

# Volunteer Services Department

## University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

1<sup>st</sup> Friday Notes: September 4, 2009

Dear UI Hospitals and Clinics Volunteers,

**Fall is here!** – Students are back in school and days are getting cooler. Fall also signifies the return of flu season. Please read the important information below.

**Flu Shot Information** – All hospital volunteers will be required to get a flu vaccination this year. Flu vaccination clinic date, time, and location will be sent when available in another email. If you receive a flu vaccination at another location before the hospital clinic begins, please be sure to bring documentation to us.

**Remember to Practice Good Hand Hygiene when Volunteering. Clean In...Clean Out!** - Please remember to practice good hand hygiene procedures before, during and after your volunteer shift. For more information please consult the informational brochure from the Centers for Disease and Prevention Control found on our website: [http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/volunteerprogram/pdf/CDC\\_HandHygiene\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/volunteerprogram/pdf/CDC_HandHygiene_Brochure.pdf)

### Volunteer Services Events:

- September 7: University Holiday – Volunteer Offices Closed.
- September 25: Volunteer Services Jewelry Sale – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Pappajohn Lobby.
- September 25: Flu Vaccination Clinic begins.
- October 14: Wild Rose Gifts Jewelry Event – in Wild Rose Gifts.
- October 28: Wild Rose Gifts Holiday Event – in 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Pappajohn Lobby.

**Friday Differences** are the stories shared with us showing the impact Volunteer Services has on the patient/family experience at our hospital. This month, we highlight our Sock Monkey Program; that offers hand-made sock monkey dolls to our pediatric patients free of charge.

“This morning a grandmother and her grandson came by to get a monkey. The little boy was 10 months old and was a patient in our hospital. He picked out a monkey and off they went. The grandmother later stopped by and said how thankful she was to get the monkey that morning and how much it had made a difference to her grandson. She said that when he woke up, the monkey was the first thing that he started reaching for, and that he had been smiling and laughing over the monkey ever since. The physical therapist even started using it to get him to reach up. She said his name was “Brian”, and that this was the first time that their family had seen the “Real Brian” back since being in the hospital.”

**Let us hear your story!** – As always, we ask you to think about YOUR volunteer experiences and reflect upon what kinds of things have made an impact on you and our patients. We invite you to please respond back to this e-mail address: [volunteerservices@uiowa.edu](mailto:volunteerservices@uiowa.edu), and send us your thoughts and stories.

With thanks for ALL you do... Your friends in Volunteer Services