



## Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman

*Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Development Foundation launched the new Women & Philanthropy Program in October.*

Ladies Home Journal was known for the advertising slogan, “Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman” in the 1940’s and 1950’s, not too long before Jan Hoagland founded the Pink Ladies Auxiliary in 1958. The purpose of the Pink Ladies was to raise money for the purchase of equipment for Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. Fast forward 56 years and the launch of the new Women & Philanthropy program in support of Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Development Foundation’s Annual Fund campaign to raise funds in support of the highest need of the hospital and you will see that women continue to make a difference in our community.

In October, Dana Lyons, President of the Ridgecrest

Regional Hospital Board of Directors, hosted the first Women & Philanthropy informational meeting for women leaders in the community. The purpose of the new group is for members to advocate for Ridgecrest Regional Hospital and help create a culture of philanthropy among those who serve its patients and their families, neighbors and friends. Women who make an annual fund donation of \$1,000 or more are invited to be recognized at the Women & Philanthropy level. “This year has been one of firsts,” said Dana. “We formed the new Development Foundation at the start of the year and our first annual fund campaign to raise support for this year’s highest need, got started soon after,” she said.

“Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to purchase high definition endoscopy equipment,” said Tamara Tilley, Executive Director of the new RRH Development Foundation. “It’s

exciting to see it all come together with the help of our board and many volunteers,” she said. “We are over the half way mark and on our way to meeting that very first milestone after only a few months of fundraising.”

The new scopes will assist RRH physicians in early detection and treatment of gastrointestinal diseases, like colon cancer. Early detection improves treatment outcomes, reduces overall healthcare costs and improves the quality of life for our patients and their families

Women & Philanthropy members will have access to training about hospital services as well as education about philanthropy. The new Women & Philanthropy group will also assist the RRH Development Foundation with an annual gathering to thank donors and celebrate the hospital’s positive impact in the community.



Jan Hoagland  
*Pink Ladies Auxiliary Founder*

### Women & Philanthropy Founding Members

Jo Stauffer  
Charlotte Freeman  
Joan Goppelt  
Geraldyn Haradon  
Nancy Hodge  
Jennifer Hughon  
Dana Lyons  
Harriet Luzinas-Smith  
Bettye Moody  
Patricia Mullis  
Beatrice Smith  
Kathy Musson  
Rita Read  
Terri Stoner  
Tamara Tilley  
Carol Burge

For more information about Women & Philanthropy and how you can make a gift, call Foundation Director, Tamara Tilley at (760) 499-3955 or email her at [Tamara.Tilley@rrh.org](mailto:Tamara.Tilley@rrh.org).



## New Scopes Will Save More Lives



Fred Whitnack was a Base Assistant Fire Captain, a former EMT with a lifetime teaching credential, so he knew better than to skip his check-ups, but years of being the primary caretaker for his wife left him little time for much else. After she passed away in 2010, he had his first colonoscopy at 76 years old and soon after had surgery to remove cancerous polyps. “The new high definition endoscopy equipment that will be purchased thanks to this year’s annual fund will be wonderful, but it will do no one any good if they don’t get checked,” said Fred. “One of the best ways you can take care of the ones you love is to take

care of yourself,” he said. The new scopes will save time and money for patients who would have to travel out of town for the same services we will have right here at home.”

The new equipment funded by the annual fund helps with the recruitment and retention of physicians and staff. “As the annual fund continues to build support in the community, we will have the opportunity to further enhance the services the hospital provides.” said Jim Suver, CEO of the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. Go to the website at [www.rrh.org](http://www.rrh.org) to learn how you can make a gift in support of the annual fund.



## Coso Operating Company First Partner

Coso Operating Company of Inyokern became the Ridgecrest Regional Development Foundation’s first Partner, a level of recognition reserved for corporate and foundation annual fund donors at the level of \$2,500 and above. “We have over 100 employees with families in the community, so it is of the utmost importance that they have access to high quality health care and resources,” said Chris Ellis, Coso’s General Manager and volunteer member of the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Board of Directors. “We hope other employers will follow their lead,” said Jim Suver, CEO of Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. “Support for the annual fund at the Partner level makes a meaningful difference not only for the Partner’s employees, but for their families, neighbors and friends.”

Along with the Partner level of recognition, donations to the annual fund will be recognized on a display in the hospital and listed in publications at the following levels.

Platinum Circle:	\$1,000 +
Gold Circle:	\$500 to \$999
Silver Circle:	\$250 to \$499
Bronze Circle:	\$100 to \$249