

SPRING 2020

Hospice Alliance™

Ask for us by name

Hope NOTES..

Until Next Time...

At Hospice Alliance, we pride ourselves on providing the very best personalized care for our patients and their loved ones. In normal times, our amazing therapists, dedicated social workers and compassionate chaplains are available for frequent in-person visits.



Our music therapist, Heidi, provides insights and inspiration.

With safety at the forefront of our care, our extraordinary team developed new ways to provide comfort and support from a distance. They are creating videos featuring music, reflection and motivation to help us all stay connected.

Additionally, we have compiled “Activities and Adventures” that we think folks will enjoy from virtual train rides to mind bending puzzle fun.

New videos and interactive entertainment options are being added frequently. Visit “Until Next Time” to see what’s new! hospicealliance.org/until-next-time/

Covid Can't Stop Compassionate Care

What we considered well known everyday activities have been upended. And normal everyday may look different than before.

It's the big things, like visiting a loved one in the hospital. Down to the small. Remember running to the market to pick up the one missing ingredient for dinner?

The team at Hospice Alliance has been working diligently in partnership with experts locally and nationally as well as with our staff and volunteers, to elevate our mission of providing compassionate end-of-life care while keeping safety at the forefront.

“I won't pretend it's been easy,” noted Rita Hagen, Executive Director, Hospice Alliance. “But, we've been able to implement national and local regulations and best-practices fairly seamlessly. In fact, our team was in PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) prior to the mandate. They have been tremendous as policy was sometimes changing daily. And our patients and their families have been heroes through all of this, too.”

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A Message from our Executive Director



Faithful Friend of Hospice Alliance,

I hope you, your family, and your friends are healthy and well.

We're doing okay. Our staff and I have been sustained by the kind, supportive words from volunteers, families, visitors and donors. **Thank you for your concern for us.** We're very concerned for those we care for.

These are extraordinary times. On behalf of each steadfast caregiver at Hospice Alliance, we say, **"Thank you to donors and volunteers."** Your philanthropy continues our tradition of providing quality, compassionate, end-of-life care as we adjust to new norms.

Your gifts let us purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for our undeterrable on-site caregivers. You expanded our Tele-Health program that offers families additional support with supplemental virtual visits. Your gifts funded more staff professional development that helps ensure the safety of all.

You enable Hospice Alliance to continue to deliver the best care possible.

We continue to need your support—spiritual support, virtual volunteer support and financial support.

Costs have risen exponentially for the PPE we need for the foreseeable future. Additionally, we can accelerate developing new programs and opportunities to ensure the safety of our patients and their families. Just as important, it will enhance providing assistance to combat isolation and hopelessness.

Your gift will support our remarkable CNAs. They are working additional hours to spend even more time with patients. They provide companionship and help connect them and their loved ones through FaceTime calls and Skype sessions.

Please return the enclosed envelope today if you can, later if not now, with your gift.

Gratefully,

Rita Hagen, MSN, RN
Executive Director

P.S.: Every dollar becomes quality, compassionate care in our community.



Stay connected! Like our Facebook Page!
Hospice Alliance & Hospice Alliance Foundation • www.hospicealliance.org

An Evening of Wishes Dancing Through the Decades...

On an unseasonably warm and sunny first Saturday in March, over 200 guests and volunteers gathered at U-W Parkside Student Center to celebrate An Evening of Wishes, Hospice Alliance's annual gala-style fundraiser. The evening featured silent and live auctions, fine dining, great music and fabulous dancing.

Rita Hagen, Executive Director, provided the evening's highlight, recognizing and honoring John Plous and Dick Regner, both long time board members and advocates, instrumental in driving hospice care in our community.



Southport Sound and dance instructors from Fred Astaire Dance Studio entertained the crowd.



Miss Racine Sophia Karegeannes and Miss Kenosha Alex Daher assisted with the Razzle Dazzle Raffle.

The dance-themed evening was filled with musical tunes by Southport Sound and a post-dinner performance by professionals from Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Pleasant Prairie. After their inspiring performances, guests were invited to join the fun as they tested their dancing shoes learning the Salsa.

Guests bid high and often on silent and live auction items, on the Razzle Dazzle Raffle and Premier Table – where winners dined on an even more delectable menu featuring lobster and fine wines.

Nine live auction offerings, including autographed items from hometown star Gavin Lux, who plays for the LA Dodgers, and just over 100 silent auction packages featuring many one-of-a-kind gifts and opportunities highlighted the initiative to “add life to days” for Hospice Alliance patients.

Photographs provided by Shannon Z Photography



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Hospice Alliance volunteers, who have been practicing Safer at Home, are writing cards and making phone calls to our patients who can't have visitors to brighten their days.

"I have been doing story time and reading from the newspaper with my patients. We have also been doing arts and crafts, making hearts for their windows, sorting photos and calling family members," noted Regina McGee, CNA.

"Not only are our volunteers continuing to play the vital role of caring for our patients, they are also caring for us! They've brought treats and sewn hundreds of masks to supplement the supply for our clinical team," added Beth Dillon, Volunteer Coordinator.

Additionally, our CNA's are spending even more time with the patients in their care, as they facilitate FaceTime calls with family members and enjoy time playing games or reading books – filling the roles friends and neighbors once did.



Megan Dillon lends a hand writing notes to patients who are residents in area assisting living and skilled nursing facilities.

"I have been doing story time and reading from the newspaper with my patients. We have also been doing arts and crafts, making hearts for their windows, sorting photos and calling family members," noted Regina McGee, CNA.

Hospice Alliance always has the communities we serve in our heart.

"In addition to our Until Next Time program (see Page 1), Hospice Alliance continues to employ "the little things." We are delivering puzzle books to area senior apartment complexes and working with our facility partners to decorate windows of our patients' rooms.

While it might not seem like much, we know these types of things are instrumental in "adding life to days," added Megan Frazer, Marketing and Development Manager.

While Hospice Alliance is being vigilant about the psych-social needs of our patients, our commitment to quality medical care is unwavering. Our "Video Encounters" - a user-friendly tele-med type program,

"Not only are our volunteers continuing to play the vital role of caring for our patients, they are also caring for us!"

implemented two years ago, has allowed for spiritual care, social work and music therapy visits to continue virtually. The software has also been instrumental in nursing visits, encouraging frequent check-ins and visual communication with safety at the forefront.

"With the support of our Boards of Directors, exemplary staff and volunteers and our generous donors, we've been able to react and respond efficiently and effectively, to help our patients and their families as well as the community we hold so dear," added Hagen.



Hospice Alliance Earns 5-Star Rating

Hospice Alliance is proud to be a Level 5 Partner with We Honor Veterans – a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Level 5 is the highest level attainable.

As a partner, we provide specialized care to veterans who are facing life-limiting illnesses. In addition to providing our traditional veteran-centric care, Level 5 partners place a great emphasis on staff education and caring for Vietnam-era combat veterans.

NHPCO and the Department of Veterans Affairs launched We Honor Veterans in 2010 to address the growing need for Veteran services, especially as veterans age and access palliative and hospice care.



Above: Keith Loss and his dad, Bob, US Air Force Veteran, share a moment at his Pinning Ceremony.



WE HONOR VETERANS



Right: Donna Pfuehler, US Air Force Veteran during Vietnam was thrilled to be honored at her Pinning Ceremony.

Pat Leckman, CHPNA, Celebrates 30 Years of Caring

Hospice Alliance is honored that Pat Leckman has chosen to care for our patients for her entire 30-year career. A career accomplishment that we are so very grateful for. Pat is a Certified Nursing Assistant also certified in palliative and hospice care. She was one of the very first Hospice Alliance “CHPNAs.”

Pat began her career after informally helping a friend who questioned why she wasn't a professional caregiver. She returned to school and families throughout our community have benefited from her compassionate care.

“The best part of my job is giving my patients extra TLC and

listening to all of their amazing stories,” Pat shared. “While I’m sad to meet them under the circumstances of needing hospice care, I’m glad I can help.”

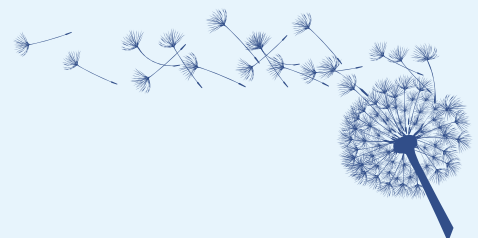
The number of patients and families she has cared for over the years is incalculable, but we are confident each one remembers her impact.

Lynda Becker, CNA Coordinator and Sally Willingham, a retired 30+ year CHPNA, both spoke of Pat’s compassion. Sally adding, “All of her patients love her and when you see her with them, it’s obvious why.”



Pat takes a quick break to be celebrated by her co-workers.

“ *The best part of my job is giving my patients extra TLC and listening to all of their amazing stories.* **”**





Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Ceremony Postponed

Memorial Bricks Still Available

With the utmost dedication to the safety of the loved ones of our patients, our staff (and the patients in their care) and our community, Hospice Alliance has postponed the annual Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Dedication. The event is traditionally hosted the fourth Wednesday of June at Kemper Center.

Engraved Memorial Bricks are still available with proceeds benefiting Hospice Alliance's quality, compassionate, end-of-life care. Brick orders submitted prior to July 1st will be placed for the dedication.

"Anyone who has had a loved one pass in the care of Hospice Alliance is welcome to attend the Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Dedication," encouraged Rita Hagen, Executive Director. "The event is brief, but meaningful and features songs, readings and reflection followed by fellowship in Founders Hall at Kemper Center."

For more information about placing a brick order or the rescheduled date for the event, please call 262.652.4400 or visit hospicealliance.org.



Order by July 1, 2020. Return form in the enclosed envelope with your check payable to Hospice Alliance Foundation or go online www.hospicealliance.org

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Regular brick: \$150.00 - Print up to 12 letters & spaces X 3 lines. Large brick: \$500 - 19 letters & spaces X 7 lines.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Krissy's Kare

Krissy Molinaro and her "Krissy's Klean Team" have been taking care of the business office and Hospice House for nearly 15 years.

While Krissy is incredibly hands-on with all her clients, she refers to the Hospice House as "her home."

"It's been my home from the start. I want patients to feel at home and their families to feel that their loved one is in a clean, comfortable environment," Krissy shared passionately. "And when my dad was a patient in the House, and I was on the receiving end, everyone working there – nurses, CNAs, volunteers... It's then that you really experience the heart of it. The heart of everybody involved."

decorations have her touch. She also created the Memory Tree and its hand-crafted leaves for guests to share the name of their loved ones on.

"When I'm at the House, I want to make it alright for people. For them to think - this is like mom's house. It's just where she would want to be. It's clean, it's comfy. It feels like home," added Krissy, who also noted her "girls" (aka employees) and her sister, Brenda, are instrumental in all she does for Hospice Alliance.

Not only does Krissy take care of the organization, she also brings joy to the employees. Sharing a cheery hello and hug with those she knows well and creating sweet



Krissy Molinaro doing what she always does...ensuring every detail is taken care of for our patients and families in the Hospice House.

"It's been my home from the start. I want patients to feel at home and their families to feel that their loved one is in a clean, comfortable environment."

Over time, Krissy has become a much-relied upon volunteer for the organization as well. The tranquility of the Hospice House, many of the accents and seasonal

seasonal displays in the breakroom and other common areas. If you've attended An Evening of Wishes, Hospice Alliance's annual gala fundraiser, you've likely ogled over her auction baskets and displays.

"Krissy cares for Hospice Alliance and our Hospice House as if it were her own. She and her employees do a wonderful job cleaning and caring for our facility and House. Besides keeping the facility sparkling clean and shiny, they go above and beyond by communicating any repairs or concerns that they see, decorating our employee areas for the holidays and assisting our patients and families when needed. We are blessed to have Krissy!," shared Rita Hagen.

In Loving Memory of Our Friend and Colleague

Cathy Carroll, RN

August 22, 1963 - December 11, 2019

"As we look upon her picture,
Sweet memories recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all."

Irish Funeral Prayer Excerpt





Our 7th Annual An Evening of Wishes will be held Saturday, **March 6, 2021**. For more information about attending, sponsoring, donating or volunteering, call Megan Frazer, Marketing and Development Manager at 262.652.4400.

Upcoming Events

Please check hospicealliance.org as all dates and times are subject to change due to COVID-19.

Kenosha Senior Expo
June 16th - POSTPONED

**Service of Remembrance
Memorial Brick Dedication**
June 24 - POSTPONED

Planting Memories
August 20

Evening of Wishes
March 6, 2021

Dining for Donations

Noodles & Company
Green Bay Rd., Kenosha
June 17 – 4-8pm

Ruffolo's Famous Pizza 2
July 22 – Tentative – 11am-10pm

Grab's Burger Bar
August 13 – 11am-9pm

Iguana Wana
September 19th – 11am-9pm

MOD Pizza
October 14 – 10:30 am-9pm

Nothing Bundt Cakes
November 16th – 21st – Place orders all week!

Shopping at Jack Andrea
December 9th – 4-8pm



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compassionate, community, non-profit
hospice, incorporated in 1981.

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