

MMI Receives Grant from International Music Fraternity

The Savannah-based Music Medicine Institute (MMI), a non-profit affiliate of St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital, has received a \$400 gift from Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI), the international music fraternity for women.

The donation, funded by a grant from Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc., with additional support from the Statesboro (GA) Alumnae Chapter of the organization, has made possible the purchase music instruments for MMI's in-patient music therapy clinical services program at Candler Hospital.



"The Statesboro area alumnae chapter of SAI is proud to support MMI's exciting new music therapy program," said Lisa Paulson, MT-BC, chapter president and a music therapist with Hospice Savannah, in announcing the grant.

"SAI's mission is to encourage, nurture and support the art of music, and since the organization's founding in 1903 its members have supported and encouraged music in their communities and around the world through philanthropy and by their own example of music excellence."

As a result of the grant, the Music Medicine Institute program at Candler Hospital has achieved new levels of treatment, says Elizabeth Jacobi, PhD, RMT, FAMI, founder/director of MMI.

Dr. Jacobi and Amy Adams, MT-BC and MMI's music therapist at Candler Hospital, say the newly acquired instruments are already contributing to successful outcomes among cancer patients, making it possible for the patients to express themselves creatively in a non-threatening environment that can help mitigate pain, relieve stress and anxiety, and encourage a positive outlook.

"The Music Medicine Institute greatly appreciates the generosity of Sigma Alpha Iota," says Dr. Jacobi. "Their support is making it possible for us to continue our vital mission to enhance the quality of life of persons with acute or chronic illnesses through music therapy, the collaboration between music and medicine."

In addition to clinical services, MMI provides training to health professionals in the therapeutic use of music and imagery, conducts research and presents educational programs about the use of music in medical treatment.

Pictured: (l. to r.) Lisa Paulson, MT-BC, president SAI Statesboro Area Alumnae Chapter; Amy Adams, MT-BC, MMI music therapist at St. Joseph's/Candler; Elizabeth Jacobi, PhD, RMT, FAMI, founder/director Music Medicine Institute; Katie Britt, MA, coordinator, St. Joseph's/Candler Center for WellBeing.