### 2018 Auxiliary Board of Trustees Meeting Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Conference Room #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Conference Room #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Conference Room #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Conference Room #3</td>
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* Mandatory Twig Representation Meeting

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Please support the Auxiliary Gift Shop & Bloom by making it your “Go To” boutique!

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PULSE SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

- Spring-Summer 2018 Pulse: May 18
- Fall Pulse: September 14

For more information about the Auxiliary please visit us at [www.oaux.org](http://www.oaux.org)
**A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENTS**

Warm wishes for a healthy and productive 2018! Personal service was the focus when the Auxiliary was founded in 1916. We are deeply grateful that personal service continues to be an important component of today’s Overlook Auxiliary with twice monthly Oncology Teas and Patient Care volunteers, and all of the members and friends who joined to make the Biennial Kitchen Tour an overwhelming success so that patients of Atlantic Hospice can receive complementary therapies. In addition, we are blessed with volunteers who bring the holidays to the hospital, with SH Twig 18 faithfully honoring Jewish holiday traditions and with Auxiliary members from many Twigs lovingly decorating to honor the Christian ones. This priceless personal service sets the Auxiliary apart from so many other charitable organizations in Summit and we thank you.

This quarter marked transitions and continuity for the Auxiliary. The Biennial Kitchen Tour went off without a hitch on October 26th with terrific leadership from Michele Cameron and Diane Coloney and the caring support of so many Auxiliary Members to personally name in this letter – but to whom we are immensely grateful…what a wonderful show of camaraderie for a great cause! In December, Auxiliary members infused the Overlook Medical Center with holiday cheer – with traditional tree decorating transitioning from Summit Twig 21 to the entire Auxiliary after so many years of dedication. Thankfully, SU Twig 21 continues to host the popular Auxiliary Employee, Staff and Volunteer Reception, held this year on December 15. Kudos to:

* Stacy Beckett (SU Twig 3) for creating the Signup Genius and call for volunteers for the decorating and “un-decorating” of the trees,
* Donna Wolcott and the other members of SU Twig 22, who decorated three trees,
* Yoli Velez (SU Twig 3) for decorating a tree all by herself,
* Amanda Ford, for coming back in the afternoon and decorating the MAC I Lobby Tree all by herself. We are proud and we are grateful to you as such an active group of “can do”, dedicated women!

At our recent Board meeting, we continued to flush out the idea of opening our membership to junior members and are now thinking about forming a Junior Twig – an organic approach for our organization. Karen Canniffe and Heather Flanagan (Membership Co-Chairs) are working very closely with Laura Bojanowski (Publicity Chair) to develop a social media campaign to promote the Overlook Auxiliary. They are looking for photos and updates to share to let others know what the Auxiliary is doing – please feel free to send your photos and updates to Laura at lauraanfields@yahoo.com. Some elected positions on the Auxiliary Board of Trustees will expire this year and our Nominating Committee (Elsa Russell, Chair), Diane Swett, Karen Canniffe met with Jane Schapker (Co-VP) after the Board meeting to begin identifying possible members to fill these roles; if you are interested in serving as a Board member, please reach out to any one of the Nominating Committee members directly or through the Auxiliary Office. Our next Board meeting will take place on March 12, beginning at 9am – all Auxiliary members are welcome to attend. Please mark your calendars for this and other upcoming Auxiliary events including NP Twig 10 Annual Blood Drive on February 22nd at New Providence Library and the Annual Spring Luncheon on May 10th at Balausel Golf Club.

Your Co-Presidents continue to work together to implement our new website: www.oaux.org. This phase will involve training and updating so that it will continue to be “user friendly” and a useful source of information for our members. If there is any information that you would like to see, please reach out and let us know.

With our heartfelt gratitude,

Christina Amundson and Anne St.Clair,
Co-Presidents

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**A JOURNEY TO VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

Lorik Berisha is a young volunteer with great energy who came to us in 2015. Lorik wanted to get some hospital experience in preparation for his long-term goal to become an orthopedic surgeon. Very willing to help, he quickly mastered every task in the volunteer messenger role. Given his engaging personality he was easily accepted by his volunteer peers and staff alike. His warm smile and polite demeanor make him memorable to our patients and visitors, as well.

But, Lorik’s journey to become an Overlook volunteer is a unique and interesting one. He was born in 1998 in Pristina, Kosovo. It was a turbulent time in the region as tensions were rising between ethnic Albanians and the Serbians who occupied Kosovo under the rule of Slobodon Milosevic. Lorik and his mother and father were forced to leave Kosovo. In Macedonia, they lived in the refugee camp with thousands of other Albanian families. Everything changed when they were granted an opportunity to come to the United States.

Lorik lives a life of gratitude and pays it forward every day through his volunteer service at Overlook.

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**CHOOSE TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE**

Volunteer service blends a willingness to give of oneself with meaningful activities.

The result is an incredible sense of fulfillment and appreciation.

We have many unique and specialized volunteer opportunities. We can match your skills and interest to create a meaningful assignment. Overlook welcomes all new volunteers! Making a commitment to help others will surely change your life in the process! If interested in becoming an Overlook Medical Center volunteer, call Volunteer Services (908-522-2099) to request an application!
GRATEFUL FOR OUR DEDICATED OVERLOOK VOLUNTEERS

We feel so blessed to work beside the most amazing group of volunteers each and every day. Every volunteer brings their own uniqueness, humor and life experience to the role which creates the most interesting and diverse group of individuals who share one common purpose, the well-being of our patients. Their compassion, kindness and dedication create an unspoken trust that bonds us all. Through snow and cold or rain and summer heat, they are always here and we are all better for it. It is a true honor to share a piece of their day and the benefit of invaluable work that they do!

At Overlook, we set aside a special day each year to celebrate the achievement of our volunteers with Alan Lieber, Overlook’s President. We are in the process of making special plans for our 2018 cocktail reception and luncheon to celebrate our most dedicated volunteers at the Primavera Regency on Monday, April 16th.

Volunteers who have committed a minimum of 250 service hours to Overlook during the past calendar year will be invited to attend this luncheon in their honor. It is a day of good food, friendship, good humor and fun in celebration of all of the efforts of our amazing volunteers.

National Volunteer Week will be celebrated throughout the country during the week of April 16-20.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT OVERLOOK

* Bedside Companion
* CLIP (Health Science Library)
* Gift Shop
* Information Desk
* Mealtime Ambassadors
* Messenger Room
* Music and Art
* Patient Relations
* Pet Therapy
* Spiritual Care

THE HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARY (CLIP PROGRAM) Friendly volunteers are needed to visit patient rooms to offer free informational research on health conditions and treatments. (Training will be provided).

BEDSIDE COMPANION PROGRAM If you are caring and compassionate with a fondness for older adults, this will be a very rewarding volunteer experience for you! You can touch someone’s life just by being there to listen and provide brief companion visits! Training will be provided to prepare you to comfortably perform this volunteer role.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT Volunteer positions are available immediately in our Emergency Department at the Summit and Union campus. Please make a commitment to enhance the experience of Emergency Department patients through kindness and human contact. Personalized orientation and training will be provided. If you are a retired healthcare professional who is comfortable in a clinical setting, this experience is ideal for you.

VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS Your musical talent can bring healing to our patients, visitors and staff! Pianists, vocalists, violinists, harpists and guitarists are all in great demand! Music in our atrium lobby enhances the welcoming environment! Please volunteer to perform at Overlook and enhance our healing environment!

WHAT’S TRENDING AT THE AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP & BLOOM?

Our buyers braved the freezing weather and spent an entire day in New York City at The Accessory and Childrens Show! After walking off the soles on their shoes, the buyers exclaimed that the show was the best ever! They discovered many new vendors and exciting new merchandise, which is on the way to The Gift Shop & Bloom. Novelty t-shirts, dresses, skirts, cover-ups, scarves, and lots of new jewelry!

Valentine’s Day is approaching – February 14! Its not too early to place your order for the traditional red roses or a unique mixed arrangement. This year, we are also offering fresh chocolate covered strawberries from Betty’s Chocolates as a delicious addition to your Valentine floral gift.

The Gift Shop & Bloom is in need of volunteers for many substitute shifts. Make new friends and enjoy volunteering in an exciting and fun environment. Please contact Mary Damiano (Gift Shop Manager) or Monique Byrne (Volunteer Services) for more information.

As always, The Gift Shop & Bloom offers free delivery to many Atlantic Health System locations, as well as Summit Medical Group. Complimentary delivery is also available to Summit and neighboring towns. Curbside pickup is always available for gifts and flowers. Remember, The Gift Shop & Bloom is YOUR Auxiliary gift shop, raising funds to support vital patient services. We thrive on and appreciate your support. Please visit our website www.bloomatoverlook.com and “like” our Facebook page for the most up-to-date product information and happenings.

The 2017 Overlook Auxiliary Kitchen Tour was an overwhelming success, netting over $41,000 for the Atlantic Hospice Complementary Therapy Program. The owners of five beautiful homes in Summit graciously opened their doors for over 325 visitors to view their spectacular kitchens and first floors.

The success of the tour was the collaboration of many Auxiliary members, volunteers and great publicity through banners and social media. It was a grand day for all!
Our Twig was busy the fourth quarter of 2017!

Our Thanksgiving Basket Event Chair, Erin Donadio successfully partnered with our NP Twig 2 to make a total of 36 Thanksgiving baskets for Healthstart families in need. We even had a special little helper. Shopping for Turkeys is hard work and she was rewarded with a nap. (See photo right).

Healthstart Pediatric clinic helps 900+ families in our community. We are hoping that next year we can make even more baskets with help from all Twigs and Auxiliary members. Thanksgiving dinner tasted that much better this year knowing we helped feed 36 families.

Hi Karen,

I wanted to send out a special thank you to you and the members of the NP Twig 10 organization for the Thanksgiving Baskets and Toys donated during the Christmas holiday. How excited were we knowing that we would be able to help another 24 families during Thanksgiving by providing all the necessities for a nice Thanksgiving meal. One patient even came in the following week to thank me because it was the first time ever having Turkey as she was never able to afford one and she stated “It was delicious!”

I am so humbled by all the support we have received this year from the community and we hope to continue to collaborate with your organization and it's members in whatever way we can. As a social worker, my goal is to continue to help those in need and with your support we hope to continue to ease the burden of many of our families who struggle financially in their everyday lives. Please thank all those involved starting from all those who donated food, gifts, put baskets together, wrapped gifts and especially those who helped deliver those very heavy items on a very cold day.

Your generosity, time and effort is so appreciated and we will forever be grateful. Friends Forever!

Maria Velazquez-Knight LSW MSW
Social Worker
Healthstart Clinic

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NP Twig 10 also had a fun cooking class Twig night out fundraiser at Passion for Spices, organized by Twig members, Meghan Schorr, Cheryl Darmanin and Alexandra Polelko. We learned how to make a delicious, healthy and easy dinner with Chef and fellow Auxiliary member, May Fridel, owner of Passion for Spices.

All of these fundraisers helped us fund a child to attend Camp Clover for a week and buy grocery store gift cards to help feed mothers who have recently given birth.

Please mark your calendars! Our Annual Blood Drive is Thursday, February 22, 12–6pm at New Providence Library, 377 Elkwood Avenue.

We are loving our new Twig logo! Special thank you to Sal Liberato from 908 Enterprises for our special design.