

THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL

Community

PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

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www.wpahs.org/wph/partnership

May 2006



Community
Partnership
Members

Bloomfield Garfield
Corporation

Career & Workforce
Development Center– East

East End
Cooperative Ministry

Eastside Neighborhood
Employment Center

Friendship Preservation
Society/Friendship
Development Associates

Interfaith Volunteer Care-
givers of Southwestern PA

Lawrenceville
Corporation

Lower Bloomfield
Unity Council

Parental Stress Center

Urban League
of Pittsburgh

Ursuline Senior Services

Vintage

The Western
Pennsylvania Hospital

Guiding Graduates Employment Programs Help Students Find Careers

As local high school seniors prepare for graduation, West Penn Hospital is providing opportunities for students to explore health careers while earning a pay check.

West Penn Hospital offers recent graduates entry-level positions in medical records, transport, environmental services or the dietary department.

High school graduates may work 32 hours per week and are also eligible to receive training to serve as a support service associate or patient care associate.



Geri Spira of West Penn Hospital discusses job opportunities with a student at a job fair at Peabody High School on April 11.

West Penn also has employment opportunities for students entering their senior year. Incoming seniors may work 25 hours a week in the summer and 12 hours a week during the school year.

The student employment program is a project of The Western Pennsylvania Hospital Community Partnership's Resource Committee.

Funded by the Pittsburgh Partnership, the program is open to students who live in the city of Pittsburgh and meet specific income criteria.

Candidates must complete a hospital employment application and submit a resume. Interested individuals should call West Penn's Youth Employment Coordinator, at 412-578-5290.

West Penn Seeks Nursing Honors ANCC is Evaluating Hospital for Magnet Designation

The Western Pennsylvania Hospital is being considered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) for prestigious Magnet designation, which recognizes excellence in nursing services. Magnet designation is an honor that only 3 percent of hospitals worldwide have achieved.

Patients, family members, staff, and interested parties are invited to provide comment on Hospital nursing services to the ANCC. Your comments are confidential and never shared with the Hospital. If you choose,

your comments may be anonymous, but must be in writing. All phone comments must be followed up in writing.

Comments must be received by May 26, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. and may be sent to:

- Magnet Recognition Program Office
8515 Georgia Ave.
Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3492.
- Fax: 301-628-5217
- Email: magnet@ana.org
- Phone: 866-588-3301

The Hospital has submitted nursing information to the ANCC. That information is available for public review through June 2, 2006, in:

- Admissions, 1st Floor, North Tower; Monday to Friday: 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, Holidays: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Security Booth, 1st Floor, Tower (next to Emergency Dept.); Monday to Friday: 8:30 p.m. – 6:30 a.m.; Saturday, Sunday, Holidays: 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Support for Women with Cancer

Women with all types of cancer are invited to attend a new support group at West Penn Hospital on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Co-sponsored by the Cancer Caring Center, this group will provide education and support services for women.

On **May 24**, women are invited to attend a support session (patients only) in the Hospital's Liberty Rooms. Participants will have the opportunity to meet other women with cancer in a relaxed environment for discussion, sharing and support.

On **June 14** patients and their guests are encouraged to explore the power of Reiki, a hands-on experience of healing energy that can result in decreased pain, fatigue, nausea and vomiting. Mini Reiki

treatments will be offered in the Allegheny Rooms.

All sessions meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and include light refreshments and free parking in the West Penn Hospital Parking Complex.

Cancer patients and caregivers are also invited to attend a separate, special support session at the Cancer Caring Center in Bloomfield at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, **June 27**. Psychiatrist Dr. John Shields welcomes all questions about depression and anxiety related to a cancer diagnosis and any mental health issue.

Call Bonnie Shields at the Cancer Caring Center at 412-622-1212 to register or get more information on any of these meetings.

Get Screened for Colon Cancer!

Spring is a great time to be screened for colon cancer. Colon

cancer is the third most common cause of cancer death in the country, but it is largely preventable. Following American Cancer Society testing recommendations for colon cancer could save your life! Beginning at age 50, have one of the following:

- Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) every year
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years
- FOBT every year and flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years (preferred method of first three)
- Colonoscopy every ten years
- Double-contrast barium enema every five years

If you are at high risk for colon cancer, talk with your doctor about a different screening schedule.

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Names New Executive Director

Ann F. Mason has joined Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers (IVC) as the new Executive Director.

Mason just completed a successful year as the Interim President & CEO of The Lutheran Service Society of Western PA. Prior to that, she was the Executive Director of Hunger Services Network for 14 years. Mason has more than 25 years of leadership experience in nonprofit human service organizations, including eight years as a professional Volunteer Administrator.

A graduate of Leadership Pittsburgh

Class XVII, Mason gladly accepts the challenges and the opportunities of leading IVC. Her goals include increasing IVC's funding and adding new programs to its service line.

"We know that the increasing number of frail elderly people in Allegheny County means IVC services are crucial to keeping them independent and connected in their homes," she said.

IVC is a nonsectarian, nonprofit organization that offers free in-home, non-medical supportive services to help vulnerable adults age 60 or older in



Ann Mason

Allegheny County maximize their independence and fight isolation.

IVC matches volunteers from its network of 45 congregations with clients who request aid with tasks such as grocery shopping, transportation, escort to appointments, managing correspondence, friendly visiting, and telephone reassurance. In addition, IVC provides information & referral services and educates older adults about fire and fall safety.

Stir, Sip ... Celebrate!

Nearly 70 people gathered at West Penn Hospital on May 6 for an afternoon tea celebrating the courage of women with breast cancer.

Stir, Sip ... Celebrate! featured a talk by two-time breast cancer survivor Lillie Shockney, administrative director of the Johns Hopkins Avon Foundation Breast Center and a display of original paintings by breast cancer survivors.



Lillie Shockney, RN, autographing copies of her book *Breast Cancer Survivors' Club at Stir, Sip ... Celebrate!*

Visit Us on the Web

For more information on The Western Pennsylvania Hospital Community Partnership, please visit our website at:

www.wpahs.org/wph/partnership

The site contains information on community events and a variety of resources that are available to residents of Pittsburgh's East End neighborhoods.