

Hospice Alliance™

Ask for us by name

Hope NOTES...

Caring for our Community with the Help of our Community

Special Recognition on our Patients' Special Days!

In the spirit of adding "life to days," Hospice Alliance introduced a "Happy Birthday" recognition program for our patients who celebrate birthdays while in our care.

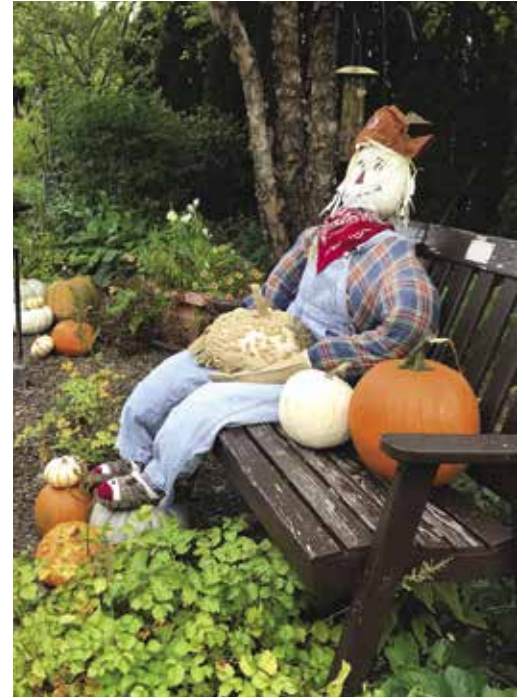
Cheery helium balloons, along with a card signed by the Hospice Alliance staff are delivered by volunteers or the patients' CNAs on their birthdays!

According to Denise Maki, who recently added "balloon delivery" to her volunteer responsibilities, "It is truly a great idea to wish the patients a Happy Birthday! It makes their day and I too feel the happiness they express when receiving the signed card. I feel blessed to do the deliveries to these wonderful people."



At Hospice Alliance, we pride ourselves on pioneering hospice care in our state. It was a group of generous and driven volunteers who identified the need and brought our philosophy of care to fruition, working without pay or benefits. Today, more than 35 years later, our staff is comprised of highly-trained, compassionate professionals – but the mission remains unchanged and the support of our community is no less evident.

Not only is Hospice Alliance proud to boast 150+ volunteers, but we also receive grant support from several foundations, corporations, service organizations and religious groups. These donors complement the charitable work of our volunteers by providing significant financial support allowing our staff to effectively provide the level of care identified in our mission. The generosity of our



Our volunteer Master Gardeners combine donations and grant funds to keep our Hospice House gardens beautiful and welcoming throughout the seasons.

“Kenosha Rotary is always looking for ways to impact the non-profits in the community. Determining which organizations should receive grants can be challenging. This year the Hospice House gardens were chosen as my committee understood the immeasurable positive effect the garden has on the residents and their families.”

~ Dina Cucunato

community allows us to provide award-winning care for our patients and their families; the cost of doing so, far exceeds what Medicare and insurances are willing to pay.

Some of this year’s grantmaking organizations include the Mary Frost Ashley Charitable Trust, Kenosha Community Foundation, Lions Club of

A Message from our Executive Director



Rita Hagen,
Executive Director

The Greatest Gift

Fall is here and before you know it, winter will be upon us. Regardless of your faith, ethnicity, or background, the months leading up till the end of the year usually involve gift giving and time spent with family and close friends. The best gift you can give to those you love (and them to you) is to talk about your end of life wishes and goals if faced with a chronic, life-limiting illness, AND to complete your Advance Directive.

What is an Advance Directive? It is a document where you state your goals, values and beliefs about health care treatment decisions, including who should make those decisions, if you can no longer make those decisions for yourself.

This is important because it allows for your medical care and decision making in situations when you are temporarily or permanently unable to make decisions or verbalize your decisions.

You can change/update it at any time and it should be looked at periodically throughout your life, perhaps on your birthday, and updated as needed, since our values and beliefs change as we grow older. When developing your advance care plan consider your concerns, values, spiritual beliefs, or your ideas about what makes life worth living. Most people think about the way they wish to face death or disability but may be uncomfortable discussing these topics.

Sharing your own ideas, if you are helping someone, or reviewing the situations of other family and friends who may have had similar situations can help. Decide who should make decisions for you if you cannot. Choose someone who will understand and can carry out your wishes, even if they include stopping life-sustaining treatments. You should also name a back-up agent to make decisions, in case the first person is not able to do so.

Whomever you choose, make sure you share with them and with others close to you why this decision was made. Many of you may think that your husband or children can make those decisions for you, but not in Wisconsin. Need help? Give us a call. One of our Social Workers can set up a time to assist you/answer your questions.

This is not a one-time conversation, but many conversations over time. Be sure to include your physician when making these decisions.

It's a perfect gift and will surely be the right size, color and fit...

Respectfully,

Rita Hagen, MSN, RN
Executive Director



Rita is acknowledged after sharing her knowledge on hospice care and Health Care Powers of Attorney with the local group of National Association of Retired Federal Employees at their monthly meeting.

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Kenosha, Rotary West Foundation, Kenosha Women's Network and Ocean Spray. The support allows us to not only care for Hospice House patients, but also ensures sufficient funding to maintain our Pleasant Prairie facility. Additionally, grant funds have allowed for special purchases, such as:

- Specialized lockboxes to better secure our patients' prescription medication
- Maintenance equipment and materials for our gardens, maintained with the help of our volunteer Master Gardeners
- Hospice Alliance's enhanced care options for veterans and their families, including special flower arrangements for spouses and a resource guide that assists our veterans in identifying benefits

No matter the amount or purpose of the grants received, Hospice Alliance's staff works hard to stretch the contribution to maximize the reach for our patients, their families and, in some cases, the community at large. From our days of being entirely operated by volunteers and funded by the community, to our current size and capability, Hospice Alliance continues to be sustained, in part, by our dedicated volunteers and the support of our community organizations and businesses.



Stay connected!

Like our Facebook Page!

Hospice Alliance &

Hospice Alliance Foundation

www.hospicealliance.org

A Day of Remembrance

On Wednesday, June 27th, Hospice Alliance hosted our 20th annual Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Dedication downtown at Kenosha's own Kemper Center. Thankful for the beautiful



The Heritage Singers from First United Methodist Church, Kenosha, WI perform a heartfelt medley of songs entitled "I'll Fly Away" for the attendees of the Annual Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Dedication.

With Creativity and Care

Shortly after the loss of her beloved husband, "Rog," Jane Moddes wanted to volunteer for Hospice Alliance as a way of "giving back" for the care he received.

Because Hospice Alliance's policy suggests that caregivers wait at least one year after their losses before volunteering with current patients and families, Jane offered to be our volunteer "basket builder." Jane quickly began putting together gorgeous baskets for Hospice Alliance to donate in support of community nonprofit and partner fundraising raffles and auctions.

Since her start, Jane has made over 25 baskets, developing "themes" most appropriate for the audience such as "Comfort and Care," "Is it Baking Time?" and "Ghosts and Goblins, Oh My" - the three pictured here - and always with a creative flair and knack for budget.

Jane shared, "I can honestly say with each one I make I take time to remember what Hospice Alliance did for Rog and me. We were truly blessed with Team Roger."

summer day, over 180 people were in attendance for the ceremony. This year's ceremony consisted of a musical welcoming by Blair Weisinger; vocal performances by Libbi Weisinger and The Heritage Singers; captivating readings by Hospice Alliance staff members; a ceremonial rifle volley performed by the Kenosha Area Vietnam Veterans Honor Guard; a heartfelt brick dedication by Chaplain Terry Peterson; and concluded with the playing of Taps by Jim Reynolds. Following the service, guests were invited inside Kemper Center's Founders Hall, to enjoy a variety of delectable baked goods and refreshments, followed by a digital photo slide show, honoring the loved ones who have passed. Those in attendance were also encouraged to write the name of their loved ones on heart shaped leaves, and place them on The Remembrance Tree. The Remembrance Tree is on display in the meditation room at the Hospice House in Pleasant Prairie.

Hospice Alliance would like to extend our gratitude to Krissy's Klean Team for the lovely decorations; volunteers Fred Carrubba and Rick Ridolfi for installing the bricks; Jim Reynolds for playing Taps; KAVV for the presentation of colors and rifle volley; Piasecki-Althaus; and for all our volunteers who baked and assisted with the Service of Remembrance and Memorial Brick Dedication.

And we think we are also blessed that she is sharing her talents with us!



Jane became involved with Hospice Alliance as a caregiver for her husband, Roger. Currently, she serves as a volunteer sharing her talent making gorgeous baskets for Hospice Alliance to donate in support of local fundraising initiatives.



Save the Date!

Our 5th Annual An Evening of Wishes will be held Saturday, March 2, 2019. For more information about attending, sponsoring, donating or volunteering, call Megan Frazer, Marketing and Development Manager at 262.652.4400.



November 7 – December 12 Weekly Grief Support Group

Hospice Alliance
10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd., Pleasant Prairie
Time 3:00 – 4:30
Please RSVP prior to Nov. 7 – 262-652-4400

November 8 6th Annual Ring and Remember

Hospice Alliance
10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd., Pleasant Prairie
Time: 4pm or 6pm
Please RSVP – 262.652.4400

November 14 Dining for Donations Cousin's Subs of Pleasant Prairie

Hospice Alliance receives
15% of all purchases from 10am - 8pm
9901 77th Street #880, Pleasant Prairie
(in front of Target)

December 7 Shopping for Donations Jack Andrea

Hospice Alliance receives a percentage of all
purchases after 5pm
2401 60th Street, Kenosha



10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd.
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

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Hospice Alliance

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Hospice Alliance is our
compassionate, community, non-profit
hospice, incorporated in 1981.

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