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# journeys.



**HOSPICE**  
**BUFFALO**  
Care for them. Comfort for you.

VOLUME 1, 2019

## When is the Right Time to Call Hospice

We understand, from years of experience, that family members are often reluctant to reach out to Hospice Buffalo when their loved one is declining. No one wants to think about losing someone they love. The perception is that once their loved one enters hospice care, hope is being abandoned. The reality is that often a health crisis, emergency room visit or reoccurring hospitalizations become the trigger for families to call Hospice for help. And often it is too late. The fact is, nearly 30% of Hospice patients pass within 7 days of admission – patients and family members unnecessarily suffered for many months before they called Hospice for help.

For families caring for a loved one who is declining, it is important to know that the Hospice Medicare Benefit fully covers the cost of the patient care. The Hospice Medicare Benefit allows patients who have a prognosis of six months or less to enroll in hospice care. This benefit is an entitlement and the richest benefit in health care. Too often we hear from families that they should have reached out and taken advantage of hospice services sooner.



*"Hospice is about living. With love and compassion, we help patients live the best and fullest life possible, for as long as possible."*

Anne Dehlinger, RN, MA, BA, Hospice Admissions Liaison

*"When you need someone to ease the burdens of illness, **Call Hospice**, so you can focus on making every day count."*

*Anna Bernas, RN, BSN, Hospice and Palliative Care Clinic Liaison*



### Help us eliminate this needless suffering.

Hospice Buffalo's "**Know Us Before You Need Us**" education campaign is designed to help caregivers understand the benefits of Hospice care **before** a crisis occurs.

If you, as a caregiver, are asking, "When should I call Hospice?" There is a very good chance your loved one may already be eligible to receive the excellent care and support that only Hospice can offer.

Even if your loved one is not currently eligible for hospice care, gathering information about when you should call Hospice before a crisis hits will give you time to understand the different options available and determine what's best for your loved one and your family.

If you, your loved one, friend or neighbor are struggling with a serious illness, please call us. We have the resources, experience and expertise to help guide and ease your journey. ■

### Call Hospice when...

**686-8000**

#### ▪ your loved one with a serious illness starts displaying any of these signs:

- negative side-effects from or no longer responding to treatments
- unable to perform activities of daily living (bathe, dress, feed themselves, etc.)
- over past few months:
  - frequent hospitalizations and/or emergency room visits
  - lost more than 10% bodyweight
  - decreased physical activity and mental cognition

#### ▪ doctor suggests Palliative Care

#### ▪ prognosis changes from "years" to "months"

#### Common Illnesses Eligible for Hospice Care

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| ▪ Cardiac/Circulatory diseases (CHF)              | ▪ Respiratory diseases (COPD) |
| ▪ End-stage kidney and liver diseases             | ▪ Cancer                      |
| ▪ Neurological (Alzheimer's, ALS, Dementia, etc.) | ▪ Stroke                      |

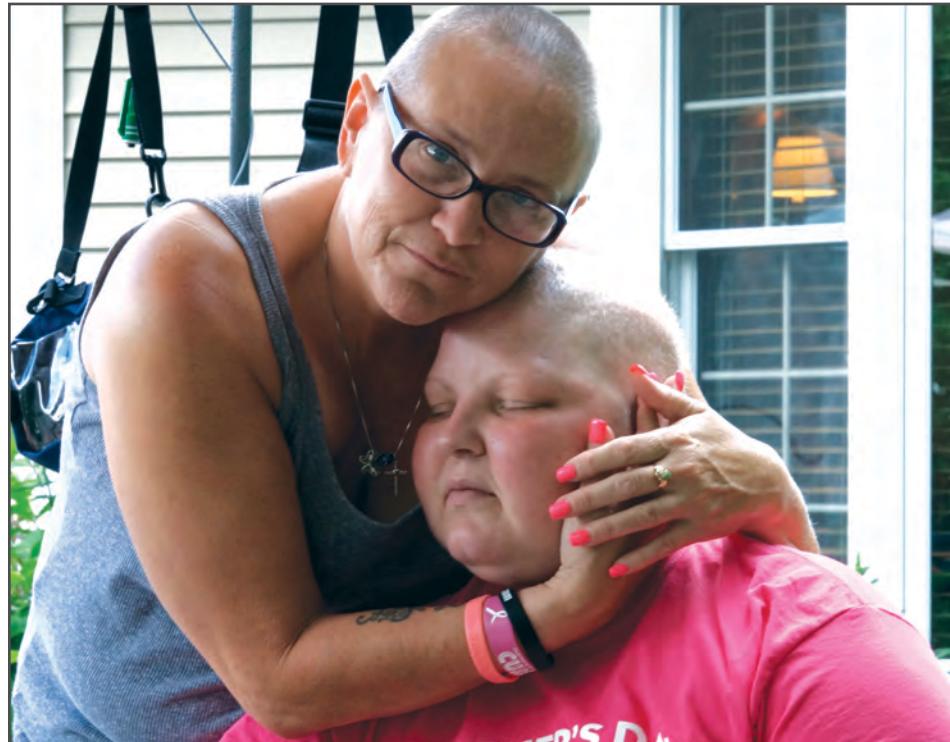
*"Hospice is about living. With love and compassion, we help patients live the best and fullest life possible, for as long as possible."*

## Journal of a Hospice Nurse – Advocate and Loving Friend

As a Hospice nurse, there is no better feeling than when you can help a patient – in the most unthinkable situation of her life – attain knowledge, power, and most importantly, find peace, in making decisions she never imagined having to make.

Every patient's experience is different – some more difficult than others – as was the case of Katie Jo, a 28-year-old wife and mother of two young boys, battling stage 4 breast cancer for the second time in her short life. I met Katie Jo by-chance last May in an oncology office at Buffalo Medical Group, where I was providing education and visiting with patients who were in need of palliative care. I heard the name 'Katie Jo' several times during previous visits – her impact on people she met was evident. Their conversations were of sadness and concern...this brave young woman was gravely suffering while receiving cancer treatments and struggling to care for her family. I knew I had to meet this girl, 'Katie Jo,' who had such a profound effect on those around her and to see if we could help ease her journey.

I approached Katie Jo while she was receiving chemotherapy in the infusion room – her cancer was clearly advanced. You wouldn't know that this young woman wearing bright clothes and a warm smile had pain throughout her entire body. She was friendly and engaging – I could immediately see why people were drawn to her. Sitting tightly beside her was another woman with a bare head. Katie Jo introduced me to her mom, Tammy, who shaved her hair in solidarity. Their bond was special – Tammy called her "Baby Girl." This extraordinary mom would support her daughter through the toughest of times. At the end of our conversation, we became instant friends. There was no doubt that I was going to do everything I could to help Katie Jo regain some quality of life within our Home Connections program while fighting this disease. I encouraged her to consider our Home Connections palliative care program.



Katie Jo with her mom, Tammy, in our Hoffman Garden on the Mitchell Campus

The only goal that Katie Jo had was to beat this cancer, as she had succeeded once before. My goal was to support her and advocate for her. I collaborated with her oncologist and her Home Connections team to help find relief of her physical and emotional burdens while she received treatment. As hard as we worked to support Katie Jo's decision to continue treatment, as her advocate, I felt it was imperative for us to have 'the conversation.' Her scans were showing disease progression in spite of continued treatment – I needed to explain all Katie Jo's options and possible outcomes. Understandably, many oncologists find it difficult to tell a patient that sometimes the best treatment is no treatment at all – especially to a patient of such a young age. And it wasn't 'just Katie Jo' who I had to consider and tend to – she had a large, close-knit extended family. I knew it was time to have this very difficult discussion about Katie Jo's other option... Hospice. I realize that "hospice" is a scary word to many, but to truly understand hospice, is to know that Hospice will not take you any sooner – in many cases it actually extends life expectancy, as you are

no longer exhausting every bit of energy you have going for treatment and recovering in the days and weeks afterwards. Hospice can manage physical symptoms and offer emotional support to both patient and family and leave the family to do what is most important – making the most of the time they have left together. After Katie Jo and her family were able to weigh the benefits versus the burdens of continuing treatment, they decided to accept Hospice.

Katie Jo's situation was unique due to her age and the age of her children. Her boys, ages 3 and 9, were too young to understand death and that, by no choice of her own, mommy wouldn't be around to watch them grow up. This situation was going to be an all-hands-on-deck case; the Hospice staff welcomed Katie Jo and her family with open arms. There was not a person on our team who was not aware of Katie Jo and her situation, and all were willing to participate in any way possible. Besides taking measures to ensure her comfort, we also knew the importance of helping her kids through this difficult time

*continued on page 3*



## Message from Leadership

### What is a Patient Advocate?

Facing a serious illness can be a confusing, stressful time for patients and their caregivers, with often unclear and occasionally conflicting information from an even more complicated, fragmented healthcare system. It is often difficult to sort out answers, or even know what questions to ask, to help make critical decisions. Patients and caregivers need help navigating our complex healthcare system; this is where the "patient advocate" becomes a critical component of the healthcare team.



*Chris Kerr, MD, PhD  
CEO & CMO*

**"Patient advocacy, at its core, is any activity that ultimately benefits the patient.** The patient advocate can be the patient, a family member or caregiver, or an organization. A patient advocate typically assists with understanding and clarifying treatment options, connecting with community resources, getting answers to specific questions, and sometimes acts as the spokesperson for the patient. The patient advocate also assures that there is somebody designated to carry out your specific wishes if you are no longer able to do that for yourself. The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care (CHPC) has viewed patient advocacy as a critical part of our mission for over 40 years."

~ John Tangeman, MD, Administrative Medical Director

Patients and caregivers need to be well-informed before a health crisis develops. CHPC is launching an initiative to become the trusted resource for Patient Advocacy in our Western New York community. The "**Know Us Before You Need Us**" campaign will educate the community on what services are currently available at CHPC: Hospice care for those with life-limiting illness, Home Connections and Essential Care for Children for patients and caregivers facing serious illness while still getting active treatment, and the Wilson Support Center for Community Grief Support.

We are here to help – help you learn that you have options, help determine which treatment and/or care plan care is best for you, and help ease challenges when facing serious illness. And the best part – you'll be learning from one of the most innovative and compassionate nationally-recognized hospice teams. If you haven't heard...Hospice Buffalo is one of the top 3% hospice programs in the United States! We are hoping you will "do your homework" before a crisis happens.

Soon we will embark on an exciting program where CHPC will become the "go to" resource in Western New York for Healthcare Advocacy, so you will no longer be on your own to navigate the healthcare maze. ■

Chris Kerr, MD, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer & Chief Medical Officer



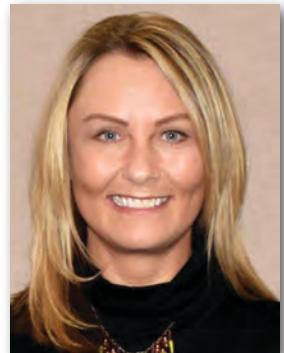
The 2018 Light-A-Life bells are still available, in case you missed ordering yours. Bells are \$55 and are inscribed with your loved ones' name. This beautiful keepsake is the perfect tribute throughout the year to send to someone who has lost a loved one.

## Journal of a Hospice Nurse –

*continued from page 2*

and ensuring her memory would live on. Many people volunteered to help: a videographer came to photograph her and film a legacy video for her sons; we even had a nurse donate a beach house within driving distance for her and her family to get away because Katie Jo knew she was not going to make it to a scheduled vacation that she and her family were so looking forward to. The children were offered therapy, including art therapy that they very much enjoyed. Everyone – doctors, nurses, aides, chaplains, social workers and office staff – embraced the chance to be part of this family's journey. And after Katie Jo's passing, the family participated in our Hospice Bereavement programs. Tammy now advocates for Hospice and stays involved with Hospice functions and fundraisers.

Katie Jo's strength and courage was something we all grew from. She, like many of our patients, made a permanent positive impression on our lives and taught us the importance of advocating for quality-of-life, regardless of how challenging the situation may be. Katie Jo deserved that – as all patients living with a life-limiting disease do. For those who say to Hospice nurses, "It takes a special person to do what you do," I wish there was a way to explain to them that I don't feel special... I feel blessed to be able to do what I do. ■



*Written by  
Christy Feightner, RN  
Physician Practice  
Outreach Manager*

## CHPC Board Appointments



**Joyce Markiewicz,**  
Executive Vice President of Catholic Health (CH) and CEO of Home and Community-Based Care, has

been a healthcare professional for more than 35 years, with 27 years in Home Health Care. Markiewicz is also a member of the CH Ministry Services Board of Directors, CH Foundation Board, Health Home Partners of Western New York Board and Canopy of Neighbors. Business First has included Markiewicz on their lists of Buffalo's Most Powerful Women in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, as well as WNY's Most Influential People in 2018.



**Thomas J. Foels, M.D., M.M.M.**, is the Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Independent Health

(IH). Dr. Foels has more than 30 years of experience in healthcare management. Prior to joining IH, He was in private practice as a pediatrician and founded Western New York's two largest pediatric group practices — Williamsville Pediatric Center and Tonawanda Pediatrics. Dr. Foels also serves on the board of directors for the Alliance of Community Health Plans, where he previously served as the co-chair for the Chief Medical Officers national forum. He is a Board Trustee for Evergreen Health Services and serves on the Canisius College Pre-Med Advisory Committee and Council for the Wehle School of Business.

The Board of Trustees is an eighteen member organization which governs The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care (CHPC). ■

## The Dr. Mickey & Nadine Stein Endowment Fund Established

The family of the late Dr. Alfred M. "Mickey" Stein has created *The Dr. Mickey & Nadine Stein Family Endowment Fund* within The Hospice Foundation of Western New York supporting Hospice's

Palliative Care Institute (PCI). Income from the endowment will support the mission of PCI, to enhance the quality of care provided to those impacted by serious illness and loss through discovery, innovation, and collaboration.

Dr. Stein was a prominent physician at the Buffalo Medical Group (BMG) and once served as their president and second chair. A graduate of University at Buffalo's Medical School, Dr. Stein completed his fellowship at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City and went on to become an attending physician at Buffalo General Hospital. In his later years, Dr. Stein joined Hospice Buffalo's medical staff as a part-time physician attending to patients in the Hospice Inpatient Unit.

In the Fall of 2017, Dr. Stein became a Hospice patient himself, and his family experienced the excellent care and helpful support in a more personal way. In March of 2018, as his health condition deteriorated and became more critical, Dr. Stein was transferred to The Mary and Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Inpatient Unit at the Hospice Mitchell Campus where he passed peacefully days later. Dr. Stein is survived by his wife of 60 years, Nadine; three sons, Hal, David and Kenny; two daughters, Jennifer Stein Kumble and Linda; and seven grandchildren. The Foundation is so very appreciative of this thoughtful gift.

*"Most children do not think of their parents as being ahead of their time. In fact, they would more likely say that their parents have trouble keeping up with the times. This was not so with our dad, Mickey Stein. As an internist and hematologist, he saw the wonder and triumphs of modern medicine, but he was also keenly aware of its limitations and hazards. He always geared his practice and treatment plan to the goals, wishes and values of his patients, and he did so with grace, kindness and compassion. He naturally gravitated to working with Hospice Buffalo towards the end of his medical career."*

*When his own time came, we were grateful Hospice Buffalo was there to help honor our Dad's wishes to die peacefully, painlessly and with dignity surrounded by empathetic, professional staff and his family.*

*The Dr. Mickey & Nadine Stein Family Endowment Fund is a small gesture on our, and our Mom's part, to honor our Dad's legacy and to support Hospice Buffalo to help ensure other families have the same benefit of care."*

~ Hal Stein, David Stein, Kenny Stein, Jennifer Stein Kumble, Linda Stein

### WATCH YOUR MAILBOX

the first week in April for the Hospice Spring appeal.

**We thank you for taking the time to read it and are grateful for your support of Hospice Buffalo through this important fundraising direct mail campaign.**



*Dr. Mickey & Nadine Stein*



# March 5-9

Presenting Sponsor

**KeyBank**

Bouquets in Bloom  
Sponsor

**Paula's Donuts**

made with love

**Supported by:**  
**Allegra, Lamar, WGRZ-TV 2**

Over the past 32 years, the *Hospice Buffalo Spring Bouquet Sale* has become a timeless symbol marking the beginning of a new Spring season in Western New York, raising over \$5.8 million for Hospice Buffalo.

You can pick up a bouquet for \$10 at your participating florist or by visiting a Hospice volunteer at one of the following locations:

## TUESDAY, MARCH 5



Paula's Donuts: West Seneca/Clarence/Tonawanda

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6



KeyBank: Erie County Branches

Paula's Donuts: West Seneca/Clarence/Tonawanda

Hospitals: Buffalo General Hospital/Oishei Children's Hospital/Millard Fillmore Suburban/ECMC/Roswell Park

Other Sites: Cancer Care of WNY (Harlem Rd.)/Cheektowaga Senior Center/Elma Senior Center/Participating Florists

## THURSDAY, MARCH 7



KeyBank: Erie County Branches

Paula's Donuts: West Seneca/Clarence/Tonawanda

Hospitals: Buffalo General Hospital/Oishei Children's Hospital/Millard Fillmore Suburban/ECMC/Roswell Park

Downtown: Larkin at Exchange Building/Larkin Center of Commerce Rand Building/Rand Building

Other Sites: AppleTree Business Park/Buffalo Medical Group (Essjay & Southwestern)/Buffalo Surgery Center/Cancer Care of WNY (Harlem Rd.)/Cheektowaga Senior Center/Excelsior Orthopaedics (Sheridan)/WNY Breast Health (Sheridan)/Western New York Urology Associates (Sterling Dr.)/Windsong Radiology (Spindrift)/Participating Florists

## FRIDAY, MARCH 8



KeyBank: Erie County Branches

Paula's Donuts: West Seneca/Clarence/Tonawanda

Hospitals: Buffalo General Hospital/Oishei Children's Hospital/Millard Fillmore Suburban/ECMC/Roswell Park

Downtown: Larkin at Exchange Building/Larkin Center of Commerce Rand Building/Rand Building

Other Sites: Buffalo Medical Group (Essjay & Southwestern)/Cancer Care of WNY (Harlem Rd.)/Dent Neurologic Institute/UB North – 1 Capen Hall/Western New York Urology Associates (Sterling Dr.)/Windsong Radiology (Spindrift)/Participating Florists

## SATURDAY, MARCH 9



Paula's Donuts: West Seneca/Clarence/Tonawanda

Participating Florists

## Working Together to Make the Holidays Special

The Hospice Angel Fund has become an essential part of our compassionate care program at Hospice Buffalo. The Angel Fund traditionally aides patients with emergency needs. In addition to assisting with the growing needs of our patients and their families, the fund also supports quality-of-life initiatives and programming for all Hospice patients.

The holidays tend to be especially hard for patients and their families; financial needs tend to show a dramatic increase. Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure all of our patients, especially those in need, have the ability to share a meaningful time with their loved ones as they celebrate the holidays. This year was no exception and we were additionally blessed by support from the C4 Foundation.

**The C4 Foundation was created to honor the memory of Colin M. Wegner and his fight with Medulloblastoma, a childhood brain cancer.** The C4 Foundation raises money to provide financial assistance to other organizations or qualified groups which are organized and operated exclusively for charitable, scientific, and educational purposes which relate to battling cancer or serious illness.

The C4 Foundation, together with Geico employees, provided 100's of toys and gift cards for our Essential Care Children and their families. This addition to the Hospice Angel Fund made the holiday season special for these families, allowing them to relax and enjoy the moments together without added stress. We thank all those who assisted in meeting the needs of our families through their thoughtful donations. With your support we were able to assist 236 individuals with food and holiday gifts.

The Angel Fund is made possible by the generous donations of Hospice staff, the community, and donors like you. If you would like to support the Hospice Angel Fund, please contact Linda Balkin at (716) 686-8090 or email [lbalkin@palliativecare.org](mailto:lbalkin@palliativecare.org). ■

## Thank You to all who made 2018 a Great Success



**"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."**

~ Coretta Scott King

Hospice Buffalo celebrated its 40 year anniversary and the many milestones accomplished since its founding. With the support received from the Western New York community, the 2018 Fall Appeal was a great success! **More than 2,800 donors responded with a year-end gift which raised over \$570,000.** The Light-A-Life bells were also a success with over 1,100 individuals purchasing a beautiful bell raising nearly \$110,000.

Thank you to the Hospice Buffalo Signature Society members and Brendan and Danielle Rich for their leadership as the Signature Society Chair Couple. Over two evenings in late October, members of this prestigious group wrote notes to thousands of donors, helping to raise **\$333,000** towards the Fall Campaign.

As we embark on our 41<sup>st</sup> year, we are prepared for all the work ahead to remain strong and innovative in the national landscape of palliative and end-of-life care. We are grateful to all of our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, devoted staff, and beloved WNY community for our success and growth. ■



## HOSPICE community Helpers events update

The Hospice Helpers program provides organizations with the opportunity to organize fundraising events to benefit Hospice Buffalo. We are our community's only hospice program dedicated to caring and supporting all people facing their end-of-life journey. Your fundraising efforts ensure that we always have a hospice program right here in Erie County to serve our families, friends and neighbors during their most critical time in life.

**Be creative!** If your company or organization has a unique idea to raise funds for Hospice Buffalo or if you have questions about the Hospice Helpers, please contact the Hospice Foundation at (716) 686-8090 or email Emily at [ecarrier@palliativecare.org](mailto:ecarrier@palliativecare.org).

**Thank you** to the following community groups and individuals who organized events to benefit Hospice Buffalo. Recent events raising \$250 or more are listed below.

<b>Boulevard Mall</b> – Holiday Gift Wrapping .....	<b>\$1,446</b>
<b>M&amp;T Bank General Accounting</b> , Annual Raffle .....	<b>\$4,787</b>
<b>Abbey Square Inc.</b> , Golf Tournament .....	<b>\$2,100</b>
<b>Milherst Construction</b> , Golf Tournament .....	<b>\$1,600</b>
<b>Barnes &amp; Noble (Clarence)</b> , Holiday Gift Wrapping.....	<b>\$877</b>
<b>Mr. Paul Luczak</b> , 34 <sup>th</sup> Carl Hengerer Memorial Golf Tournament.....	<b>\$850</b>
<b>Mr. Thomas Diem</b> , Don & Nancy Diem Annual Memorial Baseball Pool .....	<b>\$710</b>
<b>Premium Mortgage Corp.</b> , Chairs for Charity.....	<b>\$632</b>
<b>Gabby Cumbo</b> , Love is Love Tennis Tournament.....	<b>\$300</b>
<b>Queen of Heaven Church</b> , Dress Down Day .....	<b>\$252</b>
<b>Walsh Duffield</b> , Gingerbread Decorating Contest .....	<b>\$250</b>

## Did You Know?

**Many couples are choosing to make a donation to Hospice Buffalo in lieu of traditional wedding favors.**



Remember a loved one who may only be with you in spirit on your special day. Give the gift of compassionate care and use your celebration to support Hospice Buffalo's mission while thoughtfully remembering your loved one(s) on your wedding day. For more information and options available, please contact the Hospice Foundation at (716) 686-8090. ■



## Foundation Giving

The Hospice Foundation recognizes the generosity of the following foundations for their support of \$1,000 or more to Hospice Buffalo's programs or unrestricted fund from May 1 through December 2018. All foundations giving \$5,000 or more in a calendar year are enrolled in our Founders Society.

Joy Family Foundation.....	\$50,000
The Russo Family Charitable Foundation.....	\$20,000
The Zebro Fund (CFGB).....	\$17,500
Dorothy Barrow Wilding Fund (CFGB).....	\$14,705
Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.....	\$11,384
The Nathan Benderson Family Hospice Endowment Fund (FJP) .....	\$10,000
First Niagara Bank Foundation .....	\$8,500
Luke & Anthony Santiago Foundation .....	\$7,500
The C4 Foundation .....	\$7,000
D-B Trust (CFGB).....	\$6,000
VIYU Foundation .....	\$5,000
Children's Foundation of Erie Co., Inc.....	\$5,000
Ferguson Electric Foundation.....	\$5,000
The Weissman Family Foundation, Inc.....	\$5,000
The Durham & Valerie McCauley Endowment Fund .....	\$5,000
N & G Gian Family Foundation .....	\$5,000
Daniel & Flavia Gernatt Family Foundation .....	\$5,000
The OSC Charitable Foundation.....	\$5,000
The Benito Cachinero-Sanchez & Deborah G. Gorman Fund.....	\$5,000
Fischle-Laesser Endowment Fund (CFGB).....	\$5,000
Life Storage Foundation for a Better Way (CFGB) .....	\$5,000
Marjorie and John Buyers Foundation, Inc.....	\$4,000
Buffalo Sabres Foundation .....	\$3,500
William J.C. & Louise Grupp Memorial Fund (CFGB).....	\$2,814
W. H. Greene Foundation.....	\$2,500
Donald F. & Barbara L. Newman Family Foundation.....	\$2,500
Tender Blessings Charity Fund .....	\$2,500
Janet K. & John D. Larkin III Fund (CFGB) .....	\$2,483
William & Diane Hein Foundation .....	\$2,000
My Tribute Gift Foundation, Inc .....	\$1,964
Joseph R. Takats Foundation .....	\$1,700
FM Family Fund.....	\$1,500
Nathalie "Bumpy" Olena Endowment Fund (CFGB) .....	\$1,460
Kenneth L. and Katherine G. Koessler Family Foundation, Inc.....	\$1,000
The Giallanza Foundation .....	\$1,000
The Kilian J. & Caroline F. Schmitt Foundation, Inc .....	\$1,000
Kenneth R. Kahn & Linda Angert Kahn Fund (CFGB) .....	\$1,000
The Kevin & Sallie Deans Lake Charitable Fund .....	\$1,000
Michael Draves Charitable Flex Fund.....	\$1,000
Mary Anne Casey Donor Advised Fund.....	\$1,000
The McEvoy Siwek Fund .....	\$1,000

## Corporate Spotlight

### Paula's Donuts

♥ made with love

Paula's Donuts, family owned and operated, has been a Western New York icon for 22 years, serving over 30 varieties of delicious hand-cut donuts, all made with love. Each year, Paula's Donuts receives tons of philanthropic requests and graciously supports the mission of a wide variety of organizations in the WNY community. Since 2017, Paula's has been a sponsor of the Hospice Buffalo Spring Bouquet Sale, creating a specialty donut for sale and donating half the proceeds raised to support patient care programs and services. *"Hospice touches so many people. It's touched me personally. It's so nice to have some strength behind you. Some love and comfort and somebody who knows what to do when you're not thinking properly. I think it's such a fantastic organization,"* said Paula. We thank you Paula's Donuts – we are extremely grateful for your collaboration during this important fundraising endeavor and for your continuous support throughout the community.



**Everyone, stop by Paula's Donuts March 5-9 to get your yummy treat and a bouquet of beautiful flowers – all supporting the programs Hospice Buffalo offers to each patient and family who needs us, in the WNY community. ■**

23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL

# Hospice MEMORIAL Walk

Honor your loved ones and keep their #VibrantLegacies shining.



## May 19 at CANALSIDE

Walk starts @ 11 a.m. • Registration & Check-in begins @ 9 a.m.

Join us for our 5K walk, enjoy lunch, games, prizes, music and more family fun at Canalside.

**Register Online at  
[HospiceMemorialWalk.com](http://HospiceMemorialWalk.com)**

### Individual Walker

- Through May 9 – \$35 registration fee\* includes Walk t-shirt & Memory Ribbon (*New this year!*)
- After May 10 – \$50 registration fee\*

### Walk as a Team

**A TEAM IS...** any number of people who are committed to raising funds and supporting the Memorial Walk. The goal for each team is \$500 or more. Gather friends, family, coworkers, and start your team today.

Managing a team couldn't be easier! Create your own Hospice Memorial Walk webpage and you can e-mail your contacts, raise donations and much more – all online.

Call (716) 686-8090 to request your Team Kit or go to [HospiceMemorialWalk.com](http://HospiceMemorialWalk.com) and click on *Start A Team*.

### Other Ways To Register

- Pick up a registration form at any Erie County Wegmans
- Stop by Hospice on May 9 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. – *details on reverse side*
- Register the day of the Walk, May 19 – \$50 registration fee\*
- Call the Hospice Foundation office at (716) 686-8090.

\* Registration fees apply to walkers age 13 and over

Presented by  
**Wegmans**



# REGISTER TODAY! HOSPICEMEMORIALWALK.COM

## Pre-Walk Pick-up & Registration Day



**Thursday, May 9 • 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Hospice Mitchell Campus, 225 Como Park Blvd., Cheektowaga

- May 9 is the last day to register with the \$35 registration fee.
- Pick up your t-shirt and memory ribbon, and any other rewards you have earned

### New This Year!

Raise \$500 and be pampered with these extra benefits in a VIP tent!

- Relax with a continental breakfast, catered lunch and ice cream
- Hobnob with celebrity guest
- Enjoy a professional massage
- Door Prizes
- And much more!

### FUNDRAISING REWARDS

Raise	Walk T-shirt & Memory Ribbon	Memorial Pin Wheel	KeyBank Credit Card	Hats Off To Hospice Club Membership & Hat	VIP Tent Experience w/exclusive catered lunch	Memorial Walkway Brick
\$2,500+						
\$1,750-\$2,499						
\$1,000-\$1,749						
\$500-\$999						
\$250-\$499						
\$150-\$249						
\$100-\$149						
\$35-\$99 Thru 5/9 \$50-\$99 5/10-5/19						

Register online at [HospiceMemorialWalk.com](http://HospiceMemorialWalk.com)

### Individuals who raise \$250 or more

become a "Hats off to Hospice" Club Member. You will receive a commemorative hat and pin and an invitation to the ice cream social. Join the fun – this group of super fundraisers grows bigger every year!



Special thanks to our sponsors



# together in dignity.

Memorial and tribute gifts are a meaningful way to support patient care at Hospice while offering an expression of one's sympathy and respect to family members and friends. To the family and friends of those remembered, we express our condolences.

Thank you to the families that designated Hospice as the beneficiary of donations in memory of their loved ones. The gifts received from designated memorials support patient care — our organization's greatest priority.

## *in memory of...*

### Alfred J. Acquisto

Tony, Lori & Nikki Acquisto  
Ms. Eileen Acquisto  
Mrs. Lauren K. Roggow

### Cheryl Agle

Mr. William Agle

### Dr. Pol Cabi Akman

Ms. Mary K. Akman  
Dr. & Mrs. Alan Posner

### John & Helen Alevras

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Nardini

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Anonymous

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 received Hospice care, I now know  
 there are angels here on earth."*

Michael, Eden

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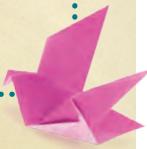
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 for the wonderful care you gave  
 my mother. You all were angels.  
 You made this very difficult time  
 a little easier for her and myself."*

MaryAnn, Elma



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for being such a tremendous help,  
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We are so grateful for everything  
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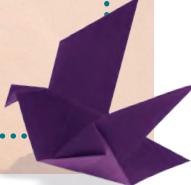
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about a person's feelings and  
their dignity by allowing them to die  
in such a peaceful manner,  
at the place they loved most,  
their home. Thank you!"*

- Anthony, Eden



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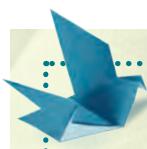
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**Summer Affair • Thursday, July 25**

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**Light-A-Life Memorial Tree Lighting  
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