

NEWS RELEASE

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Auxiliary presents check for \$100,000 for mobile diagnostics

(Anderson, S.C. – Feb. 5, 2014) – The AnMed Health Hospital Auxiliary presented a \$100,000 check to the AnMed Health Foundation on Jan. 23 to put toward its \$1.1 million fundraising goal to purchase a mobile diagnostic unit.

The AnMed Health Auxiliary is an all-volunteer organization with a goal of improving the lives of patients and the community by supporting AnMed Health. The Auxiliary raises money through two hospital gifts shops and other activities through the year, including periodic jewelry sales.

"You don't have to be a medical professional to work for better health. We invite everyone to join our cause," said David Schonauer, president of the Auxiliary. "We believe good health makes for a better community and the mobile diagnostic unit is a great way to make health and community better."

The AnMed Health Foundation launched a capital campaign late last year to raise \$1.1 million for a mobile diagnostic unit — a bus that will provide mammograms and other diagnostic services in the community.

The foundation has set a \$1.1 million fund-raising goal to put diagnostic equipment on the road. The funds will purchase a mobile diagnostic unit to take mammography and other screenings to people who can't or won't go to a doctor's office for screenings.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women and the number two cause of death. One in eight women will be diagnosed; in 2012 in Anderson County that came to 274 women diagnosed with breast cancer. In 30 percent of the cases nationally, by the time breast cancer is diagnosed, it has spread beyond the breast.

In addition to its central purpose of providing breast cancer screening and education, the mobile diagnostic unit also will serve as an entry point for health care, providing opportunities to connect women to primary care. A properly outfitted mobile unit can serve more than one cause, too, offering screenings for risks such as stroke, aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and bone density problems.

AnMed Health is a 690-bed, not-for-profit health system serving the Upstate and northeast Georgia. The system is anchored by AnMed Health Medical Center, a 461-bed acute care hospital. AnMed Health also has a satellite North Campus which includes the AnMed Health Women's and Children's Hospital, the AnMed Health Rehabilitation Hospital, a comprehensive Cancer Center, physician offices and the Cardiac and Orthopedic Center. The health system's network also includes affiliations with Cannon Memorial Hospital in Pickens, Elbert Memorial Hospital in Elberton, Ga., and Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte. With roughly 500 physicians and more than 3,600 employees, AnMed Health is Anderson County's largest employer. Learn more about us online at www.AnMedHealth.org.