Remember when doctors made house calls? At Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG), they still do.

“The medical profession has lost something by not making house calls,” says Dr. John Feldmann, staff physician at HPCG. In fact, visiting patients in their home is Feldmann’s favorite part of the day. And yes, he still carries his black physician’s bag.

Getting to the doctor’s office can be a problem for some patients. If they can’t get to the doctor, they won’t receive the necessary assessment and treatment. Hospice treats patients wherever they call home – a residence, nursing home or an assisted living facility.

“In the home, you’re in their domain and you change the direction of what you are doing for them by meeting them on their terms,” says Dr. Donald Hertweck, staff physician. “The visit doesn’t end because you’re ready to move on. You are done when the patient is done. It’s a different type of medicine.”

HPCG employs four staff physicians, one nurse practitioner and a chief medical officer, specialty-trained in hospice and palliative medicine (HPM). Working in partnership with an interdisciplinary team comprised of nurses, social workers, chaplains, bereavement counselors, hospice aides and volunteers, the hospice physicians serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the patient. Additionally, HPCG physicians work collaboratively with the patient’s attending physician.

This makes the hospice model of care distinctive. “Our interdisciplinary team meetings paint a vivid picture of the patient and how each of us is part of the continuum of care,” says Dr. Carlos Monguilod, chief medical officer.

“Hospice brings you back to the reason you wanted to become a physician in the first place,” says Monguilod. “We are doctors who stop and listen and enable patients to participate in their healthcare journey.” Together with the interdisciplinary team, HPCG’s...
A Message from President and CEO Pat Soenksen

This edition’s cover story on the role of HPCG physicians took me back down memory lane. My first job in hospice was in 1985 in the very early days of the movement. I was the Executive Director of (then) Triangle Hospice, now owned by Duke in Durham, NC. Our staff at that small, fledgling hospice was fewer than 15 people (compared to the 225 employees at HPCG today). And while we had several wonderful volunteer physicians, we had no paid physicians on staff. But, I doubt few U.S. hospices did in those early days.

Fast forward to 2012, and we quickly see the critically important role physicians play as members of the hospice interdisciplinary team. In this modern version of the hospice, the physician continues to be essential for certifying that a patient is hospice-eligible and for providing expert hospice and palliative medicine through clinical assessment, diagnosis, pain and symptom management. As highlighted in the cover story, the physician is a highly valued but equal member of the hospice team. At HPCG, I have witnessed firsthand how our physicians find joy and meaning again in their chosen profession of service. In hospice, they are afforded that rare and precious gift – time! Time to really sit and listen to their patients’ goals of care, their fears, what brings meaning to their life or what they hope their life’s legacy will be. Time is allowed to work closely with many other clinical and supportive disciplines to insure that our patients’ goals of care are honored and met.

While each of our HPCG physicians is responsible for a large number of hospice patients, they do not, for example, have to rush down the hall to see patient after patient sitting in waiting rooms, which is common today for the majority of physicians. While hospice and palliative medicine can be stressful or even sad work at times, as Dr. Monguilod reflected in the cover story, “hospice brings you back to the reason you wanted to become a physician in the first place.”

Don’t we all want our life’s work…our job, career or profession… to feed our soul as well as our intellect? Wouldn’t it be a blessing to be able to bring hope and comfort to someone who may be vulnerable, in pain and suffering? Don’t we all want a vocation that captures moments that really matter?! For those of us at HPCG, we find that “soul food” everyday!

Patrick Wright, MD
Chair
Bob Newton
Immediate Past Chair
Mary Magrinat
Vice-Chair
Susan Shumaker
Secretary/Treasurer
Patricia Soenksen
President and CEO

Our Mission
Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro enhances quality of life by providing expert interdisciplinary care, consultation, support and education for those affected by serious illness, death or grief.
physicians are responsible for approximately 370 patients on any given day. “It is a true collaboration with shared decision making,” says Dr. Ernest Schiller, staff physician for the Kids Path program. “The input of the team is insightful and invaluable to me.”

You may wonder what influences a physician to consider a career in hospice and palliative medicine. The modern version of the Hippocratic Oath, pledged by physicians, is a reminder that “…there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy and understanding may outweigh the surgeon’s knife or the chemist’s drug.”

As the Hippocratic Oath references, there is an “art” and a “science” to the practice of medicine. And HPCG’s physicians agree that working with patients at the end of life has honed their skills related to the “art” of medicine. “Private practice is disease-focused, but hospice care is family and patient-focused,” says Monguilod. “HPCG opens your eyes and gives you a whole new perspective on life, living and dying.”

“Regarding the science of medicine, you see more of your medical acumen in the hospice setting than in internal medicine,” says Hertweck. “End stage disease is challenging and as a doctor you oversee the complex blueprint on how to approach a problem.”

Hospice and palliative medicine has evolved greatly since the early days of the hospice movement when very few physicians were actually employed by the hospice. Instead, the physicians worked in private practice and participated in hospice care as volunteers by certifying patients as hospice-eligible and signing necessary paperwork.

Today, however, the role of the hospice physician is quite different. Many hospices employ physicians who are certified in hospice and palliative medicine. In addition to their primary responsibilities for direct patient care, HPCG physicians play an invaluable role in patient quality, compliance with regulations, pharmacy management, cost containment, clinical program planning and development.

Chief Medical Officer Dr. Monguilod is a valued member of the senior leadership team and his “voice” and input about medical issues are always considered in patient care and management decisions.

“Hospice medicine is about more than patient care,” says Dr. Stephen Miller, staff physician. “A cure may no longer be the patient’s goal, but we can still work to provide ‘healing’ for the mind and spirit.”

Each day, our staff and volunteers work to help our patients and their families “capture moments that really matter.” As a new feature in Newslines, we have created a recurring space to share some of these moments with you.

Emma Nichols, gardening volunteer at Beacon Place, was pruning the rosebushes one Sunday morning, feeling kind of lonely and wondering if what she was doing truly mattered. Her previous volunteer work was in direct patient care and as a new gardening volunteer, she couldn’t see the impact of her work.

There were very few people around, but about halfway into the pruning she saw an elderly woman walking towards her. The stranger asked if she was the person responsible for the beautiful grounds. “No, I’m just a volunteer that prunes,” said Nichols. The lady thanked her anyway for all the beauty.

The lady had just locked herself out of her room and had to walk all the way around from the back of the building. Along the way, she had seen four kinds of animals and gorgeous plants. She looked towards the rosebushes smiled and said, “This is my idea of peace and tranquility.” Then she started to cry and said, “My husband is passing and all this beauty just washes away the pain.”

Nichols was touched. She felt a mix of sadness for the woman’s loss, joy for the healing she’d found in the garden and pride to be a gardening volunteer. Nichols told her it was so good to hear the gardens helped her so much, and the lady said “They really do.”

“I’m glad you got locked out so you could walk around,” said Nichols. The lady said, “so am I,” and headed back inside the building.

“When I volunteer directly with patients, it’s more obvious to me the positive impact I’m having on them and their families,” said Nichols. “As a new gardening volunteer I’ve wondered if my time is as well spent as when I’m with patients. Thanks to this lady, I get that it is. What better way spend my time helping to wash away someone’s pain.”
Partnering with United Way, HPCG Works to Promote Access to Specialized Care

Partnerships are vital to the success of Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG). So much so, that “partnerships” are one of HPCG’s strategic priorities in the current Strategic Plan.

They help provide a seamless continuum of care for members of the community seeking services. Partnerships strengthen all the organizations involved by creating efficiencies. And, they create lasting change for the community when we work collectively on common goals.

One of HPCG’s long-standing partners is the United Way of Greater Greensboro. The “Live United” slogan has already announced the launch of their annual campaign, but many don’t realize the United Way is much more than a fundraising entity. In addition to funding, the United Way convenes resources to affect lasting change in Greensboro.

Two years ago the United Way presented its “Voices. Choices. Human Service Needs Assessment” that identified four human service priorities. Since then, community and agency leaders – including HPCG leadership – worked together to develop community level goals to address these priorities. United Way also announced new funding strategies. The new strategies will be measurable and will directly relate to community goals that have been and are being set in the areas of Education, Income and Health.

“We are becoming conveners and facilitators by working with community partners to set and achieve community level goals for greater impact. And, we are building stronger relationships with donors to maximize their time, treasures and voice” said Sue Cole, chairman of the board of United Way of Greater Greensboro.

HPCG’s participation in the United Way’s annual efforts begins with the local, federal, state and city/county workplace campaigns that raise vital funds for services throughout Greater Greensboro. HPCG recruits and trains a cadre of speakers to assist with the overall effort. In addition, HPCG employees conduct their own internal campaign that celebrates the variety of ways HPCG employees “Give, Volunteer and Advocate.” Each year, this employee-led campaign generates nearly $40,000 from HPCG staff for the United Way.

In a separate process, HPCG applies for funding from the United Way to support two specific programs – Kids Path and the Counseling and Education Center (CEC.) In fact, 76 percent of the CEC and 20 percent of the Kids Path budgets are dependent upon United Way funding. United Way evaluates the funding requests based on the following criteria: alignment with United Way objectives; program management/implementation; effective and measurable outcomes and financial accountability.

“United Way does the critical and sometimes invisible work required to help those most in need,” said Pat Soenksen. “They do this by funding and evaluating our community’s best programs that create solutions to meet immediate needs and address the root causes of the problems.” These programs are focused on education, income stability and health, because these are the building blocks for a quality life.
Light Up A Life This Holiday Season

Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG) invites you to attend the 28th Annual Light Up A Life service on Sunday, December 9, at 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church, located at 1000 Friendly Avenue near downtown Greensboro. This interfaith service offers guests a meaningful way to honor and remember special friends and family members.

Serving as this year’s guest speaker is Rev. Susan Norman Vickers, associate pastor of Christ United Methodist Church. While Vickers has many areas of responsibility, her primary focus involves youth ministries and missions.

A graduate of UNC Chapel Hill, Vickers earned a master’s degree in divinity from Duke University. Her husband Mark, also an ordained United Methodist minister, serves as chaplain at Forbis and Dick Funeral Services.

Musical selections will be provided by First Baptist Church under the direction of Doug and Terri Vancil. Performances will feature the sanctuary choir, youth choir and adult hand bell choirs.

After the service, you are invited to view the Hospice Tree of Remembrance that stands in front of VF’s Wrangler Building in downtown Greensboro. This beautiful tree, known for its extraordinary number of tiny white lights, serves as a powerful symbol of hope. It will be lighted during the Festival of Lights on Friday, November 30, and remain lit through December 31.

You are encouraged to place a light on the Hospice Tree of Remembrance by making a contribution of $10 or more in honor of a loved one. HPCG will acknowledge your gift and notify those who are being remembered with a lovely seasonal card. All proceeds benefit children and adults receiving patient care and counseling support at HPCG.

Make a Light Up A Life Donation

Please print clearly. We rely on information from you to acknowledge your gift correctly.

Donor’s Name: _______________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City, State and Zip: ___________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________________________
Email: _____________________________________________________________

My donation of $___________ to Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro is enclosed.
In Memory of: _______________________________________________________
In Honor of: _________________________________________________________

Please send an acknowledgement to:
Name(s): ___________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City, State and Zip: __________________________________________________

Mail your Light Up A Life donations to:
Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro, 2500 Summit Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405

Gifts may be made to Light Up A Life throughout the months of November and December. Gifts arriving in our office on or before Tuesday, December 4 will also appear in the Light Up A Life service program. You may also make your Light Up A Life donation online at www.hospicegso.org.

Contributions to Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro are tax-deductible as allowed by IRS regulations.
Patton was the best friend a boy could ever have in his life. Paul shared many years with his precious four-legged companion. The two of them enjoyed countless adventures and fun together. When life brought sadness and loss to Paul, Patton was always by his side offering a comforting snuggle and hug.

When Patton’s long life came to an end, Paul chose to honor his memory by placing a commemorative brick in the Kids Path garden. This garden offers a comforting and healing presence for many.

Create a lasting tribute with an HPCG commemorative brick.

For information about how you can purchase an HPCG commemorative brick, please contact Mary Anderson at 336.621.2500 or manderson@hospicegso.org

Information is also available on our website: www.hospicegso.org
Gifts to HPCG July 2012 - September 2012

Meeting the Challenges of Grief During the Holidays

For many grieving people, the holiday season is a long-dreaded, difficult period. If you have a friend or loved one who is grieving this time of the year, your support can be very meaningful and help make a painful time easier. Here are some quick tips...

Ask Questions

Ask your friend how they are doing and ask how you might be of help. Your friend’s needs may change frequently; remember to be supportive by asking more than once.

Be a Good Listener

If your friend does want to talk about grief, supportive listening is the key. Sometimes there is no “right thing” to say and being present with your friend is enough.

Offer Concrete Help

Offer to help with holiday tasks like shopping or cooking. People enjoy company during holiday activities or have a friend lighten the load by picking up gifts or running errands.

Honor the Person Who Has Died

If your friend wants to talk about their loved one, tell stories about the person and encourage your friend to share memories.

Be There

The most meaningful way to help a friend is to be there through the ups and downs of grief. Even if time has passed since the loss, you may ask how she or he is doing during this holiday season.
Kenneth Charles Hart, Jr.  
Margaret T. Hawks  
Wilbert Meadows “Dink” Hawks  
Beatrice Hill Hepler  
Paul A. Hepler  
George Burbank Herndon, Jr.  
David Dees Hill  
Joseph “Joe” Scott Hill  
Katie Hill  
Betty White Hobbs  
Ralph Hobbs  
Alyce Elizabeth Hux Hodges  
Marie Donald Hodges  
Paul Holliday  
Cutler Clyde Holt  
Joe E. Hooks  
Sally Hopkins  
Farisa M. Horton  
Katherine “Kathy” M. Howes  
Terry Hubbard  
Mary Rucker Mock Hubner  
Judith M. Hudson  
Teresa Tolbert Hull  
Mary Elinor Davis Crawford  
Huntley  
Daniel Scott Hurley  
Rex Harden Ingold  
John Carter Ingram  
Sarah H. Jaggers  
Robert Lee Jarrett  
Winfred Stuart “Wink” Jenkins  
Gary A. Jessup, Sr.  
Pauline Elizabeth Fulton Jessup  
Patricia “Pat” Gordon Johnson  
Lorraine Helen Johnstone  
Dr. Sam B. Joyner  
Janis Carole Dickinson Jung  
Nancy B. Kabrich  
Mary Elizabeth Keister  
Ola Velma Kenan  
Cleo Ballinger Knight  
Grace Ellen Konig (King)  
Paul Franklin Lackey  
Carol Nantz Lancaster  
Woodrow “Woody” Lee Land  
Frederick B. Lapp  
Kathryn K. Larson  
Wilbur M. Laughlin  
John F. Lawson  
Tina Renee Kiser Lawson  
Rev. and Mrs. R. Colé Lee, Sr.  
James E. Lineberry  
Robah “Bud” Dean Linens  
Shirley G. Linton  
Paula Ann L. Lockamy  
Robert “Mack” McDonald Long  
Jewel M. Love  
JoAnn Love  
Emily Stonestreet Lucas  
Dr. John Alexander Lusk, III  
Grace Caudill Lyon  
Marcia Anne Macdonald  
Gerhardt “Gary” Malinowski  
Janice Patricia “Pat” Martin  
Steve W. Martin  
Toni Massengale  
Martha Catherine “Cat” Maxwell  
Edna B. May  
Herman Coy “Mac” McCall  
Thomas Jerry McClellan  
Margaret I. McDowell  
Debro “Pops” Glenn McKoin, Jr.  
Sarah Louise Moore McMichael  
Mary Moira McQuade  
Dr. Albert John “Jake” Michel  
Trisha Hill Miles  
Gwen Golden Miller  
Howard Edgar “Eddie” Minor  
Frances Hackney Minton  
Charles “Charlie” Parker Missroon, Jr.  
Marie Coltrane Money  
Jose-Luis Monguilod  
Annie Malois Haygood Moore  
Hubert “Hugh” Moore  
Melody Faith Madren Murphy  
Harold Sanderson Neal  
Rosalba J. Neal  
Ruth Nunn Nelson  
Eleanor P. Nolte  
Marvin Eugene Norman  
Linda Lunsford Norris  
Howard W. O’Ferrell  
Richard “Pete” Stanley Osborne  
Mary Lescelles Seymour Overman  
Jane A. Owens  
Sue Millikin Owens  
John Robert Oxenfeld  
Debbie Ozment  
Anna Margaret Franklin Pace  
Rev. Dr. George Melvin Palmer  
David G. Parker, Sr.  
Louise A. Parks  
Robert Eugene Patterson  
Ruby Patterson  
Conrad E. “Buck” Paysour, Jr.  
James “Jim” William Peeden  
Rev. R. A. Pegram  
Melanie Permar  
Hazel Irene Hardin Perry  
Willis Bonner Phelps  
Betty Melton Phillips  
Louise “Lou” Fuller Pierce  
Stanley Pierce  
Yvonne Culberson Scarlett “Mon” Placentino  
Edward Michael Preston  
Audrey Whitaker Price  
William “Bill” Otway Printup  
Royce Edward Pugh  
Dr. Donald T. Quick  
Thomas Edward Ragan, Jr.  
James Roppel Rankin  
Francis Louis “Butch” Recoulley, Jr.  
Katrin “Kitty” Rector  
Donald Gene Redmon  
E. Kemp Reece  
Rilla “Marianne” Reynolds  
John A. Ritchie  
Lillian Mae Routtree  
Berman Eugene Royal  
Barbara B. Ruth  
Earl E. Ryals  
Judith Christine Donaldson Sage  
Geraldine “Gerri” Hardee Sampson
Every effort has been made to include and correctly list all the names of persons honored or remembered since our last issue of NewsLines. This list represents those tributes received between July 1 and September 30, 2012. If we have made an error, we hope you will give us an opportunity to correct our mistake in our next issue. Please call the Resource Development Department at 336.621.2500.

Gifts to HPCG July 2012 - September 2012

Harvey V. Sams
Mildred Powers Holland Saverance
Anna Savoia
Belle Taylor Kellam Schoonman
Irene C. Schwartz
Paul F. Scott
Betsy Lou Mattingly Seale
Maddox Everett Seegull
Donald J. Shaughnessy
Carl Edward Sheets
Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Sherrin
Wayne D. Simmons
Henry H. Simpson, Jr.
James McLean Sledge
Evie Dowd “Brownie” Smith
Frances W. Smith
Inez L. Smith
J. Dennis & Nell Smith
Josephine R. Smith
Lena Maie Smith
Mary F. Smith
Richard Elmore Smith
Robert W. “Bob” Smith
Lucy I. Snow
Grace Soenksen
Darrell Martin “Marty” Southard
Alfred and Gloria St. Cyr
Kenny Stallman
John Stanick
Samuel Chester Stevenson, Jr.
Robert Lee “Bob” Stewart
Sherman and Myrtle Stewart
Tracey Jean Stewart
Fairy Davis Strader
Patsy Smith Straughan
Henrietta Clapp Strickland
John J. Strickland
Janet Marue Summerlin
Valarie Surgnt
Robert E. Sutton
Sandi Dobbins Sutton
Debra Lynn Badger Sypniewski
Joan Arlene Szamier
Cecilia “Ceil” C. Szymanski
Helen Bleil Tamburro
June Wooten Tate
Irene A. Taylor
Joanne Thomas
Robert Colen Thomas
George Harold Thompson
Norwood “Tommy” Thompson
Steve Thompson
Wilson Davis Trotter
Albert E. Tucci
Bruce Tucker
Richard Tuggle
William M. Turner
Margaret “Meg” Harper Tuttle
Porter Bynum Tuttle
Corona Roberts McClary Umstead
Charles H. Valentine
Mrs. Marilyn Vancil
Alyne Ruby Vandegrift
Joseph David Varsamis
Mary Barksdale Wimbish Vaughan
Bill Vernon
Robert Lee “Tag” Walker
Louella Rayle Ward
John Lamson Washburn
Levi Paul Webb
Muriel S. Wechsler
Marie Crisly Weckworth
Dr. Julius Warren Welborn, Jr.
Bobby Gray Whitaker
Hoyt Bruce “Bud” Whitcomb
Bobbie Crowder White
Ronald Lee Wicker
Doris Hammond Williams
Dorothy Marie Ferguson Williams
Walter Samuel Williams
Betty H. Wilson
Charles “Chuck” Woellner
Paula Jokinen Wood
Bonita “Carol” Wright
Dr. Kieth Carter Wright
Wesley G. “W.G.” Wyrick, Jr.
John F. Yeattes

Connect with HPCG

Connect with Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG) online for more resources. Learn about our programs at www.hospicegso.org. Discover blog articles by our experts. Visit one of our social media outlets to stay connected.

Twitter
Facebook
Pinterest
YouTube
Seasons of Change – New Fiscal Year Brings Annual Transitions to HPCG Board

October 1 marked the start of a new fiscal year for Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG), including the election of 2012-2013 officers to the board of directors and the appointment of one new board member. Dr. Patrick Wright will begin his first term as board chair. Other members of the executive committee are Mary Magrinat, vice chair; Susan Shumaker, secretary/treasurer. Ralph Shelton and Carolynn Rice continue as at-large members of the executive committee.

At their September meeting, the board expressed deep appreciation to retiring member Ross Harris who served two three-year terms. The board acknowledged and thanked Harris for chairing the governance committee for three years and for sharing her marketing expertise and counsel during HPCG’s recent change in graphic identity. Pat Soenksen, CEO, also acknowledged Bob Newton for his two years of service as board chair. Newton will continue serving on the board of directors for another two years to complete his final term.

Bonnie McAlister, a communications consultant with more 30 years of experience, will fill Harris’ open seat. McAlister was elected as a “community” board member in the category of “education” and will serve a three-year term. In 2015, she will be eligible for re-appointment to a second three-year term.

Currently, McAlister serves as an adjunct faculty member at the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL) and Elon University School of Law. Prior to these positions, she held distinguished teaching appointments at CCL and Davidson College. She has taught seminars nationwide, specializing in leadership, public speaking, group dynamics and communication.

“I am interested in serving as a board member because of the great work HPCG has accomplished in meeting both the personal needs of my family, as well as the needs of the broader community,” said McAlister. “To be able to participate in the continuance of that good work is a privilege.”

McAlister serves on various boards, including Bank of America, Greensboro College, Guilford College, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), United Way of Greater Greensboro, Women’s Professional Forum and the Mental Health Association in Greensboro. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University and a master’s degree in speech communications from UNCG.

Watkins to Chair Sixth Annual Corks for Kids Path

More than 600 people gathered last February for the Fifth Annual Corks for Kids Path. The event raised $52,270 (net) for Kids Path.

“We couldn’t have done it without the generous support of our hosts and sponsors,” said Matt Logan, 2012 chair. “Our great partners, volunteers and guests have really made this a ‘must attend’ event in Greensboro!”

Eager to build on this success, 2013 Chair Ashley Watkins has planning well underway. Corks for Kids Path will take place on Friday, March 8, 2013. Once again, this tasting event will feature a variety of unique, handcrafted wines, locally brewed craft beers, hors d’oeuvres and a silent auction.

“Corks for Kids Path continues to experience sold-out crowds,” said Watkins. “We are confident it will continue to exceed previous attendance records, which is great, because we need community participation to raise awareness and funds for Kids Path.” The 2013 event will be held at the Empire Room in downtown Greensboro.

Corks for Kids Path was created by Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG) to support medically fragile and grieving children. Kids Path relies on public support for 73 percent of its operating budget. Since its creation, Corks for Kids Path has become Greensboro’s premier wine-tasting experience.
Local Triathletes Honor Their Loved Ones by Raising Support for HPCG

After Karen Buxton experienced the death of her brother Jeff last year, she wanted to do something significant to honor his life and the hospice care he received. Since both were athletes and fierce competitors, Buxton decided that the USA Ironman Competition was the perfect choice. The triathlon would be Buxton’s tenth and consisted of a 140.6-mile triathlon comprised of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run.

Working as a professional coach for more than 25 years, Buxton has specialized in working with endurance athletes. She reached out to three of them – Dina Arceo, Phil Beane and Becky Sage – each of whom had their own first-hand experience with hospice. They would each compete in the USA Ironman Competition and create “Team Tri for Hospice” with a goal of raising $15,000. All proceeds would benefit Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG). Additionally, the event would offer each of them a meaningful way to honor loved ones who had died.

Training to compete in a 140-mile triathlon with more than 2,000 of the world’s best athletes would have been daunting enough, but Buxton had an additional challenge - a diagnosis of breast cancer that she received the day after her mother was diagnosed as well. Like the great competitor she is, Buxton simply adjusted her training to accommodate surgery, oral chemo and six weeks of radiation.

Buxton and Team Tri for Hospice motivated many individuals, racing clubs and organizations to support them. A feature story that ran in the sports section of the News and Record inspired total strangers to send donations and encouraging words to Buxton and the team.

Team Tri for Hospice not only exceeded the goal Buxton set but doubled it, raising more than $30,000. “I have been completely overwhelmed,” said Buxton. “But I believe that our success is a reflection of what our family, friends and community think about hospice care and the support they provide to people in need.”

When asked about the recent grueling Ironman competition, Buxton said, “It took me 12 hours and 50 seconds to complete the course, my best time since the 2004 Ironman in Hawaii. But, it was easy compared to my brother’s journey and the aggressive treatment plan my mom has endured.”

Life is much like a triathlon. There are always great challenges … some you set for yourself and others get thrown at you. Regardless, you push on; remain positive, and draw encouragement from those you love … all the way to the finish line.

Westminster Presbyterian Service Weekend Benefits HPCG

“One Great Weekend of Care,” organized by Westminster Presbyterian Church gave more than 300 children and adults an opportunity to serve their community during the weekend of September 29 and 30, 2012. Two of the 30 projects, which members could choose, benefitted HPCG.

Denise Booe led the volunteer team that prepared homemade chicken pies and vegetarian chili, which were frozen and delivered to Kids Path for patients and families. A second group, led by Roger Cates, worked to clean up the grounds and beautify the gardens that surround Beacon Place and Kids Path. Special thanks to all of those individuals that helped to make it one great weekend such a success!
Foundation Dinner Celebrates Jessica Cole’s Legacy

On Thursday, September 13, the Jessica Cole Foundation held its third fundraising dinner to benefit Kids Path and Make-A-Wish Foundation. Since its creation in 2008, the Foundation has donated more than $18,000 to Kids Path.

Jessica Cole bravely battled a brain tumor from the age of five until she was thirteen. “I do not know how Jessica and the family would have made it through Jessica’s final months without the help of the Kids Path team,” said Mark Cole, Jessica’s father. “Kids Path was instrumental in allowing us to have Jessica spend her final months at home instead of in the hospital. The Kids Path team was crucial in keeping our family prepared and helping us cope with the final stages of life with Jessica.”

After going through this experience, Jessica’s parents established the Jessica Cole Foundation to provide help and support for terminally ill children and their families.

Many families suffer severe financial hardships trying to care for a terminally ill child. The Jessica Cole Foundation is proud to have an established fund that serves as an additional resource for the Kids Path social workers to help families in need. The Foundation also helps sponsor CHAMP Camp, Kids Path’s camp to help children deal with the illness or the death of a loved one.

Special Thanks...

Dean McPhail for priming and painting outdoor furniture on the HPCG campus.

Maureen DeLuca for donating snacks and drinks for children and teens accessing counseling support at Kids Path.

Carlyn Ruppert for donating Beanie Babies to Kids Path.

Evelyn Crescimanni and Sara Norman for donating their mother’s, Evelyn Moricle, collection of stuffed animal bears to Kids Path.

Cindy Tole of Botanica Flowers and Gifts, located on New Garden Road, found a special way to celebrate Teleflora’s “Make Someone Smile Week.” She donated 30 bedside bouquets to be shared with Kids Path and HPCG patients and families.

The Greater Triad Shag Club raised $1,000 for HPCG at its annual dance competition and fundraising event.

“Hot Time in the Triad,” held at Thirsty’s 2 on Chimney Rock Road, attracted shaggers of all ages from several states, who came to compete and to celebrate a dance step that is timeless.

FedEx employees recently celebrated “FedEx Cares Week” by collecting and delivering more than 50 frozen casseroles and desserts to be shared with HPCG patients. Now in their eighth year, “FedEx Cares Week,” allows FedEx team members around the world to volunteer in their home communities as a way of giving back.

Nurse aide at HPCG, Dina Annoh, recently organized a group of volunteers to clean up the grounds and beautify the gardens on the campus. Annoh, a native of Ghana, maintains a close relationship with other natives residing in the Greensboro area. Because their culture greatly values helping others, “Ga-dangbe shifimo kpee NC” looks for meaningful ways to make a difference. Annoh, who has been with HPCG more than eight years, shared that she was proud to have found a way to connect her friends to HPCG. They are already making plans for another day of service.
GMDM Tournament Benefits Kids Path

The Guilford Medical Dental Managers (GMDM) held their Charity Classic Golf Tournament on August 2, 2012, at Greensboro Country Club’s Farm Course. A field of 84 golfers and a host of generous sponsors enabled this inaugural event to raise $6,000 that was divided between Kids Path and Guilford County’s Adult Dental Health Clinic.

Tournament chair, Jace Strandberg, acknowledged David Haynes, Bruce Barton, Donna Kirkman and Adam Bracken, along with the other members of the tournament committee, for the event’s success. Special thanks also goes to an array sponsors that included Cone Health System and Kindred Hospital.

Spared Change Adds Up!

First-year students at Elon Law School had a pleasant surprise their first week of school. They were given an array of fabrics, ribbons and embellishments that could be used to create costumes or outfits for cloth rabbits. Upon completion, these rabbits were shared with several organizations, including Kids Path.

Bonnie McAlister, HPCG board member and Elon Law, executive coach in-residence, said, “Setting aside a day of service was a great team-building project for new students. It is also a way to introduce the idea of pro-bono work and the importance of giving back to one’s community.”

GMDM, an organization of more than 150 members, is dedicated to providing educational and supportive forums for those managers working in the medical and dental field. GMDM also values giving back to the community by investing in educational scholarships, philanthropic efforts and volunteer service projects that impact medical and dental programs.

Paul and Norma Talbert

Spare Change Adds Up!

When Paul and Norma Talbert began making preparations to move, they decided there was one thing they would not take with them … their large, heavy container of “spare change.” After counting out the coins they were surprised to learn they had collected $615 over the years. They decided to donate it to one of their favorite charities, Kids Path.

Upon learning of this desire, daughter-in-law Phyllis Talbert took a photo of the pile of coins and suggested that the Talberts’ story be used at a kick-off event for Guilford Medical and Dental Managers’, (GMDM) new initiative, “Change for Charities.” The Talberts attended GMDM’s September meeting and presented Cecilia Riek, GMDM member and HPCG employee, with their check. The Talberts inspired everyone in attendance to collect spare change. GMDM members will follow this example and collect spare change to be shared with several, designated charities.
All events are free and held at Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG), located at 2500 Summit Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Contact us at 336.621.5565 or thecenter@hospicegso.org for more information or to register.

**NOVEMBER**

Grief: What to Expect and What Can Help?
A one-hour information session for adults, who are newly bereaved, to better understand and cope with grief.

Thursday, November 1, 6 – 7 p.m.
Monday, November 5, 12 – 1 p.m.

Handling the Holidays After a Loss
A seminar for adults addressing grief and the holidays.

Monday, November 12, 6 – 7 p.m.

What Do I Say? A Course in Talking About Death and Dying
A seminar, co-sponsored by the Greensboro Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and HPCG. The event will be held at Wesley Long Community Hospital, located at 501 N. Elam Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27403. Lunch is included and, there is a fee for this course. Register online at www.gahec.org or via telephone at 336.832.8025.

Friday, November 2, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**JANUARY**

Loss of a Child
A support group for parents who have experienced the death of a child of any age.

Begins Monday, January 7, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Loss of a Spouse or Constant Companion
A support group for adults who have experienced the death of their spouse or life partner.

Begins Tuesday, January 8, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Loss of a Spouse
A support group for adults who have experienced the death of their husband or wife.

Begins Wednesday, January 9, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

**LOSS OF A LOVED ONE**

A support group for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or other loved one.

Begins Thursday, January 10, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

**FEBRUARY**

Grief: What to Expect and What Can Help?
A one-hour information session for adults, who are newly bereaved, to better understand and cope with grief.

Monday, February 4, 12 – 1 p.m.
Thursday, February 7, 6 – 7 p.m.

Newsline November 2012
All groups are open to the public and registration is required. Call 336.544.5437 to register for a workshop or to schedule an individual counseling session.

**NOVEMBER**

RT ime2B
Our monthly gathering for grieving teens (6th-12th graders) coping with the illness or death of a loved one.
Tuesday, November 13, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

**DECEMBER**

**Thrive**
A monthly gathering for teens living with chronic illness.
Thursday, December 6, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

**Hope at the Holidays**
A special holiday memory-making event for families grieving the death of a loved one.
$15 Materials Fee
Thursday December 13, 6-7:30 p.m.

**FEBRUARY**

**Thrive**
A monthly gathering for teens living with chronic illness.
Thursday February 7, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

**Connecting Rainbows**
A support program for K-5 graders and their caregivers coping with the death of a loved one. (Tuesdays)
$15 Materials Fee
February 19 and February 26, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

**Make-A-Memory Bear Workshop**
A creative workshop for children and teens (ages 5-18) coping with the death of a loved one. Participants will create a keepsake bear to memorialize their loved one.
Thursday, February 21, 6-7:30 p.m.
*Inclement weather date: Thursday, February 28 $10 Materials Fee

**Pathfinders Multimedia Project**
A creative group for teens (6th-12th graders) coping with the illness or death of a loved one during which video, photography, art and music are used to create a documentary about teens and grief.
$15 Materials Fee
Monday, February 25, 5:30-7 p.m.

---

**Volunteer Services Calendar of Events**

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer with Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG)? Please register to attend a session. Contact Peggy Rich at 336.621.2500 or prich@hospicegso.org. Visit www.hospicegso.org for more information. All sessions are held at HPCG, located at 2500 Summit Avenue.

**JANUARY**

**Volunteer Information Session**
Monday, January 7, 6-8 p.m.

**FEBRUARY**

**Volunteer Information Session**
Monday, February 11, 6-8 p.m.
TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL