

Women's Auxiliary



The Women's Auxiliary provides important medication assistance for patients at Huntington Ambulatory Care Center.

Helping Those Who Need It Most

Members of Huntington Memorial Hospital's Women's Auxiliary are proud of their group's unique fundraising focus: The auxiliary is the sole support group contributing toward the patient assistance fund for medications at Huntington Ambulatory Care Center (HACC). This outpatient medical clinic, located on Huntington Hospital's campus, serves under- and uninsured patients. Its patient assistance fund provides essential medications for those who cannot afford to pay — filling the gap until patients can be connected to other long-term resources. To date, the Women's Auxiliary has raised \$170,000 toward the fund, through their various activities.

"Sometimes, when patients are discharged from the hospital," explains Nancy Van Tuyle, Women's Auxiliary member, "they don't have resources to cover their medications. We support HACC to help patients through this important transition period."

Thanks to health concerns of family members, explains member Linda Bolton, she knows how essential — and costly — appropriate medication can be. "And if patients go without their prescribed medications," she adds, "they can end up in the emergency room," as their conditions worsen.

"If we provide medications that keep patients from being readmitted to the hospital, it's a huge relief for them personally," adds Sandii Rittenhouse, Women's Auxiliary treasurer, "and it also helps reduce overall health costs in our community."



Women's Auxiliary members, from left, Nancy Van Tuyle, Ginny Lechler, Sonia Amin, Sandii Rittenhouse, and Linda Bolton showcase festive wreaths for sale at the group's 2012 Christmas Tree Sale.

Holiday events raise essential funds

On November 28, 2012, the Women's Auxiliary hosted a fundraising luncheon at Santa Anita Park. The event, *Your Guide to Holiday Entertaining*, featured society hostess Jordan Stringfellow, well-known for her entertaining skills. The lunch was a new addition to the auxiliary's annual event line-up.

Approximately 100 guests attended and enjoyed browsing the items — including home goods and jewelry — available from 20 participating vendors. Funds were also raised through an auction of floral arrangements donated by J Santiago Floral Designs; Jacob Maarse Florists; Piccolo Floral Artistry of The Langham Huntington, Pasadena; and Women's Auxiliary members.

In early December, the Women's Auxiliary hosted its annual Christmas Tree Sale, through which members sold trees, wreaths, ornaments and other holiday items to raise funds. Prior to the sale, members gathered at member Kathy Kobayashi's home to decorate trees and celebrate the season together.

Are you a fun-loving lady with a charitable spirit? The Women's Auxiliary might be the perfect way for you to get involved at Huntington Memorial Hospital and in your community. Contact Ginny Lechler at (626) 355-2578 for more information regarding membership.