JOIN NOW -

BECOME AN ADVOCATE

The Advocates – a dynamic, membership-based organization is looking for you – someone eager to help enhance patient care within Upstate Medical University. YOU can become involved by volunteering at its numerous hospital-based patient care initiatives, community education service programs, fundraising and grant initiatives. Contact The Advocates to get involved. Give back, make a difference, and enjoy our member social events throughout the year.

The Advocates’ strength and direction comes from its membership base. With your involvement, this century-old organization will continue to create new, engaging ways to instill the comfort and dependability.
Mystery, Malt & Merlot is The Advocates’ signature fundraiser. Held in the spring, this event features wine and beer tastings, silent and live auctions, and the opportunity to gather clues to solve the mystery created by our hosts Ted and Amy of 93Q. Proceeds benefit a featured department of Upstate Medical University and other Advocates programs. A major donation is given in support of the key recipient. Recent recipients have included:

- Patient Guest Services Center
- Post-Partum Department
- Perinatal Center
- Living Donor Transplant & Community Outreach Program

**FUNDRAISING:**
The Advocates’ grant funding and scholarship programs are sustained by the service contracts The Advocates holds at the hospitals. Their contract partners include: TeleHealth (patient television service), Lori’s Gift Shops, Espresso-Oasis Coffee Bar, Café Kubal, American Food and Vending, and MOM365 (photography of newborns). The money raised by these contracts has allowed The Advocates to support many programs and projects, including:

- Grants for diverse programs and occasions serving both the Downtown and Community Campuses. Grants awarded for 2016-2017 include:
  - The Upstate Cancer Center for National Cancer Survivors’ Day Celebration
  - Health Education for Childbirth & New Family Education
  - Nursing Recruitment & Retention for the Daisy Award for Excellence in Nursing
  - Social Work for Emergency Fund
  - Volunteer Services for Annual Volunteer Celebration
  - Spiritual Care for Program Support
  - Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center for Cystic Fibrosis Adherence Initiative
  - Oasis for Chronic Disease Self-Management Program
  - PM&R for Life Skills Enhancement & Satisfaction Program

Scholarships: Advocates Youth Scholarships are awarded to Junior and Teen Volunteers. The Nellie Hurley Scholarships are awarded to employees and adult volunteers who are pursuing studies in health-related fields at an accredited institution.

Funding for Nursing Recruitment & Retention and Employee Events including Hospital Week and Employee Recognition Day.

**SERVICE PROJECTS:**
Volunteerism is central to The Advocates’ mission and its service projects are aimed at improving and enhancing patient care. Examples include:

- Coordinating quarterly blood drives at both campuses
- Collecting donations for hospital patients
- Creating special events on select patient units as a diversion and encouragement for patients and family members
- Participation in SnowFlake Central, the Holiday gift program for pediatric patients and their families.

GET TO KNOW THE ADVOCATES
The Advocates is a membership organization of volunteers whose mission is to serve Upstate Medical University and its hospitals on both campuses. It does this by raising funds and awarding grants to improve patient care and education. In addition to fundraising, The Advocates volunteer and service efforts enhance public health initiatives in our community. It attempts to offer unique ways to better serve patients, families, and hospital staff, and it is active-

“Whether it is the caring touch of a volunteer or holding a fundraiser to benefit our youngest patients, The Advocates for Upstate Medical University influence nearly every corner of our campus.”
— Dr. John McCabe, Retired CEO, Upstate University Hospital

Join us in making a difference in the lives of...