Hurdle Jumpers provides free comfort kits for cancer patients. Our kits contain a variety of donated sample products, a humor book, educational materials, helpful tips & advice, a relaxation CD and other practical items found to be useful in managing the side effects of cancer treatment.

# On Track FALL 2008

A Bald Beauty

Congratulations to Hurdle Jumper Lacy Stormes.

When Lacy was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in May 2008 her doctor gave her a Hurdle Jumpers chemotherapy comfort kit to ease the side effects of treatment.



Lacy and Eddie

Lacy took a leave of absence from college to undergo chemotherapy treatments and she was also the

Los Angeles County delegate to the Miss California International Pageant in August 2008. She competed in all activities, was voted Miss Congeniality by the other contestants, and received the Spirit of Pageantry award from the pageant's director, Eddie Peterson.

The competition included an interview with the judges about an organization she wanted to champion. Lacy selected Hurdle Jumpers as her cause because, as she explained, "survival comfort kits given to new cancer patients at no cost, give patients a jump start on their cancer battle, helping them to feel that there is no hurdle they cannot overcome."

The day after the pageant activities concluded, Lacy was back at her doctor's office for a week of additional chemotherapy treatments. Although the judges didn't select Lacy as Miss California International, she's a winner and is truly inspiring.



At Hurdle Jumpers, we couldn't fulfill our mission without the extraordinary efforts and hard work of our volunteers. They assemble each kit with love and care.

Volunteers are as precious a resource as the donated sample products.



They pack our kits, getting them ready and into the hands of nurses and doctors. Many thanks to all of our 2008 volunteers!

High school students played a big role in our recent packing days

(continued on page 2)

### Dear Hurdle Jumpers...

The Ket was very helpful, aspecially human kever gone thru radiation treatment. The information and products were educational and useful.

That you for thinking of others. I truly believe the things we encounter in life are believe the things we encounter in life are not only for ourselves but for others as well. We need one another.

We need one another.

That you ALL for the Ket. May 2008

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## Volunteers with Love (con't)



Families from Sinai Temple in West Los Angeles also spent some of their spring vacation helping at the Hurdle Jumpers' Logistics Center



Thanks to the Sinai Temple "moms" for quality control inspections, along with arranging carpools and snacks!



special thanks to volunteers Amanda and Matt who chose Hurdle Jumpers for their high school Community Service projects this year. In addition to planning every aspect of the packing days, they were also on site to ensure that everything went smoothly and ran efficiently.

### Can't Forget...

MANY THANKS TO AMERICAN MEDICAL SALES FOR MAKING ROOM FOR US TO SPREAD OUT AND PACK!

# Awards and Grants

In 2008 Hurdle Jumpers received a grant from the Employees Community Fund (ECF) of Boeing California. ECF is an employee owned and operated non-profit organization. It supports a variety of community services programs where Boeing employees live and work. ECF's donations come from employee payroll deductions.

Hurdle Jumpers is honored to have been recommended by Henry Morgen who presented the grant award at the quarterly ECF luncheon.

At the lunch, Henry explained, "Recommending such a worthwhile organization to my colleagues at Boeing was an easy decision.
So many of our lives are touched by cancer. By pooling our resources, Boe-



Henry presents award to Janet

ing employees are able to support meaningful and direct services."

Several months after receiving our award, Hurdle Jumpers participated in the ECF campaign to encourage Boeing employees to participate in this unique charitable giving program.

#### We also thank:

- Aaroe Associates Charitable Foundation for its support; we were introduced to the Foundation by Los Feliz Residential Realty Associate, Chris Laib.
- The Hartford. Their Southern California Regional Office won and distributed the annual President's Award to 4 local charities: we appreciate Senior Sales Representative, Robbin Tait, for submitting Hurdle Jumpers for consideration by her peers.
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals for its support and grant to pay for the printing of the educational survival tips included in each kit.

### One Volunteer Writes

Dear Janet - Thank you for allowing me to volunteer. When I was typing up the thank you letters from kit recipients, they told their stories with cancer and how it has affected their lives. This project changed my life for the better.

HJ is a wonderful organization that helps those who are struggling through the most difficult time of their lives get through it with ease and comfort. The kits

let them know that there are people out there that care about what they are going through.

I enjoyed every minute of the project!

Calah H. Taft High School, Woodland Hills, CA.

# Notes from Hurdlers' Hearts

### What A Kit Meant to Me...

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THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH!

August

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The told me it mend a lat to her to get a live from someone who really understood. Them you town

**VOLUNTEER ONLINE** 

hurdlejumpers.org

DONATE SECURELY ONLINE



Jo Ann with her parents, husband and daughter

"No matter how much I thought I was prepared, chemotherapy threw me for a loop. One of the most practical, lovely and useful items I received came in a small black tote bag. It said Hurdle Jumpers on it. Inside was a treasury of things: some things I had, some I knew about, and still others I didn't know I would need.

Most of all, it made me feel connected to others who had the kit and were going through all the symptoms nobody told me about. I couldn't believe the love, care and thought that had gone into this bag and I was awestruck that one person had put this all together.

My family champions and supports Hurdle Jumpers. Your contribution to this endeavor will bring light and comfort to the dark days that women and men are experiencing in their confusing time of need."

 Jo Ann Colker Arison, daughter, wife, mother, sister, friend, yoga teacher and cancer survivor



### What We Do...

Hurdle Jumpers provides free comfort kits for cancer patients. Our kits contain a variety of donated sample products, a humor book, educational materials, helpful tips and advice, a relaxation CD and other practical items found to be useful in managing the side effects of cancer treatment.

Kits are distributed through oncology practices. To request a kit, go to www.hurdlejumpers.org and select the "Kits" page. Follow the instructions to download a request form.

### Hot off the press:

"Your kit gave me answers to questions I didn't have to remember to ask." Jeannie

#### Publisher's Note:

We thank Devine Printing for donating the production costs of this newsletter.

# HURDLE JUMPERS

SOARING OVER THE OBSTACLES OF CANCER TREATMENT

A tax exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) ID No. 20-4446629

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Hurdle Jumpers Hotline 310.968.4123



P.O. Box 642600 Los Angeles, CA 90064

**VOLUNTEER ONLINE** 

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<sup>\*</sup> Designation for identification only