

# Info to Know



## Engagement and Thanks



At Shodair, we love engagement: with patients and families; with employees; with our neighbors, visitors, and partners; and with political structures and figures. The 2021 Legislative Session is well underway and this week we hosted a handful of local lawmakers for dinner and conversation. We do not push a particular political agenda, but we do encourage political engagement. We want the Shodair community to understand how government works. We want them to voice opinions to elected figures to ensure representation of their views. We want everyone who is eligible to vote. And we want to have the opportunity to share our story with legislators from every corner of the state.

We don't expect everyone to agree, but we hope that respectful dialogue between the people and elected officials will happen during the session and beyond. What is decided at the Capitol in the coming weeks impacts us all and everyone should have the opportunity to have a voice and be heard. These lawmakers are not driven by their paychecks, because let's face it, being a Montana representative doesn't push anyone into the next tax bracket. They do it because of their love for this great state, and we owe them

support and gratitude. So with that, a heartfelt THANK YOU to those serving the people of Montana during the session and throughout the year! It can be a thankless job, but we at Shodair are very thankful you are willing to do it!

## Construction Update



We now have a live web cam installed so everyone can watch the construction of our new building. This is exciting for the entire Shodair community because it allows everyone to engage in the new growth as we



continue to care for Montana families. We invite you to check it out [here](#) and be sure to periodically check in to see our progress!

One special note is that this project is all being completed by Montana businesses! At Shodair, we remain committed to serving the people of this state; that expands beyond genetic and psychiatry services to the intentional engagement of the Montana labor force and economy.



Know an employee or Shodair supporter that does something outside of the box or interesting? Nominate them for a story in this newsletter by emailing [alistoe@shodair.org](mailto:alistoe@shodair.org)

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## Employee Spotlight— Jen Buszka



This month's employee spotlight is Jen Buszka, a utilization review specialist at Shodair. Jen has worked at Shodair for the past 15 years and prior was a department head at a Mental Health Nursing Facility and Early Intervention Services with Family Outreach for those with developmental disabilities. UR staff provide clinical information to Medicaid and insurance companies to keep patients stay clinically authorized, so the hospital receives payment for the patients' care. "We complete initial authorizations prior to admission and continued stay authorizations throughout the patients' stay," she said. UR also coordinates with facilities for discharge planning to other facilities outside of Shodair. "We work closely with admissions to communicate both admission and discharges to assist in keeping patient beds full in the facility," she said. Jen enjoys advocating for the young people we serve so they get the services they need.

Jen says Shodair has changed a lot in her time by increasing services and improved communication, culture, and collaboration, which makes it a positive work environment and healing for patients. "I think the future is (at Shodair) promising," she said. "For some time there has been such a shortage of mental health services for children and adolescents across the state often limited by payment sources. Shodair is opening much needed services to support these youth."

During her free time, Jen enjoys cooking, telemark skiing, running, reading, just about anything outdoors, and spending time with her family, friends and pets. She and her husband Scott have a dog and two barn cats. She also started Rock Steady Boxing here in Helena with her dear friend Sus. It is a high intensity exercise program for individuals who have Parkinson's Disease. This is neuroprotective for individuals who have Parkinson's by slowing their disease progression, helping managing symptoms, and increasing their quality of life. Jen says non-contact boxing addresses the symptoms of disease. i.e. slow movement, mobility, flexibility, agility, speed, coordination, balance, and overall fitness. "The program also becomes a great social network program and support for these individuals to fight back against their disease," she said. "We have participants from ages 52 to 86 in our program. They are such a fun group to be around! You see the shift in boxers within about the first 30 days of participating. Its hard work but they come in with a smile, walk better, and move better. The program is held 3 days a week."

Jen is knowledgeable about the needs of patients; is easy to collaborate with as a team player; and not afraid to speak up even when difficult. Her colleagues say she is always willing to lend a helping hand, and is 100 percent dedicated to a job well done. We are fortunate to have Jen in the Shodair family!

Utilization and review specialists Jen Buszka is pictured on the top right (far right) at a Missoula outreach event in early 2020. The bottom right, Jen is shown coaching a participant at Rocky Steady Boxing.



## Seedlings at Shodair



For the past four years Shodair and students from Carroll College have engaged in gardening and growing food. This year, due to the construction, we will have to get creative about planting since the garden is not operable this year. Shodair patients are still getting the opportunity to learn about diet and growing food as they have in the past. In the front foyer, you'll see the seedlings beginning to sprout. This partnership is awesome for our patients and staff, as well as the Carroll College students.



# Psychiatry & Genetics

## January 2021 Update

**Percent Occupancy per Unit:**  
**Grasslands: 85% High Desert: 69%**  
**Glacier: 78% Yellowstone: 55%**

### Virtual Outpatient Visits:

Helena: 810 Butte: 127  
Missoula: 260

### In Person Outpatient Visits:

Helena: 162 Butte: 20  
Missoula: 16

### Acute Admissions:

High Desert: 19  
Grasslands: 55

**Covid Testing:**  
1244

### Percent Medicaid:

Inpatient: 69% Outpatient: 64%

### Clinical Genetics

#### December 2020

General In-Person: 0

Neuropsych: 6

Metabolic: 5

General Tele-Med: 46

Cleft Palate: 0

Cancer: 5

Diatary: 5

Total 67

### Genetics Laboratory

Molecular Tests: 79

Cytogenetic Tests: 17

Total: 96



# Foundation



## Greater Helena Gives – Save the Date!

This May, we will all have the opportunity to be part of Greater Helena Area's day of giving - an opportunity to unite our community around causes in which we truly believe and help nonprofit organizations connect to the larger community. From 6 p.m. on May 6 to 6 p.m. on May 7, visit [greaterhelenagives.org](http://greaterhelenagives.org) and make a donation to Shodair Children's Hospital and to any of the other great participating nonprofit organizations in the Greater Helena Area. All giving will end at 6 p.m. on May 7, so make sure to get your gift in on time!

Questions? If you have any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach the Foundation Department at 444-7560. Thank you in advance for your generosity to our organization!

## ACE Valley Ace Hardware

If you have driven past Bob's Valley Market in the Helena Valley recently, you've probably noticed the brand new building tucked behind the well-known convenience store. That is Helena's new Ace Hardware and it is ready to open its doors to Helena residents. Steve Bartmess, owner of Bob's Valley Market, saw the growing need in the Valley for a hardware store and after learning about Ace Hardware's mission and the impact they have in communities nationwide, he decided to open one himself. We are extremely excited to add another Ace Hardware store to Shodair's CMN family! The Valley Ace will host its grand opening late April so be on the lookout for more details in next month's issue of Info To Know.

## Montana State University's Dance Marathon Cancelled

After much thought and consideration, Montana State University's 2021 Dance Marathon has been cancelled due to COVID-19 limitations and obstacles. The Dance Marathon team will continue to meet through the Spring semester and begin planning for next year's event.

## CMN Dates for 2021

Children's Miracle Network partners are beginning to finalize their 2021 CMN Campaign dates. Below is a list of the dates that have been secured, so be sure to mark your

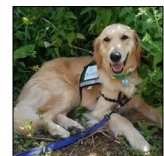
Ace Hardware's Round Up Campaign	April 1-30
IHOP's CMN Donation Push	April 1-30
Love's Round Up Campaign	April TBD
Costco's Miracle Balloon Campaign	May 1-31
Dairy Queen's Balloon Campaign	June 1 - July 22
Walmart and Sam's Club Balloon Campaign	June 28- July 25
Dairy Queen's Miracle Treat Day	July 22
Ace Hardware's Bucket Days	August 6-8
Panda Express's Panda Cares Day	August 8
Love's Register Campaign	August 30-October 2
Montana's Credit Unions' Miracle Jeans Day	September TBD
Great Clips' Coupon Balloon Campaign	October 1 - 31
Ace Hardware's Round Up Campaign	November 26 - December 31



## Happy Birthday, Blue!

March 13 marked the 5th birthday of Blue Bonnet, Shodair's facility dog. We celebrated with blueberry PUPcakes and patients poured out their love for Blue by coloring pictures that we displayed.

Blue is an important member of the Shodair community and is well loved by us all!



## Thanks to area realtors and Stockman Bank

Helena businesses and organizations continue to support Shodair Children's Hospital. Helena's Association of Realtors and Stockman's Bank have recently stopped by the hospital to present donations to Shodair. In these unprecedented times, we are extremely thankful for Helena's continued support!



*Pictured to the left are Shodair Foundation members and representative from Stockman Bank. To the right are Shodair employees with Helena Area Realtors. Both recently made donations to Shodair's building project and we are very grateful!*

