

Celebrating Life's Stories[®]

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

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Haystack Supper Raises More Than \$140,000 for Amish Care Fund

The first Haystack Supper and Benefit Auction on June 21 raised more than \$140,000 for the Amish Care Fund at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. The supper was held at Mt. Hope Event Center in Millersburg, Ohio and was served to more than 3,000 attendees.

The supper was followed by a raffle and auction of 300 items including quilts, furniture, and lawn and garden tools. Food, auction items and raffle prizes were donated by community members, area churches and local businesses. The lead auctioneer was Steve Chupp of Steve Chupp Auctions.

Funds raised from the event will benefit the Amish Care of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare.

"Every dollar that was generated will help somebody pay for their care with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare," said John Miller, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare board member and Amish community liaison.

The Amish Care Fund enables Ohio's Hospice LifeCare to provide superior care and superior services to anyone in the Amish community facing end-of-life illnesses, regardless of their ability to pay; grief support to anyone in the Amish community at no cost; and palliative care to Amish patients whose chronic disease compromises their quality of life.

"This event is an example of what is best about neighbors helping neighbors, which is the heart of hospice care," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "With this ongoing support from our neighbors, we are able to continue providing end-of-life care, programs and services to the Amish community. Thank you to the event hosts and organizers, community members who attended, and those who participated in the auction to benefit the Amish Care Fund."



Kurt Holmes spoke to the crowd at the auction.



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Making an Impact Through Giving to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare



Katherine Ritchie
Gift Officer
Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year, in part because I grew up on the coast of Maine, and the fall foliage is stunning. Some of my favorite traditions with my children occur during this season. I always find autumn is a time to reflect, renew and refocus.

We are so grateful to those in our community and beyond that have been touched by the care of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. Gifts made in honor or memory of a family member or friend, monthly and annual gifts, attending or sponsoring major events, planned gifts and estate bequests, all sustain our mission of superior, patient-driven care for all that are in need.

The inability to pay is never a consideration when we care for a patient. We continue to serve more community members throughout Wayne, Holmes, Ashland and Medina counties than ever before, wherever a patient calls home.

As fall surrounds us, I ask you to consider giving to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. Your gift truly makes an impact for our patients by covering the costs of daily care, allowing every patient to have a team of providers caring for all areas of needs, assisting in fulfilling final requests, recording digital and video memories for grandchildren to treasure, visits from pet therapy volunteers, and extended bereavement services.

May the changing colors bring a reminder of so many whose lives have been made better through hospice and palliative care; services that are all encompassing, valued and allow support during such a challenging time.

“Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting, and autumn a mosaic of them all.”

- Stanley Horowitz

Special Thanks to Our Board of Directors

We thank the volunteers who serve on the Ohio's Hospice LifeCare Board of Directors. Their dedication to our mission helps us as we celebrate the lives of those we have the privilege of serving by providing superior care and superior services to each patient and family in the communities of Wayne, Holmes, Ashland and Medina counties. The board's commitment to the hospice mission has helped us extend support services to patients and families facing end-of-life illnesses, regardless of their ability to pay.

We appreciate the countless hours and support the board of directors provides to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. They make it possible for us to continue our commitment of providing compassionate, patient-centered hospice and palliative care, caregiver support and bereavement services to those experiencing end-of-life illness and loss.

Thank You!

Tom Ciha
Jim Geiser — Treasurer
Dr. Richard Guttman

Khankeo Khounborin
John Miller
Monica Miyashita

Sharon Pooler — Past Chair
Dr. David Reynolds — Secretary
Rose Soltz — Chair

If you are interested in learning more about serving on the Board of Directors, please contact Kurt Holmes, Executive Director, at KHolmes@LifeCareHospice.org

Volunteer Spotlight: Ray Beck



Ray Beck has been a volunteer with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare since 2016, filling in wherever as needed to help serve the patients and their families. Ray has learned that flexibility is key when it comes to lending a helping hand: Ray has delivered medicine, sat with patients in their homes, and even helped cook meals. To Ray, there is no better feeling than helping someone out when they need it most.

Q. What has volunteering for Ohio's Hospice LifeCare taught you?

A. I have learned the importance of being nonjudgmental. We have to put our own feelings and opinions aside and just be there for a fellow person when they are in need. I have learned to be more vocal in my prayers for my patients. I've also learned the importance of a sense of humor!

Q. A sense of humor? Any particular memories stand out for you?

A. I don't have a thin skin, and I try to find humor in lots of things. There was one day when I was volunteering at a nursing home. I was sitting with a patient, and a fellow patient kept staring at me. So, I asked if I

could help him with anything. He didn't need help. He just looked at me and said, "It would really be a rough life if yours is the last face I ever have to see!" I couldn't do anything but chuckle!

Q. Can you describe the work you do for Veterans?

A. As a former Marine, I became involved in the Vet-to-Vet Program. We present Veteran patients with an engraved plaque, which honors their service and sacrifice. I don't like to press any Veteran to talk to me if they don't want to, but often times they are happy to share in their experience with someone who has been through what they have. I became really close to a gentleman who served at the same time and close to the same place as me in Vietnam and it did us both a lot of good to talk about what we went through. Speaking to fellow Veterans is near and dear to my heart.

Q. How is your life different today because of the time you have dedicated as a volunteer?

A. I have met some really fantastic people along the way. I got to know people deeply. While it's hard to lose someone, I feel so glad I had the opportunity to get to know them.

Q. What would you say to anyone interested in supporting Ohio's Hospice LifeCare?

A. Give in any way you can. We really need more people who are willing to lend their time, especially Veterans. It can be such a great experience. Even if you think you're not right for the job, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare will find a fit for you. There is something for everyone.

For more information about how you can volunteer with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, contact Rebecca McCurdy at 330.264.4899.

Office Locations

Wooster

1900 Akron Rd.
Wooster, OH 44691

Gault Inpatient Pavilion
Administration

Ashland

1109 Eastern Ave.
Ashland, OH 44805

Millersburg

1263 Glen Dr., Ste. B
Millersburg, OH 44654

Friendtique and NEST Support Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

Special thanks to Friendtique, a nonprofit thrift boutique, and its sister store, NEST. Located in downtown Wooster, the stores have donated more than \$1 million to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare's Community Care Fund since Friendtique's founding 14 years ago. The fund provides for patients who need help paying for their care.

We appreciate the staff, board of directors and volunteers who support Friendtique and NEST. Thanks to those in the community who donate items to the stores. Their support of our mission helps Ohio's Hospice LifeCare provide superior care and superior services to each patient and family.

Friendtique
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223 W. Liberty St., Wooster, OH 44691



Save the Date — 15th Annual Spring Gala!

March 28
2020
5:30 pm

Shisler Conference Center
1680 Madison Ave.
Wooster, OH 44691

Ticket Information

Jen Epling: jepling@lifecarehospice.org
330.264.4899



Sponsorship Information

Katherine Ritchie: kritchie@lifecarehospice.org
330.264.4899

Celebrating Life's Stories is published semiannually for patients, families, staff members and friends of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare.

Kent Anderson, President & CEO, Ohio's Hospice
Kurt Holmes, Executive Director, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

Ohio's Hospice LifeCare has the privilege of providing superior care and superior service to members of our community. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call us at 330.264.4899.

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