

Providing 100% donor supported door-to-door transportation

to qualifying radiation therapy patients to the Kate Marmion Regional Cancer Medical Center in Uvalde.



Staff of Clear Springs Center for Cancer Care at Kate Marmion Regional Cancer Medical Center in Uvalde are (left to right) Alicia Swimley, front desk coordinator; Krista Pargas, LVN; Charles A. Brooks, M.D., Board Certified Radiation Oncologist; John Lara, B.S.R.T.; Danielle Ardolino B.S.R.T.. The staff is made up of compassionate professionals who will treat you – and the people you love – like family. Learn more at www.thecentersforcancer.com or call 830-278-6200.

As the holiday season and another new year quickly approach, I'd like to take the opportunity to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for – beginning with you! Kate Marmion Rides to Radiation is completely reliant on philanthropy from all levels and we are thankful for each supporter and gift that allows us to achieve our mission. Since the courtesy service began in November 2011, donor gifts have benefited 285 people.

Having radiation therapy in Uvalde eliminates the need for patients to travel out of our area for treatments, reducing many burdens on patients and their family members, including the need to take additional time off work and incur travel expenses. Patients often recover faster when they have convenient access to care and remain close to home.

The staff of Clear Springs Center for Cancer Care lets patients know that transportation is available and they plan treatment schedules for efficiency for our patients and drivers. The drivers are instrumental to the success of the service and

they do so much more than drive. They make sure the vans are prepared for their daily trips and monitor the need for maintenance – all with a smile on their face and a compassionate and friendly attitude. Their goal is to make sure patients get to their treatments and on with their lives.

Our current vans are road warriors and each has over 250,000 miles. It is time to replace both. Will you please help us raise \$60,000 for two new vans by giving a 100% tax-deductible gift? Helping here and helping now is the motto of the foundation, and that is exactly what you will provide with your gift.

On the following pages some of the people who have benefited from the service express their deep gratitude for each donor who makes their fight against cancer a little easier.

With gratitude,

Sheri Rutledge

Sheri Rutledge
Executive Director

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Executive Director

In Memory of Founding Members

John L. Shudde, M.D.
2010-2018

Janey Briscoe Marmion
2010-2018

✝ *We are deeply saddened by the death of two of our founding board members this year, Dr. John L. Shudde and Janey Briscoe Marmion, and we extend our deepest condolences to their families.*





Norma Chavarria, 62, lives in Del Rio and has been married for 43 years. She takes great pride in taking care of her husband and immediate family. With a glowing

smile and a twinkle in her eye she said, "I am everything to my family! I have breast cancer and had three surgeries but need six weeks of radiation therapy. My doctor told me that Uvalde has the expertise to take care of me and I was so thankful because I wanted to be sent somewhere that I would feel comfortable and not far away from my family. When I found out about the van service I was so happy because I do not drive and my husband and children work. I want to say thank you to the people who give to the service because I could not get here without it. Gracias, gracias, mucho gracias for the help! Cancer is scary and I was not familiar with it and was afraid of what was coming. I am thankful that I feel good and that I could be treated in Uvalde by such an excellent staff.



Rosendo Flores Camacho, 73, from Crystal City, received 44 treatments for prostate cancer.

"Having the van pick me up has helped me and I don't know what I would have done without it. It is a first class-service and I appreciate the donors that provide it. I live alone and cannot drive to my treatments. I am staying with my daughter here in Uvalde and she works and cannot take me every day. I am so happy that I could be treated in Uvalde. The van drivers are very kind and professional. I want to thank the staff at Clear Springs for their help. They are very good at their jobs and are thoughtful and kind people."

"Gracias, gracias, mucho gracias for the help!"



Raul Cruz, 62, from Eagle Pass has throat cancer. He can no longer speak and uses a dry erase board

to communicate. When Alicia Swimley, Clear Springs coordinator, told Mr. Cruz that there was a van service available to take him to his treatments he was so relieved and thankful that he kissed her hand to show his appreciation. Mr. Cruz wrote, "We get treated very well. They are very attentive with all of us. May God continue to bless you for providing transportation. Thank you."

285 People Connected



Vicente Maldonado, 71, is retired and lives in Eagle Pass with his wife of 50 years, Rosacelia. Mr. Maldonado received 44 radiation

treatments for prostate cancer. "If I was to grade the drivers, the staff at Clear Springs and the donors, I would give them each an A for excellent! I thank God for this service because without it I do not know how I would have gotten to Uvalde every day. I could not have driven myself and I am very thankful to have been able to take the van because it would have been expensive for me to get here on my own."



Thank you Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the \$2,000 Community Empowerment Grant. We appreciate your support toward our \$60,000 campaign for two new vans. The program was designed to award grants for capital projects that support community and economic development in the counties served by Medina EC. Pictured (left to right) Katie Haby, media member relations and communications supervisor; W.A. Kessler, Jr., foundation board member; Sheri Rutledge, executive director; and drivers Clemente Moreno and Cipriano Patino.

Help Us Replace Two Vans & Fill A Tank



Our current vans are road warriors and each has over 250,000 miles. It is time to replace both. It costs \$100,000 to operate Kate Marmion Rides to Radiation annually. Your gift will be used to cover fuel, maintenance, repairs, tires, and insurance for both vans; van drivers' salaries and benefits; fundraising and other administrative costs. Below are some of the ways your donation will help.

- \$20 funds 1 round trip for a patient
- \$50 funds 1 tank of gas and cost of operations of 1 van
- \$100 funds 2 tanks of gas and cost of operations of 1 van
- \$250 funds 5 tanks of gas and cost of operation of 1 van
- \$500 funds 10 tanks of gas and cost of operation of 2 vans
- \$1,000 funds the monthly fuel bill for both vans
- \$2,500 funds 2 ½ months of fuel for both vans
- \$5,000 funds 5 months of fuel for both vans
- \$10,000 runs Kate Marmion Rides to Radiation for 1 month
- \$60,000 funds two new vans

Filling a Tank is Helping Here and Helping Now

d to Great Cancer Care



Karen McFadin, 75, is from Del Rio. "What type of cancer don't I have at this point? I've had so many. It started with my gallbladder. I've had 12 chemotherapy treatments. I got so, so sick, and after my first round of treatment, they found a large tumor in the back of my head. The van has been fantastic! I was going to San Antonio and my son had to take off work so much to drive me. Thank goodness he has a good boss. When I found out I could do my treatments in Uvalde and they were going to drive me

here, it was the best news. I had no idea how I would handle this by myself. It's so hard to believe that they can do something like this. I say it every time I get picked up and I say it to everyone at the center. These people don't know how wonderful they really are. It has helped me, and my son not having to take off work, so much. I cannot thank the donors enough."



Maria Barragan, 66, from Del Rio will have 30 radiation therapy treatments for stage 2 breast cancer. Her brother, **Nicolas Rodriguez**,

helps to care for Maria. Mr. Rodriguez shared his gratitude for the van service. "It has been great and has helped us tremendously. There are not enough words to say about the service or our driver, Clemente; he is so patient and professional. Clear Springs is a wonderful practice and I would not hesitate recommending the practice or the van service. I congratulate you for this program and please continue giving to the van service because you really are helping people when they need it the most."

"Thank you for giving to help me and others that do not have any way to get to Uvalde."



Sylvia Campos, (right), 66, lives in Eagle Pass and is disabled. "I had surgery for stage 1 breast cancer and now need four weeks of radiation. It would have been

impossible for me to get to Uvalde for my treatments without the van service. My caregiver of 35 years, Mary Lopez (left), does not feel comfortable driving long distances and it would be too expensive to pay someone to take me every day. I feel very comfortable with the drivers because they are so good and kind. I want to tell everyone that gives money, thank you for giving to help me and others that do not have any way to get to Uvalde."

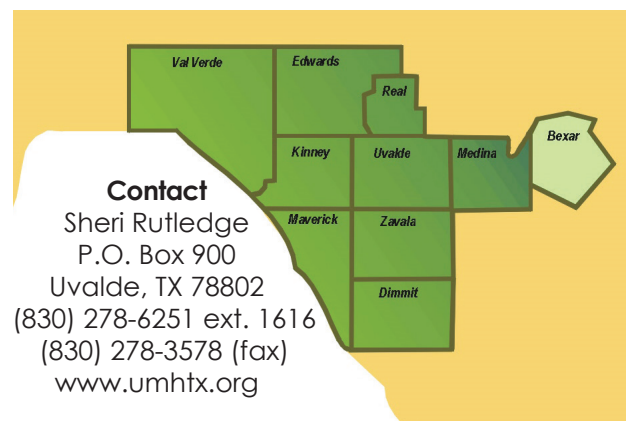


P.O. Box 900, Uvalde, Texas 78802

Kate Marmion Rides to Radiation, a 501 (c) (3), was created after the close of the "Saving Lives Close to Home" capital campaign which raised over \$5 million to build the Kate Marmion Regional Cancer Medical Center in Uvalde. This effort brought Clear Springs Center for Cancer Care - the first and only radiation therapy practice west of San Antonio- and expanded specialty care for the residents of our region.

Patients typically receive 30 radiation treatments delivered over six-weeks. Our mission is to help alleviate financial burdens for patients associated with traveling to and from their daily treatments in our vast nine-county region.

Two vans transport medically underserved, low to moderate income, insured and uninsured patients. Patients use the service if they are unable to drive themselves because of their illness, unreliable transportation, or their family members are unable to take off of work to take them to and from their treatments.



Please find a donation form inside this newsletter or visit www.umhtx.org and click on the donation tab for a printable donation form.