

SPRING 2023

## ***KELSEY AND CONNIE'S STORY***

Connie is the kind of person that you just don't forget. She's a retired teacher who will treat you like family and tell you a good story. If you have a minute, she is always ready to lend some helpful life advice or share an intriguing fact about her past, and she absolutely beams when speaking about her dear husband, Pete. Connie has a zest for life but disability has slowed her pace over the past few years. She has been a client with Nascentia a handful of times, and always demonstrates such motivation to regain her independence. With the help of Nascentia clinicians and her supportive family, Connie has developed countless skills and the strength needed to perform many activities of daily living. She recently expressed concerns with her ability to utilize her standard slide board for transfers. Connie is wheelchair bound and hated burdening her husband or family with the extensive level of assistance necessary to transfer between her bed and chair. It was imperative for her to find a way to move with the least amount of help from others. She was immediately interested when her occupational and physical therapy team proposed the idea of a Beasy transfer board. This special slide board features a disc on

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## ***FOUNDATION CHAMPION***

**Kelly Boulter**

*Clinical Supervisor, Oneida*



I feel truly blessed to have found my calling as a nurse. I cannot imagine doing anything else. When I was hired at Nascentia more than 8 years ago it was a game changer for me. To be able to care and assist clients in their homes during some of the biggest challenges in their life is so rewarding! Being able to go to the Foundation for equipment, supplies, or to fulfill a client's wish is so powerful. A few years ago I was caring for a pediatric client whom I had known since he was born. His 10th birthday was coming up and he wanted a mountain bike. His mother shared with me that they could not afford one and it broke her heart. This child had over 20 surgeries to address a genetic condition causing major abnormalities of his head, face, and fingers. He endured so much and never complained! I reached out to the Foundation and they were able to get him a mountain bike! When he saw it sitting in the middle of the room he was in true shock. He walked in a large circle around it staring at it then ran to his mom and started to cry. James looked at me and signed "thank you"! I felt so fortunate to be part of an organization whose foundation literally made a dream come true! When Kelsey reached out about a Beasy board for Connie, the Foundation purchased it quickly, making a true difference in her life and allowing her maximum independence. I am so proud of the Oneida Team and how they truly are making a difference in their clients' lives!

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a track, which allows individuals to glide between surfaces easily. The board reduces the amount of effort required and improves the safety and efficiency of transferring. At the same time, Connie learned she could benefit from a drop arm commode that would allow her to use the toilet on her own—something she has struggled with for some time. Unfortunately, these items weren't available at any local loan closets and were too expensive for Connie's budget.

Our occupational therapist, Kelsey Schoen, reached out to the Foundation to help with these equipment costs. Much to Connie's pleasure, the Foundation was able to help! Connie was ecstatic. Rebecca Lerman helped the team check first with her insurance (the items weren't covered), and get the items ordered. Everything was delivered quickly and Kelsey was able to provide skilled training with Connie and her caregivers. Connie is benefiting greatly from her new Beasy board and commode, telling us many times how much easier it is for her to get from point A to point B. The Foundation has given Connie new tools to regain even more independence. It is fair to assume (and we very much hope) that the Foundation and Nascentia will be a regular mention in the stories that she shares with those lucky enough to cross paths with her for years to come.

Connie sent a hand-written note to thank Nascentia: **"This compels me to write a complimentary thank you note about all the care I have received... All of your employees 'went the extra mile,' were caring to me and kind to my family and the family dog, Maggie."**



**2023**  
**Raise a Glass**  
**Save the Date!**  
**Sunday, Sept. 17**  
**Timber Banks**  
**Golf Club,**  
**Baldwinsville**

### Meet Colleen Prossner, Director of Philanthropy!

I am thrilled to be part of the Nascentia Health Charitable Foundation to help continue the mission of philanthropy by serving the needs of our most vulnerable populations. As the director of philanthropy, I will be working to grow support for the Foundation by personally building relationships within our community and cultivating and soliciting major donors. I will also be working on the capital campaign at the Beeches, to raise funds for the continued expansion of the Nascentia Neighborhood at the Beeches, as well as working with the Foundation Board to continue our charitable mission. Thanks to all of you for welcoming me with open arms, and I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to stop in and say hello and let me know how the Foundation can help.



### Telling our Story —Rebecca Lerman, Philanthropy Administrator



For the past several months, I've been out in our community talking to people about what the Foundation does. Recently, I have been to dozens of local businesses, networking groups, community events, and other activities to help us grow our connections and encourage charitable giving to our organization. It's such a great feeling to go speak to someone and tell them

about our patient stories and how we help people on a daily basis. I have spent countless hours talking about the impact we make, and I can tell you that the people I engage with have been so supportive and now have a better understanding of what we do. To date, we already have 10 sponsors and many in-kind donors lined up for Raise a Glass!