



Summer has come and gone, but the memories live on. The 21st annual Camp Pathways for grieving children was held the weekend of June 21st. Fifty seven campers, ages 7-17, along with many Pathways of Hope staff and volunteers, headed to Camp Joy in Fort Ancient, Ohio to spend some quality time together. The weekend is planned all year by the Pathways of Hope Art Therapist, Jonathan Haag, and the Pathways staff.

The goals of the camp are to:

1. Communicate to children that they are not alone in their loss and that grief is common to us all as human beings
2. Allow safe sharing of feelings around the loss
3. Teach basic coping skills around strong feelings and difficult days
4. Have fun together, understanding that life is always filled with a mixture of joy and sorrow

Camp Joy...a Joyous Retreat

By Lisa Balster, Director of Patient and Family Support Services, Hospice of Dayton

We have fun together, along with learning that life is always filled with a mixture of joy and sorrow.

Each camper has an adult “buddy” who is prepared and qualified to walk with the camper for the weekend. The children are grouped by age, traveling together as they make rounds to a variety of activities. Canoeing, sports, and swimming are interwoven with therapeutic activities such as creating a special song about feelings with the Music Therapist, Caitlin Nicholas, having group sharing time, and creating an art project from a broken flower pot. The work of pasting the pot back together, then painting it, serves as a lesson in putting one’s life back together, creating something new that has function and beauty for the present.

Campfires are a pinnacle of this weekend, with skits and songs provided by three brothers who were small campers at Camp Pathways 20 years ago! There are several adults whose mission it is to serve this special camp, several were introduced to the Pathways mission when they were grieving the loss of a loved one. To see the past generation grow up, heal, and pass love and care on to the next generation is one of the most profound and satisfying aspects of our work.



The Hospice of Dayton Foundation enables Camp Pathways to continue to be offered to the Dayton and surrounding communities. The Pathways of Hope staff believes that this effort has significant impact on the individuals served, and we take great pride and delight in providing this quality offering to the children and teens in our community. 🌿



Honor Bestowed

By Kent Anderson, President/CEO

The prestigious Circle of Life Citation of Honor award.

We are excited to share news of our recent recognition as recipient of a Circle of Life Citation of Honor from the American Hospital Association. This is a prestigious national award and our receiving this honor is only possible because of our extraordinary staff and the generous support of the communities we serve. This acknowledgment affirms our commitment to assisting our patients



Kent Anderson, President/CEO

in achieving the highest quality of life on their terms.

Hospice of Dayton and Hospice of Butler & Warren Counties has a legacy of providing superior care and superior service. Our pursuit of innovative care options stems from this tradition. As our healthcare environment changes, we are focusing more of our attention to concurrent

care, seeking to touch and impact the lives of patients to assure that individual choice and quality of life can be central to the plan of care conversation, earlier in the process.

We owe our patients and families our very best efforts because our mission has received unwavering support from the communities we serve. In return, we pledge to continue to seek the highest standards of care and find more ways to be an invaluable resource for the communities that count on us.

We find our real reward and honor in the knowledge that our efforts every day make a difference in the lives of the patients and families for whom we provide care. 🌿



Brenda C. Humfleet, President Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Life is a Journey, Not a Guided Tour

By Brenda C. Humfleet, President Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Our life's journey is filled with good times, sad times, lessons learned and many memories.

In less than one year, I experienced the loss of my husband and my mother. I was unprepared for the range of emotions I would experience as I worked my way through what I considered to be the darkest, loneliest path I had ever walked.

I learned that life is not a guided tour; however, my faith in God, family and friends and the resources available through Hospice of Dayton's grief support program, Pathways of Hope, helped me re-balance my life expectations and move forward with purpose.

Realistically, we know that nothing stays the same. Indeed, life's journey is not a guided tour. Our lives are filled with change. Change is sometimes celebrated and sometimes regretted, but regardless of how we feel about it, change happens and we must keep moving forward. Even in death, we are moving.

The quality of our life journey is not measured by how long we live. I think, the measure of a life well-lived is one where we take the time to be truly present for whatever comes our way and to strive to make the best of it.

Making the best of it for me includes loving and appreciating my family and friends – those living and dead. It includes trying to make it better for someone else – whether I know them or not.

Making a gift in support of patient care at Hospice of Dayton is one way I make it better for someone else. I encourage you to make it better for those nearing the end of their life journey. It is as simple as writing a check and mailing it to us; using our website, www.hospiceofdayton.org to make an online donation; or remembering to include Hospice of Dayton in your estate plans. Happy trails and safe travels on your life journey! 🌿

Blankets of Love reaches Milestone of 10,000 Blankets

By Miriam Morrison, Director of Volunteer Services

Blankets of Love volunteers are passionate about their mission.



Connie Gover

Inch by inch, row by row, the Blankets of Love group watched their knitting and crocheting grow from one blanket seven years ago to 10,000 blankets for patients year to date!



Judi Green

In 2006, Judi Green knitted a special blanket in memory of a loved one and donated it to Hospice of Dayton to be given to a patient. Shortly

after that another person said she could knit one, and they could donate two the next time. Before long they had over 20 members, women, men, and a teenager. They designed a marketing brochure called Blankets of Love with the goal “to bring love, comfort, and peace to those in need.”

Twice a week they meet at Tim Horton’s in Fairborn, where they bring their finished blankets and knit and crochet as they enjoy the fellowship. Once a month they bring around 150 blankets for distribution at the Hospice Houses. Each blanket takes an average of 10 hours to create, many with original designs with various colors of yarn.

Judi and the group choose color themes for each month. One of their most spectacular creations is the American flag blanket, which was given to the Hospice of Dayton and Hospice of Butler & Warren Counties patients who went on the Honor Flight to Washington, DC. The patients and everyone on the flight were in awe of this wonderful gift that warms the patient for the trip and long after this special flight.

A poignant letter came from a dying patient, “When I was introduced to my room at the Hospice House, I was, like others, frightened and unsure. Your soft shawl, done with such love and personal care, reached out to welcome me. The time has come for me to move along now, but I’m using your shawl as a way to keep a door open for the next traveler. I’ve learned of a woman who does much

for others, while struggling on her own daily basis. My hope for her is that the shawl gives her beauty and dignity so richly deserved, while the warmth will drape her shoulders through days and nights. Thank you for the circle of love.” – A fellow traveler.

Judi Green and the Blankets of Love group exemplify the essence of volunteering with hearts that beat love and fingers that knit and crochet warmth and care.

As a result of the Blankets of Love mission, Hospice of Dayton and Hospice of Butler & Warren Counties has been the recipient of \$23,608 and many thank you notes. Their letters show how a simple blanket touches lives. As the Blankets of Love brochure states, “In the rhythm of the needles, there is music for the soul.”



Cardiac and Pulmonary Focused Care

By Ashley Wright, Content and Publications Specialist



George with his wife Becky

Focused Care clinicians closely monitor and quickly address new symptoms, improving quality of life, helping patients avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits.

George Pulos is benefiting from Focused Care, a specialized program of Hospice of Dayton, tailored to address the disease specific symptoms of the cardiac and pulmonary patient under hospice care. Focused Care clinicians closely monitor and

quickly address new symptoms, improving quality of life, helping patients avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits. They work with the patient's primary physician or other specialist, closely collaborating on care.

Focused Care services include home visits from Focused Care physicians and nurses as needed, as well as access to respiratory and occupational therapy support and all other resources available through Hospice of Dayton. "We provide expert symptom management unique to the needs of the cardiac and pulmonary patient under our care," explains Cardiac Focused Care nurse, Lynda Weide, RN, CHPN. "We can guarantee 24/7 on-call RN assistance, and help patients as their needs transition from one level of care to the next." 🌿

Thank You To Our Friends



For over a decade, The Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies Auxillary #1395, has supported Hospice of Dayton by contributing over \$11,000 in community support to our programs and services. Thank you Ladies for all you do in our community and for making a difference in someone's last days! We appreciate all of you! 🌿

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Make a tax deductible gift today. All proceeds go to Hospice of Dayton's extraordinary programs for patient and family care.

2013 May Day Name Listing Correction: *Howard F. Stover*
Chery Litteral & Elizabeth Stover

Fairy Garden provides Respite Care for Patients and Families

By Miriam Morrison, Director of Volunteer Services

The gardens at the Dayton Hospice House provide respite care for patients and families.



Debbie Harber at Dayton Hospice House




Nestled in an area of manicured bushes at the back of the Dayton Hospice House is a fairy garden of tiny benches, a gazebo, a picnic table, stone sidewalks and fences, toadstools, gnomes, and lights, surrounded by miniature plants.

The gardens at Dayton Hospice House provide respite care for patients and families, patients in wheelchairs can be seen sitting there with smiles of finding such a unique creation. Often children can be seen peering outside the window with excited giggles at finding nature's version of a dollhouse.

Debbie Harber, one of our volunteers, has been creating fairy gardens for 6 years. She approached us about creating one for our gardens. Miriam Wolf, Hospice of Dayton landscaper, had the vision of a fairy garden in the master plan for landscaping, and she and Debbie chose this site. Over a 6-week period, Debbie prepared the site and donated articles for each area of the garden.

Debbie became a hospice volunteer in 2013 as a result of a specialized recruitment for retired postal workers who could help sort the mail. As a retired letter carrier with 30 years experience, Debbie sorts the mail on Mondays each week in addition to caring for the fairy garden.

"My life has been blessed by volunteering at Hospice of Dayton, knowing that everyone, not only children, are enjoying the miniature garden." 

A painting of three stylized trees in a landscape. The trees are rendered in shades of green and brown, with a red sun or moon in the background. The overall style is impressionistic and artistic.

*Coco's Bistro and Hospice of Dayton Foundation
celebrate National Hospice Month!*

A MONTH OF *Giving*

During the month of November
\$1 from every dinner will be
donated back to the Hospice
of Dayton Foundation.



Not your Average Fashion Show!

By Dona Vella, Director of Grants and Special Events


Save the Date...Friday, September 20, 2013

Our annual Style Show and Luncheon will showcase the latest in men’s and women’s fashions from Bello One, Joli’s, Pieces of Style, and Talbots. The theme of color will weave throughout the event including the table linens, flowers, lighting and, of course, the fashions.

Importantly, the colors worn by our models provide a visual reminder of the individuals for whom we have provided care and bears witness to the myriad of diseases and diagnoses that caused our patients to need end-of-life care — red: heart disease; pink: breast cancer; orange: leukemia; purple: Alzheimer’s. Colors also embody other symbolism and meaning. Red symbolizes courage and vitality; pink symbolizes love and beauty; blue symbolizes spirituality and peace. Indeed, color brings magic and meaning to our lives.

Unique to our Style Show will be a new runway concept that gives every attendee a front-row seat and one of the fashion industry’s newest designers, Erika Berthy (www.erikaberthy.blogspot.com.) has been commissioned to design a one-of-a-kind gown to be offered in our Silent Auction.

Our models include local celebrities and Hospice of Dayton staff and they will also vie for the title of “Top Model”. Votes are \$5 each and you can vote for your favorite model or models as many times as you like. Last year’s winner, Barbara Bostick, will be on hand to crown the 2013 Hospice of Dayton Top Model. To cast your vote go to: <https://hospiceofdayton.webconnex.com/top-model>. Voting will end on Thursday, September 19.

This event will be the most talked about event of the Season – reserve your table today! 

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United Way of the Greater Dayton Area Campaign



As a partner agency, Hospice of Dayton, encourages you to give generously to our local United Way campaign. Many worthy agencies and many valuable services depend upon it. As a “designations only” agency, Hospice of Dayton receives only those donations specifically designated to us by the donor. We encourage undesignated giving, however, if you wish to designate all or a portion of your gift to us, you will need to indicate it on your pledge form. Thank you for supporting valuable programs and services needed in our community. 

A Walk to Remember

By Dona Vella, Director of Grants and Special Events

Last year more than 1,100 people walked in honor of a loved one.




The 9th Annual Hospice of Dayton 5K Remembrance Walk will take place on Saturday, November 2, 2013. Carl Nichols, retired Chief Meteorologist for WDTN Channel 2 is our Grand Marshal and Walk Leader. Registration begins at 8:30am in front of the Hospice House on Wilmington Avenue. The walk begins at 10:00 am and proceeds through the neighborhood and back to Hospice of Dayton. The 5K (or 3K if a shorter walk is desired) is wheelchair and stroller accessible and because it is non-competitive, everyone can go at their own pace.

New this year is an updated online registration process that will enable walk participants to not only register for the event, but also fundraise on behalf of Hospice of Dayton. Once individuals register or form teams they have the option of developing

their own fundraising webpage to share with friends, family and colleagues. Participants can encourage others to support the Remembrance Walk by using their own social media sites like Facebook and Twitter.

As a wonderful way to encourage participation, Greg Toman, Chairman of Hospice of Dayton's Board of Trustees has offered to donate \$1.00 for every walker – no limit! Last year more than 1,100 people walked in honor of a loved one and we hope to see that number grow! So please consider joining us this year.

And remember, all proceeds raised from our special events are used for the extraordinary care and services that Hospice of Dayton provides to our patients and families each and every day of the year. 




Sponsored by:
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Generous Group Running for Hospice of Dayton

The Heights Run Group, a team of 12 runners from Dayton, Ohio will participate in The Bourbon Chase on October 18 and 19, 2013. The Bourbon Chase is a 200 mile relay along the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. The race is made up of 300 teams with 12 runners per team. The Heights Run Group has pledged to raise \$6,000, which will be split between the National Hospice Foundation and Hospice of Dayton.

Best of luck to this devoted group of runners and thank you! For more information click on the following link:
<http://www.active.com/donate/runtoremember2013/heightsrungroup> 




Rain, Rain Go Away

By Dona Vella, Director of Grants and Special Events

Mother Nature didn't grace us with a perfect day for the 8th Annual Golf Classic but...

The day started out with the threat of rain, but our intrepid men and women were able to get in 10 holes before the skies opened up with monsoon rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning. However, a shorter day on the course meant more time in the Club House spending time with friends—old and new.

This year's winner was the foursome from Medline: Christian Martin, Mike Schulte, Andy Reiss and Tiffany Freudenberg. They took home the First Prize, a Hospice of Dayton jacket and bragging rights for another year! Second prize went to Alex Moore, Mike Leesman, Bob Hortsman, Jason Kronenberger and Dick Wick, Marcus Wendling, Jerry McCarthy and Randy Hill scored third place.

Thank you, Merrill Lynch – The Schade Team for being our lead sponsor once again this year. Be sure to mark your calendars for next year, Monday, June 9, 2014 and don't wait too long to sign up – this event always has a waiting list! 

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Hospice of Dayton Journey is published quarterly for patients, families, staff members and friends of the Hospice of Dayton, Inc.

Kent Anderson, President/CEO

Brenda Humfleet, President
Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Founded in 1978, the Hospice of Dayton had served more than 109,000 families.

Send suggestions and comments to Lori Poelking-Igel, Director, Leadership Giving. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call us at 937-258-5537 or visit www.hospiceofdayton.org and choose the newsletter link and follow instructions for removal.



Hospice of Dayton meets the Better Business Bureau of Dayton/Miami Valley Charity Standards.



www.hospiceofdayton.org
937-258-5537

“Spare” Some Time For Hospice

By Lori Poelking-Igel, Director of Leadership Giving



Carl Nichols and Jon Poelking

Join us Sunday, October 6 at Woodman Lanes

Please Join Poelking Bowling Centers for its 16th Annual Bowl for Hospice of Dayton. Bowling will begin at 1:00 pm and end at 3:00 pm at Woodman Lanes. Former Chief Meteorologist Carl Nichols and Meteorologist Jamie Jarosik, from WDTN Channel 2, will be our hosts. Over the past 16 years, this event has raised over \$740,000. Proceeds from this event fund the programs of Hospice of Dayton.

Cost for this Event is \$50 per bowler. All bowlers donating \$50 or more receive an event t-shirt, and will enjoy free Papa John's Pizza. Door prizes will also be given out after bowling. For more information go to www.hospiceofdayton.org or call 937-258-5537. *Sponsored by Kettering-Meijer and Linda Poelking, in memory of Jon Poelking* 