



THE HEART BEAT

GSPHS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2021



A MESSAGE

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT
GEORGE FORCIER

Welcome to 2021! Like everyone else during the past year, GSPHS found challenges never before encountered. Fortunately, despite losing some volunteers due to COVID-19 concerns, our remaining volunteers have stepped up allowing us to continue to provide medical services to our patients. We modified our operating procedures to ensure minimal exposure of both volunteers and patients to the virus, including curb side pick-up of prescriptions and virtual physician services by phone when necessary. We are thankful that our financial supporters rallied to provide funds that offset added expenses we incurred because of changes in operating procedures. We are hopeful that better times lie ahead. Vaccines, better treatment options and herd immunity, should get us back to normal. We are grateful to all our dedicated volunteers, financial supporters and our patients for the opportunity to serve our community.

Our Volunteers

KAY DELLOS



Kay Dellos is a longtime volunteer at Good Samaritan, dating back to when our location was in Palm Plaza and we were known as Community Pharmacy. Her background is in the classroom. . .she taught in elementary schools in Moline, IL, her hometown. Later she worked as a travel agent and tour guide, eventually starting a travel school for AAA Iowa where she served as director. Kay organized the first golf tournament to benefit Good Sam and enlisted her husband George in fundraising. The tournament raised over \$16,000.

She is an avid reader and a golfer. The Dellos' have two children, a son in Coralville, IA and a daughter in Phoenix, AZ. They have twin grandsons.

Did You Know?

HISTORY AS TOLD BY BILL PALACE



In December 2007, a small ad appeared in the Sarasota Herald Tribune asking for volunteers to appear at a meeting in a storefront in Palm Square Plaza. In January 2008, about 50 people showed up and we were greeted by Kimberly Chiemelewski who introduced herself as director of the Community Pharmacy of Sarasota. We filled out a paper indicating our skills and availability to volunteer. We were told that the mission of the pharmacy was that no one should have to choose between buying food or medicine. Kimberly had not yet found a pharmacist who could be the manager nor was the office space renovated. Kimberly was the executive director and the Board of Directors included several people from Sarasota Memorial Hospital and LECOM. Fortunately, this LECOM partnership was established early on and Kat Tromp became our first Pharmacy Manager from LECOM.

A few weeks later many of us received a letter asking us to return for training — some as advocates; some as receptionists. We were paired off and researched various medications on the Needy Meds site showing us which meds had free PAPS and for those that were not free, we looked at myfloridadiscount.com, and Rxoutreach.com for low-cost solutions. There were two shifts each day Monday thru Friday; 9-1 and 1-4, each staffed with 2 advocates and a receptionist. On Wednesdays, the pharmacy dispensed meds.

(Cont'd next issue)

What's New

RECENT AND FUTURE EVENTS

- We are in the process of becoming a COVID-19 vaccination site.
- We raised over \$20,000 with our Flanzer and Anonymous Match Donor request.
- We are investigating a new location possibility and writing grants to support that effort.