

## **Request for donation matching on behalf of ABC Hospital employee**

### **Executive summary**

Development and fundraising support is sought on behalf of ABC Hospital employee Susan Jones, who is facing extreme financial hardship related to a catastrophic illness. Fred Wilkerson, a colleague of the employee, wishes to donate 15 crystal angels (valued at \$110 each) to be used as donor gifts for individuals or entities contributing \$1,000 or more to Susan's Fund, which has been set up by other colleagues for the benefit of the Jones family. Support is requested from the ABC Hospital Foundation to obtain the matching donations and advise on additional development possibilities to enable the growth of Susan's Fund.

### **Background**

Ms. Jones was diagnosed with ovarian cancer approximately 10 years ago. She presently has stage III cancer with metastasis, and is being treated by oncologist Dr. William Williams. During the past 2-3 years she has undergone two major abdominal surgeries and various outpatient procedures. Presently chemotherapy is administered by a continuous pump in her abdomen. Ms. Jones also receives blood transfusions, additional chemotherapy, and other medical treatments on a regular basis.

Ms. Jones has been employed as a Clinical Technician on Tower 7 for over five years. She has worked continuously throughout her illness and has not taken disability or a leave of absence. She performs her duties diligently and with extraordinary professionalism through the workday despite the debilitating side effects of her medical treatment. The Tower 7 patients, whom she cares for, and ABC Hospital employees who do not know of her condition, would be unaware of her illness or its seriousness. To the latter, she is the Tech with the smiling face who bakes cakes for co-workers, and helps her colleagues at every turn.

Ms. Jones' illness has caused the Jones family to face extreme financial hardship due to the accumulation of approximately \$60,000 in medical bills. James Jones, Ms. Jones' husband, works 6 days a week, and both Jones children have part-time jobs while they attend school. One of the children, Marilyn Jones, works for ABC Hospital as a Unit Secretary on Tower 7. The Joneses presently face foreclosure of their mortgage due to their inability to keep up with hospital bills (all owed to ABC Hospital) and their mortgage at the same time. The amount of \$8,000 is needed emergently to prevent the foreclosure. The Jones family has no other debts and has no credit card debt.

### **Fundraising efforts**

During the past few years, colleagues and other employees have made personal donations, organized bake sales, and have pursued other small-scale efforts in support of the Jones family. As a result, Susan's Fund was established, with a current balance of \$1,300. Donations to Susan's Fund are presently sought to bring the balance to \$8,000 by 27 Jan 2007 and prevent foreclosure.

The present initiative, which will lead to the development of larger donations, and other initiatives which may follow, will provide substantial relief to the Jones family. As a result, the Joneses will be able to make the best use of their time with Susan, and will survive financially throughout the remaining duration of her illness.