

Grace Sustains Us

4th Annual Fundraising Breakfast Another Success

While state lawmakers are poised to make severe cutbacks to health care insurance for hundreds of thousands of Arizonans, Mission of Mercy supporters continue to step up and bless us with their gifts of love, talent, and financial support.

On Dec. 3, 2010, an enthusiastic crowd of 350 people packed the Anasazi ballroom at the Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak for our 4th Annual Mercy in the Morning breakfast. Many new partners attended and 19 new individuals and organizations stepped forward to join our "Healing through Love" multi-year giving society by making a five year financial commitment to our work.



photo by Jack Kurtz

"...we must scale our work to be more efficient, more collaborative, and more responsive in the coming years — we simply can't turn away people who desperately need health care..."

"We are blessed to have such amazing supporters and community partners who understand the plight of so many in our community who are struggling to access primary health care," said Catherine Amiot, Executive Director M.O.M.-AZ.

For the second year, Valley media icon Mary Jo West emceed this year's breakfast. She recalled the heart-wrenching story of her own father who died in the throes

of addiction and homelessness in 1982. "I think that grief like that can lose us forever or it can be the turning point to find God's love and mercy, which it did for me," said Ms. West. "Our Mission of Mercy patients experience this very real loss and life-changing love every time they walk through our doors."

Ms. Amiot shared the success of the M.O.M.'s expansion into the Far West Valley at First Southern Baptist Church of Avondale this past November (see page 3 for related story). The opening of the Avondale clinic culminated a number of significant milestones achieved in 2010, including the addition of new Assistant Medical Director, Dr. Jill Utley, and the purchase of a fully equipped second mobile medical clinic. But with much blessing comes much responsibility.

"Like so many other non-profit organizations, we have been severely impacted by the huge increase in demand for our services," said Ms. Amiot. "We are projecting a 20% increase in our patient visits in 2011. This escalating trend means that we must scale our work to be even broader, more efficient, more collaborative and more responsive in the coming years — because we simply can't turn away people who desperately need health care for themselves and their families," she said.

No one understands that better than "Rick," who gave a moving testimonial of his own experience as a Mission of Mercy patient. Clinic volunteer Jonathon Anderson also shared his personal story of

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Our Mission

Mission of Mercy Arizona is a non-profit, non-sectarian mobile medical outreach program serving Maricopa County. We provide access to health care to the most vulnerable in our community - the sick, poor, and uninsured - by making quality primary health care and prescriptions available at no charge. Mission of Mercy seeks to restore dignity to all people by being an instrument of "healing through Love," and by the reciprocal sharing of God's mercy with those we serve.

Clinic Locations & Schedules

M.O.M.-AZ serves patients at five sites in the Valley. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the following days and locations:

- Maryvale - Church of the Nazarene, 3201 N. 51st Ave. Phoenix 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays
- South Phoenix - St. Catherine of Siena, 6600 S. Central Ave. Phoenix 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
- Phoenix - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 1500 W. Maryland Ave. Phoenix Every Wednesday
- Mesa - Christ the King Community Center 1616 E. Broadway, Mesa Every Thursday
- Avondale - First Southern Baptist Church of Avondale 1001 N. Central Ave, Avondale 2nd & 4th Mondays

**APPOINTMENTS:
602.486.7798**

**Bilingual Telephone Hours:
Tuesday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

For additional information or clinic directions visit our web site at www.aMissionOfMercy.org

M.O.M.'s Perspective: Life's Little Miracles



Each day at any of our five Mission of Mercy clinics from East Mesa to our newest clinic in downtown Avondale, we have the opportunity of living our mission of "healing through Love and the restoration of dignity." M.O.M. provides three things: **we diagnose, we treat** and **we unconditionally love** all those entrusted to our care. In the simplest of terms, we bring the doctor to the people through a highly-efficient mobile health care model and provide our patients with free primary health care, prescriptions and a safe medical home for as long as they need it. No questions asked. *Really.*

So, who is our "precious sea of souls" as Ana, one of our bi-lingual volunteers refers to our patients? They're people like Myrna, a dignified older woman slumped over the steering wheel of car in the heat of the summer. Myrna was recently laid off. She was so embarrassed to ask for help, she could barely muster the courage to walk through the door. One of our volunteers spotted her and offered to walk through the doors with her, where 50 volunteers were waiting to welcome her. As she left the clinic, she flashed a relieved smile and gave our volunteers "two thumbs up!"

When I'm asked what I'm most proud of, it's that for over 13 years we continue to be a safe and compassionate medical home for tens of thousands of families who have fallen through the cracks. That, along the way, we have developed a cadre of extraordinary community partners who ensure that our patients facing medical uncertainty have both a medical action plan and restored peace of mind; that our patients no longer need to seek treatment for their chronic health conditions by crashing into local hospital emergency rooms. Through these reciprocal partnerships, we save hospitals tens of thousands of dollars and our patients the devastation of unnecessary medical bills — bills that neither they nor we can afford to pay. If you want to see an **effective, non-governmental solution** to a very public problem, come to Mission of Mercy. If you want to see lives transformed, come to Mission of Mercy. And, if you want to witness everyday miracles, come to Mission of Mercy!

Albert Einstein said there are only two ways to live your life. One is as though *nothing* is a miracle. The other is as though *everything* is a miracle. What goes on at humble Mission of Mercy across the Valley is truly miraculous...for us and for them. It's as though our patients are reborn in the 60 to 90 minutes they are with us. What I wish for you is the same good health I wish for my own family and that you experience the miracle of living your life as though everything is a miracle.

Catherine L. Amiot
Executive Director

In Memoriam



Mission of Mercy Arizona sadly conveys the passing on February 1, 2011, of Lynda M. Bowman, M.O.M.'s supremely talented Director of Sustainability, a dear friend and true champion for the greater non-profit community. Prior to joining Mission of Mercy, Lynda was the lead coach and trainer for Benevon, a non-profit (or "for impact", as Lynda would say) fundraising enterprise. Through the Benevon model of relationship-based fundraising, Lynda's training literally changed the future of thousands of organizations whose missions provide for life-saving and life-altering

services in communities large and small throughout the country. The ripple effect of her gifts will be felt for untold generations to come.

We are indeed honored to have been Lynda's final professional home since she joined the "M.O.M. team" in July of 2009. And, many of us were privileged to be part of her personal journey on what was to be her final chapter on earth. As an expression of her commitment that all people experience great lives, Lynda's family and friends request that a donation be made in her honor to the Lynda Bowman "**M.O.M. in Motion**" Fund to assist families with special medical needs to receive the healing touch they need. Send your tax-deductible donation to: Mission of Mercy, c/o the L. Bowman M.O.M. in Motion Fund, 1741 E. Morten Ave. #C-2, Phoenix, AZ 85020-4645.



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Kim Fleurquin
Sara Gordon
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Rachel Oesterle, M.S.R.
Mary Schneider

Advisors to Leadership Council

Earl J. Baker, M.D.
Claudia Critchfield
Marisue Garganta
Judy Walruff, Ph.D.



M.O.M. debuted its 2nd Mobile Medical unit at the Mercy in the Morning Breakfast.

living out of his car while attending college. He became very sick and had no money to see a doctor. With the support of caring friends, Jonathon was able to get to a doctor and get back on his feet. Now he sees M.O.M. as his opportunity to give back as others did for him.

M.O.M. gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of Blood Systems, Inc. and St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, as well as the M.O.M. volunteers and table captains that helped make the event a success. M.O.M. also honors the growing numbers who have joined its *Healing Through Love* Multi-Year Giving Society. We are grateful for their long-term financial commitment and for their confidence in our stewardship of their financial investment.

Avondale Sets Opening Day Record

Mission of Mercy experienced a first-day record of 60 patients on its opening day of service at the First Southern Baptist Church of Avondale on Nov. 8, 2010. "We already have a very good group of volunteers from our church who are now regular and confident Mission of Mercy volunteers," says Pastor Jack Marslender. "Our members love the fact that we have this to offer our community, and it has become a much talked about and much loved ministry in our church already." The Avondale clinic operates on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Pastor Marslender and Pastor Adrienne Heskin, Senior Pastor of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (a host clinic site for the past 13 years), joined the M.O.M.-AZ

Leadership Council in January. "We are excited to include our faith-based community partners at the table," says Catherine Amiot, Executive Director. "We want to bring fresh, new ideas from the 'front lines' as a way to deepen the impact of our work to those we serve."



Nursing Director Jeanne Karnell, RN, left, talks with clinic volunteers at the patient registration table at the Avondale clinic.

Mission of Mercy Arizona gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of our 2010 Community Partners and Charitable Foundations

Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona Diamondbacks
The Believe Foundation
BHHS Legacy Foundation
Blood Systems, Inc.
Board of Visitors
C.W. & Modene Neely Charitable Foundation
Cardinals Charities
Catholic Community Foundation
Catholic Healthcare West – Chandler
Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers
Christ the King Community Center
Comerica Charitable Foundation
Creative Women of Pinnacle Peak

CVS Pharmacy
Del E. Webb Foundation
Diabetes Aid and Research Foundation
First Southern Baptist Church of Avondale
Foster and Lynn Friess Family Foundation
Franciscan Renewal Center
Fry's Food Stores
Gila River Indian Community
John C. Lincoln Health Foundation
Lina Juliber Charitable Foundation
Maryvale Church of the Nazarene
Medtronic Foundation
Mt. Claret Retreat Center
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust

Phoenix Suns Charities
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Sonora Quest Laboratory
Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine
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Western Association
St. Catherine of Siena Parish
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Susan G. Komen For the Cure
Thunderbirds Charities
Town of Paradise Valley Women's Association
US Airways
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

Mission of Mercy gratefully acknowledges the following organizations that have gotten us off to a great start in 2011 with grants and charitable gifts

Arizona Diamondbacks
Board of Visitors
C.W. & Modene Neely Charitable Foundation

Catholic Healthcare West – Chandler
Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers
Fry's Food Stores

GoDaddy.com
Medtronic Foundation
Otto & Edna Neely Foundation

We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions on these lists.



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PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PHOENIX, AZ
PERMIT NO. 5892



Mission of Mercy
welcomes
Diana Navarrette
as our new
Administrative
Assistant!

Please note
we have a new
mailing address:
1741 E. Morten Ave.
Suite C2
Phoenix, AZ 85020
602.861.2233

You Are Invited To Attend a “Coffee with M.O.M.” Clinic Tour

Come and see for yourself!

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
1500 W. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ

(Located on the NW Corner of 15th Ave. and Maryland Ave.)

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| March 16 | September 14 |
| April 20 | September 28 |
| May 11 | October 5 |
| May 25 | October 12 |
| June 8 | October 19 |
| June 22 | October 26 |
| July 13 | November 2 |
| July 27 | November 9 |
| August 10 | November 16 |
| August 24 | |



Please R.S.V.P. to Paula Carvalho at 602.861.2233 or pcarvalho@amissionofmercy.org
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