

April 12, 2016

RVH celebrates the Blue Brigade

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) is celebrating its 850-strong volunteer force during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 10 to 18.

RVH volunteers, also known as the 'Blue Brigade', provide an extra set of hands in 75 different areas of the health centre and contribute 100,000 hours of volunteer time each year. In addition to giving their time, RVH volunteers who are members of the Auxiliary, raise funds in support of equipment purchases and patient care. The RVH Auxiliary is currently working to fulfill a \$2 million pledge in support of advanced cardiac care and child and youth mental health services at RVH.

Recently, the RVH Auxiliary presented its most prestigious award – the Award of Distinction – to Jean McGinley. This is the highest honour an RVH Auxiliary member can be given. It is not presented every year, but only as the Awards Committee deems it appropriate and deserving.

Over her 21 years as an RVH volunteer, McGinley has donated her time in the cancer centre, mental health, post anesthetic care unit and Volunteer Resources. During this time, she also held many roles with the Auxiliary including past president, Auxiliary archivist and organizing the annual bazaar.

“For as long as she’s been a member, Jean McGinley has worked tirelessly for our Auxiliary on all fronts – as a president, social chair, newsletter editor and operations committee member - to name a few,” says Janice Williams, president, RVH Auxiliary. “This is the highest award our Auxiliary has established to acknowledge and recognize the significant contributions of an Auxiliary member who is already a Life Member and I can’t think of a more deserving candidate for this award.”

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Cutline 1: RVH volunteers Linda Holloway (cancer centre), Lorne McMann (porter), Sharon McMann (porter and Victoria’s Gift Shop), Jean Hendry (surgical services) and Helen Latimer (post-op information), recently celebrated volunteerism during National Volunteer Appreciation Week at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) in Barrie. RVH has 850 volunteers donating their time in 75 areas of the health centre and contributing 100,000 of service each year.

Cutline 2: Jean McGinley of the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) Auxiliary was presented with the Award of Distinction at the annual Auxiliary Awards. This achievement, which recognizes significant contributions of a volunteer, is the highest honour an RVH Auxiliary member can be given.

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About RVH:

RVH is a regional health centre in Barrie, Ontario, located 80 kilometres north of Toronto. As the largest hospital in the region of Simcoe Muskoka, RVH’s team of over 350 physicians, 2,500 employees and 850 volunteers provides exceptional care and specialty services to almost half a million residents, including cancer care, stroke services, orthopedics, intensive care, mental health and interventional radiology. RVH is focused on delivering safe, high quality care that puts patients and their families first. For more information visit www.rvh.on.ca