

Congratulations to the SF Giants
2012 World Series Champions!



Dignity Health was proud to partake in the Giants World Series championship parade through downtown San Francisco. An estimated 1.3 million people flooded the streets to pay tribute to the Giants and “our” champions, the staff at St. Mary’s! (Anthony Mistretta and Sister Mary Kilgariff, first row, fourth and fifth from the left)



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Letter from Executive Director



With the completion of the strategic plan and capacity assessment, we are enthusiastic about the future and have started by reorganizing the structure of the Foundation, a major step in growth and advancement. First, as many may already know, Andrea D. Whittaker, our former Donor Relations Specialist, moved away to Georgia in July. Although we really did not want her to go, she and her husband Stephen are happy to be back in the South. She just started work in the fundraising department for Emory University and they are extremely lucky to have her.

Whether you call it kismet or synchronicity, at the same time St. Mary’s president Anna Cheung requested that the Foundation assume more responsibilities from the hospital – the Auxiliary and Volunteer Services and the Asian Physician Advisory Committee (APAC). Andrea’s vacant position presented an opportunity to reorganize the Foundation and expand our capacity.

The hospital should count its blessings that Mary Poppingo agreed to accept the new position of Manager of Planned Giving and Auxiliary and Volunteer Services. She will be assuming responsibility for the St. Mary’s Auxiliary and managing the many volunteers throughout the hospital. Due to the increased responsibilities, we are now looking forward to taking on a full time major gifts officer which we hope to introduce in our next issue!

We are fortunate that Agnes Tam applied for two part-time positions now under the Foundation, coordinator for APAC and for all fundraising external communication. Agnes is well qualified for both. She has been a temporary employee in our Marketing & Communications Department, and speaks Cantonese and Mandarin. We are elated that she has accepted our offer.

As we adjust to these new changes, we look forward to a myriad of new opportunities in 2013 and beyond.

Margine Sako, Executive Director

Message from the Foundation
Board Chair, Charles Higuera



With high hopes for the Foundation in 2013, I have great expectations of the Board and what it is the Foundation will be able to do for the hospital, “To strengthen the Board, means to strengthen the hospital!”

The Foundation Board consists of amazing members, all of which are personally devoted to St. Mary’s. Board Members receive no compensation for serving and they devote their personal time and resources for one purpose—to make the hospital better. Since the success of the past capital campaign, the Board is ready to recalibrate their focus and efforts with those of the hospital leadership. Aligned with the mission of St. Mary’s, the Board will focus on fundraising for purposeful activities and services, and will take part in strategic planning for the upcoming year.

As the frontline to the community, the Foundation works hard to recruit support from those who believe in the hospital as much as we do. Everybody in the Foundation is here for a purpose and we plan to improve and raise as much as we can to contribute to the greater vision of St. Mary’s.

Charles Higuera, Board Chair

Annunziata Sanguinetti Foundation: Helping the Children of San Francisco

For over 25 years, the Annunziata Sanguinetti Foundation, a family based trust managed by Wells Fargo Bank, has been contributing to St. Mary’s Medical Center. Since the start of the trust, the Sanguinetti Foundation has been devoted to the care, treatment, rehabilitation, and education for the children of San Francisco. Through a yearly application process, St. Mary’s is beyond thrilled to receive these generous grants year after year.

The majority of the funds have been directed to help St. Mary’s McAuley Day Treatment Program - our comprehensive outpatient mental health treatment center that provides care and help for adolescents and their families. With the help of the Sanguinetti Foundation, St. Mary’s has been able to make significant changes in providing exceptional care. In the past 10 years alone, McAuley has been able to hire art and drama therapists, create the Behavioral Modification Point Program, begin the Technology Enhancement Program, and even a kitchen renovation! Because of Sanguinetti’s help, the youth are not only able to receive the care they need, but are also able to attend school in a private classroom taught by a SF Unified School District teacher. All of the coordination of teachers and therapists on the St. Mary’s campus allow the students to graduate on time.

Once again, in 2012 the Annunziata Sanguinetti Foundation graciously awarded us \$20,000 to upgrade and improve the computers for student use. To date, we have received an amazing grand total of \$521,000.

We are forever grateful to the Sanguinetti family and are proud that the McAuley program is a tribute to Joseph, Annunziata, Attilio, and Louis Sanguinetti!

Working Together to go Far

“Together we’ll go far” is Wells Fargo’s tagline and they have certainly upheld this promise with St. Mary’s. For years now, Wells Fargo has been well represented on the St. Mary’s fundraising team working to help raise money for the hospital’s care for the needy and capital campaign. Through their generous donations and offerings, Wells Fargo has contributed a total of \$200,000 in support of St. Mary’s. At the core of our relationship with the bank are two men of distinction, Herb Myers and Robert (Bob) Besozzi.

Herb is the Regional Business Banking President for Wells Fargo. He is our champion for the Sister Mary Philippa Clinic for needy patients. It is one of his favorite charities and like any good fundraiser, his friends unsuccessfully attempt to hide when they see him coming.



Bob Besozzi

Bob Besozzi is the retired Vice President and Branch Manager of the Wells Fargo Crocker Office. For many years now, he and his family have come to St. Mary’s for care and have a personal relationship with our very own Dr. Robert Murray, Sister Joanne DeVincenti, and many other hospital staff members.



Herb Myers

Both Herb and Bob have been critical advocates for St. Mary’s. They have always been willing and able to do what they can to lend a hand. With the proceeds we have received from their help, we have been able to provide care for those who are in need of medical care and compassion.

Herb and Bob make their own personal contributions, advocate for St. Mary’s, strengthen our relationship with Wells Fargo Bank, and serve on the St. Mary’s Golf Committee. We are extremely fortunate to have them and they have had a tremendous impact on St. Mary’s.

“Thank you, St. Mary’s Foundation!”
A message from the staff in 8West

We would like to thank the Foundation at St. Mary’s Medical Center for providing the Telemetry Unit with new wheelchairs. They are helping us to ensure patient safety on 8 West! Self-releasing safety belts have been installed on each of the wheelchairs to provide confused and impulsive patients with an environment of safety.

Thank you for your generosity,
The Staff on 8 West Telemetry



Board Member Highlight: Dr. Richard Podolin



“Caring” and “reassuring” are words that are often used to describe Dr. Richard Podolin, one of St. Mary’s amazing physicians that truly represent our mission to treat the sick with dignity.

Dr. Podolin received his medical degree from the Stanford University School of Medicine, continued on to the University of Chicago as a Research Fellow in Cardiology, and then became a Cardiology Fellow at the University of California in San Francisco. Among his accomplishments, Dr. Podolin has received numerous awards in medicine including “Outstanding Physician and Educator at St. Mary’s,” “Outstanding Contribution to the Internal Medicine Residency,” and was even voted as one of San Francisco’s Super Doctors by the *San Francisco Chronicle*!

For the past 20 years, Dr. Podolin has been a valued staff member at St. Mary’s, holding various positions throughout the hospital, including two terms as Chief of Staff, and for the past 26 years, he has been a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology. With his outstanding knowledge of St. Mary’s as well as his hands on experience in patient care, we are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Podolin as a member of the Foundation Board and the hospital Community Board.

He is well regarded by his peers and patients, and always one of the Foundation’s top honorees in our Doctor’s Day donor recognition campaign. But, if you really want to see him shine, ask him about T-Bone Burnett or the Strictly Bluegrass concert.

Update: Center for Women’s Health



We are pleased to inform you of the recent enhancements to our women’s services program. The purpose of the Women’s program is to design a center that will offer state-of-the-art technology, rapid interpretation and turnaround of results, and unparalleled convenience.

With the construction of the new Center for Women’s Health complete we will be able to provide a one-stop-shop for women, providing them with one convenient outpatient location for women’s services for breast imaging and diagnostic services such as mammograms, ultrasounds, bone densitometry, laboratory drawing stations, and many more.

We are looking forward to expanding our already strong commitment to women’s health needs at our new Center for Women’s Health - ONE stop, One location, One Shrader.