



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OR GROUP ***HOBOKEN MEDICAL CENTER AUXILLARY***

A TRUE LABOR OF LOVE! Two years ago Hoboken University Medical Center, formerly known as St. Mary's Hospital, faced closure due to flagging Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements as well as the rising costs of providing charity care.

As hospital administrators worked with officials in Trenton and in the boardroom to save the hospital, a determined group of 30 women emerged as effective foot soldiers, forming the Coalition to Save St. Mary's.

These women rallied the support of the entire community by posting hundreds of flyers throughout Hoboken, marching in parades to raise awareness and persuading other residents to join them in speaking out at City Council meetings to save the hospital. Today, just two years later, Hoboken University Medical Center was named Hospital of the Year by NJBIZ, the state's leading business journal.

The Hoboken University Medical Center Auxiliary has returned to its original mission to raise funds to support the institution with renewed vigor. To date, these determined women have raised more than \$1 million toward the hospital's \$30 million expansion of its Emergency Room.

The auxiliary raises funds for an annual scholarship to send a local resident to nursing school, and they support FAITH Services, a program that provides support for individuals and families affected by HIV and AIDS.

For the Hoboken UMC Auxiliary, no job is too small nor crusade too daunting. Whether planning a bake sale or mobilizing an entire community these dedicated women face each task with determination. They're driven by a single goal: to ensure that all Hoboken-area residents- no matter their income level or racial/ethnic origin – will have access to the highest quality healthcare.