



CROSSROADS

FOR FRIENDS OF CENTER FOR HOSPICE CARE

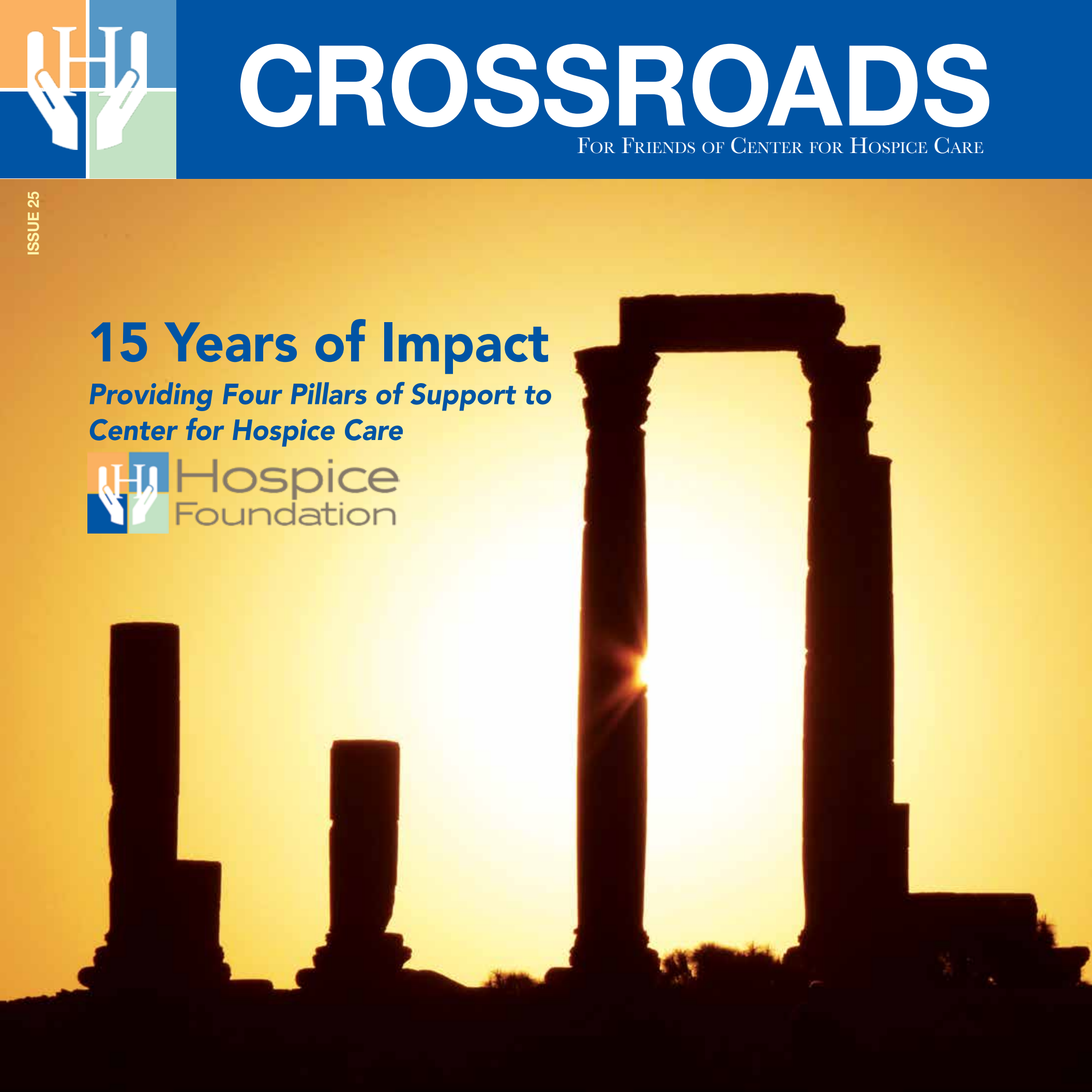
ISSUE 25

15 Years of Impact

*Providing Four Pillars of Support to
Center for Hospice Care*



Hospice
Foundation



A NOTE FROM WITHIN

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

15 years! It seems like only yesterday we were developing plans to get the Hospice Foundation (HF) off the ground and positioned to focus on four critical areas: fundraising, stewardship, education and collaboration. Where has the time gone? And where do we go from here? This is an excellent time to take stock of our past, become grounded in our present and prepare for the ever-changing and evolving landscape of hospice and palliative care in America.

In this 25th issue of *Crossroads*, we've put together a retrospective highlighting a few of the most impactful projects and initiatives HF has undertaken to support Center for Hospice Care's (CHC) mission **to improve the quality of living**. Also included in this issue are updates on our educational collaborations and details about recent and future fundraising and stewardship events.

As we celebrate this milestone, so do we celebrate the 15th year of partnership between CHC and the Palliative Care Association of Uganda. When the partnership began, we had no idea of the depth and breadth of initiatives we would ultimately collaborate on. From advocacy and mentorship, to education for nurses and child caregivers, to morphine supply chain logistics and mobile health data collection, we have supported PCAU's strategic plan to bring palliative care to every corner of Uganda.

In July, CHC/HF representatives traveled to Seattle to accept one of the 2023 Circle of Life Awards bestowed by the American Hospital Association (AHA). We feel privileged to be in good company with this year's other award winner, the Palliative Care Program at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. This prestigious award celebrates innovation in palliative and end-of-life care. The AHA cited CHC's operation of the Ernestine M. Raclin House and Esther's House inpatient units, the Center for Palliative Care outpatient clinic, community-wide bereavement counseling programs and Milton Adult Day Services as well as HF's Center for Education & Advance Care Planning, Honoring Choices® Indiana – North Central and Global Partners in Care as noteworthy aspects of our collective work.

None of these programs, facilities or initiatives would have been possible without the steadfast support of thousands of donors and collaborators throughout our communities and across the globe. We are forever grateful for your kindness and generous support; we look forward to serving you and our community for many years to come.



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Chief Operating Officer



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A K BACK

STORIES AND ACTIVITIES SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE

38th Helping Hands Award Dinner

The 38th Helping Hands Award Dinner was unlike any other dinner Center for Hospice Care and the Hospice Foundation have hosted. Usually a formal event, this year's dinner transformed the Gillespie Center at Hilton Garden Inn into a 1950s sock hop, complete with a DJ, dancing and several unique surprises!

We were honored to recognize Mary and Phil Newbold with the Helping Hands Award on May 3. The couple's life of commitment has been exemplified in both their personal and professional lives.

Phil has spent his entire career helping improve the health and well-being of people. He served as a senior executive at St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland and CEO at Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, and then dedicated 29 years

as CEO of Memorial Health System and Beacon Health System before stepping down in 2017. With his support, Center for Hospice Care's *After Images* art counseling program was established with an initial grant from Memorial Hospital's tithing program more than a quarter century ago. During our most recent comprehensive fundraising campaign, *Cornerstones for Living: The Crossroads Campaign*, Memorial Hospital also made the lead gift to establish an endowment to ensure the sustainability of this important bereavement program. Early this year, Phil agreed to serve as Center for Hospice Care's interim CEO pro bono while a national search is conducted to identify a permanent replacement for Mark Murray, who concluded 32 years of service to CHC at the end of 2022. This role with CHC



Thank YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

38th Helping Hands Award Sponsors

Diamond Sponsor:

Carmi and Chris Murphy

Multi-Platinum Sponsors:

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A LOOK BACK

adds to a long list of leadership roles with a host of community organizations including the Family and Children's Center, Center for the Homeless and the Medical Education Foundation.

Mary has been a long-time supporter of Center for Hospice Care and Hospice Foundation, including as a member of both organizations' board of directors. She currently serves as chair of the Foundation board. In addition, Mary has been a member of both the Junior League and Junior League Sustainers, the Antiquarians of St. Joseph Valley and The Stanley Clark School parent board where she served as chair. She has also taught Sunday School at the Sunnyside Presbyterian Church as well as volunteering on committees for dozens of award dinners and community events, including – along with Phil – two stints chairing the Helping Hands Award Dinner.

Dinner chairs Carmi and Chris Murphy, long-time friends of the Newbolds, had a grand plan for the event – they wanted to throw a sock hop. Why a sock hop? Because during their early years, Phil would entertain crowds as the DJ of many events while Mary was spinning the records! To recreate the feel, dinner committee members were encouraged to dress in 1950s' style clothes and South Bend Civic Theatre Executive Director Aaron Nichols served as DJ, spinning requests from the crowd, while everyone enjoyed grooving to the tunes. Throughout the evening, several "surprise guests" showed up. Center for Hospice Care board chair Kurt Janowsky asked Mary to take time out from the evening to

do Phil's performance review. At one point, a cyclist rode through the ballroom to ask Phil for some training tips for her first triathlon. A cellist wandered onto the dance floor, mistakenly thinking he was at the Morris Performing Arts Center (where Yo-Yo Ma happened to be performing that night).

Mary and Phil's life of commitment mirrors Center for Hospice Care's commitment to life. Both of these were evident in the tribute video created for the event. The patient story included in this video highlighted the fact that hospice care is not just for the last days of a patient's life – it is designed to improve the quality of living for those facing a life-limiting illness for six months or more. Mary and Phil's generous, ongoing support of the services we provide, and their other community service, made them easy choices as recipients of the 38th Helping Hands Award!



38th Helping Hands Award Dinner Committee

Committee Chairs:
Carmi and Chris Murphy

Dinner Committee:

Nafe Alick
Shamaila and Bilal Ansari
Zoreen and Rafat Ansari
Kathy Beeler and Brian Regan
Donna and Brad Beutter
Pam and Tom Burish
Erin and Steve Camilleri
Dru Cash
Barb and Tom Cassady
Pat and Don Cressy
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Karen and Mike Leep
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Teresa and Rob Meyers
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Carmen and Lou Nanni
Ginette Poirier and Dennis Schwartz
Sue and Pat Ruszkowski
Tom Seiffert
Tonya and Tim Sexton
Andrea and Jim Short
Chris and Jim Sieradzki
Mary Jane Stanley
Sherry and Larry Swank
Anita and Tom Veldman

Thank you for your generous support of our mission to improve the quality of living.



Elkhart Gardens of Remembrance and Renewal

"I remember a counseling session with a woman who had bought one of the benches a few years back. We sat on the bench and she shared stories with me about her husband. It was just so heartwarming because their memories live on in so many ways."

Center for Hospice Care bereavement counselor Debra Bledsoe shared this story with attendees at the 11th Annual Gardens of Remembrance and Renewal Memorial Dedication Ceremony. This event gives those who donate a memorial item at Center for Hospice Care's Elkhart Campus an opportunity to gather to see the items installed as well as share stories of their loved ones.

More than 50 people attended this year's event where 37 bricks and one flowering tree were dedicated. Along with her story, Debra also led those gathered in a litany entitled *We Remember Them*. Attendees also heard from CHC's Interim CEO Phil Newbold about the design of the campus and how the memorial items help CHC keep its founding promise that no one eligible for hospice care will be turned away, regardless of their ability to pay.

If you are interested in a memorial item for placement before next year's event, visit FoundationForHospice.org/elkhart-campus or contact us at memorialemail@cfhcare.org or 574.277.4100.



Inaugural Coffee Cruise In for a Cause

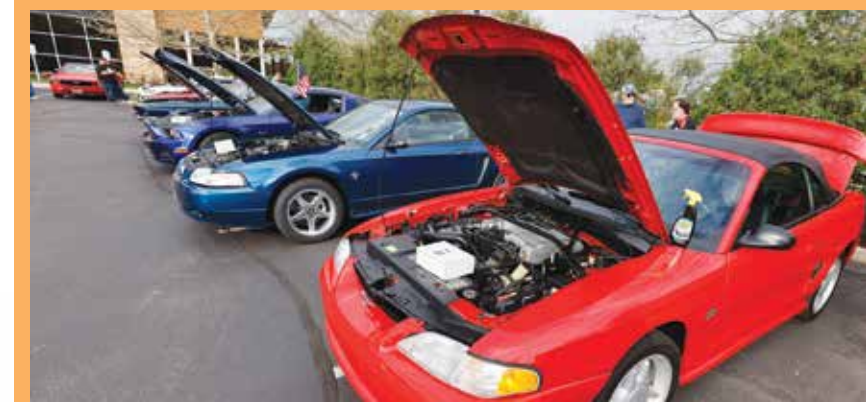
The threat of rain could not keep car enthusiasts from attending the inaugural Coffee Cruise In for a Cause at Center for Hospice Care's Mishawaka Campus on April 16. Thirty-nine vehicles (and their owners) braved the forecasted rain and were on display for the public to see.

Awards were given for Best Car, Best Truck, and Best Motorcycle along with a Best of Show. Owners made a \$10 donation to display their vehicle and the event was free for the public to attend. The Best of Show award was done by vote. Attendees and those displaying vehicles could purchase as many votes as they liked for a one dollar donation to Hospice Foundation. Ballot box stuffing was encouraged!

While the end of the show was rained out, judging was completed prior to the showers'

arrival. The awards ceremony took place indoors to keep everybody dry!

The next Coffee Cruise In for a Cause will be held on Sunday, October 8. If you would like to register your vehicle, scan the QR code below or visit FoundationForHospice.org/coffeecruisein. For more information contact Red Fisher at 574.243.3119 or FisherR@FoundationForHospice.org.



A LOOK BACK

Reception for Indiana University School of Medicine Hospice and Palliative Care Fellow

As the Baby Boom generation ages, the need for physicians who are board certified in hospice and palliative medicine will continue to grow. As outlined in the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine's (AAHPM) position paper on graduate medical education and the changing healthcare landscape, "By 2050, the population aged 65 and over is projected by the U.S. Census Bureau to be 83.7 million, almost double that in 2012... AAHPM estimated 6,000+ full time equivalents – or 8,000 to 10,000 physicians – were required to meet the current needs in hospice and palliative care programs, with up to 18,000 physicians needed if all hospices and palliative care programs used exemplary staffing models."

To help meet this need, the Indiana University School of Medicine's Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine was launched in

2005. This post-residency program provides physicians with in-depth training in the fields of palliative and hospice care and prepares them to be board-eligible in this sub-specialty. Center for Hospice Care (CHC), the IU School of Medicine (IUSM) and the Vera Z. Dwyer Charitable Trust are collaborating on an innovative approach to: increase awareness of the need for physicians trained in hospice and palliative medicine; recruit physicians for the fellowship, particularly those with ties to communities served by CHC; and equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to care for those at the end of life.

Thanks to the generous financial support of the Vera Z. Dwyer Charitable Trust, IUSM was able to add an additional hospice and palliative medicine fellowship in 2017. Anoush Jidarian, MD, was recognized as the 2022-2023 Vera Z. Dwyer Fellow at

a reception held on April 27th at CHC's Mishawaka Campus. Dr. Jidarian is the IU School of Medicine's first fellow who comes from a surgery background. As Dr. Lyle Fettig, the program director of the hospice and palliative medicine fellowship noted, "there are others out there throughout the country, but they are not super common." Dr. Jidarian noted that her fellowship was a natural extension of providing compassionate care for her surgical patients facing life-limiting conditions.

At the reception, Dr. Jidarian conveyed her thanks to the Dwyer Trust for supporting the fellowship as well as sharing some of her experiences in the program. Attending the event with her were her mother, Ophelia Jidarian, and our youngest-ever reception attendee, her son Daniel Sevan Jidarian who was five months old.



2 Organizations 1 Mission Improving the Quality of Living

Through its support of Center for Hospice Care, the Hospice Foundation helps patients and their loved ones experience the best possible quality of living regardless of healthcare insurance or the ability to pay.

- Hospice
- Home Health
- Grief Counseling
- Community Education

Caring for patients in Elkhart, Fulton, Kosciusko, LaGrange, LaPorte, Marshall, Porter, St. Joseph and Starke Counties in northern Indiana.

 Center for
Hospice Care
choices to make the most of life™

 Hospice
Foundation

To learn more or self-refer, call 1-800-HOSPICE (within our nine-county service area) anytime, or visit CFHCare.org

ON THE HORIZON

FUTURE EVENTS AND HOSPICE HAPPENINGS

Vegas Vibes at the Rees Brings Vegas Feel to Plymouth

The Hospice Foundation is bringing a little bit of Las Vegas to downtown Plymouth in September. Vegas Vibes at the Rees, being held on September 27, kicks off our "Love Feels Like..." comprehensive fundraising campaign for Marshall County.

The evening will begin with a cocktail reception before comedian and host for the event, Brett Walkow, takes the stage. Attendees will then be served dinner, followed by music from local contemporary jazz saxophonist and singer Danny Lerman and guests.

Brett Walkow has been entertaining audiences for 25 years with his signature blend of silliness, warmth and off-the-cuff audience interaction. Along with performing alongside Melissa McCarthy and Jimmy Fallon, Brett has appeared on *The Tonight Show* and in Jerry Seinfeld's film 'Comedian.' Danny Lerman, a riveting saxophonist, has performed as a soloist with the South Bend Symphony and in Breda, Holland with members of the Metropole Orchestra. He has performed around the world, including South Africa, Venezuela, Turkey, Israel and

Indonesia. His compositions have been featured in movie soundtracks for *Wedding Bell Blues* and *Kill Me Later*.

The Hospice Foundation's "Love Feels Like..." comprehensive fundraising campaign will support renovation of Center for Hospice Care's new Plymouth office located at 1419 North Michigan Street as well as funding for discounted and unreimbursed patient care for the residents of Marshall, Fulton and Starke Counties.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Vegas Vibes event or in supporting the "Love Feels Like..." campaign, contact Chris Taelman at TaelmanC@FoundationForHospice.org, by phone at 574.243.3713 or just scan the QR code below.



Veterans Tribute Ceremony

As a Level 5 We Honor Veterans Partner, we train our staff and volunteers on the specific needs of veterans and their families as they face end-of-life situations. Our goal is to serve them as they have served us. This can include talking with them about their time in the service, pinning ceremonies, arranging an honor flight when appropriate or just informing them of the services that are available to them as a veteran.

The Captain Robert J. Hiler Jr. Veterans Memorial on Center for Hospice Care's Mishawaka campus pays tribute to the men and women who have served our country and is an extension of our We Honor Veterans partnership.

Each year we offer an opportunity for community members to donate bricks and plaques to be placed at the memorial in honor or memory of a veteran. These items are dedicated at our annual Veterans Tribute Ceremony. This year's ceremony is scheduled for October 10, beginning at 5:30pm.

The event will feature a guest speaker as well as the dedication of any items donated in the past year. A reception with refreshments and appetizers will follow. If you would like to purchase an item for placement before next year's event, you can visit FoundationForHospice.org/give-veterans-memorial.



ON THE HORIZON

FUTURE EVENTS AND HOSPICE HAPPENINGS

2023 Circle of Caring Award Dinner

The second annual Circle of Caring Award Dinner will be held on Wednesday, November 1 at The Lerner in Elkhart. This year's recipient will be Rex Martin.

Rex Martin is chairman of NIBCO INC. and represents the fourth generation of Martin family leadership. He joined the company in 1975 and has served in a variety of leadership positions including president and chief executive officer since 1992. He was elected chairman of the board in 1995.

Martin is the co-founder and chairman of The Rex & Alice A. Martin Foundation which specializes in donations to fund major projects for children in all of the NIBCO site locations. Extending his service to the community, Rex has also served on the boards of many not-for-profit organizations and charities across the State of Indiana as well as leading several capital campaigns. Rex currently serves on the Student Athletics Advisory Board for the University of Notre Dame.

Rex Martin has been honored many times for his leadership and philanthropy by such

organizations as Culver Academies and Indiana University South Bend. In 2004, he received the State of Indiana's highest distinction, the designation as a Sagamore of the Wabash, in recognition of his distinguished service.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Indiana University Bloomington and a master's degree in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Circle of Caring Award Dinner, contact Red Fisher at FisherR@cfhcare.org or 574.243.3119 or visit FoundationForHospice.org/coc23.

Top: Rex Martin received the Benny Russo Community Award from the Council on Aging of Elkhart County in 2019. The award is given to those who serve others and contribute to improve their community.

Bottom: Rex and Alice Martin at a University of Illinois softball game. Longtime supporters of the program, Rex and his daughters made a lead gift to build a state-of-the-art training facility in honor of Alice. The Rex and Alice A. Martin Softball Training Center opened its doors in 2022.



Hospice Foundation Calendar of Events

We look forward to your participation in and support of these important events. Please check our website, FoundationForHospice.org, for more information and event dates throughout the year.

September 2023

- **September 27**
Vegas Vibes @ The Rees
- **September 30**
Camp Evergreen Family Workshop

October 2023

- **October 2-4**
NHPCO Annual Leadership Conference
- **October 10**
Veterans Tribute Ceremony

November 2023

- **November**
National Hospice and Palliative Care Month
- **November 1**
2nd Circle of Caring Award Dinner
- **November 11**
Veterans Day
- **November 19**
Time of Remembrance Memorial Service



March 2024

- **March**
National Social Work Month

April 2024

- **April 16**
National Healthcare Decisions Day

May 2024

- **May 1**
39th Helping Hands Award Dinner

June 2024

- **June 4**
Gardens of Remembrance and Renewal Memorial Item Dedication

Find us on:



Fourth Uganda Conference on Cancer and Palliative Care

The Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU) will co-host the fourth Uganda Conference on Cancer and Palliative Care in conjunction with the Uganda Cancer Institute (UCI) on September 14-15. Center for Hospice Care and Hospice Foundation (CHC/HF) will be supporting our partner by sponsoring the conference as well as sending three representatives to attend as part of this year's exchange visit.

Representing CHC/HF on this visit will be Karl Holderman, chief financial officer of CHC, Lacey Ahern, manager of international programs, and Denis Kidde, international programming coordinator. While Karl has been an integral part of the partnership since its inception in 2008, this will be his first visit to Uganda.

The conference will focus on cancer and other life-limiting illnesses that continue to increase

public health concerns in Uganda and the region. The recent COVID-19 pandemic, Ebola outbreaks, sporadic natural disasters and humanitarian issues in the region emphasize the need to scale up cancer and palliative care services to reach geographically remote communities and provide an increased focus on vulnerable groups.

The theme for the conference is "Scaling up availability, accessibility, quality and equity." These topics were selected to advance discussion of the barriers that impede the provision of cancer and palliative care services. The conference brings together professionals in the field of cancer and palliative care, healthcare providers, students, policy makers, researchers, academicians, donors and partners in corporate and business settings as well as the general public.

Photos from the 2019 conference



Road to Hope Milestones

Stephen and Tonny Graduate

Two young adults on the Road to Hope (RTH) program, Stephen and Tonny, recently graduated from university – Stephen with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and Tonny with a Bachelor of Development Studies. These two young men have worked hard; they started out from difficult situations where they were forced to mature beyond their years to care for their sick parents. They have overcome those circumstances and many other challenges to become university graduates!

The RTH program helps orphaned and/or deprived child caregivers in Uganda receive the education they need to become productive young adults. We have seen this transformation with Stephen and Tonny. As they reach the milestone of a university degree, it's something worth celebrating and a wonderful example of the success children on the program can achieve. PCAU recently featured a brief update about Stephen and Tonny's successes in their newsletter.

We are so grateful to the sponsors of the children whose support has enabled PCAU to reach out to them and other child caregivers in need. The RTH program is PCAU's avenue for empowering communities at the grassroots level, which is essential for promoting palliative care; this increases demand for the services in communities. The RTH program is a catalyst for PCAU's advocacy and programming activities at the community level. This strategy of empowering people and

communities for palliative care is also a key part of the World Health Organization's (WHO) conceptual model for delivery of palliative care.

PCAU is now exploring ways to further engage Stephen and Tonny with the RTH program and other PCAU activities in the community. Stephen's story was shared when he first graduated as a clinical officer. He worked for some time and then entered medical school. He also returned to volunteer on the RTH program in his spare time. Stephen has continued to engage with the RTH program and was central in the execution of the February 2023 children's camp. Currently, Stephen is volunteering at a local hospital in his home village as he waits for a one-year government internship. After this he will be allowed to practice on his own in the field of medicine and surgery.

Tonny also attended camp this year and will continue to engage in the RTH program as a mentor for the younger children. It can be hard to land a job after graduation, so Tonny is being entrepreneurial. He has recently been involved in a clothing business which keeps him busy as he looks for employment in his field of study.

Top: Stephen, Tonny and Mark Mwesiga, PCAU executive director

Middle: Tonny and Stephen

Bottom: Stephen and Tonny with other Road to Hope beneficiaries and Rose Kiwanuka, retired PCAU country director





EDUCATING ON END-OF-LIFE PLANNING

Honoring Choices Receives Healthy Issues and Challenges Grant

Honoring Choices Indiana-North Central (HCI-NC) was formed to advance the idea that everyone in our service area should receive care that honors their personal values and goals in catastrophic situations or at the end of life.

Certified advance care planning facilitators educate and assist with discussions for individuals and families whose goal is to develop an advance care plan, including advance directives and choosing a health care representative. In 2022, HCI-NC was awarded a Health Issues and Challenges Grant (HIC) from the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) through its newly created Health Innovation Partnerships and Programs Division (HIPPP). The mission of the new division is to

promote, protect and improve the health and safety of all Hoosiers and ensure that every Hoosier reaches optimal health regardless of where they live, learn, work or play. HCI-NC was one of more than 150 other agencies and organizations around the state that used grant awards totaling \$43.9 million to serve over 1 million Hoosiers during the first year of the grant cycle.

Nationally, individuals who identify as white are more likely to have a designated healthcare representative and completed documents detailing their goals for end-of-life, ensuring their wishes are honored. Monies awarded to HCI-NC from the HIC grant support programming

designed to increase health equity and build on the existing work HCI-NC has done to foster advance care planning within the Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino communities in St. Joseph and Elkhart counties. HCI-NC's premise in developing collaborations in these communities has been that the communities themselves know best how to engage in community health projects like this. Deliberate steps have been taken to expand representation on the HCI-NC advisory board. This has led to collaborations with partner organizations in these groups to both learn from them as well as provide education and support and train several representative advance care planning facilitators.

HCI-NC recently received additional funds from HIPPP and IDOH through a grant award supported by the Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Grant. Monies from this grant will help to sustain the activities outlined in the initial proposal and allow for other expenses and activities to be implemented that were not previously identified as needs, including the redesign of the HCI-NC website for greater accessibility and ease of use for non-English speakers and engaging an intern to provide administrative support with tasks associated with grant activities.



15 Years of Sustaining Compassionate End-of-Life Care

The Hospice Foundation was created in 2007 to provide four pillars of support for Center for Hospice Care: fundraising, stewardship, collaboration and education. In this issue, we take a look back at some of the milestones, facilities and programs that have developed and evolved with the generous support of a very giving community.

Much like the production crew that works behind the scenes of a Broadway play or musical, those who give to the Hospice Foundation (HF) to support Center for Hospice Care (CHC) are vital to CHC's mission "to improve the quality of living." From caring for those at the end of life, to supporting grieving family members, to honoring veterans, to educating our community - CHC and HF continue to provide the highest-quality care and service, including keeping our 43-year-old promise that no one eligible for hospice care would ever be turned away due to their inability to pay.

Our dedication to providing innovative care for those at the end of life was recently recognized by the American Hospital Association. Center for Hospice Care and the Hospice Foundation received a 2023 Circle of Life Award.



"They are building a future in which clinicians and family members will recognize when patients would benefit from palliative care services and readily refer them to the compassionate support and comfort they deserve."

2023 Circle of Life Award Brochure
"Celebrating Innovation in Palliative and End-of-Life Care."

Caring for Patients Wherever They Call Home

Since opening its doors in 1980, CHC has cared for more than 44,000 patients – in private homes, in extended care facilities, in hospitals, in jails and in homeless centers. Wherever a patient calls home, CHC staff will be at their bedside to provide skilled, compassionate care. For patients who need the specialized pain and symptom management that an inpatient unit offers, CHC operates both of our communities' only dedicated inpatient units. Esther's House opened in 2008 as part CHC's Elkhart Campus. Tucked away just beyond the eastern edge of the city, this facility provides the best of care in a warm, homelike setting. Staff based here also provide in-home care to residents in Elkhart, LaGrange, and Kosciusko counties as well as parts of Marshall and St. Joseph counties.

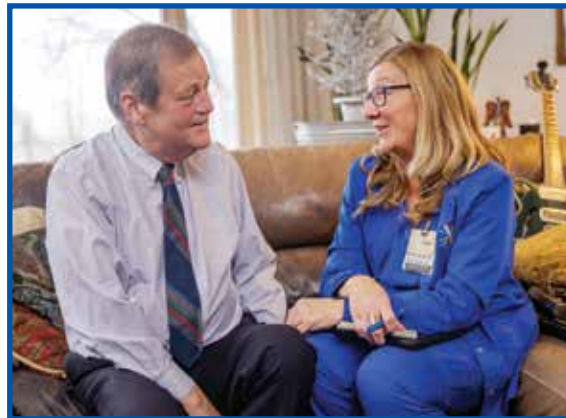
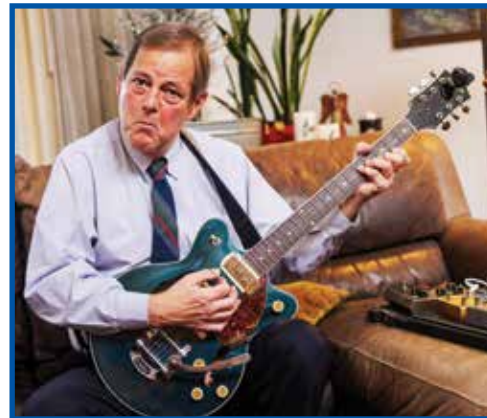
While many donors made the Elkhart inpatient care facility possible, Dick and Rita Strefling provided the lead gift through the Strefling Foundation. After experiencing the care Dick's mother Esther received from CHC, both in-home and at our inpatient care facility in Roseland, they wanted to help create a similar facility in Elkhart County for their community. Their vision led to the creation of Esther's House.

Similarly, the late Ernestine M. Raclin provided the transformative gift for the eponymous inpatient unit on CHC's Mishawaka Campus. The 12-bed Ernestine M. Raclin House opened in 2020. Here, each room has a view of the St. Joseph River where patients and families can experience the peace and tranquility of the waterfront setting.



"It's so beneficial to have a support network help process thoughts at this point of life. It's not a clinical relationship, it's a group of caring people."

Steve Colagrossi, CHC patient



Caring for Those Who Served

Center for Hospice Care recently expanded its participation in the “We Honor Veterans” program by achieving Level 5 designation, a collaboration between the Veterans Administration and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. As a Level 5 partner, CHC integrates veteran-specific content for staff, volunteer orientation and education. CHC is one of just 228 Level 5 partners out of 3,743 programs in the nation and is proud

to be a 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Partner with the Department of Defense.

As part of our commitment to veterans, the Hospice Foundation hosts an annual dedication ceremony at the Captain Robert J. Hiler Jr. Veterans Memorial on our Mishawaka Campus for items donated in honor or memory of veterans



Surviving Pearl Harbor

Jim “Jimmy” DeWitt’s life story has the makings of a big screen blockbuster. Love, loss, war, peace all have their places in it. At only four years old, Jimmy was left at an orphanage in Mexico, Indiana after his parents died of tuberculosis. Although his older siblings also resided there, he never got to see them. In fact, Jimmy didn’t have any contact with his siblings while growing up although he did have some contact once he joined the military. His older brother had joined the Navy, and Jimmy decided to follow in his footsteps. They were both assigned to the U.S.S. Medusa.

Eventually, Jimmy was transferred to the U.S.S. Antares, a supply ship that soon had a front-row seat to the

beginning of the war in the Pacific. “We reached the entrance to Pearl Harbor at 5:30 that morning,” Jimmy remembered. “The Japanese came in at 7:48 a.m. It was our ship that spotted the submarine.” What was quite surprising is the sense of calm and peace prior to the attack. Jimmy recalled that beautiful Hawaiian music was being played over the intercom that morning. “It was a Sunday morning. We thought everything is peaceful.” Then the music stopped suddenly, and they called out, “This is an air raid! Take cover!” They kept repeating that. Everything escalated from that point.

“They wouldn’t let us in the harbor,” Jimmy continued. “Because they knew

there was more trouble ahead.” Shortly later, around 9:00 a.m., another attack ensued. This time, American guns were manned, and Jimmy remembered that shells and debris were dropping all over them. He, along with seven other crew members, were on the bow of the ship watching the dogfight over their heads; they were amazed how the Americans got eight planes in the air for the second attack.

Jimmy was one of the last few Pearl Harbor survivors left but his memory was astounding. He was even interviewed by the History Channel before his death. It was an honor for Center for Hospice Care’s staff, along with his family and caregivers, to honor his service with a veteran pinning.



Caring for the Community

The loss of a loved one is never easy. Grief is a natural response to experiencing the death of someone we love. The Hospice Foundation’s support of Center for Hospice Care’s Life Transition Center means our patients’ families, as well as those in our community, don’t have to face grief alone. Counselors and trained volunteers provide services and programs for children, teens and adults. Two examples of these community programs are Camp Evergreen and After Images.

Now in its 30th year, Camp Evergreen is a camp for grieving children of all ages who have experienced the death of someone significant in their lives. For the past 15 years, the Hospice Foundation has supported this camp through fundraising, events and volunteerism.

Camp Evergreen has benefited from the generosity of the Lloyd family, who created the Linda Lloyd Mission Endowment for Camp Evergreen. Their support has helped ensure that all grieving children in our community have access to this life-changing program.

For some, expressing their grief through art provides a path to healing. The *After Images* art counseling program, directed by Dave Labrum, offers participants the time and space to work through their grief with art. Those who take part in the program create their artwork alone in the program’s studio space with Labrum’s support and guidance. The studio is a place where clients feel safe and can express their grief openly and honestly.



Educating our Community about End of Life

One of the Hospice Foundation’s four pillars is helping people – including healthcare providers, trusted advisors and healthy adults – have conversations about end of life and understand the importance of having advance directives that document their end-of-life wishes. These directives not only help ensure those wishes are honored, but they also help alleviate stress from families who may otherwise have to make difficult healthcare choices.

Since 2018, Honoring Choices® Indiana – North Central has made its home at the foundation. This organization was formed to advance the idea that everyone should receive care that honors their personal values and goals in catastrophic situations or at the end of life. It began as a grassroots effort as leaders from healthcare providers, faith-based communities and non-profit organizations met to discuss the best approach to facilitating advance care planning in Elkhart, Marshall and St. Joseph counties.

In part because a growing number of people have learned about the benefits of hospice and palliative care, the demand for this

care continues to outpace the number of trained medical staff entering the field. The Hospice Foundation is also committed to providing education for college students, providers in formation and the medical community at large. A generous gift from the Vera Z. Dwyer Charitable Trust in the form of a \$1 million matching grant has enabled us to establish the Vera Z. Dwyer Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. This gift endows an annual position for a physician in a one-year, post-residency program at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

The “Introduction to Hospice and Palliative Care Class” that CHC and the Hospice Foundation staff teach every spring at the University of Notre Dame is an example of the foundation’s collaborations with colleges and universities. This 1.5 credit-hour class provides undergraduate students, particularly those who are interested in careers in medicine, with an overview of palliative and hospice care. Staff from the foundation and CHC also play an integral role in teaching undergraduate students in the new palliative care minor offered through the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences at Indiana University South Bend.

“Educating future health care providers about the hospice concept and introducing them to the benefits hospice and palliative care provides those facing serious, life-limiting illnesses is at the core of the Hospice Foundation’s mission.”

Mike Wargo,
VP/COO Hospice Foundation





Caring Knows No Borders

In 2008, CHC and HF were partnered with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU), whose mission is “to promote and support affordable and culturally appropriate palliative care throughout Uganda.” The partnership was made possible by Global Partners in Care, formerly known as the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA). The focus of this partnership, now celebrating its 15th year in 2023, is to support PCAU’s strategic initiatives around its mission to provide culturally appropriate palliative care to all in Uganda.

One method of raising awareness of palliative care provision in Sub-Saharan Africa and the plight of those left behind by dying parents was the creation of two documentary films. The first, the award-winning *Okuyamba*, includes interviews with some of Uganda’s leading palliative care experts such as Rose Kiwanuka, then country director of PCAU.

The second film, *Road to Hope*, showed what happens when a child becomes the primary caregiver for a parent with a life-threatening disease. With few resources, the child is often forced to quit school to earn whatever living can be found, while still caring for his or her dying parent.

The film was inspired by the Road to Hope Fund that was created to provide educational, emotional and social assistance for children in their time of need. Since its founding in 2012, the Road to Hope program has supported close to 80 children in their individual growth and education. Currently there are:

- 22 children in the program enrolled in primary school.
- 22 children in the program enrolled in secondary school.
- 23 children in vocation school.
- 7 have graduated in the fields of medicine, development studies, motor mechanics, electrical installation and maintenance, beautician, seamstress and accounting.

The values of caring and compassion know no borders. In the 15 years of partnership with PCAU as twinned organizations under the Global Partners in Care (GPIC) umbrella, CHC and the foundation have worked with PCAU to bring palliative care to those in need throughout Uganda.

The success of this partnership is why CHC/HF was tapped as a search began for a new home for GPIC – an organization created to support Africa’s hospice and palliative care programs’ ability

to provide compassionate care. GPIC officially became a part of the HF family in January of 2017. Partners engage in capacity building, strategic planning, education, fundraising and technical assistance to expand and improve services for those in need.

Today, the partnership network includes 80 organizations and extends to 10 African countries and 16 states in the US. Since 2004, GPIC and its US partners have sent more than \$7 million dollars to support the vital palliative care work in low-resource settings.

It’s important to note that no donations to Center for Hospice Care or the Hospice Foundation are used to support global initiatives unless explicitly requested by the donor.




Thank You to Everyone in our Circle of Caring!

None of the accomplishments outlined here would be possible without the compassion and generosity of our supporters. And nowhere was this more evident than the support CHC/HF received during the *Cornerstones for Living: The Crossroads Campaign*. This was our most extensive comprehensive fundraising campaign and was the byproduct of a strategic planning process whose goals were to create a warm, welcoming campus that brings together services in one location and facilitates care of the highest caliber while reducing expenditures and to ensure sustainable sources of funding that will provide essential and emerging programs over the long term. The campaign successfully concluded in 2019 after raising more than \$14 million in contributions and pledges.

Since 1985, Center for Hospice Care has recognized those who have demonstrated civic and charitable stewardship to improve the quality of living in the communities we service. These awards are given at the Helping Hands Award Dinner held in May in South Bend and at the Circle of Caring Award Dinner held in November in Elkhart. Funds raised in support of these dinners help us keep our promise that no one in our nine-county service area eligible for our services will be turned away due to an inability to pay.


The impact your gifts make each day go beyond what we can share in one magazine, newsletter or brochure, but we hope that this special edition will show how much every gift helps.





Circle of Caring Award Recipients

2022 – Tim Portolese and Bruce Newswanger



Helping Hands Award Recipients Since 2008

2008 – Carmi and Chris Murphy
2009 – Burkhardt/Miller Families
2010 – Wiekamp Family
2011 – Rev. Richard V. Warner, CSC
2012 – Mary Osmanski Ferlic
2013 – Ann Manion
2014 – Robert Deputy
2015 – Lou Behre
2016 – Joseph Kernan and Robert C. Beutter
2017 – First Responders
2018 – Sister Carmel Marie Sallows, C.S.C.
2019 – Catherine Hiler
2020/21 – Drs. Zoreen and Rafat Ansari
2022 – Gladys Muhammad
2023 – Mary and Phil Newbold



Donor Profile: Jeannine and Nafe Alick

Compassionate Community Care for Over 50 Years

Jeannine and Nafe Alick, Sr. arrived in Elkhart, Indiana as a young married couple with a growing family over 50 years ago. Nafe was a young pharmacist who worked for a chain of drug stores before establishing Alick's Drugs in 1967. As Nafe worked to build his drug store business, Jeannine raised their four children. Over the years Alick's became a trusted name in the Michiana healthcare community, and in 1982, Jeannine Alick expanded the business with the establishment of Alick's Home Medical in Elkhart.

A Culture of Caring

Jeannine befriended an Italian woman named Roberta at the Mayo Clinic in 1981. Roberta's complex surgery required her to be in a body cast. Due to her immobility, Roberta was isolated, and Jeannine took measures to move her to Elkhart to convalesce in the Alick's home. Durable medical equipment for use at home was not easy to come by in that era. Nafe saw a business opportunity and encouraged Jeannine to channel her compassion and caring for others by starting a separate business to provide equipment and goods allowing people to receive care at home. Jeannine and two employees opened Alick's Home Medical in the fall of 1982 with a mission to "treat each of our customers as we would want our own mothers and fathers treated, because we care."

Care and compassion channeled by Jeannine's view that her efforts to provide quality products and services were more of a vocation to serve rather than merely a job. "God needs us to be caring," said Jeannine during a recent interview featured in a video honoring the Alicks. PBS Michiana WNIT produced the video.

Jeannine's genuine concern for those needing assistance in obtaining equipment and services to help them stay at home, combined with Nafe's business skills, resulted in Alick's Home Medical expanding from Elkhart into other northern Indiana communities including South Bend, Mishawaka, Michigan City, Plymouth and Warsaw. The Alick family attribute Jeannine and Nafe's marriage of over 60 years and their success in business to their ability to work well together and the numerous ways with which they complement each other. In 1991, their son Nafe, Jr., opted to leave a successful career in Manhattan to return to Elkhart to join the business, and today he is president of Alick's Home Medical.

For over 40 years, the Alicks have built the reputation of their business, hand-in-hand with supporting a variety of community non-profits. Center for Hospice Care (CHC) and its patients have benefited from their generosity and care. Both Alick's Home Medical and Jeannine and Nafe Alick were among the first to support CHC's *Cornerstones for Living: The Crossroads Campaign*. Thanks to their generosity, the Alick's Home Medical Caregiver Training Center is a part of CHC's Clinical Staff Building on its Mishawaka Campus. The Alicks have supported and attended CHC events for over 40 years and the culture of care and compassion they've grown as part of their business has aligned with CHC's mission to improve the quality of living in northern Indiana.



Center for Hospice Care Receives Circle of Life Award

We are excited to announce that Center for Hospice Care (CHC) is one of two recipients of the American Hospital Association (AHA) 2023 Circle of Life Award. This prestigious award honors hospital and palliative care programs that are ensuring equitable access to care, implementing nontraditional models of care delivery and payment, fully integrating palliative care into a system of care or a community, making palliative care financially sustainable, developing meaningful measures and metrics to track progress, or partnering with payers, other providers, community groups and faith communities.



Hospice Foundation's Cyndy Searfoss (l) and Mike Wargo (c) and Center for Hospice Care's Karl Holderman (r) accepted the Circle of Life Award in Seattle, WA

"This year's Circle of Life award honorees have implemented timely, safe and efficient palliative and end-of-life care programs," said Rick Pollack, AHA's president and CEO. "Whether addressing disparities in access to palliative care, providing grief counseling or developing clinical quality metrics, these programs play an instrumental role in serving people with life-limiting illnesses, their families and their communities."

The AHA cited CHC's operation of Raclin House and Esther's House, the outpatient Center for Palliative Care, the Life Transition Center for bereavement counseling, Milton Adult Day Services, the Center for Education & Advance Care Planning, Honoring Choices® Indiana – North Central and Global Partners in Care as noteworthy aspects of CHC's work. All of these programs are made possible by the many partnerships CHC and the Hospice Foundation have made within the community (and across the globe) over their 43-year history.

"It's partnerships, partnerships, partnerships," says Phil Newbold, CHC's interim CEO. "Plugging into the health care systems, the education systems, the other not-for-profits and the health and human services organizations – that's the way that all of us in the community get better." In a publication about the award winners, AHA says about CHC, "If there's something good happening in the South Bend, Indiana area, Center for Hospice Care wants to be a part of it. That can mean providing student-learning experiences for area universities, helping to establish a fellowship in hospice and palliative care at a medical school, teaching college courses or sponsoring another nonprofits fundraising event."

According to Cyndy Searfoss, director of education and collaborative partnerships for Hospice Foundation, "Being engaged in our community is absolutely essential to making sure that everyone in our community eventually will know what hospice and palliative care does and why you should want to use those services for as long as possible and not

just the days and weeks leading up to the end of life. And this also makes sure that we are developing the next generation of providers for those services."



Center for Hospice Care's Camp Evergreen for grieving youth and teens was cited by the AHA as one of the innovative programs that made them a deserving Circle of Life recipient

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the health improvements of their communities. The AHA advocates on behalf of nearly 5,000 member hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations, clinician partners – including more than 270,000 affiliated physicians, 2 million nurses and other caregivers – and the 43,000 health care leaders who belong to their professional membership groups. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides insight and education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends.

Community Corner

The Hospice Foundation is grateful for the generosity of the many groups that support CHC's mission through their independent fundraising efforts, grantsmanship and donations. Although we cannot recognize every effort, we are pleased to take this opportunity to recognize the following and thank all those in the community who support our organization.

Kappa Kappa Kappa Inc Beta Gamma Chapter gave \$240 for a Camp Evergreen sponsorship.

Crest Manor Church of the Brethren Women's Fellowship proudly gave \$100 to Center for Hospice Care to help us continue to provide valued services to our community.

Bremen United Methodist Church in Plymouth donated \$65.00 to Center for Hospice Care through their Jar of Hope program.

Culver Tri Kappa gave Center for Hospice Care \$300 to aid in the resources we need to continue our endeavors for our community.

\$500 was donated to Center for Hospice Care by **Club 15 Athletic Association**.

St. John United Church of Christ highlights a mission project each month – Camp Evergreen was chosen to receive \$266.

Due to Internal Revenue Service tax regulations, we may only issue written acknowledgement for donations made payable to and/or processed directly by Center for Hospice Care or the Hospice Foundation. Donations made and/or processed via a third party may not be eligible for a charitable tax deduction. If you have any questions regarding charitable contributions, contact Mike Wargo, chief operating officer, at 574.243.2059 or WargoM@FoundationForHospice.org. For specific tax advice, you should visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov or contact your tax advisor.

St. Joe Valley Street Rods

In January, members of the St. Joe Valley Street Rods car club stopped by Center for Hospice Care's Mishawaka campus to deliver their annual check from selling \$12 Barnaby's Pizza coupons. This year's donation was \$15,000, raising their overall total to more than \$158,000.



Tom's Car Care Center

The 18th Lube-a-Thon for Hospice was held on Friday, July 28 at Tom's Car Care Center. For just a \$45 donation to Center for Hospice Care, participants received a free oil change and car wash. The event raised over \$10,000 through donations and sponsorships. In its history the Lube-a-Thon has raised over \$100,000.





Circle of Caring

Champion \$25,000 and above

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Daniel L. George Charitable Fund
Dr. and Mrs. Al H. Harding, III/The Al Harding Family Fund
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Welch Packaging Group, Inc.

Chairman Circle \$10,000 to \$24,999

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