

Friends OF THE FOUNDATION

HOSPICE EDITION

 **McLaren**
NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

Our Mission:
To receive and administer
funds to support the mission of
McLaren Northern Michigan and
support programs that enhance
the well-being of the community.

WINTER 2019



Inside

- 2 A Note from Our CEO & Board Chair
- 3 Donors Make the Difference
- 4 A Grateful Daughter Gives Back

You Give Compassion

Your support of McLaren Home Care & Hospice provides compassionate care for those facing end of life. Patients and families throughout northern Michigan are thankful for you and for the many ways that you and other volunteers, businesses, and individuals give back.

How You Can Help Hospice Patients

The cost to keep our Hospice homes running, keep nurses out in the field, and keep patients well cared for across our service area can be overwhelming.

You can help.

- Give \$164 to pay for the cost of an overnight stay for one patient
- Give a monthly recurring gift to cover patient care costs
- Give a one-time gift of any amount
- Plan a future gift in your will or estate plan

When you make a gift, choose the region you'd like to support. Simply mail your gift in the enclosed envelope, and we will make sure that your contribution is directed to the right place!

All of your donations support local patients.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and share our stories with your friends and family to encourage them to give back as well!



NORTHERN MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

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Friends of the Foundation Newsletter: Hospice Edition is a publication of the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation and is produced three times a year for contributors to Hospice. Find out more about our work by visiting mclaren.org/NorthernMichiganFoundation.



Thank You for Supporting Patients

Dear Friends,

Every day throughout northern Michigan, our Hospice workers are sitting at patient bedsides, serving healthy meals, keeping rooms clean, administering medications, and offering comfort and support to families and friends. Without your support, these important Hospice services would not be available to so many patients in our region.

We are grateful to you, who give each year so that others can have restful, peaceful, and dignified care during their time here with us. Your gifts help the uninsured as well as fill in the gaps that Medicare and other insurance companies won't cover. Your generosity helps hundreds of patients every month receive the care and compassion they deserve in their final days.

We can't say enough just how grateful we are for your support.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Daniel, MSN, RN, CHPNA
President & CEO
McLaren Home Care & Hospice

Michael Nuorala, CPA
Board Chair
McLaren Home Care & Hospice

Family Member Says "Thank You"

"Words alone cannot express my gratitude for the excellent care and compassion that was shown to our family. Each nurse was so kind and caring, as well as professional. This showering of comfort and care has humbled me. I appreciate each hug, pep talk, and touch that helped get me through the most difficult time in my life. I appreciate each and every one of the Hospice staff."

- Hospice Family Member

Donors *Make the Difference*

PROFILE: Dawn Bodnar

After a positive experience with Hospice, Dawn Bodnar wanted to give back. She organized a fundraiser at Awakon Federal Credit Union to benefit the Cheboygan Hospice House.

"My grandma was in Hospice and I was just blown away by how amazing it was," said Dawn Bodnar, Vice President of Marketing and Community Development at Awakon Federal Credit Union. Hospice provided Dawn and her family with the opportunity to experience her grandmother's final months in comfort and dignity.

"It was one of the most important moments in my life," Dawn said.

Her experience with Hospice inspired her to volunteer at the Cheboygan Hospice House where she prepared lunches for patients, their families, and hospice staff.

Dawn reached out to her employer, Awakon Federal Credit Union, and asked if the organization would be willing to allow colleagues to raise money and collect personal care items for the Hospice House. They were delighted to participate.

Recently, Dawn delivered a check and the donated items to the Cheboygan Hospice House. "It is a great feeling to be able to provide a financial gift and items that I know will be needed here for these families facing illness and loss," said Dawn.



Dawn Bodnar, Vice President of Marketing and Community Development at Awakon Federal Credit Union delivers a check to Justine LaLonde, Hospice Clinical Manager.

Dawn's connection with Hospice began through her grandmother. Now, through Dawn's volunteer service and fundraising efforts, her connection will continue to help other families walking through similar circumstances.

Every donation from an individual or a business helps meet patients' basic needs as well as provides them with comfort and compassion during the final chapter of their lives.

Thank you to the many organizations that support McLaren Home Care & Hospice. To learn how your business, club, or organization can help meet the needs of hospice patients, contact Erinn Hill, Development Officer, at 231-487-3507 or ehill1@northernhealth.org.



Simply Helping Hospice

"Hospice is an absolute gift to so many people who need extra love, care, and assistance," said Marcella Costin, owner of Simply Marcella boutique in Cheboygan. "It is a pleasure to give back to the Hospice volunteers who give so much of their time and attention to those in need of their special care."

For the second year in a row, Simply Marcella hosted a shopping evening to benefit the McLaren Home Care & Hospice Volunteer Program. Thank you Simply Marcella for helping us recognize the many volunteers who are dedicated to the comfort and care of Hospice patients.

A Grateful Daughter Gives Back

Marga Oligney was always active and independent. After her career as a bookkeeper for a car dealership, she spent her time as a volunteer for the local food pantry and as a poll worker during elections. But at 93, Marga's health was failing, and when her doctor suggested that it was time for hospice care, Marga and her daughter, Ellen Jodway, turned to McLaren Home Care & Hospice Rogers City/Alpena Region.

"Hospice led me through everything so gently and compassionately. My gift honors the incredible people who cared for my mother."

- Ellen Jodway, Daughter of Marga Oligney, Hospice Patient and Benefactor

The caregivers who served Marga during her final days were so comforting to Ellen that she wanted to find a way to thank them. "They always helped me to understand exactly what was going on, especially when I couldn't be there with her," says Ellen. "They presented options, and, more importantly, treated her with dignity and respect."



Marga Oligney with her great grandchildren. Marga's daughter, Ellen Jodway, made a gift honoring her mother's caregivers.

Ellen recently honored multiple caregivers as "Guardian Angels" by donating a gift from Marga's estate in their honor. Her gift will help future families be blessed with the same care and compassion Marga and Ellen experienced.

Do You Have A Guardian Angel?

Anyone can give a Guardian Angel award to honor a caregiver. Simply fill out the information on the enclosed envelope and mail it in with your gift. We will deliver a certificate and a pin to your "Guardian Angel," and the contribution you make will be utilized to help Hospice patients in our area.

Honor and Support: *Your gifts do both*

After a Hospice experience, families often ask: "How can we ever thank you for the care that you provided?"

It's easy: giving back honors your loved one and supports other families, which is a beautiful way to show your gratitude.

You can choose to give back in many ways. Some family members volunteer, some make donations, and some include a gift in a will or estate plan to help future patients facing end of life.

One thing is for certain. However you choose to give back, when you give to McLaren Home Care & Hospice, you enrich the lives of other patients and families in need.

Contributions to McLaren Home Care & Hospice, a 501c3 non-profit corporation, are tax-deductible as allowable by law. For more information about making a contribution today, or about including a gift in your will or estate plan, please contact Jennifer Doumanian, Planned Giving Officer, at 231-487-5020 or at jennifer.doumanian@mclaren.org.

