



Hospice News

Volume XL, Issue 1 Spring 2020
Craven County Hospice
Craven County Health Department

Your Hometown Hospice for Over 35 Years

Craven County Hospice Thanks Essential Workers!

We are experiencing unprecedented times. Businesses have shut down. People are unemployed. Students are now being homeschooled. Sports have been cancelled. Restaurants are closed to seated dining and are focusing on take out and delivery orders. While changes have been made, our staff is one of the few constants remaining in our community. Our nurses, aides, chaplain and social worker continue to provide the care our patients and families need.

Our nurses are experts in pain control and management of physical symptoms that cause distress or interfere with patient comfort. Craven County Hospice nurses play a key role in assuring the patient is living in maximum comfort and with dignity. They also work in partnership with our medical director and patients' physicians to make sure the medical care plan is current. A nurse is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to answer caregiver questions and to make emergency visits.



The aides at Craven County Hospice play a vital and appreciated non-medical role. They provide personal services to the patient. These services consist of bathing, dressing and personal care. They are highly valued by the patients, the patients' families and caregivers.

Our social worker helps families with questions about insurance coverage, financial issues or other end of life concerns. The social worker is familiar with community resources and makes referrals to other agencies when appropriate. Our social worker is skilled in listening carefully, then finding solutions to social and emotional issues that arise at the end of life.

Our chaplain provides nondenominational and non-judgmental spiritual counseling. Bereavement support is also available to our patient's families and anyone in the community, regardless of individual faiths or beliefs.

Our "Behind the Scenes" staff includes our Medical Director, Hospice Director, Quality Assurance Officer, Nursing Supervisor, Volunteer Coordinator and clerical staff. Each one of our staff members is needed to assist the patients and their families during this difficult time which has been further complicated by the Coronavirus. These dedicated members are deemed "Essential" and we are eternally grateful for them all.

THANK YOU!

**ESSENTIAL
WORKERS**



Not only does Craven County Hospice thank its essential employees, but we thank the other essential workers in our community. Thank you to the nurses, nursing aides, law enforcement officers, grocery store employees, and business owners. Thank you for your commitment and drive to keep us going.

Craven County Hospice Appreciates Our Volunteers

In 1974, the week of April 19 through the 25th was marked as National Volunteer Week. This week is used to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers across the country. At Craven County Hospice, we have 19 volunteers. These volunteers assist our agency in many ways. They provide support for our patients and their families by visiting, reading, taking walks, writing letters, light housekeeping, listening to music and bereavement support. Our volunteers also assist with our fundraising and promotional events. Volunteers are essential to our agency and we are extremely grateful for their service!



Hospice Happenings Postponed until 2021

With the heightened level of awareness surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Craven County Health Department Foundation has made the decision to cancel its annual Spring Breakfast Fundraiser, scheduled for May 12, 2020. The Annual Spring Breakfast Fundraiser is our one and only fundraiser for the year. The donations from our fundraiser directly benefit Craven County Hospice's patients and their families, by enhancing our hospice services, including the Respite Program. This service is not covered by Medicare but is offered and provided by Craven County Hospice to all of our hospice families. Our program provides an aide to visit the hospice patient's home, allowing the caregiver time to relax or run errands. Craven County provides this type of service, and other services not covered by Medicare, to enhance our community members' level of care.



If you would like to donate, please make the check payable to **CCHD- Foundation** and mail to P.O. Drawer 12610, New Bern, NC 28561. These extra services would not be possible without your financial support.

The goal of Hospice is to provide end of life "Palliative Care" (the control of pain and symptoms); utilizing a team of specialists (disciplines) to provide care including physician services (working together with your doctor of choice), skilled nursing, counselors and social workers, spiritual care specialists, certified nursing assistants, as well as volunteers with a variety of skills and levels of assistance.

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Craven County Hospice
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2818 Neuse Blvd
New Bern, NC 28561

www.cravencountyhospice.com



Scan me

Nurses' Nook

Most of us have become weary of hearing about our current situation of “stay at home.” It is difficult to keep the stress level down when there is fear and worry about our health and the health of our loved ones. People, as a whole, enjoy companionship and socialization. As we stay at home, we need to continue to interact with others. Some ways to take care of ourselves to cope with stress are:

- Take breaks from watching, reading or listening to news stories. This includes taking breaks from social media. Repeated information about the pandemic can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body. Deep breathing, stretching, or meditation can be helpful. Try to eat healthy meals. Get some exercise and plenty of sleep. Avoid alcohol and drugs.
- Take time to unwind by doing some activities you enjoy like playing cards, games or puzzles. You could always start those projects you have been wanting to do.
- Connect with others. It is important to talk, laugh, cry and discuss how you are feeling. Today’s technology provides us many ways to connect with families. People are finding ways to spend time with others like going to the park while following the social distancing guidelines.

We all learn something about ourselves and others through this process of “stay at home.” Take care and continue to find ways to reduce stress and stay healthy.

- Dianne Brideson, Clinical Supervisor

Wish List



We are always looking for twin XL bed sheets to fit hospital beds that are used by our patients. Other important items are baby monitors (new or used) that can be positioned in a house so patients can always have contact with their caregivers. Also, Craven County Hospice gratefully accepts monetary donations. These charitable gifts, let us serve those patients unable to pay for such things as respite aides, which are not covered by the Medicare Hospice Benefit.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers provide care by spending time with the patients and performing clerical duties in our office. Visiting patients can include: listening, playing games, and even singing with them! If you would like to be a hospice volunteer, please call our office at 252-636-4930 for more information or complete the form on our website.



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Hospice Memorials

Thank you for your donations in Memory Of :

Agnes Derda

Rachel Sugg

Anneliese Emge

Leroy & Eleanor Klock

Arminta Ballance

John & Susan Smith

Cindy Ridlon

Martha Jo Nichols

Holly Geddie Minnifield

Bette Casiere

Jill Ellen Eberle

John Hanley

Twin Rivers Artist

Association

Daniel Pavuk

Sandra Pavuk

Dr. George Beckwith

Charles Ashford

Assisting at Home, LLC

Maggy Costandy

Penny & Lyman Horne

Mary Dembosky

Flatlands Insurance

Group

Sarah Marshall

Michael T. Willis

Betsy Holmes

Gretchen & Joseph Overby

Laura Lowrance

Elizabeth Nelson

Garland Graham

Anne Bell

Dr. George Beckwith (cont.)

Richard & Julia Crampton

Robert & Anne Holland

William & Ann Scott

Pedro & Martha Saavedra

Rebecca & Joseph Clement

Trent Cadillac Employees

Mike & Pete Deichmann

Blair Carter & Doug Crowell

L. Carl Allen

Ellen Gilliam

Coastal Carolina Health Care

David L. Ward, Jr.

John & Susan Ward

Linda Staunch

Cameron Sryan

Victoria Blackford

Dru Williams

Carol Mattocks

Jean Blanchard

Fred Kelly

Linda Emory

Anna "Polly" Hawkes

Bernie McCants

Frances Buljat

Robbie Reidmueller

Gilbert Whitford

Sarah Gaskins

Clayton & Michelle Gaskins

Helen Bland

Alice Elliott

Jane Peele

Ilene Disosway

Ann Cowper

Kirk Grimsley

Stephanie Reiter

Marsha Temple-Fornes

Leroy Price

Sharon Warren

Pat & Don Eglinton

Andrea Thompson

Daniel & Amy Perry

Mary Warren

William Warren

Robert Bullard

Stephen Whittemore

Robert Clark

Nancy Isley

Ruth VanVorhees

Donna Purk

Saundra Blais

Robert Blais

Teresa Murray

Mary (Cassie) Kilpatrick

Patricia Ziegler

Donation to Hospice

Carol Supinski

*Bridgeton United Methodist
Church*

Rebecca Credle

Pamela Beatty

When you make a memorial gift or donation to Craven County Hospice you are ultimately helping patients and families receive compassionate care when they need it most. These donations go towards supplies, medications and medical equipment that are not otherwise covered. Thank you for choosing Craven County Hospice. Please make the check payable to **CCHD- Foundation**, P.O. Drawer 12610, New Bern, NC 28561

Hospice is a coordinated palliative and supportive care (physical, psychological, social, and spiritual) for dying persons and their families. Services are provided in the home by an interdisciplinary team of professionals and volunteers. Bereavement care is available to the family.