We Broke Records
Because of YOU

Hospice & Community Care held the 35th Labor Day Auction on August 31 and September 2, raising a record $870,000 to provide care and support for patients and families. But the record-breaking didn’t stop there. Many of our specialty auctions, raffle ticket sales, food sales and Auction Club memberships exceeded our expectations. Thank you to our amazing volunteers, sponsors, donors, bidders and staff for helping to make this event a success!

This is a staggering amount of money raised in only two short days, but the amount of work put into planning this event is not small. Much of that work can be attributed to the Auction volunteers. You, who spend time asking for donations beginning in the spring, selling raffle tickets, helping with the food, working all week to set up the Fairgrounds and coming back over Labor Day weekend, continue to be at the heart of this event. So many have experienced care and want to give back—volunteering at the Auction is your way of doing so.

This year we had approximately 1,170 volunteer shifts with a total of 450 volunteers plus members of the Amish community, and we had a record-breaking 128 new volunteers. The Labor Day Auction is a true example of how the collective strength of our volunteers makes a significant and meaningful difference in the lives of our patients and families. Thank you all for your continued support!

If you are interested in making an even bigger impact by volunteering in other ways beyond the Auction, consider signing up for our next Volunteer Training (see Upcoming Events).
Reminder:

Annual Recommitment Due November 1

Flu season is just around the corner. Please complete your volunteer annual recommitments by November 1, 2019 to ensure you’re eligible to interact with patients and families.

Using our new electronic portal, you’ll have the ability to not only recommit, but also learn about upcoming educational opportunities for all volunteers and more. The site is secure and is a document-centered WordPress portal, making your usage safe and completion simple.

If you have any questions or trouble navigating the portal, please contact Volunteer Services.

Welcome New Volunteers

These individuals have completed their volunteer training and joined the Hospice & Community Care volunteer family to make a difference in York and Lancaster counties.

Ilene Becker
Richard Booth
Nathan Brubaker

Judy Herr
Sandra Mateja
Kathleen Mirsky

Kathleen Paxton
Tamara Smith

Hospice & Community Care is participating in the largest day of online giving again this year, with a business match of $20,000! Thank you to Lancaster Toyota for matching $20,000 of our Extra Give donations on November 22 so your gift goes even further. Be part of this amazing day and spread the word!
Mix & Mingle at the HOLIDAY SOCIAL  
December 9, 2019  
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
The Essa Flory Center, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster

Bring a friend to meet your fellow volunteers, share a few laughs, and talk to members of the Volunteer Services Department at this year’s Holiday Social! Volunteers who bring friends to the Social who complete Volunteer Training in 2020 will be entered to win a $25 gift card to a restaurant of their choice. Enjoy food, drinks, caroling and festive games.

For more information and to reserve your spot contact Jacqueline Bilder at (717) 391-2441.

Strength in Numbers
Since the first quarter of this year, Hospice & Community Care staff have provided Hospice and Supportive Care to a combined average of 481 patients a day. We saw those numbers increase by 12% in the third quarter to 537 patients with that number continuing to grow. With an influx of patients, it means the need for additional volunteers to provide respite care and companionship to patients and their families.

It’s due to the support of you, our volunteers, that Hospice & Community Care team members are able to provide personalized care and comfort for all patients and families facing end of life, coping with a serious illness or loss.

If you are interested in additional volunteer hours or know someone who is interested in volunteering, please contact the Volunteer Services Department today!
The Smell of Chocolate Chip Cookies

By: Retired Hospice Volunteer Bud Rosch

The smell of chocolate chip cookies comes wafting down the Hospice Inpatient Center corridor meeting and comforting the families and guests. Often patients who come to the Inpatient Center pass away, it is a place of death. But, chocolate chip cookies poke death in the eye. As if saying, “People are not afraid to enjoy cookies just like they do where death does not abide.”

I have been making chocolate chip cookies most Wednesdays at Hospice & Community Care for 20 years until I retired earlier this year. Older women were particularly suspicious asking, “Did you make these?” And, when I replied “yeah” they followed-up with “from scratch?”, “sure,” I answered and being a little reluctant they told me, “They are very good.” They are very good, they should be after 20 years although I was still working for perfection. Cookies must look good, three inches in diameter, a half inch high at the center and just the right shade of light brown, this takes careful preparation of the batter so that it is light and fluffy. When you bite the cookie, you should hear and feel the crisp outside and savor the soft center with pockets of chocolate, that requires cooking for exactly 14 minutes, and then there is the aroma and the taste. Vanilla is the secret to great cookies, when preparing the batter, you start pouring vanilla like you forgot to stop. Thank you, Martha Stewart.

I respect death. I fed the dying, I bathed the dying, I visited with the dying but life goes on. There were times when it was appropriate to offer cookies and ice cream to patients. They smiled and had a moment of fun, and there was also the time when a patient wanted only peace, not some 91-year-old volunteer bothering them.

Baking cookies also allowed me to interact with Hospice staff, which was something I really enjoyed. They would tell me that they looked forward to their Wednesday cookie. The staff were exceptional for their caring and skill, and were content going about a difficult and rewarding job. I have never known so many nice people in one place.

Making someone happy with a cookie was rewarding, it was even better to make ice cream sandwiches. Every so often a patient’s eyes would widen and he/she would smile with the thought of an ice cream sandwich. Consider, these are patients who are facing death, all of their concerns disappear for a short time with the taste of cookies and ice cream.
Volunteer Training in Lancaster and York

To RSVP and for more information please contact Becky Santos at (717) 735-9463 or rsantos@hospicecommunity.org. The training will be held at Hospice & Community Care, The Essa Flory Center, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster.

If you have never attended a full training session, or know someone who would like to become a Hospice & Community Care volunteer we encourage you to attend. Online applications are available at www.hospicecommunity.org/volunteer.

Thursday, October 17 from 6–9 p.m., Lancaster
Saturday, October 19 from 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Lancaster
Thursday, October 24 from 6–9 p.m., Lancaster

(One-on-one training with a member of our Volunteer Services Department is available at our York Office, The Ann B. Barshinger Hospice Center, 235 St. Charles Way, Suite 250.)

Coping with the Holidays

Do you find that holiday traditions you once anticipated with great joy now leave you with feelings of uncertainty and sadness? Consider joining us for some—or all—of the following groups. These sessions may help you not only get through the holiday season, but perhaps find something positive during an otherwise difficult time. Call the Pathways Center at (717) 391-2413 to register.

Hospice & Community Care
The Essa Flory Center, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster
Tuesday, November 19, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Topic: Holiday Survival Guide
Tuesday, November 26, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Topic: Planning Ahead
Tuesday, December 10, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Topic: Ways to Remember
Tuesday, December 17, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Topic: The Gift of this Moment

Pathways Center for Grief & Loss, 4075 Old Harrisburg Pike, Mount Joy
Tuesday, November 26, 2:00–3:30 p.m, Topic: Holiday Survival Guide

The Ann B. Barshinger Hospice Center
235 St. Charles Way, Suite 250 York
Tuesday, November 19, 2:00–3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 20, 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Topic: Holiday Survival Guide

Wednesday, December 4, 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Topic: Planning Ahead

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Topic: Ways to Remember

Tuesday, December 17, 2:00–3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 18, 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Topic: The Gift of this Moment

Hospice & Community Care knows the importance of paying tribute to those who have left this earth but not our hearts. Each year, we place thousands of delicate white lights on evergreen boughs to honor them. Each light represents a life worthy of celebration while ensuring that others coping with end of life receive the compassionate care they need.

Celebrate the life of your loved one by purchasing a light for this year’s Light Up A Life tree-lighting ceremony. For a gift of $25 per light, a light is placed in memory or in honor on the graceful evergreen trees. Make your gift online at www.hospiceconnect.org/lights or call (717) 295-3900.

**Lancaster**
(refreshments indoors; ceremony outdoors)
Wednesday, December 4, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Hospice & Community Care
The Essa Flory Center
685 Good Drive, Lancaster

**York**
(refreshments indoors; ceremony outdoors)
Sunday, December 8, 2019
5:00 p.m.
Wyndridge Farm
885 S. Pleasant Avenue, Dallastown

Hospice & Community Care does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, medical condition, financial status or resources, or any other legally protected characteristic. To view a comprehensive, multi-language non-discrimination clause visit the Patient Bill of Rights at hospicecommunity.org.