

2015 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BRUNCH

Albert P. Lexie Volunteer of the Year – Tom “Wo” Wozar

Community Partner of the Year – Sonny Pugar Memorial, Inc.

Inaugural Key Volunteer of the Month (May 2015) – Hayley Hellstern

On Saturday, May 2, the Volunteer Services Department hosted a Recognition Brunch in Rangos Conference Center to celebrate some of Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC’s most valued treasures – our volunteers. Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC’s Vice President, Patient Care Services, and Chief Nursing Officer, Diane Hupp welcomed everyone, and expressed her appreciation to all of the volunteers, noting that she got her start at Children’s Hospital as a volunteer. Hupp introduced Katherine Amenta, WPXI-Channel 11 morning news anchor, and CHP volunteer who served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Three new recipients were honored. The 2015 Albert P. Lexie Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Tom “Wo” Wozar, The Sonny Pugar Memorial, Inc., and its “Music Smiles” program received the Community Partner of the Year Award, and the first recipient of the newly announced Key Volunteer of the Month was Hayley Hellstern.

Wozar -- who’s goes by the nickname “Wo” -- has continued to exemplify the same dedication and devotion to the patients and families of Children’s Hospital as the man for who the Volunteer of the Year Award is named -- Albert Lexie. In fact, “Wo” escorted Albert in his final months of shining shoes here at Children’s. Wo has been a dedicated contributor through various assignments in Patient Transport, he’s the first to sign up to help at events, has been a key contributor to the Radiology department and delivers patient E-Cards every Tuesday and Thursday morning.

The Sonny Pugar Memorial, Inc. was honored as this year’s Community Partner of the Year as through their “Music Smiles” program. They have brought musicians for monthly Coffee House, specialized adolescent centered musical initiatives, and other performances that provide inspiration and comfort to the patients and families at Children’s Hospital. Renown Pittsburgh Jazz Vocalist Etta Cox presented Annie Pugar with the award.

Musicians Bob Banerjee and Joey Granati performed some classic tunes that had the room rocking. Then, Cox joined them onstage for a rousing rendition of “Stand By Me” as a special tribute to the volunteers.

Hellstern, the inaugural Key Volunteer of the Month honoree, has been a model volunteer, devoting much time through weekly Child Life assignments in the PICU, Transplant Unit and Radiology areas since March 2013, all while preparing to go to medical school and traveling back and forth to Maryland on weekends to be with her family.

