

HOSPITAL HAPPENINGS

March 2015

What Makes a Successful Health Fair?

As I sit back and reflect on another successful Health Fair, I think about all of the incredible people who make the Blood Draws and Health Fair work. I am very blessed to stand beside these people who work very hard to make the events as efficient and informative as possible. As Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much," and this team plans and works incredibly well together to provide this great service.

Starting with the seven days of Early Blood Draws, I thank the phlebotomists, lab techs, nurses and all who work diligently to draw blood. They are skilled, kind, friendly, patient and very good at their craft. We performed over 3,400 blood draws this year in five different locations. That's a lot of blood draws!

Next, we must acknowledge the volunteers who generously donate their time to do "anything they can" to make the engine run. Starting with the marvelous Health Fair volunteer coordinator Evelyn Small and over 65 other volunteers who arrive at 6:00 a.m. each day to register, cashier, direct, serve food, alphabetize, stuff results to mail out and so much more. Their energy, enthusiasm and substantial gift of time cannot be admired and appreciated enough. Many of them come back every year to help, and we are fortunate each year to have people call and ask, "How can I help you next year?" The yellow vested Lions club members have helped us at the Fair for over 20 years and we appreciate their assistance and smiling faces very much.

As I continue to think of the support, I include the great people at MMH who work to uphold this huge event. Muffins, juice and bananas are ordered and delivered, supplies and equipment are delivered and retrieved, results are mailed out and lots of phone calls and questions are answered. We appreciate everyone who donates their time to staff the informational booths at the Fair, provide health screenings and the physicians who volunteer to answer questions and share their knowledge. And last but not least, the professional and helpful staff at the Montrose Pavilion. We work very closely with Kara and the gentlemen during the blood draws and the Health Fair and we couldn't ask for a better team.

MMH has offered the annual Health Fair for over 25 years and we are thankful to the community, volunteers and staff for its support. Sticking Together – it's what Friends and Family do!

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