

PRESS RELEASE:

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Pardee Hospital Foundation's Women Helping Women raises \$130,000 for uninsured women in the local community

(Hendersonville, N.C.) Pardee Hospital Foundation hosted its annual Women Helping Women Luncheon on October 14 at Kenmure Country Club. Over 250 attendees came together to celebrate survivorship and to see how their collaborative gifts touch so many lives.

Pardee Foundation's Women Helping Women Committee successfully raised over \$130,000 from the generosity of 72 sponsors and attendees. The Pardee Hospital Auxiliary made a special gift with a generous contribution of \$15,000. Other major gifts included Teddi Segal as Lead Sponsor, Mary Mason and Eleanora Meloun as Diamond Sponsors, and AVL Technologies, Carolina Village, Tom and Sue Fazio, Hendersonville Radiological Consultants, P.A., Lake Pointe Landing, Mission Healthcare Foundation, and UNC Health Care as Gold Sponsors. Women Helping Women funds will be used to provide financial assistance for uninsured women for their healthcare needs at Pardee Hospital. Specifically, these needs address diagnostic screenings and procedures for cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis and other critical women's health needs.



This year, attendees saw first hand how their gifts had assisted women in our community. Committee Chair Sharon Koffman shared that since 1998, Pardee Foundation's Women Helping Women Committee has raised over \$1.6 million for equipment, facilities and services for uninsured women in our community. Nearly 1,000 women have received financial assistance from these funds for diagnostic treatments and procedures at Pardee. A video was also shown, featuring several fund recipients and various patients of Pardee services, highlighting the impact the Women Helping Women assistance has made.

Three women were recognized as the newest honorees in Women of Hope. Mary Taylor is a breast cancer survivor, Nancy Thomas survived a heart transplant, and Jean Steer survived both uterine and breast cancer. Pardee Hospital Foundation is pleased to honor women in our community for sharing their stories of courage, determination and will - as they have faced cancer and other diseases - in their lives and in the lives of their families. The Women of Hope is a community display honoring some of the women in our community who have experienced cancer and other women's health issues. View these and other survivors by visiting the display at the Elizabeth Reilly Breast Center at Pardee's Comprehensive Cancer Center.



The featured speaker, Jessica Melore, shared her inspirational story of overcoming adversity. A survivor of a massive heart attack, leg amputation, and cancer, she survived for nine months on an experimental battery-operated mechanical heart assist device before receiving a life-saving heart transplant. Jessica went on to graduate from Princeton University and was named one of Glamour magazine's "Top 10 College Women of 2002".

[Pardee Hospital Foundation](#) was established in 1996 to fund services, equipment and capital projects for Pardee Hospital. Pardee Foundation also serves as the charitable gift and grant receiving entity for Pardee Hospital. The foundation is dedicated to supporting excellence in healthcare through fundraising efforts. For more information, call the Pardee Foundation at (828) 696-4666.

[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 an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a rehab and wellness center, a midwifery program, various family and internal medicine practices, and an urgent care facility. For more information or to find a physician, call 1-866-790-WELL (9355) or visit www.pardeehospital.org.





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