

HARTFORD HOSPITAL AUXILIARY DONATES \$10,000 TO DIGNITY GROWS

The Hartford Hospital Auxiliary has donated \$10,000 to Dignity Grows, which provides individuals in need with essential hygiene products so they can attend school and work and participate in community life without interruption. This donation comes from money raised at the Hartford Hospital Auxiliary Golf Tournament, and was actually increased to \$12,500 through a match from the Jewish Federations of North America. These funds will allow for 1,250 totes to be provided to men and women at the Brownstone Clinic and Women's Ambulatory Care. Packed in reusable, branded zipper-top totes, each Dignity Tote is filled with a month's supply of hygiene products.

Open only 18 months, Dignity Grows has helped fill and distribute over 5,000 totes filled with hygiene products – things so many take for granted... from a bar of soap to feminine hygiene products. Especially during these challenging times, such donations can be lifesavers. This initiative began as a one-night initiative aimed at helping individuals in the Greater Hartford community who cannot afford monthly menstrual and hygiene products. The project quickly grew through word of mouth as organizations and agencies in the Hartford area learned about the mission of Dignity Grows. The initiative began at the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, but is now a national initiative chaired by founder Jessica Zachs.

Members of the Auxiliary on Sunday, Nov. 29, assisted at a Covid-safe, socially distanced "pack," where they helped pack totes for those in need over the winter months. Dignity Grows is working with Dr. Janice Hartnet, Medical Director, Women's Ambulatory Health Services, and her team, who will receive all the totes and distribute them as they see fit.

Please visit www.dignitygrows.org to learn more about the work they do, and www.hartfordhospital.org/auxiliary, for more information about the Auxiliary.