



▲ *Becca is pictured with daughter Marissa Lovell (left), husband Garry Zollman and daughter Taylor Lovell. Another daughter, Shaina Zollman, was not able to attend.*

The reward that she gets from her work is “connecting with people in a very deep way, creating space for people to talk about what’s hard,” Becca said. “We’re not good at acknowledging our own suffering. I see a change in people. They say, ‘This is the first time someone’s really asked me how I’m doing.’”

Her contacts extend from the line staff to the top leaders, and of everyone she asks a “very provocative question: ‘Where do you put your suffering or what is hard for you?’” Answering that allows them to express how much they really feel called to their work, but also to say what is hard for them, Becca said. “I am honored to create that opportunity, wherever we work, for caregivers to really fall back in love with providing health care.”

Receiving the Mother Joseph Award for work she is called to do is very special to Becca. The woman she considers her second mother had a great devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Becca, who went to Catholic universities and worked for Catholic institutions, spent so much time with that family that she laughingly considers herself an “honorary Catholic”. “I absolutely love the history of the Catholic sisters and I feel so honored to receive this award from them.” That the award honors the attributes of Mother Joseph is incredibly humbling, she added.

She continues to work one day a week at St. Mary’s and is delighted to be receiving the award at Providence Academy, the first building Mother

Joseph constructed in the West. She and her husband Garry Zollman, owner of a water well drilling business, will savor the moment with their three children, Taylor Lovell, a nurse in Salem, Ore.; Marissa Lovell, who works at a public relations firm in Boise, Idaho; and Shaina Zollman, who is pursuing a degree in natural resources in Corvallis, Ore.

“I have been so patient-focused that I never would have guessed I would end my career this way, focused on compassionate care for the organization,” Becca said. “My dream is developing a compassionate coalition in Catholic health care. I want to create arms big enough to really hold everybody.” The difference that would make is huge, she explained, recalling a round of layoffs

in different ministries when she first began in this new role. The challenge she and her team members presented to employees was that really having compassion meant having compassion for the leaders who had to make those tough decisions. “To think what it was like to be them was really eye-opening for us. We opened our own hearts and opened the hearts of a lot of others,” Becca said. “I don’t think anybody understands how the leaders lay awake all night thinking about those decisions. Hearing their hearts made us pause, think and offer them compassion.”

“We’re doing the work of the sisters, delivering quality care to the vulnerable, but we’re also true to our hearts,” Becca said. ●

Becca Hawkins was nominated for the Mother Joseph Award by several of her Providence colleagues. Some of their comments follow.

Laura Daniel, program manager for Compassionate Care, related how Becca helped the staff adopt a co-worker undergoing a fight with cancer. “Without hesitation and loving our co-worker with an unnerved heart, Becca took upon herself to assist with care coordination, medical consultation and offered palliative care skill to help our co-worker to see hope, joy and life – while her medical diagnosis told her that she would just live for 6 months. Becca involved us all in prayer, daily reflection, encouraging self-compassion as we all walked alongside our co-worker through this fight. It has been an astounding journey in personal reflection about our relationships with each other, our co-worker, with ourselves. Becca’s ability to hold – really hold suffering of others – with such grace and gratitude is a pillar unto itself.” Nine months later, that co-worker is thriving.

Dr. Mark Rosenberg, program director for Internal Medicine Residency for Providence in Portland, Ore., met Becca while both were in Haiti, six months after a large earthquake. “It was a privilege to watch Becca’s heart open to the people of Haiti,” Mark said. It took courage and strength for her to stand on the rubble of a field where the nursing school had collapsed, “killing an entire class of nurses, to stand in

the center of the tent city that housed 150,000 people in Port-au-Prince and to be there with the people of Haiti,” he said. Becca saw the humanity of the people, he added. “She was the eyes and the heart that allowed each of us to feel the depth and meaning of the experience. With words from her mouth and emotions of her heart, she inspired the team to really consider how our work could be of true service to the needs of the people.” Becca showed a “deep love for humanity, rather than pity or sympathy.”

Back in the United States, Becca organized a forum for employees to discuss concepts of suffering and compassion, offering a safe opportunity to share things that were hard for them within their work with each other. Becca could stand with and support them without trying to fix their suffering, Mark said.

Deborah Burton, chief nursing officer for Providence, described Becca as “one of the most compassionate and humble human beings on the planet”.

“Like Mother Joseph, Becca is no shrinking violet; she has the highest expectations for herself and others,” Deborah said. “She speaks up on behalf of the poor and vulnerable and for those who need access to better care, comfort and compassion.”

2016 Jubilee

Fifteen Sisters of Providence mark 25 to 80 years of religious life

80 years

Dorothy Zimny, SP

(Deceased)
(Sister Margaret Yvonne)

Sister Dorothy Zimny was born in Wells, Minn., and moved as a toddler to Spokane. She boarded at St. Joseph Academy in Sprague, Wash., and was moved to become a Sister of Providence in gratitude for the sisters' free piano lessons. She taught for a total of 17 years, at St. Thomas Home, Great Falls, and in Missoula, Mont., as well as in Sprague and Colfax, Wash., and in Wallace, Idaho. Other ministries were in bookkeeping and patient accounts at St. Ignatius Hospital, Colfax; and medical records administration for 12 years in hospitals in Walla Walla, Spokane and Tacoma, Wash., and St. Ignatius, Mont. After retiring, she lived at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, until she transitioned in 2013 to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, where she died March 23, 2016. ●



75 years

Maryann Benoit, SP

(Sister Valerie)

Sister Maryann Benoit was one of two last Sisters of Providence to leave ministry in Montana since the sisters first arrived there in 1864. Born in Yakima, Wash., she was influenced by the Sisters of Providence who taught her in all twelve grades at St. Joseph Academy, and entered the religious community in 1940. She taught third graders at Sacred Heart School, Tacoma, Wash., and later students at St. Catherine School, Seattle; Central Catholic High School, Great Falls, Mont.; and boarders at Providence Academy in Vancouver, Wash. For 19 years she was an English professor at the College of Great Falls and was invited to teach English twice in Japan, as well as to advise Japanese students at the college. After her retirement, Sister Maryann and her housemate Sister Ann Dolores Ybarrola remained in Great Falls, assisting people who needed but could not afford assistance with writing applications and essays, editing and occasional translating. They also offered language services at St. Peter and Paul Parish. They moved to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, in 2013. ●



Fifteen Sisters of Providence, including two celebrating in heaven, will mark 25, 50, 60, 70, 75 and 80 years of religious life at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 30, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 15226 21st Avenue SW, Burien, Wash. Reverend John D. Whitney, SJ, will be the celebrant for the liturgy, which will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Joan O'Brien, SP

(Deceased)
(Sister James Albert)

Sister Joan O'Brien, of French-Canadian and Irish descent, was born in the village L'Assumption, Quebec Province, Canada. At age 8, she and her 3-year-old sister were sent to the Sisters of Providence orphanage in Montreal after their mother's death. She entered the religious community as a postulant in 1940 and became a novice in 1941. She was sent to Seattle to be a companion in the infirmary at Mount St. Vincent, and then was a cook at St. Catherine School, Seattle, and at St. Michael School, Olympia, Wash. After nursing school, she was a nursing supervisor at St. Vincent Hospital, Portland, Ore.; and in Washington at St. Joseph Hospital, Vancouver, Providence Hospital, Everett, St. Peter Hospital, Olympia, and Providence Medical Center, Seattle. She opened the pastoral care department at Providence Seattle after receiving certification in chaplaincy and providing pastoral care for five months at Providence Everett. Even after she retired from Providence Seattle after nearly 25 years, Sister Joan remained active, riding the bus to visit and assist the vulnerable elderly residents of Vincent House in downtown Seattle, and also at Heritage House. She also assisted the sisters in the infirmary at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, where she died January 15, 2016. ●



Cecilia Paganessi, SP

(Sister Beatrice of Jesus)

Sister Cecilia Paganessi, born in Centerville, Mont., decided to be a sister as a 10-year-old, when she and her four sisters went to St. Thomas Home in Great Falls, Mont., after their mother's death. After high school graduation, she enrolled at the College of Great Falls and then entered the novitiate at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle. For 31 years she taught in parochial grade schools in Glasgow and Great Falls, Mont., Kellogg and Wallace, Idaho, and Colfax and Walla Walla, Wash. Other ministries included work in the provincial treasurer's office in Spokane and community service, including in Walla Walla, where she handmade countless baby blankets for Hispanic women in St. Patrick's Parish, and baked cookies and pies for neighbors. Today she lives at Emilie Court, Spokane. ●



70 years

Inez Arkell, SP

(Sister Victorine)

Sister Inez Arkell, born in Minneapolis, moved with her family to western Montana. As a high school student at Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula, she was hired as a nurse's aide at St. Ignatius Hospital to care for elderly Sister Victor Nibbler. When she entered the Sisters of Providence novitiate in Seattle, she took Sister Victorine as her name in religion. Her ministries have been in nursing, pastoral care, chaplaincy and volunteer service, largely in Montana. She took care of boarding school girls in Sprague, Wash., and Missoula, Mont., before she became a licensed practical nurse. Then she served at hospitals



in Fort Benton and Great Falls. She transitioned into pastoral care and later trained to become a chaplain, serving at Columbus Hospital in Great Falls. Other ministries in Great Falls included working at Benefis Health Care, at St. Luke's Parish with the Legion of Mary as spiritual director, at the former Angel Room at St. Vincent de Paul, and with Providence Associates. Today she resides at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. ●

Lily May Emert, SP

(Sister Rose Theresa)

Sister Lily May Emert's ministries have included pharmacist, chaplain, aide to the elderly and infirm, community volunteer, and advisor and support to Providence Associates in Spokane for nearly 25 years. A Seattle native, she was raised primarily in Spokane County and worked part time doing chores in the pharmacy at Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, while in high school. She entered the religious community in 1946 and was assigned to help with bookkeeping in the business office at Columbus Hospital in Great Falls, Mont., and later to assist in the pharmacy. She also assisted in the pharmacy at St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula, Mont. Five years later, she was sent to Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., for pharmacy training. She worked at St. Patrick's in the summers, and then continued working there for 10 years after her graduation. For the next 20 years, she worked in the pharmacy at St. Mary Hospital, Walla Walla, Wash., and also substituted at St. Ignatius and Colfax hospitals. In 1990 she volunteered as a chaplain at St. Mary's and then completed clinical pastoral education training at Providence Hospital in Portland, Ore. In 1992 she joined the Community Life Team at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, serving elderly and infirm sisters. When Mount St. Joseph closed in December 2013, she began volunteering at Our Place community ministry. She continues to live in Spokane. ●



Clarella Lois Mae Fink, SP

Sister Clarella Fink was born in Minneapolis and grew up in Montana, where she met the Sisters of Providence as a 5-year-old at religious vacation school in Hyshum. After graduation from Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula, Mont., she entered with her high school friend Inez Arkell. Her first ministry was helping at St. Francis Xavier School in Missoula. She taught third and fourth grades at St. Thomas Home and first grade at St. Gerard School in Great Falls, Mont., and in Walla Walla, Wash. She also lived and worked on the Indian reservation in DeSmet, Idaho, and taught for 12 years in Missoula, including St. Anthony's and St. Francis Xavier. She was one of the founding sisters of the mission in the Philippines and served there for 12 years, including three as the first superior and more than nine as treasurer. A seizure and fall in 2001 brought her back to the states, initially to Spokane, but she later returned to the Philippines for a time. Today she lives at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. ●



60 years

Joan Campbell, SP

(Sister Joanne)

For more than 40 years, Sister Joan Campbell was a prison chaplain in Washington and northern California and she was the first female president of the American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association. Born in Seattle, she graduated from Holy Angels High School and then entered the Sisters of Providence in the first class of the College of Sister Formation. For 21 years she was a first-grade teacher or principal in Catholic schools in Seattle, Vancouver,



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Paula Cosko, SP

Born in Los Angeles, Sister Paula Cosko grew up in Burbank and attended St. Finbar grade school, where she met the Sisters of Providence. She entered the religious community in Issaquah, Wash., and moved in with 90 candidates and novices. The richness of cultural diversity has been a hallmark of her ministries. Her first summer in the religious community she went to Kotzebue, Alaska, to do religious education. She returned to Nome for three years as a Jesuit Volunteer teaching religious education to Eskimo children. Returning to Seattle, she finished college and then began 14 years teaching at St. Therese School in Seattle's Central District, with a four-year hiatus of teaching at Our Lady of Guadalupe in West Seattle. In 1986 she went to Haiti as cook for a medical team. For the past 25 years, she has taught English as a Second Language at North Seattle College. She resides in Seattle. ●



Wash., and Oakland, Calif. She also was a school nurse and counselor for 10 years.

After an internship in housing management in Denver, Colo., she served for seven years managing Vincent House, Seattle. She also had oversight for construction and management of Providence House, supportive housing for HIV/AIDS patients in Oakland. She retired from housing ministry 10 years ago because of health reasons, but she became a CASA volunteer with troubled foster and abused children and served on several boards, including the community board in Medford, Ore., and Providence Senior and Community Services. She resides in Seattle. ●

Hélène Maynard, SP

(Sister Marie-Hélène)

Sister Hélène Maynard arrived in the United States in 1996 after nearly 40 years of ministry as a nurse in Quebec, Canada. She moved to Portland, Ore., and took ESL classes at Clark College in nearby Vancouver, Wash. She was missioned to the infirmary at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, to take care of the Canadian sisters. She was born in Joliette, near Montreal, and entered the religious community there. Her nursing assignments were in various Quebec hospitals, as well as in Cameroon and Haiti. She was a member of Emilie Province in Montreal while living and ministering in Seattle until she became part of Mother Joseph Province in 2002. She provided pastoral care at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. After 14 years of nursing while caring for her mother, she has been serving the retired and infirm sisters at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, for the past 15 years. She resides in Seattle. ●



Yakima, Seahurst and Longview, Wash., and in Burbank, Calif. She helped to design the facility and curriculum at Apple Valley School in Yakima, Wash.

Sister Joan was introduced to prison ministry by assisting a priest at the prison in Monroe and volunteering at the Seattle Youth Facility. After clinical pastoral education training at Western State Hospital, she coordinated detention ministry for the San Francisco Archdiocese, developing a training program for prison volunteers. She also developed a program for the Bureau of Prisons at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, Calif., to help women prisoners with health care, pregnancy and family needs. With other ministers and ex-prostitutes, she developed the program Women Emerging, to support women leaving prostitution. She also was chaplain for assisted-living residents at Providence Heritage House, in Seattle. Sister Joan resides at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, and continues to raise awareness and action against human trafficking, the effects of climate change, and especially the death penalty. ●

Mary Grondin, SP

(Sister Terrance)

Born in Detroit and raised in Sun Valley, Calif., Sister Mary Grondin entered the Sisters of Providence in 1955, part of the first class in the College of Sister Formation. Enrolled in nursing studies, she was asked to leave in her senior year and teach sixth grade at St. Catherine's School, Seattle. After completing her nursing degree, she ministered for 11 years in acute-care hospitals, mainly in obstetrics, in Astoria, Medford and Portland, Ore., Port Townsend,



Beatrice LaFramboise, SP

Sister Beatrice LaFramboise's early childhood was spent in Ellensburg, Wash., after living in several small cities in the state. She attended public school in Sunnyside, Wash., and entered the Sisters of Providence in 1965. She taught

