

Celebrating Life's Stories[®]

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

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Dr. David Lance Retires After Decades of Service to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

David Lance, DO, has been an integral member of the Ohio's Hospice LifeCare care team for three decades. At the end of 2020, Dr. Lance retired after nearly 30 years of service, which includes serving as medical director since 2005.

Dr. Lance's leadership and care for patients will be greatly missed, but he leaves behind a powerful legacy of providing superior, compassionate care to thousands of patients and families, mentoring countless staff and educating the community about palliative and hospice care.

Staff describe him as dedicated, kind, authentic, relatable and passionate. "Dr. Lance is hospice," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "He has a calm, patient and reassuring nature. He has helped countless patients and families through the end of life."

Since joining Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, Dr. Lance has witnessed incredible change and growth. When he started, there were four patients on hospice services. Today, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare serves an average of 240 patients. The mission of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare has stayed the same — to celebrate the lives of those we have the privilege of serving by providing superior care and superior services to each patient and family.

"Dr. Lance has been intimately involved in Ohio's Hospice LifeCare's vision of serving our community for nearly 30 years," said Katherine Ritchie, gift officer at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "From when our office was just one room in a building to moving to our current

location, the care for our patients and the mission of hospice care truly embodies Dr. Lance's service."

Dr. Lance is grateful for the opportunity to work with the staff, patients and families of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare.

"I work with some of the best people in the world," he said. "There's always been a vision for doing new things, expanding, growing and offering new services. This is something I can identify with and something that makes me proud to be part of this organization."

Ohio's Hospice LifeCare is grateful for Dr. Lance's decades of service. His kindness, compassion and servant leadership reflect the mission and values of the not-for-profit hospice organization. He has been an integral part of furthering the mission of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare through his focus on serving patients and families with an accessible and approachable manner.

"I'd like to be remembered as someone who inspired other people, who is consistent, and who has personal integrity," Dr. Lance said. "Those are the things that are important to me."



Dr. David Lance

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Looking Toward a Brighter Future With Your Support



Kurt Holmes, executive director
Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

Winter, with its many celebrations, can still be a difficult time. This past year, the long days, and gray skies left so many feeling especially isolated. In the middle of winter, it can sometimes be hard to remember that spring will come, but it will.

In a few short months the frost will melt, and the cold temperatures will give way to those first few hopeful signs of a new season. The life we have known for the past year will not last forever. We will soon put our faith in science and doctors and break free from the COVID-19 virus, much in the way that warmth breaks free from the cold clutches of winter. Though it may seem bleak, we

can look toward a brighter, better future. We can look toward better times as a community, a nation and a world.

Here at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare we strive to be a glimmer of hope. While nothing in life is ever certain, with your support, our presence in the community remains constant. Your donations, large or small, mean that we will be a pillar for those facing end-of-life illnesses. Your support secures a future for our community where everyone who needs care is able to receive it, regardless of their ability to pay.

As you consider your financial plans for the year ahead, please consider a gift to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. Your generosity gives hope to a community as we look to a brighter future. Please reach out to me at KHolmes@LifeCareHospice.org with any questions. Stay well.

Ohio's Hospice LifeCare Recognized With WorthyWorks Award

Ohio's Hospice LifeCare was awarded the WorthyWorks Award by the Wayne County Community Foundation and the Orrville Area Chamber of Commerce.

The award included \$1,000, which will help provide patients and families with superior care and superior services.

Sara Patton, executive director of the Wayne County Community Foundation, presented Ohio's Hospice LifeCare with the award in a virtual awards ceremony presentation. Each year, the WorthyWorks Award honors two local not-for-profit organizations that make an impact in the Orrville and Wooster communities. Recipients of the award exemplify the organization's commitment to the quality of life, social conscience and betterment of the community.

"It is an honor to receive the WorthyWorks Award," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice



Dr. David Lance, medical director, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare; Mary Alice Streeter, trustee, Wayne County Community Foundation; Sara Patton, executive director, Wayne County Community Foundation; Kurt Holmes, executive director, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

LifeCare. "Our incredible interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, personal care specialists, social workers, chaplains, therapists, bereavement counselors and

volunteers allow Ohio's Hospice LifeCare to provide superior, individualized care to each patient and family we have the privilege of serving."

Grant funding and individual donations to Ohio's

Hospice LifeCare contribute to bereavement support and complementary therapies, ensuring that everyone in our care receives comprehensive end-of-life care, regardless of their ability to pay.



For more information about how you can support our mission, please contact Katherine Ritchie at KRitchie@LifeCareHospice.org.

Charm Days Raffle Raises More Than \$60,000



More than \$60,000 was raised through the Charm Days raffle this past October benefitting the Amish Care Fund at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. Charm Days is a two-day festival held annually the second weekend in October in Charm, Ohio.

In past years, volunteers have organized a silent auction with more than 200 items as part of Charm Days, raising money for the Amish Care Fund. But due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made to hold a raffle instead of the silent auction.

Coordinated by Emma Yoder, a member of the Charm community and Sharon Pooler, an Ohio's Hospice LifeCare board member and volunteer, the two women worked tirelessly to secure items and sponsors. The first prize of the raffle was \$7,500. Other prizes included a mower, a pavilion, a hunting blind, an electric bike, binoculars, a sewing machine, Adirondack chairs, and a volleyball set.

"The Amish communities are very grateful for the care and support their family members and friends have received," Pooler said, "and that translates into their generous support of fundraisers for Ohio's Hospice LifeCare."

"We're grateful to members of the community for their support of our mission," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "Through the Amish Care Fund, we are able to provide care and services to members of the Amish community who are facing end-of-life illnesses."

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for their support of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare.

**Be sure to visit Nest in its new home at
132 N. Walnut St., Wooster**



To our friends at Nest and Friendtique - Thank you for sharing your time and talents by providing holiday decorations.

An Interview With David Hargrave, Bereavement Counseling Professional: Providing Grief Support to Our Community



David Hargrave, LSW, CTP
Bereavement Counseling Professional

In October 2019, David Hargrave joined Ohio's Hospice LifeCare as a bereavement counseling professional.

During his first few months with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, the COVID-19 pandemic spread across Ohio, the United States, and the world. Our concept of normal shifted, and the way we provide care also shifted. Through

Pathways of HopeSM at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, David has been providing grief support and counseling to those who have suffered a loss in the community.

Q. How do you see emotional support being administered in the future?

A. Real-Time CareSM, a collection of telehealth and support tools, will play a big part in ongoing bereavement services. A big challenge is to reach the population of people who aren't online. Bereavement care will shift to over the phone and outdoor settings as weather permits. As time goes by, people will get more used to the idea of telehealth sessions, but we are all learning to adapt.

Q. What are your different approaches for providing grief support to children versus adults?

A. When a child is grieving, and they want relief, my approach is to provide a curriculum or projects for them. Their curriculum can take shape in a craft project. For example, one project has fill-in shapes to remember their loved one — favorite thing to do with your loved one, favorite memory, favorite movie,

etc. But like adults, many of them want to tell their story. Their healing comes in a more narrative form. The more comfortable we get, the easier it is to build rapport and allow children to share. Whether it's a craft, or storytelling, they need room to process.

Q. What are some of the positives you see coming out of providing grief support services in this new normal?

A. This generation of children experiencing grief support are already online. It may be easier for them to be vulnerable online. For the mental health community, it is important to meet your client where they are, and they are online. This is great because we can still have the productive interactions and emotional experiences even if we aren't face to face.

Q. What are some of your largest needs for support?

A. At Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, we engage in the community and build relationships with the school districts and other mental health organizations. Because of the support of the community we can reach out in ways we never have before. There is still a great need for our grief support to be present in schools and nursing homes alike. This requires partnership and training with other resources in the community. Unresolved grief limits human growth and potential. As a culture, we need to allow ourselves the space to grieve. It is my hope to support as many people in the community as possible.

For more information on the grief support services available through Pathways of HopeSM at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare or to learn more on ways you can support bereavement services, please call 330.264.4899.

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

Kent Anderson, 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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