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Turnout for Love Bags gift drive ‘phenomenal’

BY TORIANO PORTER

tporter@lsjournal.com February 24, 2016

Corrine Everson, vice-president for marketing for Research Medical Center in Kansas City, did not know what to expect when Jessica McClellan reached out to Everson for a partnership.

McClellan, founder of Lee's Summit-based non-profit Giving Hope and Help, wanted to include Research cancer patients in the organization's second annual Love Bags for Cancer gift bag give-away.

After Giving Hope and Help volunteers peppered close to 60 cancer patients at Research with gifts and kind words, Everson now knows a great deal more.

“Seeing all of these wonderful, loving, hope-filled women visit the patients and give them hope; we're all just deeply touched by sharing hope and joy with one another,” Everson said after volunteers spent Feb. 13 at the hospital. “It was such a pleasure.”

Volunteers delivered the gift bags to cancer patients at two other hospitals over the Valentine's Day weekend. McClellan said the organization wanted to help lift spirits of those affected by cancer.

The bags included toiletries, dental care items, lotion, lip balm, inspirational bookmarks, a word search book, a seven-day pill box, organic natural detergent, tea, a pen and an inspirational letter from McClellan.

Volunteers also offered prayer to the patients.

“It was phenomenal,” McClellan said.

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Christine Kirkwood Hamele · Assistant Vice President, Public Relations and Community Affairs at HCA Midwest Health

This is so special-- God bless this organziation and those who serve.

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Jessica Mccallop-McClellan · Baker University

Thank you Christine! Everytime I give a LOVE Bag 4 Cancer to a cancer patient I feel so blessed and special. The bags make a world of difference for the patients and we plan to continue to add additional hospital cancer units every year along with increasing our donation to the American Cancer Society. TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Like us on Facebook at Giving Hope & Help, Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @givehopehelp. Connect with us on the web at www.givinghopeandhelp.org THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND COMMENT!

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Volunteers from Giving Hope and Help spent Valentine's Day weekend delivering more than 120 gift bags to three area hospitals. Pictured here are Youth World Changer volunteer Kayla Henderson, World Changer Volunteer and breast cancer survivor Lisa Griffin, Giving Hope and Help Founder and President Jessica McClellan, Board Member Kevin McClellan and Youth World Changer volunteer Halston McClellan. **PHOTO PROVIDED**



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