

THE AUXILIARY TO BELLEVUE HOSPITAL CENTER, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



RENOVATION OF REHAB HOME MANAGEMENT TREATMENT AREAS

Grounded in a philanthropic and humanitarian effort to assist Bellevue's indigent and needy patients, the Auxiliary to Bellevue Hospital Center, Inc. continues its modern-day mission to offer direct enhancement to all patients' well-being, care and convalescence, through financial and programmatic support.

Since 1906 the Auxiliary has provided services to the diverse population of New York City. From inpatient treatments, to home-care, to outpatient support, the Auxiliary has been there for everyone. The contributions of dedicated volunteers have been part of the tradition of the Auxiliary and its' commitment to Bellevue Hospital and to the community.

The Auxiliary continues to honor its' original mission: "to discover a need and supply the appropriate relief to those Bellevue patients who, by reason of poverty, continued weakness, or lack of home or family, stand in active need of a friend."

The motto for the Auxiliary is "*Keeping the Humanity in HealthcareSM*" and that is truly the motivation for all of the programs and patient care services that we support.

The officers for 2017-2018 are:

President - Lorinda A. Klein
1st Vice President – Patricia Blau
2nd Vice President – Wilbur Weder
Secretary – Jared C. Dukas
Treasurer – Dayle R. Kearns
Assistant Treasurer – Lillian C. Calvanico

DIRECTORS

Joan Babinecz
Carole Borstein
Lenore C. Rose
Wilma Shochat, DSW
H. Arnold Strauch
Harry J. Wells
Sherry Zucker

GENERAL FUND PROGRAMS

PATIENT LIBRARY

The Patient Library provides reading material, including books, newspapers in several languages and periodicals to all patients. Also reading glasses are provided to patients who may need them. There is a Patient Library on the 6th floor of the hospital, as well as a roving cart to bring reading materials to the patient units and waiting rooms.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION - WORK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Emotional well-being is just as important as physical health. Using Auxiliary funds, the Work Development Program at Bellevue, provides a work experience within the hospital for recovering psychiatric and addicted patients, resulting in rebuilding their confidence, gaining life skills and enhancing their vocational goals. Over 10,000 work hours (the equivalent of 285+ work weeks) were provided by approximately 20 patients quarterly. Various hospital departments, such as Human Resources, Environmental Services, Patient Transport, etc. benefitted from this extra help.

RENOVATION OF REHAB HOME MANAGEMENT TREATMENT AREAS *(Pictured)*

Enhancement and re-design of the home management treatment areas was done in the Occupational Therapy area in the Rehab Dept. Treatment sessions in these areas address Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL), including food preparation, cooking, safety, organization, cleaning and laundry. The

Physical Rehab Home Management Program, primarily treats patients with disabilities resulting from traumas, such as: spinal cord injury, paralysis, amputation and stroke. Many patients use wheelchairs and other ambulation assistive devices and need to re-learn the basic life skills which will help them function more independently once they are discharged from the inpatient unit. About 450 inpatients a year, with a range of complex traumas, will benefit from the improvements in these treatment areas.

A “ribbon cutting” event was held on Feb. 20, 2018 to formally open the new area.

ACTIVITY THERAPY MUSIC PROGRAM

This program supports small configurations of musicians for intimate performances. Live music has been shown to alleviate anxiety, fear, depression and isolation associated with medical illness and disability. Patient referrals, from various units, are made by medical, nursing and multi-disciplinary team members to the Activity Therapy Director, who assigns the performers to specific units and referred patients. Fifty patients and one hundred family members were able to listen to 38 hours of music sessions, creating a soothing atmosphere in a sometimes disruptive hospital environment.

ACTIVITY THERAPY - PSYCHIATRY

Three different areas are supported for Activities Therapy in Psychiatry, providing activities for patients which relieve stress and improve the quality of patient downtime:

- (1) Recreation and Sensory supplies for therapeutic group programming and individual patients such as journaling materials, stress balls, aromatherapy, etc. DVDs for educational and inspirational films are also supplied.
- (2) Special events, such as holiday and cultural occasions are funded for dance performances, picnics, Black History Month, Latino Heritage Month, festive decorations, etc. These activities greatly enhance the patient’s treatment and well-being.
- (3) Emergency funds for replacing broken equipment like the ping pong table, etc.

All nine Adult Inpatient Psychiatry Units received replacement games and supplies, and 2,100 therapy sessions helped 1,450 patients enjoy special activities like holiday celebrations and summer picnics.

I-PAD MOBILE DEVICE MANAGEMENT FOR CANCER CENTER

The Cancer Center at Bellevue provides outpatient cancer treatments, including infusions and chemotherapy. Patients can receive these treatments over the course of two to eight hours over several weeks. The Auxiliary previously

purchased I-pads with many apps so that patients can spend these hours viewing different forms of entertainment. This includes: movies, games, etc. as well as access to educational information sites. The I-pads need to be serviced and updated on an annual basis to ensure that they are in good working order for the patients to use them during their treatments.

SOBRIETY GARDEN

Patients receiving treatment through the Alcoholism Clinic benefit from participation in the Sobriety Garden which builds their sense of achievement and accomplishment. The garden sits on a wedge of land flanked by the main hospital building and the FDR drive. It covers approximately 15,000 square feet. Part of it is cultivated in vegetables, much of it in flowers. Its paths are created from mosaics and stones, accented with folk sculptures made by the patients, creating an inspiring environment for all visitors. Photography activities are also provided to the patients.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND LITERACY FOR PARENTS (HELP)

This program addresses the health literacy needs of parents in the Pediatric Clinic Waiting Room to better understand their children's healthcare needs, specifically the prevention of childhood obesity. The materials are easy to read, culturally adapted booklets in English, Spanish and Chinese. Topics include: breast-feeding, portion size and age appropriate physical activity. The funds were used for the development of videos to comprehensively train the volunteers who will participate in this program, as well as, a tracking and reporting component to the web based delivery system. This will allow for the monitoring and assessment of the educational components to evaluate which are the most effective.

CHAPLAINCY

Funds are provided for the purchase of religious material for the Chaplains to distribute to patients of all faiths. Spiritual guidance is an integral part of patient care and the Auxiliary assists by providing the appropriate materials.

CLOTHING ROOM - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

The Social Work Department at Bellevue Hospital provides clothing for patients in need during their inpatient stay and when they are discharged.

Patients are sometimes admitted to Bellevue and their clothes must be cut off or disposed of. The Clothing Room is able to provide clothes to the patients thus ensuring their dignity and ability to be discharged.

RESTRICTED FUND PROGRAMS

The Auxiliary manages funds for the following programs which are supported through specified donations and revenue from program activities.

DR. STEPHEN ROSS FUND

Dr. Ross is interested in expanding the research focus of the federally funded addictive disorders laboratory at Bellevue Hospital to address the needs of particularly vulnerable and under-served populations with substance abuse disorders, including adolescents, pregnant women and the elderly. The long-term goal of his research is to discover treatments for addictive disorders and for psychological and spiritual distress associated with advanced or terminal cancer.

EMERGENCY CARE INSTITUTE (ECI)

ECI provides training to physicians, registered nurses, paramedics, medical students, allied health professionals, and the community on the topics of emergency care and public health. ECI offers courses in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS/CPR), First Aid, Infant Child CPR and safety, Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Life Support (PALS), and automatic external defibrillator training (AED) as approved by the American Heart Association.

NEUROSURGERY

Funding for the specific needs of Neurosurgery patients, who have undergone brain and spinal surgery, such as assistive devices, transportation, etc.

WORLD TRADE CENTER CLINIC

Funding is provided by NYS Volunteer Disability Insurance and the NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable to Bellevue's World Trade Center Environmental Health Center (EHC). Payment is provided for the transportation of out of town patients with health issues related to 9/11 who continue to seek healthcare at Bellevue's WTC EHC.

SUMMARY

2017 was once again a successful and productive year for the Auxiliary. We continue to provide support for the patients of Bellevue Hospital as needed and adapt our programs and activities to this dynamic environment. We look forward to continuing and expanding our services to all patients in need in the coming year.