

The Newsletter

From Hospice of Central New York



Why Do I Help Hospice?

By Jaime J. Hunsicker, Esq.



I started the training program to become a Family Care Giver with Hospice of Central New York during my first year of law school. The college encouraged students to get involved with community service, and I immediately knew where I wanted to devote my time. I had recently lost two family members who I was very close with. As a young adult, I struggled with how to deal with those losses and how to sort out my own feelings about death. The training program helped me to understand the different ways people cope with death and how to speak with patients who are dying, and I was also forced to confront my own uncertainties about death. Most importantly I was educated on all the incredible services that Hospice offers to patients and their families, many of which I had no prior knowledge of.

After completing the training program, I jumped right into volunteering. Most of the patients I visited were residents in area nursing homes. Even if the patient was sleeping or incapacitated, I knew I was providing a valuable service just by having a presence. After leaving a patient, whether the visit was for 10 minutes or an hour, I always felt fulfilled and at peace for doing one small thing to help one person or one family.

The most rewarding volunteer experience I had was when I was finishing up my last semester of school and getting ready to study for the bar. I was asked to visit a patient who was a retired attorney. For the next several weeks I would go visit him, and he would ask me questions from my bar review flash cards or he would read and edit a practice essay I had drafted. He was tough and challenged me. I could never tell who got more out of those visits, me for having the opportunity to meet and learn from such a brilliant man prior to his passing or him for having a student eager to soak up every word of advice and expertise he could share. I know that for those couple hours a week he was not thinking about his impending death. We simply enjoyed each other's company. I will always be thankful to Hospice for giving me that experience.

Flash forward eight years and I am now a member of the Hospice Foundation Board. I understand even more the impact the organization has on the community and how many of the services provided could not be accomplished without all of the volunteers who have the same passion I do, to help those who need a little extra support in their final days.

I am so proud to say that I am a very small part of a remarkable organization serving my neighbors here in Central New York, that strives not only to provide quality end-of-life care but also empowers patients to live with dignity. I would encourage anyone who has even the smallest interest in getting involved to attend the training program and see for yourself how rewarding the experience can be. Hospice's next training program begins Thursday, September 20th. Call the volunteer office at 315-634-1100 for more information.

Hospice Advocacy



It's no secret that medical care is frequently most expensive in the final months of life. Healthcare professionals are using all of their skills and technology to keep patients alive. This is why Americans are living longer now than ever before. The new medicines, treatments and surgeries often come with higher costs than what can be seen on a medical bill. For some patients such measures may result in an extreme decrease in the quality of life. Edo Banach, president and CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), recently wrote, "Families who don't know that there's an alternative stand helplessly by as the last months of life get swallowed up by costly, sometimes unnecessary, treatments that can hurt more than they help. Healthcare consumers and policymakers must be aware that it doesn't have to be this way. In an increasingly broken and fragmented health care system, hospice care – the nation's first coordinated care model – shows how health care should and can work at its best for patients at the end of life."

Studies show that hospice care is cost effective. Here in Central New York it costs about \$190 a day for hospice care. More importantly, it's care that offers patients expertise in pain and symptom management while emotional and spiritual support are provided to our patients and families. All of these services are individually determined by the needs of each patient and family by an interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, bereavement counselors and specially trained volunteers. Hospice treats patients and their families with dignity and respect whether it's care at home or in a nursing home. Our patients' families show their approval of the care we offer by giving us a 98% satisfaction rate.

The availability of quality hospice care in the future is not guaranteed. "Despite more than 35 years' success in the Medicare program, inevitable changes in our health care system could threaten hospice's effective, original system of coordinated care. A rash or untested policy shift could lead to care delays, limitations on patients' ability to select their preferred provider or a loss of autonomy for the hospice medical directors," according to Banach. Currently, an estimated 1.7 million Americans receive hospice services each year with 1.4 million Americans choosing to utilize hospice through their Medicare benefit. Any change in the system must be thoroughly evaluated to make sure no patients fall through the cracks.

Whomever you choose to represent you in the county, state or federal government we hope you insist that they fight to keep your hospice benefits working for you!



***Hospice Needs Nurses Call 315-634-1100
or Visit www.hospicecny.org***

Merger Plans Ongoing

The NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council approved the merger of Hospice of Central New York and Hospice of the Finger Lakes.

This transition will require intensive staff time and expenditures to coordinate policies, procedures and medical record systems to ensure continued quality standards that both agencies are known for.



Do You Know A Great Physician?

Some doctors excel when it comes to the doctor/patient relationship. Hospice of Central New York likes to hold a spotlight on these doctors so that they can set an example for new physicians and raise the standards for others. This is the mission of the Annual Anita Award.

The Anita Award was established at Hospice in 1998 by friends and family in memory of Anita Stockman. The intention of this award is to heighten awareness of the importance of physician communication and support to patients and their families facing a life-threatening illness and promote these skills among physicians in training.



This award is to be presented to a physician who is attentive to his/her patients, who communicates openly, honestly and sensitively, who respects patient decisions and remains actively involved with the patient in his/her final journey.

Nomination letters for the Anita Award are solicited from people in our community who have personally experienced responsive care from their physicians.

Please send your nomination by December 3rd to: Anita Award, Hospice of CNY, 990 Seventh North Street, Liverpool, NY 13088 or email your nomination to info@hospicecny.org.

Please include your name and phone number and why you think this physician merits this award. The award will be presented in January of 2019.

Solace Garden

We recently enhanced the wheelchair accessibility to our Solace Garden. We are committed to continued improvements for this special space. The Solace Garden is very important to Hospice family, friends, staff and volunteers.

David and Ellen Suarez, of Global Landscaping, did a great job of creating and adding the accessible path into the Garden's design. The husband and wife team have made the Solace Garden one of their pet projects over the years, and we appreciate their time and talents. Their efforts demonstrate care and compassion, making them a perfect partner for Hospice. We welcome anyone to come and enjoy the peaceful setting of the Hospice Solace Garden at any time.





Hospice Donors Remember



Generous donors have chosen to remember their loved ones with gifts to Hospice of CNY. The following people have been honored by such gifts between April 1, 2018 and July 31, 2018:

In Memory:

Joanne "Sue" (Wild) Abbey	Martha Burgess	Frederick W. Erwin
Jacqueline (Taylor) Abriel	Mabel E. Burnett	Daniel Fabian
Norma Alexander	Bernard Eugene Burt	Dominick Fabrizio, III
Clara Ammann	Connie L. Bush	Mary W. Fallon
Karl Joseph Ammann	James Patrick Callahan	Joyce Feldman
Sheldon P. Amo	Robyn Carinci	Ok Cha "Sue" Fellows
Nicholas R. Andrianos	David P. Carr	Mark Kevin Fenton
Fred A. Antonello	Paul and Jeanneanne Casson	Walter VanNostran Ferris
Diane Sue (McMahon) Austin	Mary Cavaiola	Donna Fields
Harry Carl Avery	Rosario J. "Rocky" Cavallaro	Ferdinand Fietkiewicz
Jane M. Bach	William Chadick	Henry J. Forget
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Marjorie Barry	Barbara "Babs" Walton Cluse	Ella "Dot" Frost
Diana Nancy (Magari) Bartlett	Lloyd J. Cole	Nicholas Fukes
Robert W. Barton	Patricia Colligan	Elsie Chawgo Drake Fuller
Joan Webb Basile	Thomas C. Collins	Helen D. Gabris
Elizabeth "Betty" Jane	Justin "Jay" Conover	Linda J. Polifroni Gagnon
(Bogensperger) Bauder	Nancy Jean Conway	Robert J. Gallup
Jeanne L. (Bittel) Baxter	James "Jim" Copani	Scott and William Gambée
Richard S. Beak	Janice M. Corrigan	Antonino "Anthony" J. Gangemi, Jr.
Lee L. Belle	Lynn E. Courtwright	Mary DeMarco Gangemi
Joan P. Bellso	Mary E. Craner	Winifred Thornton (McNamara) Gates
Jackson R. Bennett	Kathleen T. Cregan	Joan M. Gibson, Ph.D.
Norma Bickford	Robert Cronk	Irma (Goodison) Goodwin
Joseph W. "Red" Bielak	James Crowley	Henry and Regina Greiner
Alberta G. (Volz) Billy	Elizabeth Mary (McCarthy) Daly	John "Ed" Grosso
Robert C. Biswanger	Peter "Pete the Greek" T. Dardaris	Edith Grundel
Leola Blue	Margaret Ann Davis	Augustine A. Guarino
James S. Bobbett	William B. Davis (Bill)	Pamela (Marsala) Guyder
William L. Boehmer	James W. Deegan	Russell L. Haase
Teresa M. Boepple-Swider	John E. Delaney	Beverly J. Harris
Loretta Ann Bono	Mary A. (Nocchiero) DePalma	Helen (Toodie) L. Harrison
Joseph W. Bonzek	Marilyn A. DePew	Burnett "Bud" D. Haylor
Harry R. Boutwell	Cara L. DeSiro	Beatrice "Bea" (LaTray) Hazen
Gordon Boyle	Charles A. Detor	John "Jack" Ellswood Heath
Marie G. Boyle	Bill and Catherine Deunik	Richard F. "Ranger" Heck
Susan Bradley	Philip J. Domenico	Florence Catherine Helmetag
Ruth Folmsbee Britton	Francis 'Frank' Dougherty	Allen R. Henderson
Neilan Brody	Elizabeth Muenich "Tibby" Dumanian	Joanne M. Henderson
Harry E. Brogan	Mary (Merante) Dunham	Martin F. Herbert
Rosalyn Brostek-Lischak	Shirley M. Dunham	Willard A. Hess
Major Steven T. Brothers	Phyllis Durney	David F. Hildenbrand
A. Frederick "Fred" Bullion, Jr.	Joseph Richard "Skip" Duszak, III	Dennis J. Hile
	Stella Egan	Stephanie Holmes
	Clementine (DeRose) Endieveri	Richard W. Hopsicker

In Memory: Additional Honor/Memorials

Gary M. Hotaling
Wayne K. House
Cecilia Z. Huninik
Roma G. (Cesarone) Iauco 
Libby Irwin
Myra Anne (Friedman) Jackman
Margaret S. Jock
Jerald "JR" Jones
Karen Jordan-Sorbello
R. "Cindy" Kaiser
Andrew D. Kelly
Barbara H. Kelso
Doris Keukelaar
Charlotte F. Kiefer
Douglas P. Klaczko
Elaine E. Knaul
Alfred G. Knieser
Judith A. Koegel
Edward & Joan Korszeniewski
Charles Donald Kraushaar
Janet R. Kroes
Robert M. Krupka, Jr.
Anna M. Kunsman
David Kuss
Lisa Labeille
Frank A. Lacko, Sr.
Nolan John Ladd
David B. LaDuke
Carol Ann Lancellotti
John "Jack" E. Leary
Leon "Leo" Legere, Jr.
John Kevin Lennox
Robert Elmer "Bob" Lenz
Lena Lewis
Irene Rose Libby
Frank Liberati
Joseph Liberati
Dorothy (Sarazin) Lindsay
Norman W. Lindsay, Jr.
Joseph M. LoBello
Andrew Long 
Loved Ones
John R. "Jack" Loveland
George J. Loveless
James J. Luton
James N. Lutz
Elaine & Dennis Lykudis
Marilyn Roney Lyon
Johanna N. MacDonald
Mackintosh

Robert P. Magee, Sr.
Frances Maines
Yolanda (Ponzio) Malara
Lenore Maliken
Carol Hixson Marcellus
Pauline L. "Polly" Marshall
Helene Marie Martens
Beverly "Bev" B. Martin
Pearl M. Mattis
Leo "Butch" D. McArdeU, Jr.
Pat and Rose McCarthy
Ronald "Buddy" McDonald
Dr. Clifford McGinn
Rosemary McGinn 
Gary L. McGiveron
Katherine McIntyre
Paul J. McNeilly
David J. Miccinelli
Debora Mickiewicz
James D. Middaugh
Rita B. Miles
Mary L. (Engler) Monica
Patricia S. Moriarty
Donald G. Moyer
Richard "Dick" Mulrooney
Jason Murphy
Frank L. Nardelli
Herman H. Nash, Jr.
Alexander Nepor
Walter G. Neuhauser
Sheila Niederhoff
Edward W. Oliver
Carr and Virginia Parsons
John R. Pascarella
Thomas M. Patterson
Bruce Peak, Sr.
LaVerne K. Penoyer
David A. Percy
Bernard David Perkins
Phyllis Woolsey Perkins
Rachael Foley Perkins
Vittorio D. Perrotta
Linda Susan (Sgroi) Perry 
Carl Leo Petrie, Sr.
Gertrude "Gert" (Switzer) Petroffski
Antonio Petrulla
Amy (Brillinger) Pole
Rose Porter
Henry A. Przybylski
Jean Przybylski

Katherine H. Ptak
Dorothy B. Pugliano
Ardis A. Pitre Quackenbush 
Ruth Marie Quinn
Glenora Irene Sherman Radley
William C. Ramsgard
Charles A. "Charlie" Randall
Charlotte Knowles Reals
Maria Rentsch
Amy Burdette Riggs
Marilyn (Forster) Riley
Carl Lynn "Bump" Robertson
Larry Robinson
Robert M. "Bob" Rodak
Edgar Roll
Edward P. "Eddie" Rose
Marilyn H. Rosenberger
Martha L. Rossi
John and Betty Roycraft
David J. Russell, Jr.
Midge Sanford
Mary L. Savo
Mary Jane Scammell
John J. Scanlon
Anna Scusa
Ellen Searles
Tracy Trapp Sears 
Terry L. Sharpe
Sabra A. Sheedy
Helen F. Shulkin
Ronald Silberberg
Mary E. Simmons
George D. Skinner
Howard D. Slade
Elizabeth Ann (Ucher) Smith
Gilson C. Smith
George G. Sorrendino
Eleanor Jennie Spinelli
Candace Darolyn Staake
Charles F. Starring
Donald W. Steenberg
Jack Steinbach
Janice Helen Stevenson
Edmund W. Stimers
Loretta I. Sturick
David J. Sullivan
Antoinette "Lucia" Sutton
Christopher F. Tafel, Jr.
Josa N. (DePasquale) Tennant
H. Gregory J. Tetor
Lucille (Brunet) Thom

Holiday Grief Help

Even if you have learned to deal with your grief, the holidays can be a trigger to a powerful relapse. We can help you be prepared. Hospice of Central New York's Grief Center has scheduled a handful of events that can help you deal with your loss during this holiday season.

Holiday Grief Yoga - Beginners and experienced practitioners are welcome. Hospice Bereavement Counselors Joyce Nevola and Michelle Gladu will show you "how to" while giving you the coping techniques to deal with your grief during this holiday and beyond. The group sessions meet for 3 Mondays, November 5, 12, 19 (2:00 pm - 3:15 pm or 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm).

Holiday Grief Talk - This annual seminar has become more and more popular over the years. Facilitated by Hospice Bereavement Counselor Michelle Gladu, the holiday talk will offer tips and set you on a path to make this time of year easier to cope with. The Holiday Grief Talk will be held on November 14th from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Holiday Craft Memorial Workshop - Make sure to register early for this event as its popularity increases each holiday season. Learn to cope with grief by creating a holiday craft. It could be a memory box or wreath, the possibilities are endless. This event is very popular for families with children. Join Hospice Bereavement Counselor Joyce Nevola on Monday, December 10th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Call 315-634-2208 to register for events. All events are held at Hospice of CNY, 990 Seventh North St., Liverpool. Please use the Panasci Community entrance at the back of the Hospice building, which is fully accessible. Doors open 15 minutes before events. To check cancellations due to weather emergency, call 315-634-1113 x307 two hours prior to the event.

Additional Honor/Memorials

In Memory:

Robert Frank Thorp
Stephanie M. (Wright) Tidd
John E. Tily
Anthony "Tony" Tirinato
Joan Trivelpiece
Joyce A. Tuohey
Michael P. Valentine
Gloria J. (Palmer) Valentino
Roselyn M. (Zingaro) Valentino
Joseph T. Valletta
Barbara Van Vliet
Frances P. Annesi Ventrone
Italo Venturino
Gertrude H. VerDow
Angelo A. Volturno
William Wainwright
Dorothy (Lowell) Wakker
Jane Walsh
Herman F. Walter
Alfred B. Welch, Jr.
Maureen J. Wheelock

James R. Whitbread
Diane Whitman
Margaret Whittaker
Mary Agnes Blank Williams
Sharon Williams
Bridget A. Wills
Frances M. Woodward
Judith Zarzecki
Margaret M. (Santoro) Zerrahn
Sohyla Ziaie
Maureen Ziegler

In Honor:

Mrs. Susan Conover
Mr. Gregory Earl
Ms. Lisa Holmes
Hospice Staff
Mr. Cameron Hughes
Graham and Emily Leggat
Mrs. Anne Miller
Mr. Donald Pirro
Mr. Michael Shulkin



Learn More About Hospice

Are you involved in a group or organization that would be interested in learning more about Hospice programs and services?

At Hospice of Central New York we are more than happy to help provide answers to your questions. We provide presentations to a variety of groups. We can tailor our talk to your specific needs/interests. Maybe you would like to know more about basic hospice services, adult or children's grief counseling, grief support groups, volunteer opportunities, caregiver support, advance directives, or long-term healthcare planning. If your group might benefit from having a Hospice of CNY presentation on one or all of these topics, please call 315-634-1100.



Hospice Spring Events – Thank You for a Big Success

Thank you to all who supported Celebrating Life Through Chocolate and the Hospice Golf Open! This year's Chocolate Event was our best one yet, and we could not have had a more perfect day for the Hospice Golf Open. A great time was had by all, and Hospice patients and families will benefit from these events thanks to the generosity of our supporters. Thank you everyone who participated!

Another Year... Another Syracuse Half Marathon!

Hospice of Central New York patients and families will once again benefit from The Syracuse Half Marathon taking place on November 11th. Three generous runners- Cameron Hughes, Chad Penoyer and Thomas Tucci have been raising money for Hospice of Central New York while they train for the big race.

During our first year at The Syracuse Half Marathon our runners raised over \$10,000. We are looking for another year of success! Since 2017 over \$20,000 has been raised through Central New York races to support our patients and their families. The Syracuse Half Marathon has become a very important part of our fundraising efforts.

Our runners have been working very hard over the last few weeks on their training and fundraising. One thing they all have in common is their passion for running and Hospice of CNY. We are proud to call them Team Hospice of CNY! If you would like to support their run visit the donate page on our website.



Celebrating September Song and the 20th Anniversary of the Anita Award

On September 14th, Hospice of Central New York will be hosting its 29th annual September Song event at Traditions at The Links at Erie Village. This year's gala fundraising event will pay tribute to all of the physicians that have been honored to receive the Anita Award.

The upcoming 20th anniversary of the Anita Award will be a significant milestone in recognizing physicians who showed care and compassion in supporting patients who are facing an incurable and life-limiting illness.

We invite you to join us for a wonderful evening of celebration with delicious food, entertainment by Nancy Kelly, a bountiful silent auction and a chance to win a once-in-a-lifetime vacation. All proceeds will benefit the patients and families served by Hospice of Central New York. We are taking reservations now, and sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, feel free to call the Development Office at 315-634-1100 or visit www.hospicecny.org/september-song-2018.

Special thanks to our Presenting Sponsor:





Providing patients and families hope, comfort,
support and healing when there is no cure.

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www.hospicecny.org

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ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-315-634-1100.

Hospice of Central New York 遵守適用的聯邦民權法律規定，不因種族、膚色、民族血統、年齡、殘障 或性別而歧視任何人。

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 315-634-1100