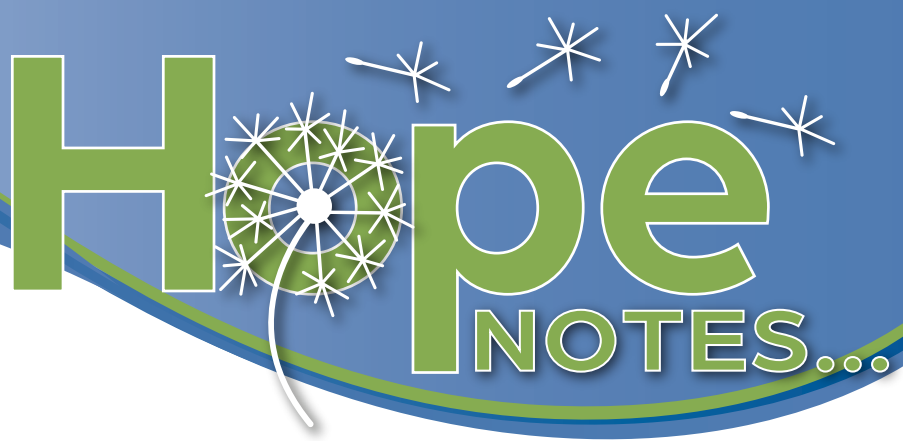


FALL 2024



Best of Kenosha and Racine

We are proud to announce that thanks to your support, Hospice Alliance has been named Best of Kenosha and Best of Racine for 2024! In Kenosha, we were voted Best In-Home Health, Senior Care Services, Non-Profit, and Best Place to Work With 50+ Employees. In Racine, we were voted Best Senior Care Services for the second year! We could not have done it without you. We are grateful for your continued support in voting us the 'Best of' over the past seven years and for helping us provide quality care to those you love.



Hospice Alliance Hosts the Inaugural Root River Poker Run

On Saturday, July 20, members of the Hospice Alliance community joined together at the Racine Riverside Marina Clubhouse for the inaugural Root River Poker Run, the first fundraiser hosted by Hospice Alliance in Racine. Participants raced between stops along the Root River by foot, dinghy, scooter, and canoe to draw their poker card and returned to the clubhouse to see who drew the winning hand. Prizes were awarded to first place, second place, third place, and to the player with the worst hand. The event not only raised funds for our foundation but also drove traffic to bars and restaurants along the river to promote them as well. The event also aimed to support our presence in Racine: we want community members to know that Hospice Alliance proudly serves Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties so that when it comes time, they have the option to choose the best! Proceeds from the Poker Run support Hospice Alliance's mission to 'add life to days' and continue providing exceptional care and supportive services to all, regardless of ability to pay.

The event couldn't have gone on without the help of our volunteer planning committee: Sue and John Burden, Carolyn Rand, and Kim Schweitzer. Thank you to Reefpoint Brew House and Anchor Away Ship Store, Corner House Tiki Bar, the Chart Room, Harbor Lite Yacht Club, Gaslight Party Dock, and the Burdens, who offered their locations as stops. Thank you to all the local businesses who donated baskets to our raffle, Joey's Yardarm for catering our afterparty, and the Bayshore Yacht Club and Hospice Alliance volunteers and staff who helped make the first of many Poker Runs a success. We don't have next year's date pinned down yet, but be sure to follow us on Facebook and join our email list* for when we announce next year's date. You won't want to miss out on the fun!

* see page 2 to learn how to follow us on Facebook and join our mailing list



Participants who took on the Inaugural Root River Poker Run by sea in their dinghy



Poker Run volunteers, Ellen Hosmanek, and Judy Braun waited for attendees at the Anchor Away Ship Store

A Message from our Executive Director



Rita Hagen,
Executive Director

Dear Friends of Hospice Alliance,

As summer turns to fall, I always think about time, our most precious resource. At Hospice Alliance, we help families make the most of all of those little moments with our loved ones, especially when they are able to be with them in their final days.

“If we only had more time...” is what we who care for the dying say, echoed by those who are dying as well as their loved ones. More time to be with those we love doing things we love, versus spending

days in the hospital or being sick from treatments that may prolong but not cure. Hospice is not a place, but a philosophy of care -- one that centers the patient's goals for their quality of life by providing pain and symptom management, emotional support, spiritual care, and bereavement counseling. There is a whole team of people assisting our patients and their families every step of the way as we work together to “add life to days.”

In this edition of our newsletter, you will read about several of the volunteers who give of their own time to support the mission of Hospice Alliance, thereby allowing our patients to make the most of the time they have left -- which can be months or even years! I am continually touched by how deeply our volunteers' care for others shows in all that they do.

With this change of seasons, I hope you are spending your time in a way that leaves you feeling fulfilled, renewed, and connected with the people and things you love most. Thank you for all you do to support everyone at Hospice Alliance as we seek to do the same for every patient and their families.

Gratefully,

Rita Hagen
Rita Hagen, MSN, RN
Executive Director

follow us on facebook.com/hospicealliance

click here!

Hospice Alliance & Hospice Alliance Foundation
1.4K likes + 1.6K followers

click here!

join our email list on hospicealliance.org

View our Nondiscrimination Notice (PDF 299 KB)

click here!

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

community mailings: hospicealliance.org/outreach

instagram.com/hospice.alliance

Smart Money Moves: Support Our Mission With Your IRA!

Our donors are a critical part of what makes Hospice Alliance so successful; your support Using a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA to make a charitable donation is a smart way to support your favorite causes while maximizing tax benefits. Once you reach age 73, the IRS requires you to start taking RMDs from your traditional IRA, which are typically subject to income tax -- but not when used to make a charitable gift. By directing all or a portion of your RMD directly to a qualified charity like Hospice Alliance, you can reduce your taxable income. Not only do you fulfill your RMD requirement, but you also make a meaningful impact on the causes you care about -- all while potentially lowering your tax bill.

You'll want to consult your legal/financial advisor or retirement plan administrator to ensure this type of gift is appropriate to your tax situation. For tax purposes, Hospice Alliance Foundation, Inc is a 501(c)(3). The EIN is 39-1822945. Contact Rachel Skowronski, Marketing & Development Manager, for more information at rachel.skowronski@hospicealliance.org; (262) 652-4482 x 1253.

Compassion in Action: Spotlight on the Hospice Alliance Volunteer Program

Volunteer Q&A Volunteers play a huge part in our mission, this new section in our newsletter features volunteers who were awarded the title of Volunteer of the Month for their hard work and dedication over the past year!



Jerry Trimark Hospice Alliance Volunteer for 12 years

Volunteer of the Month February 2024 selected for his weekly companionship and respite visits.

Q. Why do you volunteer for Hospice Alliance?

Because I feel with all my blessings from the Good Lord, I would like to

share my compassion and gifts given to me with others hoping that this might comfort them.

Q. What is your favorite part about being a Hospice Alliance volunteer?

My favorite [part] is to share my gifts and time with those in need hoping that others see and hopefully will follow my lead and do the same.



Ellen Hosmanek Hospice Alliance Volunteer for 2 years

Volunteer of the Month March 2024 selected for her weekly companionship visits.

Q. Why do you volunteer for Hospice Alliance?

I volunteer for many reasons: to give back to the community, I would like

to help others in the same manner that hospice helped my family, it gives me a sense of purpose and positivity in my life, and I like being part of an organization with such positive community outreach.

Q. What is your favorite part about being a Hospice Alliance volunteer?

My favorite part of Hospice Alliance volunteering is meeting new people – they have made a meaningful impact on my life.



Beth Kneesel Hospice Alliance Volunteer for 12 years

Volunteer of the Month May 2024 selected for her work as the Lead Master Gardener.

Q. Why do you volunteer for Hospice Alliance?

I volunteer for HA because I believe in the value of life at every stage. I

believe end-of-life is SO misunderstood, challenging, and a mystery for the patient, caregiver, and loved ones. While a stressful time, it can also be such an incredibly joyful time of life!

Q. What is your favorite part about being a Hospice Alliance volunteer?

It gives me great joy to help anyone in any way to make their journey to their next destination a happy and peaceful transition. For the last seven years, I have also been caring for five family members in decline, so my availability for volunteering for HA has been spotty. However, my hospice training and continuing education provided by Hospice Alliance has been an INVALUABLE resource in dealing with and understanding the dying process in my own family and providing support for my loved ones!



Jean Bowen Hospice Alliance Volunteer for 8 months

Volunteer of the Month August 2024 selected for her companionship visits and work in our Hospice House Garden.

Q. Why do you volunteer for Hospice Alliance?

I feel people nearing the end of their journey deserve the attention and companionship of a caring heart whether to just sit and talk, share memories, or simply be a presence for them when alone.

Q. What is your favorite part about being a Hospice Alliance volunteer?

My favorite part of being a hospice volunteer is realizing how many giving, selfless people there are who work or volunteer for the hospice organization and have been doing it for a long time. It renews my faith in the goodness and kindness of people by seeing those who give of themselves unselfishly. There are so many amazing volunteers and staff at Hospice Alliance, and I am blessed to be a part of that. Also, to know that someone at the end of their journey may have felt some peace and comfort in some way because of what a volunteer provided is the best part.

* Service of Remembrance

On a sunny day in June, over two hundred members of the community came together for Hospice Alliance's Service of Remembrance and Brick Memorial. This year we added thirty-nine memorial bricks to our section of the brick walk at the Kemper Center. We are grateful to our volunteers, staff, the Kenosha Area Vietnam Veteran Honor Guard, and all of you who helped make this event a memorable way to honor the lives of those you have lost. For more information about purchasing a brick, visit hospicealliance.org or call (262) 652-4400.



Kenosha Vietnam Veterans presented the colors at our Service of Remembrance to commemorate our Veterans



One of 39 bricks placed in our section of the brick walk at the Kemper Center

* Teen Volunteer Program!

This August we introduced our Teen Volunteer Program for high school students ages 14 – 17 who want to engage in community service. Our Volunteer Manager, Beth, shared, “Teens can choose to sit with patients for companionship, help in our business office, or complete volunteer projects at home – such as making comfort items or cards for our patients. Teens have a lot to offer to their community and we are proud to be able to give them opportunities to help and give back.” To find the right fit for you, call (262) 652-4400 to schedule an appointment with Beth to learn more.

* Planting Memories

Every August, children, teens, and their guardians come together at the Hospice House Garden to paint a terracotta pot and plant a flower in honor of a loved one lost. Families brought the sunshine inside on a rainy day in August to enjoy snacks and to remember their loved ones. Join our email list* to receive emails about upcoming events like Planting Memories!

* see page 2 for how to join our email list

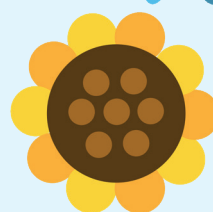
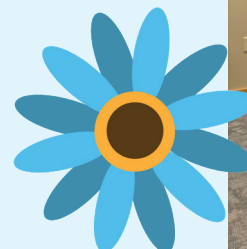
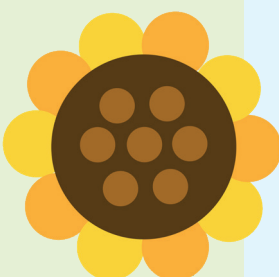


Planting Memories attendees



* Connections – Planting Seeds of Hope

If you know any children, teens, or tweens who have lost someone close to them, we invite them to join us for Connections. A support group for children, teens, and their trusted adults, this program provides a way for families and friends to meet others who are also experiencing grief. Connections is held on the third Thursday of each month from October – May. To learn more and register, email bereavement@hospicealliance.org or call (262) 652-4400.



Memorial Bricks Make Great Gifts!

Create an everlasting memory of your loved one with an engraved brick at the Hospice Alliance Memorial Brick Walk

When you purchase an engraved brick to be placed at our Kemper Center Brick Walk, your special tribute also helps to support Hospice Alliance's mission of "adding-life-to-days" and providing exceptional care and supportive services to all, regardless of ability to pay.

Brick Grid Message - Use the grid below to spell out the message for your brick. Punctuation and spaces count as characters. Please make sure we can distinguish between upper and lower-case letters in the spaces below, if you choose to use both.



BRICK — 4" X 8"
\$150.00 - 3 Lines
12 Characters and Spaces per Line
White area of grid



SUPER BRICK — 12" X 12"
\$500.00 - 7 Lines
19 Characters and Spaces per Line
White and blue area of grid



Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Payment for your brick purchase should accompany this form.

_____ A check payable to Hospice Alliance Foundation

Return this form and check to Hospice Alliance,
10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd., Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

_____ Charge my credit card \$ _____

_____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Discover _____ Am Ex

Card# _____

Expiration: ____ / ____

Orders may also be placed with a credit card through our secure website. Visit form.jotform.com/HospiceAlliance/bricks. For more information, call Rachel Skowronski at (262) 652-4482 x 1253.

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



**Save
the Date!**



Our annual gala, An Evening of Wishes, will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at Strawberry Creek. For additional information, and to be included in event communication, please contact rachel.skowronski@hospicealliance.org; (262) 652-4482 x 1253.

Please check hospicealliance.org in case of scheduling changes.

Veterans Cafe

Berkot's Super Foods
690 W. State St., Burlington, WI
2nd Thursday every month,
8:00 - 10:00AM

Connections - Planting Seeds of Hope Children's Grief Support

Hospice Alliance
3rd Thursday, October - May, 5:00PM

Ring and Remember

Kemper Center, Founders Hall
November 14, 5:00 - 6:00PM
RSVP by calling (262) 652-4482 x 1268

Dining for Donations

Tuscany Bistro
October 22, 4:00 - 9:30PM

Dining For Donations

Milwaukee Burger Company
November 4, 18, 25, 5:00 - 9:00PM

Shopping For Donations

DeBerge's Framing & Gallery
December 7

An Evening of Wishes

The Club at Strawberry Creek
March 1, 2025

Thank You For Your Support!

**For more information visit
www.hospicealliance.org**



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

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