



ILLINOIS MEDICAL DISTRICT Guest House News

Margaret Ervin – Featured Volunteer

Margaret Ervin first volunteered with us in June of 2013, when a group from her church, Notre Dame de Chicago, came to the IMD Guest House to sponsor a Game Night for our guests. It was a group of young adults and families, but Margaret thought even though she was a young 70 year old, she could join in the fun! After that evening, she wanted to continue to help out and has been a committed volunteer for our Grab ‘n Go Breakfasts every other week since.

Margaret grew up in Mississippi, in a large family of 17 children, she was the sixth. She knew hardship and what it meant to work hard. In 1968, while visiting her sister in Chicago, she decided to apply for a job at Leaf Candies. She got the job and decided to stay a bit longer in Chicago. 46 years later, she’s proud of the family she raised here and always likes to lend a hand where she can.

She said “there’s always a need, people need to just go out and help.” She is especially fond of meeting our guests when she greets them at breakfast. Margaret shared, “I’m not a cry baby but seeing one of your guests, a 15 year old with Leukemia, really touched my heart. She wasn’t sad, she had a smile on her face, and such a supportive family. I prayed for her and her whole family.”

When I asked her about volunteering here she said it gives her peace of mind, “I couldn’t want to be paid for this!” Margaret, thank you for being one of our most loyal volunteers. •



Want to Volunteer?

Contact Jan Kroeschell, volunteer coordinator at (312)996-9287 or jank@imguesthouse.org or find us on VolunteerMatch to learn more about these and other opportunities! •





In This Issue

Margaret Ervin – Featured Volunteer 1

Upcoming Guest Events2

Thanks Volunteers!3

Volunteer Partnership – Culinary Care.....3

Featured Guest Story – Tiffany Stone 4

Guest Relations and Operations Update5

New Board Members5

With Sympathy on Your Loss5

Red and White on Wednesday Night6

Junior Board Plans First Service Event6

Annual Golf Outing Raises \$78,0006

IMD Guest House provides the comforts of home and the care of community to outpatients and the families of patients who must seek treatment away from home through convenient and affordable temporary lodging.

Contact Us:

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Upcoming Events For Our Guests

Dinner at the Guest House with UIC Dining Services-Chartwells

Wednesday,
October 1st

Cookie Baking

Tuesday,
October 7th

Dinner at the Guest House with Chicago Cares

Wednesday,
October 8th

Grab 'n Go Breakfast

Thursday,
October 9th

Dinner at the Guest House

Wednesday,
October 15th

Grab 'n Go Breakfast

Tuesday,
October 21st

Dinner at the Guest House with Culinary Care

Tuesday,
October 28th





Thanks Volunteers!

We would like to highlight the following groups for their volunteer service and contributions to IMD Guest House. With your help, the Guest House feels more like “home” to our patients and caregivers. The following is our “Honor Roll” from this summer into fall:

- Back Works Chiropractic –
Dr. Jeremy Leimback, DC, MsAc
- Chicago Cares
- Culinary Care
- Faultless, Inc.
- Girl Scout Troop #23147
- Greet the Day-Oncology Massage –
M. Olson, LMT & R. Sturgeon, LMT
- Kaleidoscope
- LinkedIn
- Method Products
- Pilot International
- Restorative Kneads (Massage) –
Reggie Clark, LMT
- Sisters In Christ - Moody Church
- UIC College of Pharmacy –
Phi Delta Chi
- UIC Dining Services –
Chartwells

*Interested in becoming a meal volunteer?
Please contact Jan, Volunteer Coordinator,
at jank@imguesthouse.org •*

Volunteer Partnership – Culinary Care



Courtney (right), founder of Culinary Care with volunteer, Hilary (L), serving dinner.

We are pleased to have Culinary Care partner with us at the Guest House. They help provide complimentary restaurant meals every other month to our guests in the Community Room.

Culinary Care is a labor of love started by founder, Courtney

White, to honor the memory of her dad who passed away from lung cancer in 2006. Courtney, at the time a teen in high school, was profoundly impacted by the wonderful meals that were provided for two straight months from friends and neighbors when things were especially difficult for her family. These meals gave her family time to be together and helped them avoid some of the daily stresses they were facing, and this is what Courtney wanted to bring to others facing cancer that may not have the same level of community support.

Culinary Care began delivering in March 2013, and in their first year were able to provide 1,000 meals! Their mission statement says it all: “We’re not just delivering a meal....We’re delivering one less worry. Our goal is to give families and individuals the community support, time and strength needed to fight cancer.”

We encourage you to support our partner, Culinary Care in getting the word out of the good work they are doing in Chicago. Their goal is to be well established here and then reach other critical needs cities. Thank you, Courtney & Culinary Care, we’re grateful for the support you offer our families here at the Guest House! Visit www.culinarycare.org to learn more. •



Featured Guest Story – Tiffany Stone

For 27 year old Tiffany Stone, coming to Chicago from her home in London, Ontario to receive care at Rush University Medical Center means living seizure free.

Tiffany has gone through more than 20 surgeries during her lifetime. For the last 8 years, she has been a part of a clinical trial for the Responsive Neurostimulator. She decided to join the trial after trying numerous anti-epilepsy drugs and other types of treatments with no success to help control her seizures. Once every six months Tiffany and her parents, Charles and Sheryl, visit with her neurologist, Dr. Rossi, at Rush University Medical Center. When Tiffany initially enrolled in the study, it was not such a big deal for her to come to Chicago since she and her family lived in suburban Chicago. That changed in the fall of 2013 when an opportunity came up for Tiffany's father to work in Canada at the West Park Baptist Church as their senior pastor. This led the Stone family to move to London, Ontario, increasing the distance and cost for the semi-annual visits.



Tiffany (second from right) with her family

Fortunately, the Stones learned about the Guest House through Rush's website while looking for somewhere nearby to stay at the hospital. What does it mean to



the Stones to be able to stay at the Guest House? It means that they are able to focus on Tiffany's care while in Chicago, because the emotional and financial burden is eased by the amenities provided in each guest room. The Stones are also more relaxed because they can get to and from her appointments easily and quickly without having to use a car.

Today, Tiffany is working towards completing her degree in psychology with a focus on Christian counseling through Liberty University and plans to continue onto seminary in 2015. Because of the care that she is receiving at Rush, she is able to live a life free of seizures and is able to enjoy many activities that she was not able to before. She aspires to become a hospital chaplain because of her experience. She would like to help patients, their families and medical staff experience God's encouragement and comfort through their circumstances. •



Guest Relations and Operations Update

Welcome Lai!

Lai Shaan Smith joined the Guest Relations department in September and will be working with Chiquita Edwards in ensuring our guests have the most comfortable stay possible.



Lai is a full-time student at DePaul University pursuing her degree in Science with a minor in Education. In her spare time she enjoys photography, sports, and spending time with friends. She hopes to see the Seahawks against the Bears in the Super Bowl, #Seahawks, of course.

How many nights of rest?

4,700 nights of rest have been provided by IMD Guest House so far this year!

8 out of 10 8 out of 10 families ask for assistance from our Comfort Fund because the additional financial stress they are undergoing receiving medical care away from home. The Guest House is able to provide assistance because of donations from our supporters. Help us continue to provide this assistance by making a donation today.

Giveback with Amazon

Want an easy way to give to the Guest House while doing your regular online shopping on Amazon? Use our AmazonSmile link and half-percent of your purchase will be donated to IMD Guest House!

Enter this link into your web browser to start:
<http://bit.ly/1CP0Tha>

Amazon Wish List

We also have a Wish List of items that you can send directly to the Guest House through our Amazon Wish List through a few clicks that will help make our Guest stays more comfortable.

Amazon Wish List: <http://bit.ly/IMDGHWish>

See More Updates:

Like and follow us on Facebook so you can read and see all the great things going on at the Guest House every week! [Facebook.com/IMDGuestHouseFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/IMDGuestHouseFoundation)

Welcome New Board Members

The IMD Guest House Foundation would like to welcome several new Board Members elected during our July meeting:

- Sarah Grady
- Jonathan Frydman
- Matthew Manning
- Prashant Sirvastava
- Anthony Spangenberg

Congratulations to our new Board Members and thank you again to all for your service to the Guest House! •

With Sympathy on Your Loss

The Board and staff of IMD Guest House wish to express heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of. . .

Daniel Brewer

Richard Findley



Red and White on Wednesday Night

On Wednesday, October 22, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., the Guest House will host its Annual Red and White on Wednesday Night at Carnivale Restaurant in Chicago, IL. Guests will learn about the personal impact the Guest House has on patients who utilize its service, while enjoying an evening of fun, food, and drinks. Guests will have the opportunity to taste several different types of wine, participate in games, and bid on silent auction items at one of Chicago's most festive restaurants.

To purchase tickets go to:
tinyurl.com/imdwintasting2014

Junior Board Plans First Service Event

We are very excited to kick off the Guest House Junior Board; a group of young professionals working to promote the mission of the Guest House through increased awareness and service to the organization and its guests. Several members will be attending the wine tasting as volunteers and the Junior Board is planning its first service on Sunday, October 19th. The Event will combine a Chicago Bears game watch while writing comfort cards for current and future guests. •



Annual Golf Outing Raises \$78,000

The Guest House had its most successful event ever with 144 golfers participating in raising \$78,000. We would like to acknowledge our Golf Outing Committee for all of their hard work to make this a successful event:

- Joel Karman (committee co-chair)
- Jim McDonald (committee co-chair)
- Avi Lev
- David Cades
- Ammie McAsey
- Cathy Starmann
- Jake Garfinkel
- Scott LaCrosse

Thank you to our Presenting Sponsor MedEx Ambulance Service! •



Winner of Ball Drop Joel Karman