



UW Medicine website

The 3 Wishes Project



UW Medical Center – Montlake ~ **October 2022 - March 2024 Program Summary**

A multidisciplinary program to grow and support compassionate end-of-life care.



"I felt honored to be a part of guiding my patient's family through the grieving process. Making fingerprint keychains for my patient's loved ones that were not able to be present at their bedside was a reminder of how far reaching the effects of this program really are. There is no easy way to approach the topic of death, but the 3 Wishes Project provides a tangible and meaningful way to navigate the grieving process for both family members and clinicians."

- ICU nurse



- 5 commemorative fingerprint painting
- 119 comfort care quilt / non-hospital blanket
- 27 room decoration
- 42 EKG keepsakes
- 679 fingerprint keychain keepsakes
- 189 handprints
- 26 hand castings
- 135 locks of hair keepsakes
- 8 special events
- 36 special requests
- 255 telemetry keepsakes
- 21 twinkle lights
- 29 word clouds
- 8 Virtual Bedside Concerts
- 51 hand clay imprints
- 26 music
- 1 pet therapy visits
- 27 heartbeat recording stuffed animals
- 31 stuffed animals
- 3 live music concerts



240 patients

669
number of wishes

1,590
number of individual
keepsakes

"...This wonderful program changes so many lives and really helps staff connect with patients nearing the end of their life."

- ICU nurse

"Things were feeling bleak but then one of the nurses asked if I wanted to create and have some handprints and footprints, a recording of her heartbeat, and a painting around her fingerprints. It still brings tears to my eyes to think of that moment. There seemed like there wasn't anything else that could be done to help [my daughter], and then these nurses and the entire team were able to continue to care for her in such a special way – and provide me with something to hold tight – a piece of her. I don't have words other than tears of love and thanks. This program [The 3 Wishes Project] really helped my daughter and me during a time when things seemed hopeless."

- mother of a patient