

PeaceHealth Foundation's

# Helping Hands Fund



## Hope in uncertain times: Ruth's story

Ruth has always been someone others could count on. As a dedicated caregiver, she brought comfort and compassion to those in need. But when a sudden health crisis forced her to take several months off work, Ruth found herself facing an unexpected hardship of her own.

As her recovery unfolded, the stress of mounting bills and the fear of eviction began to overwhelm her. That's when a coworker offered more than encouragement — they offered a path forward. Ruth was connected to the Helping Hands Fund, which provided her financial support she desperately needed.

With support from the fund, Ruth was able to stay in her home and focus on healing. The burden of rent and living expenses no longer loomed over her recovery. "I could finally breathe again," she shared. "Knowing I wasn't alone gave me the strength to keep going."

Ruth's experience is a powerful reminder of what's possible when we care for one another. The Helping Hands Fund provided more than financial help — it restored hope and stability when she needed it most.

Thanks to your generosity, caregivers like Ruth are met with compassion when they need it most. You are part of the reason that behind every strong caregiver is a strong community of support.

At PeaceHealth, compassion lives in every corner of our hospitals—not just at the bedside, but in how caregivers care for one another.

The Helping Hands Fund was created to reflect that spirit. Funded by and for caregivers, it provides timely, meaningful support when life takes an unexpected turn. Whether facing a medical crisis, the loss of a home, or an unforeseen emergency, caregivers can turn to this fund for financial relief and the reassurance that they are not alone.

In the past four years, caregivers have contributed more than \$409,000, offering support to over 260 colleagues during times of urgent need. This is compassion in action — a living example of our Mission and a testament to the strength of our PeaceHealth family.

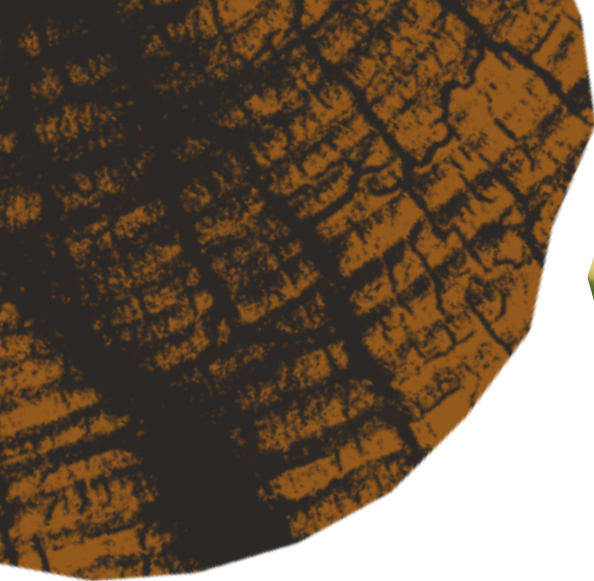
Your support strengthens this circle of care. Every gift to the Helping Hands Fund provides more than dollars — it delivers peace of mind, stability and the knowledge that we're all in this together. Thank you for helping create a community where no one walks alone.

— Anne Rasmussen, MBA, CFRE, FCEP  
System Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer



**PeaceHealth**  
Foundations





## Growing stronger together as a community

The Helping Hands Fund has been effectively utilized to cover a variety of essential expenses, including housing stability, utility bills, medical-related costs and urgent dental care. Since the creation of the fund, your generosity has enabled us to distribute a remarkable \$409,451 to more than 260 caregivers in need.

This significant support has offered vital relief to our colleagues.

**Last year, more than \$130,000 was distributed to 70 caregivers who benefited from your loving support. Your ongoing generosity not only provides financial assistance but also assures fellow employees that they have a strong community standing beside them.**

## A helping hand in a time of crisis: the power of community

When a fire destroyed their home and belongings, Alexis and her partner were left with nothing but the urgency to find safe, temporary housing for their family. With low availability and high rental costs, their only option was a furnished home that cost \$800 more than their previous mortgage.

Just weeks before the fire, Alexis’ partner had been laid off — leaving the family with one income and a mountain of unexpected expenses. The added financial pressure became overwhelming.



That’s when Alexis turned to the Helping Hands Fund. Through the support of PeaceHealth and a financial coach, Alexis and her partner were able to build a plan and receive assistance with one month’s rent — giving them a moment to catch their breath and begin to rebuild.

“The support helped us hold on during the hardest moment of our lives,” Alexis shared.

A few weeks later, Alexis reached back out to share an update: her partner had secured a new job, and together their two incomes were enough to cover their family’s needs. They made the thoughtful decision to move into a trailer on their property to save for an emergency fund as their home is rebuilt.

Because of the Helping Hands Fund, Alexis and her family found more than financial help — they found stability, hope and a community that showed up when it mattered most.



**\$68,883**

distributed to support housing needs.

After the sudden loss of her husband, Trisha was overwhelmed by grief while still showing up to care for others at work. Balancing her emotional recovery with daily responsibilities was difficult enough — but when housing costs became unmanageable, she feared losing the one place that still felt secure: home.

Thanks to the Helping Hands Fund, Trisha received the support she needed to stay in her home and avoid eviction.

“It gave me the stability I needed to focus on healing and to keep going,” Trisha shared.

Today, she’s rebuilding her life with gratitude — for the care she received and for the reminder that she wasn’t alone.



**\$33,191**

to help pay utilities.

When Mindy’s husband fell seriously ill, she juggled two jobs while managing his care and their expenses. Despite her efforts, utility bills piled up, adding stress to an already overwhelming time. Mindy turned to the Helping Hands Fund and found more than financial relief.

With the support of the Helping Hands Fund, critical bills were paid, allowing Mindy to focus on her family. “It reminded me I had support out there,” she shared. “There’s a community ready to lift you up.”

The Helping Hands Fund supports essential expenses like electricity, heat and water, ensuring caregivers don’t have to choose between caring for a loved one and keeping the lights on.



**\$17,209**

for transportation expenses.

After undergoing surgery, David faced a difficult recovery that kept him out of work for weeks. As medical bills and living expenses mounted, he found himself having to make impossible choices — like whether to pay his rent or his car payment.

Without reliable transportation, returning to work or getting to follow-up appointments would be nearly impossible. That’s when the Helping Hands Fund stepped in to help cover both.

“I’m glad to work for an employer that supports their employees,” David shared with gratitude. With the support he received, David kept his home, his car and his sense of stability — and most importantly, he felt cared for in his time of need.



**\$5,358**

to cover medical costs.

When Danielle was diagnosed with a chronic condition, the weight of medical bills and prescription costs quickly became overwhelming.

“I was trying to hold it all together,” she said. “But the bills were coming in fast, and I started to fall behind.”

Thanks to the Helping Hands Fund, Danielle received the support she needed to manage expenses and continue her treatment. “It lifted such a weight off my shoulders,” she shared.

Medical challenges can affect every part of a caregiver’s life — physically, emotionally and financially. The Helping Hands Fund assists by covering essential medical expenses, letting caregivers like Danielle focus on healing.



**\$1,287**

for dental expenses.

By covering essential dental care — including fillings and preventive treatment — the Helping Hands Fund eases financial stress and allows caregivers to prioritize their health without worry.

When Mateo began experiencing severe tooth pain, he tried to push through it, continuing to care for others while dealing with growing discomfort. But the cost of treatment felt out of reach, and the pain became unbearable.

Thanks to the Helping Hands Fund, Mateo received the necessary care to relieve the pain and protect his health.

“Knowing someone had my back meant everything,” he shared. Now pain-free and smiling again, Mateo is back to doing what he loves — caring for others.





**Together, we care.**

**Your generosity fuels the PeaceHealth Mission — bringing compassion and healing not only to our patients, but to one another.**

**296**

caregivers supported the Helping Hands Fund in 2024.

**\$127,869**

raised in 2024 to support PeaceHealth caregivers.

**70**

caregivers benefited from the generous support provided by the Helping Hands Fund.

## **Thank you for being a member of the PeaceHealth Care Squad**

Your generosity is making a real difference in the lives of caregivers across PeaceHealth. By giving to the Helping Hands Fund through the Care Squad, you're offering more than financial assistance — you're providing hope, dignity and relief to colleagues facing unexpected hardship.

Because of you, caregivers can focus on healing after a crisis, stay in their homes, keep the lights on or access the medical care they need —without carrying the burden alone.

Thank you for showing what it truly means to care for one another. Your compassion helps create a stronger, more connected caregiver community — one where no one walks through life's challenges without support.

**We're grateful to have you as part of the Care Squad.**