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For the Week of Sept. 28, 2009  
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## **LMHS' United Way Donations Surpass \$140,000 Goal!**

We made it!

Lee Memorial Health System's United Way pledges for this year's drive have exceeded our \$140,000 goal, and more pledges are still coming in!

In total, there were 955 pledges from LMHS and LeeSar employees and our System volunteers. To date, that means 141 more employees pledged this year than last year. In light of the current economic turmoil and the struggles that I know many of you have faced, I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Your generosity during these difficult times truly is one of the many, many miracles I have witnessed throughout our health system.

Way to go, team!

## **LMHS Board of Directors Has a New Member**

Jason S. Moon of Fort Myers was sworn in Thursday as the newest member of the Lee Memorial Health System Board of Directors!

Jason was appointed by Gov. Charlie Crist to fill a seat left vacant when Kerry Babb stepped down in July to accept a position as a respiratory therapist at Cape Coral Hospital. Jason, who is the Corporate Administration Director for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Oncology, will represent District 5 on the LMHS Board of Directors until the seat is up for election Nov. 8, 2010.

If you see Jason at any of our facilities, please be sure to welcome him to the LMHS team!

## **More Breast Cancer Services Available at LMHS**

With October serving as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it seems appropriate to take a moment to recognize our dedicated employees who help the women—and men—in our community during every step of their breast cancer journeys.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women, after skin cancers. About one in every eight women will be diagnosed with the disease.

With the opening of the Regional Cancer Center last October, as well as the Outpatient Center at The Sanctuary that houses one of our Breast Health Centers, we now have even more breast cancer services to offer our patients.

The Regional Cancer Center has a variety of supplemental services for breast cancer patients, including several workshops about the basics, such as Breast Cancer 101, Cancer Symptom Management 101, Lymphedema 101 and Oncology Pharmacy 101. There are also nontraditional support classes for patients, including Yoga; Labyrinth, Meditation and Mandala; Creative Scrapbooking and Not Too Young to Fight, a group for women younger than 40.

Patients concerned about their risk of cancer can also have Genetic Risk Counseling at the Regional Cancer Center. Genetic Risk Counseling helps patients gain a more accurate understanding of their cancer risks by doing a family pedigree, or family tree, and having a simple blood test. The most common type of genetic testing is BRCA testing, which looks for the genes associated with breast and ovarian cancers.

The Regional Cancer Center also has an impressive and supportive boutique, Cookie's Place, which provides high-quality wigs, mastectomy products, massage and aromatherapy products in a soothing and discreet atmosphere, and a medical library.

Highly skilled physicians at Florida Cancer Specialists, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Oncology and Florida Gynecologic Oncology have active practice sites at the Regional Cancer Center, truly making it a comprehensive center to support patient needs.

At the Outpatient Center at The Sanctuary, the Breast Health Center offers the latest digital mammography, which provides computer-generated images of the breast, and breast MRI, which enables physicians to view some parts of the breast that may not show up with a mammogram. The American Cancer Society recommends a woman begin yearly mammograms at age 40 or earlier if there is a family history or a lump is discovered in her breast.

LMHS' Breast Health Navigator, Dara Leichter, RN, MHA, OCN, CBCN, helps patients with just about everything, from needing Kleenex to answering questions about mastectomies and so much more! Dara is the only Breast Health Navigator in Lee County and is supported by many caring people, caring for people!

When the ambulatory surgery center opens at the Outpatient Center in 2011, The Sanctuary will truly be able to provide comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services from beginning to end for those fighting breast cancers, all in one location.

This is what one of our breast cancer patients, Leesa Crapa, 47, of Cape Coral, has to say about our services:

*"I was diagnosed with breast cancer June 25. I had to have a biopsy and a mastectomy. I begin chemotherapy treatment September 18. I've received absolutely great care at The Sanctuary, where they have the Regional Cancer Center and the Outpatient Center. Having cancer is such an unpleasant thing, but the staff has really made it as pleasant as possible. It is very convenient for me that I've been able to get all of my care at The Sanctuary, with just a few things I needed in Cape Coral. I moved here from Memphis a few years ago. There, it would take you anywhere from 45 minutes to one and a half hours to get to an emergency room. This is so much better, and it really helps. I've been very well taken care of."*

It is stories like Lisa's that truly do inspire us as we strive to continue to offer the best possible care for our patients each day and night.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a small dot above the 'i'.

Jim Nathan  
President, Lee Memorial Health System