

GREAT NURSES

for a GREAT COMMUNITY

HARRISON
FOUNDATION

Campaign Update

Dear Friends,

It was just last summer that we announced our first leadership gifts in support of the *Great Nurses for a Great Community Campaign*. While the abrupt change in the economic climate has certainly had an impact on our conversations with prospective donors in the community, it hasn't mitigated the overwhelming positive support for the Campaign's focus on nursing. It seems that the community genuinely appreciates that it is nurses who most often define their patient and family experience while hospitalized. In our conversations many have asked for an update ...

- Since announcing the first gifts, Harrison has raised more than \$2.6 million towards the \$8 million campaign goal. At this time, fundraising efforts continue to focus on conversations with prospective donors who have the potential for leadership gifting (generally gifts of \$25,000 or more, over a five-year pledge period).
- Harrison has hired Sharon LaCrosse, RN, MSN as the Resident and Training Coordinator to lead the launch of the new RN Residency Program. With the support of a Resident Training Task Force, efforts are intensely focused on implementing the program for on-boarding new nurses in preparation for the inaugural cohort of residents in September 2009. Harrison received and reviewed more than 200 applications from new nurse grads interested in employment and the RN Residency Program. Of those, 24 were selected for interviews and 14 were invited to the residency program which will launch on September 14, 2009. While the number of applicants was certainly fueled by a tough economic climate, the new program provides the opportunity for Harrison to select the very best of the candidates for further investment.
- Nine Harrison nurses were among the first 11 people who made local history when they became the first to earn bachelor's degrees from Olympic College. Among the Harrison graduates were four individuals who had received full scholarships for the RN to BSN nursing program, courtesy of the *Great Nurses Campaign*. The scholarships, made possible through a generous donation from Louis and Joan Soriano, are part of an effort to encourage nursing career pathways within the medical center that support both exceptional care at the bedside and excellence in nursing leadership for our community.
- The *Great Nurses Campaign* was recently highlighted in a public healthcare forum featuring Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash). The Campaign was cited as an example of the hospital's proactive efforts to mitigate the negative impacts of a worsening nursing shortage for our communities, and as an example of the kind of partnerships that are needed if we are to improve the state of health care nationally.

The Campaign is giving Harrison an opportunity to reach out to the community in a new way. People have been receptive to hearing news about Harrison, including learning more about the nursing initiative. Some people have not previously considered Harrison as a charitable destination. And yet, like many hospitals around the country, community support is essential if we are to maintain quality healthcare locally. We look forward to talking to you about investing in great healthcare ... close to home. For more information on the campaign see www.harrisonfoundation.org or call the Foundation at 360-744-6760.



Tim Ryan
Campaign Co-Chair



Kathy Hallman
Campaign Co-Chair



Chris King, MD
Campaign Co-Chair