

Special

a little time, a **BIG**
HEART

**Maurice Benard
(Sonny) lends his
star power to a
worthy cause!**

They say that a friend in need is a friend indeed. If that is true, then GENERAL HOSPITAL's Maurice Benard (Sonny) is one heck of a friend, because he's helping a whole lot of people in need!

As a member of the Pacific Shores Hematology-Oncology Foundation's Board Of Directors and as the newly-appointed spokesperson for the Woman To Woman Campaign, he is focusing his efforts on fundraising and increasing awareness of the crusade, which is committed to alleviating the financial burdens of women who cannot afford necessary medical treatment.

Ask And You Shall Receive

When GH's associate director, Christine Magarian-Ucar, approached Benard, telling him about her husband's work with the medical group, her hope was that the GH superstar would mention the foundation at fan events. What she got was that and lots more. "He took this simple request to another level," Magarian-Ucar shares. "He said that wasn't enough. He wanted to have a voice in the battle against cancer so that he could personally convince people to donate to this foundation. He asked me what he could do to help anyone with cancer, and the idea of being a board member was discussed with the other member was discussed with the other members. It was unanimous, and he was voted in."

As part of Benard's efforts, he built onto his personal Web site (www.mauricebenard.tv) a link so that

pacificshoresfoundation@gmail.com



General Hospital

Benard may be sitting here, but ordinarily, he's on the run, at GH, home with his family or helping raise cancer awareness.

fans could read about

and, hopefully, donate to the cause any amount, whether it be \$1 or 100. "Whatever they need me to do, whether it's to be somewhere or to talk to people, I'm good for that," Benard says sincerely. "Cancer is a very important cause. I've had a lot of aunts die of cancer; I'll do whatever is needed."

A Voice In The Crowd

For Benard's input, support and use of his star status to help the cause, Magarian-Ucar is eternally grateful. "I believe Maurice has an immeasurable heart," she declares. "He not only is a great actor, but his passion permeates into his commitment to help cancer patients and their families. I am so grateful for his involvement. He is a very private individual, and when he's not working, he spends his time with his children and wife. I thought this might be a difficult sell, but Maurice could not have been more available and committed to the foundation. I feel with Maurice's presence on the board, this foundation will exceed everyone's expectations." For information on how you, too, can help, go to www.pacificshoresfoundation.org