



Marie Schumacher
Founding Director

*Community Singing and
Music-in-Healthcare*

Music in the NICU ~ Healing Musicians Program

Call for Musicians

PeaceHealth Southwest is building a program to bring music into its neonatal intensive care unit to benefit the infants, families and staff. The Holtzman Twins NICU is a state-of-the-art single room unit that serves pre-term infants as well as full-term infants in need of intensive care.

The Music in the NICU program will further enhance the quality of care that the infants receive, and it will provide parents with support, stress relief, and opportunities to connect with their children.

The Healing Musicians Program:

This is one of several ways in which music will be brought into the NICU over the coming months. We are currently encouraging music therapists and experienced musicians to apply for this opportunity.

Time Commitment:

We are looking for musicians (guitarists, cellists and harpists) who can commit to a weekly 2-hour visit. Each visit will involve the musician playing in 2-3 different common areas of the unit. Musicians will provide a soundscape of instrumental music intended to relax and de-stress the environment.

Possible time slots:

- Weekday afternoons: 2:00 – 3:30 pm
(Mondays and Thursdays currently open)
- Weekday evenings: 5:00 – 6:30 pm
(Mondays and Thursdays currently open)
- Weekends: 1:00 – 2:30 pm
(Saturday and Sunday currently open)

Rate: \$90 for 2-hour session

Criteria for Musicians:

1. **Musical proficiency:** must have advanced skills on a musical instrument that can be quietly played.
2. **Subtlety:** must be able to play quietly and use subtle dynamics to gently enhance the environment of the unit. Volume control is essential.
3. **Adaptability:** must be able to play songs in accordance with the mood of the setting, taking into account the sounds and activity level in the unit.
4. **Service orientation:** We are seeking musicians who approach their playing music as a service to others. This is not a performance gig and not a place to promote your work and expect validation for your talent. This is a place to serve people who can use a positive distraction and who might benefit from hearing your music at a difficult time.
5. **Relevant Experience:** should have some experience playing music in a health care setting, or in a setting where music is used to set a specific emotional tone.

Steps in the Application Process:

1. Submit a letter of interest in pdf format, a list of 2 references, and a performance video (internet links okay) to:
Marie Schumacher, Director,
PDX Vox Community Singing and Music-in-Healthcare Programs
marie@pdxvox.com
2. Once we review your application, we will contact you about setting up an interview and attending a 1-hour training session.