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Frugal fashionistas will uncover fabulous finds at the LifePath Hospice Fashion Show Feb. 11

NewsChannel 8 Anchor Gayle Sierens will host first-ever fashion show, featuring clothing and accessories from the LifePath Hospice Thrift Stores

TAMPA – Ann Taylor. Dooney & Bourke. Chicos. Louis Vuitton. Those are just some of the fashion-forward, name-brand merchandise that the LifePath Hospice Thrift Stores will feature at the premiere of its annual fashion show on Saturday, February 11 at 10 a.m. at the Chapters Health PACE Center, 5102 West Linebaugh in Tampa.

NewsChannel 8 Anchor Gayle Sierens will serve as the event moderator as 19 LifePath Hospice volunteers walk the runway modeling contemporary fashions that were donated to the local thrift stores.

LifePath Hospice operates two thrift stores – one in South Tampa and a second location in Carrollwood. Thrift store managers Lisa DeMello and Terry Hudson noticed that the community donates a great number of name-brand clothing and accessories. With an inventory of fabulous merchandise, it just made sense to stage an event where frugal fashionistas can support the programs of LifePath Hospice and find fabulous outfits for well below retail cost. All proceeds from the fashion show and sales at the LifePath Hospice Thrift Stores go to support hospice programs and services in Hillsborough County.

“We are so excited to have this opportunity to showcase the incredible clothing and accessories that we receive as donations,” said DeMello, the LifePath Hospice Thrift Store manager in Carrollwood. “New visitors to the stores are always surprised and impressed with the quantity and quality of merchandise we have in stock.”

Fashion show patrons can figuratively buy the clothes off the models’ backs. A thrift store marketplace will be set up where guests can purchase the outfits featured in the fashion show along with other clothing and accessories too numerous to include on the runway. “We would be there all day if we modeled all the incredible fashions we have at our thrift stores,” joked DeMello.

Tickets for the LifePath Hospice fashion show are \$25 each and can be purchased by calling Anne Ferrell at 813-357-5321 or e-mailing her at ferrella@chaptershealth.org. Tickets can also be purchased online at <http://www.chaptershealth.org/News-Events/events>.



LifePath Hospice Volunteer Belinda Brown previews an animal-print jacket with coordinating accessories.



Judy Swan, a LifePath Hospice volunteer, is ready for a night on the town in a stylish dress suit and matching bag.



LifePath Hospice Volunteer Dean Nazor is a stylish "lady in red," showing off one of the fashionable outfits that will be featured in the LifePath Hospice Thrift Store Fashion Show on February 11.



John Annarella and Ilse Corydon, LifePath Hospice volunteers, wearing some of the casual clothing that LifePath Hospice will showcase on runway at a February 11 fashion show.

ABOUT LIFEPATH HOSPICE

LifePath Hospice is part of the Chapters Health System and is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that supports approximately 1,200 patients each day in Hillsborough County as they face the challenges of advancing age and illness. Healthcare professionals and trained volunteers embrace the LifePath Hospice mission to make the most of life by relieving the suffering of patients and their families affected by end-of-life issues. The organization is a 2008 recipient of a Circle of Life Citation of Honor Award, which celebrates innovation in palliative and end-of-life care. LifePath Hospice is accredited by the Joint Commission, the nation's premier healthcare accrediting agency. For more information, visit www.chaptershealth.org

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