



# Benedictine

HEALTH FOUNDATION

Supporting the Benedictine Spirit of Compassionate Care

Benedictine Health Foundation  
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## Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund to Receive Honor

Kingston, N.Y. – October 4, 2016 - Benedictine Health Foundation's Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund has been selected to receive the Ulster County YWCA's Tribute to Women Organization of the Year Award. The event will be held on Friday, October 21, at Wiltwyck Golf Club.

Rosemary D. Gruner lost her long and courageous battle to lung cancer in 2004. During her illness, the Gruner family met many patients at the cancer center in Kingston who struggled financially due to their inability to work while undergoing arduous treatments. The family felt fortunate to have the financial means to cover expenses and the tremendous support of friends through Rosemary's illness. After she passed away, they established the *Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund* in partnership with the Benedictine Health Foundation to honor her memory and to aid in the treatment, care, and support of local cancer patients in need.

Since the fund was established, the Benedictine Health Foundation has distributed over \$700,000 to more than 1600 local patients while they receive treatment. Each patient receives \$500 annually in the form of gift cards to purchase nutritious food at Hannaford Supermarket's and fuel at Stewart's Shops to help cover the expense of transportation.

In its first year, 2005, the Fund provided 42 patients with a total of \$14,000 in assistance. Today, the Fund averages \$9000 per month and is on track to distribute upwards of \$100,000 this year.

As a result of our Ulster County community's generosity, the Foundation has the resources to sustain the Fund, and most important, there are no administrative fees applied. 100% of donations received go directly to local cancer patients.

To learn more about the Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund and work of the Benedictine Health Foundation, contact Barbara Klassen, Executive Director, at (845) 334-3186 or [bklassen@bhfoundation.org](mailto:bklassen@bhfoundation.org).

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*Please remember us in your will and estate plans.*