Reflections newsletter

Fall 2015

Your care. Our mission.

KLAMATH HOSPICE since 1982
Executive Message

“I wish I would have called you sooner.”

“It was a beautiful experience and [our loved one] was at peace those last days. Your professional guidance was what we needed…”

This quote, from a recent card we received from a family member of one of our patients, reminds us of the uniqueness of hospice care. It’s the uniqueness of an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals who come together and surround a family at such a difficult, yet meaningful time and who make the patient and family’s wishes a priority.

November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. It is a national recognition of the importance of palliative care and is a time to encourage people to increase their understanding and awareness of hospice care before it is too late.

It’s important to note that EACH YEAR:

- Hospice SAVES Medicare more than $2 BILLION dollars;
- More than 1.7 MILLION Americans receive hospice care; and,
- More than 430,000 trained volunteers contribute 19 MILLION hours of service to hospices in the U.S.

One of the comments we hear most often is: “I wish I would have called you sooner.”

We encourage all people to learn about their care options and to share their wishes with their loved ones and physicians - sooner rather than later when it may be too late.

Rachel Throne
Executive Director
Help Us Reach Our Goal

Social media has become the hub of information sharing globally. Klamath Hospice has developed a Facebook page with the intention of connecting more fully with our community.

We have 630 page likes. Can you help us get to 1,000 by January 1?

It only takes a couple of moments to help us reach our goal. Here’s how:
- Search for “Klamath Hospice”
- Click “Like” on the cover photo
- Click “Share” on the cover photo
- In the window that appears, click the dropdown menu to select how you want to share the page (your own timeline, a friend’s timeline, in a group, on a page you manage, in a private message)
- Click “Share Page”

Liking our page adds our posts to your newsfeed. From there feel free to share our upcoming events or articles.

Question: Who should make decisions for you if you cannot?

Answer: A Health Care Representative

In Oregon, this person has the legal power to make decisions regarding your health care in the event that you are unable to do so yourself. You can appoint a health care representative by completing an Oregon Advance Directive; it is also advisable to appoint an alternate representative. Your health care representative should be someone that you trust to follow through with your desired wishes.
National Hospice & Palliative Care Month


During November, we celebrate National Hospice and Palliative Care Month across the country.

Each year, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization creates a theme to raise awareness about the value of hospice care. This year’s theme describes the specialized, compassionate care best, “Hospice. Helps. Everyone.”

When aggressive treatment regimes are no longer an option and the choice to begin the hospice journey is made, you and your family will be surrounded by our team of caring professionals. We will care for you medically and emotionally in the comfort of your own home, according to your wishes, and will provide education and emotional support to your family as well- even after your passing.

Klamath Hospice not only supports our community through patient care, but also offers the following, free of charge:

- One-on-one support sessions
- Adult grief support groups
- Youth grief support services
- Professional trainings
- Community presentations
Thank a Veteran

Klamath Hospice staff, volunteers and family members joined countless others to honor and remember veterans at the Annual Veterans Day parade in downtown Klamath Falls on November 11.

We partnered with local elementary schools to create approximately 2,200 “Thank You for Your Service” cards for Veterans in our community. Using the theme, “What does freedom mean to me?” 4th, 5th and 6th grade students decorated each of the cards. Klamath Hospice staff and volunteers distributed these cards to Veterans at the Veterans Day Ceremony held at Veterans Park, as well as to the service men and women at Kingsley Field.

Don’t Forget

May 2016

Remembrance Run/Walk

REGISTER TODAY!

www.klamathhospice.org/run
In their own words.....

“The team from Klamath Hospice is truly amazing. They showed such compassion and caring for my mom as she was passing and extended all of their support and caring to my family as we had to say good-bye. Thank you all!”

- Bonnie

“Klamath Hospice is one of the most impressive and greatest organizations and group of people that we have ever dealt with. They made mama’s final few months with us good and happy times with a peaceful and pain free closer. God bless them all.”

- Donna and family

“Klamath Hospice has caring nurses and staff. They are there to help not only the patient but the whole family. My mother passed August 28 of this year. I can't thank them enough for the care and attention my mother received. They are wonderful.”

- Kathy

“It takes a special kind of person to be a part of Klamath Hospice. They are angels. Bless all their hearts!”

- Adie
Meet Angelina Kennon - a member of our Social Services and Youth Bereavement team. She travels across Klamath County and Northern California, providing much needed support to our patients and their families. Additionally, she plays an instrumental role in our Bereavement Support Services team, offering 1:1 support to community members following a loss.

Angelina became involved with Klamath Hospice through Camp Evergreen in 2010, following the encouragement of her mom, who has been a Camp Evergreen nurse for over 10 years. This first experience was so rewarding that it sparked her interest in working with patients and their families during their end-of-life journey, as well as, supporting adults and youth who are coping with grief.

Angelina explains that what brings her great joy is being welcomed into a family’s home at one of the most difficult times in their lives and helping them navigate the end of life process with dignity, respect and compassion. “Helping families and members of our community learn to express their grief and find avenues of coping is an honor and privilege.”

Angelina was born and raised in Klamath County. She thoroughly enjoys spending time in the outdoors with her family. A favorite quote that encourages her in her work is by Leonardo da Vinci, “While I thought that I was learning how to live, I have been learning how to die.”
Buckwheat in Bloom

Our patient, Bob was an avid wildflower admirer. Throughout his life he would study, photograph and admire any type of wildflower he could find.

He appreciated beauty when he saw it and the mere fact that they were living, made it even better. Bob's home was a constant reminder of his passion for nature. He surrounded himself with framed photographs of those flowers he had encouraged; they covered nearly every inch of wall space in his hillside home.

During his final few months, Bob would stare out the window of his home, from his hospital bed, and admire the hillside. A vast and intense, yellow bloom of "buckwheat" began to cover the area. But he wasn't just astonished because of its beauty. Bob explained that in his 43 years of photographing flowers, it was only the second time he had seen it bloom.

As Bob was no longer able to leave his home, we picked a bundle of fresh buckwheat from the hillside for him. Not only was he able to admire it from his window, but now he was able to appreciate its beauty right next to him.

After he passed, the family expressed how much this small gift really meant to him. He was incredibly grateful for the beautiful blooms that found a home near him. We thank Bob and his family for allowing us to walk with them through their journey. It was truly an honor.
November is... National Caregiver Month!

Klamath Hospice staff and volunteers send our sincere admiration and appreciation for the hard work that all caregivers devote to caring for others.

THANK You

Volunteers Needed!

“It is an honor and privilege to give back to my community by simply listening.”

Get involved today!
541-882-2902
Seasons of Change
Holiday Drop In Grief Support Group
FREE to the entire community.
Attend one or multiple groups.

Dates:  Nov 16 • Dec 8  Dec 15

Times:  3:00-4:30 p.m.  or  5:30-7:00 p.m.

For more information: 541-882-2902

Happy Holidays!

Back Row (left to right): Denise Britain, Ted Hamann, Pam Lockett, Amy Nuno, Kristine Cooper, Deborah Roberts, Joe Hood; Middle row: Tara Garlock, Trebor McCormick, Tina Godby-Ware, Katherine Silver, Jeri Icenbice, Rebecca Say, Becky Duke, Cathy Bousquet, Carol Herring, Rachel Throne, Dawn Wideman; Front row: Joyce Hollander-Rodriguez, David Houtchens, Jennifer Smith, Angelina Kennon, Zelda Pierce, Holly Montjoy; Not pictured: Karen Shingler, Jennifer Lehman, Vicki Jack, Paula Penn, Joan LaBeau, Richard Walls
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Please print clearly

I would like to make a donation of $ _______________________

In Memory/Honor of:  ___________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Please acknowledge my donation to: _______________________

_________________________________________________________________

Address:  _____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Please clip and mail your tax deductible donation to:
Klamath Hospice
4745 South 6th Street
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

You may also make a donation online at www.klamathhospice.org.
We accept Visa, MC, American Express, and Discover.

Reflections Fall 2015
The following supporters have generously donated the funds for the printing and distribution of this newsletter:
Davenport’s Chapel of the Good Shepherd - 883-3458 - O’Hair & Riggs Funeral Chapel - 884-3456 - Ward’s Funeral Home - 882-4404

Your support is greatly appreciated!
To opt out of future Klamath Hospice mailings, please contact 541-882-2902 or email tgarlock@klamathhospice.org.