



Winter 2014
*A quarterly e-Newsletter from the
Friends of Mercy Foundation*

Comfort Provided Courtesy of the Catherine McAuley Society

The 50 sleeper chairs and 10 sleeper sofas for use in Mercy Hospital Downtown and Mercy Hospital Southwest have arrived.

The purchase of this furniture was made possible by a cumulative gift of \$133,000 from last year's membership of the Catherine McAuley Society. The furniture will meet critical needs for family members as many of them spend endless hours by their loved one's bedside.



Currently in their 8th year, the Catherine McAuley society is a women's philanthropic group that funds Mercy Hospital projects. As of 12/28/2013, this year's membership is now 146. At an upcoming luncheon in March 2014, the ladies will be presented with three funding proposals and then vote on which project they choose to support with this year's gift.

If you are interested in joining the Catherine McAuley Society or for more information please contact the Foundation at 663-6700, email us at friendsofmercy@dignityhealth.org or visit us at www.supportfriendsofmercy.org.

For pictures of the luncheons, please visit our [Facebook page](#).

Legacy Circle Celebrates Charter Year!

The Legacy Circle at Mercy, the newest annual giving club administered by the Friends of Mercy Foundation celebrates the legacy of giving that started with William Howell in 1910, and continued with Jim Burke and other community leaders long after Mr. Howell died. Twenty-three individuals joined the inaugural year and made a donation of \$500 each toward something that would benefit the community rather than meet their own personal needs.



This is the new generation of philanthropic leaders in our community. Together, they have raised \$11,500 in just their first year. At their dinner meeting in September, members chose to fund the purchase of two of the AccuVein AV400 Vein Finder devices with their cumulative gift. Each device will be utilized in the emergency departments at Mercy Hospital Downtown and Mercy Hospital Southwest.

The final meeting of the year took place in December 2013 where members gathered at Mercy Hospital Downtown for a festive wrap up dinner meeting and were treated to Christmas Carols from children who participate in the Homework Club at the Dignity Health Learning Center.



The second year of the Legacy Circle will begin in early 2014. If you are interested in joining the Legacy Circle at Mercy, please call Erica Easton at 663-6700, erica.easton@dignityhealth.org or visit us at www.supportfriendsofmercy.org.

For more pictures of the Legacy Circle Dinners, please visit our [Facebook page](#).

The Spirit of Giving Club Raises More Than \$123,000 From Mercy Employees!

The Friends of Mercy Foundation just completed its fourth year of The Spirit of Giving Club, an annual employee giving club for Mercy Employees. This was a record year for the Spirit of Giving Club with **414** Mercy employees participating.

Gifts ranged from \$5 per pay period to the highest level of giving designated as the Circle of Mercy level, which equals 1% of their total pay. This club increased its revenue over the previous year by **8%** and recruited **205 new members**.

Their cumulative gift was \$123,007.37.



Stephanie Weber, VP of Fund Development presents Andy Cantu, CFO & Circle of Mercy Member with a check for \$123,000

Each member was able to choose from 3 different projects to fund:

- The Mercy Park at Mercy Hospital Southwest
- Comfort Carts for patients and their families at both campuses
- Community Outreach: Children in Poverty

Thank you to all of our Spirit of Giving Members and the Spirit of Giving Solicitation Committee for your dedication and hard work!

Circle of Mercy Members

Judith Martinez, Jeanette Smart, Andy Cantu, Irene Ramirez, Rey De Claro, Shana Gonsman, Tracy Bertagnole, Maria Solis, Edward Din, Kristin Brada, Loni Hill-Pirtle, Michal Yniguez, Karla Collins, Erica Easton, Doug Catlett, Trisha Tyre, Gail Jester, Emmy Klassen, Patricia Sedgwick, Walter Ray, Darlene Pankey, Jenette Johnson, Tracy Chapman, Gerald Rasmussen, Renee Ledwell, Patti Carroll, Barbara Higgins, Audrey Neail, Stacy Garcia, Colleen Goodman, Angela Walker, Erica Mares, Sean Holland, Jason Helton, Tillie Perez, Sergio Estrada, Victoria Graham, Matthew Schneider, Shanny Singh, Pamela Goodvin, Diana Benford, Sally Juarez, Mary Culp, Jan Hefner, Liz Shein, Adrianna Reynoso, Brendon Helston, Kim Freeland, Rosalie Witzig, Mary

Whitten, Angela Smith, Russell Judd, Cristy Stewart, Briar Keeler, Edith Albert, Dayvea Mays, Nancy De La Torre, Jane Thornton, Jasmine Hill, Cheryl Harris, Melanie Fowler, Maria Rubalcaba, Eileen Ramirez, Cynthia Robles, Angela Olguin & Cynthia Azevedo

1910 Society Members

Abe Rodriguez, Monica Grady, Susan Sharp, Stephanie Weber, Carol Falk, Rita Flory, Diane Biswanger, Ben Farber, Debbie Fowler, Robin Hunt, Debbie Hull, Christine Edwards, Jennifer Nightengale, Misty De La Torre, Chris Mizell, Virginia Arenas, Deborah Pinkham, Angela Nichols, Casey Carlson, Tina Dixon, Sandy Doucette, Raquel Fore, Judith Cabato, Susan Sims, Saira Garcia, Jannett Gregg, Stephen Sears, Eliseo Orozco, Kathy Dowd, Derese Banks, Tana Pitts, Esmeralda Veloz, Pamela Bedolla, Araceli Maupin, David Bohannon, Barbara Burger, Bertha McLeod, Mike Bowers, Merry DiMario, Alan Lakin, Kim Walker, Madeline Adams, Becky Hernandez, Narciso Macias, Ron Pimentel, Julie Bakalor, Antonia Morales, Janel Reece, Alissa McFaddin, Lisa Harding, Lisa Ramos, Carol Beltran, Julie Juarez, Maria Samaniego, Kim Pedroza, Jane Paulovitz, Karen Jenkinson, Yolanda Leon, Amara Nieland, Marcela Joven, Judy Chaidez, Edgar Aguilar, Keith Acebedo, Rodrigo Vazquez, Christie Carter, Connie Saludes, Courtney Moreno, Randy Hunter, Ruby Peters, Maria Niavez, Mildred Velez, Rosalinda Bustamante, Rachael Morales, Shelia Hall-Vailes, Christina Solis, Rogelio Guevara, Jacqueline Garza, Maria Fair, Judith Epperson, Ryan Bell, Justine Tormey, Racquel Kent, Andrea Del Rio & Susan Crane

A complete listing of all 2013/2014 Spirit of Giving Members will soon be updated at Mercy Hospital Downtown and Mercy Hospital Southwest.

For more pictures from the Circle of Mercy Luncheon, please visit our [Facebook page](#).



Aera Energy President and CEO Gaurdie Banister, VP of Fund Development Stephanie Weber, Kern Community Foundation President & CEO Jeffrey Pickering

Aera Energy Funds Community Care Initiative

Aera Energy made a \$100,000 donation to the Friends of Mercy Foundation to help underwrite Mercy Hospitals Community Care Clinic, a new program that will provide short-term services for discharged patients who have no primary care physician or are unable to access timely post-discharge care.

Many of the patients who are treated in Mercy's two emergency rooms do not have insurance or a primary care physician; others may have Medicare or Medical but do not have a primary care physician. The Community Care Clinic will provide this population with follow up care needed following hospitalization or the management of chronic illnesses. The goal is to reduce the rate of hospital readmissions and improve the overall health of the targeted population. The Community Care Clinic will become a valuable resource to the community for: diabetes education and management, Coumadin management, medication education and reconciliation, outpatient case management and follow up care for discharged hospital patients.

Mayor Harvey Hall and the Kern County Board of Supervisors proclaimed Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013 as Giving Day in Bakersfield. The day was proclaimed in recognition of the need to support and encourage citizens to continue contributing to philanthropic causes. The donation from Aera coincided with the national "Giving Tuesday" effort.



Wishing you a healthy and prosperous 2014!
Happy New Year all of us at the Friends of Mercy Foundation!

- Stephanie, Misty, Jennifer & Erica

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