Dear Health Care Administrator,

Each year in this country, millions of patients are treated for heart-related illnesses. While medical advances in cardiology continue to improve, managing the emotional aspects of heart disease remains an important element of recovery. Mended Hearts is a national nonprofit organization that has been dedicated to inspiring hope to heart patients, their families and caregivers for more than 68 years through 274+ community-based chapters. We are interested in partnering with your facility to deliver emotional support and education to your cardiovascular patients through our community-based organization.

Our trained volunteers provided more than 230,000 visits to heart patients and their families in 2018. In 2014, we collaborated with the American College of Cardiology (ACC) to conduct a study analyzing the value of these visits. The “Quantifying the Value of Peer Support” study had this important finding: Mended Hearts hospitals’ readmission rates for heart failure are significantly more likely to be better than the U.S National rate. This study supports what we have known for years. That is, having a Mended Hearts visiting program in a hospital has a positive impact on patient outcomes.

Data for this study was compared and analyzed using the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) database for hospitals. Among its findings, the report revealed

- Hospitals with regular visits from Mended Hearts members are significantly more likely to have fewer patient readmissions for heart failure compared to other hospitals.
- Patients visited by Mended Hearts are more compliant and mindful of healthcare provider instructions.
- Patients visited by Mended Hearts are more optimistic, indicate a stronger sense of wellness and self-efficacy, and are actively involved in recovery.

To find out more about Mended Hearts programs and the “Quantifying the Value of Peer Support” study, please read the enclosed study results and news release, statistical highlights and fact sheet, our organizational profile and fact sheet, and our Mended Hearts brochures.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at 1-888- HEART99. We will connect you with a local Mended Hearts volunteer representative who can answer any questions and begin working with you to build a partnership with your facility. Together we can make a positive difference to heart patients and families!

Best Regards,

Judy Himes

Judy Himes, BA, CAVS
Director of Operations
The Mended Hearts, Inc.