

# Pathways Hospice®

Community Care for Northern Colorado

## InTOUCH

NEWSLETTER



### OUR MISSION

*Honoring every moment of life, Pathways Hospice provides compassionate, excellent, comprehensive care for those who have an advanced medical condition and those who are grieving.*

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## HOW MIGHT HEALTH CARE REFORM IMPACT PATHWAYS HOSPICE?

As most of us are aware, health care is a changing world. Funding The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), better known as health care reform legislation, will require improving efficiencies and reducing costs in a variety of areas, including Medicare. Over a ten year period Medicare funding will be reduced by 500 billion dollars. Six point eight (6.8) billion of that is slated to come from the Medicare Hospice Benefit. Approximately 90% of the reimbursement received by Pathways Hospice is from Medicare.

“The degree to which hospice care will be impacted by changes brought on by the Health Care Reform Bill are still to be determined,” states Evan Hyatt, Chief Executive Officer of Pathways Hospice. “As with all aspects of healthcare, we will be challenged to provide the same level of care to patients, families and clients, with reduced reimbursements and increased demands. We are committed to providing the highest quality hospice care available, while remaining good



*Evan Hyatt, Chief Executive Officer*

stewards of the community support that we receive.”

Pathways Hospice has already experienced several regulatory changes which aren't related to the Health Care Reform Bill. We continue to explore options for providing care to those who need the in-patient setting, while meeting both Medicare requirements and our financial obligations. We are actively implementing an Electronic Health Records system in 2011 to improve patient care and better communicate with our healthcare colleagues. In

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## MILITARY VETERAN VOLUNTEERS REACH OUT TO FELLOW VETERANS AT PATHWAYS HOSPICE

Pathways Hospice works with several veteran volunteers who graciously provide compassionate presence and companionship for the patients they serve. Some of the incredible volunteer success stories come from veteran volunteers working with veteran patients. "We found that some veteran patients haven't shared many of their combat stories with anyone else, but find that at the end of their life, there is a heightened need to express some of these experiences," describes Sarah Van Etten, Volunteer Services Director. "Having other veterans interested in hearing their stories and witnessing their experience as only another veteran can is an extremely powerful experience for both the volunteer and the patient."

One of the veteran volunteers, Bob Baruch, shared thoughts about his volunteer experiences. "I was in the Navy from '68 to '72, during the Vietnam Era. It is a terrific honor working with these military guys. It doesn't matter what branch of service they were in or what conflict; WWII, Vietnam, Afghanistan. There is this invisible bond that exists between you and another serviceman that is hard to describe but just feels right. Then to be able to capture their narratives, their stories. These men and women, they are our history. And it is not just a benefit for them; it is also a benefit for me."

Veteran volunteers provide a variety of services to other vets, from quiet

companionship to lively conversation. Another component of Veteran to Veteran volunteer service is the Life Stories program. In this program, started in 2004, a volunteer interviews and records clients sharing their life memories and lessons. Pathways Hospice volunteers have



recorded eight veterans documenting their life and combat experiences. These recordings create a priceless legacy of the bravery and sacrifice of veterans and underscore the importance of capturing the insight and wisdom of heroes at the end of their lives.

*If you are a veteran, and would like to contribute your time to this wonderful Veteran To Veteran Program, we offer comprehensive volunteer training. Please call Sarah Van Etten for more information at 970.663.3500.*

## ISLAND HOSPICE IN ZIMBABWE RECEIVES GRANT FROM MDRT FOUNDATION

We want to give special thanks to Greg Anderson of Vision Financial Group and the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) Foundation for a \$5,000 grant that will directly support our Zimbabwe hospice partner. This grant is for support of organizations worldwide and would not otherwise be available to Pathways Hospice.

Mr. Anderson is a member of MDRT, an international, independent association of life insurance and financial services professionals whose mission includes serving their clients with the highest standards of ethics and service. The MDRT Foundation is the philanthropic arm of MDRT. This foundation awards grants to organizations that are empowering people in need in communities around the world. As

a long time supporter of Pathways Hospice, Mr. Anderson's endorsement facilitated the grant award supporting Island Hospice in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

In February 2008, Pathways Hospice agreed to partner with Island Hospice in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. As a partner, we provide financial and medical resources (designated by the donor for this purpose) and build a relationship with Island Hospice for the mutual exchange of information, ideas and encouragement in order to enhance all aspects of end-of-life care. Mr. Anderson and the MDRT Foundation have made an invaluable difference in the quality of life of hospice patients being served by Island Hospice.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Abby's Signature Good Friday Concert**

Friday, April 22, 2011

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Organ Prelude by Alice Crawford  
at 9:30 AM

Featuring Christy French, piano and TJ Wessel, violin

First Presbyterian Church

531 South College Avenue, Fort Collins

This Concert Series, established in memory of Abby French who died in 1999 at the age of ten, is a wonderful opportunity for others to donate time, talent and resources to help children and families in our community. Free-will offerings will be accepted for Respite Care and Pathways Hospice. Many thanks to the Good Friday Concert Sponsors: Carole Egger, Chuck Landgraf of the Planning and Investment Center, and Jean and Tom Sutherland. We are grateful to the generous series sponsors: Allnutt, Fort Collins Sertoma, Shauna and Dary Southwick, and Gina and Dan Schwartz.



*Christy French, pianist*

### **Debbie Boose Memorial Tennis Tournament**

June 6 – 12, 2011

North Lake Park Courts (*and other courts as needed*)

920 W. 29th Street, Loveland  
*Matches and events to be held at various times.*

One of the largest tennis tournaments in Northern Colorado, this fun event

offers lots of extras for both players and non-players alike: Wheelchair and Pro tennis exhibitions, Quick Start Tennis lessons for kids, Junior – Adult divisions, an Art Auction, a Prize Drawing and an affordable Community Dinner on Friday night.

Call Pathways Hospice by May 27th to make dinner reservations if you're not playing in the tournament.

### **Community Memorial Service**

Monday, July 11, 2011 at 5:30 PM

Pathways Hospice, 305 Carpenter Road, Fort Collins

The community is invited to join us at Pathways Hospice for an evening of remembering loved ones. The service will include a message from a hospice staff member and special rituals of remembrance.

No registration or fee.

### **Breakfast in the Park**

Saturday, July 23, 2011

from 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Come join us for a delicious breakfast in a beautiful hometown setting, with musical entertainment and activities for the whole family! All proceeds will benefit Pathways for Grief and Loss programs for children and teens including bereavement outreach and education for local schools.

City Park (shelter #7)

1599 City Park Drive, Fort Collins

Advance tickets available in June and July, at [www.pathways-care.org](http://www.pathways-care.org) or at the event.

## MEDICARE CHANGES IMPACT PATHWAYS HOSPICE *(continued from page 1)*

2009, addressing a joint session of Congress, President Obama stated that "Our recovery plan will invest in electronic health records and new technology that will reduce errors, bring down costs, ensure privacy and save lives\*."

Pathways Hospice remains dedicated to providing the highest quality care possible to our patients, families, clients and referral sources. As part of our effort to meet our commitment to excellence, we will reach out to all

members of our community to share with them the benefits of Pathways Hospice care, not only in the last days of life, but throughout the entire end-of-life journey. We look forward to finding creative ways to meet the coming challenges while maintaining our high standards of service.

\*[www.cms.gov/apps/media/press/factsheet](http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/press/factsheet)

## PATHWAYS HOSPICE OFFERS LIVING WELL EDUCATION SERIES

Pathways Hospice has developed a series of hour-long thought-provoking educational presentations that are available at no cost to the community. Each session is designed to stand alone and be of great value, or all five topics can be presented as a series.

If your organization, agency, or Independent or Assisted Living residence would be interested in any or all of these topics, please call Kathy Anderson or Michele Desnoes at Pathways Hospice for more information or to schedule a presentation.

**CHANGE AND RESILIENCE** ~ Resilience means being able to adapt to life's changes, misfortunes and setbacks.

It can help you not only survive challenges, but may also help you learn and grow and even thrive in the midst of hardship.

**LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE** ~ What brings you joy? What fills your cup? What's on your bucket list? Life can be complicated, but happiness can be pretty simple. Our hope is that life is to be lived fully and richly, and we each have a choice about how we do that.

**FAMILY TRADITIONS** ~ Traditions are an important part of family life but are one of the great casualties of modern times. Discuss ways to recapture or redefine how we create long lasting memories.

### **LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN ADVANCE DIRECTIVES AND END-OF-LIFE PLANNING**

~ An advance directive is your life on your terms. A discussion of Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment, and changes to the Colorado Living Will form is included. Plan for your future so you can live in the present. Put it in writing!

**HOSPICE MYTHS** ~ Truth or Myth: Hospice is a place; is only for people with cancer; is only for old people; is expensive. Hospice care is often misunderstood. Set the record straight about Hospice myths.

## BOARD MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO PATHWAYS HOSPICE

Please join the Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers in recognizing Jane Anderson and Tami Spaulding for their contributions to Pathways Hospice.

Jane Anderson joined the Pathways Hospice Board of Directors in 2002, with the desire to help the agency continue to provide excellent service to the community and expand those services to all community members who could benefit from them. During her three terms on the Board she has done just that. Her "retirement" is a result of a mandatory three-term limit.

Over the past nine years Mrs. Anderson has been a very active member of the Board, serving on many committees in a variety of capacities.

She was on the Executive Committee and the Quality Assurance Committee for seven years and served as a member of the Board Development Committee for six years. The Africa Partnership Committee (FHSSA) benefitted from Jane's hard work from its inception in 2008 until 2011. Demonstrating her commitment to Pathways Hospice, she has held the positions of President, Vice President, Chair, Co-Chair or Secretary on these committees.

Mrs. Anderson was actively involved in hosting A Sunset Safari in 2009, a benefit for the Pathways Hospice FHSSA partner, Island Hospice in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. In April of



Jane Anderson

2010, with several hospice staff and another board member, Jane made the long trip to visit Island Hospice to deliver support and supplies. "I'm impressed with the consistent level of

Jane's commitment and enthusiasm for the FHSSA partnership," expressed Nancy Jakobsson, Director of Bereavement Services and FHSSA Committee member, "particularly the fundraising efforts and trip organization." Needless to say, Jane Anderson has been a hard-working, invaluable asset to Pathways Hospice and has assured us that she will remain active behind the scenes.

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## BOARD MEMBERS RECOGNIZED *(continued)*

Tami Spaulding joined the Pathways Hospice Board of Directors in 2008. Ms. Spaulding was already an active member of the Larimer County community and generously included Pathways Hospice in her many time commitments.

For the three years that Ms. Spaulding was on the Board of Directors, she was an effective member of the Quality Assurance Committee. This gave her the opportunity to oversee the management of Pathways Hospice's programs. We greatly appreciate the contributions she made in this essential area.



*Tami Spaulding*

Evan Hyatt, Chief Executive Officer of Pathways Hospice, expressed his appreciation for Ms. Spaulding by saying, "Tami has always brought a

smile and a positive outlook to the Board of Directors. Her enthusiasm and passion for hospice care has been a great asset to Pathways Hospice during her time on the Board of Directors." We thank her for being a valuable ambassador for the agency.

## COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS SUPPORT PATHWAYS HOSPICE

On Saturday, March 5th, Gamma Chi presents **Fashion Cents**, a fundraiser benefiting Pathways Hospice and St. Jude Children's Hospital. Gamma Chi is a local chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, a women's leadership and service organization whose members participate in a wide range of philanthropic activities. This year's fundraiser is especially meaningful to Gamma Chi since it is in memory of one of their members, Sandy Shipp.

The event includes lunch, door prizes and entertainment. Advance tickets are \$10 or can be purchased at the door for \$15. Call (970) 217-6282 or come to Knights of Columbus Hall, 1730 W. 12th Street in Loveland from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

On Saturday, June 25, Pappy's Corner Pub will be hosting the **Pappy's 4th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament**, benefiting Pathways Hospice. The

tournament has raised almost \$20,000 for various area non-profits since its inception. A long-time Pathways Hospice supporter, Dale Carlson, owner of Pappy's Corner Pub and Carlson's Investments and Management has extended this generous opportunity to us. Our heartfelt thanks to Dale for his contributions and commitment.

There is still room for more players and being a great golfer is not a requirement! The cost to play is \$100, and includes the golf game (a 4-person scramble), a golf cart and the award ceremony luncheon at Pappy's Corner Pub following the tournament. Non-players can attend the luncheon for \$10. Registration begins at 11:00 AM at Collindale Golf Course, 1441 E. Horsetooth Road, Fort Collins. Call Pappy's Corner Pub at (970) 377-1232 for more information.

### Family members reflect on the care provided to their loved one . . .

*"We tell everyone that you were a Godsend to us, and we mean it with all our hearts."*

- Anonymous

*"I know that she looked forward to your visits and the extra attention – massages, music, prayers and conversations."*

- Joan

*"Your care and support for her was full of compassion, and the entire family is sincerely grateful. The medical circumstances that lead a person to hospice care are truly challenging, but your staff handles the hurdles with grace.*

*...You honor her spirit with your compassion."*

- K & S

*"We just can't say enough good things about all of you. ... I hope our contribution helps, to keep you doing what you do so well."*

- Barbara

## MANY THANKS TO PATHWAYS HEART SPONSORS

Pathways Hospice gratefully acknowledges Dellenbach Motors, High Craft Builders, Jorgensen Laboratories and Earl and Lis Sethre, Vision Financial Group, and Volk and Bell Benefits for their sustained commitment to all of our 2011 events:

The Debbie Boose Memorial Tennis Tournament, Breakfast in the Park and A Vintage Affair®.

The name of the sponsorship is truly a reflection of the fact that the funds raised from community-giving are the “heart” of our ability to provide exceptional medical and comfort

care to those with a life-limiting illness and their loved ones, regardless of their financial circumstance. Additionally, funds generated provide valuable support for our grief and loss programs which are available to all Northern Colorado residents.

