

Supporter Spotlight: Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island

Thank you to Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI) for being the premier sponsor of Thundermist’s 50th anniversary!

Twenty-five years ago, the community health centers in Rhode Island founded NHPRI.

The insurer has a long history with community health centers in Rhode Island. In fact, more than half of their members receive care

at community health centers, including Thundermist.

NHPRI provides much more than insurance. They are strong community supporters and advocates. Their support has brought access to health care to thousands of Thundermist patients.



Pauline Says “Thank You!”

You have supported generations of care!

Pauline is full of gratitude for all you have done to support her and other patients. She first visited the health center 32 years ago to get vaccinations for her new baby.

“The care here is wonderful. They have been saving my life for more than 30 years.”

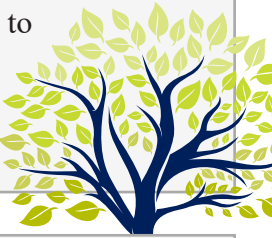


Leaving Your Legacy

Leaving a gift to Thundermist in your will is a once in a lifetime chance to ensure that access to care continues for future generations even after you are gone.

You will leave a legacy and reminder of your generosity for years to come.

To learn how easy it is to leave a legacy gift to Thundermist, call Jessica Null at 401-235-6887.



You’re invited!

Family Fun Day

South County Family Fun Day

Friday, August 9, 5 - 7 p.m.
1 River St., Wakefield, RI

Woonsocket Family Fun Day

Friday, August 23, 5 - 7 p.m.
450 Clinton St., Woonsocket, RI

Annual Golf Tournament

Tuesday, September 17,
Registration at 10:30 a.m.
Sakonnet Golf Club,
Little Compton, RI

Duck Race & West Warwick Family Fun Day

Saturday, September 28,
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Royal Mills, 125 Providence St.,
West Warwick, RI

50th Anniversary Gala

Thursday, October 10,
6 - 9 p.m.
Roger Williams Botanical Center,
Providence, RI

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THUNDERMIST TIMES

Celebrating 50 years of caring for our community

August 2019 | Issue #1

Providing Care for 50 Years

A look back at Thundermist’s 50-year history

Imagine...it’s 1969, and you are a young woman in Woonsocket. You discover you are having a baby! But wait, you do not have insurance or access to health care. You are scared and do not know where to turn. You learn about a group of volunteers bringing family planning services to Woonsocket...in an apartment. Finally, you get the care you need! This is how Thundermist began.

During the 1970s and 80s, what started as family planning services grew into a full-fledged health center. Primary care for adults and children, WIC, prenatal services, and dental care were added.

The need to bring health care to people who did not have access only grew. Thundermist expanded with locations in Wakefield and West Warwick.

Services continued to grow to include walk-in care, behavioral health care, and treatment for substance use disorders. Programs that began during this time include health care for the homeless, school-based health centers, HIV programs, a trans health program, and community health teams.

Thundermist remains true to its mission of providing high-quality health care to our patients and communities, removing barriers to that care, and advancing healthy lifestyles.

Thank you for putting your health care, community, and your support in our hands. We look forward to the next 50 years!



From Jeanne's Desk



As Thundermist celebrates our 50th anniversary we reflect on the work, the impact, and the future. None of that would be possible without the support of you, our generous donors. Your support through the last 50 years has impacted hundreds of thousands of people who would otherwise not have access to affordable health care. These stories show the impact your gifts make. I look forward to commemorating with you as the year continues. Stay tuned for future updates!

Jeanne LaChance

Jeanne LaChance
President/CEO

Meet Erin: Grateful Patient and Board Member

Erin shares her health care journey and how Thundermist changed her life!

For most of her adult life, Erin avoided hospitals and doctors and was disconnected from health care. Then, Erin turned 40 and needed a mammogram. She was uninsured and didn't know where to turn. Her dad told her to reach out to Thundermist, they could help!

Reluctantly, she made an appointment. She explained she did not have health insurance and did not know how she was going to pay. Erin utilized the sliding scale to pay for appointments and was given a \$4,000 grant so she could get her mammogram! She had a primary care provider, Sara Delaporta, MD, for the first time in years.

getting insurance – low and behold, in the nick of time.

Days later, a cat bit her and it got infected. She tried the new health insurance at the ER and was shocked – IT WORKED! She was able to make a full recovery from the infection. “Thundermist never let me down,” she shares. “In fact, they exceeded my expectations!”

Erin is now an advocate of Thundermist and its patients, participating in local, state and federal advocacy, and is a member of our board of directors. She is forever grateful for the care she receives at Thundermist.

“Thundermist never let me down. In fact, they exceeded my expectations!”

Fast forward a few years and the Affordable Care Act gave her health insurance for the first time since childhood. She is thankful for the support Thundermist provided in



The far-reaching impact of your donations:

FACTBOX: How your support impacts the community!

- 01 Provided \$2 million dollars in free care to patients
- 02 Doubled access to medical and behavioral health care in West Warwick
- 03 More than 500 Rhode Islanders accessed treatment for substance use disorders
- 04 Thundermist food pantries provided nutritious food to thousands of families

(2018)

Food Pantries Serve a Community Need

Thundermist's food pantries provide food for thousands, but there is still great need.

Access to nutritious food is difficult for many patients at Thundermist. Not only do many of our patients struggle to afford food, but the communities we serve have transportation barriers and little access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

You, our supporters, have been generous in giving to the food pantries. But many months there is a shortage of food on the pantry shelves, especially healthy food options.

Sapna Chowdhry, MD, the medical director of our Woonsocket health center, describes the importance of

our food pantries:

“Adequate nutrition and food safety are necessary for a patient's well-being and health. I find that my patients are unable to buy healthy food for the month on the food stamps/state subsidies. In Woonsocket, there is not an actual grocery store for patients to buy fresh fruits and vegetables. We greatly appreciate all donations to the food pantry.”

How you can help Will you help bring nutritious food to a family in need? Stop by any Thundermist location with

Thanks to these generous sponsors who are supporting Thundermist's 50th Anniversary!

Premier Sponsor:

Neighborhood Health
Plan of Rhode Island

Gold Sponsors:

Chace, Ruttenberg &
Freedman, LLP
Landmark Medical Center
Safe Harbor Clinical
Research

Silver Sponsors:

Bowerman and Associates
Mutual of America

Bronze Sponsor:

The Washington Trust
Company

your non-perishable food donation OR mail a check designated directly to the food pantry to:

Thundermist
Health Center
Attn: Jessica Null
171 Service
Avenue, Building
2, Warwick, RI
02886



“Adequate nutrition and food safety are necessary for a patient's well-being and health.”