

THE AUXILIAN

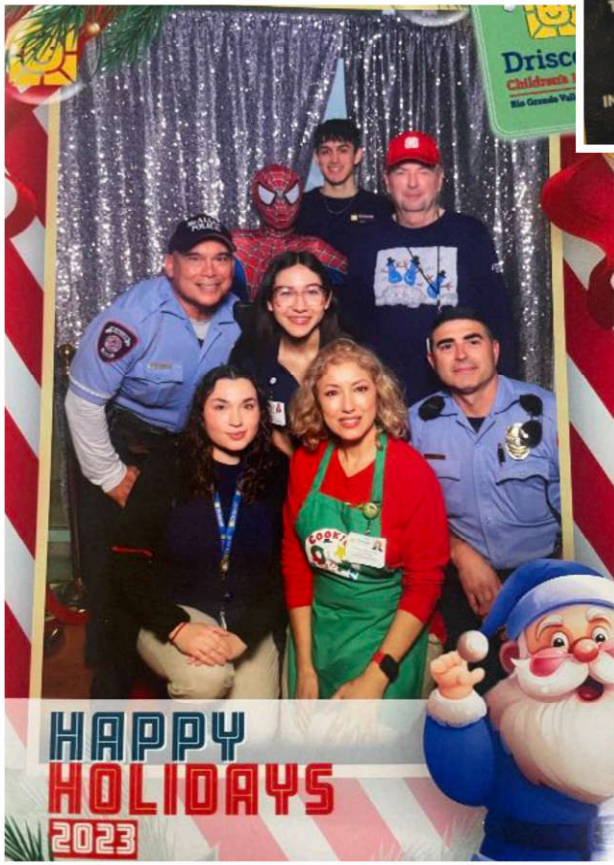
IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF THE DRISCOLL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY FOR THE EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEERISM OF ITS MEMBERS AND SELFLESS DEDICATION TO THE ILL AND INJURED CHILDREN SERVED BY THIS HOSPITAL THE TRUSTEES OF THE DRISCOLL FOUNDATION RESPECTFULLY DEDICATE THIS GIFT SHOP

OCTOBER 25, 1987

IN RECOGNITION OF KATHY KRAMER'S 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, THE GIFT SHOP IS REDEDICATED AS KATHY'S CAROUSEL GIFT SHOP

DECEMBER 14, 2023

Kathy's Carousel Gift Shop



Blue Santa at McAllen Medical Plaza



Decorating at Corpus Christi

HANDS THAT SERVE ★ HEARTS THAT CARE

Q4 2023/2024



Karen Bartek
President

Hello Auxilians!

This is my last newsletter as your Auxiliary President. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to add a new chapter to my book of life.

Thank you Auxilians for giving two sizable donations this year benefiting the hospital's main campus, the new hospital in the Rio Grande Valley and the Neonatal Care Center at Christus Spohn South.

The month of December kept us really active as we decorated the hospital for Christmas, had our annual Book and Gift Sale, organized the Sort and Sack and celebrated at our Christmas party.

We will be recognizing the incoming 2024-2025 board in January and installing them in February.

It has been a pleasure working with you volunteers and the volunteer staff. Thank you for your support.

Above all you are amazing, awesome and so appreciated!

Thank you for having hands that serve and hearts that care.

Karen Bartek,
President



Kathy Kramer has served Driscoll Children's Hospital as Gift Shop Manager for over 25 years. Her contributions to the hospital and the Auxiliary have been enormously appreciated.

The unique quality about Kathy is that she manages from her heart with our patients and families always being first and foremost.

During Kathy's tenure she has introduced new products in the shop such as patient artwork sterling silver charms, Aloe Tile ornaments, DCH logo merchandise and trendy apparel and jewelry, just to name a few. When I think of the Gift Shop, I can't help but think of Kathy and her footprint throughout the Shop.

There is a lot of love and effort given. I was excited that the Auxiliary could support the hospital with the opportunity to rename the Carousel Gift Shop to Kathy's Carousel Gift Shop. I could not be more proud of her.

Lizette Saenz,
Director of
Volunteer
Services



Volunteer Service Star Award



"The only way to do great work, is to love what you do."

Ellen Caruthers volunteers in the McAllen Medical Plaza. She has proven to be instrumental in adjusting to the large growth of volunteers in McAllen. She is always willing to train new volunteers, takes on extra tasks, and shows the Driscoll Way often. Rumor has it, Ellen is always kind,

compassionate, poised, and professional while volunteering.

When asked why she volunteers, Ellen said, *"I have a feeling of fullness of life whenever I am volunteering. I give away and receive smiles and gratitude. Part of me, a wonderful part of my life, is volunteering for Driscoll Children's Hospital."*

Obviously Ellen loves what she does because she does great work. Thank you Ellen, for being such a great example to all of your fellow volunteers. We appreciate your time, talent, and support to the Auxiliary of Driscoll Children's Hospital.

"Even if you couldn't make a huge difference, helping our patients create a good memory or experience is enough!"

Imagine a young college girl who is bored. She decides to reach out to Driscoll Children's Hospital and see what volunteering is all about. Thankfully, Juliana Talley found our Auxiliary.

Juliana is now a college graduate, works full time, and is hoping to go back to school and major in Pediatric Oncology. She still manages to come in each week during her assigned shift and any additional days when we are working on a particular project to take the Art Cart around to the patients. What a blessing for the children to see this cheerful lady with her projects!

Juliana assists Sarah Centeno with all Project Artwork t-shirt designs and helps to create themes for the Mary Anne Sinclair Gallery wall. In addition to her shift, she also serves on the



Project Artwork Committee and has helped to grow our sponsorship with the everyday greeting cards.

In her free time, Juliana loves to bake, paint, read and ski. She spends as much time with her nieces and nephews as she can. No wonder she is so good with our patients.

Juliana, your comment, *"My favorite hobby is volunteering."* This is such a gift to the Auxiliary at Driscoll Children's Hospital. Thank you for sharing your time, gifts, and support with us. YOU are making a huge difference.

Janet W. Daehne,
Auxiliary Membership Chair

KUDOS

Huge shoutout to Volunteer, **Berenice Delgado** for selling 14 packs and 23 single Christmas cards!!! That is huge for us!!!



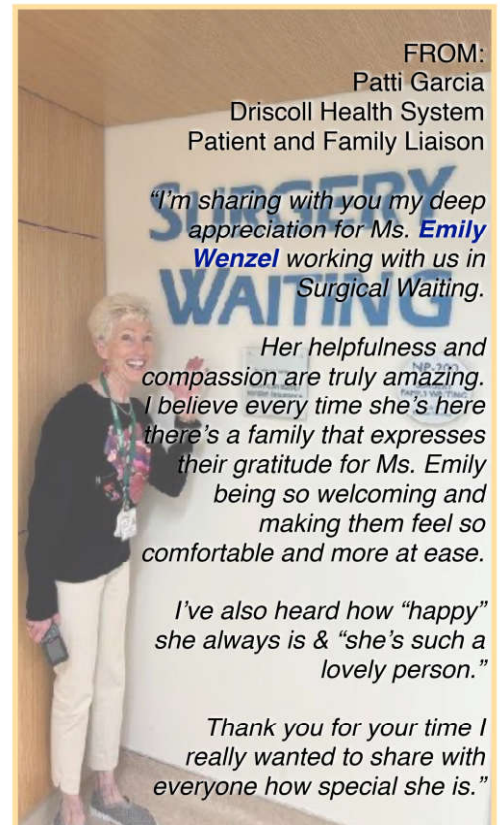
Shoutout to our Volunteer, **Madeline Molly**, who was the first to turn in her packet selling Christmas Cards!!! Madeline sold 7 packs of cards and 13 singles!!! So proud of her!!

10 Extremely likely

Outstanding comment! Kudos to Anna & **Conor!**

What Else Re: Experience:

Every nurse and admin person we encountered once we entered the hospital floor was so courteous and helpful. My son has special needs and no one made any assumptions about his level of understanding or cooperation. I was asked a lot of questions relevant to his care and comfort and I felt like they were actually considering my answers and providing even more support. A nurse named Anna was especially wonderful and responsive once we left recovery and my son was having nausea and getting agitated. I know day surgery gets you in early so the doctors aren't waiting, but nothing about the timing or the wait felt out of line. His procedure even started a bit early. I felt very informed of where we were in the process at all times and I really love the number system to be able to track my boy through the process in the waiting room. The volunteer Connor was very very nice. I had some worries about being under general anesthesia and my boy's reaction to all of the unfamiliar things, but I really couldn't have been more satisfied with this whole process. I'm so grateful that was our experience as first-timers with special needs.



FROM:
Patti Garcia
Driscoll Health System
Patient and Family Liaison

*"I'm sharing with you my deep appreciation for Ms. **Emily Wenzel** working with us in Surgical Waiting."*

Her helpfulness and compassion are truly amazing. I believe every time she's here there's a family that expresses their gratitude for Ms. Emily being so welcoming and making them feel so comfortable and more at ease.

I've also heard how "happy" she always is & "she's such a lovely person."

Thank you for your time I really wanted to share with everyone how special she is."



Our Beautiful Piano is back!

In December our 111 year old piano was returned to us, fully cleaned, repaired, and ready to provide music for listeners as they walked through the Pavilion hallway.

It has been a joy to watch patients, family members as well as hospital staff and volunteers stop for a minute to listen. Not only was the inside completely rebuilt, the outside was sealed, ebony stained and polished.

Using twenty first century technology, this piano can not only be played live

by an individual, but also is programmed by the QRS app that brings the twentieth century piano roll player into use at the touch of button. Hundreds of pre-recorded songs can be played.

We are working on how to get local pianists to donate their time to come to the lobby and share live music. In the meantime, stop and listen as the piano is played through its digital system.

Brad Kisner,
Volunteer

Volunteers in Action - Corpus Christi



Christmas Party



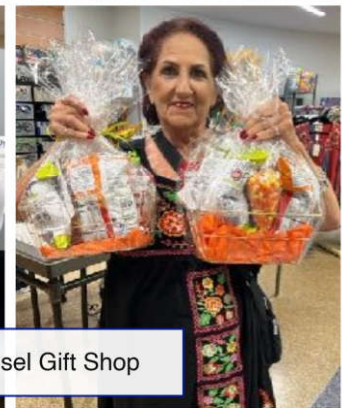
Cottage Shop



November at the Book & Gift Sale



Kathy's Carousel Gift Shop



October at the Driscoll Health Fair!



Cookie Shop



Volunteers in Action



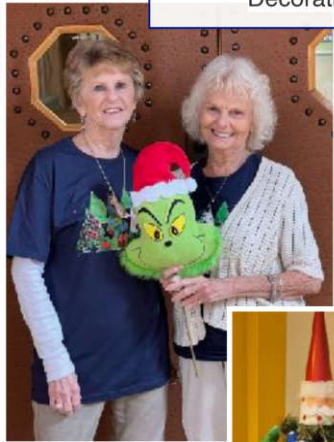
Decorating



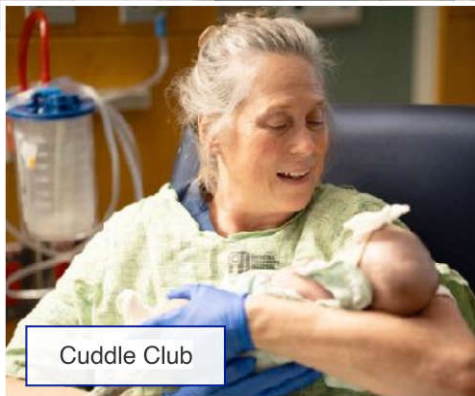
Class Room



Pumpkin Parade



Project Artwork



Cuddle Club



Decorating Team



Volunteers in action RGV Medical Plazas



Pumpkin Day



Christmas Party

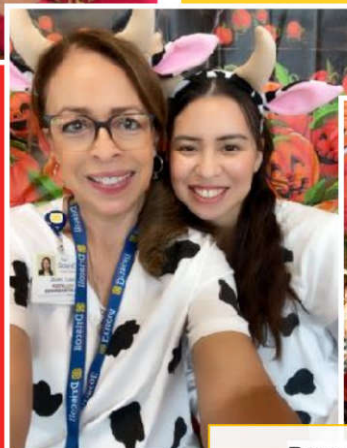


Blue Santa

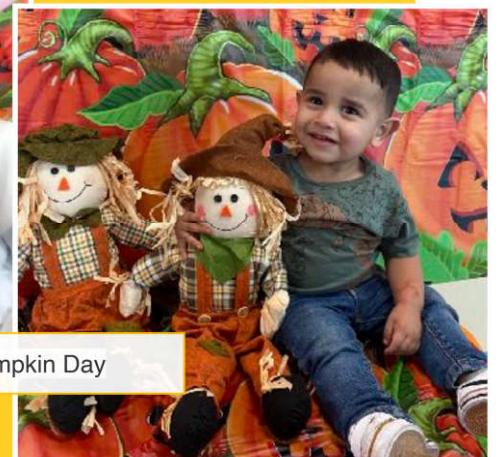


Welcome New Volunteer

Santa visiting McAllen & Brownsville Medical Plazas



Pumpkin Day



CELEBRATING US!

JANUARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Josephine Schmidt	4
Phyllis Roseman	4
Angela Strom	5
McKynna Beck	8
Mary Fodor	9
Mayerli Diaz	10
Karen Bartek	18
Robin Stovall	19
Therese Guzman	22
Brad Kisner	23
Amy McCoy	25
Gracie Cooley	27
Sarah Yniguez	27
Vanessa Eligio	29
Janet Daehne	30
Sylvia Tovar	30

YEARS OF SERVICE

Betty Cole	18
Donna Kinney	11
Mitch Meinecke	6
Chrissy Garcia	5
Leesa Stephens	5
Ivani Toffoletto	4
Patricia Baird	3
Suzanne Sifuentes	3
Diane Lanahan	2
Juliana Talley	2
Susan Boesker	1
Carol Wood	1

Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

DONATIONS

Toy drive at Alto Bonito Elementary in Starr County, Tx.



Toy drive at Grulla



Texas Criminal Justice Beeville



Brownsville Medical Plaza
\$3,359.00
Presentation check at Bubba's 33

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS



Denise Del Angel
Toy Room



Gabby Taylor
Welcome Center



Fatima Pedraza
McAllen Medical Plaza



Alessandra Chavez
McAllen Medical Plaza

Auxiliary to Driscoll Children's Hospital
3533 South Alameda
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

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MAILING SERVICES
78469



Driscoll

Children's Hospital

Volunteers

Auxiliary Designer & Editor: **Chaly Chavez**, Volunteer

Copy Editor: **Jane Kisner**, Volunteer

Proofreader: Volunteer Services

To submit articles or information turn them in to Volunteer Services

Offices or Email auxiliary.newsletter@dchstx.org

Deadline to submit is the second Friday of the month.