

# Celebrating Life's Stories<sup>®</sup>

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

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## Supporting Patients, Families and Staff During COVID-19

**As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect people in our community, Ohio's Hospice of Dayton is offering support for patients, families and staff through Pathways of Hope Grief Counseling Centers and Cope & Hope<sup>SM</sup>.**



Pathways of Hope<sup>SM</sup>

The Pathways of Hope grief counseling staff at Ohio's Hospice of Dayton continue to provide bereavement services in a variety of safe and approachable ways for

patients, families and community members. Because of COVID-19, Pathways of Hope is now offering its services both virtually and in person.

Pathways of Hope grief counseling staff are concerned about how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect grieving children and teens; people who are isolated, particularly the elderly; and those for whom grief leads to depression.

"We have lost the world we knew," said Lisa Balster, director of Patient & Family Support Services. "We have lost many of our traditions, rituals and experiences. We are experiencing a million little griefs and we are all struggling with it."

For more information, contact Pathways of Hope at 937.258.4991.

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, Ohio's Hospice of Dayton is now offering Cope & Hope<sup>SM</sup>, 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.



# Caring for Patients



Kim Vesey, RN, CHPN, MS  
General Manager, Executive Vice President  
Ohio's Hospice of Dayton

Since 1978, Ohio's Hospice of Dayton has been privileged to serve patients and families in the Dayton region in their homes, extended care and assisted living facilities and the Hospice House location in Dayton, regardless of their ability to pay.

As a community-based, not-for-profit organization, our mission is to celebrate the lives of those we have the privilege of serving by providing superior care and superior services to each patient and family.

Because of generous support from the community, we are able to provide an array of complementary and innovative therapies and treatments that provide comfort. In addition to our respiratory therapy and occupational therapy services, we offer innovative services and care including Real-Time Care<sup>SM</sup>, a telehealth and support tool; Patented Starlight Therapy<sup>®</sup>; music therapy; massage therapy; and art therapy.

Our care team includes board-certified hospice and palliative care physicians, hospice-certified nurses, personal care specialists, social workers, bereavement counseling professionals, chaplains and volunteers.

We provide passionate, person-centered care for patients we are privileged to serve, whether they are facing cancer, geriatric neurology, heart disease and pulmonary health concerns or COVID-19.

We're honored and privileged to provide a team-oriented approach to expert medical care, pain management, and emotional and spiritual support tailored to meet the needs of each patient we have the privilege to serve.

# The Fabric of Our Community



Lori Poelking-Igel, CFRE, Executive Director  
Hospice of Dayton Foundation

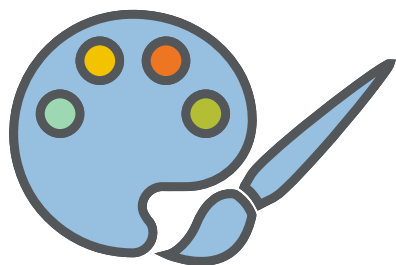
**This has been an unprecedented year, and it seems like nothing is the same. But there is one thing we know we can count on – autumn will descend spectacularly, and a cool, crisp breeze will whip across the Miami Valley.** Autumn is my favorite time of the year. The colors of fall are so vibrant. There is an energy in the air with the promise of a fresh start in the coming new year.

My husband and I recently moved into a new home – a fresh start for us. Under normal circumstances, we would greet our new neighbors with a smile, a dessert and conversation. Now, it's a distant, masked greeting – a wave or a head nod. But keeping our distance from our new neighbors, and wearing our masks is the most neighborly thing we can do. We are all protecting each other.

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 as a way to care for our community. It's what we must do to ensure the safety of our residents and our future. Taking care of each other is in our nature.

As Daytonians, I can't help but draw a parallel between the fabric of a mask and the fabric of our giving community. We invest in the future of our city and our residents through giving. Your generosity can make a difference now or have an impact in the future through planned giving. If you have any questions about how you can support Ohio's Hospice of Dayton through a planned gift, please feel free to reach out to your financial planner and then email me at [LIgel@HospiceofDayton.org](mailto:LIgel@HospiceofDayton.org). Be well!

# See How Far Your Support Goes



**\$50**

Pays for 12 weeks worth of art supplies for a child receiving art and grief counseling



**\$100**

Pays for an hour-long massage from a certified massage therapist, providing patient pain relief



**\$500**

Pays for quality of life care such as groceries, haircuts, cleaning supplies, etc. through our Hope Fund

## Grant Awarded to Honor Veteran Patients

The Rotary Club of Oakwood Foundation awarded Ohio's Hospice of Dayton and other Ohio's Hospice affiliates a grant to support the American Pride® Veteran Care by Ohio's Hospice program.



The generous donation from the Oakwood Rotary went towards the purchase of two dog tag embossing machines and the supplies needed to provide our Veteran patients with a memento from their days of service.

Studies have found that the cool steel touch of the dog tag can provide a great deal of comfort for a Veteran, especially since many have lost, misplaced or discarded their dog tags throughout their lives. The emotional and physical comfort the tags can provide is paramount for our patients, and it is yet another way to honor

our Veterans for their service. In doing so, it provides significant closure to the Veteran patients in their final days.

Through the American Pride® program, Veterans receive benefits and support that acknowledges their service and sacrifice. By recognizing the unique needs of our nation's Veterans who are facing life-limiting illness, Ohio's Hospice helps to assure access to spiritual support and helps address individual post-traumatic stress issues.

Through participation in Veteran recognition ceremonies, special observances and celebrations, Ohio's Hospice of Dayton celebrates the lives of Veterans and honors their contributions. Our hospice Veteran volunteers honor our Veteran patients through American Pride®.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Oakwood Foundation.

For information on how you can support the American Pride® program, please contact the foundation at 937.258.5537.



# Event Updates

We are disappointed to announce a change in our fall event season at Ohio's Hospice of Dayton. This has been a year filled with so much uncertainty. Because of that, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our annual Golf Classic and Cosmic Bowl.

As always, your continued support goes toward:

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

## VIRTUAL REMEMBRANCE WALK

10.24.20

We invite you to participate in our annual Remembrance Walk, which has transitioned to a virtual event experience. For more information visit us at [www.HospiceofDayton.org/Walk2020](http://www.HospiceofDayton.org/Walk2020).

## Celebrating Life's Stories® Virtual Event

With every change we make to our fall event season, we look at it as an opportunity to pave the way for new and exciting ways to support our mission. We would like to thank everyone who participated in our first-ever virtual event! Special thanks to our Celebrating Life's Stories sponsors:

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Jerry & Patty Tatar

We appreciate your continued and unwavering support that allows us to provide superior care and superior services to each patient and family we are privileged to serve in our community.

*Celebrating Life's Stories®* is published quarterly for patients, families, staff members and friends of Ohio's Hospice of Dayton, Inc.

Kent Anderson, CEO, Ohio's Hospice  
Lori Poelking-Igel, Executive Director, Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Ohio's Hospice of Dayton has served the community since 1978. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call us at 937.258.5537.

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Ohio's Hospice of Dayton meets the Better Business Bureau of Dayton/Miami Valley Charity Standards.

[www.HospiceofDayton.org](http://www.HospiceofDayton.org)  
937.258.5537