

# Giving Time and Talent for a Community Cause



*“If every American donated five hours a week, it would equal the labor of 20 million full-time volunteers.”*

—Whoopi Goldberg

**Volunteers  
make a  
difference at  
Potomac  
Hospital**

“For some, volunteering is good for their résumé, for others, it’s good for their soul,” says Sally Baldwin, a Potomac Hospital volunteer since our doors opened in 1972. She is a member of the Potomac Hospital Auxiliary, a group of men and women whose mission is to support Potomac Hospital both financially and through volunteer service.

The Potomac Hospital Auxiliary is composed of more than 150 active community volunteers who assist in many ways around the hospital to ensure patient comfort. The volunteers also give freely

of their time and talents by coordinating fundraising activities to benefit the hospital.

“The Auxiliary offers opportunities to volunteer in many different areas, such as the hospital’s information desk, gift shop and nursing units, just to name a few,” says Lee Lawrence, president of the Auxiliary. “There is always a need for new members because the hospital continues to grow and provide more services for a growing community population.”

#### **Potomac Boulevard to Include New Gift Shop**

The Gift Shop at Potomac Hospital is operated by the Auxiliary and all proceeds are donated to the Potomac Hospital Foundation to



## “All money raised by the Auxiliary is given to Potomac Hospital.”



support much-needed projects. Soon, with the construction of Potomac Boulevard, the Gift Shop will be expanded and will offer more gifts for patients and their families.

“The new Gift Shop will be better equipped to serve our customers,” says Lawrence. “We’ll have a wider selection and more elbow room.”

Potomac Boulevard is a major construction project currently under way that will improve the route from the main hospital entrance to the patient care areas. It will be a wide, spacious corridor that will lead visitors and patients through the hospital with ease. In addition to the new, larger Gift Shop, a new worship room and Jazzman’s Café, a coffee and snack bar, will be located along Potomac Boulevard.

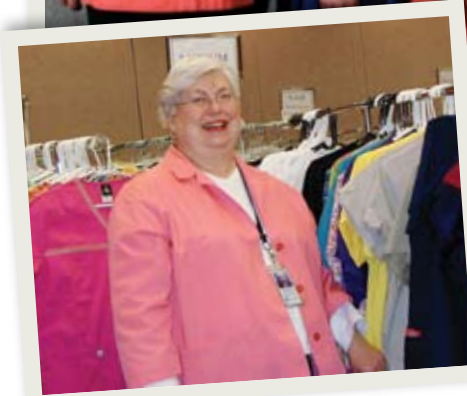
### Teens Get in on the Action

Potomac Hospital also has a Junior Auxiliary for high school students interested in volunteer opportunities. Once known as “candy strippers,” Potomac Hospital’s Junior Auxiliary has more than 100 members ranging in age from 14 to 17. Junior volunteers work throughout the hospital including the information desk, the Irene V. Hylton Emergency Care Center and the Pediatric Unit.

“Our juniors go through an application and interview process that resembles what would be required for a paying job,” explains Deborah Collins, junior volunteer coordinator. “They have to apply and then be interviewed. Being a junior volunteer teaches them about responsibility, self-discipline and how



(Left to Right) Pattie Folks, Nancy Bridges, Sally Baldwin, Martha Felmley, Frances Tyrrell and Audrey Greenhouse have been volunteers with the Potomac Hospital Auxiliary since the hospital opened in 1972. Their dedicated service to the hospital has helped us for 35 years!



One way the Auxiliary raises funds for Potomac Hospital is through uniform sales. Auxiliary president Lee Lawrence makes sure all of the inventory is on the hangers and ready for sale.

and remain with Potomac Hospital,” Collins says.

### Auxiliary Offers Scholarships for Healthcare Education

Every year the Auxiliary awards \$1,000 college scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Prince William and Stafford Counties who plan to pursue a healthcare related

field of study. Scholarship winners are determined by their academic records and community service.

to conduct themselves in a work environment.”

Applications for the Junior Auxiliary are only accepted during the month of March each year. Applicants must be 14 years old on or before June 1 of the year they apply and be rising eighth, ninth or tenth graders.

“Juniors are asked to work a minimum of two three-hour shifts a month and must be in good standing in their community and at school to be accepted



Don Dorton enjoys volunteering in several departments at Potomac Hospital.



Barbara Mansfield volunteers in the hospital Gift Shop, which donates all proceeds to Potomac Hospital Foundation.

### Supporting the Mission of Serving Others

Fundraising for the hospital has always been one of the main purposes of the Auxiliary. The charter members of the Auxiliary opened the Attic Thrift Shop in May of 1972. All proceeds made from the shop benefited Potomac Hospital. The Auxiliary’s first pledge to the hospital was for \$50,000 in 1971. Since then, the Auxiliary has donated almost \$1.8 million to Potomac Hospital

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for patient services and building enhancements.

"Our main source of fundraising is from the hospital Gift Shop," says Lawrence. "We also raise money from uniform sales, book sales, bake sales, jewelry sales and the Love Light Tree during the holiday season. All money raised

by the Auxiliary is given to Potomac Hospital."

### Join the Coolest Club on the Block

There are many benefits to volunteering, not the least of which is making others and yourself feel good. By joining the Auxiliary you will not only be helping Potomac Hospital but the entire community.

Since Potomac Hospital is a not-for-profit, community hospital, volunteers

### Get Involved ▼

For more information about the Auxiliary or for an application, please call 703-670-1539 or e-mail: [email@potomachospital.com](mailto:email@potomachospital.com).



Artist's rendering of the new and improved Auxiliary-operated Gift Shop at Potomac Hospital.



Always at your service. Juanita Brown helps direct visitors and patients at Potomac's information desk.

make it possible for the hospital to uphold its mission of providing service to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Volunteers save the hospital money by providing thousands of volunteer hours. They help support service and equipment needs through fundraising efforts.

In addition to supporting the hospital's mission, joining the Auxiliary gives you a wonderful chance to meet new and interesting people. There are several social activities each year that allow members to get to know each other outside the hospital setting.

"In the early days, most volunteers were mothers whose children had started elementary school and who wanted to keep busy during the day," says Baldwin. "Now we have a number of men, young mothers, college or graduate students interested in medical careers, people still in the work force, and people serving in the military in our community."

Auxiliary members also enjoy a 20 percent discount in the Potomac's Garden Café and a free subscription to *Vim & Vigor* magazine. ■

