



## The Joy of Talking Bears!

In honor of her birthday, friends of **Gail Goldstein**, Marina Del Rey Rotarian who knew about our patients from **Kathrine Russell**, Certified Financial Planner for CARES, made customized Build-A-Bears to give to the hospitalized children. Mrs. Goldstein even has a dear friend in Tennessee who is mailing her an exceptionally cute talking bear named "Smokey" who speaks with a Southern drawl (y'all!). In anticipation of receiving Smokey, Maria Tomé, Child Life Specialist, described another kind of talking bear that few know about. Maria has a hospitalized child with separation anxiety from missing his parents. Maria made a special trip to pick up a bear that would record a voice. She brought it back to the pediatric ward to record the child's father's voice so that the bear would speak with the father's voice. Now, when Mom and Dad are not there, the child has his special bear to comfort him. This kind of gift is exactly what a child who is hospitalized needs...it entertains, it is something to hold on to, and it distracts from the unfortunate discomfort and pain which is part of the medical care experience.



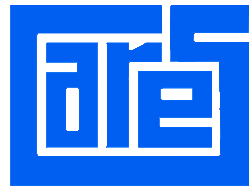
*These small gifts have such big value!*



Kathrine Russell came with Mr. & Mrs. Goldstein (R) to deliver bears 'personally built' by Rotary twins for the twin patients (the twins' Mom and Maria Tomé enjoyed seeing the girls receive the gifts made especially for them!)

Thank you to everyone who donates toys and gifts to the Child Life Program and the Holiday Giving Program. You make such a difference to the young patients at the Medical Center!

LOS ANGELES COUNTY/USC  
MEDICAL CENTER AUXILIARY



1200 N. State St., Room 1900  
Los Angeles, California 90033



# Newsletter



## President's Message

Greetings to CARES Friends,



The CARES Annual Awards Meeting and Luncheon is coming soon on Wednesday, April 26th. Join us for lunch and our speaker, **Dr. Lydia Lam**, Trauma Surgeon and Professor of Clinical Surgery and Emergency Medicine for the Keck School of Medicine.

It will also be our pleasure to honor the CARES Woman of the Year in Medicine, **Dr. Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr**, and the CARES Volunteer of the Year, announced at the event. Please watch your mail for the invitation. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Best!  
*Mindy Halls*

## Dr. Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr



**CARES 2017 Woman of the Year in Medicine**

**Dr. Trotzky-Sirr**, board certified in Family Medicine, is Assistant Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine for the Keck School of Medicine, as well



as Medical Director of the Urgent Care Center and Continuity Care Clinic at LAC+USC. She is the recipient of the Medical Center's 2014 "Passionate Performer Award" for her commitment to our patients and the local community. The former Fulbright scholar (who researched human rights based medicine in Venezuela) was part of the team that re-designed the

## CARES Celebrates "48Years of Service"

**CARES Annual Awards Meeting & Luncheon**  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 9:45 a.m., The Valley Hunt Club

Guest Speaker: **Lydia Lam, M.S., M.D., FACS**

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery and Emergency Medicine  
Associate Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship  
Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California  
Los Angeles County + USC Medical Center

## Dr. Lydia Lam, CARES

2011 Woman of the Year in Medicine, will be the keynote speaker for this year's CARES Annual Meeting. A busy Trauma Chief, she specializes in the real-time teaching of medical students, residents, and fellows, spanning the spectrum of trauma patient management from resuscitation to operative intervention and critical care. She does all this while developing good relationships and garnering the respect of those she supervises in the deliverance of progressive medical care.

Some of the most rewarding and touching events sponsored by



CARES are the moving annual Trauma Survivor Reunions directed by Dr. Lam. CARES volunteers assist Dr. Lam and the Trauma staff in welcoming patients who attend to thank those who helped them survive life-threatening injuries.

Heart-wrenching stories are shared and staff get to see their patients much recovered and needing to express their appreciation. It is a true celebration of life and caring.

Dr. Lam has extended her daily humanitarian work internationally to Haiti, the Pacific Islands, and Nepal. She is also the 2012 recipient of the "Passionate Performance Award."

Urgent Care Center and developed the Continuity Care Clinic for patients who do not have primary care providers. She volunteers in the gang tattoo removal program at Homeboy Industries, the Program for Torture Victims, the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, and many others. "We are proud to have her as a valuable member of the faculty and care teams." **Dr. Henry Kim** In turn, Dr. Trotzky-Sirr is proud of her team's commitment to excellent integrated health services, regardless of insurance or immigration status, homelessness, mental illness, chronic pain and substance use disorders. She is uniquely qualified

to understand the stresses of the community she serves. She was not the typical undergraduate from Stanford, earning degrees in engineering and urban planning while a single mother, sometimes on welfare. She left her mark there by working to reform its policies toward students with families. She succeeded in earning her Doctor of Medicine from the University of Minnesota, "because of support, not judgment, from family and friends." She is a constant advocate for women, the rights of pregnant and parenting students, safer opioid prescribing, and much more. Help CARES honor her at the Annual Meeting, April 26th!



In Memoriam

### Anna Bresnahan Anita J. Leedom



**Anita J. Leedom**, served CARES originally as Executive Secretary and then as Executive Director until her retirement in 2001. Afterwards, she continued her dedication to CARES by volunteering on the CARES Board of Directors and frequently in the CARES office. She was still putting price tags on CARES Gift Shop merchandise up until

Christmas. She passed away peacefully on New Year's Eve following a sudden illness.

She was a graduate with a B.S. in Commerce and Administration from the University of Illinois where she met her husband, the late Dr. John Leedom, Hastings Professor of Medicine and Chief of Infectious Diseases at the LAC+USC Medical Center. After working as secretary to Congressman Robert H. Michel until 1959, she became active in Medical Faculty Wives while raising children Liane and John. In 1969, she played a key role in the establishment of CARES. As the financial brain of CARES, she skillfully guided us through many changes, including CARES' entry into

the computer age. CARES began using computer programs to keep track of donors and manage bookkeeping. Anita continued to see CARES through every upgrade and change in technology. Later, even though already retired, Anita supported the move of CARES Gift Shops to a computerized Point of Sale system. That meant every single item in the shops had to be entered into the computer by Anita, with the assistance of her granddaughter Lauren. It was a big job at first, but the CARES shops now have the ability to track sales and merchandise.

Anita was quick to laugh when folks dropped by the CARES office with the latest funny story or quirky Medical Center happening. She always said she should write a book! As Margie Dolinski puts it, "Anita was the glue that held CARES together for so many years." Anita's family requests that donations in her memory be made to CARES.

**Anna Bresnahan**, 1928-2016, the retired Administrator of the Department of Neurology for the School of Medicine, served on the Medical Center Arts Council and the CARES Board of Directors. A lifelong advocate for music and the arts, she worked diligently with the Arts Council to "promote healing through art...by creating warm, inviting spaces" for the patients throughout the LAC+USC Medical Center.



### Men's Pants & Shoes Needed for Discharged Patients

The need for men's clothing is ongoing. Patients being discharged must have proper attire or they may not leave the Medical Center. In the last quarter of 2016, CARES supplied clothing for 425 patients who had none. Casual shoes and pants (sweatpants are the most requested), especially the larger sizes, are always welcome.



Please call the CARES Treasure Trove Thrift Shop (323) 226-6922 (weekdays from 10:15 am to 3 pm) for directions or assistance unloading your car, or leave a message in the CARES office (323) 226-6941.

Monetary donations can be made through PayPal on the CARES website: [lacusccares.org](http://lacusccares.org) (also check the website for more CARES photos!)

### CARES Gift Shops



Please call us if you need gift ideas! (Gift cards are also available for both CARES Shops & CARES Coffee Bar)

All proceeds from CARES Shops benefit programs for patients at the LAC+USC Medical Center. **CARES Thanks You for Your Support!**

## Valentine Mail Appeal

Heartfelt thanks to the following generous supporters who have donated from 12/17/16 to 3/20/17:

**\$5000: Drs. Alexandra & Victor Levine  
Barbara Oliver, Frederick R. Weisman  
Philanthropic Foundation**

This heart next to donor indicates donations made in memory of special persons. An \* indicates donations made "in honor of."  
CARES Music Program  
Holiday Giving



Alphabetical Order:

- Laurel Lee Anderson
- Gwen & Guilford Babcock
- Elizabeth Baca
- Douglas & Sandra Bagley
- Ahmet Baydur, M.D.
- Inez Beckon-English
- Paul Beigelman, M.D. Dr. Franz Bauer
- Barbara Bell Foster Denker
- Helen Berman
- Tom & Cynthia Berne Anita Leedom
- Dr. Jack E. Bethune Margaret Bothune
- Beverly Biber
- Yvonne Biller
- Bonnie Borchardt Anita Leedom\*Weta Mathies
- Edna La Briola
- Dr. & Mrs. Jay Brown
- Karen & Ray Burkland
- Linda Cantwell
- Vicki Carlson Anita Leedom
- Nancy & Joel Castillo Anita Leedom
- Nancy Castillo \*Dr. L. Julian Haywood
- Agnes Chaney Anita Leedom Cedric Chaney
- Charles E. Coffey
- Toye Cook Roy & Allene Dr. Eva Henriksen
- James H. Daniel, M.D. Dr. Warner
- Dr. & Mrs. Tom DeMeester
- DHS HR Holiday Committee
- Arthur Donovan, M.D. Jane Donovan
- David Dow & Dr. Nancy Edwards Carol Salminen
- Donna & Spencer Gilbert Mary Jane Lightner
- Leslie Ericson \*Craig Steele (Robyn Steele's Son)
- R. D. & Nancy Esbenschade
- Emma Farmer Anita Leedom
- Dr. Donald & Jackie Feinstein Anita Leedom
- Karolin K. Ferrer
- Kay Fife Bob Biller
- Martha A. Galaif Anita Leedom  
\*Toby Horn Margaret Bethune  
Anna Bresnahan
- Diane Gilmartin Foster Denker
- Rosalia Giraldo
- Sally C. Goldstein
- Silvano Gonzalez
- Dr. Jay & K. W. Gordonson
- Dr. Doris Graves
- Mindy & Jim Halls
- Martha Harvey

- Hiroko Hasuike Anita Leedom
- Margaret Hatfield
- José R. Hernandez
- Peter Heseltine, M.D.
- David & Lucy M. Hickey Carol Salminen
- Rosemary Hill
- Dr. Kaaren Hoffman
- Shyrell K. Hopwood Carol Salminen
- Toby M. Horn \*Fred Nicholas Anita Leedom
- Gloria Howard
- Drs. Jennifer & Robert Israel Dan Mishell
- Dr. Mary M. Joseph
- Georgina Joya Maria Dolores Rodrigues
- Dr. Ralph Jung
- Harvey Kern
- Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou Anita Leedom
- Sherrie Knighton Anita Leedom
- Dr. Jeffrey Lee Dan Mishell Lester T. Hibbard
- Sunkyung Lee
- Dr. Eric Leibovitch
- Corrine Lieberman
- Dr. Charles Linden
- Kathleen S. Lohr Aaron Lohr  
\*NICU Helping Hands
- Olivia Lubensky
- Barry Lundy
- Anne Louise Lynch Anita Leedom
- Sheila Lynn Anita Leedom
- Richard Marciniak Aaron Lohr
- Consuelo Martinez Yvonne Marie Diaz
- Weta & Allen Mathies
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- Ruth Munoz
- Susie Nakao, R.N.
- Joanne Nichols \*Dr. Peter Nichols
- Barbara Oliver
- Kellyn M. Pak
- Stella Paranyan
- Marlene Pendleton
- Dr. Robert Penny
- Ann Petrucci
- Sherri Pierce
- Teresa Pleebles
- Roslyn Portnoy Dr. Bernard Portnoy
- Lois Ramer
- Kathryn Ramirez
- Anne P. Randolph

- Sandra Rivera
- Marita Robb
- Christine Rufolo \*Helen Rufolo
- Carol Salva Nidorf \*Martha Galaif
- Karen Long Santos
- Katherine Sargent Jane Donovan
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- Sheridan Smith
- Evelyn Solis-Perales
- Juan Sotelo
- Dr. Benjamin & Robin Stafford
- Dr. & Mrs. Robert Stanton
- Astra Stenson
- Nona Taite
- Maria Elena Tomé
- Anita Tsuji Anita Leedom
- Ruth Turner
- Sara Valdez
- Rita Vitringa Fred Vitringa
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- Barbara Weitekamp William Weitekamp
- Michele Whang
- Samuel Wirtschafter
- Women's Club of So. Pasadena
- Dr. Patty B. Wong
- Chiuying Wu
- Norma Zagorsky
- Gloria Zappaterreno, Ph.D.

An envelope is enclosed for your convenience for donations to CARES. **Thank You!**

"Thank you to all who donate to CARES through the Charitable Giving Campaign!"

- Rosa M. Aguirre
- Lorraine Apodaca
- Christopher Arevalo
- Adelina D. Contreras
- Carol J. Dawson
- Leticia C. Delfin
- June Frisbey
- Terence McNeal
- José Mendoza
- Isabel Milan
- Lannie D. Nunez
- Mary A. Robinson
- Annie Anonas-Ternate
- Louis T. White