



THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

Transformative Journeys: Inspiring Women's Health

In 2024, The Women's Committee (TWC) had another successful fundraising year resulting in new investments in life-saving programs, and services to help women fight cancer and thrive. Following are a few highlights of the impact your support is making possible.



Free Breast Health Screening Days

Early detection is critical to surviving breast cancer, and The Women's Committee is dedicated to ensuring that every woman in our community has access to annual screenings, regardless of their ability to pay. Generously underwritten by the Manning Family Foundation in collaboration with TWC, these screenings remove financial barriers to care.

In 2024, two women who attended Breast Health Screening Days were diagnosed with breast cancer through early detection. This lifesaving discovery allows for timely intervention, improving outcomes and expanding treatment options. Additionally, 177 women scheduled screenings, with nearly a dozen requiring further diagnostics to rule out cancer.

All participants receive the same high-quality care at the Martha Jefferson Hospital Breast Health Center as any other patient. They also benefit from the presence of on-site interpreters, breast cancer survivors, and advocates, ensuring they feel supported throughout the process.

Spring Fly Fling

Marking its 16th year in 2024, the Spring Fly Fling combines the healing power of fly-casting with the comfort of shared experiences. More than 150 women have participated, many returning year after year as dedicated volunteers make this free event possible. "It's a really powerful experience," says TWC member and breast cancer survivor Susan Kreiner. "Someone would share their story, and I'd break down because I'd think, 'I totally understand that.'"



Marianne's Room

Established 23 years ago by The Women's Committee in memory of TWC member Marianne Zirkle, Marianne's Room offers free resources and access to support women on their cancer journey. In 2024, it provided dozens of free wigs and scarves to patients, and a variety of lotions and anti-nausea aides to help manage chemotherapy side effects.



To join this dynamic, all volunteer effort or to contribute to the TWC scan this QR Code.

Scan this QR CODE



The Caring Embrace

Every Wednesday, a dedicated group of knitting volunteers gathers at our hospital to craft comfort and warmth for patients in need. In 2024, they created 299 shawls, offering help to those undergoing chemotherapy and providing extra warmth to patients facing multiple illnesses. The Women's Committee supplies yarn and knitting materials, ensuring these heartfelt gifts continue to reach those who need them most.



Molli Surgical Navigation Device

In 2024, Dr. Andrea Merrill joined the Sentara Breast Surgery Specialist team, bringing new energy and innovation to our group, including the acquisition of a Molli Surgical Navigation Device in the Outpatient Surgery Center.

The MOLLI system is a wire-free, minimally invasive technology for tagging breast tumors before surgery. Unlike the traditional method, which requires a metal wire protruding from the skin, MOLLI uses a tiny, rice-sized device injected into the tumor site.

This eliminates exterior exposure, using magnetic technology to localize the area in question with accuracy and

provide a better patient experience. Surgeons use ultrasound guidance to locate the tag and tumor edges, allowing for more precise removal while conserving breast tissue.



SMJH purchased a system for the Outpatient Surgery Center in 2024, and TWC support will help bring the same advanced care to the Main Hospital with a second MOLLI system.

Join us!

For "In the Pink"
Tennis and Pickleball Charity Event
October 3-4, 2025
&
Martha's Market
October 25, 2025



Join us! Learn more at mjhfoundation.org or reach out to us directly at 434.654.8258.

Martha
Jefferson Hospital Foundation

