Welcome to the first edition of The Volunteer View, the new newsletter from the UAMS Medical Center Department of Volunteer Services!

Through this newsletter, which will be published quarterly, the Volunteer Services Office can keep you up-to-date about everything affecting volunteers at UAMS. Hopefully we can deliver you interesting hospital news, profile fellow volunteers and have an opportunity for you to interact and offer ideas that will continue to help the Volunteer Program at the UAMS Medical Center grow.

Over the past year, the Department of Volunteer Services has continued to place well trained volunteers in a variety of interesting locations on campus. The Wayfinder program, established to guide lost visitors, families and patients around the campus, has grown and daily affects patient satisfaction. Some Wayfinders clock more than 10,000 steps a day!

The summer was an exciting time for the variety of teen volunteer programs at UAMS and helped a variety of young people become acquainted with and explore the medical field.

College and medical students also continue to serve a large role in the Volunteer Department. Many have been volunteering long and tedious hours in the Emergency Department and some have been given the opportunity to observe research with some of the most noted researchers in the medical field—right here on the UAMS Medical Center campus.

This newsletter will offer you a deeper glance into many of these and more exciting things taking place on campus as the UAMS Medical Center continues its dramatic growth.

Enjoy!

"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer." - Albert Camus

A Glimpse from Inside

This past summer was a great month for volunteer service with our three teen programs! Here is a little of what was happening:

- 12 Teen Volunteers served through the M*A*S*H program which allowed students to experience medical careers in a hands-on fashion.
- 18 Teen Volunteers participated in our general Teen Volunteering program in which teens glimpsed the inner-workings of the Medical Center and campus.
- 13 Teens joined in the Summer Health Care Camp, offering them the opportunity to combine science and medicine.

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Dates to Remember

- January 15; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 16; Issue Notice of Request for Proposals
- February 15; Joint Meeting of UAMS/ACRC Auxiliaries
- February 19; Presidents’ Day
- March 1; UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary Board Meeting
UAMS Medical Center Continues Expansion

On October 11, 2006, UAMS broke ground on a brand new hospital, expanding the world class care available to the residents of Arkansas.

The hospital addition will be constructed adjacent to the hospital’s Harry P. Ward Tower, extending west past the current location of Hooper Drive and east to connect to the Outpatient Center. Hooper Drive will be transformed into a boulevard from its intersection with Markham Street and the portion near the hospital addition will be relocated west of its current location.

The hospital expansion, when completed, will give the medical center a capacity of 270 adult beds in private rooms. Plans also call for the addition to include space for a new emergency department, additional surgery and interventional suites, admissions, an intensive care unit, an intermediate care unit and other services. Additional unfinished space will be available for future expansion of the neonatal intensive care unit as well as two unfinished floors that will give UAMS a total of 390 patient rooms when complete.

A new parking deck will have 1,000 parking spaces. It will be built as the lower floors of the hospital, extending underground. There is also space available for a future north-south hospital wing east of the parking deck.

Auxiliary members have been asked to play an important role in the ongoing expansion, as ambassadors through the scheduled opening date in 2008. Having participated in the groundbreaking ceremonies on October 11, future duties will include spreading the exciting news of the growth of the UAMS Medical Center!

UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary Continues to Grow

The UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary has been collecting membership dues over the past few months and continues to see new members. Becoming a member of the UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary means becoming part of the world-class care offered on campus at UAMS. The Auxiliary plays an active role in providing support to growing programs and financially supporting new and innovative ways of delivering care to the citizens of Arkansas and around the world.

If you have yet to become a member of the UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary, dues are continuing to be collected—it is never too late to join!

Associate membership for UAMS employees is offered for $10, individual membership is $15, joint membership (for spouse) is $25, and corporate membership is available for $100. Additionally, lifetime memberships may be purchased for a one-time fee of $200.

Contact Andrea for more information.

The Medical Myth Buster

Ever heard someone state a medical “fact” that you just did not think could be true? Welcome to the Medical Myth Buster where we take a medical myth and ask, “true or untrue?” Who knows! It may just benefit your health!

Myth: Your heart stops whenever you sneeze.

Reality: When a person sneezes, they increase their intrathoracic pressure and can decrease venous blood flow back to the heart, according to Dr. Chris Danner of UAMS’ Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery. “The heart may compensate for this by a slight change in its beating rate, but the heart and its electrical activity should not stop during a sneeze,” says Dr. Danner.

Here’s to your health!

Have any other myths you would like to bust? Contact Andrea in the Volunteer Services Department and look for the next myth buster in the Winter edition of The Volunteer View.

Remember: Flu shots are provided to all active UAMS Medical Center Volunteers!

Courtesy www.uams.edu Medical Myths website.
Aromatique Successfully Returns to UAMS

The UAMS Medical Center Auxiliary eagerly anticipated the confirmation that Aromatique would once again be part of the fall season at UAMS. Aromatique arrived November 17, 2006 and again on December 8, and was an abundant success!

This year’s sale took place on the first floor of the Jackson T. Stephens Spine and Neurosciences Institute, in an open, “shell” space adjacent to the lobby. The location of the space offered an easily organized and fluid layout. Additionally, the building had a loading dock meaning stock was able to be unloaded and, with the help of a variety of volunteers, moved into place in preparation for the event.

The UAMS Auxiliary was thankful for the over 40 volunteers who helped the event run as smoothly as it did. Volunteers participated in everything from assisting in unloading and stocking, to pricing, sales, and security.

As a result of everyone’s hardwork the first sale garnered approximately $68,000 and the second sale drew approximately of $25,000. This brought the total profits from this year’s Aromatique Sale to approximately $93,000!!

The annual Aromatique sale and the money raised offers the Auxiliary the opportunity to fund exciting and innovative programs on campus. In the past this has included patient and family fund assistance and web-based cameras in the Critical Care Nursery. This year’s proceeds have the opportunity to continue the tradition of Auxiliary support toward the world-class care of the UAMS Medical Center.

Thank you, again, to everyone who helped make this year’s Aromatique so successful!!

We hope to see you all next year, too!

Changes in the Volunteer Services Department

The UAMS Medical Center Department of Auxiliary Volunteer Services added a new element to its services in August when it hired a new volunteer coordinator, Andrea Stokes.

Andrea takes over some of the duties held previously by Marcy Carl. However, she, along with Director, Gloria Wright, will have more of a function in establishing new programs for UAMS volunteers.

Andrea grew up in Branson, MO and moved to Little Rock from Cincinnati, OH in 2004. She is a graduate of UALR and is currently working on an M.A. in Philosophy and History this fall.

This new staff addition, will allow the Volunteer Services Department to more thoroughly ensure volunteer files are complete and in compliance with hospital standards and to coordinate the revisions of all volunteer job descriptions to meet clinical and educational needs. Additionally, Andrea will take on the coordination of the summer teen programs.

Volunteer File Maintenance

As the year begins to wind down, the Volunteer Services Department is preparing for an exciting new year of volunteer service to begin. Part of what goes into that preparation is updating currently active volunteer files.

In accommodation with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), the UAMS Volunteer Services Department maintains thorough and complete records.

Here is what should be found in everyone’s file:

- An up-to-date (within the past year) TB Skin Test record;
- A Signed HIPAA Training Form;
- A Signed Privacy and Confidentiality Statement;
- A Photo Release Agreement.

Thank you for helping the Volunteer Services maintain their records! Your assistance does not go unnoticed!

Watch your mailbox for continued Volunteer Service Department updates!
The mission of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Volunteer Services Department is to uphold the greater UAMS mission and vision to teach, heal, search and serve through compassionate and informed volunteer services.

UAMS Volunteer Goals:

- To achieve greater competencies in order to create a more knowledgeable and skilled volunteer services department.
- To have greater visibility on the UAMS campus through volunteer contributions of time and compassion.
- To better equip volunteers with security and safety training and to better orient volunteers to life as a health-care volunteer.

Volunteers Needed

- Interested in serving as a volunteer in the hospital? Contact Andrea today to hear about the exciting volunteer opportunities available at the UAMS Medical Center: 501.686.5657.