



For Immediate Release

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THE TWIG PLEDGES \$1 MILLION AGAIN!!!

On Monday, November 9, 2015, during their monthly general membership meeting, the active members of The Twig voted to pledge \$1 million to Inova Alexandria Hospital. These funds will be put toward renovations for the hospital's Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU). The pledge will be payable over an 8-year period.

This new pledge comes on the heels of The Twig completing \$1 million pledge approved in 2010 designated to The Twig Surgical Center, a 24 private-patient room unit dedicated to the care of post-surgical patients. This was the largest pledge The Twig had made toward the hospital since its inception in 1933. "We are excited to pledge \$1 million again," said Twig President Yvonne Folkerts. "We continue to offer Inova Alexandria Hospital the largest pledge by any volunteer organization in the City of Alexandria."

This new pledge will help the hospital renovate its CVICU. Ongoing facility enhancements will focus on infrastructure upgrades, state-of-the-art clinical space, and an improved patient experience. The hospital wants to see upgrades which have a focus on private patient rooms and aesthetically pleasing surroundings with space for families, patients and caregivers. Increasing patient room size; more pleasing environment; private showers and bathrooms; space for family with room to sleep; more functional space for nurses; flexibility to use the rooms for critical care or acute care are just a few of the renovation enhancements the hospital is working to achieve.

The Twig, the Junior Auxiliary for Inova Alexandria Hospital, is a non-profit organization of women dedicated to providing financial aid, volunteer service, and support to Inova Alexandria Hospital, which was originally established by volunteers in 1933 by a group of 24 young women who gathered at the home of Mrs. Julian T. Burke. They took the name "The Twig" from a contest entry by Mrs. Nellie Sommers Blackwell; this described the new organization as a small branch of the "tree" which represented the hospital.

The Twig and Inova Alexandria Hospital both have grown along with the City of Alexandria. For more than 80 years, The Twig has been true to the goals of its charter members by helping the Hospital provide the highest quality medical service for the Alexandria community. Today's members carry on that tradition of community support and individual dedication. To date, The Twig has contributed more than \$3.6 million to Inova Alexandria Hospital.

The Twig also funds The Twig Nursing Scholarship, which is used to assist a nurse further his or her education.