

Spring, 2014



HOSPICE HAPPENINGS *newsletter*

www.chathamkenthospice.com

What Hospice will do for our Community

A Hospice cares for patients with a terminal illness and their loved ones, providing compassionate, end-of-life care and support in a home-like setting.

Care is provided by highly-specialized staff and volunteers who offer a range of medical and support services around the clock in a way that affirms life and views death as a natural process.

Hospice care includes pain management as well as emotional, spiritual and psychological support not only for patients but their loved ones as well including grief counselling.

Individualized care is free of charge and offers an alternative to dying at home or in the hospital.

A Residential Hospice offers a loving and supportive atmosphere where family and friends can say good-bye to their loved one.



Hospice care relieves the caregiver burden from families allowing a spouse to be a spouse; a child to be a child.

Changing moments, changing lives.

Our mission is to provide care that changes how families live the important experiences near the end of life.

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Save the Stamp! If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter and have an e-mail address, please send it to us at info@chathamkenthospice.com. We will send you an electronic copy of the newsletter instead. It helps us save money and it is environmentally friendly!

Capital Campaign Update

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

Building Cost: \$3 million
Operational Sustainability Fund: \$2 million
\$5 million

Since February, our Campaign Cabinet, made up of dedicated volunteers from throughout Chatham-Kent, has been very busy talking to service clubs, organizations and businesses about the project.

In April, we launched an Education Campaign using radio, newspaper and social media to help the public understand what a hospice is and its benefits.

The response to the project so far has been tremendous! To date, we have raised enough donations to match the municipal council pledge of \$1.5 million but still have \$2 million to go!

We plan on launching a Public Campaign in September and encourage anyone who has not yet donated to the project to lend their support.

Help us bring a Residential Hospice to Chatham-Kent by making a donation.

Visit our website (www.chathamkenthospice.com) or like us on Facebook to follow the project's progress.

Together we can provide this compassionate, end-of-life care alternative to our community.

TOP 10 REASONS TO VOLUNTEER FOR OUR HOSPICE

#10 Give back to your community

#9 Refine or learn new skills

#8 Choose from a variety of volunteer opportunities

#7 Be an integral part of the Chatham-Kent Hospice Team

#6 Work with people from different backgrounds towards a common goal

#5 Make a difference in someone's life

#4 Enrich your own life

#3 Volunteering can make your heart smile

#2 Share your experience and knowledge

AND THE #1 REASON TO VOLUNTEER AT THE CHATHAM-KENT HOSPICE IS:

#1 CHATHAM-KENT HOSPICE WANTS YOU!

Visit www.chathamkenthospice.com and complete a volunteer application. We will notify you as opportunities in your areas of interest become available.



Hospice Heart Stories

Nadine Armstrong, Guelph

"I will forever be grateful to Hospice Wellington for those incredible final moments and for the ongoing grief support. I wouldn't have had those final moments if I had kept (my husband) Richard home. I would have had to focus on his care rather than focus on us as a couple. The residence and the remarkable staff that work there gave me the greatest gift – they helped me see my husband, not the patient the cancer made him out to be. While Hospice was only part of our journey for a very short time – only 9 days – it turned an absolutely awful period in my life to something so meaningful and peaceful."

Anne Grainger, Eriean

"Having just read in the Blenheim News Tribune that the Hospice could really happen in Chatham this coming year. Our family has just been privileged to have our father and husband at the Carpenter Hospice in Burlington, Ontario. We were fortunate enough to have been their longer than most, my father was there for 3 wonderful months. My mom called it "Gods' waiting room". There was just too much love there for all of us. The care was unbelievable, I can't say enough about the staff there. The most amazing was the music therapist who brought sunshine to my Dad every time she came. My Dad died June 10, 2013, we had the memorial service at the Fire Hall in Eriean and the music therapist and her student were part of the celebration "amazing" is all I can say."

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to write a letter of support or shared their story with us. You helped give us the start we so badly needed.

If you have a story to share, please email it to info@chathamkenthospice.com or mail it to 99 Park Street, Chatham, ON N7M 3R5 and we may include it in a future edition of **"Hospice Happenings"**.

COMMUNITY events

Thank you to Chatham Rotary Sunrise and everyone who supported the 14th Annual Roses for Rotary Campaign. The proceeds from this year's campaign will support Chatham-Kent Hospice.



MAY 9 - St. Mary's CWL Pasta Dinner

JUNE - Bowman's Funeral Home Coffee Drive-Thru

MAY 2 - Blenheim Sun Life Open

NOV 8 - Say YES to the Dress Again Event!

For more information on these events, or if you would like to host an event in support of Chatham-Kent Hospice, visit our website.

Stay in Touch



Follow the progress of the Chatham-Kent Hospice project:

- Visit our updated website at www.chathamkenthospice.com
- Follow us on Facebook
- Read the **Hospice Happenings** newsletter and share it with family and friends
- Have questions? Give us a call at (519) 354-3113

Message from the Chair

Welcome to the first edition of the Hospice Happenings, your community residential hospice news. It has been an exciting year for end-of-life care in Chatham-Kent starting in June with a guarantee from the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (ESC LHIN) of annual operating funding for the direct medical care for our residential hospice beds.

In July, our newly formed Chatham-Kent Hospice Board met for the first time and began plans to establish a 10 bed residential hospice.

Community response has been universally positive culminating in November with a successful vote by municipal council for financial support for the project.

In February, we found out that our application for charitable status was approved by the Canada Revenue Agency paving the way for success on the fundraising campaign. Also in February our Capital Campaign Cabinet met for the first time for training on ethical and efficient fundraising techniques.

Service clubs and community groups have provided an enthusiastic welcome to the hospice volunteers.

Almost every week, we have an opportunity to speak to these groups about hospice. The Chatham-Kent

Health Alliance is also tremendously supportive, very often cheerleading and guiding our efforts.

Finally our partner organization, St.

Andrew's Residence led by Board of Director President Faye Geddes, have been steadfast in their support of hospice and for this I am most grateful.

However the most exciting development at Chatham-Kent Hospice has been the arrival of many passionate and hardworking volunteers who are making our community hospice a reality. From fundraising to governance to construction to clinical care, our volunteers are diverse in their talents but united in a common passion to bring excellence to the end-of-life experience for our families, friends and neighbours.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wilson'.

Jennifer Wilson
Chair, Chatham-Kent Hospice Board



Compassionate,
end-of-life care in a
home-like setting.

You can donate:

Online: www.chathamkenthospice.com

By mail to:

Chatham-Kent Hospice
99 Park Street
Chatham, ON N7M 3R5

Or call: 519-354-3113

We are grateful for your support of Chatham-Kent Hospice. If you would no longer like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please email info@chathamkenthospice.com or call 519-354-3113 and ask that your name be removed.

Charitable Status #: 843944430RR0001