

twigs

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As we "fall" into the last quarter of 2022, we bid farewell to those "lazy, crazy days of summer". They have not been so lazy but definitely crazy for the Branches. Every branch has embraced working on their respective events.

Starting in April, we kicked off with events that brought us back towards normalcy. Lombardy Branch had a very successful Bubbles

and Bling jewelry shopping event. We enjoyed our first in-person All-Branch event after three years, our Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, celebrating our Branch volunteers of the year and the Alice Bullard Award winner, Dee Farkas, at the Sequoyah Country Club. Dr. Ali Mostajelean, a pediatric neurologist and epilepsy specialist, spoke to us about the important work of his department. To conclude the month, the Foundation's Notes and Words event was a wonderful success despite the mandatory reduction in guest count.

the CHORI Library for our General Meeting. Dr. Dayna Long and Rigoberto Del Toro shared with us how the funds we hope to raise for Food Pharmacy gift cards will impact the patients seen at the Claremont Clinic and their families. And the Foundation provided a delicious lunch for our members.

We're looking forward to continued fundraising efforts this fall. Lombardy Branch is inviting you to their Oktoberfest shopping event at the Lazy K (Orchard Nursery) in Lafayette on October 6th.

With much anticipation, our premiere All-Branches event Sips in the City will finally happen again this year. We will feature 12 premiere wineries and fabulous food on the Ohana (the beautiful Hawaiian word for "family") Floor of the Salesforce building. We hope to have another memorable evening on November 5th.

Bambino will be kicking off their holiday season on November 6th. Stop by the shop to enter the opportunity drawing for a Kurt Adler 12" lighted gingerbread house. After great success in previous years, Acorn Branch is conducting their annual letter writing campaign to raise funds for Palliative Care—comfort

"Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve for our children."

As May opened, we opened our pocketbooks for Rowan Branch's 21st Annual Shopping Spree, Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Blackhawk Country Club. We shopped to our hearts content at 17 different vendor booths and saw beautiful fashions by Wear Mahsa. Our speaker Dr. Roxanne Simmons gave us more insight into the Pediatric Neurology Program and helped raise funds for the purchase of ambulatory EEG machines (that can be worn by patients at home), telehealth equipment, ophthalmoscopes and otoscopes.

Over the summer, Chinquapin Branch made a generous donation to purchase much-needed new appliances for the Blood and Marrow Transplant House to make patient families more comfortable during a challenging time.

Lilac Branch's Little Black Dress Luncheon and Fashion Show, postponed from the spring, was a resounding success in early September. Once again, after over 30 years, the lovely Helen Lyall showcased her fashions. Dr. Mai Ngo shared heartwarming stories about her work in the Pediatric Medicine and Rehabilitation Department. Funds were raised for wireless leg and hand rehabilitation systems that will help patients with motor neuron disease or injury.

At the end of September, we gathered in person at

cubs for grieving family members and iPads to help patients connect with their families when they are receiving care in the hospital.

I am still so honored to have been entrusted with leading this most amazing group of dedicated women. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve for OUR children.

2022 Board of Directors

Eileen Caponio.....	Rowan, President
Sheila Challey.....	Rowan, V.P.
Wendy Dunn.....	Lombardy, Treasurer
Gretchen Gibson.....	Hill, Secretary
Lucy Talbot.....	Hill
Kristina Smith.....	Rowan
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Marianne Malenk.....	Chinquapin, Bud Branch
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Carol Miller.....	Teak, Bambino
Kerry Plain.....	Garden
Clare McDonald.....	Lombardy
Julie Parodi.....	Lilac
Linda Webber.....	Lilac

Cece Werson..... Parliamentarian, Advisory



Rowan's Wonderland Shopping Spree



Alice was back in Wonderland at the Rowan Branch Shopping Spree, Fashion Show and Luncheon this past spring. Rowan's first live event since 2019 was held May 3 at the beautiful Blackhawk Country Club. The White Rabbit, Queen of Hearts and Mad Hatter decorated the silent auction area and the luncheon tables featured charming teapot centerpieces filled with flowers in keeping with the Alice in Wonderland theme.

"After a two-year absence due to Covid, members of Rowan Branch were excited to be back hosting the Spree. Everyone worked hard to make this event extra successful," said Rowan co-chair Christy Campbell.

The 200 guests sipped champagne and chardonnay while perusing jewelry, housewares, home decor, plants, clothing and more from the 17 participating vendors. All vendors donated 20% of their sales to Rowan Branch and donated a raffle item.

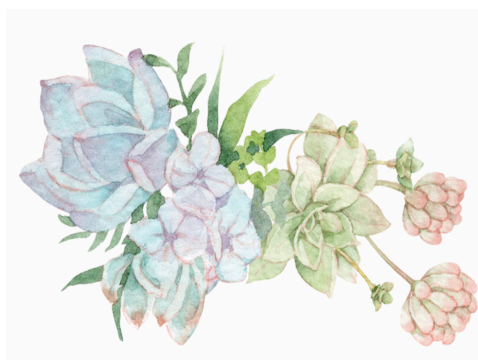
During lunch, vendor Wear Mahsa provided a fun fashion show. There was a lively game of heads or tails where guests picked whether emcee Joe Cunningham would toss a coin heads or tails. The lucky guesser won a Nordstrom gift card. The pretty jewelry raffle earrings donated by D&D Jewelry Walnut Creek were won by a thrilled longtime attendee.

The focus of the Fund-A-Need paddle raise was the pediatric neurology department, specifically telehealth equipment, ophthalmoscopes, otoscopes and ambulatory EEG machines. According to Dr. Marisa Gardner, Director of the Neurological Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, "These portable EEG setups can be worn by patients at home for a few days and we don't have enough of them for our current clinical demand." Dr. Roxanne Simmons, a pediatric neurologist who



specializes in caring for children with epilepsy and other neurological conditions, spoke to the attendees about the wonderful work that she and her colleagues do to help their young patients. Her message definitely resonated as generous attendees raised \$50,000 to fund this important equipment.

Because of the very successful Fund-A-Need, the generous 45 Sponsors, amazing 55 In-Kind Sponsors and the supportive 200 attendees, Rowan netted nearly \$120,000. Congratulations, ladies of Rowan Branch!



Volunteer Recognition Luncheon



On April 20, members from 10 different branches gathered in person at the Sequoyah Country Club to celebrate the contributions of Branches volunteers in 2021. The day began at 11am with a cocktail hour. Branch members were excited to see each other and catch up after two years of online events. At noon, the luncheon began. Board President Eileen Caponio was the master of ceremonies, welcoming the attendees and setting the stage for the program. After her opening remarks, she introduced Beverly Ingram, Director of Volunteer Services for the hospital foundation. Beverly provided an update on happenings at the hospital. She was followed by Dr. Ali Mostajeleian from the pediatric neurology program. He shared some personal anecdotes about his career in medicine and then turned to the important matter of his work with patients at the hospital and his appreciation for the support of the Branches in rais-

ing funds for much-needed equipment to treat them. Next, board members Kristina Smith (Rowan) and Julie Parodi (Lilac) presented the Outstanding Branch Member of the Year Awards for 2021 to:

Deidre Henry from Rowan Branch
Bettina Pletkin from Rowan Branch
Lauren French from Lombardy Branch
Joyce Spinelli from Lilac Branch
Jill Knowland from Hill Branch

And, to end the event, Lucy Talbot presented the Alice Bullard Lifetime Achievement Award to her mother Dee Farkas from Fir Branch.



Bambino Shop

DONATION GUIDELINES

We are very grateful for donations from Branches members. However, due to COVID we are still short staffed and with our space constraints, we ask that Branch members call to make an appointment during our regular donation times. *We only accept donations on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11am to 1pm.* Please call the shop (510-658-7473) after 11am on the Tuesday of the week you would like to donate. Please limit your donations to five bags or boxes. If you have more to donate, please call to discuss with Jenna ahead of time.

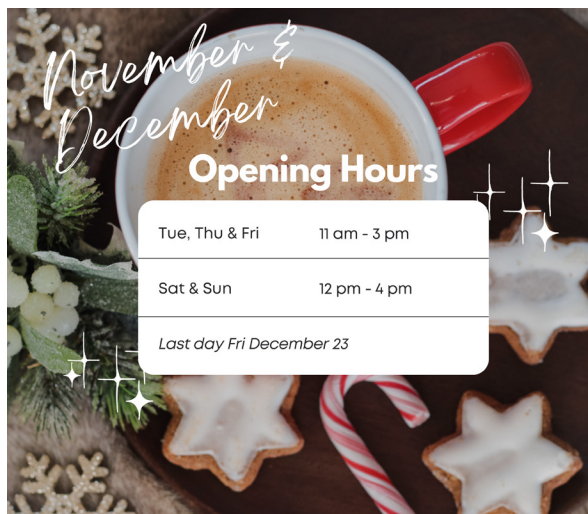


REGULAR HOURS

Tue, Thu & Fri 11 am - 3 pm

Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm

Donations by appointment ONLY please



Progress Report: 2022

Great progress on our Funding Wishlist for 2022!

So far this year, the Branches have been successful in raising funds for the following items...



LILAC FASHION SHOW FUND-A-NEED

RAISED \$24,000 for the Rehabilitation Department.

This system produces measurable mobility improvements for patients with upper motor neuron disease or injury.

- Bioness L300 Go Leg
- H200 Wireless Hand Rehabilitation System



ROWAN SHOPPING SPREE FUND-A-NEED

RAISED \$50,000 for the Neurology Department.

The Pediatric Neurology Program provides world-class care for a wide range of conditions involving the brain, spinal cord and nerves.

- Ambulatory EEG so patients can be monitored at home
- Tele-health: cameras & headsets
- Ophthalmoscope & Oscopes



CHINQUAPIN DONATED \$2,000 for the Blood & Marrow Transplant House. Bone or stem cell transplants are lifesaving for patients with certain types of cancers and blood/immune system disorders. The process is complicated and demanding. To ensure families can stay together, the hospital gives parents and siblings a home away from home.

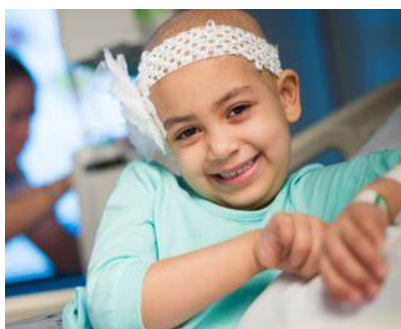
- Brand new washers & dryers

Funding Wishlist

There are still outstanding items on our list.

We need your help to provide all of these important resources for the children. Please use the envelope provided to contribute what you can. Thank you!

To help fund either or both of these needs, please use enclosed envelope to mail in a check today! Please note either "Acorn Branch Palliative Care" or "Lombardy Branch Integrative Medicine" in the notes section. You may also donate online at childrenshospitalbranches.org The children thank you!



Lombardy Branch is working on raising funds specifically for Integrative Medicine, which includes massage table, bolsters, heat lamps and acupuncture equipment to ease pain and to help make a sick child more comfortable. Lombardy's goal is \$2,000 to fund these items.



Acorn Branch is initiating a letter-writing campaign raising funds for Palliative Care. Severe lifethreatening illness can bring deeper, more existential suffering to children and families. Acorn's goal is to raise \$10,000 towards Comfort Cubs and iPads to help families who go through this unimaginable heartbreak.

Any amount towards these wishlist areas is also greatly appreciated.



Food Farmacy grocery gift cards **GOAL: \$10,000**

Emergency Department Phone Charging Station **GOAL: \$500**

Oncology Tumor Bank **GOAL: \$48,500**

Lilac's Fashion Show **Diamonds & Pearls** *with a Little Black Dress*

Close to 200 guests donning their black outfits and pearls filled the ballroom at Fairfield's Hilton Garden Inn for a day of food, fun and fashion. Event-chair Julie Parodi, assisted by Linda Webber, Chris Davis and the other Lilac members created an elegantly themed event. The tables were decorated by Chris Davis with oversized martini glasses filled with pearls and topped with a gorgeous white lily, atop a mirrored surface with "diamonds".

Guests enjoyed beverages while deciding which boxes to place their tickets for the many raffle items and where to bid on silent auction goodies. There was a beautiful array of raffle baskets including a Fit Bit watch, various beauty and spa baskets, paintings, Ruth Corda purses, and a golf basket for Hidden-Brook Golf Course, as well as many amazing silent auction items.

During the delicious lunch, guests had the opportunity to hear Dr. Mai Ngo speak. She is the Medical Director of the Pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation program at UCSF Benioff

Children's Hospital Oakland. Dr. Ngo explained the benefits of the Bioness L300 Go Leg and H200 Wireless Hand Rehabilitation Systems. The equipment produces measurable mobility improvements for patients with upper motor neuron disease or injury. In quite an enthusiastic paddle raise, guests helped fund this very important rehabilitation equipment. The Lilac members and their guests raised an astonishing \$23,395 towards the rehabilitation department, so that they can help injured and sick children walk, move and play again, like all children should.

The lovely Helen Lyall once again thrilled guests with her beautiful models wearing fashions from her Napa store. The outfits went from mild to wild, featuring lots of leather, feathers and sparkles. Lilac friends Gil and Michael looked very dashing in clothing from the men's store, Scott Lyall.

The final result for this successful event is just over \$38,000, a fantastic accomplishment.







After a two-year hiatus, Sips in the City is back on for Saturday, November 5th! The Ohana Floor of the Salesforce Tower will dazzle guests with unmatched 360-degree views of the city and bay. The Branches are one of the fortunate few non-profits who have been approved to use the amazing space that takes up the entire 61st floor of Salesforce Tower.

The planning committee has been hard at work. Kristina Smith and Lucy Talbot are serving as the committee Co-Chairs once again, supported by Linda Webber (Lilac) and Gretchen Gibson (Hill) recruiting wineries, Sheila Challey (Rowan) coordinating the catering, Nazie Shakerin (Rowan), Azita Ansari (Rowan) and Leonela Castillo (Rowan) lining up sponsors, Bettina Pletkin (Rowan) and Carol Miller (Teak) coordinating the silent auction, Beth Lowe (Rowan) managing the ticketing, Clare McDonald (Lombardy) and Laura Giles (Hill) working on signage, Wendy Dunn (Lombardy) obtaining the ABC license and scheduling the musicians. Everyone is enjoying working closely with other Branch members.

Linda Webber and Gretchen Gibson have done an amazing job lining up a fantastic group of exclusive wineries: **Parallel Napa Valley, Fluent Wine Company, Pride Mountain Vineyards, John Anthony Wines,**



Garden Creek Ranch Vineyard, Palmaz Vineyards, Long Meadow Ranch, Linked Vineyards, Baldacci Family Vineyards, Chateau Montelena Winery, Keller Estates and Duckhorn Vineyards will all be pouring. "What a beautiful way to enjoy amazing wines, delight in the views and support our beloved hospital," said event co-chair Lucy Talbot.

In addition to the premiere winery tasting tables, there will be a robust silent auction and a scrumptious buffet provided by Karen Bevels Catering. The evening's program will feature a keynote talk from Dr. Marisa Gardener, a Hill Branch member and Director of the Neurological Neonatal Intensive Care Unit as well remarks from UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals President Matt Cook.

This unique space is limited to only 200 guests so act fast to get your tickets at the Branches website: (childrenshospitalbranches.org).



Lombardy Shopping Event Bubbles & Bling

Is there anything that goes together as well as champagne and jewelry? The Lombardy ladies think it's the perfect pairing for an afternoon of shopping for the good of the children.

It was a busy and fun spring afternoon at JBJ by Jill in downtown Walnut Creek last spring. Bangles, earrings, necklaces, oh my! All together, Lombardy Branch was able to donate \$4,000 to benefit UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. Congratulations!



Be Our Guest!



Thursday 10/6
3-6:30

Lombardy Branch and Lazy K at Orchard
Nursery Invite you to a special shopping
event

Benefiting UCSF Children's Hospital Oakland



Children's Hospital Branches, Inc.

@CHORI Campus

5700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way T-2

Oakland, CA 94609-1673

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SUPPORT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

Oktoberfest, Lombardy Branch

October 6, 2022 (Thursday), 3 pm - 6:30 pm

Holiday gifts, home accessories and holiday decor

Lazy K, 4010 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette (Orchard Nursery)

Sips in the City, All Branches Event

November 5, 2022 (Saturday), 5 pm - 8:30 pm

Salesforce Tower, San Francisco

For tickets and more information, visit childrenshospitalbranches.org

Holiday Season Opening Day, Bambino Thrift Shop

November 6, 2022 (Sunday), 12 pm - 4 pm

5290 College Avenue, Oakland

Free street parking on Sundays

Please consider donating on our website: childrenshospitalbranches.org/donate
You may also mail your donation to the office; look for the donation envelope inside.