



The Daksha Chudgar Lydia House - built for patients, built with love - A small act of kindness made a tremendous impression on a physician's family and now will reap huge benefits for a local charity.

When Dr. Bipin Chudgar's wife, obstetrician and gynecologist Daksha Chudgar, was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2005, she received a tote bag from The Lydia Project, personally delivered to her by a volunteer.

Although she won her first bout with cancer, she was diagnosed with a second cancer in 2007 and died April 18, 2009. Her husband now *Continued Page 3*



The Ultimate Ride & Fitness is not just a place one can fight the good fight and win! It is also a place that gives extraordinary support to the women Lydia serves.

In October the business will once again sponsor the Ultimate Spin-a-thon benefiting The Lydia Project. See page five of this newsletter for details.

“Thank you so much for the care, love and hope you give to strangers who are suffering and afraid. “

–Shirley (TN)

Public can support cause and get a clean sweep. The Cedar Creek Ladies Club is offering Aikenites a chance to get a little clutter cleared for a good cause with the upcoming Clean Sweep & Good Stuff Emporium.

The community tag sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center. The event is designed to aid Cedar Creek residents whose covenants prohibit yard or garage sales in the subdivision, but anyone in the area is welcome to rent a table, according to event coordinator Lynda Platt.

The event will benefit cancer charity The Lydia Project and Golden Harvest Food Bank. Admission for shoppers is a donation of cash or canned goods for Golden Harvest.

"We'll also have craft items. We have a lot of people who are crafters and will be offering their works as well, so it'll be a nice mix. We're expanding the bake sale concept this year and calling it the Country Store. So in addition to just baked goods, we'll have homemade candy, olive oils, herbed vinegars. If people have canned fruits and vegetables and made jams and preserves over the summer, they can sell them, and we'll have a good selection of cookbooks," said Platt.

"What draws people to this kind of event is the thrill of the hunt," said club president Nancy Karl. "They feel they've really scored a coup."

Platt is the Aiken area coordinator for The Lydia Project, and the Cedar Creek Ladies Club's members do a great deal of sewing and shopping for the project. The Lydia Project makes custom tote bags for cancer patients to take to treatments and packs them with a blank journal, pens, hand lotion and other small items, as well as a card with the seamstress' name and a response card.

Continued Page 6

Did You Know?

- Lydia received and served 5,972 new referrals of women coping with cancer...in 2010.
- Lydia volunteers gave 24,475 hours of service in 2010.
- Individuals volunteer from all over the nation are sewing, writing monthly encouraging notes, fundraising, organizing collection drives, or praying from home for the women Lydia serves. *To volunteer from anywhere in the nation, check out opportunities on the volunteer application located on Lydia's website.*

“I was given a tote at the James Brown Cancer Center in Louisville when I was going through breast cancer. Now I am sending one to my mom as she continues her journey through breast cancer.”

-Sherri (KY)

People want to know!: “What can we send that would help Lydia’s tote distribution program?”

Answer: the one item Lydia goes through the quickest is *pocket size tissue!*

Lydia Welcomes New Partners distributing totes to women coping with cancer in their cities:

1. Arizona Oncology - Phoenix, Arizona
2. Cancer Care Center - Paris, Tennessee
3. Cancer Care of Western North Carolina - Asheville, North Carolina
4. Cancer Navigators, Rome, GA
5. OAK Ovarian Awareness of Kentucky - Louisville, KY
6. Pickens County Cancer Association, Pickens, SC
7. Harriet’s Closet, Milledgeville, GA
8. UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center - Birmingham, AL

In Support of Women Coping with Cancer



For every \$10 lotion purchased/donated

to The Lydia Project – Outdoor Hands donates a second tube.

Donation purchases can be made:

- **Online at www.outdoorhands.com/**
- **At 318 Baston Road, Ste 103, Augusta, GA 30907**

Inquiries? Call toll free 866.880.1915

Outdoor Hand’s goal: to provide enough specially formulated lotion for all women Lydia serves in 2011

Thank you

Outdoor Hands for being the first national product to carry the Lydia logo!



wants to make a lasting contribution to the group and the women it serves in the form of a temporary home.

"So many women, who are cancer patients and from outlying areas, do not come back to treatment because of lack of transportation or money or other issues. They don't come back until they end up in an emergency room in the last stages of cancer," said Chudgar, who is spearheading the effort to create the Daksha Chudgar Lydia House.

Chudgar, who is also an obstetrician and gynecologist, has donated \$500,000 toward the project and has put a contract on 0.74 acres near Doctors Hospital for an 8,000-square-foot home to provide temporary housing for 12 to 15 women with cancer.

He said additional money or in-kind donations will be raised. The cost of the total project will be about \$2 million.

To donate funds, resources, or services email contactus@thelydiaproject.org or call 706.736.5467.

Dr. Daksha B. Chudgar had a successful and fulfilling medical career in Augusta, Georgia. She dedicated her life to her family, her patients and her passion for academia. Daksha was committed to serving her community, offering unconditional support to friends and strangers alike. The Daksha Chudgar Lydia House will emulate her compassion by caring for women fighting cancer who need a safe place to stay during treatment.



Rewarding Opportunity for Volunteer Sewers

Experienced sewers love volunteering for Lydia!

- **Volunteering couldn't be easier -- tote kits are provided with material/ pattern already cut and ready to sew any time in the comfort of home.**
- **Lydia fills and distributes the completed totes to the women Lydia serves.**

Find out why volunteers love sewing for Lydia,

Locally or from any where in the nation!



Calendar - Upcoming Events

October

- **8th SAT - Trinity On The Hill United Methodist Church Women's Conference**, 9:00am-3:00pm, 1330 Monte Sano Avenue, Augusta, 30904.
- **19th WED - Branums Sewing Group**, 9:00am-4:00pm, Branums Sewing and Vacuum Center, Inc., 3230 Washington Rd, Augusta GA 30907. *New volunteers welcomed!*
- **19th WED - New Office Volunteer Orientation**, 1:00pm-2:00pm, 2501 McDowell St, Augusta, GA 30904
- **21st FRI – Augusta Chronicle Think Pink Banquet**, 6:00pm, Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, 2 10th Street, Augusta, GA 30901. *New volunteers welcomed!*
- **22nd SAT - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Lydia Work Day**, 9am-12pm, 1002 Carolina Avenue, North Augusta, SC 29841
- **22nd SAT – Cedar Creek Ladies Clean Sweep & Good Stuff Emporium**, 9:00am-1:00pm, 1700 Weeks Center Aiken, SC 29801. *Flea market treasures, hand crafted items, homemade goodies, collectibles, and more.*
- **22nd SAT - Lewis Memorial United Methodist Church Lydia Work Day**, 9:00am-12:00pm, 5555 Hereford Farm RD, Evans, GA 30809
- **27th THU - Full Board meeting**, 6:30pm, 2501 McDowell St., Augusta, GA 30904.

November

- **1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, TUE - Cedar Creek Sew n Sews Lydia Work Day**, 10:30 - 1:00pm, Cedar Creek Community Center, 2584 Club Drive, Aiken, SC 29803. *New volunteers welcomed!*
- **12th SAT - Lewis Memorial United Methodist Church Lydia Work Day**, 9:00am-12:00pm, 5555 Hereford Farm RD, Evans, GA 30809. *New volunteers welcomed!*
- **16th WED - Branums Sewing Group**, 9:00am-4:00pm, Branums Sewing and Vacuum Center, Inc., 3230 Washington RD, Augusta GA 30907. *New volunteers welcomed!*
- **16th WED - New Office Volunteer Orientation**, 1:00pm-2:00pm, 2501 McDowell St, Augusta, GA 30904
- **19th SAT - Central Church of Christ Lydia Work Day**, 9:00am-12:00pm, Central Church Of Christ Church, 3650 Old Petersburg RD, Augusta, GA 30907. *New volunteers welcomed!*

December

3rd SAT - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Lydia Work Day, 9am-12pm, 1002 Carolina Avenue, North Augusta, SC 29841. *New volunteers welcomed!*

6th TUE – Full Board meeting, 6:30pm, 2501 McDowell St., Augusta, GA 30904.

8th THU – Lydia Open House – 11am – 1pm, at the agency.

10th SAT - Lights for Lydia

17th SAT - Central Church of Christ Lydia Work Day, 9:00am-12:00pm, Central Church Of Christ Church, 3650 Old Petersburg RD, Augusta, GA 30907. *New volunteers welcomed!*



Making Ordinary People Feel EXTRAORDINARY
3830 Washington Rd, Ste 16, Martinez, GA 30907

We're Spinning in Support Of the women Lydia serves

The Ultimate Spin-a-thon

- ***Saturday, October 22nd, 10am - 2pm***
3830 Washington Rd, Ste 16, Martinez, GA 30907
- ***\$35 registration fee each team of 2-4 people***

Each team is asked to raise a minimum of \$200 to participate.

All spinners will receive a Spin-a-thon T-shirt and lunch.



- Lydia's outreach is to women coping with any kind of cancer, worldwide.
- Lydia's services are free and include on-going emotional support every month for at least twelve months.

Page 5 *At The Lydia Project, women coping with cancer are not alone.*

Public, cont...

"The Lydia Project started about eight years ago, and although it's an Augusta-based organization, it's very active here in Aiken. I have about 60 women who sew Lydia totes or write notes of encouragement to Lydia recipients. The Aiken area Lydia group produces about 38 percent of all the Lydia totes that go out worldwide," Platt said.

"When we started eight years ago, it was a very modest undertaking, and the women simply made tote bags to give to those going to treatments so they could carry a book and some snacks," she said. "From the first year where we distributed less than 100 totes, we're now in 2011 when we expect to give away close to 6,000 Lydia Totes. We refer to our Lydia Totes as a network in a bag because it's not just a tote bag; it comes with a lot of support programs through the Lydia Project."

The support for Golden Harvest Food Bank is in addition to Cedar Creek's support of the food bank's It's Spooky to be Hungry food drive in late October. Cedar Creek has usually been the leading subdivision in Aiken in It's Spooky to be Hungry contributions, according to Platt.

"So many people in Cedar Creek volunteer a great deal of their personal time to local charities. So I think we're just really aware of how many people we still have in the community that are just hungry," she said.

Standard, SC

Source: The Aiken

At The Lydia Project, women coping with cancer are not alone.



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Faith Partners:

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