

## An Overview of Pacific Shores Hematology-Oncology Foundation Featuring "Artist Within" Program – The Art of Happiness



## OUR MISSION:

PSHOF is a non- profit 501(c) 3 public charity committed to: increasing access to research; providing education and support; and fostering efforts to improve the quality of life and well-being of cancer patients, survivors and their families, both emotionally and physically. Located in downtown Long Beach, PSHOF serves both Los Angeles and Orange County.

Dr. Simon Tchekmedyian, MD and Kalust Ucar, MD along with Elizabeth Lucas are the founding Board members. The other members are cancer survivors and prominent business professionals AND COMMUNITY LEADERS in our community. Our newest member is an Emmy Award winning actor from General Hospital, Maurice Benard. He is the spokesperson for the Woman to Woman Campaign.

Jann Buaiz, MS has been the executive director of PSHOF since the inception in 2006. She plays the vital role in managing the daily activities of the Foundation as well as developing and overseeing all community programs and events.

PSHOF champions two community programs that make tremendous impacts on the cancer patients and their families we serve:

1.) The Woman to Woman Campaign is a community program providing grants assistance to women who cannot afford necessary medical treatment. The program alleviates the added stress that economically disadvantaged women may deal with when facing the need for drugs and treatment that are beyond their means. This Campaign was founded by, Jeanne Brodeur.

<u>2.) "Artist Within"</u> is a community-based cancer and art program supported by PSHOF. The 8-10 week workshops are facilitated by local artist Vicky Ojerio, owner of Inspyr Art and host of the Lyon Art Supply studio located in downtown Long Beach. The workshops are offered throughout the year at no charge.

"The patients and survivors participating in the 'Artist Within' 8- 10 week workshop are not professional artists, rather men and women who have experienced cancer firsthand or as a family member. These 'new artists' are empowered, and have discovered new and meaningful ways to express their personal cancer experiences, their emotional turmoil, challenges and triumphs. The 'Artist Within' workshops are powerful, emotionally revealing and the visual impact is more than one will ever expect. We are only scratching the surface of the lives we are empowering. I personally observed and have experienced how artistic expression improves the quality of life and heals in ways that are unimaginable. PSHOF hopes to continue raising funds to sustain this program says Jann Buaiz, MS, Executive Director, PSHOF."

The "Artist Within" program brings a unique quality and contributes positively to the diversity of the Long Beach art culture that is growing in leaps and bounds. We want to infuse a sense of hope and establish a home base in Long Beach, and eventually provide this program in other demographic areas in Orange County and Los Angeles County.

<u>OPEN CANVAS</u> is our art exhibit displaying both international and local artwork from cancer patients and survivors. We are planning to have two exhibits this year, one at Kress Market on September 9 433 Pine Ave. Long Beach ,CA 90802. Details will be posted at the end of August and the other in October (location and times TBA).

Please visit <u>www.pacificshoresfoundation.org</u> or call 800-3030-0131 for exhibit/workshop location details, information about our other programs or to make donations. Our tax identification number is 20-3710424.