

SPRING 2010

# LIVING HEALTHY

Shawnee Mission Medical Center's quarterly journal of family health



santé

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# Welcome to santé

*Kansas City's premier salon  
& boutique for image renewal*

**I** **magine a place where your health and your image come together.** Imagine that unique place right here, right now.

The idea has come to life: Part salon, part boutique, Shawnee Mission Medical Center's new Santé shop is fully focused on image renewal. It is Kansas City's premier destination for women who have been affected by cancer, aging or other physical changes.

Santé offers special products and one-on-one services in a caring, uplifting atmosphere. Ultimately, clients benefit from practical comfort, restored confidence, support and a renewed self-image.

According to manager Diane Bender, Santé is a natural extension of Shawnee Mission Medical Center's commitment to exceptional health care that is *Much more than medicine*. "We help women who are experiencing aesthetic challenges brought on by illness, accident or aging," said Bender, a 16-year breast cancer survivor and licensed cosmetologist who holds advanced certifications. She knows how to make women feel good about how they look at any stage of life.

Breast cancer treatment may involve mastectomy. Treatments for other conditions often trigger physical changes, too, such as hair loss and skin sensitivity. Many women feel they've lost control. "Sometimes in the middle of all the unknowns, it's good to be able to grab some control where you can, to at least feel 'normal' or 'like yourself' some of the

time," Bender said. "We're here to help women maintain or regain positive self-esteem."

"Santé is part of Shawnee Mission Medical Center's retail vision to increase the overall hospital experience for patients and their families," said Robin Patykiewicz, SMMC's Director of Retail. "Not only do we strive to treat a woman's cancer diagnosis, we strive to build an ongoing relationship with her so she feels comfortable coming to us during and after her treatments when she may need extra special attention. Santé's intimate, private atmosphere allows women experiencing issues with their self-image to seek assistance from other women who have been in that very same position."

## **What's in store at Santé?**

Open the glass door into Santé's calm, sunlit, welcoming ambience. Take advantage of salon service that offers styling, including head shaves, skincare consultations with products such as wigs by Raquel Welch and glōminerals™ cosmetics. Shop Santé's shelves for specially-selected offerings that range from mastectomy bras, prostheses and post-surgical camisoles to night caps and head scarves. A line of compression garments provides attractive and therapeutic solutions to manage lymphedema. Menopause symptoms? Hot-flash pajamas and linens will wick away night sweats. Certified fitting specialists make sure garments look and fit just the way you want.

There's more: contemporary jewelry, restful CDs and inspirational gifts, plus Shawnee Mission Medical Center's own line of vitamins and supplements. The shop partners with Life Dynamics to offer nutritional and wellness education.



"Sometimes in the middle of all the unknowns, it's good to be able to grab some control..."

- Diane Bender, Santé Manager



Along with the shop's personal attention, privacy and practical solutions for day-to-day challenges, Bender pointed out another advantage: "It sounds trivial, but we're easy to get to and it's easy to park!" The shop is in the new Santa Fe Building just west of the main campus. Easy elevator access eliminates the need to navigate hospital hallways.

In addition to its impressive range of products and personal services, Santé's supportive staff is knowledgeable, caring and experienced. Along with Bender, the professional staff includes Marci Klein, who has more than 20 years as a trained breast prostheses and mastectomy bra fitter, and she is certified in orthotics and mastectomy. Klein also fits compression sleeves and gauntlets or gloves for lymphedema patients.

Bender was a young mother of two little girls when she was diagnosed with breast cancer, opting for a double mastectomy. Several years later, she was tired of fussing with inconvenient, uncomfortable clothing. It was frustrating to shop at traditional medical equipment stores

Santé is located at:  
 Shawnee Mission Medical Center  
 Santa Fe Building, 9301 W. 74th Street, Suite 200  
 Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
 Appointments are recommended.  
 Call 913-632-9800 and  
 visit online at [Santeboutique.org](http://Santeboutique.org).

to find bras designed for breast prostheses. After much research and personal reflection, she elected for reconstructive surgery. She didn't deal with hair loss and skin changes related to chemotherapy or radiation, but she saw others who did. As a stylist, she knew patients who are losing their hair don't want to be "on display."

Bender also serves as an advocate for breast cancer issues. She provided testimony urging insurance coverage of breast reconstruction in Kansas and traveled with then-Insurance Commissioner Kathleen Sebelius to announce passage of the bill, which is now national law. She continues her role as a consumer consultant, evaluating medical research grants for institutions seeking U.S. government funding.

In Santé, Bender's unique combination of personal and professional experience now serves other women.

"Shawnee Mission Medical Center took the lead from women in the community, recognizing that helping a person heal is not only about the medical intervention, it is also spiritual and emotional."

For women who are trying to make sense of medical and health challenges, Santé makes room for practical solutions that meet emotional and self-image needs.

◀ Marci Klein, Left and Diane Bender, Right



Bonne Santé -  
 to your health!