

Dolphin Award Fundraiser Honors Maimonides Medical Center and Nurse Staff

The 2009 Dolphin Award Reception and Fundraiser was held on November 5 at the Harbour Lights Restaurant in the South Street Seaport. The event honored Maimonides Medical Center and nurse staff for their support and commitment to their nurse colleagues.

Maimonides nurses have been supporting their colleagues in need for decades. In 1990, they initiated a Florence Nightingale birthday dinner to celebrate the contributions nurses make to health care. Patricia Bishop-Barry, the President of Nurses House, was invited as a guest of honor and was presented with a donation from the nurses and doctors of Maimonides to help nurses in need. The Florence Nightingale parties became an annual event, and every year dozens of nurses turned out to celebrate and support Nurses House.

In 2004, Maimonides nurses began holding a Nurses Week fundraiser where nurses made and sold paper caps to wear on "Cap Day." The funds raised were donated to Nurses House. That year, Maimonides Medical Center agreed to match all donations raised and Maimonides nurses have been holding the event every year since.

Approximately ninety nurses and guests attended this year's award celebration to honor Maimonides. Over thirty five nurses from the hospital were in attendance. The event was hosted by Donna Cardillo, Nursing Spectrum's "Dear Donna" and included entertainment by Dolce Vita Strings, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, door prizes, a silent auction and prize raffles. Necklaces with keys attached were sold to raise funds for Nurses House with only one key opening

a box. The winner received a pearl necklace which was hidden in the box worth \$2,000. Other prizes included a gift certificate to Harbour Lights Restaurant and a gift certificate to Pulse Laser and Skincare in Manhattan.



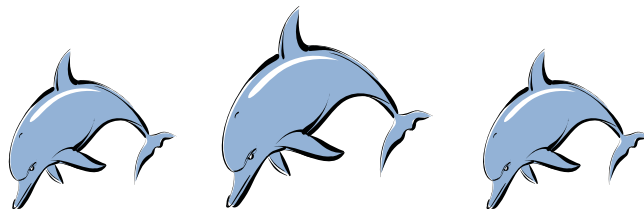
Susan Fraley presenting the award to Pam Brier, President of Maimonides Medical Center

Susan Fraley, Executive Director for Nurses House, spoke about Maimonides nurses and their many

accomplishments. She then presented the award, a crystal dolphin donated by Joan Brown, to Pam Brier, President of Maimonides. Pam then presented a check to Nurses House for \$5,000, which was raised by staff and matched by the hospital during Nurses Week 2009.

Corporate sponsors included Cherokee Uniforms, Johnson & Johnson, the New York State Nurses Association, and Sigma Theta Tau. Group and individual sponsors included the A&A Ridgewood Professional Registered Nurses Association, Claire Murray, Melissa Carbone, Diana Mason, Edmund Pajarillo, Donna Cardillo and Glennie Millard. In total, Nurses House raised over \$8,000 for nurses in need.

Nurses House would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generous support as well as all of our donors who helped support the event. We hope to see you all at next year's celebration.



SAVE THE DATE

Nurses House, Inc.

Will hold the 4th annual Dolphin Award Reception & Fundraiser on

Saturday, November 13, 2010

Nominations for the 2010 Dolphin Award will be accepted through February 15, 2010. To nominate an individual or group please visit the Nurses House website at www.nurseshouse.org or contact Stephanie Dague at (518)456-7858 x27

Message From the Executive Director



In spite of the economy, 2009 has been a reasonably good year for Nurses House. We received the second installment of a large bequest from Bertha Lundgren as well as a very generous donation from the New York State Nurses Association. I am also happy to report the 2009 Nurses House Dolphin Award brought in several thousand dollars more than previous years. This is largely due to many generous sponsors and your contributions in response to the event. All of these donations helped to offset the loss in individual donations we have seen this year.

I am very pleased to report that Nurses House has been able to assist every nurse who has qualified for assistance this year. The nurses who come to us are from varied backgrounds and reside all over the country, but they all have one thing in common - they are facing dire circumstances and come to Nurses House with the hope that, when all else fails, their colleagues will be there to help. In 2008 and 2009 Nurses House has seen a rise in the number of nurses who have been diagnosed with cancer. A few nurses that have come to us this year after being involved in a natural disaster which took everything they had. But, whatever their situation, the individuals that come to us are suffering even more due to the economy. It means so much to these nurses to know that their colleagues are there for them when they need it most. I thank you all for continuing to help Nurses House make this mission possible.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and Staff of the New York State Nurses Association, not only for their generous donation this year, but for choosing to support Nurses House at an NYSNA sponsored ball game in Long Island in September and for designating

Nurses House as their holiday charity. Claire Murray, President, and Glennie Millard, Director, attended the ball game to support Nurses House. Nancy Marcone and Stephanie Dague will be representing Nurses House at NYSNA's holiday event on December 10. I thank them all for volunteering their time to support Nurses House in so many ways.

The Joint Nurse Recruiters will be holding their Annual Meeting & Holiday Extravaganza in New York on December 11 and Nurses House has been chosen as one of four charities to speak at the event. I am grateful to Mary Ann Radioli from Maimonides Medical Center for bringing this together and for her help making the 2009 Dolphin Award Reception a success. I would also like to thank Diana Gazza in advance for representing Nurses House at the event and speaking on our behalf. Diana is a member of the Nurses House Board of Directors and has been a great asset to the organization.

Linda Sickler, Deputy Director for the Foundation of NYS Nurses and Nurses House, has recently retired. Nancy Marcone, Nurses House administrative assistant, has subsequently taken over Linda's financial duties for Nurses House. We will miss Linda and wish her all the best in her retirement!

Nurses House currently has approximately forty guests awaiting assistance and we will once again be offering holiday gifts to guests with families that may not otherwise be able to provide for them during the holidays. We hope to be able to help all of the nurses who are awaiting assistance but we cannot do so without your help. If you haven't already made a donation for the holiday appeal, please consider doing so that Nurses House is able to help all of the nurses who need it this holiday season. Thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,

Susan Fraley, MS, RN
Executive Director



Message From the President

Thank you all for your continued support throughout these difficult economic times. Nurses House donations are down by approximately 20% this year and there are currently forty applicants awaiting assistance. Many of the nurses are in dire need, having lost everything due to serious illness or injury. We hope to be able to assist all of them before the end of the year, but cannot do so without your help. Please give whatever you can this season. Every dollar makes a difference in the lives of the nurses who come to Nurses House and their families in need. In extraordinary times, individuals make extraordinary efforts to confront issues. That doesn't mean extraordinary donations from individuals because it is the collective effort of the group that will make the difference ---and nurses are an extraordinary group!

I am proud to announce that the 2009 Dolphin Award Ceremony was a success and brought in over \$8,000 profit for Nurses House. This year's profit surpassed last year's by over \$2,500. I would like to thank everyone who participated and helped make the event a success. This year was the first year Nurses House had corporate sponsors. There were four sponsors at the \$1,000 level. They included Sigma Theta Tau, NYSNA, Cherokee Uniforms, and Johnson & Johnson. We hope to get more sponsors next year and hope you all can attend.

I would also like to thank the New York State Nurses Association for their very generous donation of \$20,000 earlier this year. During tough times, it was especially wonderful to see such generosity for our colleagues in need. Nurses House has also recently been informed that we have been named the recipients of NYSNA's holiday charity this year. Nurses House is greatly appreciative of the support we receive from NYSNA and its members and we thank them for their continued assistance to nurses in need.

(continued on page 5)

Appreciation to Our Contributors

Nurses House is pleased to acknowledge the contributions made from May 31, 2009 through October 31, 2009 from individuals, associations, corporations and other organizations. The tributes section represents both memorial gifts and honoraria. We have made every endeavor to include all gifts and apologize for any omissions or errors.

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Nurses House, Inc. Grant Statistics

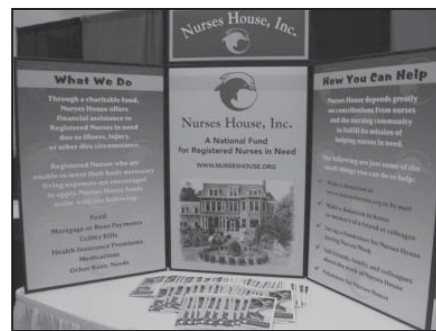
January 1 - October 20, 2009



Total amount expended in 2009	\$125,072
Total budgeted for 2009	\$114,000
Number of requests for assistance	93
Number of guests served.....	84
States represented	32
Total expended in 2008	\$142,618
Guests served in 2008	103

Nurses House at NYSNA Convention

The 2009 NYSNA convention brought in several thousand dollars for Nurses House. Thanks to all who participated in the annual Fun Run/Walk. The top five winners this year were Josephine Brazzier, Lolita Compas, Helen Gerald, Beverly Savory and Barbara Sommer. Thanks to all who participated! On top of the Fun Run donations, Glennie Millard donated a beautiful dolphin ring to be raffled at the Nurses House booth. Total funds raised from the event totaled over \$5,000!



The new Nurses House Exhibit premiered at the NYSNA convention

Applications and Newsletters Now Online

For those of you who are computer savvy, you will be pleased to know that the Nurses House website now provides all application forms and newsletters to be viewed and printed online.

Now, not only can you direct friends, family and colleagues to www.nurseshouse.org to make a contribution, but you can send them there to obtain help as well.

Previously, applications were mailed to individuals who requested them. Of course, you can still request an application for assistance be mailed by calling (518)456-7858.

Nurses House Volunteers Needed

Nurses House is currently seeking the following volunteer positions:

- Volunteers to serve on the 2010 Dolphin Award Committee – the committee will plan all aspects of the event including location, sponsors, catering, invitations, guest list and fundraising ideas.
- One position is open on the Nurses House Service Program Council. The Service Program Council is the group of individuals that reviews all applications and makes recommendations on financial assistance.
- Five members to serve on the Nominating Committee. These individuals are responsible for nominating individuals to serve on the Board of Directors.
- Members to run for the Nurses House Board of Directors. Nurses House will have the following positions open in the Spring: Vice President, Treasurer, and five board members. All positions are elected and elections will take place at the April 17, 2010 annual meeting.

For more information about any of these openings, contact Stephanie Dague at (518)456-7858 x27.

President's Message *(continued from page 2)*

I would also like to thank the many hospitals and organizations that came together to help support Nurses House through various fundraisers in 2009. Crouse Hospital and Maimonides Medical Center held fundraisers during Nurses Week, The Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing held an event on Nov. 8, the Western NY Chapter of Nurses House held their annual high tea, jazz concert, and golf events, and the Joint Nurse Recruiters have chosen Nurses House as a charity for their Holiday Extravaganza.

With thousands of charitable organizations competing for scarce resources, and the state of today's economy, it is important we all do whatever is possible to help promote Nurses House. I urge you all to assist Nurses House in whatever way possible and to help promote the growth and visibility of the organization. Nurses House is currently seeking several volunteers for various positions, which are listed in this issue.

Thank you for supporting Nurses House and your colleagues in need. I wish you all the best of health and happiness this holiday season and beyond!

Sincerely,

Claire Murray, MS, RN
President

Nurses House Inc.
The Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing
2113 Western Avenue, Suite 2
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Guest Stories 2009

Guest # 1 – Age 55 – Guest experienced a seizure in February of 2009 and was diagnosed with an operable brain tumor. She underwent surgery to remove the tumor in March. The surgery was successful and a large portion of the tumor was removed. She then underwent radiation and chemotherapy. When she applied to Nurses House at the end of June she had been out of work for four months. Her spouse was retired and only receiving a small pension. Guest was awaiting Social Security Disability and had already cashed in an IRA to pay bills. She requested help from Nurses House with basic expenses for three months, hoping that SSD would be approved at that point. Nurses House was able to assist with basic expenses for three months.

Guest #2 – Age 48 – Guest suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and was forced to leave work in February due to pain and fatigue. Not knowing if she would ever be able to return to work, she applied for Social Security Disability. In March, she started physical therapy to help with her gait and strengthen her muscles. When she applied to Nurses House, her only income was \$400/month from Short Term Disability and she had been diagnosed with severe depression. Her rent was one month late when she applied for help and other bills were falling behind. Nurses House was able to offer her assistance with rent payments and basic monthly expenses.

Guest #3 – Age 79 – Guest applied for Nurses House assistance in January. She had been receiving Social Security since 1996, but continued working to make ends meet. In 2007 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and had to leave her job. The chemotherapy treatment caused many side effects and, at her age, it was long recovery. Her son had been able to provide some food, but had lost his job. Guest's other expenses had fallen behind. When she applied to Nurses House she was still receiving medical treatments, but hoped to be able to return to work as soon as possible. She requested help with basic monthly expenses including food, transportation, and dental expenses. Nurses House was able to offer assistance for three months.

