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CatalinaIslandMedicalCenter.org

7/30/13

To: Avalon Rotary Club

From: Catalina Island Medical Center

Dear Avalon Rotary Club Representative,

Catalina Island Medical Center has been requested to provide information about our agency's role in the Avalon Rotary Club's Transportation Assistance Program. First, allow me to thank the Rotary Club for funding this very worthwhile program. It has been a blessing for both patients, and their medical providers who refer them to mainland specialists.

CIMC medical providers in the Emergency Room and/ or in the Medical Group Office often need to refer patients to mainland specialists. Unfortunately, many patients can't afford the round-trip boat transportation to access these services. Patients who communicate to their medical provider that they cannot afford boat fare for specialty care are referred to the CIMC Social Services Department. CIMC social workers assess patients' financial eligibility for the program (133% Federal Poverty Level guidelines) and refer patients who qualify both medically and financially to the local Rotary Club representative, who then makes arrangements to provide the patient with a gift certificate for the Catalina Express. Patients who have ongoing transportation needs (for chemotherapy treatments or dialysis for example) may be provided with a commuter book, as funding is available.

Again, we would like to thank the Rotary Club for funding this program. If you have any questions about program operations please contact me at 310-510-0520.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn Sampson".

Dawn Sampson, LCSW
Lic #LCS23139
Director of Grants and Social Services