

NEWS RELEASE:
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Pardee Auxiliary to implement patient transportation program

(Hendersonville, N.C.) In an effort to minimize the time nurses spend away from their clinical duties, the Pardee Hospital Auxiliary has volunteered to take on some of the patient transportation responsibilities.

“I think the program will be quite important,” said Jack Krech, an Auxiliary member who came up with the idea and has been tagged to develop the program. “It will release the nurses to do what nurses need to do instead of transporting patients.”

The volunteers’ responsibilities will include pushing patients in wheelchairs from their rooms to various departments within the hospital, such as radiology or therapy, as well as at the time of discharge. The transportation service will run two shifts, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The Auxiliary is searching for at least 20 new volunteers to join in order to start the program. Krech hopes to have enough volunteers to start transporting patients by early August. Anyone interested in helping with this new service should contact Krech at 696-9138 or Sandy Waggoner, Pardee Auxiliary Volunteer Coordinator, at 698-7187.

“The help of the Auxiliary in transporting patients within Pardee will really be appreciated by the nursing associates,” Chief Nurse Executive Sally Davenport said. “By assisting with this function, the Auxiliary will be freeing up some nursing personnel’s time to perform patient care.”

Pardee Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital founded in 1953. The main hospital is licensed for 222 acute care beds and is the second largest employer in Henderson County. The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including a 130-bed nursing facility, an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a sports therapy and rehabilitation facility on Thompson Street, a midwifery program, various family and internal medicine practices, and an urgent care facility. Pardee is a recipient of the 2006 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, placing the hospital among the top 5 percent of hospitals in the U.S. for quality of care. More information is available at www.pardeehospital.org.

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