When Carole Metz moved to Knoxville in 2009, one of the first things she did was a Google search to find a new primary care physician. “InterFaith Health Clinic” popped up in her search results, and she was intrigued by our mission so she clicked through to our website. “I knew I wanted to be a part of what the clinic was doing by helping out,” Carole said. “I'd always been involved in some kind of health care charity in my previous homes in New York and Texas, because that's my passion, and I instantly knew that I needed to help out at InterFaith as well.”

As a registered nurse, Carole's skills were quickly put to use. In addition to providing volunteer nursing support for our doctors and nurse practitioners, Carole saw a need for diabetes education classes for our diabetic patients, so she launched a series of diabetes classes focusing on nutrition and disease maintenance. On top of that, Carole's skills as a professional photographer were instrumental in capturing InterFaith's many fundraisers and special events.

Nearly a decade after Carole began volunteering at InterFaith, however, Carole's relationship with the clinic changed. When her husband Ron, a retired New York fire chief, lost his battle with cancer in 2019, Carole was suddenly left without health insurance coverage. “I'd lost my husband, which was devastating enough, and then I found out that within two weeks I'd lose my health insurance as well. I was totally overwhelmed,” Carole said. Now, rather than Carole coming to the clinic as a volunteer, she quickly realized that she needed to come to the clinic as a patient instead. “I felt like the ship was sinking, and I was in a lifeboat, and InterFaith was the person that handed me a pair of arms and said ‘Here, now you can row yourself to shore,’” she said. “They truly gave me a hand up, not a handout, when I needed it most.”

Fortunately, Carole was able to quickly obtain a job with health insurance benefits as a resource nurse at a local hospital, but InterFaith provided a lifeline during the six-month window where she was without health insurance. “Many people don't realize that when you get hired, even for a position with benefits, there's usually a three-month window before those benefits kick in,” Carole said. “Becoming a patient at InterFaith gave me the assurance that, if something catastrophic had happened, it would be been manageable,” Carole said.

Now that Carole is insured, she no longer needs InterFaith’s services as a patient, but she continues to be involved as a supporter and volunteer. Carole's story is just one example of how anyone – no matter your profession, income, or background – can be just one unexpected tragedy away from being uninsured. “InterFaith is just so important for bridging a gap for people who've been struck by a life circumstance that leaves them uninsured,” Carole said. “They were there for me during one of the most challenging times in my life.”
First I need to give a shout out to our staff, who were the first to respond. I have been moved to tears as I have seen each of you give and then give some more.

Second, for each of our partner agencies that not only came to our rescue by assisting with COVID-related necessities, but several of you completely changed your processes and procedures to meet the immediate need of food – thank you. Then, so many of you gave sacrificially out of your own pockets. While I understand many of you do not share my Christian faith, Matthew 25:40 say when you do for the “least of these” then you have done the same for Christ.

Whether you believe as I do or not, know that you have served. You have served people and in doing so you have served our community as a whole. And like I so often say, we provide more than health care - we provide hope. I want each of you to know you provided more than food or gift cards. You provided hope in a time of despair.

I am not certain how I should describe what I want to share with you. But I want to give you a glimpse of a few of the people/situations that have inspired hope during a time filled with so much uncertainty and chaos. Like so many of you – I want some good news. There are times I feel completely overwhelmed with the current situation. But, there have been and will continue to be silver linings in the midst of the storms.

So many of our patients were temporarily furloughed or permanently lost their jobs. While many government and private agencies stepped to the plate to assist, those things didn’t happen overnight. And the need was immediate. But thanks to so many of you – the need was met.

Patients didn’t have food. Overnight, food & grocery store gift cards were dropped off.

First I need to give a shout out to our staff, who were the first to respond. I have been moved to tears as I have seen each of you give and then give some more. Second, for each of our partner agencies that not only came to our rescue by assisting with COVID-related necessities, but several of you completely changed your processes and procedures to meet the immediate need of food – thank you. Then, so many of you gave sacrificially out of your own pockets. While I understand many of you do not share my Christian faith, Matthew 25:40 say when you do for the “least of these” then you have done the same for Christ.

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Melissa H. Knight

In their own words... these heartfelt sentiments from our patients keep us focused on our mission & remind us why we’re here. "Interfaith saved my life. Before, I was desperately searching for affordable insulin and now I never need to be afraid I will go without. The day I called they got me in immediately and here I am 3 years later still receiving their help. They are incredible and I recommend them to everyone who has been in my position that needs help."
In Honor Of:

Juliet Biden for her 12th Birthday
Mr. & Mrs. Josh Biden

Lyndy & Justin Clementson
Lynn Rose & R. J. Coker

Irene & Robert Hunt
William C. Hunt

InterFaith Health Clinic
Dr. Walter C. Beahm

Debbie & Joey Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Sherlin

Melissa & Steve Knight
Willie L. (Jim) Gaston

Kelly McIntyre, ANP
Cynthia Latham

Kelly McIntyre, Jenny Miller, and
Marci Woods
Dr. Ken Bieak

Brettany & Hazen Mirts
Bill & Marie (Me-Me) Guinn

Debbie Rose
Kathy Craft
Diana Tonn

Diane Smith
Lane Cook
Betsy Harrell
Alice Long
Tracie Lunde
Caryn & Warren Overby
Janet Teeterman

Mom, Aunt & Grandmother for
Mother’s Day
Sherry Smith

Linda Vaughn
Teresa & Jim Lawson

Becky Williams
Carolyn & Bobby Slay

Michael D. Williams
Home Federal Bank of Tennessee

All impacted by this Covid-19
Pandemic
Bill Cherry
Gifts from February 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020

Sweets to the Sweet

Dave Bauman
from Kelly Bauman

Dr. Al-Tawil

Samantha Boldin

Dr. Jeffrey Crist

Dr. Tchad Griffin

Dr. Jennifer Hamm

Dr. David Harrison

Dr. Randall Hartline

Rachel Hodges, N.P.

Dr. Cynthia Kang-Rotondo

Dr. Katherine Kerchner

Jamie Price

Elizabeth Royal

Dr. Susan Spiller

Matt Windham
from David Belew

Dr. Walter Beahm

Angela Bobbit

Libby Bowling

Brenda Burnett

Anne & Frank Callaway

Dr. Sherill Cross

Wanda Day

W. Faye Day

Will Grubb

Dr. Bill Martin & Irene & Kelly
from Nina Bowling-Milner

Nancy McGlasson

Caroline Owen

Sandy Patterson

Tracey Smith
from Mari & Chris Brooks

Dianna Brizzolara
from Alan Brizzolara

Sharon Fuller

Susan & Roger Heyming

Mary Starke

Linda Underwood
from Dianna & Alan Brizzolara

Roy Frye

Sam Hart

Jack Lacey

Cathy Lyons

Andrew May

Alizza Punzalan-Randle

Sandy Swilley

Keri Tibbals

Sarah Yassu
from Kathi Browne

Mike Burton
from Angela Burton

Dawn Feldt, Chance Heath & Rogan Heath

Stephanie Hill & Bob Lyness

Paul Kelly

Susie Kelly

Jacqueline Knight

Donna & Ron Madden

Melissa & David Marti
from Elliott Adler

Ashley, Brad & Michele - B-97.5
from Vickie Caine

Mrs. June Hubbs
from Chris Cameron

Tom Cole
from Connie Cole

Kaitlin Elledge

Lilith Vaughan
from Jamey Dobbs

Cheryl Drake
from Carey Drake

Dr. & Mrs. David Gerkin
from Deborah Gerkin-Earling

Betsy Boswell
from Katherine Garrison

Bob Gibson
from Ims Gibson

Sharon & Doug Bzar
from Marianne K. Greene

Shari Grooms

Linda Hauser

Michelle Jubran

Ramza Mubarak

Yvonne Poppen

Pam Trousdale
from Rhoda Harb

Laura Holecek
from Don Holecek

Kramer Physical Therapy Team
from Dibs Kramer

Shonna Ansley

Doris Davenport

Betty DeVries

Liz Galloway

Anna Haas

Shirley Nash-Pitts

Tiffany Voyles

Whitney Walker
from Jee Haas

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Julie & Slade Griffin

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Rachel Hodges

Cindy, Anna & Brad Hood

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Anna Letendre

Monica Linens

Tammy Luttrel

Rhett, Louise & Frank Mashburn

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Dr. Angela Myer & her nurse

Nurse Rebecca

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Suzanne Rogers

Mary Margaret & Scott Rosenbloom

Dr. Amy Resine & her nurse, Sharon

Drs. Sandberg, Ritchey & Staff

Drs. Catherine & Steed Sarbah

Grace & Caleb Satterfield

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Nisha Wagmire

Steve Wilder & HR Staff

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Debbie Hubbs

Beryl Knight

Josh Knight

Jane Mays

Carter Ray

Chris Ray

Claudia Ray

Jessica Ray

Cindy Stansberry

Linda Thomas
from Melissa & Steve Knight
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Valerie Bernard
Meme & Bill Guinn
Marie Mirts
Christina & Isabella Raman
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Lindsey Tisdale
Jessica Turner
Marnie Warren
from Brettany Mirts
Andrea Wright
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from Lynda Newton
Laura Bailey
Gouffon Moving & Storage
Adam Green
Andy Mason
Matt Padgett
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Wallace Memorial Baptist Church
Wes Whitehead
Donna Wright
Ken Wyrick
from Nichols State Farm
Abbey Parrott Bartlecamp
from Mr. & Mrs. Chris Parrott
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Christina Mosser
Shannon Orban
Eily Patteson
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Angie Seward
Ann Staup
Holly Talbot
from Blair Patteson
Don Arteen
Marilyn Flint
Wilma Lindsey
from Linda Pearse
Dr. Brad Pearman
from Dr. Cindy Pearman
Katie Beck
Tiffany Owens
Dr. Marty Prince
from Jacque Prince
Jenny Price
from Aaron Price

Cathy Gillenwater
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Kim Holloway
Rhonda Sallas
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from David Sallas
Brady & Jackson Schriver
from Julie & Andrew Schriver
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from Diane Smith
Sharon Harris & family
Allen Stouff
from Pamela Stouff
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Andrew Striping
David Striping
Samantha Striping
from Karen Striping
Bertha Tate
Harold Tate
from Susan Tate
Tammy Bridges
Sheila Simmons
from Debra Tolks
Linda Glasgow
from Chris Lambert & Daniel Carter
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Wanda Moody
from Sharon Pryse & Chris Lambert
The Trust Company
Martha Barnwell
Mrs. Gena Crowe
Patricia Durrance
Norma Goff
Elizabeth Green
Pat Hale
Dr. Glen Hall
Kathleen Harrison
Lora Jean Johnson
Donald Hodge
Pat Hunter
Mary Lou Longmire
Betty McNeil
Carol Papps
Juanita Reynolds
Rev. John Ripley
Nancy Roth
Mr. & Mrs. Joan Sitton
Mrs. Lily Willard
from an Anonymous Friend

Teresa & Jim Lawson
In memory of Buck Vaughn
In honor of Linda Vaughn

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Brian & Nancy Bosson
Ron Hedges
Cristi Moser, DVM
Danny Serber

Healthcare Heroes

Dr. Bradley Davis & Nurse Brandy
Loretta Harber
Cindy Johnson
Polly Fisher & Daryl Johnson
Kelly McIntrye, Marci Wood and
Jenny Miller
Dr. Ken Bielak

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Neil Aqqad
Nour Aqqad
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Jane & Pat Armstrong
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Leslie Badaines
Charlotte Barbier
Sheila & Charlie Barnett
Rebecca Barton
Dr. & Mrs. Marvin Beard
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Amy Bell
Sharon Bell
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Moira Bindner
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Tim Graham - Graham Foundation
Mrs. Frank Gray
William C. Greene
Christine L. Griffin
Mary & William Groh
Penn & Thomas Grove
Ina Groves
Sally A. Guthrie
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Dr. Stephanie Hall
Rebecca Halperin
Andrew Hampson
Nancy E. Hardin
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Sue Ellen & David Hauge
Richard Helsel
Sheri & Steven Hensley
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Susan Stalgatis
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Janice & Norman Stone
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Iris Esh-Williams & Mark Williams
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Lara Winner
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Dr. & Mrs. James Yates
Rebekah Young
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Akima Club
All Souls Church
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Community of St. Ninian
Covenant Health System
Doc Rock 2020 - KAMA
Philanthropic Fund
East Tennessee Foundation
Erin Presbyterian Church
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First Horizon Bank
First Presbyterian Church
Frontstream
Holston Conference - Lonsdale UMC
Holston Conference - New Salem UMC
Holston Conference - Powell UMC
Holston Conference - Rocky Top UMC
Humana
Invest in Others Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Jane L. Pettway Foundation
Kendra Scott, LLC
Kimberly-Clark Corporation - Mr. J.B. Hook
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Kroger
London & Ampburn, P.C.
Mount Rest Fund
Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic
Network for Good
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Rock Creek Construction, Inc.
Seyquoyah Hills Presbyterian Church
Service One, Inc
Smile 180 Foundation
South College School of Pharmacy Rho Chi Honor Society
St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church
St. John XXIII Parish
State of Tennessee
Stock Creek Baptist Church
Summit Medical Group
Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church
Trinity Health Foundation
UBS Financial Services
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United Way of Midland County
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