



Medina Hospital Advocate

A Publication of the Medina Hospital Foundation

Summer 2015

Foundation Helps Patients Pay for Cancer Medication

While there's now increased healthcare coverage for many Americans under the Affordable Care Act, cancer patients often still need help to pay for their medications.

As recently as July 23, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that more than 100 oncologists from top cancer hospitals around the U.S. had issued a harsh rebuke regarding soaring cancer-drug prices and called for new regulations to control them. The doctors complained that it was unfair to burden cancer patients with high costs just as they are fighting a life-threatening disease.

Medina Hospital Foundation has been doing something about it.

Dr. Mir Ali, Medical Director of Medina Hospital's cancer program, took note of those patients in need four years ago when he joined the hospital staff. "You talk to your patients and you learn, easily and quickly, who is being affected by the costs of their treatments," he says. "We wanted to do something to help them."

He huddled with leaders of the Medina Hospital Foundation to map out a plan for what could be done.

The answer was to assist with prescription medication payments for patients who have a tough time paying for them due to a lack of prescription coverage. "These medications particularly include those related to nausea, vomiting and pain, which often accompany and impact cancer care," Dr. Ali says. "Philanthropic gifts made to the Medina Hospital Cancer Services fund can be used to offset pharmacological costs of cancer outpatients in need."

The program has been quite successful over the years, Dr. Ali says. About 20 patients each month are individually assisted with hundreds of dollars to help pay for their medications.

continued on page 2



Mir Ali, MD



Save the Date for Our Black Tie BASH

The Black Tie BASH will be held Oct. 24 at Weymouth Country Club. (BASH stands for **B**enefitting **A** Superior **H**ospital) Our growing list of sponsors includes Medina Hospital, Medina Hospital medical staff, Life Care Center of Medina, Carlson Funeral Services, Ruhlin Company, Galley Printing, Pearlview Rehab, Westfield Bank, Catanzarite Family Foundation II and Elmcroft Senior Living, Willowood Care Center and the Avenue at Medina.

continued on page 2





Peanut Balls for Birthing

Philanthropic gifts to our Family Birthing Center purchased Peanut Balls - and they aren't a delicious confection.

These peanut shaped vinyl exercise balls help relax and open the pelvis during childbirth. Benefits of Peanut Balls include less time in labor, fewer C-sections, and increased comfort.

To make a gift for Family Birthing, please visit clevelandclinic.org/medinagiving or call the Foundation office at 330.721.5940.

Gifts in Honor/Memory

Gifts in Memory of Irene Riddleburgh
Ron and Cathi Carmany
Susan Kirsch
Lena Knight
Jim Shields
Dan and Lucy Sondles

Gift in Memory of Dorothy Hirschman
Corinne Hadley

Cancer Medication

continued from page 1

Fundraisers and individual gifts fund cancer patient support services. For example the Medina Evening Rotary's annual Wine and Cheese Party has raised \$15,000 over the last three years.

"The money raised has really helped," Dr. Ali said. "You can see the smiles on the patients' faces and feel the relief they experience when they hear they are getting some help paying for their medications."

Dr. Ali says it is his hope that the cancer services program can be expanded this year to cover other needs for deserving patients that will improve their quality of life.

The outpatient cancer unit at Medina Hospital treats all types of cancer and provides a long list of services. Two full-time physicians are assigned to the unit, along with oncology nurses, pharmacists, dieticians and other professionals.

The unit experienced its largest growth spurt in 2012 when it opened a new infusion suite on the facility's sixth floor. The 3,350-square-foot suite has two exam rooms and six private chemotherapy chairs.

It all means that Medina County residents have access to advanced cancer treatment right in their own back yards.

Those who wish to contribute to Medina Hospital's Cancer Services Fund should call Randy Fuerst, Executive Director of the Medina Hospital Foundation, at 330.721.5940 or fuerstr@ccf.org

Black Tie BASH

continued from page 1

This year's event again features great prizes, so far including \$5,000 cash, a diamond Eternity Band from Medina Gem, a multi-colored gemstone and diamond ring from Don Basch Jewelers, a \$2,000 travel voucher and use of the Bil-Jac Foods loge for an Indian's game and Monsters game in 2016.

To purchase tickets or become a sponsor, visit: giving.ccf.org/MHFBASH

WKYC's Betsy Kling, the evening's MC and the BASH committee is looking to wow guests with great prizes provided by community members. If you'd like to contribute something for this purpose, please contact the Foundation at 330.721.5941 or mh-foundation@ccf.org. Please check the list to the right for ideas:

CANCER FACTS & STATS

Did you know that . . .

- There were nearly 14.5 million Americans who had survived cancer as of Jan. 1, 2014? Some were newly diagnosed and are being treated, while others who were diagnosed many years ago had no evidence of cancer.
- About 1.6 million new cancer cases were expected to be diagnosed in 2015.

BASH Wish List

- Bottles of Wine
- Limo Services
- Artwork
- Restaurant Gift Certificates
- Airline Miles
- Bed-and-breakfast stays
- Cameras
- Gas Grills
- Electronics
- Store Gift Certificates
- Jewelry
- Time-share Stays
- Vacation Rentals



Like us on Facebook

To see the latest, learn the history, read about our supporters, see event photos or make a gift securely online, please visit us at facebook.com/MedinaHospitalFoundation.

Take care of what you love

Sam's priority in life has been taking care of his family. Now that he is retired and planning his next steps, he would like to put into place a plan that will continue to provide for his daughter, Amanda, and also support Medina Hospital, which restored her to good health.

Sam's trusted financial advisor initially suggested a charitable gift annuity. Sam considered this, but he then decided that while he is alive, he will be able to help Amanda if she needs it. Also, he was uncomfortable with the idea of gifting cash now. That's when he and his advisor decided that a testamentary charitable gift annuity sounded like the perfect plan. It will take care of his daughter when Sam no longer can, and it also will take care of future Medina Hospital patients who, like Amanda, will need the highest-quality medical care.

A testamentary charitable gift annuity combines the best of two gift planning strategies, a bequest and a gift annuity. A bequest directs the executor of an estate to distribute assets as stated in the will. A charitable gift annuity is a life income plan that pays a fixed income stream to one or two beneficiaries for their lifetime(s), with the remaining balance being transferred to the designated charitable organization when the last income beneficiary passes away. The annuity payout rate is based on the age(s) of the beneficiary(ies) at the time the gift is established by

the estate. Most testamentary gift annuities are created by parents for their children, but they also commonly are established for a spouse.

Example:

Sam decided that a testamentary charitable gift annuity was the right plan for him and has directed in his will that \$100,000 should be distributed to Medina Hospital to establish a gift annuity for Amanda. If, for example, she is 65 when her father passes away, the \$100,000 gift annuity could pay 4.7% to Amanda for her lifetime, guaranteeing her an income of \$4,700 each year. Since the \$100,000 is included in Sam's estate, the estate is entitled to a charitable deduction of \$32,313, resulting in a taxable amount of only \$69,369.

Sam feels good about his decision knowing that in this way, he can continue to show his love for his daughter when he's gone, and future families will benefit from the care they receive at Medina Hospital.

[NOTE: The example above is not based on real people; it is only an illustration of a gift planning opportunity. If you would like to know how this gift strategy might apply to your situation, please contact Randy Fuerst at 330.721.5940]

Jack Vigneault Memorial is a Great Success



The 21st annual Jack Vigneault Golf Outing was a great success, raising more than \$20,000 to support programs at Medina Hospital. We would like to take this opportunity to again thank our foursome sponsors Ameri-Cal Corp., Medina Hospital, Amcor, Westfield Bank, DS Benefits, Life Care Center of Medina, Seibert Keck Insurance and the Medina Hospital medical staff.

Standing by the Bill Daraty Kia hole in one car are Mike Williams, Vicky Williams, Jay and Adam Vigneault

Medina Hospital Foundation

1000 East Washington St.
Medina OH 44256

medinahospitalfoundation.org

Medina Hospital Foundation realizes that individuals would like to learn more about its particular programs, services or developments. However, if you do not wish to receive information relating to your philanthropic objectives at this time, please call the Medina Hospital Foundation at 330.721.5941 or send an email to kern@ccf.org.



Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, OH
Permit No. 3630

Program Fund Created

Sometimes, short-term needs arise at Medina Hospital that can be addressed by philanthropic gifts. In light of this, a new restricted program fund has been created within the Foundation, to be used at the board's discretion. A few examples of how these funds could be used are transportation costs for indigent patients, supporting performing arts, patient experience or community education initiatives. To learn more about the new fund or make a gift, call Randy Fuerst at 330.721.5940.

Upcoming Community Events

Some programs and services at Medina Hospital are supported by fundraising events arranged by friends in the community. Please plan on attending or contributing to these upcoming events, or contact the Hospital Foundation at 330.721.5940 if you'd like to host an event benefiting a service that is important to you.

Firestone Complete Auto Care

5131 Buehler Drive, Medina
330.721.9485

Century Harley Davidson
Oct. 3: Motorcycle Run

Sept. 6: 2nd Annual Car Show

Oct. 29-31: Halloween Blood Drive

Nov. 27-29: Black Friday

December: Giving Back Month

Medina Hospital Foundation Board

Lisa Dunn

Chair

Tim Phillips

Immediate Past Chair

Fran Carrino

Vice Chair

Kenneth Greene, MD
Janet Harst, LNHA

Corinne Hadley

Secretary

Don Miskich
Ron Plazek

Jonathan Funk, MD

Assistant Secretary

Ann Salek
Todd Winter

Vicky Snyder, CFO/COO

Treasurer

Lifetime/Honorary Member
Edward A. Hall

Foundation Staff

Randy Fuerst
Executive Director

Linda Kern
Foundation Assistant