

# COMMUNITY BENEFITnews

A PUBLICATION FOR STAFF

inside:



**what's new  
in community  
education**  
empowering health  
information



**staff profile**  
Usherrine Harris nurtures  
youths' potential  
through community  
service activities

## caseSTUDY

### WESTSIDE ACADEMY I & II

## A Day in the Life of Froedtert's School Nurse

On Friday, June 6, Kim Lindroth, RN, BSN, starts her day teaching three health classes for eighth-grade students at Westside Academy II. Lindroth's position as a school nurse in central-city Milwaukee is funded by Froedtert Hospital as part of its community benefit initiatives.



"Proud Choices: HIV, STD and Teenage Pregnancy Prevention" is an eight-week series of one-hour sessions on how to "say no" to unsafe behaviors and why it is important to protect one's health and dreams for the future. Lindroth uses discussion, role plays and a Jeopardy-themed game about HIV to reinforce lessons. "This is what makes my position extremely gratifying," says Lindroth, who has been part of the Froedtert staff since October 2007 and has over six years of experience in pediatric nursing. "Being an educator of young, intelligent individuals is a privilege, and I know that doing preventive education can reduce many community health complications."

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In the course of the morning at the Westside Academy II site, the school for students grades four through eight, Lindroth provides first aid to two girls with eye problems including one with seasonal allergies. Another student has a sore throat that she says has lasted a week. Lindroth rules out strep throat, gives the student lozenges and encourages rest and drinking fluids.

In the afternoon, Lindroth heads to Westside Academy I, where Head Start through 3rd grade students attend. As she walks across the playground, two girls approach her saying they have cracked teeth that hurt. Once inside the building, Lindroth attends to a boy sitting in the office, with a welt developing on his forehead after running into another child. While a teacher calls his mother, Lindroth does a quick assessment and reassures the boy that although he will have a bump, he'll be okay. Shortly after, she sees a familiar face of a 1st grade girl who complains of



a stomach ache and sore throat, asks for lotion due to her eczema and says she could use a new toothbrush.

“There is a major need for access to primary care with the population of students and families I work with,” says Lindroth.

After more afternoon teaching, Lindroth tends to a boy with a stomach ache and sore knee. She asks if he saw a doctor she'd previously referred since her last visit with him. Lindroth learns that his mother still does not have a phone, so sends a reminder note, with contact information for the neighborhood's Lisbon Avenue Health Clinic. She also informs him of her plans to follow-up again with a social worker who can assist the boy's family with supportive services.

“Thankfully I have found a nursing career that keeps me working with children and incorporates creativity and ingenuity,” Lindroth says. “No day is ever dull.”

**“There is a major need for access to primary care with the population of students and families I work with.”**

*Kim Lindroth, RN, BSN*

Lindroth's passion for school nursing is evidenced in comments made by principal, Mr. James Sonnenberg. “Having the services of a nurse allows teachers and staff to send children complaining of minor and sometimes not so minor problems to a trained health professional who is better able to evaluate and treat those complaints while allowing us to continue with our job of educating children,” Sonnenberg says. Assistant principal, Mr. Kelvin Robinson added, “It has been wonderful having Kim here. She works with our students not only to help them when they're injured, but to educate them on staying healthy.”



**Prostate Cancer Screening at Miller Park a Huge Success**

Nearly 500 men from all over southeast Wisconsin — and beyond — came to Miller Park on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 for a free prostate cancer screening. The event was sponsored by Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, Fox 6-TV, the Milwaukee Brewers and the National Prostate Cancer Coalition (NPCC).

For its second year, free, private, confidential screenings were conducted in a large mobile clinic operated by the NPCC. Men age 40 and older were screened with a PSA blood test and a physical examination of the prostate gland. Participants learned the results of their physical exam immediately.

Medical College of Wisconsin physicians, along with physician assistants, nurses and phlebotomists teamed up to conduct the screenings.

Staff from Marketing and Public Relations coordinated, promoted and staffed the event, along with volunteers from Us Too!, a prostate cancer support group that meets at Froedtert & the Medical College.

From January through August 2008, over 450 men were screened at Miller Park. Nearly 15 percent had abnormal PSA results, and about 10 percent had abnormal physical prostate exam results.

**By the Numbers:  
Froedtert and Medical College  
Health and Wellness Programs**

**450** people took advantage of free screenings for blood pressure, body fat, head and neck cancer, and stroke risk assessments from January through August 2008.

Over **2,200** people attended free community education classes including cancer, heart and vascular and general health topics during this same time period.

## Usherrine Harris Nurtures Youths' Potential Through Community Service Activities

Usherrine Harris is, to say the least, involved in a whirlwind of community service activities that promote the importance of education and benefit the community on many levels.

Affectionately called “Ursh” by colleagues and friends, Harris, is a corporate compliance consultant for Froedtert and Community Health. As part of her community service work, she has participated the last six years in the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee’s Black Achievers Program, and chairs the group’s alumni committee. Harris assists with providing scholarships to disadvantaged youth, helps plan tours to expose youth to historically black colleges and universities, and visits local schools to speak to students about career choices

“Young people today are faced with many different challenges, but they need to know they can overcome them,” said Harris. “The most important point I try to make is that they can succeed if they put their minds to it.”

Harris willingly shares how she overcame challenges of her own, including dropping out of high school in 11th grade. Harris met her husband in high school and had her first child at 18. Encouraged by her spouse and siblings, she later received her high-school equivalency diploma and ultimately earned a master’s degree in management, as well as a certificate

in human resource management. Harris’ children – now ages 29, 27 and 22 – have followed in their mother’s footsteps with attending college and being involved in community service. In fact, Harris encouraged her children to seek healthcare work opportunities during their teen years. “What has inspired me is that I knew I had to be an example for my children. I am a role-model for them,” said Harris.

Harris began working at Froedtert in 1984 and has held a variety of part- and full-time positions over the years. She was part of Froedtert’s original president’s task force to develop minority internship programs in an effort to build a bridge between the community and the hospital. Since 1994, she has provided workplace mentoring for approximately 26 college students. Informally, Harris lends her expertise and services to a few local non-profits and her church. She regularly remarks, “In all my years of working with high school and college students, I usually find that I learn just as much as they do!”



“Young people today are faced with many different challenges, but they need to know they can overcome them. The most important point I try to make is that they can succeed if they put their minds to it.”

Usherrine Harris,  
Corporate Compliance Consultant

## activities & HIGHLIGHTS

### Rebuilding Day 2008

On May 17 over 30 Froedtert Hospital and Froedtert & Community Health staff, friends, and family members participated in Milwaukee’s Rebuilding Day through Froedtert Cares’ Community Service Program.

Froedtert staff repaired the home of one Milwaukee elderly resident. They repainted her house, upgraded lighting indoors and stabilized her porch. They also installed safety rails, smoke detectors, and completed various other tasks.

Thank you to all who participated for being stellar examples of Froedtert’s caring staff!



Staff pictured: (back row) Velma Falkey, contractor, Tina Kotowski, Cynthia Miller, Denise Slack; (front row) Dionna Gavin, and homeowner.

## WHAT IS COMMUNITY BENEFIT?

It is programs or activities that provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to identified community needs that are not provided for marketing purposes.

### We want to hear from you

Please contact Froedtert's Community Benefit department if you would like more information on any of the Froedtert Cares components:

1. Community Benefit activities
2. Staff Community Service Program
3. How to submit story ideas for the next newsletter

### Your Community Benefit team members are:

Carla Washington,  
Manager, 7-7495  
or 777-7495

Dionna Gavin,  
Coordinator, 7-7198  
or 777-7198

You can also stay informed on Community Benefit activities by visiting the Community Benefit Intranet web page (click on "Inside Froedtert" from the Intranet home page) or froedtert.com under "About Us" tab.



## School of Radiologic Technology Students Begin Careers on a Note of Community Service

Unlike most students who were preparing for summer by securing work and planning vacations, Rachel Schulz, junior intern in the Froedtert Hospital School of Radiologic Technology (SRT), was investigating how her class could impact the community. She worked with her fellow students and SRT faculty to create a meaningful way to honor SRT's graduating seniors. Rather than presenting the graduating class with "gag gifts," as had been the custom, Rachel led her classmates in starting a new tradition – a gift to the community.

In honor of the senior class, SRT students and staff presented Our Next Generation with a \$500 check at the SRT graduation ceremony held in June. Located on the corner of 35th and Lisbon Avenue in Milwaukee, Our Next Generation, (ONG) is a nonprofit agency that provides quality after school and summer programming to help students improve academic proficiencies. "This was the perfect opportunity to show we care about the community and the well-

being of others." Schulz commented. "It is a gift from students – for students."

Schulz and her classmates researched partner organizations through Froedtert's Community Service Program, and selected ONG after confirming that their gift would support students, while sending an important message about the value of education.

Bob Dunn, Our Next Generation's executive

director, was especially grateful for the goodwill extended by SRT's students and staff. "This support will help ONG develop a new literacy and education program that is under development." The program will focus on engaging elementary students in activities to improve their reading scores. "We want to create an environment that changes attitudes about reading and show its importance," Dunn stated. "And, what a wonderful way for the graduating class at the School of Radiologic Technology to begin their careers on a note of community service!"



Bob Dunn, CEO of Our Next Generation, accepts a \$500 check from junior intern Rachel Schulz on behalf of the 2008 graduating class of Radiologic Technologists.

## GET TO KNOW THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (CSP)

### What is the Community Service Program?

It allows non-exempt (hourly) Froedtert Hospital and Froedtert & Community Health staff to be compensated at their regular pay rate for up to eight hours per year who are involved in community service on behalf of the hospital.

### Can I choose any organization to dedicate my time?

Activities must be with a Froedtert approved organization. There are nearly 100 approved

partner organizations staff can choose from to offer their time and expertise.

### Why is community service important to Froedtert?

Being involved provides staff with the opportunity to:

- Acquire leadership skills
- Be involved in team building activities
- Learn about different cultures
- Demonstrate Froedtert's commitment to the community

### How can I get involved?

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Identify an approved partner agency
2. Submit an approval form signed by your manager to Community Benefit
3. Report hours after the event

Please visit the Community Service Program Intranet website to learn more. Click on "Inside Froedtert," "Community Benefit," "Community Service Program" from the Intranet home page.