

## Women's Fund El Dorado Site Visit Committee Report 2018

### Marshall Foundation for Community Health

On February 15, 2018 Megan Buchanan, Jackie Poling and Wendy Goossen met with members of the Site Visit Committee at the Marshall Cancer Resource Center for an overview of services provided. Marshall Cancer Center received a \$6,000 Acorn Grant for the Cancer Patient Transportation Program.

Committee Chair Claudia Taylor and members Helen Walsh, Carolyn Mansfield, Avis Jolly, Jamie Hartshorn and Martha Hom received an overview of the program, a tour of the facility and inspection of the transportation vehicle. The Cancer Patient Transportation Program provides rides for cancer patients who are unable to drive themselves due to health, age, or financial considerations. The program provides transportation to and from a patient's home for oncology-related medical appointments in the Marshall Medical's Cancer Services Vehicle. The program relies on volunteer drivers to transport patients. Some funds are used for the gas card program to provide patients with a limited amount of gas cards annually to help offset the cost of driving to and from treatment.

Volunteer drivers are required to go through a fair amount of training and background checks. Once cleared, a driver's schedule is of their making. Patients are required to get in and out of the vehicle and information about access to the home is provided.

The Acorn Grant of \$6,000 was used to fund the gas and maintenance of the vehicle that was donated by Ron Thompson, the gas card program, dial -a-ride, and Helping Hand rides. The program also received funding from the Kelly Foundation and the Sacramento Regional Community Foundation.

The Site Visit Committee Members were very impressed by the amount of coordination that goes into maximizing the program and vehicle use. Staff must be fluid and work with patient treatment schedule, driver availability, pick up location and weather.

The Cancer Patient Transportation Program is in need of more volunteer drivers. Drivers set their own schedule and can volunteer as little as one day a month or weekly based on their availability.