

HospiceCare news

HERE FOR YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE



Our one-day summer camp helps children and teens grieving the death of a loved one enjoy a little fun in the sun. **Read more on page 2**

Fall 2023



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Love Light
Celebrates
40 Years

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Chocolate Chase:
a sweet success!

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HospiceCare locations and contact information



HospiceCare Main Office

1606 Kanawha Blvd., W
Charleston, WV 25387-2536
(304) 768-8523 / (800) 560-8523
Fax: (304) 768-8627



Hubbard Hospice House

1001 Curtis Price Way
Charleston, WV 25311
(304) 926-2200
Fax: (304) 926-2238



Hubbard Hospice House West

4605 MacCorkle Ave., SW
S. Charleston, WV 25309
(304) 414-5170
Fax: (304) 414-0890



HospiceCare at CAMC Memorial

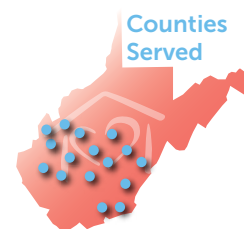
3200 MacCorkle Ave., SE
Charleston, WV 25304
(304) 836-3839
Fax: (304) 968-6290



Greenbrier Valley Office & Peyton Hospice House

1265 Maplewood Avenue
Lewisburg, WV 24901
(304) 645-2700 / (800) 237-0842
Fax: (304) 645-3188

Please visit us online at:
www.hospicecarewv.org



Boone, Braxton, Clay, Fayette,
Greenbrier, Jackson, Kanawha,
Lincoln, Mason, Monroe, Nicholas,
Pocahontas, Putnam, Roane,
Summers & Webster

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Comfort. Dignity. Peace.

HospiceCare

by the numbers

* through September 1, 2023

Annual Hospice Admissions

2020: 2,417
2021: 2,789
2022: 2,748
2023: 1,946*

Hospice Average Daily Census

Total, in-home/in-patient programs
2020: 355, 331/24
2021: 391, 367/24
2022: 347, 326/21
2023: 322, 300/21*

Average/Median Length of Stay

49 days /9 days*

Annual Palliative Admissions

2020: 559
2021: 1,022
2022: 1,013
2023: 702*

Palliative Average Daily Census

2020: 384
2021: 382
2022: 402
2023: 456*

Hospice Admissions by County

County	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*
Boone	112	96	108	67	35
Braxton	6	10	7	11	8
Clay	52	53	53	48	46
Fayette	40	53	62	30	19
Greenbrier	200	190	224	242	172
Jackson	180	119	154	123	105
Kanawha	1,234	1,272	1,431	1,693	1,217
Lincoln	34	33	36	21	8
Mason	14	5	11	5	5
Monroe	76	61	67	54	37
Nicholas	84	98	103	93	52
Pocahontas	8	5	18	4	2
Putnam	370	309	358	280	171
Roane	44	38	50	47	38
Summers	6	5	20	7	7
Webster	28	20	26	20	23
Other	56	50	61	3	1
TOTAL	2,544	2,417	2,789	2,748	1,946*

FROM THE CEO

Chris Rawlings
CHRIS RAWLINGS



Generosity, dedication and gratitude

Dear Friends of HospiceCare,

As I reflect on trials and triumphs we have experienced this year, I am filled with gratitude that I may share the highlights of another remarkable year at HospiceCare in our annual newsletter.

One of the most heartwarming moments of the past year was the successful return of Camp Mend-a-Heart. After a four-year-long hiatus due to the challenges posed by the pandemic, we were finally able to reunite our campers and create cherished memories. Camp Mend-a-Heart is not just a place for fun and games; it's a space where children who have experienced the loss of a loved one can find solace, healing, and friendship. We are deeply grateful to the volunteers, staff, and supporters who made this year's camp a reality once more.

Our community's generosity and support reached new heights this year, with a surge in participation in our fundraising events. It is touching to witness the unity that exists within our HospiceCare family. From the annual tennis tournament to the On Angel Wings motorcycle ride, and from dinners to the golf course, your enthusiasm and commitment have been truly inspiring.

In addition to our successful fundraisers, I am excited to announce the launch of a new service line - Home Health of West Virginia. This expansion allows us to provide even more comprehensive care to those in need within our community. It is a testament to our dedication to continually improve and expand our services to better serve the individuals and families who rely on us.

Your dedication and charitable spirit have been the bedrock of our organization's success, enabling us to provide compassionate care to individuals and families during some of life's most challenging moments. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you for standing with us on this journey; your contributions have made a profound difference in the lives of those we serve. As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with pride and appreciation for the remarkable HospiceCare team and the wider community that makes all of this possible. Together, we have achieved great things, and I am confident that we will continue to do so in the coming years.

"Our community's generosity and support reached new heights this year."

Your partnership is essential in ensuring that we can expand our reach, enhance our services, and touch the lives of even more people in our community. Together, we can continue to provide comfort, dignity, and peace to those in need. Thank you for being the heart of HospiceCare, and we look forward to the positive impact we can create together in the days to come.

Very best regards,

Christopher Rawlings
HospiceCare CEO

25th Annual CTC Tennis Tournament to Benefit HospiceCare

What a wonderful weekend of tennis, food and family fun at the 25th Annual HospiceCare Tennis Tournament at the Charleston Tennis Club!

More than 220 players teamed up for 140 doubles matches to compete in the Silver Anniversary of this regional USTA tournament. The event raised more than \$40,000 to benefit hospice patients and their families throughout southern West Virginia, tipping our 25-year total over \$640,000.

This event is a labor of love by hosts Ed and Nancy Tiffey, their amazing volunteers, club staff, players and spectators. We are so grateful to everyone for making this year's tournament one of the biggest and best to date! This also was the second year of a round-robin pickleball event that club members organized to help kick-off the weekend tournament the night before.

Thanks to our many generous Tournament Sponsors: HB Wehrle Foundation; Andrew & Shannon Elliot;

West Virginia OrthoNeuro; Aric Margolis Architecture; Mac's Cycle Supply; Highmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield WV; City National Bank WV; Tiffey Law Practice, PLLC; Smith Fastener Co.; Moses Auto Group – Moses Toyota Lexus; Rory & Kimberly Isaac; Dingess-Rum Properties, Inc.; Cooke Funeral Homes & Pet Crematorium; CAMC Health System; WVU/Thomas Health; Dr. Joe Crow and Gwyneth M. Owen; Jane & Leigh Shepherd; Johnstone & Gabhart, LLC; Donna J.

Slayton; Mountain Haus Properties, Inc.; Mary Lind Veloso; Marion J. Sinclair; Dave & Aileen Stacy; Elco Mechanical Contractors, LLC; JBS Resources, LLC; Jay & Rachel Holcomb; and Tom's Plumbing, Inc.



Event surpasses \$640,000 milestone during Silver Anniversary

2024 Board of Directors

Officers

Ryan Lindsay, President
H. Dill Battle, Vice President
Twana Smith, Treasurer
Sharon Rowe, Secretary
Joseph M. Price, Immediate Past President

Members

Sally Barton
Rich Bishoff
Michael Bumgarner
Miles Carey
Dr. David Clayman
Judy Deegans
Mark Grigsby
Rebecca Harless
Carol Hartley
Betty Ireland

Dr. Shelda Martin
Margaret May
Don Wilson

Directors Emeritus Jane Condee | Richard "Chap" Donovan | Fred Holroyd | Miriam Knight | Augusta Kosowicz
Rick Miller | Drema Pierson | Dede Talbot | Rick Wallace

Return of Camp Mend-A-Heart brings out the smiles

With sunshine and blue skies overhead, the weather couldn't have been better for the return of Camp Mend-A-Heart on Saturday, July 22 at Camp Hi-Tor in Scott Depot.

Our one-day summer camp – which had been on hold for four years due to the pandemic – helps children and teens grieving the death of a loved one enjoy a little fun in the sun, while also sharing and validating their feelings of grief and loss in a safe and supportive environment.

Because of the hiatus, the Wallace Center for Grief Support & Education staff and supporters knew they wanted to go even bigger this year to kick off the camp's return. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, Dan Dupay of Insurance Schools, Inc., Budget Blinds and the Tri-County YMCA, all the costs to make the camp such a success were covered.

Staff and volunteers from our Wallace Center prepared a fun-filled day for two dozen campers to help them remember and celebrate the lives of those they have lost. The kids enjoyed playing games, jumping on inflatables and engaging in art therapy by making memory boxes, beaded necklaces and bracelets to

remember their loved ones in a creative way. Volunteer Colleen Bragg also brought along Armada the Therapy Dog and several of his furry, four-legged friends for some Frisbee acrobatics and cuddle time.



Director of Bereavement & Spiritual Services Mike Dupay was thrilled to have the camp up and running again this year, stating, "Grief isn't simply emotional – it's physical, spiritual, cognitive and social.

It's all those combined and they're happening simultaneously. Camp Mend-A-Heart is a great way for children to work through their grief since many have not developed coping skills to handle it. The camp is a safe, supportive and fun place for children to have their feelings validated and receive guidance."

"Our ultimate goal is to help build a healthier community for our children and adults who have suffered loss."



Dupay said too often children's grief is dismissed as having less of an impact, but he and his staff at the Wallace Center know that is not the case. "We like to say if you're old enough to love, you're old enough to grieve," he added.

The return of the camp was not only exciting for the Wallace Center staff, but particularly poignant given the tenor of COVID the past few years. As the Wallace Center staff engaged with schools and the community, they heard of an increased need for special counseling for children whose needs had taken a backseat during the pandemic. Thanks to our counselors' strong community partnerships with teachers and school counselors, we were able to identify children who could benefit from attending the camp and receiving our specialized bereavement services. Throughout the year, our Wallace Center staff is happy to provide on-site counseling and support groups at area schools to help children in crisis dealing with the death of a loved one or classmate.

The Wallace Center also offers several free support groups each week that provide a safe space for people to express their feelings, share stories about their loved ones and be heard and understood to help them heal along their journey. Our regular weekly adult grief

support groups meet from 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays and 6-8 p.m. Thursdays at our Charleston Office, 1606 Kanawha Blvd., W. near Patrick Street. We also have a newly bereaved adult support group that meets from 10:30

a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, and a grief support group specifically for those affected by overdose death, from noon-2 p.m. Fridays.

What also makes this year so special is that it marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Wallace Center wing that allowed for expanded services to the public, not just hospice patients and their families. Named in honor of the late Dave Wallace and his wife, Margie, it was their vision and leadership that made this 3,600-square-foot addition at our Charleston Office a reality in 2013. Their overall goal for the new center was to enhance community outreach and programming for everyone throughout our 16-county service area, with more support groups and individual counseling for area schools, churches, businesses and civic groups.

From the death of a spouse, parent or other loved one for whatever reason, to the ongoing suffering of a terminally-ill infant, child or teen, to loss due to miscarriage, suicide or overdose, our Wallace Center counselors, chaplains, social workers and volunteers are here to help everyone in the communities we serve learn to cope, heal and carry on with peace and comfort. We also have been able to comfort those who have lost a beloved family pet.

"Our ultimate goal is to help build a healthier community for our children and adults who have suffered loss by creating an environment where healing can take place," Dupay said. "The reason we offer all of these services is to help people grieve well so ultimately they can live well and love well again."



As we approach the end of the year, the holidays can be a very difficult time for those dealing with grief and loss. In addition to our regular groups, we offer a six-week holiday support group beginning the week before Thanksgiving and running through to the New Year.

For more information about individual counseling sessions or to register for a grief support group, please call 304-768-8523 and ask to speak to someone in the Wallace Center for Grief Support & Education.

Branching out to meet your home health needs



HospiceCare is proud to now offer expanded in-home care services to residents of Kanawha and Putnam Counties through Home Health of West Virginia.

This new venture offers comprehensive and high-quality compassionate care to those who need short-term help managing a chronic health condition or recovering from an injury or illness in the comfort and safety of their own home.

Taking the same whole patient, team approach to care that our hospice families enjoy, Home Health of WV works with patients, their caregivers and physician to provide specialized services that meet their specific health goals.

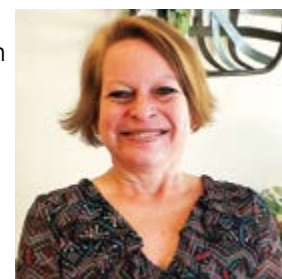
"I am very excited to expand the HospiceCare patient-centered model into the home health field in Kanawha and Putnam counties," said HospiceCare CEO Christopher Rawlings. "Expanding into home health services provides a multitude of benefits for

our community. It brings critical healthcare services directly to the homes of our non-hospice patients, ensuring convenience, comfort, and personalized care."

Health of WV also is the only home health care agency in the area certified as a Community Health Accreditation Partner (CHAP) that meets the industry's highest standards for care.

For more information or to make a referral, please call us at 304-400-4020 or visit us online at homehealthwv.org.

Home Health WV
1603 2nd Avenue
Charleston, WV, 25387



Our Clinical Manager Kim Sutphin, RN, has decades of nursing experience, most recently as a clinical manager at Stonerise Home Health, Kindred at Home and as an on-call nurse for HospiceCare.



10th Annual On Angel Wings Ride

In a decade, the motorcycle ride has raised more than \$50,000!

More than 60 riders joined the 10th Annual On Angel Wings Motorcycle Ride In Memory of Nancy Ann Sutphin in September at the Hubbard Hospice House and raised \$6,830 to benefit our in-patient hospice facilities, for a 10-year total of more than \$50,000!

Nancy, a retired schoolteacher with more than 34 years of service to Boone County Schools, passed away at the Hubbard House in May 2014. Her husband, Ed, and sons, James and Richard, organized the first ride that summer and every year since to benefit our in-patient hospice programs and services.

The ride started at the Hubbard Hospice House with a hotdog picnic lunch, bike show, 50/50 drawing and raffle. At noon, riders hit the road and wound their way through Gauley Bridge, Summersville, Hico and Montgomery, ending in Marmet, with several riders joining at stops along the way.

For more information about how you, your motorcycle club or organization can become involved with next year's ride, please contact organizers James Sutphin, 304-553-9676, or Richard Sutphin, 304-553-9868.



Fine wines and a gourmet meal make for a special evening at The French Goat

An intimate gathering of hospice supporters enjoyed a special dining experience at our 2nd Annual Dinner and Wine Auction in April at The French Goat in Lewisburg.

The dinner raised about \$13,700 to benefit our Peyton Hospice House and programs that serve families in and around the Greenbrier Valley.

Special thanks to our hosts, French Goat Proprietors Debbie Porter and Arthur Forgette, for their hospitality and exquisite gourmet menu prepared by Chef Hannah Reid, as well as Mark and Allyson Liebendorfer of The Country Vintner of WV for providing the perfect selection of wines to pair with each course and a variety of other fine wines for a silent auction.



Let's GO! Mountaineers!

Mikel Hager, West Virginia University's 69th Mountaineer, visited the Charleston Office in May to spread some Mountaineer pride with staff before flying off to Dallas to support WVU's baseball team!

Mikel's mother, Melanie Martin, RN, is a case manager serving our families in and around Boone and Lincoln counties.

Now a senior, Mikel has been a WVU cheerleader for the past four years after playing football in high school in Madison, WV. His hope is to continue to inspire young people in his hometown and fans around the state.



Horsing around in Buffalo for a great cause!



Nearly 90 horses, ponies, mules and donkeys and their riders promenaded down Main Street for the All Horse Parade and Live Auction to Benefit HospiceCare Saturday, September 30 in Buffalo, WV.



Area riders, wagon and buggy drivers were invited to join in the fun at Gazebo Park for the two-mile parade, followed by a live auction of dozens of donated goods and services, and a delicious home-

cooked meal provided by Mrs. Yoder's Kitchen of Mt.

Hope, Ohio.

Hundreds of spectators, equestrians and horse novices alike, had a wonderful day supporting HospiceCare and raising \$12,772 to support our programs. The total donation was a combination of personal and corporate sponsors and donations, parade participant registration, concessions, auction sales and other activities on the ground that day.

Special thanks to organizers Bill Whittington, Melody Matthews, their parade committee, sponsors and volunteers for making this first horse parade such a success! Next year's event is already scheduled for Saturday, September 28.



40th Annual Love Light Tree Season & Holly Jolly Brawley

We are grateful and blessed to be celebrating our 40th Annual Love Light Tree season throughout the holidays this year and hope you will help us spread light and warmth to all the families we serve around the Mountain State.

Our wonderful community partners at the Capitol Market and United Bank in Charleston, and the Greenbrier County Convention & Visitors Bureau and City National Bank in Lewisburg, are opening their doors again to house our Love Light Tree displays.

We also are excited to be decorating a special 40th Anniversary Love Light Tree for the Downtown Charleston Association's Holly Jolly Brawley festivities this year at City Center at Slack Plaza. Visitors to our tree will be able to learn about the 40-year history of the Love Light season and even make their own Love Light Tree donation by scanning special QR code ornaments!

From November through the New Year, everyone is invited to make a donation and hang an ornament on one of our trees in honor or memory of a loved one to help us reach our annual campaign goal of \$100,000.

Our largest annual fundraising campaign benefits patients and their families in need of hospice, palliative and bereavement care services throughout our 16-county service area across southern West Virginia. Community donations and fundraisers like this help us serve all who qualify for hospice services regardless of their ability to pay.

Donations are accepted at the displays and online at <https://www.hospicecarewv.org/40th-annual-love-light-tree-season/>. Our staff will ensure all ornaments are filled out with love and make their way safely onto the trees for everyone to enjoy!

For more information about our Love Light Tree season and how you can give, please call Jeff Sikorovsky at 304-768-8523 in Charleston or Missy VanBuren at 304-645-2700 in Lewisburg.





AssuredPartners steps up to the tee to make the 13th Annual Stonestreet Golf Outing & Tee-off Reception one to remember



For the 13th year in a row, we were blessed with perfect weather for our annual Keith Stonestreet Golf Outing to Benefit HospiceCare on Friday, September 8 at Edgewood Country Club's course in Sissonville.

More than 100 golfers enjoyed a great day of friendly competition and fun on the course, raising nearly \$57,000 to benefit our hospice patients and their families, while also helping the event – named in honor of its founder – reach its lofty goal of raising \$1 million to benefit HospiceCare!

Two tie-breakers determined our winning foursomes, which included Kevin Kirk's first place team at -19, Nick Dent's second place team from Flying W Plastics at -19, Mike Bumgarner's third place team from Flaherty Sensabaugh Bonasso at -18, and Geoff Christian's fourth place team from AssuredPartners at -18.

Golfers, sponsors and their guests were treated to a wonderful tee-off reception the night before at the club in Charleston, featuring music from the Bob Thompspon Trio and special guest, Golf Channel Host Rich Lerner, who mingled with the crowd and shared stories from his 25 years of covering the PGA Tour. Since joining the Golf Channel in 1997, Rich has earned a reputation as one of sports television's premier storytellers, hosting such shows as Live From at the game's biggest events like The Masters, U.S. Open and Ryder Cup.

Special thanks to our Signature Sponsors, AssuredPartners, for making a very generous three-year commitment to ensure the future success of the event, which helps us continue to provide the best care possible to our patients and families, regardless of their ability to pay.

Geoff Christian, Executive VP, Benefits Division, with AssuredPartners of WV, said, "We are proud of our long-term relationship with HospiceCare as their commercial insurance provider, helping ensure the healthcare needs of staff are covered so they can feel comfortable and secure themselves, while providing compassionate care to those they serve."

"Supporting the Keith Stonestreet Golf Outing & Tee-off Reception as the Signature Sponsor is an honor and privilege, giving us a chance to give back and support this local healthcare agency and people in the communities we serve. Not only have we been part of the Stonestreet Golf Outing every year, we now can work to make it even bigger and better and ensure it continues for many more years to come."

Thanks also to our other top sponsors, Dr. David Clayman of Clayman & Associates, Terry Rusin of PSIMED, Roger & Betty Ramsey, Enterprise Fleet Management and Charleston Area Medical Center, for supporting the event, and Edgewood Golf Pro Craig Berner and Event Coordinator Kiarra Nappier and their staffs for making sure everything ran smoothly.

We are also grateful to the many generous golf clubs and local businesses that donated foursomes for our top winners and great door prizes for our golfers to make this year's outing so special. Such an outpouring of community support is what puts the heart in HospiceCare. Here's to doing it all again next September!



Our Mission

Providing compassionate care and affirming life through hospice, palliative and other supportive care services to the patients, families and communities we serve.

Our Vision

To serve our patients and families with inclusive care through innovative, multi-disciplinary approaches and diverse community partnerships. Embracing our history of high-quality hospice care and rising to meet the expanding need of healthcare services in our communities.

Chili cook-off and beerfest is doggone fun!

Last year's Wagging Tails and Nitro Ales Chili Cook-off and Beerfest attracted more than 1,000 two- and four-legged visitors to enjoy plenty of great chili, beer, food, music and furry family fun at the Living Memorial Park in downtown Nitro!



Dozens of red, green and homestyle chili cooks competed in this regional cook-off, sanctioned by the International Chili Society, to make it to the 56th Annual World Championship Chili Cook-off this fall at Burrough's & Chapin Pavilion Place in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

In addition to their competition chili, which was judged by a panel of experts, cooks vied for local bragging rights with their People's Choice chili, which is voted on by the public. For every dollar spent, chili fans received two sample tickets and a Milk Bone dog biscuit to vote for their favorite chili. After voting concluded, HospiceCare donated the remaining 18 boxes of Milk-Bone dog biscuits to the Kanawha-Charleston Humane Association.

Volunteer Coordinator Donna Briggs and her amazing volunteers – Ellen Briggs, Kim and Marilyn Walbe, Naydeen Wolf, Sydney Whittington, Eric Richmond, Heloise Swanepoel and Betty Adkins – raised \$2,100 to benefit HospiceCare by selling chili samples.

The Kanawha-Charleston Humane Association and Putnam County Animal Shelter were on hand with animals up for adoption and the Itty Bitty Kitty Committee had foster cats available for snuggles and new furever homes.

Special thanks to event organizers Joe Stevens and Jennifer Piercy and their volunteers for making the event such a success each year!

This year's event took place Saturday, November 4, after this newsletter went to print.



Simple gifts make a big impact

Everyday people from the communities we serve are always dropping by with a variety of donations, gifts and other needful things that help us better serve and care for our patients and families.

While we can never thank them enough for all their generous and caring support, we always make a point of highlighting their good deeds!

Thank you to Shannon Cooper, RN, left, of Optum Nurseline, who delivered a vanload of AARP Blessing Boxes to our Charleston office in April that she and her colleagues filled with treats and other goodies for our patients and their families.



Thanks also to Courtney Graley and Leith Miller, students at BridgeValley Community and Technical College, who dropped off a donation of goody bags the same week that they and their on-campus group, Bridge by Faith, filled with a variety of comfort items.

HospiceCare chief inducted into Health Care Hall of Fame

CEO Christopher Rawlings was inducted as one of 10 new members of West Virginia Executive Magazine's Health Care Hall of Fame Class of 2023 at a reception in February.



The award recognizes those who go above and beyond in the healthcare industry and its supporting industries, including doctors, nurses, hospital administrators, educators, researchers, scientists, innovators and entrepreneurs.

You can read more about Chris and the other nominees by visiting wvexecutive.com/health-care-hall-of-fame/.

Building a Tradition of Giving

Thank you to Melody Lasure and Fred Chandler, Business Manager for Charleston Building and Construction Trades Council, who stopped by our Charleston Office to present our CEO Chris Rawlings with a check for \$8,000 from the WV State Building Trades' 29th Annual KVBA Labor-Management Golf Scramble.

Melody, who is the wife of Luther Lasure, Executive Director of the Kanawha Valley Builders Association, wanted to be part of the check presentation this year in honor of her father who passed recently in hospice.

HospiceCare is grateful for the groups' continued generous support from this event, which now totals \$106,000 since 2002!



Day of Caring unites communities



About 20 HospiceCare employees tackled several painting, cleaning, weeding, mulching and gardening projects at the YMCA of Kanawha Valley in Charleston on Wednesday, September 20, as part of the United Way's Annual Day of Caring.

We also welcomed staff from the CAMC Cancer Center to our Hubbard Hospice House to pressure wash sidewalks around the building and gardens. Each year, the Day of Caring is the largest one-day volunteer event in central West Virginia that brings together hundreds of volunteers to create a positive impact on nonprofit organizations and human service providers across Kanawha, Putnam, Boone, Braxton, Clay and Logan counties.



TIDEWATER Gulf

Sweet 16th Annual Dinner Party a tasty success

More than 130 guests packed the house for our sweet 16th Annual HospiceCare Dinner Party in April to enjoy a delicious meal and benefit our patients and families.

Special thanks to General Manager Kelley Jordan and her staff for making the evening special and helping us raise \$10,000 to support hospice, palliative and bereavement care programs and services throughout our 16-county coverage area.

Congratulations also to Stephanie Burton of Charleston for winning our 4th Annual Aruba Getaway Vacation Raffle, which helped raise another \$4,200!

Making the most of each moment, couple renews wedding vows

We recognize the uniqueness of every patient and family we serve and strive to provide individualized care that focuses on their personal wishes and goals. This person-centered approach to care allows patients and families to make the most of each moment, live life to the fullest and enjoy as much quality time together as possible.

During National Hospice & Palliative Care Month last November, hospice patient Charles Siders and his wife, Anna, renewed their wedding vows in front of family and friends at their home in Elkview. Our Chaplain Pete Thompson officiated, and nurse Tina Skaggs and social worker Chrystia Thornton helped organize the gathering.

After a long battle with COPD, Charles passed the following month at age 57. His family was so touched by the care Charles received and the kindness HospiceCare showed for all of them, even offering a special thank you to his hospice nurse, Candice Henson in Charles' obituary: "You came into our life as a nurse but became so much more. With kindness and thoughtfulness, you became our friend."

This is just one of the many memories our patients, families, staff and volunteers create and share each day, which give us all strength for the journey.



Chocolate Chase 5K/10K a sweet success!

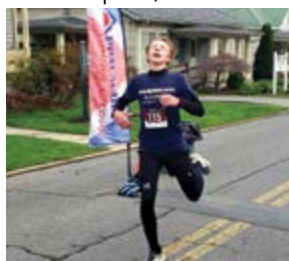


We want to thank the more than 128 runners and walkers, as well as spectators who came out to our 15th Annual Chocolate Chase 5K/10K, which raised \$3,665.00 to benefit HospiceCare at the Lewisburg Chocolate Festival in April.

Special thanks also to Lewisburg Mayor Beverly White, Caren and Ricky Campbell of APTiming LLC, Race Coordinator Maria Mace and all her volunteers from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine – Brenna Bohn, Morgan Malof, Savanna Sparks, Brendyn Allison, Danny Chen, Jeremy Cutlip, Madison Dale, Andrea Dwiggins and Mark Wagner – Jeni Baker with Kissito Healthcare, Alleghany Tees, United Way of the Greenbrier Valley and Lewisburg Chocolate Festival.



And a big thank you to our generous Platinum and Gold event sponsors: The Bank of Monroe; CAMC Greenbrier Valley Medical Center; Country Road Realty, LLC; David M. Moore, Real Estate Law; Fairlea Animal Hospital; Farmers Home Fire Insurance; Morgan Funeral Home; Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home Lewisburg WV; Ambler & Dotson, LC; Cornerstone IGA; Greenbrier Automotive Group; Kissito Healthcare: Brian Center Fincastle; Judy Deegans; Thomas Rose Inn; and Michelob Ultra.



For results and photos from the event, visit aptiming.com/race/results/1506 and aptiming.com/photos/race/1506.

Dedication of memorial gazebo helps heal family



HospiceCare is most grateful to the family of the late Beverly Selby who gathered Memorial Day weekend at our Hubbard Hospice House to dedicate a new gazebo built in memory of their loving mother, sister, aunt and grandmother and celebrate her life. Chaplain Pete Thompspon officiated the dedication, with family members

sharing fond memories and violinist Alasha Al-Qudwah playing several of Beverly's favorite songs.

Beverly was a patient at Hubbard House in 2021 and could often be seen enjoying the manicured grounds of the facility with family and friends. The gazebo was designed based on her vision and built with a ramp to allow easy access for wheelchairs and placed next to the playground to let families spend special moments together.

Her daughter, Emily Selby-Nelson, said, "It's been such a healing and helpful experience for us. I still miss her but find peace knowing we could give her the peace and dignity she deserved in her final moments and do this in memory of her. Thank you all for everything you do."

Special thanks also to the Charleston High School Class of 1961 for donating patio tables and chairs for the gazebo.



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Hospice Council
of West Virginia



HOSPICE
HONORS

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HospiceCare
news



More than just another brick in the walk

Now is a great time to create your own personalized brick paver in honor or memory of a loved one to line our new memorial path at Peyton Hospice House in Lewisburg or add to our garden walkway at the Hubbard Hospice House in Charleston.

For more information or to order your brick for the Peyton House, visit brickmarkersusa.com/donors/hsc.html or call Missy VanBuren at 304-645-2700 in Lewisburg; and for the Hubbard House, call Sara Larch at 304-926-2200 in Charleston.



Repeat Hospice Honors

At HospiceCare, we put our patients and their families first and it shows!

For the second year in a row, HospiceCare has received HEALTHCAREfirst's annual Hospice Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) Honors Award, which recognizes the nation's highest-performing hospice agencies based on data and personal experiences collected from patient and caregiver satisfaction surveys.

"We are very proud to receive this prestigious HCAHPS Honors Award for our second consecutive year. It reflects the compassionate dedication of our staff and volunteers who go above and beyond to provide quality care to our patients and their caregivers," HospiceCare CEO Chris Rawlings said.

Our overall four-star rating from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reflects scores at or above state and national averages in every category, including, treating patient with respect, willing to recommend this hospice, and emotional & spiritual support.

The federal Hospice Quality Reporting Program (HQRP) requires us to report our quality measures based on the Hospice Item Set (HIS), Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers & Systems



(CAHPS®) hospice survey data, and administrative data collected through Medicare claims. This data is available online at CMS.gov.

Patients and caregivers can search and download this public information in a user-friendly way to make better healthcare decisions based on such data as quality of care, the volume of services and caregiver feedback. Providers can also use it to start a conversation about hospice with their patients and family members.

HEALTHCAREfirst is a leading national provider of billing and coding services, assessment surveys and advanced analytics. For more information about the award, visit healthcarefirst.com/hospice-honors/#HCAHPS