

MISSION

The Pinnacle Health Auxiliary is a volunteer community organization dedicated to supporting UPMC Pinnacle in its endeavors to provide quality health care and health education in central Pennsylvania.

2023-24

Auxiliary Executive Board
pn_auxiliary@upmc.edu

President
Jan Lang

President-Elect
Anita Rash

Vice President
Vacant

Treasurer
Cindy Banducci

Assistant Treasurer
Judy McAllister

Recording Secretary
Eileen Walker

Corresponding Secretary
Christy Leo

Auxiliary Liaison
Teri Jakob
717-231-6320
jakobtj@upmc.edu

President's Message

As my presidency of the Pinnacle Health Auxiliary drew to a close, I reflected on the past year and I realized it was a FABULOUS year! In following with our mission to "support UPMC in Central Pa in its endeavors to provide quality health care and education," we hit it outta the ballpark!

A major accomplishment is our contribution to the Ernest R. McDowell Health Career Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$250,000. This pledge was made possible in part from the 717 Licensed to Heal Spring Gala proceeds. In addition to this scholarship fund, we voted to establish an annual scholarship for a student at UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing at UPMC Harrisburg.

We continue to support Bailey House, our home-away-from home for families whose loved ones are inpatient at UPMC Pinnacle. And a new House Coordinator, Adrienne Emerich, was hired in April.

Most recently, the Board voted to help with the Veteran's Outreach of Pennsylvania Tiny Homes Project.

More information about all of these initiatives may be found in the newsletter. Just turn the page to find out more.

In order to make everything happen, I MUST give credit and appreciation to our exemplary Executive Board. And, with immeasurable willingness to help – Teri, Jodi and Bev – from the Foundation's office. Without your dedication, hard work, creativity, persistence and fearlessness, our Mission would not have been carried out.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. And, now I pass the gavel to our new president Jan Lang, who will continue to do great things to continue our Mission.

With warmest regards,

Kathy Darowish



Your Auxiliary at Work

Since 1888, Auxiliary volunteers have been serving the Greater Harrisburg area, which now includes UPMC Harrisburg, UPMC West Shore and UPMC Community Osteopathic hospitals. In recent years, here is just some of what the Auxiliary has contributed to the community:

\$6,075,518

Contributed to the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation from 1996 to April 2023
to support programs and services in our area

\$1,269,500

Scholarships awarded to approximately 2,000+ students pursuing careers in the
health care field in the Greater Harrisburg area since 1988

\$500,000

Women's & Babies Labor of Love Campaign
to expand and enhance labor and delivery services at UPMC Harrisburg

\$250,000

Ernest R. McDowell Health Career Scholarship pledge, a portion of this was the proceeds from the 2023 Gala

\$65,000

2022 Gala proceeds benefiting Wellness and Integrative Oncology Program at UPMC in Central Pa

\$30,000

Furnish 10 homes for the Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania (VOPA) Tiny Homes Project

\$20,000

Sponsorship of Tea for Mammograms

\$15,000

Support the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation's COVID-19 Crisis Fund in 2020

\$5,000

Annual scholarship to UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing 2023 and 2022

\$2,500

Sponsorship of UPMC Pinnacle Foundation's "Promenade on the Riverfront" being held July 2023
which will benefit Women's Behavioral Wellness

Baby stockings, Rock-A-Bye Baby Readers, Bailey House gardens

Source: UPMC Pinnacle Foundation Facebook page and Auxiliary Treasurer Reports

Children's Health Fair

Auxiliary members stuffed 1,800 bags for third grade students who participated in this year's Children's Health Fair. The Health Fair, which was virtual again this year, has been expanded to reach students in four counties in the Central Pa area. It was filmed live at Brady Hall and teachers could view it with their students at any time.



Congratulations 2023-2024 Auxiliary Executive Board

The Pinnacle Health Auxiliary held our new officers' installation on May 23, 2023 at the Country Club of Harrisburg. Jessica Ritchie, President and Chief Development Officer, UPMC Pinnacle Foundation, inducted our new officers:

President: Jan Lang
janzlang@gmail.com; 717-379-5109

President Elect: Anita Rash
anitarash@comcast.net; 717-805-0669

Treasurer: Cindy Banducci
lucibanducci@gmail.com; 717-979-5345

Assistant Treasurer: Judy McAllister
Jmcallister210@comcast.net; 717-649-4284

Recording Secretary: Eileen Walker
Leen458@comcast.net; 717-350-1980

Corresponding Secretary: Christy Leo
christyleo@comcast.net; 717-877-9224



Auxiliary Recognizes Teri Jakob for her Dedication



Lynn Graham, past Auxiliary president, surprised Teri Jakob, UPMC Pinnacle Foundation's Manager of Special Events and Partnership Giving, with a Certificate of Excellence and a little token of our appreciation for everything she does to help the Auxiliary fulfill all its endeavors. Teri consistently goes above and beyond each and every day!

Kathy Darowish, Lynn Graham, Teri Jakob and Jan Lang

UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing at UMPC Harrisburg

Kathy Darowish presented the Auxiliary's scholarship check at an event at Strawberry Square on April 19 to celebrate the first class as they are halfway through their first year. Rachel Evans was chosen by her teachers to receive the \$2,500. This is the second year the Auxiliary has provided a scholarship.



717 Licensed to Heal

Lady Luck was with those who attended the Pinnacle Health Auxiliary's **717 Licensed to Heal Spring Gala** on March 4th at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Camp Hill.

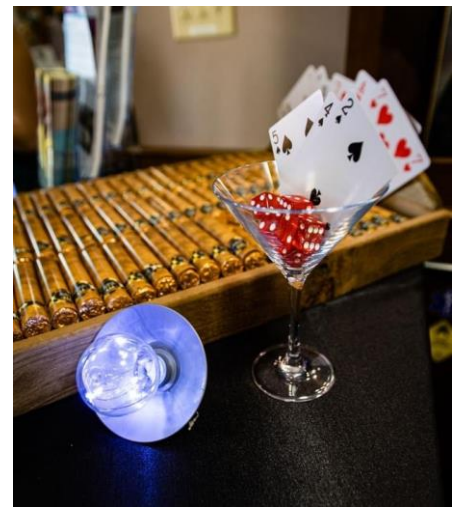
Guests were treated to delicious food stations by JDK Catering, signature drinks, and casino table games at the James Bond inspired event. A live auction, paddle raise, jewelry raffle courtesy of Mountz Jewelers and silent auction rounded out the fundraising activities.

Proceeds for the Gala benefited the Ernest R. McDowell Health Career Scholarship Fund.



Cindy Banducci and Jan Lang present Jessica Ritchie, UPMC Pinnacle Foundation, with \$250,000 for the Ernest R. McDowell Health Career Scholarship Fund.





Spring Membership Meeting

The Spring Membership Meeting was held at Harrisburg Country Club on April 25, 2023. We were honored to have Julie Walker, of the Peyton Walker Foundation, present to our group. Here are some excerpts from Julie's presentation:

Sudden cardiac arrest is the #1 killer of student athletes.
It takes the life of 1 child every hour, every single day.

On a picture-perfect Saturday in November 2013, Julie and her husband were sitting in their kitchen enjoying their morning coffee. Julie remembers the beautiful sky and fall foliage and thought about how lucky they were and that life couldn't get any better. Until they got a call that no parent wants to get. King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa called to let them know their 19-year-old daughter, Peyton, was in an ambulance on her way to Wilkes-Barre hospital. She was in sudden cardiac arrest.

On the two-hour drive to Wilkes-Barre, they received a call from the hospital and Julie's husband asked, "Is Peyton breathing." The hospital's response was, "No, but we are working on her." Peyton died on November 2, 2013 at age 19. Many of you have heard of the Peyton Walker Foundation, which was set up in Peyton's memory, but you may not know how it came to be. Julie was spurred to action when months later she opened the bag of Peyton's clothing that the hospital gave to her. The motivation to establish the foundation came from the red shirt that Peyton was wearing on November 2: "What we do for ourselves dies with us. . . What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." (Albert Pine).



Sudden Cardiac Arrest

Julie went on to explain to the group that sudden cardiac arrest is different from a heart attack. Sudden cardiac arrest is when the heart malfunctions and suddenly stops beating. Heart attack is when the blood flow to the heart is blocked. Sudden cardiac arrest is an "electrical" problem where a heart attack is a "circulation" problem.

The Peyton Walker Foundation focuses on 3 pillars: Checking Hearts, Protecting Hearts, Saving Lives. The Foundation aims to educate parents and students about the prevalence of sudden cardiac arrest and the importance of EKG testing. With its partners, such as UPMC in Central Pa, they set up screenings which include free EKGs and possibly echo cardiograms if needed.

Successes

Peyton's Law: Legislation passed in 2020 to provide information about screenings, EKGs, CPR, etc. Pennsylvania was the second state in the country to pass this type of legislation

Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs): To date, 400 AEDS have been donated. Julie told the story of a woman who wanted AEDs at all of the Dillsburg little league baseball fields. On opening day, an AED saved the life of a father in the stands; at another game, the AED saved the life of a mother of one of the players. A young man, who had found out about his heart issue at one of the Peyton Walker screenings, wanted to pay it forward and raised money for an AED for the roller-skating rink in Enola, Pa. This AED saved the life of a 10-year-old girl. Julie commented that because of this young man and an AED, her parents will never know the heartache of losing a child. The Auxiliary presented Julie Walker with a donation to cover the cost of one AED.



4-Minute City™ Program: Initiative in Cumberland County, Pa, to have 300 AEDs in the community. A 911 operator will alert the AED that is close to the person suffering the emergency. A volunteer then gets that AED to the person in the critical first minutes while EMTs are on their way.

After the formal presentation, attendees were provided hands-on demonstrations on CPR, how to use an AED and the Heimlich maneuver for choking emergencies.

Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania (VOPA) Tiny Homes Project

A unique community is coming to a five-acre site overlooking the Susquehanna River in South Harrisburg – 15 tiny homes where veterans experiencing homelessness will live while receiving the treatment and services needed to live empowered lives filled with strength and purpose.

Each 210-square-foot tiny home will be ADA-compliant and furnished with a writing desk, chair, nightstand and platform bed with storage drawers. The furnishings for each home cost \$3,000 and a local company donated the funds to furnish five of the homes. The Auxiliary Board voted at its April meeting to donate \$30,000 to furnish the remaining 10 homes.

The UPMC Pinnacle Foundation has supported the project by contributing \$500,000 dedicated to the community center's construction, and UPMC in Central Pa plans to work collaboratively with VOPA to provide health care services that meet veterans where they are.

As Thomas W. Zimmerman, Jr., chair and co-founder of VOPA wrote in his letter to our treasurer, Cindy Banducci, "Building tiny homes is simply the foundation of our program. Once veterans no longer have to worry about their immediate needs, they can start planning for their future."



Superhero Day

On April 28, UPMC in Central Pa recognized their superheroes – the men and women who take care of patients day in and day out, especially the pediatric patients. Over 900 capes were sold, with proceeds supporting pediatric patients in need throughout all of UPMC in Central Pa. Children were treated to their nurses, doctors and other medical professionals wearing capes, as well as famous superheroes like Superman and Spiderman as they scaled the outside of the hospital and visited children's rooms.

Pinnacle Health Auxiliary donated \$1,000 to this worthwhile day. Teri Jakob presented the Auxiliary Board members with their own superhero capes at the April Board Meeting.



Bailey House Happenings

On Friday, March 3, abc27 News interviewed Teri Jakob about Bailey House. Bailey House, located on Washington Street, opened its doors November 15, 1986, offering short-term housing for families of patients receiving medical care at UPMC Harrisburg.

Welcome Adrienne Emerich, the new Bailey House Coordinator who started on April 17.



COMMUNITY

Bailey House in Harrisburg offers home away from home for families with loved ones in the hospital

Ernest R. McDowell Health Career Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee met in April to review this year's scholarship candidates. We are proud to announce that this year \$58,000 was awarded to 46 students, 3 of whom are M.D.s

For the first time, the 2024 applications will be available to complete and submit online.

Scholarship Committee consists of:

Cindy Banducci
Carol Helt
Pam Iams
Mary Beth Sembrot
Paulie Zozos

Membership

The Auxiliary welcomed nine new members this year.

Contact Ann Froehlich,
Membership
Committee, if you
know someone who is
interested in joining.
froehlich@comcast.net
or 717-979-4123