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CORNERSTONES

MARK WISE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Support Grounded in Love (Part 3 of a 3 Part Series)

Hospice of McDowell County's mission is to provide care, comfort, and support to the terminally ill and their care givers in end-of-life situations.

In the last two articles we examined our mission statement in detail; particularly the words "care" and "comfort." We discovered that comfort is central to what hospice does: soothe in time of grief, fear or pain; console; to ease; assist.

In this article the word we want to examine from our mission is "support." Support is a rather broad, but important word. The American Heritage Dictionary definition of support is, "To bear the weight of; to hold in position as to keep from falling, sinking or slipping; withstand; to keep from failing during stress; to provide for...with money or necessities; to endure; tolerate; to aide the cause of by approving, favoring, or advocating."

As hospice professionals we seek to support the patient and family members during a time of stress. These stressors strike individuals

and families in various ways, but they can be generally categorized in four basic areas: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. As stress increases, our diverse team supports the patient and family by listening, offering decision alternatives, supplying resources, information, and experience.

Support also includes the support we at Hospice receive from volunteers and people who give of their prayers, time, efforts, and finances. Our community (churches, individuals, and organizations like the United Way) has been very generous in providing support to our non-profit.

In order for the Hospice support system to work well, there has to be a number of individuals and people involved working through a unified Spirit. Hopefully all our team members use their God-given talents, gifts and Spirit to serve and love those for whom we care.

The end of life can be very challenging as stress begins to weigh down on patients and families. As we provide care, comfort and support to the terminally ill, our confidence and underlying

support cannot be in our own abilities or experiences. Those will fail us. Our foundation at Hospice - the support and ministry we provide - must be based squarely upon and rooted and grounded in love; love toward God and love toward man. If our confidence is in God, He will support us and



"One of the things I keep learning is that the secret of being happy is doing things for other people."

Dick Gregory



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Dates to Remember

- Fundraising Comm. Feb. 19
- Board Meeting Feb. 26
- Spaghetti Meal March 22
- Board Meeting March 26
- Volunteer Banquet April 15
- National Vol. Week April 22-26
- Relay For Life May 10-11



HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

*What makes them
special?*

Hospice volunteers are:

V*ital to the Hospice*

*philosophy,
caring as an old-
fashioned
neighbor.*

O*pen to new*

experiences.

L*oving and*

compassionate.

U*nwavering in their*

*commitment to
help others.*

N*urturing, helping*

and giving.

T*eam players.*

E*nthusiastic.*

E*mpathetic listeners.*

R*eady to share*

*themselves with
others.*

VOLUNTEER NEWS

LARA JOHNSON
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

I hope everyone is having a great new year! It has been a very busy time for us at the Hospice office. We have been going up and down with our census and the need for Patient-Care volunteers has grown, especially for the ones that can help during the day. I really appreciate everyone being so flexible and willing to help.

I am planning volunteer training sessions for the near future. There was an Office Volunteer training on January 31 at the Hospice office. I had 7 new volunteers sign up to come help with office duties. There will also be a Patient Care volunteer training after the fundraiser in April.

If you received a reminder about TB test and infec-

tion control training, and have not come by please call for an appointment. Also, don't forget about your pictures for the name-tags if you are a patient care volunteer.



A CHRISTMAS SURPRISE FOR OUR PATIENT FAMILIES



Staff with a patient after delivery of gifts.

We wanted to do something special for our patients and their families during the Christmas season. The volunteers generously brought in cookies and candy to make plates for the staff to deliver during the week of December 12th. Some of the staff went out and caroled as they delivered the goodies. The patients were very happy to receive such a wonderful present. We would like to thank the volunteers that helped with this project. You all did a great job.

HOSPICE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS TO PARTICIPATE IN RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay For Life, the American Cancer Society's yearly fundraiser, is gearing up for 2002. Lara Johnson is the Team Leader for a group from Hospice to walk on May 10th-11th at Tom Johnson's Camping Center in Marion. If anyone is interested in joining the team please call Lara and sign up. Also, if anyone is a cancer survivor or knows a cancer survivor please call and give Lara their name and phone number so they can be contacted about participating in the Survivor Walk on Friday night to kick off the walk. We hope to have a big group so no one has to walk for long periods of time. Our group will have staff and volunteers working together to help with this cause. For more information about luminaries and other donations for Relay For Life call Lara at 652-1318.



NURSING NEWS

DEANNA MCLAREN, PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR

Currently we have 23 patients enrolled in the Hospice program. Ages range from 43 to 98 years old. Only 9 patients have a diagnosis of Cancer. 5 of these patients live in Rest Homes or Nursing Homes. Over the last few months we have had several patients in their 90's. Currently we have 5 patients over the age of 90 years. Of course all of our patients come to us for

"End of Life Care" so regardless of their age we see them during their last days. The older generation is a joy to work with. Most of them have had a full life with lots of experiences we can learn from. They love to reminisce about their life. It is a wonderful time for the family. They often learn things about their loved one they never knew. We encourage families to

audio tape or video tape these times. If they have family that can't be with them it can be a wonderful gift. They can then share in those last days as well.



In The Spotlight

We are very happy to welcome two new board members. Janice Macopson is a Nurse Practitioner at the Cardiovascular Disease and Internal Medicine office in Morganton. She was the Director of Nursing of the Critical Care Unit at Grace Hospital for the last 25 years. She is a member of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. While pursuing an Post-Masters Family Nurse Practitioner Degree, she worked at the Owens Open Heart Unit on week-ends at Memorial Mission Hospital. She and her husband, Elmer, Sr., have 2 adult children, April Macopson-Means is attending law school in Landis, Michigan, and Elmer Macopson, Jr., who is the Director of Technology at McDowell Technical Community College. She enjoys Reading, crafts, home decorating, and dancing. She attends Mt. Moriah Church in Marion.

Lisa Sprouse has worked at the Department of Social Services in the Child Protection Services area in Marion for the past 14 1/2 years. She and her husband, Brian, live in Pleasant Gardens and have a 2 year old son named Emory. They attend Story Memorial Presbyterian Church. She enjoys surf fishing at the Outer Banks. Both of her parents were Hospice patients at the same time, so our organization means a lot to her. Please help us welcome these new members if you see them around town, and let them know how much we appreciate them.

SPAGHETTI TIME AGAIN! COME EAT AT THE 1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN MARION

It is that time of year again when the fundraising committee begins to concentrate on the best way to get ready for the annual fundraiser, our Spaghetti Meal. We have scheduled the dinner for Friday, March 22nd at the **1st Methodist Church in Marion**. The committee is working on advertising, planning, and scheduling at this time. Don't be surprised if you are asked to help with the fundraiser by volunteering or just by buying or selling tickets. Please help us promote this event so we will have the best year ever in fundraising. For information call Hospice.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Margie Swann, President

Jerry Arnold,
Vice President

Jim Isaacs, Treasurer

Lisa Sprouse, Secretary

Terry Childers,

Laura Hensley,

Janice Macopson,

Edward St. Bernard,

Betty White, **Richard**

Wood, **Bobbie Young**,

Sharon Parker,

Legal Counsel

STAFF

Mark Wise -

Executive Director

Dr. Edward St. Bernard-
Medical Director *

Deanna MacLaren -
Patient Care Coordinator

Steve Durham -Chaplain

Mary Collier -
Social Worker

Sherri McCoy -
Social Worker

Lara Johnson -
Volunteer Coordinator

Kristi Lawing,
Judy Wilson

Diana McEntire -
Registered Nurses

Brenda Corriher,
Jane Gouge -

Temp. Registered Nurses
Patsy Childers, **Maurine**

Perkins, **Donna Hollis**—
CNA 2

Margie Trinks -
Financial Specialist

Jo Bartlett -
Secretary

Donna Yates -
Temp. Receptionist

*Serves in this position as
a Volunteer.

PRN STAFF

Registered Nurses: Mary
Hallman, Becky Justice,

Melissa McKinney,
Teresa Schism

CNA II : Janetta Church

NORTH COVE 3RD GRADERS COLLECT PENNIES FOR HOSPICE

North Cove Elementary has been collecting pennies to help Hospice. They are asking the community to bring their pennies to the school and they will continue to collect pennies until May, then present Hospice with a check. Mrs. McKinney's class was very excited about helping others in need. Lara Johnson went to talk to the children about Hospice. They asked great questions and were a wonderful group of young people.

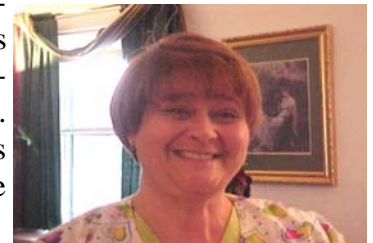


HELLO AND GOOD-BYE TO STAFF MEMBERS



The staff at Hospice of McDowell County would like to say good-bye to a beloved staff member and would like to welcome a new one. Janetta Church is a CNA II that had worked with our office for 1 1/2 years and is an excellent worker and a wonderful person. She was always smiling and encouraging someone. She retired to travel with her husband. We miss her very much! She is planning to do some PRN work for us so we will get to see her occasionally.

Maurine Perkins started as a patient care volunteer with Hospice. She is a CNA II and was hired into the vacant position. She is very well liked and is fitting in well with the staff. She and her husband, Dennis, have three boys, Richard, Nathan, and Corey, and one daughter, Tammy. They have a 5 year old grandson, Avery, that they are very proud of. Dennis is owner of Cable & Perkins Plumbing Company. They attend Victory Temple Full Gospel Church. Maurine's hobby is collecting candles.



DR. EDWARD ST. BERNARD—HOSPICE'S NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR

The staff would like to welcome Dr. Edward St. Bernard as the new Medical Director of Hospice. He is replacing Dr. Jerrill McEntire, who has volunteered in the position for the last 7 years. Dr. St. Bernard and his wife Margaret have 4 children; Tiffany, Lisa, Laura and Gerald. He works at McDowell Internal Medicine and is involved with the EMS. We are very pleased to have him on board at Hospice.



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Fax: 828-659-1631

We are on the web at
www.hospiceofmcdowell.org

A **Memorial** gift is given by individuals, churches, businesses, and families to honor a loved one at the time of death.

An **Honorary** gift is given to recognize a special friend, co-worker, or family member, as well as express support to Hospice.

Please note: When a gift is given to Hospice, we mail a receipt to the donor, we list the donor's name in our newsletter, and we send an acknowledgment to the family of the individual being honored or remembered.

We make every effort to ensure the information is correct before listing it in the newsletter. However, if you feel an error has been made, please contact us.

Your financial support allows our Hospice to continue providing quality hospice care to all residents of McDowell County regardless of ability to pay.

Hospice of McDowell County does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, national origin, race, creed, disability, or ability to pay.

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

A Gift to Hospice of McDowell County

Amount: \$ _____

This gift is made by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please send an acknowledgment to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

This gift is in memory/honor of (circle one):
