



The new president and chief executive officer of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, James R. Downing, MD, (second from R) meets a group of Volunteens as they learn about careers in Surgery. Volunteer Services Director Kathryn Berry Carter (R) recently gave Dr. Downing a tour of the hospital volunteer programs.

Uplifted

BY KATHRYN BERRY CARTER
Volunteer Services director

Speaking to the Memphis to Peoria runners at their award ceremony before the start of the 33rd annual run, patient mom Nicole Jones said, "We feel each day has been awesome fun and joy. Being at St. Jude is a Disney-like environment. My daughter, Samantha, and I spend our days with other kids and families, and we feel uplifted, hopeful and joyful." Nicole, a Peoria native, went on to say, "I thank each of you for all you do for the kids. You've given Sam the gift of life every day, which brings more hope for a cure. The best way to live your life is by serving others. You've served us, the community, each other, and we're grateful. The light you shine for me and Sam, means so much."

Memphis to Peoria runners were also treated to a few music videos featuring songs from the 5th annual St. Jude Children's Research Hospital benefit concert, "Uplifted." Take a few minutes to visit this website so you can hear a few of these beautiful songs, sung by runner Ryan Beck: www.stjudeconcerts.org/music.html.

The run experience this year was unforgettable, and it was my privilege to run in honor

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Spotlight: Old tradition receives new shine

BY CAITY BIBERDORF
Volunteer Services intern

At certain times during the summer you might hear a little more laughter in the hallways. You see colorful posters around every corner, and suddenly you run into mobs of blue. All are tell-tale signs that the Volunteens have arrived. Three different groups of 16-18-year-old students came to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital this summer, and each teen spent two full weeks getting to know the organization while serving patients and families.

This summer, the Volunteer Services department worked tirelessly to give this long tradition a brand-new shine and broader purpose. We added opportunities for career exploration and included a service component beyond patient activities. We increased capacity and made the schedule more accommodating to fit the teens' needs.

In the past, students were allowed to take part in the Volunteer program for more than one year, but this limited the number of new applicants that could be accepted. Considering the department receives more than 180 Volunteer applications each summer, it was vital to make changes that would allow as many students as possible to take part. To do this, returning teens were

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Photo top: Volunteer Elizabeth Broughton (L) enjoys craft time with a patient at the St. Jude Golf-A-Round.



This St. Jude employee running team, Blue 3, raised more than \$42,000 for St. Jude by taking part in the Annual Memphis to Peoria Run. Their sponsors included the St. Jude Auxiliary, the Carlos Raymond Saavedra Foundation and Halo Hats. The team includes: (L to R) Ron Hardin, Patti Hoard, Maureen McCargill, Kathryn Berry Carter, Clark Gwaltney, Gheri Terry, Ashley Wedderburn and Christina Radcliffe.

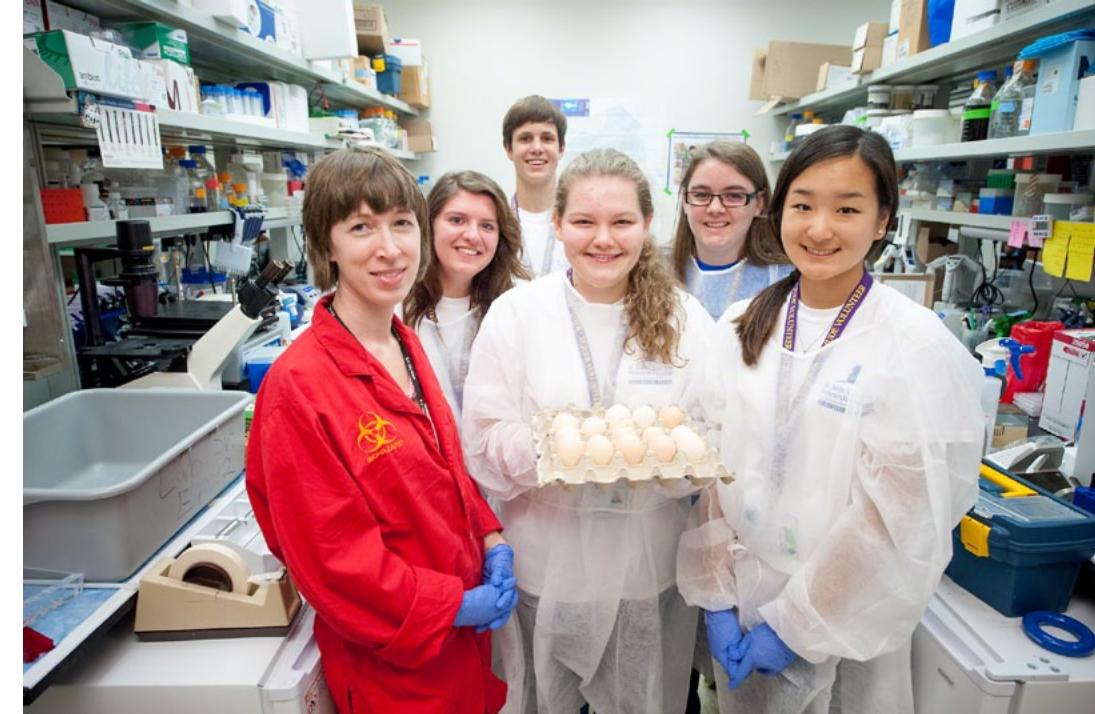
Spotlight: Old tradition receives new shine

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no longer eligible for the regular Volunteer Program. Instead, they were invited to apply for one of three Teen Leader positions in each session, giving nine experienced teens an important leadership opportunity. Teen Leaders received special training and were essential in pulling off a busy and successful summer. Under this new arrangement, 39 new teens were accepted in 2014, compared to 22 the previous year.

The new additions to the program kept the Teen Leaders moving from the moment each new group of 13 students arrived until the day they left. Past evaluations showed that many students were curious about other aspects of the hospital and the careers it employs. Volunteer Services contacted St. Jude employees asking if they would like to host programs to teach the Volunteers more about what they do. To better align students with their interests, we broke them up into three tracks including research, clinical care and clinical support.

So off they went every day to a new location, returning with new knowledge and a look of inspiration on their faces. Whether it was Surgical Services, where they all assumed a role as if part of a real surgery; Respiratory Therapy, where they got to see a pig lung in action;



Postdoctoral fellow in Infectious Diseases Stephanie Sonnberg, PhD, (L) hosts a group of Volunteers in the lab to teach them about research careers. They are: (L to R) Haley Mimbs, Steven Smith, Anna Johnson, Devin Jones and Gyuri Han.

or a presentation by Child Life, as one Volunteer put it, “[We] really get to see the behind the scenes of what goes on in this hospital.”

While they understand what an honor it is to get such a rare look inside St. Jude, the Volunteers have one thing on their minds at the end of the day—the patients. Volunteers exemplified this focus through their hard work in planning and implementing the patient activities that were held every day. That’s where the most

laughter and joy shone through.

When asked what she thought about the new program, Teen Leader Lainee Rosenblum said, “It makes you appreciate St. Jude that much more.”



(Photo above) Mark Bryan of Surgical Services helps Volunteer Brooke Medlin gear up for a mock surgery. The students visited Surgery to learn more about clinical careers.



(Photo at left) These Volunteers have fun working together during a patient event. They are: (L to R) Haley Mimbs, Megan Greenhill, Lainee Rosenblum and Devin Jones.

Uplifted

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of our amazing volunteers. Each step of the way you were all in my thoughts. Every quiet moment offered me a chance to thank all those who generously gave to St. Jude and supported me in the run. The run raised a record-breaking one million dollars; all combined, the satellite runs and telethon raised more than \$8.3 million. What an amazing accomplishment that many of you contributed to!

Recently, Volunteer Services was pleased to host James Downing, MD, newly appointed St. Jude president and chief executive officer, for a walk-through tour of the department. He also observed our Volunteers in action and learned about their efforts to explore career development, mission building, and service to our patients and families.

This fall promises to be especially busy with our usual flurry of activity, including the Auxiliary Masquerade Jewelry Sale and the annual Auxiliary Bazaar. The Women’s Club members will host the elf event and will delight everyone with holiday decorations. The Ladies of St. Jude will take part in the *St. Jude Give thanks. Walk.* and the

St. Jude Memphis Marathon events, as well as gear up for their spring activities.

We welcome two new interns. Caroline Mitchell comes to us from Auburn University, where she is pursuing her bachelor’s degree in communication and journalism. Shannon Pintane is a Colorado State University student pursuing a bachelor’s degree in health and exercise science with a concentration in health promotion. We send tremendous thanks to Caity Biberdorf and Skylar LaTorre-Couch. They each worked incredibly hard and have left their mark. Special thanks to intern Marlee Loflin as she has generously served three semesters in her current position. Marlee has taken such initiative and has made many contributions to the department. All three interns will be missed.

Thank you for being amazing volunteers. You truly uplift me, our staff and our patients and families. Best wishes for a productive and meaningful fall season.

Thinking of you...

Get well wishes go out to Suzanne Hieserman and Andres Flores.

We send condolences to these volunteers and staff who recently had deaths in their families: Michelle Crump (son), Vilma Carnahan (sister and father-in-law), Stacey Hancock (father-in-law), Charlotte Dixon-Burke (mother) and Vicki Brown (mother).

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of volunteer Rita Grandberry, who died July 2.



Volunteer and St. Jude nurse Roynetta Lloyd talks to two patients during the Camp Wishing Well Beach Night at Target House.

(Below) Volunteer James Fyke, aka Batman, joins a patient in showing off their bat capes during the Camp Wishing Well Superhero Day at Target House.

Beyond the numbers

BY MEGAN JONES

Target House volunteer and special events coordinator

This summer Target House hosted its annual week of Camp Wishing Well July 28–August 1. For five nights, themed activities and dinners provided families in St. Jude housing an opportunity to have fun, enjoy meals together and make new friends.

Themes included Superhero Day, Beach Night sponsored by Carnival Cruise Lines, Great Outdoors Day sponsored by Autotrader.com, Be the Chef Day with Kay Kafe, and Back to School and Art Expo Day. The two teen events were a Christmas in July Party and Teen Trivia Night.



Volunteers included hospital and ALSAC staff, corporate groups, local individuals and groups, out-of-town vol-

unteers, and donors. They filled a variety of roles from leading craft stations and serving food to handing out school supplies and dressing up as superheroes.

Here's a summary of what took place:

- 12 events in five days: five activity sessions, five dinners, and two teen events
- 132 patients and siblings participated
- 721 meals were served
- In total: 90 volunteers filled 132 shifts and gave 330.5 hours; this was throughout events that only lasted 17 hours

Two teen patients have fun making pizzas at the Camp Wishing Well Be the Chef Day sponsored by Kay Kafe.

Thanks to the volunteers, the week was a huge success. It would not have been possible without them. Every time I review the numbers, I am blown away by what our volunteers accomplished. However, there's another number that appears small at first, but portrays one of the biggest successes of the week.

On Monday night after dinner, 11 teens bravely left the comfort of their rooms to attend a Christmas in July Party with others who, at the time, were complete strangers. I watched as each one slowly opened up. Before we knew it, they were talking and exchanging stories like they had known each other for months. It was inspiring to listen as they casually dropped pieces of their cancer experiences into their conversations. For a few, this was the first time in weeks they could relate to someone else and weren't embarrassed by missing hair or new scars.

As the camp week continued, this group attended the events together. On Be the Chef Night, they traveled like nomads from one food station to the next, smashing guacamole and assembling fruit sushi.

The resulting friendships among our teens exemplify how volunteers positively affect our families. Their impact goes much deeper than completing an activity with a patient, and the investment of their time far exceeds the time spent celebrating Christmas in July. They are truly an extension of staff—changing lives and spreading hope.

(Top right) St. Jude Chef and Director of Culinary Operations Miles McMath talks with a patient during the Camp Wishing Well Be the Chef Day at Target House.

(Center right) Volunteer Joshua Smith, aka Spiderman, greets a patient at the Camp Wishing Well Superhero Day at Target House.

(Bottom right) Target House Volunteer and St. Jude Living Well Center employee Wednesdee Canale helps a patient during the Camp Wishing Well Be the Chef Day activities.



St. Jude Women’s Club

BY ALLISON COOK, publicity chair

On June 3, the ALSAC/Danny Thomas Pavilion was transformed into a putt-putt playground, as the St. Jude Women’s Club hosted the 15th Annual Golf-A-Round event in conjunction with the FedEx St. Jude Classic golf tournament. It was another successful event thanks to a host of club members, hospital staff, volunteers and, of course, the professional golfers.

Five professional golfers were onsite helping kids putt, taking photographs with patients and families, and signing autographs. Current inpatients also enjoyed some golfing fun. A green was set up on the second floor of the Patient Care Center, and the pros visited and played with those patients and families individually. For the past two years, the winner of the FedEx St. Jude Classic has been among the Golf-A-Round participants. The kids just might bring good luck!

Patients also enjoyed a face painter, an arts-and-crafts table and refreshments provided by the Women’s Club. In addition, there was a special guest appearance from a Golf-A-Round favorite, the Golf Ball Guy Mascot. He shot a hole-in-one, and he took lots of photographs with kids and adults alike.

It takes a huge behind-the-scenes effort to coordinate

this event. Co-chairs Judy Bosi and Mandy Shelby-Little joined forces other club members to create a wonderful day for all.



These St. Jude Women’s Club members volunteered at the annual Golf-A-Round event: (front L to R) Christy Mullikin, Judy Bosi, Daelynn Buelow, (back L to R) Tammy Vaughn, Teresa Carr, Jenny Reddick, Marjorie Webster, Shannon Thomas-Lohrman and Pat Stow.

The Ladies of St. Jude

BY SARAH D. PRATT, member

Summer hiatus from meetings might seem like a vacation for members of the Ladies of St. Jude. But June was anything but slow, as they worked hard on Dream Home activities. Forty members took part at the open houses and ticket office. They greeted nearly 8,000 people at the home.

Once again, it was a sell-out year with all 13,000 tickets sold. Chairs Aggie Wagner and Betty Christy are to be congratulated for their fine work.

The Ladies of St. Jude held their new-member luncheon September 11.

Ladies of St. Jude member Tracy Christoffersen helps a patient during one of the art events sponsored every month by the club.



St. Jude Auxiliary

BY MEG LEWIS, member

The St. Jude Auxiliary is having a great year. We have been at the forefront of several exciting activities and are gearing up for our busiest time of the year by preparing for two fundraisers to close out 2014. In late July, we teamed up with the St. Jude School Program to assist them with their backpack giveaway. This was a wonderful way to ensure that our local St. Jude patients had everything they needed to start the new school year off on the right foot.

Our second Masquerade Jewelry Sale of the year will take place October 14–17. This event comes on the heels of our most successful event ever this past spring, so we are excited to see what the fall will bring.

Behind the scenes, the St. Jude Auxiliary is busy pricing numerous donated items for our biggest fundraising event of the year, the Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar. This year’s Bazaar will take place Thursday and Friday, November 20–21, so please mark your calendars. Many Auxiliary members have already donated their time during the past several months to help prepare for the Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar, and we thank them for their service. We also want to thank those who have donated items for the sale. We could not do this

St. Jude Auxiliary members (L to R) Lisa Houston, Lydia Gibson and Meg Lewis serve a dinner sponsored by the Auxiliary at the Memphis Grizzlies House, now called Tri Delta Place.



event without your support, and we are most appreciative of your generosity.

We could still use volunteers to assist with pricing as we head into the home stretch and will certainly need volunteers who can staff the Bazaar. If you can’t volunteer, please remember to show your support for the Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar by shopping. Not only is it a great way to get gifts for those on your holiday list, but all the money from your purchases directly helps the amazing children of St. Jude.

Finally, we always welcome new members to the Auxiliary. If you are interested in joining this great group of volunteers, please contact the Volunteer Services office. On behalf of all the Auxiliary members, I look forward to seeing you in action around the halls of St. Jude.

Weekly Alert: Why you need to read

The *Weekly Alert* e-newsletter from Volunteer Services is a must read item for all St. Jude hospital volunteers. Just take a minute to scan it and make sure you haven’t missed anything.

If there are important changes to parking or construction zones, you’ll find them in the *Weekly Alert*. Every volunteer must be prepared to answer questions from Joint Commission accreditation surveyors, and Volunteer Services will share training information in the *Weekly Alert*. The latest St. Jude news is always highlighted, such as the appointment of the new president and chief executive officer and the renaming of the Memphis Grizzlies House to Tri Delta Place. The *Weekly Alert* also offers details about upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Welcome New Volunteers!

To see a list of volunteers who have joined the team between May 5 and June 25, 2014, visit www.stjude.org/hospitalvolunteers. Click on “Volunteer Recognition” then choose “Welcome New Volunteers.” Join us in welcoming these new volunteers to the St. Jude team.

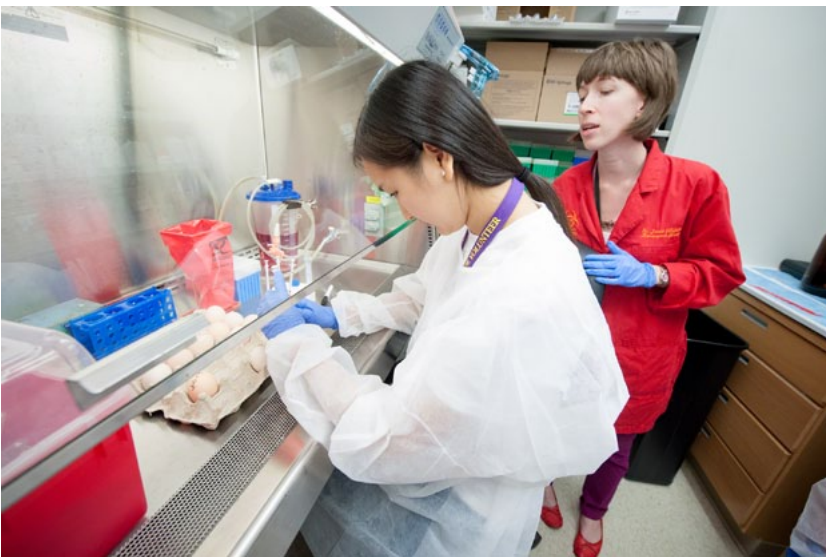
Service-in-action gallery



Pediatric Oncology Education student Mary Catherine McDaniel volunteers at a Monday Night Live event and has fun being thumbprinted by a patient.



Pediatric Oncology Education student volunteer Katherine Becker plays with a patient at this Monday Night Live event.



Volunteer Gyuri Han has a chance to try out research techniques with Stephanie Sonnberg, PhD, in the Infectious Diseases lab.



FedEx/St. Jude Classic Golf Tournament winner Ben Crane meets a patient during the annual St. Jude Women's Club Golf-A-Round event. He is one of five professional golfers who volunteered their time to meet patients, play putt-putt with them, have photos taken and sign autographs.



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