It was so wonderful to see our talented and skilled volunteers at the Appreciation dinner in April. And, heartwarming to know the Hospice youth are carrying on the legacy of our seasoned volunteers—dedicated, skilled, and compassionate.

The contribution of volunteers each year is significant to us and the patients and families we serve. You are truly the HEART OF HOSPICE! THANK YOU! Hoping everyone enjoys a spring renewal!

Susan MacTaggart
Manager, Volunteer Services

For the 2nd year in a row, medical students from the Schulich School of Medicine have participated as volunteers in the Hospice Residential Home. They have provided care for patients alongside the nurse, personal support worker and Hospice volunteers.

Dr. Gall initiated this program in 2011. “I wanted to give them an experience of touching and caring for patients before they become physicians.” Dr. Kleinman in his book, What Really Matters, says that the biggest moral dilemma for modern medicine is the reliance on technology and the failure to touch patients.

Under the leadership of Dr. Gall, a full day workshop is provided for the students and then they are scheduled into much needed weekend shifts and evening shifts (7 pm to 10 pm) at the home.

This year the seven medical students who participated, gave 143 hours over six months. Feedback from their experience has been positive.
This has been a wonderful few months for the Community Engagement and Advancement department. To begin with, we have changed our name to reflect our new focus on working with the community, not only for fundraising, but also in partnerships that will help to raise awareness about the agency. We would like to take this opportunity to outline our successes and events to add to your calendar!

Savour the Sea in Venice was a seafood extravaganza on March 23rd, 2013. While guests were tantalized with a sumptuous menu, we were also treated to an entertaining evening of music and dancing. Under the direction of Kathy and Cosimo Delmedico and their wonderful committee, the event raised more than $100,000 for Hospice!

From seafood to fashion, Caboto was buzzing again on April 24th for the 9th Annual It’s All About You Luncheon. This year’s “Très Chic” theme was certainly present in the fashions, from the runway to the gelato purse dessert, guests were entertained and amazed. We also offered a special treat in the Suits versus Suits portion of the afternoon, featuring some brave gentlemen who walked the runway in the latest bathing suit trends!

The reimagined LifeWalk was a wonderful success this year. Previously Hike for Hospice, the LifeWalk committee organized a series of kick off events cumulating in a scenic 5K walk along the Gnatchio Trail followed by a hot dog lunch at the Riverside Sportsman’s club on Saturday, May 11th. We were happy to host more than 200 walkers raising approximately $50,000 for Hospice.

Look forward to an exciting summer and fall season with Hospice as well. We will be kicking off our annual Face to Face campaign in August, and we are excited to welcome Paige Gouin back for the summer to help us make this outreach event a wonderful success again.

Also, mark your calendars for the 34th Annual Evening for the Hospice on Friday, October 4, 2013. This year’s theme “Vive La Passion” seeks to excite our faithful Hospice supporters with an exciting evening of entertainment and a wonderful meal.

We would like to offer a special thanks to the faithful event volunteers and committees. We cannot imagine what a Hospice event would be like without the time, energy, commitment and pizzazz of the wonderful women and men who donate their time, talent and resources! Thank you!

The Community Engagement and Advancement Team

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 23rd, 2013
  Lifestyles Family Fitness Walk/Run
- August 10th & 11th, 2013
  Fitness for Hospice Triathlon
  www.tecumsehtriathlon.com
- August 15th – September 15th, 2013
  Face to Face
  www.hospicefacetoface.ca
  facetoface@thehospice.ca

On Monday, June 3rd at 12:00 noon in the South Auditorium, The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the ‘Burden Bear’ program, and the opportunity to thank our dedicated volunteers.

Every patient at The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County Residential Home receives a brand new, handmade ‘Burden Bear’ complete with a matching quilted blanket. The bears are also given to our patients in the hospital and at home. It is a small gesture that has had an enormous impact. “The bears provide great comfort and warmth for the patients at a very difficult time,” said Dawn Pears, coordinator of the Hospice Residential Home. “The bears give a person something to hold on to when they are reaching out and become a little anxious and a little restless. Snuggling a bear in their hands provides something tangible to cling to and a softness and comfort.”

The group – now 35 strong – meets every Monday at The Hospice Wellness Centres creating a lasting family keepsake. The ‘Burden Bear’ program was initiated by Hospice volunteers Marguerite Santarossa and Dorothy Amos.

“We’ve made over 4,000 bears. All the fabric is donated and nothing is wasted,” Amos said. After a decade of offering comfort to patients and families going through a difficult time, the ladies who form the volunteer group hope that this work will continue on as a compassionate legacy at The Hospice.
ANOTHER HOSPICE HERO HONOURED

Former Hospice Clinical Director and Assistant Executive Director, Penny Craig, has become the third member of The Hospice of Windsor and Essex team to be honoured with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Award. “It’s nice to receive the recognition, for having tried to make a difference, but if it goes unnoticed that’s O.K.”, Craig said.

Such has been the humble approach for Craig, who began volunteering at The Hospice in 1979, the year the agency was founded. By 1990, Executive Director – and fellow Diamond Jubilee Award recipient – Carol Derbyshire, had convinced Penny to make the move from her nursing position at Windsor Regional Hospital’s Metropolitan campus and become the Clinical Director at Hospice; a position that would evolve into the Assistant Executive Director’s post, a designation Penny retained until her retirement in 2008.

However, Derbyshire notes, “Penny is now doing ‘special projects’ here at Hospice. I don’t think she ever really retired. Penny is also the National President of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, travelling all over the world doing tremendous work. And her involvement with Scouting (Belle River Commissioner) led to the development of the Scouting Camp with Hospice. Everything she does, she does for other people” Derbyshire said. But as Penny sees it, it’s a fair trade, “I guess I have this ability to manage, mentor or administrate; but for me it’s been life giving!”

Earlier this year, Jayne Boyd, a Hospice founding member and the organizations original Executive Director, received the Diamond Jubilee Award for her community work, at a presentation overseen by NDP MP Joe Comartin.

4,064, and Still Counting—The Burden Bears

My name is Burden Bear, and when Marguerite Santarossa and Dorothy Amos brought me to Windsor ten years ago, I was an only child (bear). In June 2003, six ambitious ladies saw the potential of my family to give comfort to those who needed it most, and The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County recognized the benefit of the program.

Their first production created 15 bears and ensured the birth of my extended family. The beginning was a struggle for these six, and they did a variety of fundraisers to support the program. They sewed scarves for the boy scouts, made small bags for the church, and held a bazaar to support the cause.

The Burden Bear ladies have grown from the original six to thirty-five volunteers who meet at Hospice every Monday morning for a cause close to their hearts. My fabric is donated and nothing is wasted. The scraps from my bears are sewn into patchwork quilts to provide warmth to cancer patients throughout the City and Essex County.

My volunteers could not continue without the support of my community. Pauline Eves shops for any additional materials we need, such as stuffing, quilt batting and needles for our machines. My sewing machines have also been donated and many of them are old and need constant maintenance, which has always been done by Wes Eves who keeps them running smoothly. Thank you Pauline and Wes.

Boxes donated by Wolverine Freight Inc. are painted blue with a Dove logo and are given to incoming patients at our residence. They add their personal treasures to the box which is given to the family. I wish to express my gratitude to The Hospice Board for their continued support and to those who constantly supply me and my workers with the materials to help the continued growth of my family. Sincerely, Burden Bear
HOSPICE VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Each Year the Hospice acknowledges a specific group of volunteers or volunteer role. This year the Hospice recognizes the Savour the Sea and Savour the Wine Committee. Under the leadership of Cosimo & Kathy Delmedico this committee has raised more than 1 million dollars to date.

The committee members are:

Kathy and Cosimo Delmedico  Ornella Bertoni-Liburdi  Christina Delmedico
Guiliana Hinchliffe  Joy Penketh  Janet Sinnott
Toni Tosti  Peggy Winch  Ann Wong-Ganzini

- **The Stuart and Marjorie Leschied Award**
  Irene Schiller

- **The Companion Along the Journey Award**
  Luella Sargent

- **The Circle of Life Award**
  Joanne Duffy

- **The Jane Boyd Award**
  JP Trepanier

- **The Spirit of Growth Award**
  Peggy Revait

- **Jan Dennis Youth Award**
  Jessica O'Neil, Michael Lauzon, Catherine Pham, Matthew Pfaff

- **The Hospice Volunteer Business/Community Award**
  Bayshore Home Health

- **The Hospice Heart to Heart Award**
  Cathy Greening
ONTARIO SERVICE AWARDS

Ontario Service Award recognizes volunteers for continuous years of service. These volunteers received a ‘Years of Service’ pin from the Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration at a special ceremony held on April 11th, 2013.

This year’s recipients are:

- Cynthia Gall 5 year pin
- Fred Eldridge 10 year pin
- Sandra McAdam 10 year pin
- Karlene Berry 10 year pin
- June Middleton 15 year pin
- Micki Blair 20 year pin

CONGRATULATIONS!

This past year Hospice volunteers gave over 54,000 hours collectively. There are currently 646 active volunteers in patient care, fundraising, and administrative support.

Patient Care Volunteers provided:
- Respite = 2,340 hours
- Hospital Roster = 2,105 hours
- Transportation = 5,800 hours
- Energy Work = 2,316 hours
- Residential Home = 14,396 hours

We’ve had 900 referrals for patient care volunteer services this past year.
- Administrative Support = 5,458 hours
- Resource Development = 6,181 hours

Lottery Booth: raised $110,000 this past year for Hospice and engages 29 volunteers.

Collectively, event committees and fundraising volunteers helped raise $600,000.

Our Burden Bear Ladies gave over 3,000 hours and made 500 bears this year!

HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE IS

Hope and help
Offered to
Suffering
Patients and families
Individually, with
Compassionate care given
Effectively and efficiently

By Jane Buttery, Volunteer since 1990

Question?

Question: When I am assigned a patient, and I can’t reach them, or reconnect with them, do I need to let the coordinator know?

Answer: The coordinators need to know if you cannot connect with the patient, in order that we may look into whether or not the patient wishes to continue with our services. And as a reminder, you are to contact the coordinators each time you visit with the patient for our statistics for patient contacts, as well as for your volunteer file.

Labyrith Walk in June

Thursday, June 27, 2013
1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
“A peaceful walk to discover your own path through peace and love”

Registration is limited to 10 participants (bring a pair of socks)
Location: Hospice Main Building, Auditorium
RSVP: by June 21 to reception@thehospice.ca
At this year’s volunteer appreciation and awards dinner we recognized 4 of our outstanding young volunteers. All are between 20 & 24 years young!...they are dedicated, and committed to volunteerism and to Hospice! The youth will carry on the Hospice vision and Hospice culture. Hospice youth are involved in both fundraising and patient care volunteer roles. As you will read, all of the volunteers are so deserving of the recognition.

Jessica O’Neil

Volunteering since 2011, and has completed the 10-week Patient Care Training Program. Each week, she visits with one of our young patients to give the mother some relief from the day to day stress of taking care of a sick child. This young patient refers to each Thursday as ‘Jessica Day’ and looks forward to seeing her each week. Jessica has truly made a difference in the life of this young child and her family. “I am so proud to be a part of the Hospice and so thankful for the experiences I have had as a community volunteer. The wonderful staff and volunteers of Hospice are one of a kind, and make this organization a true blessing for many families in our community. Thank you for welcoming me with open arms and allowing me to be a part of the compassion, kindness and sense of family that this organization brings to those affected by life altering illnesses”.

Michael Lauzon

Michael began volunteering at Hospice in 2008, assisting in the Volunteer Department. Since 2011, Michael has accompanied his Aunt (Alison Bryden) to the Residential Home, where he does reception and helps out in the kitchen. He has developed some good cooking skills and as a result, began studying in the culinary program at St. Clair College. Michael never lets anything interfere with his bi-weekly schedule at the Residential Home. Michael also helps out at special occasions at the Home such as Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas dinners. His charm and wit make Michael a great asset to the team.

Matthew Pfaff

Matthew, a University Graduate in Biology, began volunteering in 2012 and has completed the 10-week Volunteer Patient Care Training Program. Matthew began covering reception shifts at the Residential Home on a ‘fill-in’ basis. He was eager to do more and asked for a ‘try-out’ in the kitchen. Since August 2012, Matthew has covered each Thursday morning at the home, cooking numerous delicious breakfasts, always with a smile and always with a caring attitude. In December, Matthew asked if he could ‘shadow’ as a PCA and now volunteers each Tuesday evening for the 7pm – 10pm shift. Matthew also volunteers for the Roster Visiting Program at Malden Park on a weekly basis. When not in Residential Home or at Malden Park, Matthew helps out with the Guitar for Teens Program here at Hospice. Matthew is a truly wonderful young man who is an inspiration to the youth of our community. “I can’t say enough about the teamwork that takes place between the volunteers and staff at the Residential Home. Together we provide an exceptional standard of care. I am proud to have a very small part in that.”