

Philanthropy Club's 2009 Chemo Cap Project a Huge Success

Running from February to October, LBNL's Philanthropy Club 2009 Chemo Cap Project brought together talented staff from throughout LBNL to make 458 hand knit and crocheted caps valued at over \$6,300. This year's recipients are: Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, American Cancer Society Contra Costa County Field Office, Children's Hospital Primary Care Clinic in Oakland, American Society of Greater East Bay for distribution at Highland Hospital in Oakland, Kaiser Hospitals in Oakland and Richmond, and UCSF. The JGI group (some are pictured here) carried our donation of 134 caps and a prayer shawl to the American Cancer Society's Contra Costa County Field Office, one of our new recipient organizations.

Following the tremendous success of the 2008 project when we donated 180 caps to two hospitals, LBNL employees again generously responded to the need for hand-crafted chemo caps to help cancer patients and sick children during one of the most difficult parts of their treatment. Wearing a special chemo cap can help suddenly-bald cancer patients feel like themselves again. At the kick-off meeting in February, we made some changes that expanded the project.

Due to the fantastic growth of our group and the desire to create a community, local teams were set up at various locations. Noreene Jelliffe organizes the group at Potter Street. Amy Ukena works with the group at Donner and other locations on campus. Anna Engelbrekton coordinates the group at JGI. Cynthia Sylvester and Phyllis Gale lead events in the main lab's cafeteria.

Many LBNL staff (and a few friends) participated generously with their time and talents. Returning participants include: Amy Ukena, Cynthia Sylvester, Ina Reichel, Jai Krishnamurthy, Katherine Schlee, Lorri St. Claire, Miho Komai, and Phyllis Gale. Generous and talented new members joined the project this year: Molly Stoufer, Neli Lopez, Anna Engelbrekton, Chris Nishida, Christina DeBernardi, Daisy Guerrero, Dorothy Lang, Suzan Yilmaz, Carol Gilbert, Christine Hoener, Maria Rojas, Rosie Kim, Terry Lessard-Smith, Susanna Jacobson, Hui Zhang, and Noreene Jelliffe. Maryann Rios, Jae Hall, and Dorothy Wong, friends of LBNL staff, and Moira Howard-Jeweler from the DC Office also contributed.

The Philanthropy Club, which also sponsors the American Red Cross Blood Drives, is always looking for exciting ways to bring LBNL people together to make a difference in our local and world-wide communities. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Pinto hmpinto@lbl.gov or Cynthia Sylvester clsylvester@lbl.gov with your ideas or for more information.

The 2010 Chemo Cap Project is scheduled to begin again in February, although many participants indicated they are continuing to knit and crochet and are just waiting for the project to start up again. Watch for the upcoming announcement in TABL, project fliers, contact one of the team leaders or continuing participants, or contact Cynthia Sylvester at clsylvester@lbl.gov x 5938.