



2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT



President's Message

It's my pleasure to present The Twig Annual Report summarizing the work and success of the Junior Auxiliary of the Inova Alexandria Hospital from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

In its 93rd year, The Twig continued to thrive due to the tireless work of its volunteers and generous support from the community. It was a historic year, when The Twig not only completed a \$500,000 pledge, but also made a down payment on its largest commitment ever: a \$2 million pledge to the Inova Alexandria Hospital. These investments support the development and building of state-of-the-art healthcare infrastructure in our community, both at Oakville and Landmark. The 2026 pledge will be recognized by naming The Twig Conference Center in the new Alexandria hospital at Landmark, scheduled to open in 2028.

The Twig's philanthropy extended beyond these gifts. In October, The Twig board presented a check for \$5,000 to the Caroline Abshire Breast Cancer Fund, and for the first time, The Twig made a \$20,000 contribution to be shared by two primary care clinics in Alexandria - Inova Cares for Women and Inova Cares for Families.

These significant donations are the result of countless hours spent by Twig's all-volunteer workforce who manage and staff The Twig Thrift Shop, plan and execute The Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour, and lead and serve on Twig committees. Their efforts are acknowledged and enhanced by a giving community that enables The Twig to raise the funds needed to fulfill its mission: "to provide volunteer services, offer financial aid, and purchase equipment in support of Inova Alexandria Hospital."

With much gratitude,
Lori Salley Ring
President 2025-2026

The Twig - Inova Alexandria Alliance



As Inova's plans to build a new hospital along with additional health care infrastructure in Alexandria evolved so did The Twig's plans for how to provide meaningful support. Thoughtful stewardship of resources by Twig leadership in recent years put The Twig in a solid financial position to make timely and significant contributions to fund development plans for modern health facilities offering high-quality care to our community in line with the vision of The Twig's founders.

In July 2025, Inova Alexandria Hospital leaders presented The Twig with options to support the new hospital at Landmark. While The Twig's pledge of \$500,000 to invest in Inova's new Oakville Health Center was not yet complete, The Twig was prepared for this new opportunity to provide financial aid to the hospital. After thorough analysis of the organization's finances and careful consideration of pledge possibilities, The Twig membership voted in January to embark on a \$2 million, six-year pledge to the new Inova Alexandria Hospital at Landmark. The new hospital's main meeting space in the three-building complex will be named The Twig Conference Center in honor of this historic commitment.

At the June 2026 Annual Luncheon, The Twig both completed the 2024 pledge to Oakville Health Center one year ahead of schedule and made a \$200,000 down payment on its \$2 million pledge, proudly presenting a check in the amount of \$450,000 to IAH President Dr. Rina Bansal.



Historically, The Twig's philanthropic endeavors have included contributions to fight breast cancer and support women with the diagnosis, as well as support for nurses and health professionals through scholarships and training. In October, The Twig board presented a \$5,000 check to The Carolyn Abshire Breast Cancer Fund, doubling the donation amount provided in recent years. The fund supports screening, mentoring services, and other programs to assist breast cancer patients.



During National Nurses Week in May, Twigs were delighted to distribute bags of nutritious snacks to nurses at Inova Alexandria Hospital.



A newly formed Twig Study Group on Health Education and Programs was tasked with examining a 2025 investment in Medical Team Training at IAH and options for additional contributions in 2026. The Study Group diligently pursued its charge, arranging meetings with Inova program leaders and convening several internal discussions. Ultimately, the Study Group determined that since The Twig Fund for Medical Team Training remained flush, The Twig might donate to a community health program in 2026. Options presented in April were reviewed by the board and discussed at the general meeting, where The Twig's active membership approved a recommendation to contribute \$20,000 to support the Inova Cares for Families and Inova Cares for Women clinics in Alexandria. A check for \$20,000 was presented to Marc Bailey, Director of Inova Community Health, at the June luncheon.



The Twig's partnership with Inova was further highlighted through engagement efforts, including an April event where Inova representatives shared educational materials at a table outside the Thrift Shop and a May tour of the Oakville Health Care Center attended by 20 interested Twigs.



The 83rd Historic Alexandria Homes Tour



The 83rd Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour did not disappoint. The Tour is a labor of love for The Twig and a true team effort. Thanks to the uber-organized Homes Tour Committee, with tremendous support from the Fundraising and Marketing Committee, the event garnered revenue exceeding \$80,000, with 1100 tickets sold.

The weather held out for a beautiful day where ticketholders toured five fabulous homes and visited the Friendship Firehouse - a fun addition to the tour. The Twig head hostesses counted approximately 800 visitors to the unique and storied properties.

The threat of evening rain required a change of location for the Homeowner and Donor Appreciation Party. In the spirit of generosity and community that defines the Homes Tour, a homeowner offered her property as the party venue. It was a fabulous evening celebrating a successful day, with remarks made by IAH President Dr. Rina Bansal. Homeowners were presented with paintings of their homes by local artist Seana Gallagher as a token of Twig's deep appreciation.



The Twig Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop leadership spent the summer of 2025 reimagining the Shop layout and procuring items to freshen displays to make the shopping experience even more enjoyable for customers.

The Annual Donation Day on August 16th brought in many bags and boxes of inventory to start the year strong.

On the morning of September 3rd, the queue to enter the Shop on opening day was long and happy, in anticipation of another great season of shopping at The Twig. Sales remained steady throughout the year, despite setbacks including a flooded basement, the challenges of “snowcrete” in January, and a persnickety dumbwaiter. But through it all, determined Twigs found a way to stay open and serve our customers. The year culminated in the annual bag sale, which began and ended on June 10th, as shoppers cleared the racks and shelves. The result: another record year with over \$475,000 in gross sales.

The care, creativity, and commitment by the Thrift Shop Co-Chairs, Weekly Chairs, Stock Subcommittee, Special Sales Subcommittee, and Twig volunteers to keep the Shop flourishing and a destination for shoppers near and far is truly unmatched. Their efforts justly earned recognition in travel blogs describing the Shop as “more like an upscale boutique than a typical thrift store” and “a volunteer-run treasure trove,” while praising Twigs “who maintain the welcoming environment that keeps people returning.”

Importantly, the financial success of The Thrift Shop is the biggest driver of The Twig’s ability to fulfill its mission to the hospital and health of our community.





Special Fundraising Events Committee

The Special Fundraising Events Committee strengthened The Twig's fundraising efforts. Committee activities included shopping nights at Old Town stores such as Boxwood, Patina, Sara Campbell, Bloomers, and the longtime Twig favorite, King's Jewelry. These events offered discounts to shoppers while returning a percentage of sales to The Twig. Members and friends also enjoyed special shopping events at the Thrift Shop, where they found bargains, socialized, and won raffle prizes. The Committee also organized a silent auction during The Twig Annual Luncheon to raise additional funds. Together, these activities raised more than \$5,500.



Membership Committee



Recruitment of new Twigs remained strong with a total of 17 new members joining the organization throughout 2025-2026 via recruitment in the fall and spring. As of June 30, 2026, The Twig had 105 Active, 8 Provisional, 57 Sustaining and 230 Honorary members.

The Annual Luncheon

The Twig Annual Luncheon & Installation of Officers at Belle Haven Country Club was a lovely and celebratory finale to a banner year. The Entertainment Committee welcomed 120 Twigs and guests who gathered to reflect on an historic year and look to the future with anticipation. Twigs were joined by Inova representatives including Dr. Rina Bansal, MD, MBA, President of Inova Alexandria Hospital; Francine Barr, DNP, RN, Chief Nursing Officer of IAH; Marc Bailey, Senior Director, Inova Community Health; Donnie Wintermute, Vice Chair of Inova Health Foundation – Alexandria Board of Trustees; Barbara Wells, President of Inova’s Board of Lady Managers; and Shannon Hiskey, Executive Director of Philanthropy, Inova Health Foundation. Reporters from *The Zebra* attended to cover the festivities.





2025-2026 Twig Officers

(L-R)

Lynne Rhoades - Assistant Treasurer

Susan Lipcaman - Treasurer

Maureen McGuire-Kuletz - Vice President

Lori Ring - President

Kate Walker - Recording Secretary

Jane Matthias - Corresponding Secretary



2026-2027 Twig Officers

(L-R)

Laurie Hughes -- Corresponding Secretary

Susan Lipcaman -- Vice President

Jan Roche -- Treasurer

Maureen McGuire-Kuletz -- President

Kate Walker -- Assistant Treasurer

Amy Fernandez -- Recording Secretary

Financial Summary

The Twig began the fiscal year in a strong financial position with \$680,698.13 in cash assets, providing a solid foundation for another year of meaningful philanthropic support and organizational success.

In October 2025, The Twig increased its annual Carol Abshire Breast Cancer Fund donation from \$2,500 to \$5,000, doubling the contribution made in previous years and reaffirming our commitment to supporting this important cause. Thanks to the exceptional success of the Homes Tour and the Thrift Shop, The Twig was able to complete its \$500,000 pledge for the Inova Oakville Health Center ahead of schedule with a \$250,000 donation and also make a down payment of \$200,000 on a new \$2 million, 6-year pledge for the new hospital at Landmark. The Twig membership also voted to invest in community health with a \$20,000 donation to be divided between two Alexandria clinics: Inova Cares for Women and Inova Cares for Families. In total, The Twig presented checks for an extraordinary \$470,000 to Inova Alexandria Hospital and its affiliated programs during the Annual Luncheon in June 2026.

After fulfilling these significant philanthropic commitments and meeting all organizational expenses, The Twig concluded the fiscal year with \$670,209.76 in total cash assets. The organization remains financially sound and well-positioned to support its mission in the years ahead.

