Auxiliary Donates $350,000 to the Brownstone Relocation Project

The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary has always been a strong supporter of the Brownstone and its service to the local community, and 2015 was no exception. This past year, the Auxiliary donated a total of $350,000 to the Brownstone Relocation project. As the beneficiary of the very successful 26th Annual Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Golf Tournament, the Brownstone initially received $150,000 from the Auxiliary. As a result of additional funding needs for the Brownstone Relocation Project, in October 2015 the Auxiliary voted to approve an additional $200,000 donation, bringing the total funds donated to $350,000. The Auxiliary is proud to support this critical component of community service provided by Hartford Hospital.

For approximately 96 years, The Brownstone Building at Hartford Hospital has provided primary, dental, and specialty care, as well as social and human services to the local community, particularly to vulnerable populations that could not receive care elsewhere. Unlike city clinics that have staff dedicated solely to their facility, the Brownstone Clinic is unique in that Hartford Hospital physicians and specialists from all medical fields donate their time to the clinic so our community patients are seen by the very best physicians for primary and specialty care. The clinic also provides a dynamic setting for medical education and clinical experiences as one of the largest teaching hospitals in New England.

The highly utilized Brownstone Clinic has outgrown its current location and a project is underway to relocate the clinic. The new building, at 132-138 Jefferson Street, will be a highly efficient facility, featuring multi-use exam rooms, offices, common areas, and procedure and treatment rooms. The Brownstone Clinic anticipates a 10% increase in patient volume, furthering the commitment to support the underserved population of the community.

Since the Brownstone Clinic is the initial portal of entry for many patients, the new clinic will exemplify Hartford Hospital’s commitment to providing outstanding facilities, equipment, technology and staff. The Auxiliary is very excited to support Hartford Hospital’s effort in serving the local community.
Dear Auxilians,

We are coming to the end of another exiting year of Board activities. On behalf of the Auxiliary Board, we are happy to report our news of the past year.

Our 2015-2016 season started with yet another record-breaking golf tournament. We donated $350,000 to the Brownstone Clinic. The Brownstone building at Hartford Hospital has provided primary, dental and specialty care, as well as social and human services to the local community, particularly vulnerable populations that could not receive care elsewhere.

In addition to our Golf Tournament proceeds, we have been fortunate to achieve record revenue from our Au Bon Pain partner and our Auxiliary Store which have allowed us to fund $400,000 in Fall & Spring projects this year. Some of the Fall projects included a Contrak 2 for IV Therapy, a new nitrous oxide and oxygen system pump for Labor & Delivery, Medtuning Cards for the Genetics Research Center and a 3D endovaginal ultrasound probe for OBGYN/Urogynecology.

We continue to support Read to Grow, a Connecticut nonprofit organization for early childhood literacy. This year, the Auxiliary voted to increase our annual donation to $30,000. We also collected and donated over 2,500 books to Read to Grow during 2015.

Lastly, we look forward to our annual Rx for Fun event coming up on April 28th. This year the event will benefit CESI – the Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation.

We wish you all a happy and healthy year! Please remember that each and every purchase you make at the Auxiliary Gift Shop and Au Bon Pain Café directly benefits the Auxiliary’s budget for Good Works for Hartford Hospital. We truly appreciate your continued support.

Best,

Kate D’Addabbo & Linda Atkins
Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Co-Presidents

Changing of the Guard

Nominated for election at the 2016 Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Annual Meeting, Amy Steinberg will join continuing Co-President Linda Atkins as the Co-President of the Auxiliary.

Amy joined the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary in 2012. She has served for the past 3 years on the Executive Board. She began her Executive service as the Corresponding Secretary and has spent the last two years as Vice President of Public Relations. In addition, she has been Co-Chair with Lori Flaks of the Annual Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Benefit Golf Tournament for the last three years.

Outside of her roles with the Auxiliary, Amy has been an active board member of the Morley School PTO, where her children attended elementary school. She also holds a Connecticut Real Estate license. Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Amy currently resides in West Hartford with her husband, Dr. Adam Steinberg, who is a physician in Hartford Hospital’s Division of Urogynecology. Amy and Adam have three children ages 7, 11 and 15. Amy is excited to take on the role of Auxiliary Co-President.
The Annual Meeting 2016

The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Annual Meeting and breakfast will take place on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the Hartford Golf Club. We will convene to summarize the many accomplishments as well as beneficiaries the Auxiliary worked tirelessly to support throughout the year, honor retiring Board members and announce the new slate of officers and board members. We’re pleased that Jeffrey Flaks, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Hartford Healthcare, will be joining us to present an overview of HHC, Connecticut’s only truly integrated health care system. Jeff will help us welcome our guest speaker, Dr. Edward Salerno, from the Sleep Disorder Center at Hartford Hospital. Dr. Salerno is board certified in Critical Care, Pulmonary Medicine, Internal Medicine and Sleep Medicine. His discussion, **Obstructive Sleep Apnea**, is certain to be a captivating insight into the work being done at Hartford Hospital to treat sleep apnea (a breathing disorder that typically produces a feeling during the daytime of sleeplessness) as well insomnia, snoring and sleepwalking. Invitations will be mailed shortly and we’ll look for your R.S.V.P on or before May 3rd.

**READ TO GROW**

Read to Grow focuses on improving early childhood literacy. The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary fully supports funding of the program at Hartford Hospital. Members of the Auxiliary volunteer in the “Bags to Babies” program, providing books for newborns and their families, offering advice on the importance of reading to and with children of all ages, and contributing books to be distributed by the Read to Grow organization. Last year Auxiliary members donated just over 2,500 books for Read to Grow programs, books that will be given to the families of infants born at Hartford Hospital and later to their siblings at home to encourage literacy development.

Literacy support and development is Read to Grow’s main focus. We are proud that in 2015 the Read to Grow “Bags to Babies” program provided books and support for 3,500 families at Hartford Hospital.

**Au Bon Pain Café**

The Auxiliary’s relationship with Au Bon Pain Café continues to be strong. Located in the main lobby of Hartford Hospital, the café has been very well received by the hospital community and its guests. In addition to offering freshly prepared sandwiches, salads and desserts on site, the café extends its services to catering breakfast, lunch and snack options for hospital meetings and group gatherings. All Au Bon Pain purchases benefit the Hartford Hospital community, as all fees the Auxiliary receives from Au Bon Pain go into the funds the Auxiliary uses to support important hospital projects.

**The Auxiliary Store**

The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary launched the new and improved Auxiliary Store professionally managed by Faber in 2013. The store continues to do well with strong sales for 2015 and the Auxiliary continues to coordinate with Faber in an effort to ensure that the variety, selection and quality of merchandise offered meets the needs and expectations of the Hartford Hospital community, its visitors and guests. As always, we welcome any feedback regarding specific merchandise that members of the Hartford Hospital community would like made available in the store.

From time to time, the Auxiliary collaborates with Faber when holding membership events at the store and arranging children’s book sales to support book donations to the Read to Grow program. Every sale in the store results in a direct investment in Hartford Hospital through proceeds the Auxiliary receives and applies to funding requests for unique, innovative and necessary projects.
The 26th Annual Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Benefit Golf Tournament held on September 21, 2015, was another successful, sold out event. Due to the generosity of our sponsors, we raised a record-breaking $403,000 to benefit our title beneficiary, Hartford Hospital’s Brownstone Clinic, as well as other programs and projects throughout Hartford Hospital.

Hartford Hospital’s Brownstone Clinic serves the community’s most vulnerable population who have limited or no access to healthcare. For decades, the Brownstone Clinic has welcomed all in need. Unfortunately, the building is inefficient and poorly configured for contemporary care and the growing number of patients requiring services. Proceeds from the tournament will help support the relocation of the Brownstone Clinic to a new, highly efficient facility on Hartford Hospital’s campus.

A special thank you to the 50 volunteers from the Auxiliary Board, Hartford Hospital, and friends of Hartford Hospital who contributed throughout the day to help make the 2015 tournament such a success.

We are very excited as we begin preparations for the 27th anniversary of the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Benefit Golf Tournament. This year’s tournament will take place on Monday, September 19, 2016 at Tumble Brook Country Club in Bloomfield, CT and the beneficiary will be the Department of Nursing Education and Research.

If you are interested in sponsoring the tournament, donating items or services to our auction and raffle, or volunteering on the day of the tournament, please contact Lori Flaks (lbflaks@yahoo.com) or Amy Steinberg (asteinberg74@gmail.com).
Auxiliary Approves Funding for Fall 2015 Projects

The Auxiliary voted on October 20 to approve $177,000 to fund Fall 2015 projects. The Auxiliary awarded $28,000 to the Urogynecology department for the purchase of a 3D endovaginal ultrasound probe and $21,000 to the Maternal Fetal Medicine department for two Trophon units. $20,798 was awarded to Labor & Delivery for nitrous oxide and oxygen systems to deliver safe, fast and effective pain relief during labor; $16,113 to the Anxiety Disorders Center for equipment to assess autonomic nervous system activity; and $30,000 to Genetics Research for the acquisition of Medtuning cards. Other departments approved for Auxiliary funding include the Hartford Hospital Rehab Network, IV Therapy, Women’s Health Services, Transplant Immunology Lab, The Stroke Center and the Transplant Center. The Auxiliary continues to be very proud of the support we are able to give to the Hospital in purchasing new and upgraded equipment through our project funding programs.

2015 Holiday Plant Sale

The poinsettia sale was another great success for the Auxiliary this year, and brought great joy and excitement to the Main Lobby of Hartford Hospital on the morning of December 3rd.

After placing the pre-orders, our delivery arrived bright and early, and even ahead of schedule! Once the display was set up, there was a buzz of excitement from all passers-by who stopped to ask about the Auxiliary, and our mission. Sales picked up from very early in the morning and there was thriving business throughout the day.

Co-chairs Yvonne Flynn and Kate Flanders (pictured right) coordinated the sale both in the Main Lobby and the Cafeteria, where many busy employees and visitors took time to enjoy the sight, and make a generous donation. Hundreds of poinsettias were ordered, and it was a delight to watch our stock disappear!

As the day progressed, the Auxiliary again demonstrated its own generosity by donating a portion of the unsold flowers to goodwill and handing out free poinsettias to many excited passers-by. After an exhausting and successful day, the display was cleared. The remaining poinsettias were gifted to the Auxiliary store, where they were quickly sold over the following days!

The entire proceeds of the poinsettia sale go towards the funding of projects and equipment for Hartford Hospital, and all volunteers on the Auxiliary were delighted to be part of this great mission.
Auxiliary Supports 2015 EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 4, Hartford Hospital held its annual Employee Holiday party. Each year, the Auxiliary provides $10,000 towards the cost of the event and provides a devoted team of Auxiliary Board volunteers to help spread holiday cheer at the event.

This year, event Chair Kathy Herzog led a team of 11 volunteers, including Auxiliary Board Alumna Hazel Vail. The team was tasked with managing three buffet tables, pouring punch and refilling prepared food items. Some employees were lucky enough to win beautiful Poinsettia plants from the Auxiliary’s Plant Sale held of December 3.

At the end of the day, our Auxiliary members tiredness was outweighed by the rewarding experience of bringing the holiday spirit to the dedicated hospital employees.

2015 Annual Tapestry Awards Scholarships

We are pleased to report that in 2015 The Tapestry Awards Scholarship Program awarded $75,000 in scholarship money to sons and daughters of Hartford Hospital employees enrolled in post-secondary undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The Auxiliary contributes $50,000 annually to the Program.

A total of 68 scholarships were awarded. The first place winner received $5,000; the second and third place winners received $2,500, and 65 additional winners each received $1,000. Applicants are scored based on GPA, parent’s years of service at Hartford Hospital and a personal essay. In addition, applicants can receive an extra point in scoring if they are the first generation attending college.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first place winner for 2015, Jonathan Marziale. Jonathan is a Babbidge scholar at UCONN where he has been named to the Dean’s list. He is actively involved with Habitat for Humanity.

The second and third place winners are Adam Enoch and Jessica Repicky. Adam attends Southern Connecticut State University where he is studying social work. He volunteers with special education students at a high school. Jessica is studying Nursing at Quinnipiac University where she has also enrolled in a course to learn Spanish so that she can better serve multicultural communities.

Congratulations to all of the 2015 winners. We wish them all the best in their academic careers and beyond.
State of the Hospital

During FY 2015, Hartford Hospital and Hartford HealthCare (HHC) faced many changes and challenges. We saw drastic, unprecedented state budget cuts; a continued shift from inpatient to outpatient care; an increased focus on keeping patients out of the hospital; and growth in our presence in communities, where patients prefer to receive their care. Over the years, as a system and hospital, we have worked diligently to develop a strong foundation that enables us to be agile enough not only to adapt but, in many instances, to be ahead of change.

We have continued our long history of firsts and remarkable accomplishments. We had the skill and structure to participate in the longest kidney transplant chain ever accomplished: 34 kidneys swapped among 26 hospitals across the country over two months – an amazing feat. We are one of the first hospitals in the Northeast to offer a newly FDA-approved device to treat obstructive sleep apnea and the first in the Northeast to implant a system enabling patients with pacemakers to safely undergo MRIs. Our surgeons performed the first robotic MAKOplasty® procedure in the region for knee resurfacing and total hip replacement. This is what we do. This is what defines us, each and every day.

Our accolades are many. Once again, we were recognized by U.S. News and World Report as the top hospital in our region, receiving badges of excellence in psychiatry, nephrology, urology and orthopedics. Becker’s Hospital Review named us one of the top 100 hospitals with great women’s health programs. Our cancer program was one of only 75 nationwide to receive the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Commission on Cancer, American College of Surgeons. LIFE STAR was named the first air-medical, critical-care transport team in the nation to receive the prestigious American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Beacon Award for Excellence. Hartford Hospital is among only four Connecticut hospitals to receive Healthgrades’ Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence for performing in the top 5 percent nationwide for outcomes for a number of procedures and conditions. We also were named among America’s 100 Best Hospitals for gastrointestinal care, general surgery, prostate surgery, critical care and pulmonary care. Our Chest Pain Center is the only one in New England and only the fourth in the nation to receive dual accreditation for angioplasty and resuscitation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care. Our heart, kidney, liver and transplant programs are Anthem Centers of Excellence, and our Level One Trauma Center and Cardiology VAD program were nationally recertified.

We have been recognized by the White House for the work of the Hartford Consensus, conceived and led by one of our own, Dr. Lenworth Jacobs, an expert in trauma, who helped established the national Stop the Bleed Campaign to increase survivability in mass-casualty events. Hartford Hospital was the first hospital in the nation to place tourniquet kits in public areas. As part of the HHC Behavioral Health Network, our Institute of Living is leading the way in public discussions about opioid addiction, a national problem.

Although we continue to face significant changes and challenges, we also have opportunities. We are growing and increasing access to care; we are improving safety and quality; we are expanding our capabilities and developing relationships with national partners, such as Memorial Sloan Kettering. We have the strength and fortitude as a hospital and system to do what’s right for our patients and achieve success. I am sure there isn’t a better team or organization to do this, and the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary is a critical part of our team.

Thank you for your support and vision, and we continue to ask that you advocate for us with your legislators.

Sincerely,

Stuart K Markowitz, MD, FACR
President, Hartford Hospital & the Hartford Region
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare
Spring “Rx for Fun” Event

Each spring the Auxiliary sponsors an Rx for Fun party designed to bring Auxiliary members and others together for a fun event while raising money and awareness for a particular project at Hartford Hospital. On April 30 2015, we hosted a cocktail reception at The Pond House to benefit Hartford Hospital’s “Thumbs Up, Phones Down” campaign to discourage distracted driving. This campaign was kicked off at the annual Black & Red gala in January and challenges individuals to take a pledge not to text or engage in other potentially distracting behavior while driving. Those wishing to take the pledge can do so by going to pledge.thumbsupphonesdown.org.

The 8th Annual Rx for Fun will be held on Thursday, April 28th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the new hot spot in town, The Prospect Cafe. This year’s event benefits CESI – the Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation, which is in the midst of an expansion due to the importance and demand of the work performed there. Nursing as well as the departments of Anesthesia, Critical Care, Emergency Medicine, Ob-Gyn, Surgery and more are all using the facility to orient their medical students, residents and fellows to their clinical practices. Their learners are able to experience hands on training without the added pressure of performing tasks on real people and they can repeat procedures in a safe, controlled and structured environment. The U.S. Military, Law Enforcement and EMS also use CESI for training. Please join us for a night out to support the Auxiliary and CESI. For more information please contact Marri Fairbanks at marrifairbanks@yahoo.com.