

## Music makes a difference in Jack's life

Music has the ability to change emotions and ease pain. As a music-thanatologist at Providence Milwaukie, Josh Ward witnesses the power of music every day.

Jack\* was in his 20's, homeless and struggling to take care of himself. He was at Providence Milwaukie for four weeks as he received antibiotics. Josh visited Jack several times during his stay. Josh brought Jack the reverie harp to play. A reverie harp is lightweight, comfortable to hold and requires no musical training to play.

Jack found great solace and sense of calm when he played the harp. "Jack shared his songs and sketches with me," said Josh. "We explored the meaning of the song lyrics and the colors and shapes of his drawings as a means for him to express difficult emotions."



Music-thanatologist Josh Ward uses music to serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of dying patients and families. He also supports any patient who may benefit from a music vigil.



While in the hospital, Jack connected with a sibling who helped arrange housing for Jack after his discharge. "His difficult path is not over, but he expressed hope for the future and thanks for the care he received," said Josh. "I encouraged him to continue to draw and to play music when he is able. The reverie harp served as a tool of expression and beauty for Jack and also as a tool to connect to others."

Your generosity allowed the purchase of the reverie harp and a full-size harp for our music-thanatologists. ■ *(\*Name changed to protect privacy)*

## Bariatric chair funded from Human Bean proceeds.

Since 2015, The Human Bean coffee shop in Milwaukie has raised money for breast cancer through their Coffee for a Cure day. In that time, they've raised more than \$7,500 for Providence Milwaukie Hospital.

Last year, the mammography department requested a special bariatric side chair. This chair will make it easier for patients who need to sit between images, giving them a safe and comfortable place to rest. In addition, funds were used to convert a small room in the mammography department into a consultation room. This provides a private and comfortable room for our radiologists to meet with patients and their families regarding the results of their diagnostic mammograms. ■



Digital Imaging caregivers Ashley Pacholl, Kristi Yelton, Mark Reeder and Jacob Laune help out at the Human Bean on Coffee for a Cure day.