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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hospital Auxiliary Contributes $27,250 to St. James Mercy Foundation

June 23, 2012...Hornell, NY... Forty-three members of the St. James Mercy Hospital (SJMH) Auxiliary gathered on June 12 at the Knights of Columbus Hall for the annual Auxiliary Appreciation luncheon to commemorate their work on behalf of St. James Mercy Hospital. The Auxiliary also presented its annual gift to St. James Mercy Foundation in the amount of $27,250.

Auxiliary chair, Lynne Freeland, acknowledged the tireless work of the Auxiliary volunteers. "Year after year, Auxiliary members coordinate many fundraising activities and events, including the Christmas Bazaar and Food Fair, and operate the Aquinas Gift Shops," she said. "Every hour and every dollar go directly to support the hospital in enhancing healthcare services in our community."

President and CEO Mary LaRowe acknowledged the Auxiliary for its long-time support of the greater Hornell community. "The Auxiliary has provided an invaluable service to St. James Mercy hospital since its founding in 1904. In fact, the Auxiliary is the largest single donor to the Foundation, contributing over $660,000 since its founding. Auxiliary members make it possible for SJMH to continue its mission of serving the poor and disadvantaged who come to us for care."

A portion of this year's Auxiliary gift will provide support to two projects at St. James Mercy Hospital: renovation of the main lobby and the School of Radiologic Science.

The luncheon also included recognition of new members Jane Aini, Sylvia Bryant, Sue Christensen, Rita Holmes, Bridgett Mayorga, Joanne Palmesano, Erin Pryor and Louise Wintermute. The group enjoyed a special performance by St. Ann's School Children's Choir under the direction of Cathy Reed, and a presentation by Irfan Rizvi, MD, new general surgeon at SJMH.

For more information about the Hospital Auxiliary or St. James Mercy Foundation, visit www.stjamesmercy.org or call 607.324.8240.

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Caption:
Lynne Freeland (left), chair of St. James Mercy Hospital Auxiliary, presents a check for $27,250 to Mary LaRowe, president and CEO of St. James Mercy Health System. This year's Auxiliary gift to St. James Mercy Foundation will help support renovation of the Hospital lobby and the School of Radiologic Science.