an outsider who cared.

Our neighborly outsider tends the man's wounds and secures a place for the man to heal. He sees that the injured man has a bed, medical care and time to heal. And in showing mercy to someone who could not heal without help, he became Jesus' example for his followers of a Good Neighbor... and a great example of the importance of medical respite care.

INSIDE:

- The Need for Respite
- The Math of Mercy
- Providence Hospital and EGM
- The Impact of Neighbors

THE IDEAL

If you have surgery or a serious illness, the hospital will often release you to regain your strength and complete your full recovery at home.

A home-health care nurse might visit your bedside. Your family will help you recover in the familiarity and comfort of your own bed, in your home. Maybe friends from church or neighbors will come to your home to help with meals or other comforts as you continue to heal.

Healing at home is often the best place to complete the recovery process.

- But what if you have no home?
- What if you have no place to heal?
- What if you're alone in the world with no one to help care for you?
- What happens if you have no where to go when the hospital releases you?

Without a place to recover or rehab after a hospitalization:

- Hospital stays are longer than necessary.
- Relapses and readmissions are more common.
- Emergency Room visits are more frequent.
- Our community pays more through taxes and assistance.
- Expenses are greater for all of us.

When someone experiencing homelessness is discharged from the hospital, they often end up right back on the streets. Which is no place to heal. Which means that all too often they end up back in the Emergency Room. This repeating pattern is difficult for the patient and expensive for our community.

This situation creates a heavy emotional and physical burden on the people who endure it. The stress and trauma of major illness is magnified. Recovery and healing times are extended.

PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL AND EGM: A BETTER WAY

Providence Hospital and EGM began a pilot program a few years ago to give short-term rest to some of our neighbors without homes being discharged from the ER. We believe this should expand so that even those experiencing a longer-term acute medical crisis can have a safe place to heal, rest and recuperate.

Together we are creating a place where healing can happen with dignity and wholeness for those experiencing homelessness for the first time in Snohomish County.

This better way is called *Neighbors Care*.

Neighbors Care will provide Acute Respite Care for our neighbors who have no place to recover and heal prior to and following hospitalization.



THE POWER OF REST

EGM's *Transformational Bed System* is a key component of the plan. Not satisfied with bunk beds, EGM designed our new Transformational Bed System with input from an architect and community members to provide the safety, privacy and dignity we wanted to give our neighbors. The new bed system utilizes stairs to reach an upper bunk for easier access for people with limited mobility. In addition to safer access, the system provides electric outlets, personal storage, improved privacy and safety.

Neighbors Care will install our community's revolutionary Transformational Bed Systems in the respite care dorms creating 16 new beds for respite care.

In addition to the 16 new bed systems for *Neighbors Care*, EGM will install 48 additional Transformational Bed Systems in the Men's Shelter. The 48 new bed systems combined with the emergency shelter beds will allow the Men's Shelter to increase occupancy to 100% due to the new system's improved upper bunk accessibility.



THE MATH OF MERCY

PATIENTS WITHOUT HOMES:



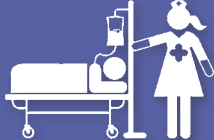
Are **4 times more likely** to be hospitalized than others



Are **3 times more likely** to die prematurely



Are more likely to suffer from **debilitating medical conditions**



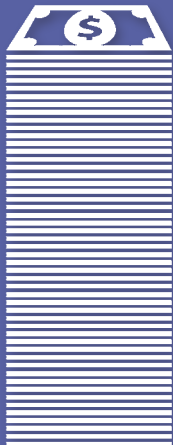
Stay in the hospital on average **4 days longer**

BUT MEDICAL RESPITE CARE CHANGES THE DYNAMIC:



Patients who receive respite care are **50% less likely** to be readmitted to a hospital within 90 days after discharge

The average costs associated with hospitalization for a homeless patient are more than **\$2,500 higher** than for a housed patient



THE IMPACT OF NEIGHBORS

Neighbors Care provides Acute Respite Care for people in need. *Neighbors Care* also improves EGM's Men's shelter occupancy rate and provides a safer and better bed environment for the Men's recovery program.

Specifically *Neighbors Care* provides:

- The Transformational Bed System for all men's programs and respite care.
 - 16 bed systems for Respite Care
 - 40 bed systems for Recovery
 - 8 bed systems for Relapse Prevention
- New laundry space, exam room/office, community living space.

Neighbors Care addresses a critical gap for our community's most vulnerable. Together, we can ease the suffering of the most vulnerable, improve our community, bless those in need and deliver significant benefit to every citizen and neighbor. Neighbors who care truly make the community a better place.

