Meet Phil McCorkle

Phil McCorkle joined Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Foundation as the executive director in July this year. A native of Monmouth, Oregon, Phil has worked in various local nonprofits for 30 years. We thought you’d like to learn a bit more about him.

Why did you join Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Foundation?
I knew three of the past people serving in my position at Providence Benedictine and they all spoke of what a great organization it is. I am not wealthy and the legacy that I am able to leave behind will be one of service. It follows, then, that I am here because I think I can make a positive difference for Providence Benedictine and for the community and people we serve.

What is your dream for Providence Benedictine?
I’m currently talking with people from various departments here at Providence Benedictine and building a wish list of items and programs they would like to add in order to grow our services and further expand the assistance we provide. In most cases, the biggest barrier to adding these programs and items is a lack of funding. Working with donors, I know we can make these additions possible.

What’s been most surprising in your first months here?
The culture of mutual support that infuses the atmosphere here at Providence Benedictine, but that also extends throughout the Providence system. We all have full plates, with plenty of work to do, but we still make time to help each other.

Why does philanthropy matter?
Because the incredible good that nonprofits do in making our community and our world a better place simply would not happen without it.

What are your hobbies away from work?
I love fly-fishing, photography, writing, hiking, camping and mushroom picking.
Caregivers become donors

A new home health patient was in need of food and personal items. At a team conference, the patient's nurse asked for help for everything from briefs to T-shirts, to pillows and blankets and basic foods.

Our team responded, using their own money to buy all of the things he needed including a box of chocolates with a nice gift card to Walmart. And they did all of this in two days. We are thankful for this extraordinary example of the caring and compassion given to those we serve.

Phil is enjoying serving in his new position and loves meeting with donors. He remarks that, “In every nonprofit where I’ve worked, I’ve found that the people who support those organizations are among the kindest and most interesting humans that I’ve met. They all have in common a passion for a cause, and that they are seeking ways to positively impact their community. I see clearly that my job is not to convince them to give. Rather, my job is to help them discover how they want to make their difference and leave their positive mark on their world, then help make that happen.”

Keeping people moving at Mt. Angel Oktoberfest

Each year, staff from Providence Benedictine Nursing Center help at the annual Mt. Angel Oktoberfest, loaning out wheelchairs to people who need assistance getting around the festivities. This year, a record number 37 wheelchairs were loaned to a very grateful community over the four days of Oktoberfest.

In addition, during the run of our booth, Providence Benedictine staff:

- Rescued an elderly Mt. Angel Towers resident who nearly fell hard on the pavement, and got him a ride back to the Towers
- Watched over the musical instruments and belongings for at least one band that was performing on stage down the street
- Provided a MacGyver-like solution for a passing festival goer who was in pain and nearly in tears because she didn't get the leg-elevating attachment she needed for the wheelchair she rented from another company

Thank you for your support of Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Foundation. Without you, we could not provide our residents, their families and the community with the high level of care, compassion and professionalism that has become our hallmark in fulfilling our Mission.