

Celebrating Life's Stories[®]

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

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Marilyn and Mark Gustafson Make Transformational Gift to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

When Marilyn and Mark Gustafson learned about the expansion of services for Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, they chose to make a gift to an organization that has made a significant impact in both their lives. They made a transformational gift of \$500,000 to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare toward the campaign for the Center for Supportive Care.

The center will provide dedicated building space to support the needs of those in the community who are facing the end of life or need bereavement support. It will allow Ohio's Hospice LifeCare to expand its volunteer services, the Pathways of HopeSM Grief Counseling Center, and the Mobile Care Unit transportation hub of service and support. The center is scheduled to open in January 2022.

"I wanted to do something bigger for the community," Marilyn Gustafson said. "We have been blessed, and I wanted to give back and make it better for someone else."

In honor of Marilyn and Mark's support of the mission of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, the Center for Supportive Care will now bear their name as the Marilyn B. and Mark E. Gustafson Center for Supportive Care.

"As we grow to meet the needs of our community, Marilyn and Mark's gift allows Ohio's Hospice LifeCare to continue to provide world-class care to our patients and families," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "We are truly honored and thankful for their support of our mission and commitment to serving our community."

Marilyn Gustafson is a longtime volunteer with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, directly serving patients and their families for more than 15 years. Mark Gustafson is a retired dentist in Wooster. Recently, he completed training to become a volunteer, joining the more than 200 volunteers at the not-for-profit hospice.

Mark's mother also was a volunteer with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare in the 1980s. Later, she was served by the organization as a patient. In honor of her memory, the Gustafson family dedicated a room to their mother and father in the Stanley C. and Flo K. Gault Inpatient Pavilion.

"Marilyn and Mark truly embody the mission of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare of helping your neighbors and your community," said Katherine Ritchie, development director at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "We couldn't think of a better way to have a building named after two volunteers who are so integral to our mission and believe in us so strongly."



To learn more about the Marilyn B. and Mark E. Gustafson Center for Supportive Care or to make a gift, please visit: www.OhiosHospiceLifeCare.org/BuildingSupport

Together, We Go Far



Kurt Holmes
Executive Director
Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

Recently I read a proverb, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” This quote feels especially timely as we share the news of the next chapter of care and philanthropy in our community, the launch of Ohio’s Hospice Foundation.

LifeCare Hospice was founded in 1982 to care for the patients and families of our great community. Now, as Ohioans age, an increasing number of individuals in our community are facing the end of life, while managing more than one complex illness. Our leadership considered what the future might entail, and it became clear that in order to provide superior care to more of our friends, family and neighbors, we needed to go together.

LifeCare Hospice affiliated with Ohio’s Hospice in 2017, extending our services across the state. The Ohio’s Hospice network of local affiliates provides superior care and superior services in 44 counties, and cares for more than 11,000 patients each year. We are pleased to present the Ohio’s Hospice Foundation as an extension of Ohio’s Hospice

LifeCare to continue to support our mission. Through the foundation, Ohio’s Hospice LifeCare will be able to secure additional grants and support.

Expanding our outreach enhances volunteer services, bereavement services, and complementary therapies such as art, massage and music therapy to more patients and families. Philanthropic gifts also contribute to uninsured care and provide emergency assistance such as food, clothing and shelter for patients and their families.

While our reach has extended through the foundation, our mission is the same. When you make a gift to Ohio’s Hospice LifeCare, you are supporting patients and families in our community.

Your generosity makes it possible for our dedicated care teams to provide more comprehensive, individualized care. Your support also provides families access to the support they need for the road ahead.

Thank you for your continued support. With your help, together, we go far.

A photograph of a park bench in a wooded area during autumn. The ground is covered in fallen yellow and orange leaves. The bench is dark-colored and partially obscured by the foliage. The background is slightly blurred, showing more trees and foliage.

Support Ohio’s Hospice LifeCare by Donating and Shopping Local

Friendtique
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www.Friendtique.org
223 West Liberty St., Wooster



www.Friendtique.org/nest
132 N. Walnut St., Wooster

Camp Waves of Emotion Helps Grieving Children

How Your Support Benefits Camp



Cost per camper or buddy	Camper bag	\$5
	Camp T-shirt	\$10
	Snacks/drinks	\$10 per day
	Art supplies	\$15
	Meals	\$20 per day
	Activities and toys	\$30
	Final art project (pot, planter, fairy garden)	\$50
	Professional Services/campsite	\$90 per day

Camp Waves of Emotion, a summer day camp offered to children in our community who have experienced the loss of a loved one, was held Aug. 3-6 at the Wooster office of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. After experiencing a loss, children may have a difficult time articulating their fears of abandonment, separation, loneliness or emotional pain.

At Camp Waves of Emotion this year, 10 children gathered to learn how to express their emotions, have their feelings heard, and their questions answered. The team of bereavement counselors helped the children access their feelings of loss. Through yoga, art, music and grief therapy, the children learned to identify their unspoken feelings. Camp participants also were given the time and space for fun with their peers, forming relationships with other children going through similar experiences.

Camp Waves of Emotion is made possible through donor support. To find out how you can support Pathways of HopeSM bereavement services and the children who attend Camp Waves of Emotion, contact Katherine Ritchie at KRitchie@LifeCareHospice.org or 330.264.4899.

Mobile Care Unit Makes a Difference in the Lives of Patients and Families



When the Marilyn B. and Mark E. Gustafson Center for Supportive Care is completed, it will include a transportation hub of service and support, providing much-needed transportation services and additional vehicles to expand availability of care.

Through generous community support, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare purchased its first Mobile Care Unit in 2019. "This has made a difference in the lives of our patients and

families," said Kurt Holmes, executive director of Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. "As we continue to serve an increasing number of patients in the surrounding communities, the need for patient transportation will increase."

Often, hospice patients need to be transported between settings in order to receive care. This may be from the home to the hospice inpatient pavilion, from the hospital to a nursing facility, or to and from a doctor's appointment. Transportation by an ambulance is most commonly required.

Already, the Mobile Care Unit has made a difference in the lives of patients and families. Many patients have been transported from area and regional hospitals to our Stanley C. and Flo K. Gault Inpatient Pavilion, which provides short-term patient care to manage acute symptoms, adjust medications, or stabilize a patient's condition. The Mobile Care Unit also has taken patients to and from doctor's appointments, even stopping for a sweet treat for the patient along the way!

Meet Your Board President: Dr. David Reynolds



David Reynolds, MD
Board President
Ohio's Hospice LifeCare

David Reynolds, MD, moved to Wooster, Ohio, in 1980, spending his first 18 years in internal medicine at the Wooster Clinic. He later served as the regional physician for the Cleveland Clinic.

For the past four years, Dr. Reynolds has been contributing to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare as a volunteer physician. He has found the time given to be rewarding in ways that he never expected.

Q. What is your role as a volunteer doctor for Ohio's Hospice LifeCare?

A. I help with the case management and have done so for the past four years. I work with the nurses, chaplains, social workers and anyone else that may be involved on a patient's care team. The care provided to the patients at Ohio's Hospice LifeCare is very comprehensive. The care plans put in place look at the patient from their diets, their sleep, and even their spiritual needs.

Q. What are your strongest memories over your years of service?

A. There have been a few occasions where I have served a patient who was a former patient of mine. In one case, the services provided for the patient in their home went beyond the call of duty. We provided him with treatment for his pain and his anxiety. Respite care was provided to his family members so that he could maintain hospice care in the home, which is

where so many patients want to be. His wife went on to volunteer for Ohio's Hospice LifeCare.

Q. What do you think makes Ohio's Hospice LifeCare stand out from other organizations?

A. It is the tremendous commitment and dedication the staff and volunteers put into the patients' care and the families' experience. The care is a total range: spiritually, medically and socially. But the care doesn't stop at the patients. The bereavement services provided to the patients' families are so important. Every member of the staff, from the nurses to the chaplains to the administrative staff are all very skilled and committed. Caring for patients requires 24 hours-a-day work.

And now, the Marilyn B. and Mark E. Gustafson Center for Supportive Care is going to expand on so many of these services. The additional space will allow Ohio's Hospice LifeCare to enhance its volunteer services, the Pathways of HopeSM Grief Counseling Center, and the Mobile Care Unit transportation hub of service and support.

As a community-led organization, support from donors and volunteers fills a great need in the community. When you invest in your community, your community thrives and we see this with Ohio's Hospice LifeCare. I am proud of the staff and volunteers here who are so committed and invested in the organization.

For more information on how you can donate to Ohio's Hospice LifeCare or volunteer your time, please contact Katherine Ritchie at KRitchie@LifeCareHospice.org or 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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