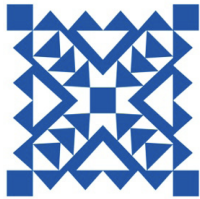


Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership

2009-2010
Annual Report

Director's Message



In March, I began the privilege of leading the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative

Care Partnership. I am enjoying getting to know our members and supporters and learning what is most wanted from a state hospice association.

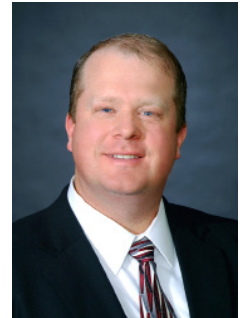
I have quickly learned that issues related to reimbursement and regulations are at the top of the priority list. Members' input is at

the core of any steps we will take to address these important issues. My intention is to be responsive and respectful of your requests and needs.

I am highly impressed with all that was accomplished by the Association's board of directors, committees and staff in 2009. With your support, I look forward to building on the foundation that has been laid before me.

As a former nursing home administrator, I witnessed the value of hospice for residents,

families and nursing home staff. I will forever be an advocate for hospice and look forward to being a part of watching it grow in Nebraska.



*Sincerely,
Heath G. Boddy
Executive Director*

RAISING AWARENESS

The Association holds relationships with local, state and national media. In 2009, these relationships reached a variety of audiences and resulted in placements in such outlets as the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's *NewsLine*, American Pain Foundation's *Pain Monitor*, Nebraska Medical Association's *NMA News*, State Board of Nursing's *Nursing News*, *Living Well* Magazine by southeast Nebraska's Aging Partners, Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, Grand Island Independent, KPTM Fox 42, KLKN-TV and KOLN/KGIN-TV, KFOR 1240AM, and countless hometown newspapers and radio stations across the state.

PRIORITY: QUALITY EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Offering top-notch education to those who work with chronically and terminally ill Nebraskans is the foundation of the Association's work. Last year, more than 600 hospice, nursing home, hospital and other professionals received education from the Association.

Sessions included Are You Survey-Ready? and Tools for Helping

Children and Adults Through Grief. In addition, staff traveled the state to give an overview of hospice regulatory changes and hold member listening sessions.

In partnership with the VA and State Veterans' Homes, education was held on Homeless Veterans and the End of Life, as well as Interdisciplinary Pain and Non-Pain

Symptom Management.

Members took advantage of a course preparing them to take a national hospice certification exam. Lastly, regular teleconferences for hospice social workers, chaplains and volunteer coordinators provided an opportunity to share ideas with counterparts statewide.

LIVING A GOOD LIFE...AT THE END OF LIFE

For nine years, professionals who work with individuals at the end of life come to Lincoln from across the region to attend the Association's "Living a Good Life... at the End of Life" Conference. The conference has become a tradition for physicians, nurses, social workers, advocates, administrators, and others working in the end-of-life field.

The conference included such sessions as PTSD: The Unrecognized Symptom, Communication Strategies for Shared Caregiving, Hospice Volunteers: Filling a Void for the Dying Patient, and Better Breathing with Palliative Care: Managing Pulmonary Symptoms.



A PARTNERSHIP OF HEALTH AGENCIES

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership is a member of Community Health Charities of Nebraska (CHC), a federation that raises funds for Nebraska's health charities through workplace giving. Through speaking engagements, display booths, co-branding, and representation on CHC's three board of directors, the Association has strengthened its relationship with CHC and participating businesses. Funds directed to the Association from these efforts have increased 51 percent since 2007.

This partnership not only raises needed funds that help support the work of the Association, but also allows for Nebraska's workforce to become educated on hospice.

PROVIDING A VOICE FOR HOSPICE

With health care reform taking center stage in national politics last year, Nebraska's hospice association was busy providing state-specific hospice data requested by federal policymakers.

Association members were kept apprised of reform activity through email and newsletters and were encouraged to make their voice heard, no matter their stand on the issue.

A PARTNERSHIP FOR VETERANS

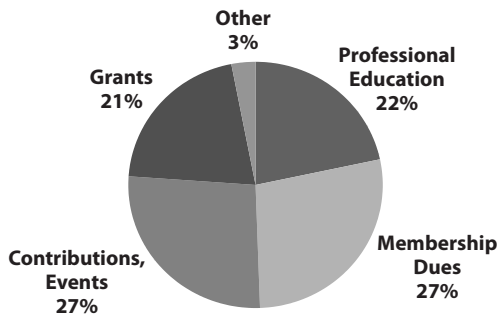


A partnership between the Association, the VA, and State Veterans' Homes, the Nebraska Hospice-Veteran Partnership (HVP) continued its work to increase hospice use by veterans. Activities included regular educational events for professionals working with veterans at the end of life. The HVP also facilitated the distribution of educational DVDs titled *Wounded Warrior* to the staff of 71 Nebraska hospices, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. And, hospice information fairs were held at seven VA facilities and State Veterans' Homes.

■ *The Association's Website, nehospice.org, continues to be a focal point of all marketing and serves as the primary source for members of the public and medical professionals looking for end-of-life information. Last year, the site averaged 53 visitors per day, many of whom were searching for a hospice in their area, looking for advance directive information, or seeking details on professional education events.*

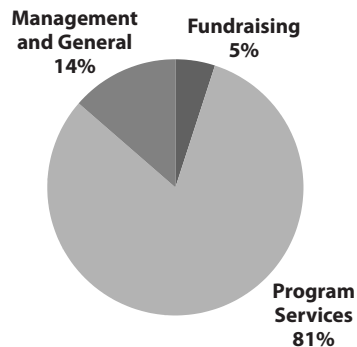
REVENUE

\$287,617



EXPENSES

\$273,130



2008-2009 Net Income: \$2,480

2009-2010 Net Income: \$14,487

USING PALLIATIVE CARE TO RETURN NEBRASKANS TO WORK

Last year, the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership began the development of WorkPath, which originated in 2006 as a federally-funded, systems-change grant project called Ticket to Work Palliative Care.

The Association has administered Ticket to Work Palliative Care since 2006 to pilot the concept of

returning Nebraskans in pain to the workforce through the use of palliative care. The grant requires that the concept become a self-sustaining operation by the end of 2010, and therefore WorkPath was developed.

WorkPath will partner with worker's compensation companies, self-insured organizations, disability insurance

companies, and others to identify individuals who will benefit from participation.



Association staff continued to serve as State Leaders for the American Pain Foundation Action Network, a grassroots network working to transform pain care through public awareness and legislation.

A ROLE IN END-OF-LIFE RESEARCH

Last year, the Association played a role in research that advanced the mission of hospice. The August issue of *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* included an article titled "Nebraska Veterans' Preferences for End-of-Life Care." The article was based on the Nebraska End-of-Life Survey, a research project completed by the Association in 2003 and 2006.

Also in 2009, the Association began surveying Nebraska hospices to collect data on length of stay and location of service. The gathering of this data on a statewide basis allows the Association to have more current data for use with its advocacy, regulatory and public relations work.

After getting input from members, the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership worked with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to align Nebraska's hospice licensure regulations with federal Conditions of Participation, the guidelines by which hospice providers must follow to be reimbursed by Medicare. The Association then testified on behalf of Nebraska hospices at a public hearing on these regulatory changes.

facebook

twitter

In 2009, the Association created a presence on social networking sites, allowing the hospice message to reach those with a personal or professional interest in our work.

NHPCP Leadership, 2009-2010

Board of Directors

President Joanie Kush, RN, MS, CHA, VNA Hospice, Omaha
Vice President LaDonna VanEngen, RN, CHPN, HealthConnect at Home, Lincoln
Secretary Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, RN, PhD, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
Treasurer, Aloha Schmid, RN, CHPN, Hospice of Tabitha, York
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Chair, Community Engagement Committee, Jean Suehl, RN, Faith Regional Hospice, Norfolk
Chair, Development Committee, Beth Nelsen, RN, CHPN, NHA, Eastmont Towers Community, Lincoln
Chair, Professional Education, Diane Randolph, RN, BSN, Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha
Chair, Operations Committee, Bonnie Brown, RN, BGS, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
Chair, Research and Quality Improvement Committee, Greg Schieke, MBA, CIMRO of Nebraska

Board of Advisors

Tom and Nancy Osborne, Honorary Co-Chairs
Dr. John and Janis Haggstrom
Terry and Judy Haney
Bruce Lauritzen
Bob and Cynthia Milligan
Lee and Carol Rowe
Del and Phyllis Toebben
Dr. Ed Vandenberg

Staff

Heath G. Boddy, Executive Director
Jennifer Eurek, CSW, Education and Outreach
Coordinator
Tracy Rathe, Communications Coordinator
Jan Tooker, LCSW, Executive Assistant and
Ticket to Work Palliative Care Coordinator

Community Health Charities of Nebraska Boards of Directors, Association Representatives

State Board of Directors, Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, RN, PhD, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
West Central Board of Directors, Adrienne Redwine, BSN, CHPN, Grand Island
Lincoln Board of Directors, Carol Ernst, MA, NHA, Eastmont Towers Community, Lincoln

www.nehospice.org
info@nehospice.org
402-475-6289 fax
402-477-0204 ph

Lincoln, NE 68521
3900 NW 12th Street, Suite 100

Thank You

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2009, through March 31, 2010.

GIFTS

\$50-\$99

Pamela and Felix Aldana
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Maj. Gen. Edward C. Binder, Ret.
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Marty Chapman
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Thomas Eberle
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M. Joanne Ellison
Carl H. and M. Ruth Epp
Jacqueline Fee
Hal L. Fecht
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Kathleen Goerl
Ulysses F. Grant
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C. Keith Hinrichs
Thomas J. Hix, in memory of Gordon L. Harrow
Cleo Hoback
Clayton Hoke, in memory of DeWitt Hoke
Sydney Homan, in memory of Larry H. Homan
Robert J. Huck
Rick Hughes, Phoenix Underwriting Managers,
in memory of Bill Summers
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Clyde N. Crandall
Randy and Trish Johnson, in memory of
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Mr. and Mrs. Vern Kuhl
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Robert and Sharon Mack, in memory of
Leona Zuerlein
Donald Mardock, in memory of Ellen Todd
Monnie Markel, in memory of John Markel
Ruth Mason
Pat Meierhenry
Evan Moody, in memory of Robert E. Butler and
in honor of Steve and Suzanne Barker
Brad and JoAnn Morris, in memory of
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Diane Mulcair, in memory of Ann Fisher
Russell Mundorf

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\$100-\$249

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LaDonna VanEngen, in memory of
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Iris Warman
Robert B. Way
Gabe & Carey Wilcox, in memory of Alex Schildt
Susan Windle
Miranda Woodward, Woodward Charitable
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David Wysong
Gwen R. Zaruba
Robert and Susan Ziegler

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Kristi J. Martin
Alberta A. Nieland, in memory of
Dennis J. Nieland
Mark and Kim Robison
Joe and Barbara SantaMaria, Joseph and
Barbara SantaMaria Family Fund
Deborah L. Waggoner
Paul and Anna Marie White

\$500-\$999

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Terry and Judy Haney
Bruce Lauritzen
Bob and Cynthia Milligan
Tom and Nancy Osborne
Lee and Carol Rowe
Del and Phyllis Toebben
Dr. Ed Vandenburg

\$1,000-\$1,500

Cargill
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford C. Cheever

Thank You (continued)

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2009, through March 31, 2010.

2009 "LIVING A GOOD LIFE...AT THE END OF LIFE" CONFERENCE

Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
Community Hospital, McCook
HPC for Foundation for Hospice Care/AseraCare Hospice Nebraska
Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha
Prairie Haven Hospice, Scottsbluff
Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Ctr, Lincoln
St. Joseph Villa Homecare & Hospice, Omaha
VNA Hospice, Omaha

GRANTS

Nebraska Department of Education
Nebraska Dept. of Health and Human Services

WEBSITE SPONSORS

Catholic Health Initiatives HealthConnect at Home
HPC Foundation for Hospice Care

IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

1LifePress and Laura Casey
American Pain Foundation
Boomer's Printing Co.

VOLUNTEERS

Linda Beckers
Betty Beecham
Jann Britton
Holli Burger
Kathy Cannon
Dodie Leslie
Pat Meierhenry
Alma Parent
Alice Peterson
Alicia Peterson
Dianne Rathe
Jackie Stewart
Bernadette Thiel
Margaret Tooker
Millie Will
Cathy Willits

VOLUNTEER SPEAKERS AND EXHIBITORS (Community Health Charities or other events)

Mary Cannon
Deb Dydyk
Gary George
Annette Kasselman
Annette Krueger
Nina Martin
Mary Oliver
Trudy Meyer
Linda Robinson Rutz

MEMBERS (Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2009)

Hospices

Abundant Life Hospice, Falls City
Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
AseraCare Hospice - Lincoln
AseraCare Hospice - Norfolk
AseraCare Hospice - Omaha
Beatrice Community Hospital Hospice
Central Plains Home Health and Hospice, Cozad

Chadron Community Hospital Hospice
Community Healthcare & Hospice, McCook
Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk
Fremont Area Medical Center Hospice
Good Samaritan Hospital Hospice, Kearney
HoriSun Hospice, Lincoln
Hospice & Home Healthcare of Saunders Co.
Hospice of Columbus Community Hospital
Hospice of Siouxland
Hospice of Tabitha, Lincoln
In Home Health Care Hospice, Falls City
Mary Lanning Hospice, Hastings
MCH & HS Hospice, Blair
Memorial Health Center Hospice, Sidney
Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha
Odyssey Health Care of Omaha
Prairie Haven Hospice, Scottsbluff
Providence Medical Center Hospice, Wayne
Saint Elizabeth Hospice, Lincoln
St. Francis Hospice, West Point
St. Joseph Villa Homecare & Hospice, Omaha
Tri-County Hospital Hospice, Lexington
Valley County Hospital Hospice, Ord
VNA Hospice, Omaha

Hospices - Satellite Offices

AseraCare Hospice - Kearney
AseraCare Hospice - O'Neill
AseraCare Hospice - York
Hospice of Tabitha - Grand Island
Hospice of Tabitha - Nebraska City
Hospice of Tabitha - York
MCH & HS Hospice - Oakland
MCH & HS Hospice - Tekamah
Memorial Health Center Hospice - Ogallala
Odyssey Health Care of Fremont
Prairie Haven Hospice - Alliance

Developing Hospice

Compassionate Care Hospice of Nebraska, Omaha
Hillcrest Home Care, Bellevue

Organizations

Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains
BryanLGH Palliative Care Program
Butherus, Maser & Love
Children's Hospital Hand in Hand Program
CIMRO of Nebraska
Hospice House-Josie Harper Residence, Omaha
Hospice Pharmacia
The Monarch, Lincoln
Nebraska Health Care Association
Nebraska Hospital Association
Nebraska Medical Center

Long Term Care-Assisted Living

Cottonwood Villa, Ainsworth
Legacy Retirement Communities, Lincoln
Harvard Rest Haven, Harvard

Long Term Care-Nursing Facility

Good Samaritan Colonial Villa, Alma
Hamilton Manor, Aurora
Heritage of Emerson, Emerson

Homestead Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Lincoln
Sunrise Country Manor, Milford

Long Term Care Facility-Dually Licensed

Countryside Home, Madison
Gold Crest Retirement Center, Adams
Golden Living Center, Clarkson
Heritage Crossing, Geneva
Hillcrest Nursing Home, McCook

End-of-Life Coalitions

Grand Island Coalition for End of Life Care
Franciscan Care Services End of Life Coalition
Greater Omaha End of Life Coalition
Seward County BRIDGES End of Life Coalition
York County Health Coalition-End of Life Partnership

INDIVIDUALS (JAN 1 - DEC 31, 2009)

Dennis Berens
Bonnie Brown
Marcia Cederdahl
Helen Chapple
Marie Chilcott
Vicki Coffin
Colleen Donovan
June Eilers
Connie Engelbart
Mary Fitzke
Mary Hastings
Sister Rose Marie Imig
Clare Kennedy
Sherry Kropatsch
Janet Kuhl
Theresa Langan
Marcia Leonard
Patricia Meierhenry
Deb Otto
Elizabeth Rains
Diane Randolph
Stacey Rowse
June Ryan
Todd Sauer, MD
Greg Schieke
Aloha Schmid
Kelly Schneider
Carri Siedlik
Tammy Spiegel
Sue Stensland
M. Allen Tompkins, MD
Christine Vanderford
Sarah Yokel



A Proud Member Agency of

RAISING FUNDS FOR NEBRASKA'S HEALTH CHARITIES

Thanks also goes to the many Nebraskans who donated to the Association through a Community Health Charities workplace giving campaign