

Newsletter

Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Development Foundation

FALL IS UPON US

Fall is upon us. Who doesn't love fall...the change of season from the hot summer months to the cooler days and the beautiful change in the color of the leaves. As with the seasons, it is time for a change within the Foundation as well. After four amazing years serving as the Executive Director of the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Development Foundation, Tamara Tilley decided in late summer that it was time for her to change career paths within the hospital. Tamara has worn many hats

during her long tenure with RRH and although she will no longer be the Director of the Foundation, she will still be involved as a consultant. With Tamara moving to another office, Kim Metcalf has stepped in as the new Foundation Director.



MEET Kim



Kim was born and raised in Ridgecrest and has a long history of community involvement. She is currently the Community Service Director for the Rotary Club of China Lake. Through her community service work with Rotary, her involvement with fundraising coupled with her over thirty five years working in the legal field, she brings to the position a longtime relationship with our community and many years of community service and fundraising knowledge. Kim is excited to move forward carrying on Tamara's commitment and to build on the foundation that Tamara has laid.

"I am grateful and thankful for the opportunity to step into a position that I believe can make a difference not only in our community but in the lives of each and every resident. Living in a small community we have the privilege of seeing what a huge difference we can make on a daily basis - no matter how big or small our

contribution is. I have huge shoes to fill and I hope I can live up to the legacy Tamara leaves behind."

Kim is assuming the position of Executive Director at a time when the Development Foundation continues to focus on the hospice home. With a goal of \$300,000.00 it is looking more and more promising in that with the support and generous donations from the RRH employees and the amazing community, the Foundation is approximately one-third of the way there. It is very clear that big things are happening and this is made possible with the very charitable giving from this community.

If you would like to be a part of the things to come please contact Kim Metcalf at (760)499-3955 or by email at Kimberly.Metcalf@rrh.org. Check us out on the web at www.rrh.org.



Phi-lan-thro-py:

The desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes.

it's that simple

A colleague of mine recently shared a story wherein he was the only one available in the office to take a call and talk with a patient regarding some questions they had. The patient asked to speak with the owner of the hospital. My colleague explained that there was no "one" owner as is sometimes the case in smaller hospitals and especially in years past.

He went on to explain to the patient that we, Ridgecrest Regional Hospital, are not a "for profit" hospital and in fact, we are governed by a Board of Directors that is made up of very knowledgeable people with a wide variety of talents, skills and expertise.

This got me thinking about the "not for profit" status. We can and do make a profit but as with so many other hospitals today, that profit simply isn't enough to maintain the competitive salaries required to retain top-notch staff, secure new and innovative upgrades to our facilities and equipment and to assure that all the other day to day operational needs of the hospital are met so that we can continue to serve the community with the best in health care both inside the hospital and through outreach programs as well.

This is where the Foundation comes in. We are here to support the hospital financially and to insure long term sustainability and funding...and this is where you come in! Your generous and charitable giving is so very appreciated. It is no secret that since the inception of the Foundation in 2014, funds have been raised for the large purchases such as the ABUS equipment which cost approximately \$160,000.00, but funds have been put to use for smaller but just as important items as well - such as the automated external defibrillator (AED) for the Silver Sneakers Program that is sponsored by the hospital.

Presently the campaign and financial goal is to raise \$300,000.00 to purchase and renovate a 4 to 6 bedroom hospice home in Ridgecrest. Thanks to continued and generous giving from the hospital employees and our local community we are getting closer to the reality of having the home up and running in the next few years. So, taking into consideration the very basic meaning of the word "Philanthropy", any gift you make to the Foundation promotes the well-being of others. No matter how big or how small all gifts make a difference.

“No matter how big or how small, all gifts make a difference.”

Please feel free to contact the Foundation at (760) 499-3955 or kimberly.metcalfe@rrh.org.





2nd Annual Wine Gala

An Evening Under the Stars

This year's event was an even bigger success than last year. The theme this year set the tone for dancing, toasting and celebrating in a manner that Gatsby himself would have enjoyed. Partygoers dressed in period attire and dined upon a period appropriate meal which included deviled eggs with caviar, beef wellington and lemon citrus tarts accompanied by plenty of bubbly.

As was the case last year only a limited number tickets were sold and again, this year was a sold-out event as well. There was plenty of fabulous Tobin James wine on hand to enjoy with dinner and a variety of wines to bid on. Several silent auction items were presented that included a gourmet dinner for eight catered by Todd McKinney and McKinney Construction, a Vertical Tasting Flight paired with tapas from Hafner Winery sponsored by Steven and Molly Boster, a Groovy Sixties Dinner donated by Joe Furtado and Nick Rogers as well as a spectacular helicopter tour over the

Grand Canyon donated by Sundance Tours (a Division of Air Methods).

One of the highlights of the evening was a dance exhibition by Anna Weber and Chris Millett from The Groove Dance Studio. This lively performance took the audience back in time to experience dance in the 20s, 30s and 40s.

The evening brought in over \$33,000.00 which added greatly to the goal of the hospice house.

Next year promises to be just as spectacular. If you are interested in the event be sure and watch for the announcement in social media and save the dates that will be sent out in late summer of 2019.

Employee GIVING

Did you know that a great deal of our monthly donations come from the hospital's employees? Many of the staff donate regularly, from each paycheck, towards the goals and campaigns of the hospital. Watch our Facebook page on Fridays to see why they give as we spotlight one employee every Friday!



"As my very first job out of school, I'm really grateful for the opportunity to be here and gain my first professional experience. I give as a way to give back and as appreciation for the privilege I have working here."
-Emmanuel,
Outpatient Staff Pharmacist Center
Professional Pharmacy



"I give to the RRHDF because I believe in the mission and activities that the foundation supports. Also, the level of employee participation and commitment is second to none!"
-David,
Director of Revenue Cycle, Patient
Financial Services



"I give to the RRHDF because I was born at this hospital and I am proud to be working here 35 years later. I am so impressed with all RRH has done for our community, healthcare providers and my own family."
-Emily,
RRH Desktop Technician



Breast Cancer EDUCATION

By Dr. Everard Hughes

In 2018 the improvement in survival from breast cancer has evolved from an understanding of the biology of its multiple varieties and from early detection by imaging with mammograms or other breast imaging techniques. If you have a first degree relative (mother, sister) who has had breast cancer and you are female you need to plan to obtain your first mammogram when you reach age 40. If you have no family history plan to obtain your first mammogram at age 50 and subsequently obtain your mammogram every 2 years as recommended by the American Cancer Society.

It is important to realize that there are multiple types of breast cancer. Each type has a distinct treatment plan based on the presence or absence of proteins on the breast cancer's cell surface. These proteins control the breast cancer's biological functions. To date researchers have found that breast cancer cells have hormone receptors (estrogen and progesterone) and growth factor receptors. These cell surface proteins function to control the rate of cell growth, control characteristics of its spread to other parts of the body and control the cancer cell's ability to survive the body's attempt to destroy it.

Now most types of breast cancer require some form of surgery. However, the important concept to grasp

is that each of the four types of breast cancer mentioned here has additional therapy that is distinctly different from the other types that leads to improved survival. For instance, patients who have hormone receptors absent + growth factor receptors absent (so called Triple Negative breast cancer) are treated with chemotherapy. Another example is patients who are over age 70 with breast cancer that has hormone receptors present + growth factor receptors absent often will not require chemotherapy but instead can be treated with estrogen blocking tablets that control the growth and spread of their hormone receptor positive breast cancer. Also, patients with only growth factor receptors present are treated with growth factor blockers (trastuzumab, Herceptin®).

There are new cancer therapies approved by the FDA monthly. Some of these new therapies have to do

with an understanding of cellular processes occurring on the cell surface or within the breast cancer cell itself. For example, triple negative breast cancer will very soon likely be treated with medications that enhance the body's ability to destroy the triple negative breast cancer cells by immune mechanisms. (Cancer 2018 May 15; 124(10):2086-2103).

The bottom line in 2018 is our anxiety level may not be so high when we discover a lump in the breast or find out we have a diagnosis of breast cancer.

**TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE
CALL THE CLINIC OFFICE AT
(760) 499-3360 OR 3361.**

COMMUNITY Partners



This past few months we have celebrated the success of our Foundation with a number of community partners who have made generous and thoughtful donations. This edition celebrates the following:

Mercy Air (A Division of Air Methods)
Liberty Ambulance Service
AltaOne Federal Credit Union

If you or your business associates would like to join other local businesses in supporting our community through our Foundation and the work it does, please feel to contact us. And remember, together we can and do make a difference.

