

By the Numbers

Nebraska's Hospice

Admissions

2007: 5,811

2008: 6,529

Nebraska professionals

certified by the American

Board of Hospice and

Palliative Medicine or the

National Board for

Certification of Hospice and

Palliative Nurses:

8 physicians

1 advance practice nurse

84 registered nurses

6 licensed practical nurses

28 nursing assistants

NHPCP Leadership, 2008-2009

Board of Directors

President Joanie Kush, RN, MS, CHA, VNA Hospice, Omaha
Vice President LaDonna VanEngen, RN, CHPN, Saint Elizabeth Hospice, Lincoln
Secretary Linda Todd, RN, BA, Hospice of Siouxland, Sioux City, Iowa
Treasurer Aloha Schmid, RN, CHPN, Hospice of Tabitha, York
Chair, Advocacy Committee, Lisa Weber-Kohler, MSW, Hospice of Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus
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 Committee, 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

Hal and Mary Daub, Honorary Co-Chairs
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

Community Health Charities of Nebraska Board of Directors, NHPCP 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


Staff

Patricia Snyder, NHA, Executive Director
Jennifer Eurek, CSW, Education and Outreach Coordinator
Tracy Rathe, Communications Coordinator
Jan Tooker, LCSW, Executive Assistant

nehospice.org

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lincoln, NE
Permit No. 592

3900 NW 12th Street, Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68521
402/477-0204 ph
402/475-6289 fax
nehospice.org


Nebraska Hospice and
Palliative Care Partnership

2008-2009 Annual Report

Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership

Hospice's Benefits

- People who utilize hospice live on average 29 days longer than those who don't
- Hospice saves Medicare \$2,300 per patient
- Ninety-eight percent of served families would recommend hospice to others

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

Last year, NHPCP worked to inform the public about the benefits of hospices.

NHPCP was known to be on television, newsprint or radio more than 100 times.

Appealing TV public service announcements raised awareness of hospice.

Countless church, civic, veteran and professional organizations received

presentations about hospice in their communities. And,

NHPCP's Web site, nehospice.org received

67,000 visitors, many

seeking to find a hospice in their area.



Deven (center), 6, and his family experienced the benefits of hospice.

His family allowed NHPCP to publicly share their story because they believe

“Deven's life had a purpose.”

Read Deven's story at nehospice.org.

A Message from the Executive Director

As Nebraska's hospice and palliative care association, NHPCP shares families' personal hospice stories. We find it a privilege that families talk with us about their most life-changing events. These stories allow us to educate others on the importance of knowing options at the end of a life.

In conjunction with our work in the areas of advocacy, professional education, quality improvement and research, the telling of these stories is making a difference; an estimated 12 percent more Nebraskans utilized hospice in 2008 than the previous year.

Last year, much of NHPCP's focus was placed on preparing members for changes in Medicare's regulations, or Conditions of Participation (CoPs). We also encouraged Nebraska's hospice advocates to speak out against proposed rate cuts to hospice. These efforts paid off as Nebraska's hospices transitioned to the new CoPs in December, and rate cuts were staved off for at least another year.

Fiscal year 2008-2009 was NHPCP's first full year of operations through a management contract with the Nebraska Health Care Association. This relationship is showing results for NHPCP. It provides for the sharing of office and classroom space, talents and resources. The arrangement has also allowed NHPCP to expand its membership base to include long term care facilities. Most importantly, it has provided sound financial management for the organization. It has been a natural fit.

I challenge you – whether you are a member, a health care professional, a donor, a policymaker, or a member of the media – to become even more involved in the work of your state hospice association. Even though more than 6,500 Nebraskans used hospice last year, there is a long way to go to see that every terminally ill Nebraskan benefits from the comforting care of hospice.

Sincerely,
Patricia Snyder, Executive Director

NHPCP Mission

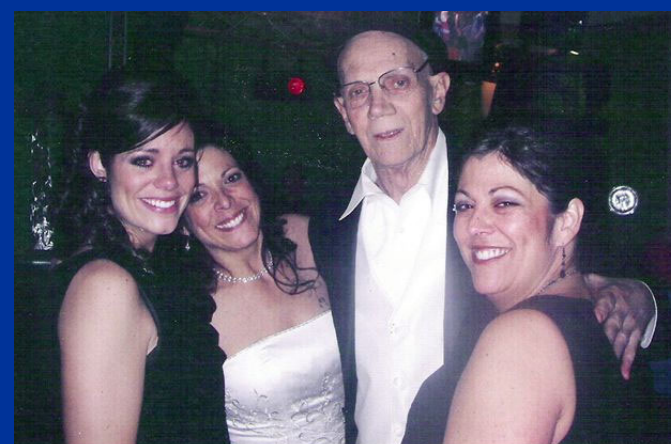
A statewide partnership to improve the quality of life for all Nebraskans who have chronic conditions or are near the end of life and to support the various communities who care for them

Returning Nebraskans in Pain to Work

For the third year, NHPCP administered a demonstration project that works with Nebraskans who have pain keeping them from employment. By working with a palliative care team, Ticket to Work Palliative Care Program participants addressed their pain and symptom issues in order to return to the workforce. Thirty-one percent of program participants that were not previously employed have returned to the workforce. In FY 2008-2009, the program was funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and the Nebraska Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation.

Advocating for Pain Care Improvements

NHPCP and the Nebraska Pain Initiative developed a partnership with the American Pain Foundation's Power Over Pain Action Network (POPAN), a grassroots network working to transform pain care in the U.S. through public awareness and legislation. With NHPCP's staff serving as POPAN's state leaders, the relationship has provided new resources for consumers and professionals.



"I wish he would have had hospice longer."

Brenda (far right of left photo) allowed NHPCP to publicly share her comment after her father, Dwain, utilized hospice.

[Read Dwain's story at nehospice.org.](#)



Each year, professionals who work with individuals at the end of life come from across the region to attend NHPCP's "Living a Good Life...at the End of Life" Conference.

Professional Education

NHPCP is the primary organization dedicated to serving Nebraska's end-of-life professionals. These include physicians, nurses, nursing home staff, chaplains, hospitals, social workers, therapists, volunteer coordinators, volunteers, and others. Last year, more than 800 professionals received education from NHPCP.

The April 2008 "Living a Good Life...at the End of Life" Conference welcomed nearly 300 people to the Embassy Suites in Lincoln. The annual conference is the conference designed for professionals serving individuals at the end of life.

A May workshop titled "From Philosophy to Bedside: Implementing a Palliative Care Program in Long Term Care" provided new information for nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Summer training was held in Ogallala, Lincoln and Omaha to prepare hospice staff for upcoming changes in regulations.

NHPCP continued offering its preparation class for nurses planning to become certified in hospice and palliative care, as well as networking conference calls for hospice social workers, volunteer coordinators and chaplains. A workshop was held in July to help healthcare professionals know their role with patients' advance directives.

Two audio conferences were held: one on the basics of quality improvement and another that provided an open dialogue between the State and hospice providers. Nurses and other professionals attended an October workshop on managing chronic pain.

Lastly, NHPCP partnered with the Nebraska Health Care Association to host a November program on how hospices and nursing homes can hold successful relationships.

"One of the best comprehensive trainings I have attended!"

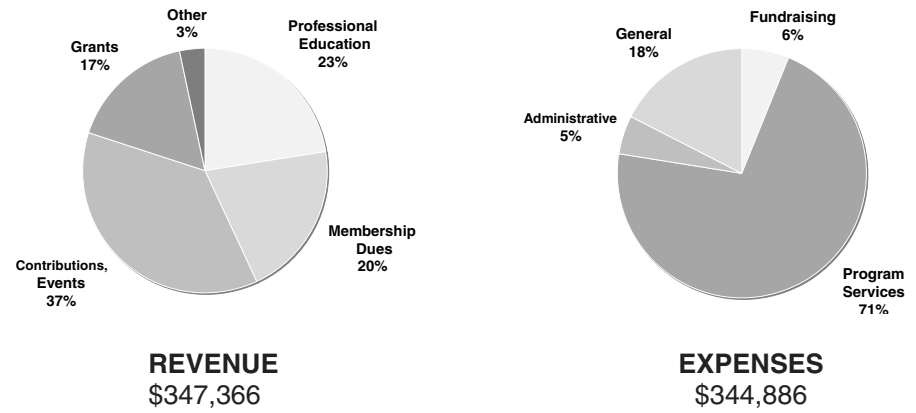


NHPCP is a member of Community Health Charities of Nebraska (CHC), a federation that raises funds for Nebraska's health charities through workplace giving. Monies raised through companies' payroll deduction campaigns benefit CHC's 18 member agencies, including NHPCP.

Through speaking engagements, display booths, co-branding, and representation on CHC's three boards of directors, NHPCP has worked to strengthen its relationship with CHC and its participating businesses. Last year, these efforts provided a 51 percent increase in funds directed to NHPCP from CHC.

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

Revenue and Expenses at a Glance



This financial information is provided from the audit report completed by Thomas, Kunc & Black, LLP, for fiscal year April 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009.

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership is a 501(c)3 organization.

Monitoring Regulatory Issues Affecting Patients and Providers

NHPCP is often the first to notify its members of important regulatory changes.

In 2008, hospice providers were provided with extensive training opportunities to prepare them for new regulations being implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in December 2008. In addition, NHPCP provided ongoing consultation on the changes as individually needed by Nebraska's hospices.

Last year, NHPCP disseminated more than 20 Special Bulletins to its members, providing the most up-to-date and pertinent information about such issues as drug recalls, billing and coding requirements, and proposed cuts to hospice payment rates.

"You are very well informed..."

"You made things very understandable..."

Responding to Hospice Rate Cuts

In FY2008-2009, NHPCP advocated to its members and federal policymakers the importance of acting to halt Medicare rate cuts to hospices. Such cuts would have had devastating effects for the state's hospice providers who already operate with minimal profit margins. Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the proposed cuts were halted for one year but NHPCP continues to respond to permanently overturn the cuts.

Cutting Edge Research

NHPCP is known nationally for its triennial end-of-life survey, which looks at Nebraskans' perceptions of a variety of issues including pain, fear, grief, support, advance directives, and more. Last year, NHPCP began seeking funding for the next survey which will be implemented in 2009-2010.

In addition, Nebraska's hospice professionals participated in a national research study on the "Core Values of Hospice Professionals." The study was still being implemented at the time this document was published.



Thank you

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009.

GIFTS

\$10,000

The Vincent & Marie Kreifels Family Fund

\$5,000

Bernard K. & Norma F. Heuermann Foundation

\$500-\$1,000

Paul and Patricia Aaron

Fred Amis

In memory of Rufus and Carolyn Amis

Steve Cooksley

Mary and Hal Daub

John and Janis Haggstrom

Terry and Judy Haney

Scott Lippstreu

Bob and Cynthia Milligan

Tom and Nancy Osborne

Lee and Carol Rowe

Stuart Foundation

Del and Phyllis Toebben

Ed Vandenberg

Deborah L. Waggoner

\$250-\$499

Alex Bartholomaus, Billington Imports

In memory of Liliana S. Bartholomaus

Annie Emig

Ian MacLeod

Mrs. John North

Mark and Kim Robison

In memory of Greg Terry and Donna Robison

Anna M. White

\$100-\$249

Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Barnes, Jr.

In memory of James E. Geist

Ruth Bennett

In memory of Grant D. Bennett and in honor of

Ruth D. Bennett

Maj. Gen. Edward C. Binder, Ret.

Draper H. Bishop

Marvin L. Blocker

Alan C. Brown

Barb and Buck Buchholz

Cliff Cheever

Wayne and Barbara Coleman

In memory of Dot Hurst

Kirk and Joan Dietrich

Lyle B. Egerman

Lynette D. Exum

Karen and David Gall

In memory of Penny Thornbrugh

Milton R. Godwin

In memory of Ann Godwin

Charles and Naoma Henkelmann

Thomas Holley

Roger E. Hovde

Barbara Hunt

John Bryce Johnson

Robert Jordan

Mr. and Mrs. Milan Knezovich

Patricia A. Ladenburger

In memory of Ray and Evelyn Ladenburger

Susan Lozier

William March

William and Sandra Marcil

Dr. Myrle Frederick Marsh

In memory of Marilyn J. Marsh

Michael May

In memory of Cloyde May

Linda Minino

In memory of Frances Minino

Alfred B. Moore

In memory of Dolores Moore

Alberta A. Nieland

Patricia T. Packard

Willie and Alice Padgett

In honor of Esther Boganowski

Quillie H. Polk

Marie Regier

Robert Reisdorff

Bonna Richard

In memory of Mary Hunter and in honor of her family

Mr. and Mrs. Don Rogert

Ron Sallach

Bill and Gladys Sandman

Tom and Aloha Schmid

R. G. Seiter

Albert Slottje

Patricia Snyder

Shirley Spieker

In memory of Lawrence Spieker

The Struve Foundation

Diane Thies

Bob Throop

Deaun Trayer

Raymond P. Trumble

LaDonna VanEngen

Patricia D. Wallington

Steven Wasserburger

David and Marilyn Westenhaver

Mrs. Terry Woodman

In memory of Merlin Arthur Talmage and Clara

Belle Talmage

Dariel Woodward

\$50-\$99

Doug and Pat Amedeo

Robert Archambault

Lora Arnold

Phyllis Aron

John A. Barron

Lois R. Baumert

Deborah Berger

Mark and Denise Bohlsen

John S. Campbell

Diana Canine

Richard Chapin

Elzbieta Ciborowski

Helen Clayton

In memory of John Clayton

James Coughlin, JC Construction

Mary Ann Crabb

In memory of Robert Crabb

Karen Dix

Robert D. Dutton

Lynn and Cindy Gray

Stephanie A. Bess and Keith Green

Charles Haith

In memory of Shirley E. Haith

Robert Haniszewski

Dr. Richard S. Hay

Bruce K. Hayden, Jr.

In memory of Richard Wiedvwilt

Betty Herpolsheimer

Rev. Conley K. Hinrichs

Cleo Hoback

Claudette C. Irvine

Randy and Trish Johnson

James E. Jones

Carl L. Kahn

Neal D. Kennedy

Joseph Lang

Sally Last

Chandra Leeper

In memory of Maybelle Payne

Neil R. Luers

The Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln

Stuart Maseman

In memory of Martha Maseman

Linda McEveny

Doug McPhillips

Jane Miller

Evan Moody

In memory of Robert E. Butler and in honor of Steve and Suzanne Barker

Mrs. Curt Mushlitz

Mr. and Mrs. Neal Nelson

Carol L. Nisley

Ed J. Nyhof

Cynthia S. Odabasi

Ronald Overby

Mary L. Pendell

Jeanne Qualley

Robert Raymond

Kristi Robison

R. L. Rosberg

Delmar C. Sagert

Leon and MaryAnn Satterfield

Carroll H. Schmeling

In memory of Elaine Schmeling

Paul and Rosemary Soukup

Clara Belle Talmage

Martha Thomas

John Thorogood

In memory of Louis H. Meyer

Dale Tinstman

Richard and Linda Todd

John W. and Patricia A. True

In memory of Babbette Waldmann

Tom and Elaine Vaught

Iris Warman

Robert B. Way

Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Wear

David Wysong

In memory of Sally Wysong

William Yearian

In memory of Loah Hendrick

2008 "LIVING A GOOD LIFE...AT THE END OF LIFE" CONFERENCE

Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha

Community Hospital, McCook

Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk

HoriSun Hospice, Lincoln

HPC Foundation for Hospice Care/AseraCare

Hospice Nebraska

Methodist Home Health and Hospice, Omaha

Nebraska Hospital Association

Prairie Haven Hospice, Scottsbluff

Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Ctr, Lincoln

St. Joseph Villa, Omaha

VNA Hospice, Omaha

Thank you (continued)

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009.

GRANTS

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

WEBSITE SPONSORS

Hospice of Siouxland
Hospice of Tabitha
Saint Elizabeth Hospice

IN KIND GIFTS

American Pain Foundation
Boomer's Printing Co.
Creighton University School of Medicine
RBC Dain Rauscher Financial Consultants,
Omaha

MEDIA SUPPORT

KLKN TV
KOLN/KGIN TV
LINCOLN 55+ Seniors Newspaper

VOLUNTEERS

Naomi Ballard
Betty Beecham
Jann Britton
Kathy Cannon
Kristin Grant
Ann Jones
Dodie Leslie
Pat Meierhenry
Alma Parent
Margaret Pavey
Jenna Peate
Alice Peterson
Dianne Rathe
Marlene Saunders
Jackie Stewart
Bernadette Thiel
Margaret Tooker
Nicole Tooker
Cathy Willits
Cherline Zimmerman

COMMUNITY HEALTH CHARITIES

VOLUNTEER SPEAKERS AND EXHIBITORS

Bonnie Brown
Cindy Calhoun
Kathy Gast
Gary George
Mary Gordon
Stacey Hoppes
Paul Jensen
Annette Kasselmann
Pat Meierhenry
Renee Pickerel
Diane Randolph
Adrienne Redwine
Linda Robinson Rutz
Laurie Smith
LaDonna VanEngen

MEMBERS (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

Hospices

Abundant Life Hospice, Falls City
Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha
AseraCare Hospice Lincoln
AseraCare Hospice Norfolk
AseraCare Hospice Omaha

Beatrice Community Hospital Hospice
Burt-Washington Home Health Care & Hospice
Central Plains Home Health & Hospice, Cozad
Chadron Community Hospital Hospice Services
Community Healthcare & Hospice, McCook
Custer County Hospice
Faith Regional Health Services Hospice, Norfolk
Fremont Area Medical Center Hospice
Good Samaritan Hospice, Kearney
Great Plains Reg Med Ctr Hospice, North Platte
Hospice and 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
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
Saint Francis Medical Center, Grand Island
St. Francis Hospice, West Point
St. Joseph Villa Homecare & Hospice, Omaha
Tri-County Hospital Hospice, Lexington
Valley County Hospital Hospice
VNA Hospice, Omaha

Developing Hospice

Hillcrest Home Care, Bellevue

Organizations (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

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
The Monarch, Lincoln
Nebraska Health Care Association
Nebraska Hospital Association
Nebraska Medical Association
Nebraska Medical Center
UNMC College of Nursing

Long Term Care-Nursing Facility (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

Ainsworth Care Center
Birchwood Manor, North Bend
Countryside Home, Madison
Good Samaritan Society, Millard
Hamilton Manor, Aurora
Heritage of Emerson
Homestead Healthcare and Rehabilitation
Center, Lincoln
Life Care Center of Omaha
St. Joseph's Villa, David City
Sunrise Country Manor, Milford

Long Term Care-Assisted Living (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

The Arbors, Lincoln
Cottonwood Villa, Ainsworth
The Independence House, Lincoln
Kirkwood House, Wayne

Long Term Care-Dually Licensed (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

Chimney Rock Villa, Bayard
Gold Crest Retirement Center, Adams
Heritage Crossings, Geneva
Hillcrest Nursing Home, McCook

End-of-Life Coalitions (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2008)

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

Individuals (Jan 1, 2008-Mar 31, 2009)

Dennis Berens
Bonnie Brown
Marcia Cederdahl
Helen Chapple
Lisa Church
Vicki Coffin
June Eilers
Connie Engelbart
Mary Fitzke
Kathy Gast
Rose Hamilton
Sister Rose Marie Imig
Clare Kennedy
Sherry Kropatsch
Janet Kuhl
Theresa Langan
Marcia Leonard
Patricia Meierhenry
Colleen O'Connor Donovan
Deborah Otto
Elizabeth Rains
Diane Randolph
Adrienne Redwine
Stacey Rowse
June E. Ryan
Todd Sauer
Greg Schieke
Aloha Schmid
Kelly Schneider
Tammy Spiegel
Sue Stensland
Heather Titman
Christine Vanderford
Sarah Yokel
Bonnie Youngblood
Frederick E. Youngblood



RAISING FUNDS FOR NEBRASKA'S HEALTH CHARITIES

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