



Yale-New Haven in the Community

July 2008

This newsletter highlights some of the many community outreach programs and services Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH) offers on an ongoing basis. Some are designed to improve access to care through health education and screenings for specific populations, while others seek to enhance the quality of life within our community.

Yale-New Haven in the Community is published by YNHH's Department of Community and Government Relations. Please contact community relations specialist Dee Melio if you have questions or would like more information.

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Partners in education

Washington Elementary School – Washington Elementary School hosted a celebration in recognition of the 20th anniversary of its partnership with Yale-New Haven Hospital. The partnership, managed by Dee Melio, YNHH Community & Government Relations, exposes students to careers in health care and demonstrates the relevance of their classroom learning. The hospital is now an integral part of the school curricula and each student at every grade level participates in a partnership program. Special thanks to Lisa Tartamella-Kimmel, Susann Boroczky, Ellen Liskov, Charles Vaughn, Peter Marone, Patricia Gelineau, Rebecca Ross, Vincent Piscitelli, Marion Mangino Barnes, Ardisa Smalls and Karen Johns, RN, for participating in the partnership.

John C. Daniels School – Fifth graders at Daniels School teamed up with their hospital partners in Legal & Risk Services Department, Community & Government Relations, and Marketing & Communications and several volunteer community attorneys to conduct the second annual mock trial. Superior Court Judge Antonio C. Robaina presided over the case, *United States vs. Paul Bunyan*, at the New Haven Federal District Court. The jury found for the defendant, Paul Bunyan.

In June, amidst sunny skies and cheering students, 53 students concluded four weeks of rocketry instructional classes, under the direction of science teacher, William Johnson and YNHH employee, Al Gloer. With an official count down and cheers from watching students, 24 student-built model rockets launched successfully! School staff agreed that the project provided a valuable learning experience and promoted teamwork among the students. The students totally enjoyed the project!

Vincent E. Mauro Interdistrict Magnet School – Mauro School is proud of its nationally recognized student safety patrol and acclaimed peer mediation team. YNHH shares their pride and made a donation to help enable Nancy Charest, the group leader, to conduct a leadership conference for the students. The students enjoyed a special day of learning and recognition of their efforts to better their school community. While being trained to become members of the safety patrol and peer mediation team, participating students acquired non-violence and peaceful conflict resolution skills.

Community outreach

Pediatric Dentistry – The section of Pediatric Dentistry and the YNHH Pediatric Dentistry Center joined over 700 volunteers to participate in the first Connecticut Mission of Mercy in Tolland, CT. The event provided free dental care to over 1,500 patients. The next event is scheduled for April 2009 in New Haven.



Smilow Cancer Hospital Update

Construction of the 14-story, 497,000 square-foot Smilow Cancer Hospital at Park Street and South Frontage Road is on schedule and on budget! The cancer hospital, expected to open in December 2009, will be the most comprehensive cancer care facility between Boston and New York City, offering patients state-of-the-art care and treatment.

In June, two groundbreaking ceremonies were held for projects related to the Smilow Cancer Hospital. The Clinical Laboratory Building, 55 Park Street, will house YNHH labs and pharmacy, as well as retail on the ground level. The hospital's loading dock will relocate to under the building, eliminating the current traffic delays occurring at its present location at York Street and North Frontage Road.

The 2 Howe Street building, bound by Howe and Dwight Streets, Legion Avenue and North Frontage Road, will house a 845-car garage with wrap-around first level retail space, office space and 24 units of housing.

Both buildings are privately owned and will generate taxes to the city of New Haven. YNHH will be the primary tenant.

YNHH Emergency Department

In response to the high demand for emergency room services and its commitment to meeting the needs of its patients, YNHH is planning to enlarge its emergency room. The plan calls for expanding the current building out to the curb on Howard Avenue and York Street and up three floors. The project could begin as early as October 2008.

Emergency rooms throughout the country are experiencing high volume and long wait times. Last year YNHH emergency department had nearly 123,000 visits.

Community Investment Program – YNHH is in the third year of its agreement with Hill Development Corporation (HDC). To date, the hospital has donated a total of \$684,000 to HDC, including: \$100,000 for a community liaison for the Hill neighborhood; \$25,000 for the transfer of Vernon Street properties and the first installment for rehabilitation/building costs; \$10,000 for marketing for apprenticeships for the Smilow Cancer Hospital; \$50,000 for the Courtland Seymour Wilson Library; \$300,000 for Hill home rehabilitation grants; \$40,000 for child care subsidies; \$150,000 for Hill youth programs and \$9,000 for scholarships for graduating seniors. In addition, the hospital has conducted two Hill employment information fairs in October 2006 and June 2008.

The hospital and the city of New Haven entered into their community investment agreement in March 2006. Since that time, the hospital has honored its commitments, donating almost \$4,600,000 to the city, including: \$300,000 for economic development; \$420,000 for outreach coordinators; \$300,000 for the Mayor's Youth Initiative; and voluntary payments of almost \$3 million. An additional component of the agreement is a \$1 million commitment to Gateway Community College for its associate degree in nursing program. To date, the hospital has contributed \$600,000 to Gateway, in addition to the initial \$200,000 to help launch the program. The graduating class of 2008 included 60 new nurses, all of whom graduated with offers of employment. This highly successful degree program has graduated over 200 nurses since its inception in 2003.

Support for non-profit organizations

YNHH and its employees took out their wallets and put on their walking shoes for various health advocacy organizations from April through June 2008.

- **March for Babies** – YNHH and more than 150 employees led by Dr. Michael Apkon, vice president and executive director of the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, raised more than \$33,000 for the March of Dimes.
- **American Heart Association** – Under the direction of Rick D'Aquila, executive vice president and COO, and with the help of 35 employee team captains, more than 700 employees participated in the walk on May 18. The YNHH team raised more than \$52,000 for the American Heart Association.
- **Komen CT Race for the Cure** – The YNHH team contributed \$7,500 to Komen for its work with women with breast cancer. Ann Hogan, coordinator of YNHH Community & Government Relations, volunteered as chair of the CT Race for the Cure.
- **Y-Me Walk to Empower** – Debbie Klotzer, of the Yale-New Haven Cancer Network, coordinated the YNHH team of over 270 hospital employees who raised \$14,000 for Y-Me, a breast cancer support and education non-profit organization.

New Haven Home Recovery (NHHR) – YNHH was a sponsor of NHHR's 30th anniversary celebration in April. NHHR provides services to families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and its programs include AIDS service, food pantry and supportive housing. Most recently, they opened a furniture co-op where furniture, housewares and clothing are given to families transitioning from homelessness, living with disabilities or other hardships. Clients are referred from other partnering agencies.