

UC San Diego's Bannister Family House Launches Quarter-Million Dollar "Matching Gift Challenge"

The Medical Center's Haven of Hope and Comfort for Patients and Families Needs Repair

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The Bannister Family House at UC San Diego Medical Center is celebrating 15 years of service to families in need with a match challenge. For the first time ever, UC San Diego Medical Center has developed a match challenge for gifts directed to the Bannister Family House on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$250,000.

"This is an unprecedented aim for the Bannister Family House," said director Denise Capozzi. "The matching gift opportunity creates significant financial incentive for donors and friends and nearly doubles the House's annual goal in exactly half the time."

The UC San Diego Medical Center is a destination for excellent and compassionate care for all patients, regardless of distance. The Medical Center's reach extends well beyond San Diego and United States borders; thus, Bannister Family House is a pivotal partner, serving as a "home away from home" for loved ones of patients being treated at the Medical Center.

It has been 15 years since any major renovations have been made, and with matched gifts the Bannister Family House will be able to initiate much needed home improvements, including a new roof, hygienic wood flooring, purchase of new bedding and furnishings, air conditioners and kitchen enhancements.

By taking advantage of the Medical Center's match challenge, a donor will be able to double the value of every gift designated to the House and will contribute to the restoration of this invaluable service in the San Diego community.

The goal is to reach \$250,000 by June 30, 2010. For more information on making a gift to support the Bannister Family House please visit <http://health.ucsd.edu/bannister/howtohelp.htm>

About Bannister Family House: The Bannister Family House sits at the edge of the canyon above Mission Valley, on the medical center's Hillcrest campus. It is a haven of hope and comfort for families whose loved one is receiving care at UC San Diego Medical Center. Here, residents can share similar experiences and concerns in a friendly, home-like environment. The non-medical atmosphere serves as a retreat from the stress of a constant bedside vigil at the hospital and families who share this connection can develop a support network necessary to sustain a serious illness.

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