

2009 Foundation Annual Report







Giving Relationships

Giving Relationships Built on Hope

mid the economic uncertainties of 2009, our country heard the full range of sentiments, from optimism to pessimism. Yet the voices resonating

among donors to the United Health Services Foundation clearly sounded the theme of relationships built on giving, on promise, on hope.

In fact, if you listened closely, you heard much in the way of hope, and its echoes.

Relationships built on hope buoyed the extraordinary care provided at United Health Services. They served as the antidote to the weak economy and all the discouragement that accompanied it. Hope was 2009's elixir. Nowhere were the benefits of that prescription better seen in the UHS system than at the Foundation.

Relationships of promise and hope don't happen in a vacuum. They grow out of the long-standing connections between our donors, our health care organization and our community. This past year, hope multiplied with each gift, regardless of its size. Hope begat hope, and the voice of promise rose above all the static and pessimism.

The power of relationships influenced the success of the Foundation and had a significant impact on the care provided to the thousands of people who crossed UHS thresholds for care.

This Annual Report tells the story of our relationships with donors and how they brought hope to life throughout 2009. Through your belief, your generosity, your elixir of hope, you made a world of difference in our community's care.

And for that we say thank you.



Betsy Pietriyk

Executive Director

Giving Relationships for an Enhanced Patient Experience

Pre-Admission Testing Center benefitted from Foundation dollars

In 2009 United Health Services opened a new Pre-Admission Testing Center in Johnson City, thanks in part to a generous donation from the Foundation. The center is located in Wilson Place, at 52 Harrison St., just across from Wilson Medical Center. The Foundation contributed \$470,000 toward the center's total price tag.

"We're very pleased that the Foundation recognized the importance of this project, and stepped forward to provide a major portion of the funding," said Cathleen Verdon, R.N., nurse manager of PAT. "Through the state-of-the-art service and extra convenience offered by this new facility, our patients will truly benefit with greater convenience and more coordinated care."







Among the advantages of the new center are: convenient testing before most types of surgery; a simple, easy, one-stop way to prepare for an operation; complimentary valet parking; a design that puts patient comfort uppermost; and well-coordinated care and test results.

"An enhancement to hospital care such as a free-standing PAT center, which places a wide range of services all in one location, is an example of the types of projects we're proud to help fund at UHS," said Robin Mead, Foundation board chair. "It takes our service relationship with the patient to a new level and shows them that we respect their time, as well as their need for quality care."



Giving Relationships for a Record Appeal



2009 was most successful year to date

Many things stand out about the 2009 Annual Appeal. The drive surpassed our goal, collected more funds than the previous year and attracted more total donors. We had set an ambitious goal of \$210,000 and collected \$233,712 in gifts — that's \$23,000 more than the 2008 campaign.

"What's really interesting is that the average donation was significantly less than in previous years, but the number of donors almost doubled," said Foundation board member Mark Patterson, who chaired the appeal. "Our volunteers worked hard to contact more businesses and individuals to support the drive. Betsy Pietriyk and the team at the Foundation office did most of the heavy lifting and provided great motivation. The volunteers stepped up to the plate, kept their head in the game and came up with the donors that put us over our goal."

"It was the most successful appeal in Foundation history and we are so grateful to the community and proud of our team," said Betsy Pietriyk, executive director of the Foundation. "We focused on bringing new folks on board with respect to giving. The volunteers did an outstanding job of telling the United Health Services story and recruiting new support. Through their efforts, we created more giving relationships throughout the community. We are very excited about what that can mean for us in the future."

Large gifts benefit Operating Rooms, Radiology

The 2009 Annual Appeal generated \$300,000 for improvements to surgical services at UHS Hospitals. According to Gail Thalacker, director of Surgical Services, \$50,000 of the funding covered the cost of new neurosurgery equipment. The rest of the funds were used for general upgrades in equipment and technology at Wilson Medical Center and Binghamton General Hospital.

"Surgical equipment is very specialized today," Ms. Thalacker said. "In many cases, a life-saving operation requires a piece of equipment that is used solely for that procedure. Keeping the ORs up to date can get very expensive very quickly. We are extremely grateful to the Foundation for enabling us to provide our surgeons and patients with the latest technology."

The Foundation also allocated \$100,000 of appeal money toward providing funding to upgrade a general X-ray room at Binghamton General and a digital X-ray room at the new Pre-Admission Testing Center on the Wilson campus.

"The people at the Foundation are always the first to step forward and ask us what we need to better serve our patients," said Joan Hensberry, clinical manager of Radiology. "Without their support, we could not provide the state-of-theart equipment that brings us leading diagnostic imaging capabilities while improving patient comfort and care. We truly appreciate the extreme generosity and support of the Foundation."



How a small gift can have a big impact

Giving results from 2009 proved that an individual donor doesn't have to be a millionaire to have a large impact on the community. One anonymous donor's passion proves that is true. Betsy Pietriyk, executive director of the Foundation, worked with the donor who had a family member suffering from lymphedema, a disruption in the lymph system that causes swelling, commonly of the arms or legs.

In most cases, lymphedema occurs following surgery to remove a lymph node, or from damage to the lymphatic system. Some women develop lymphedema following breast cancer surgery. Left untreated, lymphedema can lead to increased swelling, increased chance of infection and decreased ability to perform everyday activities. The anonymous donor contributed \$1,000 as the seed money to create the area's only comprehensive lymphedema treatment program.

Today the program reports amazing success. Linda Wasser, director of Medical Rehabilitation, said that the program has received 50 referrals and has expanded services to provide home care for lymphedema patients through Twin Tier Home



Health, a member of the UHS system. Occupational therapists and physical therapists provide comprehensive lymphedema treatments that involve complex deconges-

tive therapies, including specialized massage techniques, targeted exercises and compression bandages, as well as skin and nail care.

"The original gift from the Foundation enabled us to purchase bandaging supplies so that we could get the program started while we worked out the logistics of insurance coverage for our patients," Ms. Wasser said. "We are grateful to the Foundation for realizing a need and for helping to get the program off the ground."

The lymphedema program also includes a support group facilitated by Dawn Brady, R.N. The monthly meetings allow lymphedema patients to share stories and gather information. Ms. Brady teaches the patients how to cope with their condition and care for it at home.

"Through the grant to the Foundation, this program has blossomed and helped so many people who suffer with this lifelong disease," she said. "People throughout the community are still benefitting from that one gift."

Giving Relationships Showered with Generosity



Weather couldn't cloud the spirit of a classic

The weather didn't cooperate for much of the 13th annual Women Fore Women Golf Classic in 2009 at The Links at Hiawatha Landing. But the sponsors and the 164 women who participated in the tournament proved that the community comes together for a good cause, even if they have to suffer through rain, wind and sleet. It was the first year that the sun didn't shine on the tournament, held at the Links on Sept. 11. Yet that didn't take the glow out of the bottom line, as the event raised more than \$55,000 to fund education, prevention, early detection and treatment programs in the battle against breast cancer and related women's health issues.

The classic caught the attention of one of the area's newest businesses, Weis Markets, the Sunbury, Pa.-based grocery chain that is the new owner of the former Giant Markets. Weis has a long tradition of supporting community-based health care organizations in the regions it serves. After becoming the owner of 11 former Giants in Greater Binghamton, store leaders immediately agreed to become a major sponsor of Women Fore Women.





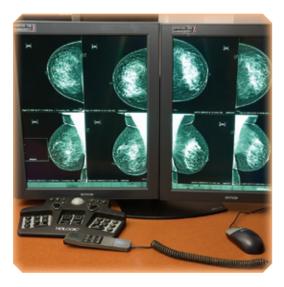
Proud to partner

"We're proud to be a part of the Southern Tier communities and strongly believe in giving back to the communities we serve," said David J. Hepfinger, president and chief executive officer of Weis. "In recent years, we've supported preventative and early-detection breast cancer programs throughout our market area. Programs such as those offered by United Health Services can help prevent breast cancer and reduce its impact if it's diagnosed early. These are the programs we want to support." Founded in 1912, Weis Markets operates 164 grocery stores in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, New Jersey and West Virginia. In addition to supporting health care organizations, Weis also provides charity funding to food banks, emergency food providers, schools, pet shelters and the United Way.

"Our goal at the Foundation is to reach out to new businesses and individuals in the region and to cultivate new relationships," said Betsy Pietriyk, executive director of the Foundation. "We are thrilled to be able to partner with Weis Markets in building our community and improving the health of the people we serve. We deeply admire and appreciate their commitment to our mission."

High-tech workstation

With the tournament proceeds, a new Hologic SecurView DX diagnostic workstation was purchased for the Breast Center at Wilson Medical Center. The advanced technology enhances early detection of breast cancer through improved digital mammography. Using the workstation, radiologists and technologists can instantly exchange annotations, comments and instructions. Previous and current images can be viewed simultaneously on a high-resolution monitor and the results of a mammogram, ultrasound or MRI can be compared side-by-side so that a diagnosis can be achieved quickly and efficiently.



Dr. Chaffee recognized as pioneer and advocate

Each year at the golf tournament, the Foundation presents the Women Fore Women Health Leadership Award to recognize a person who has helped to support or advance education,



prevention, early detection or treatment in the battle against breast cancer or related women's health issues.

In 2009 we presented the award to Barbara Chaffee, M.D., an

internist with UHS who is highly regarded as an exceptional health care provider, vigilant advocate and outstanding role model. Her nominator wrote that Dr. Chaffee "gives tirelessly to our community and continuously advances women's health. She is the primary care physician to hundreds of women and she daily educates them in cancer prevention and surveillance, while being evervigilant in assuring the highest level of treatment for cancer diagnoses."

Dr. Chaffee retired from practice in early 2010 following two decades of providing primary care while also specializing in HIV/AIDS medicine.



Today's gifts... Tomorrow's health care.

Our Generous Donors

For a complete list of all the generous people in our organization and community who are part of the Giving Relationships of the United Health Services Foundation, visit us on the web at www.uhs.net/foundation.

Our Mission

To support innovation, service and quality at United Health Services by educating the community, attracting donors and managing gifts wisely.

Be Part of Our Giving Relationships

Consider becoming part of the Giving Relationships that help the United Health Services Foundation make a difference in people's lives. Contact us: United Health Services Foundation, 10-42 Mitchell Ave., Binghamton, NY, 13903; phone 607-762-2171; on the Web at www.uhs.net/foundation.



607-762-2171 www.uhs.net/foundation

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