

CaringConnections

Winter 2011

News and Information for and about the Hospice Caring Community



Hospice Caring, Inc.

How We Can Help:

Since 1989, Hospice Caring, Inc. has been the only non-medical, volunteer hospice in Montgomery County. Trained and dedicated volunteers provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill adults and children and their families, and to anyone grieving the death of a loved one.

What We Offer:

- Support to patient and family
- Bereavement services
- All services provided without charge.

Who We Are:

- Friends and companions
- Advocates for patient and families
- Caring programs and services for adults and children
- Compassionate, practical and high-quality support
- Meeting community's needs
- Volunteer-driven

Visit www.hospicecaring.org for information about all of the services and programs we provide.

Welcoming our newest caregivers, Jane and Charlie

Meet Jane Markley and her 20-month old Sheltie, Charlie. They are the newest members of the Hospice Caring family. Charlie is a trained and licensed therapy dog. He and his handler mom, Jane, are members of Therapy Dogs International (TDI). As stated in the TDI brochure, "The primary



Jane Markley and Charlie

objective of the TDI dog and handler is to provide comfort and companionship by sharing the dog... This is done in a way that increases emotional well-being, promotes healing, and improves the quality of life for the people being visited." Jane and Charlie will be working with Karen Novak, Director of Patient and Family Services, to schedule visits as part of our program services. Charlie's calm presence is sure to melt many hearts. Welcome!



Thanking our everyday angels

At Hospice Caring, our volunteers are the heart of our organization. There are not enough words to fully express our appreciation for all that our corps of everyday angels do for us. We dedicate this newsletter to YOU. Volunteers are integral to every facet of our organization. Our Board of Directors and Trustees lead the way giving countless hours and compassionate financial support. They also can be found serving as caregivers, training facilitators, and children's bereavement facilitators; helping with mailings; chairing our events; and being "Big Buddies" at Camp Caring. We are very fortunate. As the Executive Director, I am always inspired and humbled by the acts of kindness our volunteers give so generously.

Jeannette Mendonca, Executive Director

Grateful Hearts

There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer
With it beats the spirit of service,
generosity and compassion...
and the health and well-being
of our community, our
country, and our world.

Kobi Yamada

Holding Hands *and* Healing Hearts





Hospice Caring, Inc.

Our Mission

To provide caring, compassionate, practical and high-quality, non-medical support services, without charge, to every Montgomery County adult or child who is facing a life-threatening illness or is grieving the death of a family member or loved one.

Our Vision Statement

Hospice Caring community outreach is provided by a network of trained and screened volunteers and staff who respond to the needs of families facing a terminal illness or grieving the death of a family member or loved one.

Hospice Caring provides personal, compassionate and practical non-medical support to any adult or child during this time of crisis.

Hospice Caring services are provided to all patients and family members free of charge.

Hospice Caring strives to develop and maintain a viable, transparent and responsible non-profit, volunteer-driven organization funded solely by donations and grants from our caring partners.

We have Grateful Hearts for...

Our Caregivers

"Volunteers are not paid — not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."

Our caregivers offer their priceless time and hearts freely as they faithfully visit our patients in nursing homes; stay with a home bound patient so a family caregiver can run errands; listen to stories and concerns; work in families' neglected gardens; fix meals for patients; commit to staying present at a patient's death when no family members are there; and drive patients to medical appointments and the grocery store. Thank you for your inspiring dedication to the mission of Hospice Caring. It is a privilege and a pleasure to work with each and every one of you.

— Karen Novak, Director of Patient and Family Services
Maureen de Souza, Assistant Director of Patient and Family Services

Our Camp Caring "Big Buddies"

Camp Caring will be celebrating its 10th year in June. How blessed and grateful we are to have between 30 and 40 "Big Buddies" willing to give up a Saturday for training, and then to take on a lively, but sad, child to share a three-day weekend. These Big Buddies never leave their "Little Buddies" side. They sleep in the same bunkhouse, go to every activity and group, and eat lots of camp food. They watch the miracle unfold before their eyes when their Little Buddy begins to open up and share his or her sorrow. It can feel like a roller coaster from tears to laughter, never knowing what might happen, but knowing that they are willing to "be present" for anything. Hospice Caring is so fortunate, blessed and grateful to have these caring people make such a difference.

— Penny Gladhill, Director of Training and Development

Our Administrative and Event Volunteers

Our hearts are full with gratitude for our administrative and event volunteers. Not only for their assistance in every facet of each day's needs, but also for their caring, their work ethic, their willingness to do whatever is needed, and yes, definitely, for their compassion.

Administrative volunteers are here on weekdays and evenings, and volunteer additional hours and days when needed. Event volunteers are front and center during and sometimes months prior to each event. We are grateful for the Garden Committee for their amazing gardening and upkeep, and the beauty they provide.

Hospice Caring, as we know it, would simply not exist without volunteers. We count our blessings for such lovely people, and are most appreciative and indebted to all of the volunteers for their unselfish service and the joy they bring to Hospice Caring.

— Madeleine Carmichael, Director of Administrative and Event Volunteers

Our Bereavement Facilitators

It takes a lot of strength and a minimum of ego to accompany someone along the difficult and confusing journey of recovering from grief. Even our closest friends and family might distance themselves when we are in the throes of trying to cope with a devastating loss. And for children, it might be even worse. A child's grief is sometimes overlooked or underestimated.

At Hospice Caring, we support people of all ages who are grieving. We are overwhelmingly grateful to the dozens of volunteers who generously share their strength and time with our bereavement groups for adults and for children. They listen to stories that aren't easy to hear; they ask questions that aren't easy to answer; and they recognize the gift they offer is in allowing grief to emerge rather than in trying to fix something that is not fixable.

The reputations of our adult support groups and children's bereavement program in Montgomery County are stellar because of the remarkable caliber and commitment of our volunteer facilitators. We thank each individual for choosing Hospice Caring as the organization through which to do such extraordinary work.

— Toby Rabbin
Director of Bereavement
Serving Children and Adults

All Our Volunteers

Our volunteers are so special, giving from the heart with such enthusiasm in support of our mission. I thank you and feel blessed to work with you.

— Jamie Phannavong
Director of Operations

SAVE THE DATE

Visit www.hospicecaring.org for more information about these and other events.



April 27, 2011

In honor of "Staff Recognition Day" (a.k.a. "Administrative Professionals Day")

**Outback Steakhouse in Germantown
is proud to once again offer a
donated luncheon for Hospice Caring!**

Seating at noon and 1:30 p.m. Visit our website for menu and details. \$22.00 per person! For reservations call (301) 353-9499. Space is limited! All proceeds are donated to Hospice Caring.

Spring Celebration

May 21, 2011

10am–5pm (Rain date May 22)

Join us on the grounds of
the Hospice Caring Cottage

- Plants & Flowers • Artisans
- Gift Gallery • Books, CDs, DVDs
- Vendors • Tag Sale • Refreshments

Something for everyone!

Call 301-990-7927 or e-mail
madeleinec@hospicecaring.org
for more information about this event.

5th Annual Hospice Caring Golf Tournament



June 20, 2011

9am Shotgun Start

Tickets \$125 • Foursome \$400

Montgomery Village Golf Club
19550 Montgomery Village Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20886

Please Join Us!



Hospice Caring Benefit Cruise

July 14-23, 2011

9-Night Canada/New England
Departing Baltimore

In partnership with **Cruising with the KING!**
Onboard Royal Caribbean
International's Enchantment of the Seas

*A donation will be made to
Hospice Caring for each cabin booked!*

Prices from \$1139* per person
(Government taxes and fees of approximately \$93 are additional)
*Prices subject to change at any time.

For additional information or to book your cruise,
contact Robin Tash at 1-877-850-8747,
301-208-8747, or by e-mail at rtash@cruiseone.com.

Annual Gala

October 15, 2011

The Bolger Center
6:30 pm - Midnight

9600 Newbridge Road, Potomac, MD

*Join us for a memorable evening
with dinner, dancing, and auctions.*

Be a sponsor.

\$22,000 (complimentary suite
with breakfast for two)

\$15,000/\$10,000/\$5,000 and \$3,000.

Pledge your support now.

Full details on sponsorship benefits
available on our website.

What's New

Hospice Caring cookbook

Recipes, recipes, recipes! We'd love for you to share your favorite recipes with us for our cookbook. By Monday, February 28, 2011, enter your recipes directly at: www.typensave.com. Click on "Login," go to "Contributor," and type in your name.

At Group login, type: [gladhillcaring](http://gladhillcaring.com)
Password: [comfort](http://gladhillcaring.com)

Then, just type in your recipes! If you encounter any problems, you may attach your typed recipes as word documents to an e-mail and send to pennyg@hospicecaring.org.

Save money, go green, and help Hospice Caring

Want a cost-free, go-green way to save money as well as support Hospice Caring? Well, here it is! Hospice Caring has signed up to be an associate of the Viridian Fundraising Program, participating in what is known as residual fundraising. Visit www.hospicecaring.org/viridian.html for more information. Save money, go green, and help Hospice Caring. Thank you for your support!

Hospice Caring participates in an educational video series

Hospice Caring was invited by the Hospice Foundation of America (HFA) to participate in an educational video series about very special people: hospice volunteers. Spence Levine, Senior Program Officer, HFA, said, "The goal of the program was to inform and motivate people to become a hospice volunteer – not exclusively for hospices that offer medical care." Two videos have been posted so far. In the "Time...to Help Others" video, four hospices from the United States were chosen to participate. Hospice Caring was asked to represent administrative volunteers, and volunteer Gail Cherochak represents Hospice Caring. In the "Understanding Grief" video, one of Hospice Caring's adult bereavement groups; a volunteer; and Director of Bereavement Services, Toby Rabbin, appear in several scenes. To view the videos, visit the Hospice Caring website under Helpful Info/ Hospice Foundation of America.

For sponsorship opportunities for these and other events, contact
Jeannette Mendonca at 301-869-0113 or e-mail jeannettem@hospicecaring.org.

Belief in Others • Selflessness • Acceptance • Fortitude • Friendship • Advocate



Hospice Caring, Inc.

Holding Hands *and* Healing Hearts

518 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2325

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 4297
Rockville, MD

Hospice Caring Calendar

MARCH

March 15, 16, 17
Caregiver Training
(at The Cottage)
8:30 am - 4 pm

APRIL

April 8, 9, 10
Sugarloaf Craft Festival Bag
Holding at Montgomery
County Fairgrounds,
Gaithersburg

April 27
Outback Steakhouse
Luncheon, Noon - 1:30 pm

TBA
Hospice Caring
Cookbook Tasting

MAY

May 14
Camp Caring Big Buddy
Training (at The Cottage)

May 21
Spring Celebration
10 am - 5 pm
Rain Date May 22

JUNE

June 3, 4, 5
Camp Caring
(at Camp Skycroft)

June 7, 8, 9
Caregiver Training
(at The Cottage)
8:30 am - 4 pm

JUNE 20

Golf Tournament (at Mont-
gomery Village Golf Course)
9 am Shotgun Start

JULY

July 14-23
10-Day Cruise Round Trip
from Baltimore to Nova Scotia

SEPTEMBER

September 10
Wings of Caring Butterfly
Release (at The Cottage)
1 - 4 pm (approx)

September 13, 14, 15
Caregiver Training
(at The Cottage)
8:30 am - 4 pm

OCTOBER

October 14, 15, 16
Sugarloaf Craft Festival Bag
Holding at Montgomery
County Fairgrounds,
Gaithersburg, Times TBA

October 15
Annual Gala
Bolger Center, Potomac
6:30 pm - Midnight

NOVEMBER

November 4, 1 - 7 pm
November 5, 10 am - 3 pm
HCI Artisans Holiday
Gathering (at The Cottage)

November 8, 9, 10
Caregiver Training
(at The Cottage)
8:30 am - 4 pm

November 18, 19, 20
Sugarloaf Craft Festival
Bag Holding at Montgomery
County Fairgrounds,
Gaithersburg, Times TBA

November 25 - December 24
Barnes & Noble Gift Wrap
(Location and times TBD)

DECEMBER

December 3
Tree of Love, 5:30 pm

November 25 - December 24
Barnes & Noble Gift Wrap
(Location and times TBD)

Visit www.hospicecaring.org for more information about these and other events.

Hospice Caring, Inc. is a 501c(3) non-profit organization registered with the State of Maryland; our Federal EIN is 52-1591455. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting Hospice Caring, Inc. at 518 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 or calling 301-869-HOPE. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary.

