



HARBOR GRACE Hospice

In-patient unit celebrates three years of success

This June brought the official start of summer, school vacations, and the third anniversary of the Harbor Grace Hospice In-patient Unit.

Medicare regulations require that all hospices provide in-patient care for short periods of acute symptom management that cannot be managed in any other setting. Hospices without their own in-patient unit achieve compliance by contracting with us, or another hospice that does. With this arrangement, our in-patient staff provides hands on nursing care, but the contracting hospice retains overall responsibility for the plan of care and management of all aspects of pa-

tient care and the family unit. The contracting hospice bills Medicare, and the in-patient hospice is paid by the contracting agency for the use of their facility and services.

In 2005, Harbor Grace Hospice opened the Fayetteville Home Care office and saw their first patients. But the goal of having an in-patient facility was already there.



However, the process of finding just the right location, renovating the space, and survey preparation was both a long and

laborious task. After a false start (involving broken water pipes and the evacuation of the very first patients only days after admitting them!) the 22 bed in-patient unit has earned a reputation of excellence throughout the hospice and healthcare community.

Over the past three years, the Harbor Grace census has continued to grow. We now provide pediatric hospice care and work with state and local agencies to assist in the implementation of Concurrent Care for pediatric hospice patients. We consider it an honor and a privilege to serve all of our patients during this difficult time.

Harbor Grace Hospice

Harbor Grace Offers:

- > A 22-bed inpatient facility providing 24-hour care; located across from Atlanta Medical Center
- > Home Care with a full staff of professionals including Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Social Workers, and Chaplains



INSIDE SUMMER ISSUE

In-patient Unit	1
Volunteer Program	2
How do I want to die?	3
Truth about hospice	3
She kept her promise	4

Volunteers make a difference

Volunteer

Genevieve Barber



Volunteers at Harbor Grace listen to family members, sit with dying patients, bring tasty food to share, and help keep everything running smoothly in the office.

The volunteer program at Harbor Grace Hospice is small, but growing. All hospices in the United States are required to have an active volunteer program, but we're particularly proud of our caring group. Volunteers at Harbor Grace listen to family members, sit with dying patients, bring tasty food to share, and help keep everything running smoothly in the office (which is more valuable to staff than we can say). They enrich our time together, and help us remember that the little things in life are often the most important.

One volunteer you might meet in the In-Patient Unit is Genevieve Barber. Genevieve has been learning about contemplative care and is a deeply kind, compassionate person. She brings her folding chair along for visits in people's rooms. She has a deep sense of fun along with a deep sense of the

sacred, and she knows how they're connected.

Genevieve listens very well, but she also feels drawn to sit with unresponsive patients to keep them company. After a few significant experiences and conversations, she's begun to focus on being with people who are actively dying, being attentive to both them and their families.

Another regular on the IPU is Rosey Dunn, a jovial man who loves his theology and is training for ministry through the Episcopal church. Rosey comes to the IPU each Tuesday morning and finds people who would especially like prayer, and then visits them to pray week after week.

In conjunction with our chaplain and the people of his parish, Rosey brings communion to the IPU one Sunday of every month for all who would like to partake.

The volunteer coordinator, Rachel Randall, regularly meets with volunteers to help them reflect on their experiences and how we can best serve the patients and families connected to Harbor Grace Hospice. Along with the nurses, CNAs, receptionists and doctors, volunteers work as part of a team to show care for these people we are honored to know.

All volunteers receive a background check and training, and volunteers who work directly with patients do an additional 18 hours of shadowing or supervised visiting before going on their own. If volunteering at Harbor Grace Hospice sounds like something that might be right for you, please call Rev. Rachel Randall at . . .

404-941-1742

Volunteer

at

Harbor Grace Hospice



**Rev. Rachel Randall
Volunteer Coordinator**

Gallup: How do Americans want to die?

In a 1992 Gallup Poll, 9 out of 10 Americans say they would prefer to be cared for and die in their own home.

Respondents were then asked to assume they were terminally ill and had six months to live. When presented with the option of using "a comprehensive program of care" provided by physicians, nurses, counselors and other professionals to keep

them comfortable and alert at home, while emotional support was given to other family members, 60% of respondents reported that they would be "very interested" in considering using such services. An additional 26% indicated they would be "somewhat interested."

At the same time, 22% of Americans in 1992 who had high interest in the services did not opt

for hospice when asked to choose by name. This indicated that confusion or unfamiliarity with the term "hospice" caused hesitation.

What has changed in 20 years? Today, 45% of Americans choose to spend their final days in hospice care, nearly 70% of them remaining at home, and the percentage of Americans choosing hospice increases annually.



He was never overmedicated as we had been told he would be, and nothing was done without our consent.

The truth about hospice

My husband Fred had been diagnosed with cancer last year. He started chemo treatment but after a short while and two trips to the hospital we made the joint decision to stop chemo and go for quality of life for the time left. We had discussed hospice with many people including nurses and some of the negative things we heard scared us more than anyone could know. We were left with the thought that if we chose to go with help from hospice, Fred's time would be very short.

The decision to call hospice was made jointly by the two of us. We called the doctor and asked him to contact hospice for us. From the very first visit we knew we had been misled and that now Fred would have the care and quality of life for the short time left. He was never overmedicated as we had been told he would be, and nothing was done without our consent. All of the nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers could not have done more. Due to the wonderful care

of hospice Fred was able to go "home" peacefully. As for myself, they again could not have done more in helping me through this very difficult time, and I will always be grateful to all of them. If I had one wish, it would be to be able to reach people that have the same fears about hospice that Fred and I had, and to be able to reassure them. Hospice gave Fred the quality of life for his last days that he would not have had without them.

Norma Burmaster





A safe harbor in your time of need

Harbor Grace Hospice
Corporate Office
500 Lanier Ave. W., Suite 401
Fayetteville, GA 30214
Phone: (678) 962-5850

Harbor Grace Hospice
Inpatient Unit
320 Parkway Dr., 4th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30312
Phone: (404) 941-1700
Fax: (404) 941-1711

License 056-242-H

We're on the web!

www.harborgracehospice.com

Hospice volunteer kept her promise

Sanjuanita Teeple had a promise to keep.

"I promised my mom before she died that I would take care of the hospice garden," said the Morley, Michigan woman. Her mother died in April 2012, and she spent much of last summer weeding the garden behind the Woodland Hospice House in Union Township.

Then in September, knowing that Home Depot sold plants and garden supplies, she

walked into the Mt. Pleasant store and asked for a donation.

She got one, *big time*.

On Thursday, about 25 volunteers from Home Depot stores in Mt. Pleasant, Cadillac and Midland brought about \$3,000 worth of trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials, mulch and other supplies to the garden, and spruced it up.

"We want to make (the residents') view as nice as we can," said Cathy Woods of

the Mt. Pleasant store. Several of the hospice house's rooms overlook the garden, and many have concrete pads outside patio doors. On nice days, residents' beds can be rolled outside so the residents can enjoy the garden.

"The garden helps set the mood here, which is peaceful," said hospice executive director Karen Langeland. "It lifts people's spirits."

CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are vital to the work of hospice.

Perhaps you have a specific skill to offer, or perhaps you can be someone's friend in a difficult time.

Is there space in your heart and your life for this kind of work?

If more than a year has passed since your loss, and if hospice was helpful to your family, consider volunteering with Harbor Grace Hospice.

You may call Rachel Randall at 404-941-1742 at any time to investigate whether this is a good option for you.