

Tending to Our Soil and Stepping into the Light

When placed in the dark, a plant cannot grow. When left unattended, plants will not thrive. We are no different.

An advanced cancer diagnosis put Mary*, a TRU Palliative Care patient, into a dark place. With her new prognosis, she didn't know how she could thrive.

But that didn't keep Mary from a hobby she loved. Mary would visit stores such as Lowe's or Home Depot and find plants that appeared wilted, unattended, or sad. These were the plants, overlooked by many, that Mary brought home with her. With tender attention, specialized care, and lots of love and light, Mary would bring these plants back to life. What once seemed close to death was now vibrant and growing.

When TRU Palliative Care Social Worker Becca Kilcoyne came into Mary's life, Mary was much like the unattended plant on the store shelf. She had been living in a dark shadow cast by her cancer diagnosis. She had left herself unattended, and she was far from thriving.

Becca helped Mary to realize that just as the plants needed care, attention, and love, Mary needed those things as well. As Mary's plants began to bloom and thrive, Becca helped Mary reconnect to her own beauty and strength and see the vibrancy she still had within her.

We can all learn from Mary and Becca to not leave ourselves in the dark, unattended at any phase of life.

What in our lives do we need to tend to? Where can we



shine some love and light in order to heal and grow? What are the things that make you who you are and reveal your potential and optimism?

We may not all be able to resurrect a dying plant – and in the end, all plants will die – but how can we feed our soil and recognize our own blossoming today? How can we shift our perspective and find ways to thrive, even in light of challenging circumstances? It's never too late to dig deep into ourselves to find what will make us bloom.

Becca shares, "I am deeply grateful for the impact our patients have on my own life. I carry their many lessons with me throughout my days."

**Name changed for patient privacy*

Save the Date

Holiday Wreath Sale

Support our mission by purchasing this year's wreath through TRU. Scan the QR code or visit trucare.org/events.

Please order by November 7th.
Wreath pick up is on December 2nd and December 5th at TRU PACE, 2593 Park Lane in Lafayette, CO.



COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION
COLORADO
GIVES DAY 
ColoradoGivesDay.org **Dec. 6**

On December 6th, Colorado will come together again to support local nonprofits -- TRU among them. Donations can be scheduled in advance at trucare.org/cogives. Thank you for remembering TRU on Colorado Gives Day 2022!

Scott Gresser Named TRU President and CEO

2022 has been a year of transition in TRU's leadership. Michale McHale, TRU's former president and CEO, resigned in April to accept the role of president and CEO for St. Paul's Senior Services in San Diego where his healthcare administration career began. At that time,



TRU's board of directors chose then-CFO Scott Gresser to fill the role of interim president and CEO. Three months later - in early July - TRU's board announced that Scott would officially assume the role of president and CEO of the organization.

"We are excited about this opportunity, both for Scott and for TRU. Scott brings a wealth of knowledge and devotion, and he is surrounded by talented leaders who will support his efforts to fulfill TRU's mission and goals," said Michael Lammers, TRU Board chair.

Scott had been TRU's Chief Financial Officer for 10 years and had worked closely with Michael during the past five, a period during which TRU quadrupled the number of people served, grew staff commensurately to do so, and more than tripled annual revenue.

TRU is now caring for more than 1,000 people a day in our community, not including those served by our grief services, and we are in a strong financial position.

"We've made tremendous strides these past few years, evolving significantly in an ever-changing healthcare landscape, and I am honored to continue to do this work and serve our community. I am proud every day I come to work at TRU," said Scott.

Before joining our staff, Scott served for five years on TRU's board of directors. Spanning two decades, Scott's involvement with TRU has made him an integral part of our success and transformation.

TRU Cares 2022 Luncheon Hits Fundraising Goal

TRU's fifth annual TRU Cares Fundraising Luncheon returned as an in-person event on October 20th at the Boulder Country Club. During this annual event, we heard from TRU staff, Board members, and members of the community, and we celebrated the ways in which TRU supports those in our care.

We are pleased to share that we exceeded our fundraising goal for the luncheon thanks to generous sponsors and individual donors, including another substantial matching gift from Bob Von Eschen, Jr.

Thank you also to our founders, board members, volunteers, staff, advisory council members, patients, participants, and families. We are grateful for each and every one of you and our ability to continue to engage and provide meaningful care to those in our community living with illness and loss.

To view videos shared at the luncheon or to make a donation, please visit trucare.org/luncheon.

We would again like to recognize and thank our presenting and platinum sponsors:

Presenting Sponsor:



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Robert K. and
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Caring for 1,000 People Every Day

In 1976, Boulder Hospice became the first hospice in Colorado. In the first year, care was provided for 15 patients in their homes, offering dignity and compassion through the dying process. With each passing year, the goal has been to support more individuals and families. In 2013, we became TRU Community Care to reflect our growing services area and expanded programs.

In 2022, TRU celebrated a new milestone - caring for more than 1,000 people each day through hospice, palliative care, home health, PACE, and memory care programs.

TRU sites have also expanded. TRU continues to operate the only hospice inpatient unit of its kind in the area in Longmont; the TRU PACE Day Center engages participants in Lafayette; Landmark Memory Care serves 18 residents in Lafayette; and we've added a new telehealth call center in Louisville along with field offices in Denver. The TRU Thrift Shop in Boulder, run primarily by dedicated volunteers, supports TRU's services and contributes to community and sustainability. And, of course, we continue to provide palliative and hospice care wherever a patient



calls home, and our grief services include individual counseling and group support through a combination of in-person and virtual offerings.

And TRU continues to grow. With over 300 staff and as many volunteers dedicated to supporting those in our care, we now serve Boulder, Broomfield, Adams, Jefferson, Arapahoe, Denver, and Weld Counties, our focus on affirming life and providing a continuum of care for members of our community.

Mother and Son Volunteer Duo: Amy and Finn

In the back room of the TRU Thrift Shop, amidst a wealth of donated items, high-school freshman Finn sits at the electronics desk working hard to test and repair donated electronics so that they can have a second life.

Finn has always had a propensity for electronics, curious about how things work and able to fix broken items that find need for repair. He especially has an affection for vintage electronics.

When Finn's mom, Amy, a TRU volunteer since 2021 helping with hospice patients, administrative services, and more, saw an "Electronics Volunteer Wanted" posting while shopping at the TRU Thrift Shop, she knew Finn would be a great match. Finn was just 13 at the time, and the two signed up to volunteer as a mother-and-son duo.

Finn has been able to repair some top-notch items, like a donated PlayStation that needed a hard drive reboot. With a simple fix, the gaming console was ready to bring joy to its next owner.

Finn's valuable expertise also helps keep numerous items out of the landfill. Working alongside many



retired volunteers, Finn fits right in with his bright smile, inquisitive mind, and hard-working, philanthropic spirit. Beyond TRU, Finn is dedicated to helping his neighbors, shoveling snow, mowing lawns, and "a lot" of cat-sitting.

If you or someone you know has a knack for electronics, Finn says they are always looking for more volunteers to help breathe new life into the wonderful donations at the TRU Thrift Shop. Or just come by and see what treasures you can find for your own home!

Please consider supporting our work with a tax-deductible donation to TRU today.
For your convenience, a donor reply device is enclosed.
You can also donate online at TRUcare.org/trutalk.

Why Support TRU?

TRU Community Care relies on support from friends like you to help us:

- Provide the best possible care to anyone who needs us, regardless of an inability to pay
- Offer extensive grief counseling and group support to anyone who has lost a loved one
- Keep the TRU Hospice Care Center open for patients in need of short-term intensive care
- Grow new programs and meet community needs.

In the words of a thankful family member,

"Thank you for everything TRU did for Dad and the entire family. You all are my heroes! TRU puts their patients and families first and went the extra mile to make sure Dad was comfortable and surrounded by family. We would have been lost in the final days without your love and guidance."

Donate online any time at TRUcare.org/trutalk or text TRUTalk to 41444.

