

Volunteer Voice

HOSPICE
& COMMUNITY CARE

For and About
Hospice Volunteers

WINTER 2021

EMPOWERING • EDUCATING • INFORMING

EMPOWERING

Dear Volunteers,

We have always said that Hospice & Community Care has amazing and dedicated volunteers. And we could not be more proud of how you continued to answer the call to serve patients, families and the organization throughout 2020. Many of the pandemic-related regulations that Hospice had to adhere to resulted in changes to many of your volunteer roles, and are still being impacted. All of you continue to be so understanding with many of you finding new ways to safely support our patients and families.

“Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud.”

-Helen Dryer

Your support throughout last year positioned us for success now and into the future. You came together to find unique and meaningful ways to still give back, and you never lost sight of helping Hospice & Community Care provide personalized care and comfort to everyone.

In 2020, Hospice & Community Care celebrated its 40th anniversary and it certainly was not what the organization had expected. But rest assured that your support throughout the year was felt by all staff, patients and families, and played an integral role in Hospice & Community Care’s continued longevity.

Thank you for making a meaningful difference!

**Hospice & Community Care’s
Leadership Team**

*Steve AnnMarie
Audra Bonnie Michael
Krustakae Jant*



2020 has certainly been a unique and challenging year for all of us. As we look ahead to a new year, Hospice & Community Care wanted to reflect back on the many reasons you and your fellow volunteers are committed to helping our patients and families when they need it most. May these inspiring words from your fellow volunteers help you start 2021 re-energized.

“...HOSPICE & COMMUNITY CARE IS AN AMAZING ORGANIZATION TO VOLUNTEER FOR.”

INFORMING

Words of Inspiration

“I get asked a lot how I am able to take care of people who are dying in my role as a Hospice volunteer. How do I handle it? How do I keep from getting attached? How do I process death? Most people tell me it takes a special person to volunteer in this area. I always say back to them, “It just takes someone who cares.””

—Trina Barr

“My first assignment brought a lot of stories about hunting camp, time with family, great feats in the outdoors, and more. I found the time I spent with that patient to be memorable and meaningful for me. More importantly, I believe in my heart that the patient found it helpful to share those stories and recount the important memories that meant the most to him over the years. The patient’s joyful tears and his willingness to open up to me was all I needed to know that I was making a difference and that volunteering was making a difference in me.”

—Jason Doll

“A woman who was very anxious after a stroke, would calm down when I read poetry to her. During our time together, she told me one of her favorite memories was of her mother. Her mother had taken her to a park on a dark night to point out the constellations. She said she felt so loved at that moment. I felt privileged to be told such a personal story, and the peacefulness in her body as she told the story was beautiful.”

—Peggy Rasmussen



If you know someone who is interested in volunteering for Hospice & Community Care, please contact the Volunteer Services department at (717) 295-3900.



INFORMING

“I want others to know that Hospice & Community Care is an amazing organization to volunteer for. The way they help us as volunteers is very personal and caring. I also feel that when I volunteer, I often get more out of it than the bereaved person. Sitting in their sacred space is not something I take lightly. Seeing them move through their grief journey is so gratifying.”

—Sandy Baker

“Every time I visit a veteran and see how much they appreciate the honor it makes the visit all worthwhile. Sometimes the veteran is not responsive but the family just beams with pride when I present the pin, blanket and certificate of appreciation to the veteran. The pride I see in the family is something special and helps them through their final moment with their loved one. The appreciation I see in the veteran I am honoring is quite fulfilling to me.”

—Michael Angelo



“I was told by the caregiver before they left that the patient would most likely sleep. I took my seat in another part of the room so as not to frighten the patient should they awaken. Shortly thereafter the patient woke up and I introduced myself in turn making a comment about the patient’s life. Thus began the patient’s review of their life. What a full life it was. At some point the patient said they were tired and fell asleep. I learned later that was the last time the patient had a real conversation with anyone. I will never forget how the patient spoke with clarity, and a sense of peace knowing the end was near.”

—Joan Rutt

“You give your time and yet it is what you take home in your heart that is unable to be explained. The joy of giving is well worth the rewards you receive.”

—Jill Harsh



Hospice & Community Care
685 Good Drive, P.O. Box 4125
Lancaster, PA 17604-4125
(717) 295-3900 • www.hospicecommunity.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANCASTER, PA
PERMIT NO. 572

2021 Key Dates

Women's Giving Circle Virtual Education Forum: February 25

Virtual Service of Remembrance: March 1

Volunteer Recognition:

Week of April 19 (watch for more details to come)