



Shrinelines

August 6, 2008

Robert Cotner, Editor

Vol. IV, No. 33

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

Do you remember that image of a stern-looking Uncle Sam, with a frown and a mean finger pointing directly at you, saying “**I WANT YOU!**” It’s a recruiting poster few will forget. Well, here I am, in the very same pose, saying, “**I WANT YOU!**” I’m looking for 34 Shrine Clubs and Ladies groups, who will commit \$5,000 in either 2009 or 2010 for an important, new program here at SHC – Chicago. Here’s the deal: We have 17 nurses at SHC – Chicago who do not have their Bachelor of Nursing (BSN) degrees, and they need them. The American Nurses Association (ANA) recommends that the entry-level standards for nursing be the baccalaureate level degree. With the advancements in technology and the increasing complexity of the health care arena, greater demands are placed on nurses today. They simply



must have a broad-based education in community health issues, organizational development, assessment skills, and leadership development—all emphasized at the baccalaureate level. The nurses at

SHC – Chicago recognize the need for professional development and skill advancement and have voiced their desire to achieve a BSN in order to grow professionally, become more proficient in their critical thinking skills, and therefore increase the quality of care delivered to the patients and families served by SHC. These 17 nurses have a total of 353 years of nursing experience, 185 years of service at SHC – Chicago, and six professional certifications. Each will commit two years of service to our hospital after fulfillment of her BSN—or will reimburse the hospital for the cost of the degree. These dedicated health care professionals are ready and anxious to begin the journey to excellence and professional growth. And SHC – Chicago will benefit in this program. When our nurses

have completed their BSN degrees, the hospital will take the first step toward “**Magnet Recognition**” by the ANA. Earlier this year, SHC – Cincinnati was the first hospital in the system to achieve Magnet status. Although it may be a long journey, SHC – Chicago is committed to achieving this prestigious award in order to join the ranks of other Magnet hospitals in providing the highest quality care to the children and families served.

Because of the financial circumstances of these times, when gift income is down and our endowment has diminished, it is not possible to fund the degree-completion program for our nurses. So we’re coming to those who own the hospitals—the Shriners themselves—to seek assistance.

The degree-completion program, offered through the College of Nursing of St. Frances University, will cost our 17 nurses \$223,584 over a two-year period. We’d like to have at least 34 Shrine Clubs or Ladies groups of the Shrine commit to our “Adopt A Nurse” program by contributing either in 2009 or 2010, a gift of \$5,000. Those gifts will total \$170,000 toward the necessary \$223,854. We will find the remaining \$53,854 through foundation or private gifts.

In participating in the “Adopt A Nurse” program, Shrine organizations will be recognized with a special plaque, and each adopted nurse will visit the group once a year to meet and thank her benefactors. Besides raising the substantial funds at a crucial time in our history, those who participate in the program will find a closer, more intimate, completely satisfying relationship with what is the “world’s greatest philanthropy.”

Please complete and send in the attached form to join in our “Adopt A Nurse” program, which will mean so much to each nurse, to our hospital, and to the children we serve.

Thank you for joining us as partners in our “Adopt A Nurse” Program—for the kids’ sake!



Shrinelines



_____ (date)

Noble Bob,

Yes, my Shrine group would like to be included in the “Adopt A Nurse” program for Shriners Hospitals for Children – Chicago.

We would like to be in the program in _____ 2009 _____ 2010.

We pledge \$5,000 during that year.

Our pledge will be paid in the _____ First Quarter _____ Second Quarter _____ Third Quarter _____ Fourth Quarter of the year selected

My group is:

_____ (name of club or group)

_____ (address)

_____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip code)

_____ (person responsible)

_____ (phone #) _____ (email)

Please mail to:

Robert Cotner
Director of Development
Shriners Hospitals for Children
2211 N. Oak Park Ave.
Chicago, IL 60707