

Martha Jefferson Hospital Foundation

TODAY'S PROMISE; TOMORROW'S VISION Nursing Care at Martha Jefferson

Nursing Scholarships - \$200,000 per year

Nursing – A Strategic Initiative

Quality nursing is one of the cornerstones on which Martha Jefferson's reputation has been built. Just as healthcare delivery is increasingly dependent on innovation and technology, our ability to provide quality care is as dependent as ever on people. We have a strong team at Martha Jefferson--doctors, professional staff and support staff--and the role of the nurse goes beyond what the rest of the healthcare team can provide. All members work together to prevent, to diagnose, to cure, and to heal. *But when curing is no longer possible, it is the privilege and the responsibility of the nurse to remain and to continue providing compassionate care.*

A key strategic initiative at Martha Jefferson is to develop a nursing service that is *second to none*. A primary objective is to develop enhancements in nursing care, clinical capabilities and other support services in order to provide for higher acuity patients. This year, we are committed to supporting the following priority objectives:

On-Site Nursing Training Initiative

A priority initiative is to aggressively convert our staff nurses from the current majority who are prepared at the 2-year (AD) Associate Degree level to the 4-year (BSN) Baccalaureate level. This will align Martha Jefferson with the most recent analytical findings within nursing that higher academic preparation at the staff nurse level supports the most favorable patient outcome potential.

To support this goal and in keeping with changes in healthcare delivery and technological advances available in education, In August 2005 we initiated at Martha Jefferson Hospital an on-site video satellite learning program through Old Dominion University. Through this program, lecture courses are available at remote/distant sites via satellite television broadcast in a live, one-way video, two-way audio format. RN to BSN students take lecture courses on Mondays from 4:15 – 10:00 p.m. In addition to televised lectures, online components of courses provide flexibility for busy adult learners. This is NOT an “online only” program, but allows for two-way interaction with the instructor. By simultaneously supporting a cohort of 12–25 staff nurses this program facilitates and optimizes positive group dynamics and dialogue. This is a two-year program and is targeted to reach those working full-time.

Priority and Urgency of Philanthropic Support

The implementation of these key strategic nursing priorities at Martha Jefferson has the highest commitment from the Board and a dedication of significant Hospital resources. It will require a partnership with the community through philanthropy to guarantee successful and full development along with **annual support of \$200,000 (\$8,000 per year for 25 students)** to scholarship deserving nurse candidates.