

Membership Form

Mercy Auxiliary is a dynamic organization of nearly 500 members (*women and men*) who come from all walks and seasons of life.

In volunteering their time and talents, members work toward a common goal: *to support Mercy Medical Center and participate in delivering The Mercy Touch.**

I would like to become a member of the Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Alternate Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Membership: New Renewal

_____ \$10 – Regular Membership

_____ \$100 – Lifetime Membership

*Auxiliary project area of interest
(refer to list in brochure):*

**If you have questions,
please call the Auxiliary Office at 398-6286.**

Mail this form to:
The Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary
701 10th Street SE • Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
Please do not send cash through the mail.

*You can help us grow the membership!
Look through your contacts to see who
might be interested in joining the auxiliary
and give them this form to send in.*



Dates to Remember:

April 15 Board Meeting

April 18 Spring Bazaar

Sympathy & Prayers

Sharon Sedlacek Auxilian

Emma Schall Auxilian

Welcome New Auxiliary Members

New Lifetime Member (\$100 fee)

Mindy Kayser



If you have a change of address or membership status - please contact Joleen Woods, Auxiliary Administrative Assistant at (319) 398-6286 or jjwoods@mercy.org.



Mercy Auxiliary Newsletter News to You



April, 2024

Comment Corner —

Celebrate Service – Volunteers Make a Difference

— Submitted by Jamie Henley, Director of Volunteer Services



Jamie Henley

This month, we celebrate Healthcare Volunteer Appreciation Week from April 21 to 27. Although we appreciate our volunteers all year long, this is a special time for us to celebrate, honor, and thank our volunteers for their commitment to providing *The Mercy Touch*® to our patients, visitors and staff. This year's theme is Celebrate Service – Volunteers Make a Difference. Our volunteers make a big difference to our patients, visitors, staff and community. In 2023, we had more than 630 volunteers provide more than 97,300 hours of service. We also had 139 new volunteers join our ranks. That's a lot of service to celebrate.

One remarkable aspect of our volunteers is the diversity of their skills, backgrounds and experiences. From seasoned professionals to passionate young individuals, each volunteer makes a difference by bringing a unique set of skills and perspectives to the service they provide. Whether they make coffee at Uncommon Grounds or the Hall-Perrine Cancer Center Gift Shop or hang art in the hallways for people to enjoy, they make a difference. They also make a difference by bringing music to the hospital or singing in the Together In Song Chorus. Additionally, volunteers make a difference by greeting visitors at our entrances and bringing hope and prayer to those in need. Our volunteers also help raise money, sort the mail and put together patient packets that make a difference. They also make a difference by sitting with the dying and being there for the grieving. Our volunteers feed the hungry and visit the sick. They give respite to the caregiver and directions to the lost. They deliver medications and make hats and booties and so much more, and it all makes a difference.

Whether they serve one day a month or five days a week, our volunteers' service makes a difference to our patients, visitors and staff. Whether they serve at the main hospital; The Chris & Suzy DeWolf Family Innovation Center for Aging & Dementia; the Dennis & Donna Oldorf Hospice House of Mercy; the Family Caregivers Center; or from home, they make a difference. If you are one of our many volunteers, we celebrate you for the

difference you make. If you see a volunteer this month, go out of your way to thank them for the service they provide to Mercy. If you aren't a current volunteer, please consider volunteering. If you are a current volunteer, invite a friend to join you. Every little bit makes a difference. Visit our website at www.mercycare.org/ volunteer to learn more.

Thank you, again, to all of our volunteers who serve the mission of Mercy by caring for the sick and enhancing the health of the communities we serve, guided by the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy. We celebrate you this month and always for the difference you make to Mercy and our community.



*“Love cannot remain by itself —
it has no meaning.
Love has to be put into action,
and that action is service.”*

- Mother Teresa





Thanks for Returning Auxiliary Survey

Submitted by Linda Kelly, Leadership Chair



Linda Kelly

Your thoughtful completion and submission of the recent survey sent about your thoughts on how best Mercy Auxiliary can continue to grow and thrive is so appreciated! Your board members, working with Volunteer Services and the Mercy Foundation, are focusing on changes desired and needed for our continued support and growth. In the November 2023 issue of News to You, Pat Wilson, past leadership chair, explained the real challenges the current Mercy Auxiliary faces and how we are endeavoring to strengthen our connections with Volunteer Services and the Mercy Foundation. Much consideration is needed for the future of our 100-year-old organization. We want to continue to energize our mission. Your thoughts provide invaluable help in this process! You are appreciated!

Butterflies, Mushrooms & Strawberries ... Oh My!

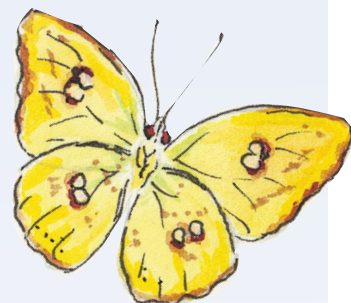
Submitted by Emilie Hardy, Gift Shops Manager

What more do you need for spring? So many items to choose. From your garden to what you'll want to wear for the weekend, stop by our Mercy gift shops for all of your needs, including:

- Fashion handbags
- Clothing/sleepwear
- Fresh flowers/garden décor
- Home décor
- Hawkeye/Cyclone apparel and accessories
- Snacks and sweets
- Toys, games and stuffed animals
- Bath and body
- Phone accessories
- Jewelry
- Balloons
- Sympathy gifts
- Coffee

Prom is also in the air, so make sure to get your corsage/boutonniere from Mercy Flowers & Gifts. Our fresh flowers can meet all of your needs.

Did I mention that we are also tax-free? All profits come right back to the hospital!

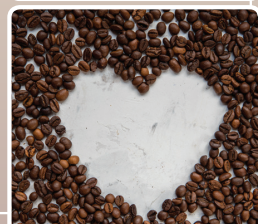


Uncommon Grounds Needs Volunteers, STAT

Calling all energetic, enthusiastic go-getters: **Join the Uncommon Grounds brew crew!**

If you can **withstand light, physical tasks** and **enjoy learning new things**, serving coffee for a cause is a **perfect, flexible volunteer opportunity**. You'll meet great people, form new friendships and, because each beverage sold **helps support the mission of Mercy**, you'll **make a big difference** every day!

Our volunteer application is online at www.mercycare.org/volunteer; indicate your interest in Uncommon Grounds. Questions? Call the Mercy Volunteer Office at (319) 398-6035.



Mercy Auxiliary Spring Bazaar

Submitted by Joyce Klimes, Spring Bazaar Chair

Ah, spring is in the air and what better place to take that all in than the Mercy Auxiliary Spring Bazaar. This warm and colorful event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, at Mercy Medical Center. The event is free and open to the public, so get your friends to join you for the kickoff to spring!

Kroul Farms will be there to whet your taste buds to get your garden started. Iowa Nutty will also be joining us for the first time offering glazed almonds, cashews and pecans. Plus, nearly 40 local vendors will showcase their creative handcrafted items.

If you're looking for more, step into the Mercy gift shops. They'll have a whole array of items that will bring that added touch to welcome guests into your home with a breath of spring air.

The smell of coffee brewing will also draw you to the Uncommon Grounds coffee corner – just what you need during your shopping break.

Additionally, the raffle prizes are valued at a minimum of \$500:

- \$500 cash
- Three “around town” gift bags filled with a plethora of gift cards from businesses and restaurants
- “Vendor potluck” composed of many gems generously contributed by our participating vendors
- Blackstone grill for upcoming spring and summer grilling
- Cedar Rapids Kernels suite, which accommodates 20 baseball enthusiasts

Special thanks to the individuals and business who have generously sponsored our Spring Bazaar:

Yellow Tulip Sponsor (\$250-\$499)

- Emery Place
- The Gardens
- Doug & Joyce Henderson
- The keystones of Cedar Rapids
- Koppenhaver & Associates, PC
- The Little Red Hen
- Travel Leaders/Destinations Unlimited

Red Tulip Sponsor (\$500-\$999)

- Joy Kuntz
- Waln Enterprises

Purple Tulip Sponsor (\$1,000+)

- The Views of Marion and Cedar Rapids

PARKING: Patients are the priority at Mercy Medical Center. Please keep this in mind when attending this event. Guests should not park in the Hall-Perrine Cancer Center parking lot. That area is reserved for Hall-Perrine patients and their support group. Thank you!



Michelle Milcoff (left) and Eartha Forcht (right) present a check for \$1,000 from The Views of Marion and Cedar Rapids as sponsors of the auxiliary's 2024 Spring Bazaar to Cally Murray, Vice President of Philanthropy, Mercy Foundation (center).