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A Worthy Cause

UCSD Hillcrest Operating Room- Outreach to Bannister Family House

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A home away from home: This is exactly what UCSD offers at the Bannister House.

Since its opening on May 11, 1994, over 3,200 families from 50 states and 23 countries have enjoyed the comforts at this wonderful facility located just steps away from our hospitals.

The mission of Bannister Family House is to provide affordable lodging and supportive services for out-of-town families of patients who have come to UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest and Thornton Hospital in La Jolla due to serious injury or illness. There is a large home just steps away from Hillcrest Hospital. The Bannister Family House has also partnered with ARCH and Moores Cancer Center to provide two two-bedroom apartment Hospitality Suites located in La Jolla. These two facilities are a haven of comfort and hope for weary families who share similar experiences and concerns in friendly, homelike surroundings close to the hospital.

All of the comforts of home are provided at the Bannister Family House... a place to sleep and rest during the day, a kitchen for preparing home-cooked meals, laundry facilities, and a place where children can lead relatively normal daily lives. By keeping family units together, we hope that they may find the inner strength and spirit to move forward from a period of overwhelming stress. (health.ucsd.edu/bannister).

The Bannister Family House

depends largely on donations to ensure that it remains a haven of comfort for families facing severe medical crises. For this reason we wanted to contribute to this very exemplary cause.

On a recent morning, the staff of the Hillcrest Main O.R. took part in an outreach event for this worthy facility. Our staff wheeled an oversized, three-tiered, cart loaded with items donated by all of our staff for the families staying the Bannister House. There was food-a-plenty; all the makings of a breakfast made for royalty: eggs, bagels, fresh coffee, muffins, fruit, etc. A large basket of Starbucks goodies was left on the kitchen counter for all the families to share. There were



also individual family bags, one for each of the families there, containing lotions, soaps, toothbrushes and paste, shampoos and other personal goods.

We hope that in a small way we have helped make their time at Bannister House just a little more comfortable and brighter!

