

UConn Health Center Auxiliary



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SPRING/SUMMER 2012

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THE FAMILY PLACE: A SUCCESS STORY

The Auxiliary's Program for NICU Families at Homewood Suites Lives On

You may recall "Cookie," the little boy born 15 weeks premature when his mom, from New York City, was in Connecticut four years ago.

Recently we got some good news from Mary Ntiri, Cookie's mom, who reports William (that's his real name) is thriving and is now in preschool!



Mary Ntiri, the first guest at The Family Place at Homewood Suites, with her then-8-week-old son, William, in August 2008. William, who Mary nicknamed "Cookie," was born 15 weeks premature.



William, now 4, has graduated day care!

Above photo provided by Mary Ntiri

We know about the Ntiris because Mary was the first parent to stay at The Family Place at Homewood Suites, a program the Auxiliary started in July 2008. We leased a two-bedroom, two-bathroom suite and designated it exclusively as complimentary long-term accommodations for parents while their newborn was under NICU care. This has been a very well-received service, and a service with an uncertain future once the Connecticut Children's Medical Center took over management of the UConn Health Center NICU.

We are pleased to announce that CCMC has pledged to continue the Homewood Suites program effective July 1. So, like the Health Center's art collection and the Creative Child Center, this will be another of the good deeds the Auxiliary is proud to have established. We also would like to thank Homewood Suites for being our partner in this wonderful endeavor.

2012 Annual Membership Meeting



Dr. Aniket
Jadhav.
<<<

Dr. Michele
Furtado
Araujo with
Dr. Art Hand
and Irene
Engel.
>>>



Congratulations to Dr. Michele Furtado Araujo, a periodontology resident, and Dr. Aniket Jadhav, a postdoctoral student in the [Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology](#), who each received a \$2,500 award from the Auxiliary to continue their studies.

As you may recall, the Auxiliary has decided to take the funds allocated for our annual scholarship awards and instead make them available to medical, dental and nursing students to travel to conferences and seminars related to their specialties.



We certainly appreciate Dean Monty MacNeil and Dr. Art Hand from the dental school for making the time to join us at our annual meeting and awards presentation.

Now that we've turned over the Homewood Suites program to CCMC, we are focusing now on two new undertakings to offer assistance to those who've been touched by cancer.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Dr. Monty MacNeil expresses his gratitude to Irene Engel for the Auxiliary's support of the UConn School of Dental Medicine.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all our loyal supporters and volunteers for making our efforts come to fruition. We hope you will enjoy our active year with us. Please stay updated by visiting our website, <http://auxiliary.uhc.edu>.

(FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

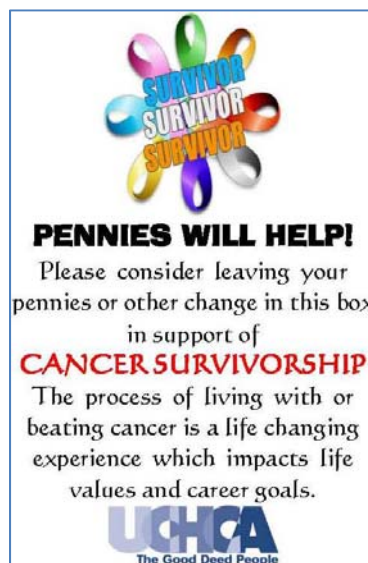
Auxiliary Redirecting Funds to Support Cancer Survivors



From left: Board members Margo Granger, Pam Miles, Ellen Cartun, Debbie Baril, Judy Drake and Audrey Morgan at the 2012 annual meeting.

First, the Auxiliary will donate \$3,000 to create a Patient Assistance Fund. This will be a flexible fund for patients with needs such as medical co-pays, medications, health insurance, travel expenses, groceries, utilities, rent/mortgage or other necessary expenses. A Health Center social service and nursing staff will help determine need.

Second, we are donating \$2,500 toward a \$10,000



pledge to the Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center to establish a Survivorship Program, designed to help cancer survivors get back to their lives.

We are very positive and upbeat about our new cause.

The penny boxes we'd been using for The Family Place will be redesigned and used for our new cancer survivor programs.



The Auxiliary's annual Spring Market, held April 27 in the main lobby, mezzanine, and Keller lobby, was a once again a success—and in plenty of time for Mother's Day! This year we had three drawings, plus that famous coconut cake that was so popular at last year's Fourth of July bake sale. And the Creative Child Center also sponsored its own bake sale.

UPCOMING VENDORS

Thursday, July 19
Thursday, July 26

Leslies Jewelry
Wire Design Originals

Food Court Lobby
Food Court Lobby

Thursday, August 2
Friday, August 3
Thursday, August 9
Friday, August 17

Gems and Things
Chocomania
Classey Designs
Quilibet

Food Court Lobby
Food Court Lobby
Food Court Lobby
Food Court Lobby

Still to come...

Sept. 21 Book/Bake Sale, outside the Connucopia Gift Shop
Oct. 20 Fall Fling with the Colby's, Farmington Woods



Simmons Family Farm in Farmington was a guest at the Auxiliary's table at the 2012 Health, Safety and Environmental Fair March 16. Did you get a taste of the fresh, locally made organic yogurt?