

COMING EVENTS

Go to our website calendar for details and updates:
www.hospicealliance.org

March 9-10

Kenosha Expo

UW-P Petretti Field House

Booth H17

10:00 – 4:00 pm

March 21

Educational Teleconference

Artificial Nutrition

at End of Life

April 4

Service of Remembrance

April 18 (daytime session)

April 23 & 25

(two-part evening session)

Educational Teleconference

Improving Care for Veteran's Facing Illness and Death

May 3

New Bereavement Support

Group Session Begins

June 26

Memorial Brick Walkway

Dedication

June (date to be announced)

Grand Opening!

Hospice Alliance Racine

Hospice House

July 28

7th Annual Car Show and

Craft Fair

New Racine Hospice Alliance House Construction Begins

Hospice Alliance started construction of a Racine Hospice House to be located in the west wing of Lincoln Lutheran's Becker Shoop complex, near Green Bay Road and 16th Street. The 3,500 square foot renovation is expected to be completed in May.

"When we opened our Kenosha Hospice House ten years ago, we envisioned we would one day have a hospice house in Racine as well," said Rita Hagen, Hospice Alliance Executive Director. "We're thrilled that the Racine Hospice Alliance House is under construction and we're proud to be the only provider of 24/7 hospice house care in both communities."

The Racine Hospice Alliance House will feature five private patient rooms, each with home-like decor. Comfortable and spacious living

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Newsletter Naming Contest Winner

Thanks to Pam Hagan, RN, we have a new name for this newsletter that better reflects the interests of our readers. Ms. Hagan won a goodie basket filled with sweet and savory treats and was awarded her prize on January 16.



"I entered the name 'Hope Notes' because it reminded me of 'SOAP Notes' an acronym (subjective, objective, assessment, plan) that I, and many nurses, use as a guide when writing notes in patient charts."

The marketing team was thrilled by the number of quality entries received, and selected the winner for its aspirational quality.

"Hope is what Hospice Alliance is all about," said Judy Walthers, marketing coordinator. Let us know what you think of our new name at: KMickelson@hospicealliance.net



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From Our Executive Director...

Happy 2013!

As you may know if you've visited our web site, our plans to open a second Hospice Alliance House are well underway! I'm excited by the additional opportunities our Racine House will bring to provide the "gift of hospice" to more families in Southeast Wisconsin.

You see, we've heard over and over again from healthcare partners that our Hospice House in Pleasant Prairie is "always full when I call". Although the goal of Hospice Alliance is to help those at the end of life remain at home, we know that isn't always possible. There is a definite need in our area for 24/7 care and Hospice Alliance is pleased to be able to fill that need.

The construction and renovation of a five-bed wing at Lutheran Lincoln's Becker Shoop Complex is going well. But even though my husband works in the construction industry, I must confess it's been a learning experience for me.

While the new Hospice Alliance house will be a major event (look for news of the Grand Opening Celebration on our web site soon), it's just one of a whole host of events we have planned for you in 2013. Please take note of the new calendar on page one of this Hope Notes newsletter.

Finally, I want to thank you for your continued support of Hospice Alliance. Your generosity enabled us to serve over 780 patients and their families in 2012. Thanks to you, more mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons and daughters lived richer, fuller lives until the end of life.

Respectfully yours,

Rita

New Racine Hospice Alliance House Construction Begins

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spaces will give the care facility the ambience and feel of a private home. In addition, a landscaped private entrance with bright blue canopy and flowering gardens will welcome family and friends visiting loved ones.

The project is being managed by Absolute Construction Enterprises of Racine, which also managed the Kenosha Hospice Alliance House and Administrative office addition in 2007.

"Working with Hospice Alliance on the Kenosha Hospice House, and now the Racine location is exciting for us. We plan to include new developments from a construction standpoint, and also take what Rita and her staff learned from the Kenosha House to incorporate new ideas into the Racine House," said Tracy Stacy, President, Absolute Construction.

Watch for updates and news of our Grand Opening on our website: www.hospicealliance.org.



“Thank you for honoring my father and other veterans with the certificate, pin and handmade lap quilt. Our family is grateful for people like you who continue to make life better for others.”

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

If you've considered volunteering for a non-profit organization, read what a few Hospice Alliance volunteers say about their experiences. Look for updates on our web site about our next volunteer training class or email volunteer coordinator, Helen Plous at HelenPlous@hospicealliance.net or 262-652-4482 X 1258.



"Being a volunteer for Hospice Alliance means having the privilege of working with dedicated people and seeing how the community comes together. Also, I have the privilege of being with people and their families during an emotional time, and being able to make a difference."

Al Poepel,
Ambassador Volunteer



"Knowing that my volunteer work for Hospice Alliance contributes to the comfort at the end of a person's life journey gives me peace. I get far more than I give!"

Judy Glover,
Ambassador Volunteer



"During my seven years as a volunteer for Hospice Alliance, I have been truly blessed to make so many "special hospice friends". Some were in my life for a very short time and others longer. Some touch my heart, others steal it, but all leave their footprints. Being a hospice volunteer has taught me that every day is a gift, even our final ones."

Kathy Tenuta,
Ambassador Volunteer

"My family and I appreciated all your help and care regarding my mom during her last days at the nursing home. You were supportive when making serious decisions and made contact almost daily...I was glad to have you with me."

Welcome New Hospice Alliance Employees

Please give a warm welcome to new Hospice Alliance employees hired since our fall newsletter. To help you get to know our staff better, we will feature employee profiles in this newsletter, as space allows.

Megan Frazer, Marketing Coordinator
Marieta Huff, Admissions RN
Karen Ingram, CNA
Diane Kelly, Admissions RN
Rita Kuda, RN Case Manager
David Leshner, Circle Leader
Kristine Mickelson,
Marketing and Development Manager
Jolina Priesgen, Social Worker
Mary Minton, Bereavement Counselor
Anna Van Brunt, Circle Leader
Heather Wasion, CNA

Heidi Skokut - Volunteer Coordinator

Heidi is now part of the "dynamic duo", joining Helen Plous, that makes up our Volunteer Coordination team. She held a similar role with Aurora Medical Services for 14 years. Heidi resides in Kenosha with her husband and two adult children. She's an active participant in the community, including Leadership Kenosha, and is a graduate of the Leadership program offered by UW-Parkside.



Thank You for Donating Your Time and Talents in 2012!



The Kenosha City Tavern League made a generous \$2500 donation to Hospice Alliance as the result of several fundraisers in honor of former Spanky's owner Larry Kavalauskas. Pictured from the left are Stacey West-Rivera, secretary-treasurer of the Tavern League; Rita Hagen, Hospice Alliance executive director; and Nasser Museitif, owner of Our Kenosha Tap.



Rita presents a special plaque to Nasser, in appreciation of his ongoing support of the Hospice Alliance mission. Nasser has held annual fundraisers in conjunction with Labor Fest, as well as the 60th Street Music Event.

More Good Deeds...

A sumptuous turkey dinner with all the trimmings was donated by Cindy Stein, in memory of her mother.

Pictured here: volunteer Jackie Baltes prepares the meal for our patients and their families. The Gary Flynn Family of Racine treated our hospice house patients and families to a special Christmas dinner.

Thanks to Van's Gas Service, Hospice Alliance now has its own outdoor gas grill. We plan to use it at the 7th Annual Car Show on July 28 and other events we cook up this year!



Car Show and Craft Fair

The 6th Annual Car Show and Craft Fair "Fun-Raiser" was a bang up success thanks to volunteer organizers Barb Pofahl and Linda Holly, and sponsor, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.



Remembrance Tree Lighting & Service

Kenosha residents turned out on a balmy December 4th for the Remembrance Tree Lighting and Service. The St. Lucy's church choir performed inspirational and holiday music and the name of each beloved

friend or family member who had passed was read and honored. Pictured below: Florence Gister, Pat Venne, Dick Garski and Russ Grady.



Kenosha News Photos by Brian Passino

Bushels of thanks to volunteer Beth Kneesel for crafting the Hospice Alliance "Care-Crow" display. It was the winning entry in ManorCare – Kenosha's 3rd Annual Scarecrow Alley contest.



Volunteers spread holiday cheer by caroling at community memory care and assisted living centers. Top: Joanne Hamilton, Walter Barke, Krista Schultz, Donna Bianchi-Schultz, Sue Swaton and Henry Kuzik. Bottom: Sue Sturino, Peggy Bain, Suzanne Hallett, Denise Nedeau, Diane Johnston, Judy Walthers and Megan Frazer.



Sign Up Now! 2013 Education Series



As a community organization, Hospice Alliance gives back the gift of education whenever the opportunity arises. This spring we're pleased to offer two programs provided by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Each program is offered to the community and healthcare professionals ...FREE! (Donations are welcome to help cover costs. Please see the envelope enclosed.)

March 21, 5:45 - 8:30 p.m.

NEW! Artificial Nutrition and Hydration at the End of Life

This 2-hour seminar and panel discussion will teach you how to identify conditions where Artificial Nutrition and Hydration (ANH) may be helpful and other conditions where it may actually increase patient discomfort. You'll also gain confidence in discussing the benefits and burdens of ANH to family members, and gain an understanding of religious and cultural beliefs relevant to the decision-making process. CEU credits are available for a nominal fee.

April 18, noon to 4 p.m. (single session)

April 23 & 25, 5:45 - 8:30 p.m. (two-part session)

NEW! Improving Care for Veterans Facing Illness and Death



One in four deaths in the U.S. today is that of a veteran, and 80% will die in the care of non-military healthcare facilities. This 4-hour continuing education program will help you identify health risks of veterans, including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The expert panel will share insights on the differences and similarities between how veterans of WWII, Korea and the Vietnam War approach serious illness and end of life. The program

also provides valuable resources to assist the grieving families of deceased veterans.

Pre-registration is appreciated.

Contact Kim Walker at: KWalker@hospicealliance.net

Phone: 262-652-4482 X1253

Fax: 262-925-1361



Spring Remembrance Set for April 4

Our spring Service of Remembrance is scheduled for Thursday, April 4th at 6 p.m. Once again, we invite you to join us in remembering and celebrating the lives of those you have cared for. The occasion will be a time to remember, share, smile and maybe shed a tear or two as we reminisce about special moments we shared with friends and family members who have passed on.

Additionally, the newest memorial quilt and the scroll, with every Hospice Alliance patient's name, will be on display.

Families of Hospice Alliance patients are invited to decorate quilt squares to honor their loved ones. When enough squares are accumulated, volunteer Judy Olson creates a new quilt.

Several quilts decorate the walls of our Kenosha Hospice House, and we plan to carry on the tradition at our new Racine Hospice House.

We look forward to seeing you at the spring Service of Remembrance.

“We always felt like we were all being taken care of by the multi-disciplinary approach by Hospice Alliance. There were administrators, nurses and a social worker that were all very attentive...they educated us on changing nutrition and hydration needs ... and when (Dad) died they were there for us. We needed to make no calls. On the day of his funeral, I was moved to tears when his former nurse, walked into the church. Mom and I received calls and letters for months asking how we were doing ... I will never forget you.”

“BEAR-Event” Care

An important part of the Hospice Alliance mission is to support grieving caregivers and family members. In addition to the extensive, 13-month program offered by our Bereavement Services, friends and family members of Hospice Alliance also get a soft, cuddly “bear hug”.

Our generous and talented Hospice Alliance volunteer, Pat, handcrafts Memory Bears – soft and cuddly teddy bears made with a special fabric of a family’s choosing (for example: a favorite article of clothing of the patient’s).

One recipient summed it up best, “Thanks to you, I now have that blanket in the form of a cute, cuddly blue plaid teddy bear. Because he held the blanket close to him back then, it now makes me feel close to him as I fall asleep holding and hugging the teddy bear.”



Starting in 2013, up to two bears will be available per family, as part of the Hospice Alliance program, compliments of our generous volunteer and “Teddy Bear-er.” For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Helen Plous at helenplous@hospicealliance.net or 262-652-4482 X 1258.

Plan Now for Memorial Bricks

Now is the time to order a Memorial Brick for our annual Brick Dedication on June 26, 2013.

Create an everlasting memory of your loved one in the form of an engraved brick placed in the Hospice Alliance Walkway at the entrance of the Kemper Center. For

\$150, you may purchase a 4” x 8” brick, and for \$500, 12 x 12 “super” bricks (with enough space for a quote or verse) are available.

The June dedication program will include reading the names of those being honored, music and remarks followed by refreshments.

To order, fill out the form below and mail to Judy Walthers, Hospice Alliance, 10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd., Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158 or go online, www.hospicealliance.org.

TO ORDER A BRICK IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONE, PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW.
ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO HOSPICE ALLIANCE FOUNDATION.

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

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

Regular brick: Print up to 12 characters X 3 lines. Super brick: 19 characters X 7 lines



10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd.
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Racine, WI
Permit #1261

Temp-Return Service Requested

We're on the Web!
www.hospicealliance.org



Hospice Alliance™ ...wish list

- Extra-long white twin sheet sets (jersey or other soft knit fabric)
- Swiffer mop and dry sheets
- Queen or standard pillow cases (white only)
- Baby monitors
- Homemade cookies and meals for Hospice House
- Corelle (or similar) set of 12 dishes
- Bird seed
- Grocery store gift cards
- Kohls, Target or Walmart gift cards
- Set of 12 flatware
- Pots and pans
- Paper products

“ I don't know what we would have done without you. I remember mom's great relief when she knew her beloved hospice was going to be there for her. The burden of fear lifted and our family was able to enjoy a time of deep love and appreciation for one another. ”