

Celebrating Life's Stories[®]

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

VOL. 5 | ISSUE 2 | FALL 2020

Supporting Patients, Families and Staff During COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect people in our communities, Hospice of Central Ohio is offering support for patients, families and staff through Pathways of HopeSM Grief Counseling Centers and Cope & HopeSM.



Pathways of HopeSM

Since its founding in 1982, Hospice of Central Ohio has offered grief support services to the community. Now, the not-for-profit organization is expanding its grief support services to offer additional services to families and community members through Pathways of HopeSM.

Through this program, the grief support professionals at Hospice of Central Ohio will be able to work with other bereavement counseling professionals at Ohio's Hospice to bring additional knowledge and information to the communities served by Hospice of Central Ohio.

All grief support services are free, regardless of whether an individual has been served by Hospice of Central Ohio.

"Generous support from members of the community and community-based partners is essential to our ability to extend grief support services," said Renee Sparks, general manager and executive vice president of Hospice of Central Ohio. "We're grateful to the individuals and community-based partners who support the mission of Hospice of Central Ohio."

Maria Johnson, MSW, LISW-S, ACHP-SW, GC-C, manager of patient and family support services at Hospice of Central Ohio, is thrilled that the not-for-profit hospice is offering Pathways of Hope to the families and community members it serves.

"Through Ohio's Hospice and Pathways of Hope, we can share input, experiences and resources with each other to develop best practices in our field," she said.

While facing new challenges and quickly adapting to the ever-changing guidelines and advisories, our staff has continued to reflect our values of kindness, honesty, compassion and servant leadership throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

To support staff, emotionally and psychologically, during the pandemic,

Hospice of Central Ohio is now offering Cope & HopeSM,



a new program that allows staff to come together to ask questions and share their experiences, feelings and coping mechanisms with each other.

The Cope & Hope team is comprised of multiple disciplines, including pastoral care, bereavement counseling, social work and psychiatry.

During the sessions, a member of the Cope & Hope team facilitates conversations, answers any questions, or addresses any special areas of need for staff. Staff can share concerns, feelings and coping mechanisms with each other during these sessions.

Thanks to the Cope & Hope team, staff can continue to provide superior care and superior services to our patients and families.

For more information about Pathways of Hope, call 740.788.1400.



A Legacy of Superior Care and Superior Service



Renee Sparks
General Manager and Executive Vice
President, Hospice of Central Ohio

It is gratifying to serve with so many selfless and dedicated teammates who have answered each call to care for hospice patients and serve their families in times of uncertainty. Our nurses, personal care specialists, social workers, chaplains and our massage therapist thoughtfully navigate safety standards and precautions related to COVID-19 to provide the superior end-of-life care our community has expected since 1982.

You also have played an integral role in the success of our organization by supporting Hospice of Central Ohio throughout this time. Donor support, volunteerism and advocacy has furthered the mission of Hospice of Central Ohio, and we are fortunate to be a part of an engaged community.

Hospice of Central Ohio's performance is stronger than ever, with deemed status from the Joint Commission as well as palliative certification. With a focus on speed of care, the organization recently implemented a new electronic medical record system and transitioned to a new pharmacy benefits manager, which provides safer e-prescribing and medication management.

With our skilled team of professionals and a commitment to excellence, Hospice of Central Ohio is proud to be the community's preferred choice for end-of-life care. Together we can ensure the existence of legacy providers for future generations.

The Fabric of Our Community



Stacy Geller
Vice President of
Philanthropic Development,
Hospice of Central Ohio

This has been an unprecedented year, and it seems like nothing is the same. But there is one thing we know one thing we can count on — kindness, compassion and caring for others is deeply rooted in human nature.

As I see masked faces pass me by in the grocery store, I think about how we are all adding an extra layer of protection to care for our community. Taking care of each other is in our nature.

I can't help but draw a parallel between the fabric of a mask and the fabric of our giving community. We protect our loved ones through philanthropy. We invest in the future of our cities and our residents through giving. One way to protect our community is through a planned gift. You can make a planned gift through a bequest, beneficiary designation or several other options. If you have any questions about your planned giving options, please feel free to reach out to your financial planner and then me at Stacy@HospiceofCentralOhio.org or 740.788.1488. Be well!

Golf Outing

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision to cancel our annual Golf Outing. We appreciate your continued and unwavering support that allows us to provide superior care to every patient in need across our community. The patients and families that we are privileged to serve still need your support.

With every change we make to our fall event season, we look at this as an opportunity to pave the way for new and exciting ways to support our mission. We would like to extend a big thank you to those sponsors of the Golf Outing who have continued to support our mission:

Ace Sponsors



Golf Cart Sponsor

Matesich Distributing Co.

Lunch Sponsor



Hole Sponsors

A1 Glassy Waters Ski Club
Englefield Oil Co.



A special thank you to the teams who contributed their donations directly to bereavement support!

Your Support Allows Hospice of Central Ohio to:

- Provide anyone in the community superior end-of-life care, regardless of their ability to pay.
- Offer grief counseling to anyone in the community who has suffered a loss at no cost.
- Extend our level of service beyond that of traditional medical care to our patients through massage, music, art and aromatherapy.
- Help improve quality of life to our patients through palliative care.

For more information on future events or how to support the mission of Hospice of Central Ohio, please contact 740.788.1488.

Denison Venture Philanthropy Awards Hospice of Central Ohio \$10K

The Denison Venture Philanthropy (DVP), a unique Denison University student program organized around philanthropy, has awarded \$10,000 and 200 student volunteer hours to Hospice of Central Ohio.

The funding will allow Hospice of Central Ohio to purchase materials and equipment to support its Handmade Items program. Through this program, Hospice of Central Ohio volunteers make handmade gowns, neck pillows, catheter bag covers, lap quilts, shirt savers, hand grips, and activity (busy) blankets.

“These items are crucial to our patients,” said Liz Adamshick, manager of Volunteer Services



at Hospice of Central Ohio. “Neck pillows provide relief for patients through appropriate repositioning of limbs, reducing the likelihood of skin tears and breakdown.

Activity mats provide dementia patients with activity for their hands and minds, and hand grips provide relief for patients with arthritis and disease-related contractures.”

Denison University student volunteers will assist in establishing sewing workspaces at Hospice of Central Ohio offices. They will set up tables and sewing machines, as well as plan organizational systems for future production of Handmade Items. They will prep and assemble specific item kits to distribute to other Handmade Items team members for sewing and final assembly.

Volunteer Spotlight: Ann Marie Robinson Serving in New Ways During COVID-19

Ann Marie Robinson has been a volunteer at Hospice of Central Ohio since 2006. She has served as a patient companion and the volunteer music director for Camp HOCO, a camp for children dealing with loss and grief.

Robinson found a way to make a difference in the lives of patients, families and staff during COVID-19, even though she could not be physically present.

“As a volunteer, I desperately miss directly working with people,” Robinson said. “It goes against our nature to not be in the trenches, hands-on and supporting folks through a life transition.”

She has been writing letters of encouragement to staff, patients and families. In her letters, she lets them know that they are in her heart, prayers and thoughts.

In addition to volunteering, Robinson is a donor at Hospice of Central Ohio. The support and generosity from individuals in the community allows Hospice of Central Ohio to continue to provide compassionate care and essential services to patients and families.

“Being both a donor and volunteer, I have found blending these two aspects has enriched my life even more,” she said.



To support Hospice of Central Ohio, please visit:
www.HospiceOfCentralOhio.org/donate or call 740.788.1488.