



**Contact: Linda Blauers**  
**Public Relations Specialist**  
**St. James Mercy Hospital**  
411 Canisteo Street  
Hornell, NY 14843  
Phone: 1-607-324-8146  
Fax: 1-607-324-8115  
Email: lblauers@sjmh.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **St. James Mercy Hospital Commemorates Health Care Auxilian Day**

**May 6, 2015...Hornell, NY** - Governor Andrew Cuomo has proclaimed May 6, 2015 as "Health Care Auxilian Day" in New York State. St. James Mercy Hospital is joining hospitals across the state in recognizing the dedicated auxilian volunteers who annually donate countless hours of service to their health care facilities and communities. Over 75 Auxiliary members will be honored by St. James Mercy at a luncheon on June 9th.

Founded in 1904, St. James Mercy's Auxiliary volunteers thousands of hours each year toward fundraising and community service projects. Through their past fundraising efforts, Auxiliary members have purchased much-needed equipment for the physical therapy and emergency departments, nursing home, and hospital; provided grants to adult day care and the School of Radiologic Science; and supported renovations to the Hospital lobby and McAuley Manor. The Auxiliary manages the gift shops at Mercycare and the Hospital, as well as coordinates events to benefit the hospital including book fairs, Trees of Life program, uniform sales, food fairs and bazaars. To date, the Auxiliary has contributed approximately \$750,000 to support St. James Mercy Hospital.

According to Sylvia Bryant, Executive Director of St. James Mercy Foundation, "The Auxiliary makes it possible for us to fulfill our mission – to be a healing presence in our rural communities, and address the needs of the poor, underserved and disadvantaged. These volunteers often work behind the scenes to provide comfort and support to patients, families and staff. We are so fortunate to have this dedicated and talented group, committed to serving the many needs of people who come to us for care."

###