

Info in Flight

August 2022



New Hospital On Budget and On Schedule



Thanks to proactive planning, material management, and efficient construction scheduling, Shodair Children's Hospital replacement facility in Helena remains on target with budget and schedule.

"This couldn't have happened without the collaboration with architects, contractors and subcontractors committed to helping us meet our mission," CEO Craig Aasved said. "While there are still several months left until the project is complete, we have every reason to believe we will stay on track to move in in January."

The 134,000 square-foot facility will provide space that is safer and more therapeutic for the patients served. It also means the staff can more effectively and efficiently provide care to children with varying acuity levels.

There is much to consider prior to moving patients and staff into the new hospital. Shodair is working with JL Transitions, an Oregon-based firm that specializes in helping medical facilities relocate. Aasved said Shodair is pleased to have the help of this experienced firm to guide us through this process.

You are invited to visit our live webcam as your time and curiosity allows at our live webcam link by clicking the picture below.



Medical Office Building Taking Shape

Shodair's Medical Office Building on the main campus in Helena is the future home of our medical



genetics and psychiatry outpatient services.

This project is moving right along and is expected to be completed in March of next year. It's located on the corner of Shodair and Saddle drives on the southwest corner of Shodair property. The building also includes a shelled space to be used for future growth.

Employee Spotlight - Tom Bogen, Occupational Therapist



Occupational Therapist **Tom Bogen** says he learned a lot of the soft skills needed when working with people hanging around a laundromat and self-service car-wash his parents owned when he was growing up in Bozeman. Although he didn't know it at the time, those days of soap and suds gave him a solid foundation of people skills he uses every day at Shodair. Tom says his siblings and parents have been his mentors because they have managed tough times with grace, which inspires him.

Tom is the youngest of three and earned a degree in soil and water science. After college, he spent a lot of time by himself in country settings with only the sounds of crickets and cows to keep him company. He decided he wanted more of a way to engage with people while incorporating science. At that time he says he didn't even know what occupational therapy was, let alone could be a career.

After his older brother made the career suggestion, Tom spent time shadowing several occupational therapist before venturing down this path. After graduate school, he worked in a nursing home setting helping people with every day tasks and those recovering from surgeries. . He also worked in an international school setting in Amsterdam with children from all over the world. They worked on social skills, handwriting, and coordination in preparation for school in the day. Tom says he learned a lot at this job because the students were so diverse and brought with them a variety of backgrounds and cultures.

Tom started in Shodair's Outpatient Clinic in

Helena three years ago. He begins his day at 8 a.m. and typically sees about eight patients on any given day. He says by the time 5:30 p.m. rolls around, his busy work day comes to an end and he heads home. "

Tom says he is fortunate to work along side of a great team and they share in the vision to build up every kids' strength.

"Since every kids' primary occupation and way of discovering the world is initially through play, occupational therapists use play as a means to build skills that are being addressed in therapy; like fine motor skills, visual perspective, skills gross motor life skills, and addressing sensory processing," Tom said.

One of the challenges for Tom as Shodair are the patients who force him to rethink his entire approach to therapy sessions. "There are some kids who can be really difficult to work with and gives me a run for my money on what works and, more importantly, what does not work," he said. "Those challenging kids are the ones that push me to be a better occupational therapist and helped me better adapt our sessions to meet their own unique needs to get the best outcomes of our sessions."

Occupational therapy is conducted in person, which means the past couple years have been especially challenging occupational therapists, as well as other types of therapy for his colleagues, like speech therapy for example. During the COVID Pandemic shutdown, Tom got creative and made a [fantastic video](#) on gross motor skills, which he did completely without assistance.

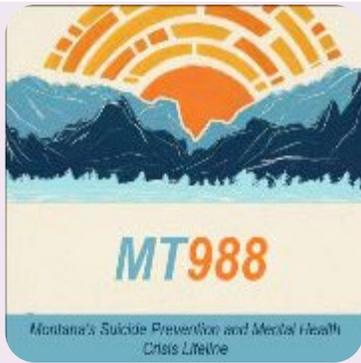
Tom says he is very excited about Shodair's future. He says it's been rewarding to be part of the development of the new medical office building which will house outpatient services.

A couple things that many people don't know about Tom is that he has written more than 30 songs on guitar. "It helps me work through the ups and downs of life," he said. Another thing that may surprise some who know him is his bucket list item to chase a tornado. He said as a kid he repeatedly watched the movie "Twister" and it made a lasting impression.

Tom is an easy going, thoughtful and a caring part of the Shodair team and we are fortunate he practices his work here. Thanks for all you do, Tom and keep up the great work!

988 is now the 911 for Mental Health

The new national 988 number is meant to connect people in mental health crisis with specially trained



advocates. The three-digit number was developed as a free resource for those in emotional distress. It went live in July.

Shodair Employees Represent at Golf Tournament



Shodair was well represented at the Helena Chamber of Commerce Annual golf tournament earlier this summer. An internal drawing to play and represent was offered to all employees. The lucky winners were: L to R – Adrienna Hines, Jacob Winegart, Karen Ellsworth, Luke Maieler.

Sam's Club Fun Fundraising



Sam's Club managers and team leaders in Great Falls agreed to get a pie in the face to support Shodair during the recent balloon campaign. Sam's Club is one of our generous partners through Children's Miracle Network and the pie throwing event was just one of several over the course of the month-long campaign. Other fundraising activities included a raffle with fantastic packages the employees put together.

We are extremely grateful for the enthusiastic and creative support from the entire team at Sam's Club. If you or your organization is holding a fundraising for Shodair, let us know how we can support your effort by reaching out to Alana Listoe at alistoe@shodair.org



Events

A Big THANK YOU!

To our amazing CMN Partners like Panda Express and JOANN's for their continued

year-round fundraising and to those that recently held fundraising events:
Sam's Club and Walmart Balloon Campaign
Dairy Queen Miracle Treat Day



Upcoming Events

- Aug. 5-7 Ace Hardware Bucket Days
- Aug. 8 Panda Cares Day at Panda Express
- Aug. 10 NAMI's Free Family and Friends seminar
- Aug. 13 Lefthander's Day
- Aug. 25 Shodair Employee Picnic
- Aug. 26 National Dog Day
- Sept. 5 Labor Day



Shodair Team at upcoming NAMI Walk



Mark your calendars for Sun., Sept. 18 for the National Alliance for Mental Health's annual walk in Helena. For the past several years Shodair's team has proudly had the most participants on one team and we are hoping this year is no different!

Plan to be a Shodairian and walk with us. Those who do, receive a free team t-shirt. Registration is at 11 a.m. The program begins at 12:30 p.m. and the walk is at 1 p.m. To register click [here](#).

May Dashboard Metrics

Medical Genetics

Clinic Visits: 74
Lab Tests: 114
COVID Tests: 348

Inpatient Psychiatry

Total Admissions: 53
Average Length of Stay:
Acute: 13.1 Residential: 76
Montana Medicaid: 53%

Outpatient Psychiatry

Appointments: 2021
Montana Medicaid: 50%

To heal, help and inspire hope



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