

ADVOCATES FOR UPSTATE

*Supporting healthcare and scholarship
through fundraising and service*

Summer 2019

2019-20 ANNUAL REPORTS

2019-20 Board of Directors

Co-Presidents

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Lisa Schiller- lisa.christensen@kattenlaw.com

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Board Members

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Larissa Brenner

Samantha Cirillo

Rosemary Fenneman

Alicia Green

Bertha Jacobs

Beverly Lauricella

Michele Mark

Bonnie McCabe

Edward Priest

Director Volunteer Services

Kristin Bruce

Administrative Coordinator

Jonathan Adler- adlerj@upstate.edu

Co-Presidents' Report- Sharon Putney & Tracy Ryder

Hi Advocates members:

At the annual meeting in May, we were elected as co-presidents of Advocates for Upstate. We are still working out how we'll divide duties, but more about that later. At this time you can address issues to both of us or any of the VPs. We'd love to hear from you – how we're doing, what you like and what you think we could be doing better. Everyone's email address is to the left, on this page.

One of the priorities that we have for this year is to increase participation of Advocate members in our activities. We are planning to have regular "happy hours" at various locations around the area. There will be opportunities to meet and talk and really just get to know each other. The Advocates for Upstate have for several years supported the "Donate Life" baseball night on July 26 at NBT Bank Stadium. You should have received an announcement from Jonathan Adler on May 29. Please contact Jonathan at adlerj@upstate.edu for more info. We plan to wear our new Advocates for Upstate tee



Co-Presidents Sharon Putney (L) and Tracy Ryder

shirts to the game.

Many Advocate activities can use your help, so please consider signing up for the blood drive, gift wrapping at Christmas time, Mystery, Malt and Merlot Committee, etc. These are for the most part short term commitments (a few hours per event), but what we do, as Advocates, is vitally important to Upstate patients and their families. If you're interested in participating in our activities, please contact either of us and we'll get your information to the appropriate VP.

Hope to see you at an Advocates for Upstate event soon. Have a safe, healthy summer! And please don't hesitate to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Tracy (tryd1019@gmail.com)

Sharon (putneyse@yahoo.com)

Advocate of the Year

At the annual meeting on May 7, Immediate Past President Judy Carr recognized Tracy Ryder as the 2018-19 Advocate of the Year saying "This member is a relative newcomer to the Advocates for Upstate Board. In addition to serving on the board she is an active Hospital volunteer. We don't always agree, but I think we have a healthy respect for each other's viewpoint. The primary reason I selected her for this honor is that twice in the last year and a half, I have thought, 'Who are we going to get to do THAT!' She answered that call both times. She chaired the committee to select our Administrative Coordinator and also agreed to serve as co-President. Please join me in congratulating Tracy as our Advocate of the Year."



* * SAVE THE DATES * * SAVE THE DATES * *



Blood Drive – Downtown Campus Main Cafeteria

Thursday, July 18 – 7 am – 5 pm

Friday, July 19 – 7 am – 1 pm

Blood Drive – Community Campus Main Cafeteria

Monday, July 29 – 12 pm – 6 pm

Tuesday, July 30 – 7 am – 1 pm

To Volunteer please contact Maryann Newman at imspec32@hotmail.com or Jean Pirozzi at jean.pirozzi@gmail.com



THE ANNUAL REPORTS



Treasurer—Tracy Ryder

The Advocates had a solid 2018-2019 financial year. With forecasted strong contract performance and a successful Mystery, Malt & Merlot fundraiser, the financials are only expected to improve. Our wonderful vendors include: Espresso Oasis, Lori's Gift Shop, Bee Loved Gifts, American Food & Vending, Telehealth TV's, Upstate Bistro and Café Kabul.

The 21st Annual Mystery, Malt & Merlot was a great success at the Oncenter. This year's recipients are the Clark Burn Center and Upstate Trauma, Burn & Emergency Medicine EMS Program.

Scholarships totaling \$34.5K were awarded to students, volunteers and staff from both campuses in the pursuit of continuing education in a medical field.

Grants totaling \$95K were awarded to 49 recipients for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. A few of the recipients were: Spiritual Care, Upstate Cancer Center, Transitional Care, Pediatrics, Volunteer Services and National Hospital Week Celebration.

A special thanks to the Finance, Executive, Grant and Scholarship Committees for helping me through my final year in office. I would not be able to have done it without everyone's help – especially Jonathan Adler! And I now turn over this office to Barbara LaBarge, who I know will do a great job as our Treasurer.

VP– Fund Development– Donna Breen

While the focus of fundraising is Mystery, Malt, and Merlot, We did have a couple of smaller projects. We held our annual engraved pencil sale, thanks to Bonnie McCabe-- earning \$357. Also we held a holiday sale of Cafe Kubal's Upstate Joe coffee, made especially for us. Sales at both campuses earned \$320. We are considering a couple of new projects for the fall.

Mystery, Malt & Merlot was chaired by Barbara LaBarge with Vice-Chair Karen Goldman. We are grateful to them and to the many others who put on a wonderful and successful event. And many thanks to all of you who have devoted your time and talents for all our endeavors. And, as always, we welcome your participation in our fundraising efforts in the year ahead.

VPs– Service Committee– Jean Pirozzi & Maryann Newman

The Service Committee for 2018-2019 has been busy again this year with many opportunities to work at both Community and Downtown Campuses.

Beautification of the Community Campus is also a part of the Service Committee. Advocates and Volunteers decorate the campus for holidays and by planting flowers in the Spring. Many compliments from staff and visitors were received.

Blood Drives held four times a year at both campuses were successful in meeting the donation goals set by the American Red Cross. Davis Ulmer Sprinkle, The Galleries, and the Medical Students of Upstate also sponsor Blood Drives.

Their blood donations add to the Advocates numbers and benefit Upstate Medical University. Reaching the donation goals helps Upstate reduce costs of processing blood products for patient care.

Advocates were able to assist Spiritual Care of the Downtown Campus at their Annual Memorial Service in November.

December was busy celebrating the holidays with The Snowflake Central wrapping station in the Golisano Children's Hospital. The wrapping station is staffed by Advocates and Volunteers to wrap gifts for families of hospitalized children.

We would like to thank all The Advocates, Volunteers and especially Committee members for their commitment to make all activities at both campuses so successful.

VP– Contracts– Theresa Devennie & Lisa Schiller

The Advocates for Upstate Medical University has been my passion over the past ten years, in June I pass my share of Co-VP to Judy Carr. Together Lisa Schiller and Judy will do a wonderful job monitoring our contacts.

This year we excited to have added Upstate Bistro by American Dining, a new Café in the AcademicBuilding. The Café serves breakfast and lunch five days a week to students and staff. They are located on the 4th floor of the new building.

We said good bye to Gifts on the Hill- our gift shop at Upstate Community Campus, as Lois Ross closed to enjoy her upcoming retirement. The General Manager of the store, Melissa Lobasco renamed and re-branded the store and opened up her new gift shop the first week in April as Bee Loved Gifts. We wish Melissa great success in the gift shop.

The Advocates would like to thank the owners and staff of Espresso Oasis, Lori's Gifts, Café Kubal, American Food & Vending, and TeleHealth for partnering with us and providing such a wonderful service for Hospital patients, staff, students and guests.

Monies from these contracts are used by The Advocates to give back to the hospital in forms of Grants, Scholarships and Special Projects, fulfilling our mission to better serve patients and staff.

VP– Marketing— Doretta Settineri Royer

The Advocates for Upstate has undergone an extensive branding campaign this past year. Please check out our new logo and tagline, prominently featured on our redesigned website (upstate.edu/advocates). Our tagline "supporting healthcare and scholarship through fundraising and service" defines our mission. Our Facebook page has seen a significant increase in engagement thanks to our Facebook administrator and content manager, Beverly Lauricella. The next time you're on Facebook, simply search for Advocates for Upstate Medical University and then follow us. We have new advertisements for the Upstate TV monitors and displays for our participating vendor sites. The Advocates have been seen on TV and Advocates activities have been promoted on the electronic and print media and featured in Upstate's newsletter, Upstate Online. We also have new banners and tablecloths, branded with our Advocates for Upstate logos. These are but a few of the ways that Advocates for Upstate is making to better engage its members, create greater awareness of the organization, and to add to our 100+ membership. There's more to come.....

VP– Membership— Jane Forstadt

What a perfect time to say THANK YOU to all our dedicated board members and to our general membership. We have 113 members, including 39 lifetime members. We are grateful to all of you for your continuing support.

Our May 2019 annual meeting was attended by 66 guests. We were honored to have Upstate's Interim President Dr. Mantosh Dewan as our guest speaker. We collected word search and puzzle books, playing cards and adult coloring books for adult inpatients.

New board members were welcomed at our Orientation meeting in August. In December, several of our board members created a gorgeous tree which was displayed at the 33rd Festival of Trees in support of the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse. The theme was "It Takes A Village," based on our ongoing dedication to the Upstate Medical University Family.



When you do business with our contract businesses you are helping support Advocates for Upstate programs and products. To learn more about any of The Advocates programs and projects, please contact me at 315-464-5610 or email me at adlerj@upstate.edu Jonathan Adler

Our 21st annual Mystery Malt & Merlot was a huge success and an enjoyable evening for all! Thanks again to all who came and participated. And a special thanks to our sponsors. Because of all of you- we were able to give \$48,300 to Upstate's Clark Burn Center and to Upstate Trauma, Burn & Emergency Medicine EMS Program.



OUR 2019 SPONSORS

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Burn Foundation of Central New York

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Jennifer Speicher
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Sharon Putney, Susan & Cal York

DONORS

On May 7 we recognized and thanked those leaving our Board: *Marty Cuddy, Theresa Devennie, Dawn Janis and Libby Rubenstein*. We cannot thank them enough for their years of service and dedication to The Advocates for Upstate.

At the same time we are delighted to welcome new Board of Directors members: *Larissa Brenner, Samantha Cirillo, Beverly Lauricella and Michele Mark*.



Members of our 2019-20 Board of Directors



(L-R) Tamara Roberts & Dr. Jessica Summers of Clark Burn Center and Doug Sandbrook from EMS presented with checks by Barbara



Upstate Interim President Dr. Mantosh Dewan was the featured speaker

ANOTHER FABULOUS FUNDRAISER

21 years of Mystery, Malt & Merlot. Wow! Back at the Oncenter this year more than 300 of you worked to solve our mystery while enjoying samples of CNY's best beer and wine.



Thanks to Rob Scott for emceeing and to John McCabe, our auctioneer. And, of course, many thanks to event Chair Barb LaBarge and Vice-Chair Karen Goldman along with all the Advocates who worked so hard and so long to make this another great success.



The Advocates have been a proud sponsor of Donate Life baseball night for several years. Join our Advocates group and bring your family to the METS GAME on JULY 26, 2019 at NBT BANK STADIUM. Tickets to the game are free – please specify number of tickets you would like by emailing (AdlerJ@Upstate.edu) or calling Jonathan Adler at 315-464-5610

- Note - seats will be in the open area sections- they are not assigned
 - We will have a booth at the game to hand out Advocate Membership flyers.
- Deadline to request tickets is July 8th. Hope to see you at this wonderful event!!**

Congratulations to Our Youth Scholarship Recipients...

The Advocates for Upstate Medical University has awarded its Youth Volunteer Scholarships to Kendall Dombroske, Samantha Clark, Cameron Carr and Talya Toussaint. Each scholarship carries a \$1,500 award, and is given to a graduating high school student who has accumulated a minimum of 175 hours of volunteer service at Upstate while meeting academic standards.

- Kendall Dombroske, a student at West Genesee High School, is the daughter of Kristin Bruce and Schuyler Dombroske. A resident of the Town of Onondaga, Kendall will attend SUNY Fredonia in the fall.
- Samantha Clark, a student at Liverpool High School, is the daughter of Aundrea and Douglas Clark. A resident of Liverpool, NY, Samantha will attend Nazareth College in the fall.
- Cameron Carr was home schooled. He is the son of Tricia and Terry Carr. A resident of Syracuse, Cameron will attend Hamilton College in the fall.
- Talya Toussaint, a student at Solvay High School, is the daughter of Rosinda Da-Cruz. A resident of Syracuse, Talya will attend Buffalo State College in the fall.



(L-R) Cameron, Kendall, Samantha & Talya

**ADVOCATES FOR
UPSTATE**

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750 East Adams St.; UH1401E
Syracuse, NY 13210

...And to Our Grant Recipients

The Advocates awarded a record \$120,000 in grant funding to Upstate Departments to use in 2019-20 to fill needs not covered in their regular budgets and to help them better serve their patients. Among the grants awarded is a grant to The Cancer Center in support of National Cancer Survivors Day.



For information, questions, or to volunteer contact Jonathan Adler at 315.464.5610 or email at adlerj@upstate.edu