



## A Community United: Summa Health Dedicates CuddleCot™ to Support Families Facing Stillbirth and Infant Loss

Gifted by Ashlie's Embrace through a donation from NorthEastern Ohio Camaro Club

**Summa Health** marked a significant enhancement to its bereavement care services with the dedication of a CuddleCot™. This compassionate addition was made possible by the generous donation from the **NorthEastern Ohio Camaro Club (NEOCC)** and gifted by Ohio-based non-profit **Ashlie's Embrace**. This community effort underscores a shared commitment to supporting local families through the profound and often silent grief of infant loss.

Stillbirth and infant loss are deeply painful realities for many families, leaving them searching for understanding. The CuddleCot™ addresses this by offering families a profound gift: time. Without a cooling unit, families often have only fleeting moments to hold their baby before natural physical changes occur, forcing a rushed and often traumatic farewell. This can leave parents with deep regret and a longing for more precious minutes or hours.

This CuddleCot™ at Summa Health stands as a testament to the profound power of community. The NEOCC, a robust group of Camaro enthusiasts whose membership spans far beyond Northeast Ohio, responded to a calling to do more for their community. Beyond their shared passion for cars, NEOCC members are deeply committed to giving back, regularly supporting local charities such as Aluminum Cans for Burned Children. Their support for Ashlie's Embrace's mission is particularly heartfelt, as NEOCC members have walked alongside founders and fellow members, Erin and Anthony Maroon, during their own grief journey, making this dedication a deeply personal and loving act of unity within the NEOCC family.



*"Our club, the NorthEastern Ohio Camaro Club, stands incredibly proud today," said Morgan Iorio, President of NEOCC. "We've seen firsthand the unimaginable silence and pain that infant loss brings, particularly through the experiences of Erin and Anthony, our fellow club members. Our hope is to support parents during their most vulnerable time with precious moments of peace and connection that they otherwise might not have. It's about harnessing our shared passion and using it for good."*

**MORGAN IORIO** | President, NEOCC

Summa Health, with its deep roots in community wellness and a responsibility to provide comprehensive care, embraces the addition of this CuddleCot™ as a vital enhancement to its patient-centered services. "This CuddleCot strengthens our commitment to offering truly compassionate care," stated Dr. Edward Ferris, Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Medical Director, Women's Health Institute at Summa Health. "It provides families with invaluable time for connection and goodbye, aligning perfectly with Summa Health's commitment to high-quality, compassionate care for patients and our contribution to a healthier community."

*The dedication ceremony, held yesterday, was attended by:*

**Ashlie's Embrace:** Erin Maroon, Co-Founder and CEO; Angela Brooks, Chief Operating Officer

**NEOCC:** Morgan Iorio, President; Jessica Iorio, Vice President; Kevin Mousty, Treasurer; and Diane Serina, Activity Coordinator

**Summa Health:** Mirit Balkan, Clinical Chaplain; Dr. Edward Ferris, Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Medical Director, Women's Health Institute; Connie Becht, Director of Inpatient Women's Health; Jackie Trainor, Director of Women's Health; Karen DeSeptis Frantz, Women's Health; Jennifer Hallock, Women's Health; Wendy Rickerd, Women's Health; and Carrie Holet, Women's Health Marketing.

**About Ashlie's Embrace:** Founded in 2016, Ashlie's Embrace is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing hospitals nationwide with cooling units (i.e. CuddleCot™). By donating cooling units to hospitals, the organization creates the opportunity for families to spend more time holding, bonding with, and saying goodbye to their child in a comfortable and private setting. Ashlie's Embrace relies on the generosity of individuals, foundations, and community partners to further its mission of bringing comfort and support to families during their most difficult times, ensuring that no family faces the tragedy of infant loss without the option of extended moments with their baby.

**About Summa Health:** Summa Health is a patient-centered healthcare provider serving Northeast Ohio. Committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality care, Summa Health focuses on the overall health and wellness of its community through a comprehensive range of medical services and innovative programs.

**About NorthEastern Ohio Camaro Club (NEOCC):** The NorthEastern Ohio Camaro Club was started in the Spring of 1994. It is a community of Camaro enthusiasts dedicated to both their shared passion for automobiles and a strong commitment to local philanthropy. Through various initiatives, NEOCC actively supports community causes, including Ashlie's Embrace and Aluminum Cans for Burned Children, demonstrating how shared interests can drive meaningful social impact.