

Volunteer Newsletter

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Hallmark Traits of Good Volunteers

The WVBCSP prides itself on its strong volunteer network and when volunteers go above and beyond the call of duty, it doesn't go unnoticed. One dedicated group of volunteers did just that. On April 19, 2008, volunteers gathered at Camden Clark Memorial Hospital to learn more about the importance of breast self-exams to strengthen their role as lay health advisors ("natural helpers" in the community trusted by family, friends, and neighbors).

Many of these women have volunteered with the WVBCSP for years through their local

community outreach service organizations and women's clubs; however, they realize that gaining knowledge on the subject is an ongoing process.

The in-depth program used videos, presentations, and hands-on model experience to help further the learning experience. Nurse practitioner Kim Holmes of Athena Health Center spoke and answered many questions regarding breast health.

Following this training, the volunteers put their knowledge to use during the annual Spring Health Fair in Wood County where over 400 women attended and 138 women were screened or made appointments for screening through the WVBCSP.

Thank you for your dedication to breast and cervical cancer screening!



Pay It Forward, Sandy Did.

The Webster County Cancer Education Project and its collaborative partners held their first free screening clinic in March 2007. Forty-seven women were screened that day; Sandy Snedegar was one of them. A single mother of a teenage son, Sandy had several jobs that failed to pay for health insurance, leaving her with no way to get screened for breast and cervical cancer, which was something she felt very strongly about. On the day of the free clinic, Sandy put aside her challenges and considered how she could help other people receive proper screening.

When a second free screening clinic was conducted three months later, Sandy was ready to volunteer her services. She worked that day as a "runner," helping out wherever she was needed.

Since then, Sandy has become a permanent fixture at clinics and Project meetings. She said it "feels good to give something back" because she "couldn't afford to give money back to the program." As a volunteer and a WVBCSP participant, Sandy was faithful this year in having her annual screenings and encourages all to do the same. Thanks Sandy for your continued support!



- Likes**
- ◆ Reading
 - ◆ Quilting
 - ◆ Being a daughter and mother

- Dislikes**
- ◆ High gas prices
 - ◆ Disrespect for others

Quilt of History and Hope

Appalachian women have a long history of quilt making that emphasizes various periods of life. Certainly the quilts designed by WVBCSP volunteers to increase breast cancer awareness fit that tradition. One form of quilting is the grieving quilt, which is created during the time of grief immediately following the death of a loved one. Pauline Lockhart of Wirt County (CEOS) designed such a quilt after her 43-year-old son's untimely death and Pauline herself was battling Lymphoma. Now her daughter, Luann, a quilter on this beautiful quilt for the Quilts of Hope Project, has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. This quilt carries a unique story, a history, as all quilts have from pioneer days to the present. But more than unfortunate circumstances, this quilt radiates hope, not only for Pauline's family, but for all those families dealing with cancer.



Wirt County's quilt for the
2006-2008 Quilts of Hope Project

New Staff



Welcome to the team Jean!

After the retirement of long-time Cancer Information Specialist (CIS) Sharon Cope in Region 4, the Program hired someone near and dear to our hearts; Jean Tenney volunteered her time to the WVBCSP in years past as an advocate of cancer prevention and control. In addition, she attended Mountains of Hope meetings and has years of experience coordinating activities and building relationships within the community. Jean received her bachelor's degree in social work from Salisbury University and her master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland, School of Social Work and Community Planning. Her work experience includes the Berkeley County Committee on Aging, the Department of Health and Human Resources, Webster County Memorial Hospital, and most recently, as a Regional Tobacco Prevention Coalition Coordinator.

Likes

- ◆ Spending time with her three grandchildren
- ◆ Flea markets and antique shops
- ◆ Traveling
- ◆ Dancing
- ◆ Attending concerts and plays

Dislikes

- ◆ Being lied to
- ◆ Prenatal smoking
- ◆ Lack of money to travel
- ◆ Wars
- ◆ Sadness in the world