



BENEDICTINE
HEALTH FOUNDATION

Celebrating 35 Years 1977 - 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bike for Cancer Care Gears Up to Help Cancer Patients

Kingston, N.Y. – August 1, 2012 – The Benedictine Health Foundation will hold the **9th Annual Bike for Cancer Care** on Sunday, September 16, 2012 to support the **Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund**. The event will start and finish at Dietz Stadium in Kingston, and will feature a Bike Rodeo for children ages 5 – 10 within Dietz Stadium, a family ride throughout historic uptown Kingston, a new 12-mile ride and 25- and 50-mile routes for more avid cyclists. Riders and volunteers will enjoy breakfast, fully supported rest stops, a BBQ lunch, ice cream and live entertainment at the end of the ride. Prizes are awarded to the top fundraisers for both individuals and teams.

In partnership with the Benedictine Health Foundation, the **Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund** was established in 2004 to aid in the treatment, care, and support of cancer patients in financial need. The Fund provides assistance to eligible patients who are residents of Ulster County regardless of the facility where they receive treatment, and residents of neighboring Hudson Valley Counties who receive treatment within Ulster County. Since being established in 2004, the fund has assisted over 900 patients by providing gift cards to purchase nutritious food and/or fuel cards so that patients may access treatment.

The **Bike for Cancer Care** is the main event supporting the Fund. Over 400 riders and 125 volunteers support us each year. Every \$500 raised provides financial assistance to a cancer patient and their family. For further information, to volunteer, register or donate, visit www.bikeforcancer.org, or call Dan Gruner, Event Chair, at (845) 417-1865 or the Benedictine Health Foundation at (845) 334-3017.

*Special thanks to our **Platinum Sponsors:** Anita Williams Peck, Cumulus Broadcasting, Hannaford Supermarkets, Murphy Healthcare Group, River Radiology, and Timely Signs of Kingston; **Gold Sponsors:** Bruderhof, Colonial Roofing & Siding, M&T Charitable Foundation, Rondout Savings Bank, Stewart's Shops, and Ulster Savings Bank; **Silver Sponsors:** Ozzie & Kathy Beichert, Gillette Creamery, Mobile Life Support Services, New York Communications Company, Rose & Kiernan, Ryan & Ryan Insurance Brokers, Inc. & Erie Insurance Group, and The Valley Group.*

About Benedictine Health Foundation

The Benedictine Health Foundation supports the healthcare programs, services, and facilities of Benedictine Hospital, a member of HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley®. For further information, contact Barbara Klassen, Executive Director, at (845) 334-3186.

About HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley®

HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley® is the alignment of Benedictine Hospital, Kingston Hospital, Margaretville Hospital, Mountainside Residential Care Center and Woodland Pond at New Paltz. As the parent organization, HealthAlliance provides a unified governance structure, while still allowing each hospital to continue as a separate and distinct corporation. The goal of HealthAlliance is to strengthen the quality of care and bring forward enhanced technology to serve the present and future healthcare needs in the Hudson Valley. HealthAlliance and its affiliate facilities are committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered care and ensuring patient safety, privacy and dignity to all. For further information about HealthAlliance visit our web site at www.HAHV.org.

For further information on the Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund, contact the Oncology Support Program at Benedictine Hospital, (845) 339-2071, or the Benedictine Health Foundation at (845) 334-3017. The Benedictine Health Foundation supports the quality healthcare programs, services, and facilities of Benedictine Hospital, a member of HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley.

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