



**HARRY
HYNES
MEMORIAL
HOSPICE**

Hynes Hallmark

Volume 1.1

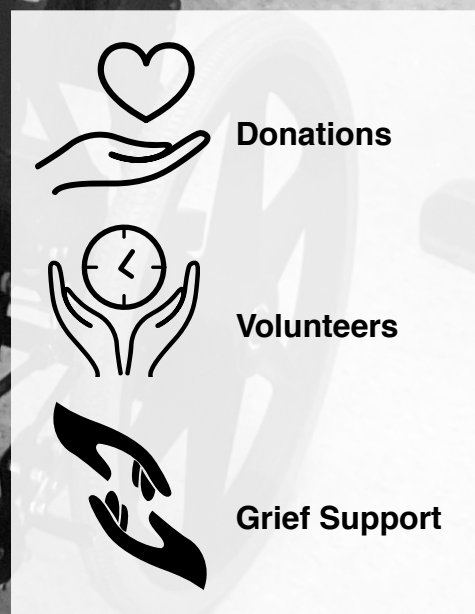
Fall 2022



Photo Above: Rev. Tom Welk (far back left) pictured with some of our earliest volunteers.

Photo Below: Rev. Tom Welk presenting.





Where It All Began

By Fr. Tom Welk, Co-Founder

Hospice services were unavailable in the Sedgwick County area in the early 1980s. The surrounding counties provided some services, almost exclusively through the generous involvement of volunteers. The concept of hospice care was gradually becoming more known, thanks to Dame Cicely Saunders and her founding of St. Christopher's Hospice in the mid-1960s.

Even though formal hospice programs in this country were either non-existent or in the early stages of development, nonetheless patients who realized dying was imminent often voiced their wish to remain at home for the last part of their life-journey, surrounded by loved ones.

That was the case for the mother of Diana Kitch, a counselor at WSU. She contacted several community members to help in the development of a program to serve dying patients and their families in the Wichita area. All the necessary steps were taken to make this possible, and the first patient was taken under care by Hospice of Wichita (HOW) in October 1983.

Instead of relying exclusively on the generosity of volunteers to provide all the services constituting a hospice organization, the HOW Board of Directors decided to enlist salaried professionals, along with volunteers who to this day are a critical part of the team. Secondly, to provide the necessary finances (over and beyond what was received through charitable support), a steady source of income would be needed to support such a program. Medicare, coincidentally, had established a hospice benefit in 1983.

The initial HOW staff immediately began work to put in place all the requirements to become a certified provider. HOW was approved in 1986 as the first certified program in the state of Kansas, and was able to bill for the services it provided. A more reliable and steady state of income was now assured.

Beginning at the end of the 1980s, the various counties in southeastern Kansas approached the HOW board of directors about having this Wichita-based program serve their area, realizing the benefits to their residents of having a Medicare certified program. This necessitated a name change to indicate that no longer would the

services of this hospice program be limited to Sedgwick County residents. Initially, the generic name "Hospice, Inc." was utilized. This proved to be inadequate as an increasing number of other hospice organizations began operating in the mid-1990s. Another name change was required; the name Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice was chosen in 2002, honoring Dr. Harry Hynes (who had died in 2000), an instrumental founding member of Hospice of Wichita.

Today, Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice continues to distinguish itself as a community-based, non-profit hospice in south central and southeast Kansas. Any and all patients (regardless of ability or inability to pay) who are in need of hospice are admitted and provided a full range of services necessary to live life as fully as possible on this last part of their life-journey.

It is through the continuous charitable resources given so generously by this community that HHMH is able to provide this support to all the residents in its service area. We sincerely thank you for your generosity.



New Traditions

By Chenay Sloan, Director of Donor Development

For almost four decades Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice is honored to be a recognized leader in end-of-life care. As the only non-profit hospice serving South Central and Southeast Kansas, we serve with a mission-driven heart putting patients and families first. Founded by community volunteers, we continue our mission enabling people to live with dignity and hope while coping with loss and terminal illness.

The way we continue this worthy cause is through generous community support. Traditional means of fundraising have long sustained our efforts, with many choosing us for their memorial or estate gift after passing. To grow our fundraising goal and reach more in our community, we are starting a new tradition - Lights of Life. We hope we can count on your support to be part of its inaugural success.

Lights of Life will begin the week before Thanksgiving and will mark the official start of our annual Lights of Life for Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice Campaign. A nearly 50-foot tree will be erected on top of our downtown building at 313 S. Market. It will be a bright, colorful, and joyful tree for all in the area to see during the holidays.

During the Lights of Life campaign, with a donation, the community will be given the opportunity to “light” a lightbulb on the tree in honor or memory of a special person in their life. The tree, along with the star on top, will be lit in mid-November for one night. Following the initial lighting, the tree will remain lit, but the star will go dark until we meet our fundraising goal of \$50,000. The tree will remain lit throughout the holiday season as a reminder of the honored friends

and family. Assuming we reach our fundraising goal, the star will be lit again in mid-December and remain on until the end of the holiday season.

Donations received through this campaign enable Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice to provide care, education, resources, and support to those facing life-threatening illnesses.

Donations to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice are tax-deductible in accordance with current IRS tax regulation and will be acknowledged appropriately by our agency. Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice provides no goods or services in consideration of contributions.

We are currently looking for corporate sponsors to support our Lights of Life campaign. For more information, please contact Chenay Sloan, Director of Donor Development, at 316-219-1774 or chenay.sloan@hynesmemorial.org.

To buy a bulb, go to hynesmemorial.org/lights-of-life and fill out the form.

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

- Coretta Scott King

**CELEBRATE
YOUR
LOVED ONES
THIS
HOLIDAY!**





At the Base of Our Foundation

By Karen Sherbak, Director of Volunteers

Many are unaware of the “Conditions of Participation” (often referred to as “C.O.P’s”) required for a hospice to become and remain an accepted agency with Medicare. In 1982, when Medicare accepted hospice as a real entity, the Hospice Medicare Benefit was born. Along with this acceptance, there were, of course, stipulations. The concept of hospice, caring for the sick and dying, has been around for hundreds of years and what we know as the modern-day hospice was created in the late 1960’s. Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice was founded in Wichita in 1983, not long after the Medicare Hospice Benefit was created. These inaugural hospices were run completely by volunteers which led Medicare to continue the concept of giving. Modern day hospices are, as a result, mandated to include volunteers as one of the conditions of participation. Medicare law requires that volunteer hours equal at least five percent of the hospice provider’s total patient care hours.

This mandate was, and is currently waived, due to the public health emergency brought on by COVID. However, we at HHMH, have strived to keep up with the use of volunteers, both because they are invaluable to families but also a rewarding event for the volunteers themselves. Currently, we stand at

5.68% YTD for 2022! Our volunteers have completed **1,268** volunteer hours so far this year! 176 of those hours were Comfort Crossings volunteer hours. These are the hours vigil volunteers spend with patients and families at the very end of life, preventing a patient from dying alone or being a presence to a family who may want additional presence when the end is near. In addition, these volunteers have driven over 7000 miles to provide companionship to their assigned patients and deliver supplies and prescriptions.

Although required, the care we provide would not be the same without our volunteers. We recognize their crucial contribution as a member of our hospice team. They are like family. They bring comfort, peace and care to our patients and their caregivers. Volunteers report a sense of fulfillment and personal reward from the support they provide. If you would like to volunteer with HHMH, please visit the volunteer section of our website at: <https://www.hynesmemorial.org/volunteer/> to learn more about the opportunities available.

Want to learn more?
Contact our Director of Volunteers, Karen Sherbak at 316-217-0084 or karen.sherbak@hynesmemorial.org

WAY TO GO RICHARD!



Volunteer, Richard Conley, who has been giving the gift of his time for over 15 years, won 4th place at the Special Olympics State Bowling Competition!



A huge thank you to Jessie and Smith Orthodontics for their donation of handmade blankets! Their office team worked on these blankets for weeks before donating them to us. The blankets are then given to patients to provide them with warmth and a virtual hug! Another way you can volunteer for HHMH from your own home.

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
- Ghandi



Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a skill you’d like to share? HHMH probably has a need for you!

- knowing a foreign language
- playing a musical instrument
- gardening
- styling hair

EVERY skill is special! We currently have a need for a volunteer (or volunteers) to lightly play the piano provided in the family room in our inpatient unit at Ascension Via Christi and bring joy to the patients, families and team members while respecting the nature of the facility. You don’t have to be a concert pianist to make an impact and even a one-hour shift would bring delight! We’d love to have you!

We are also have a high need for delivery drivers to deliver prescriptions and supplies to patients. This could be a scheduled event and done at a preset time and day each week to fit into your schedule and can be tailored to your area if needed. We need drivers in Wichita, the outlying areas of Wichita as well as our southeast coverage area. If you prefer to serve HHMH with minimal patient contact this is for you!

For a full list of opportunities, please visit [hynesmemorial.org](https://www.hynesmemorial.org).



Volunteer Spotlight

Phyllis Speer, of Coffeyville, has been an invaluable asset to our hospice volunteer team in southeast Kansas since October 2012. She became familiar with hospice services when her father was ill, and later learned about volunteering when her mother became a hospice volunteer. Phyllis started her volunteer service by making lap quilts, and transitioned to writing personalized cards to the local team of patients in the Coffeyville area. When speaking with a staff member, Phyllis later learned that not every patient was receiving a personalized card and she stated, “That just broke my heart!” Since that time Phyllis has been handwriting cards for the entire southeast Kansas area, up to 130 patients per month! Staff members receive regular feedback on how much it means to our patients to receive a piece of mail, especially during the even more isolated time of the pandemic. To add to her volunteer service, Phyllis recently began collecting book donations to create lending libraries in each of our southeast Kansas offices. With these donations, our staff have been able to provide books to patients who enjoy reading. It also has provided resources for staff to use during visits to read to patients who are no longer able to do so on their own. She has collected enough donations that we have also been able to establish a lending library at the IPU in Wichita. Thank you, Phyllis, for your service and dedication to our hospice patients and families! You truly make such a difference!



“Tears shed for another person are not a sign of weakness. They are a sign of a pure heart.”

- Jose N. Harris



Giving Thanks

November 28, 1863 was our country's first Thanksgiving Day. President Abraham Lincoln had a vision for our country when he issued his Thanksgiving Day Proclamation in October of 1863. The Civil War had been in existence for eighteen months. Over 250,000 men had already died. Families were torn apart by the conflict. Lincoln himself was grieving the deaths and sadness of both sides.

Prior to the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln had already experienced great personal tragedy. As a child he experienced the death of a younger brother and the death of his mother. Later as a young man he experienced the death of Anne Rutledge, who some believe was his first love. Then as a father, two of his sons died at the ages of four and eleven. The eleven-year-old son died only about two years before Lincoln issued his Thanksgiving Day Proclamation.

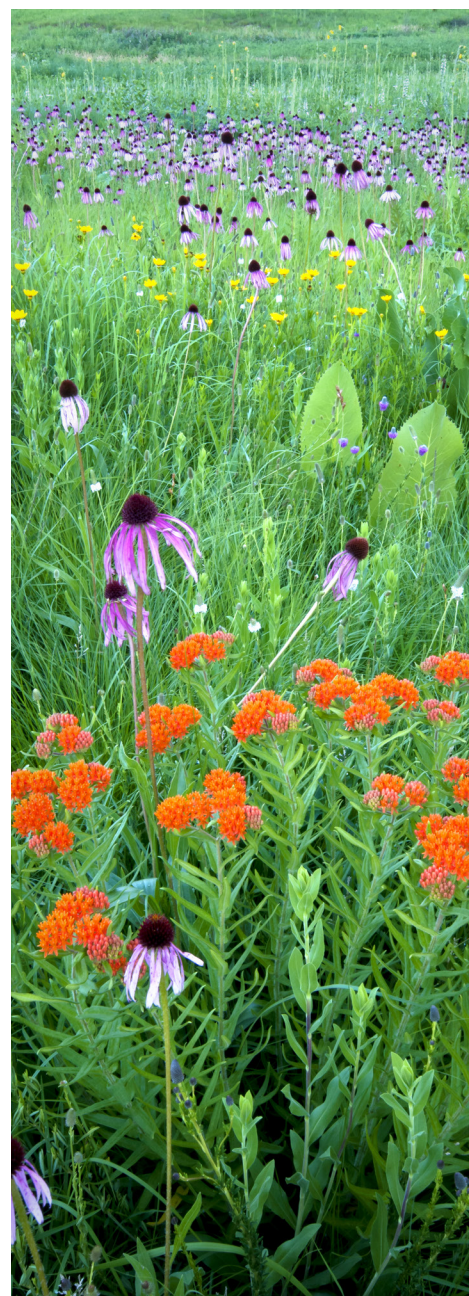
In his Proclamation Lincoln said, “The year that is drawing to its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone

to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God...”

How was he able to find so much gratitude? Certainly a strong faith in God and a belief that “most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be,” sustained him. He also had a great sense of humor which he used to help cope with his sadness. Lincoln was able to persevere in spite of overwhelming obstacles.

Perseverance may be one of the most important things you can try to achieve this holiday season.

If you have any questions or concerns about what you are experiencing, please contact your grief counselor or other medical professional. Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice is available to help with grief and loss counseling. You may sign up at www.hynesmemorial.org under the Grief and Loss category, or call (316) 265-9441.



“Grieving doesn't make you imperfect. It makes you human.”

- Sarah Dessen

A Gift with Purpose

Have you thought about the radical notion that grief is a gift? Certainly there are many gifts you would rather receive than to experience the death of a very special loved one. The challenge for each of us is to take the pain and turn it into something positive. To remain in anger as we grieve, may keep us in a negative feeling that prevents us from loving and living. Letting go of anger is a healthy step toward opening up ourselves to growth, love and life.

Judy Tatelbaum in her book *The Courage to Grieve* uses the analogy of comparing grief to manure. Both are useless unless you know how to use them. Manure is messy and smells awful. People try to stay away from it. Yet it is very useful in gardens and on crops where it becomes fertilizer. Grief can certainly feel like manure but it too can be transformed. Grief can become the motivator for personal change and actualization.

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross eloquently states:

“All the hardships that you face in life, all the tests and tribulations, all the nightmares, and all the losses, most people still view as curses, as punishments by God, as something negative. If you would only know that nothing that comes to you is negative. I mean nothing. All the trials and tribulations, and the biggest losses that you ever experience, things that make you say, ‘If I had known about this, I would never have been able to make it through,’ are gifts to you. It's like somebody had to - what do you call that when you make the hot iron into a tool? - you have to temper the iron. It is an opportunity that you are given to grow. That is the sole purpose of existence on this planet Earth. You will not grow if you sit in a beautiful flower garden, and somebody brings you gorgeous food on a silver platter. But you will grow if you are sick, if you are in pain, if you experience losses, and if you do not put your head in the sand, but take the pain and learn to accept it, not as a curse or a punishment, but as a gift to you with a very, very specific purpose.”

May you open yourself to find the meaning in your gift.



Thank you to those who have donated.

We greatly appreciate all of your support.

James L. "Jim" Addington
Janice C. Akers
Martha Elaine Allison
Mary Jane Alloway
Midori Allred
Cleora Anderson
Dennis C. Anderson
William "Bill" S. Arnold
Howard E. Atwood
Stanley R. Augustine
Sarah L. Baird
Elizabeth Joan Barg
Christine E. Barnes
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Carol J. Battitori
Sam Battles
Catherine Baxter
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Bill and Virginia Felts
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Randall Follin
Martha R. Fransham
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Lola Marie Gillham
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John F. Greenwood
Dale Q. Gregory
Gerald A. Hahn
Johnny D. Hall
Betty Jean (McGinn) Hanna
Lisa Harrod
Richard "Dick" Hartwell
Dr. Robert J. Haskins
Mikkel J. Haugen
Leo Raymond Helsel, Jr.
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John A. Richey
Charles R. Riggs
Robert Roe
Kenneth E. Roebuck
Sharon N. Rooker
Linda L. Arbuckle Ross
Donna Louise Rumfelt
Fern Sandella
Jacquelin LaVerne Schenk
Karen Schifferdecker
O.L. "Vernie" Schilling
James M. Schuessler
John L. Schulte
Doris K. Schwartz
Steven Seimears
Andrew and Viola Shelly
Beryl Silkey
Corrine Simon
Shirley J. Simoncic
Helen Ruth Sims
Paul Sinclair
Corina May Smith

Edgar George Von Soosten
Travis (Tab) Redding Sparks
Katherine Robenia (Balzer) Springer
Harold L. Stafford
Thomas C. Stamatson
Bradley Eugene Stevens
Hazel M. Swingle
Clyde Kermit Taverner
Judith A. Taylor
Ginger Ann Thomas
Robert Allen Thomas
Mark L. Thompson
Willard B. Thompson
Willard B. Thompson and Mark L. Thompson
Elizabeth (Liz) A. (Lamar) Tickle
Ann Vuong
Warren "Buck" Walters
Lillian "Louean" Walton
Donald Warren
Carolyn I. Watkins
Lela Wenger
Myrna J. Werner
Benny R. Whisnant
Jill White
Morris Lee "Bob" Whitney
Jean E. Wikle
LaVonne M. Williams
Carol Winsor
Philip E Wohlford
Eva Nadine Wolfington
Herbert James Wolfington
Frankie L Woolery
William L. Yates
Paul A. Young

Locations

Wichita, KS

313 S Market
Wichita, KS 67202
316-265-9441
800-767-4965

Hospice Center

Ascension Via Christi St. Francis
NW Corner, 8th Floor,
Elevator Bank C
929 N St. Francis
Wichita, KS 67214
316-261-3131
Fax: 316-261-3161

Coffeyville, KS

1503 W 11th St
Coffeyville, KS 67337
620-251-1640
866-865-2154

Newton, KS

1715 Medical Pkwy
Newton, KS 67114
316-283-1103
800-767-4965

Oswego, KS

1010 S Commercial St
Oswego, KS 67356
620-281-7030
866-584-5498

Parsons, KS

2522 Main St
Parsons, KS 67357
620-423-3863
866-584-5498

Pittsburg, KS

3 Med Center Cir
Pittsburg, KS 66762
620-231-7223
866-584-5498

Winfield, KS

109 W 10th Ave
Winfield, KS 67156
620-705-5150
800-767-4965

hynesmemorial.org

Our History



In the early 1980s, a group of medical professionals and local leaders came together to address the vital need for care for the terminally ill. These volunteers laid the groundwork for establishing a hospice program within the community – Hospice of Wichita.

Hospice of Wichita was founded as Wichita's original and only non-profit hospice, serving our first patient in October of 1983. In 1984, we were the first hospice in Kansas to be certified by HCFA as a provider of the Medicare Hospice Benefit.

After that time, other hospice programs emerged in several surrounding counties. In 1989, Hospice of Wichita merged with Butler County Hospice and became Hospice Inc.

As the need for hospice grew, our services expanded to include counties in South Central and Southeast Kansas.

In 2002, we became Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, in honor of Dr. Harry Hynes, one of the original founding members.

Lights of Life



A nearly 50-foot tree will be placed on top of our downtown building at 313 S. Market. It will be a bright, colorful, and joyful tree for all in the area to see during the holidays.

For each \$15 donation, Harry Hynes Hospice will place a light on the Lights of Life tree and add the name of the person you wish to remember on the memorial board and our website.

The Lights of Life tree will be lit from **Thanksgiving to Christmas** at our main office

313 S Market St, Wichita, KS.

Donations received through this campaign enable Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice to provide care, education, resources, and support to those facing life-threatening illnesses.

For more information, please contact the Donor Development Department at 316-265-9441 or 800-767-4965, email us at donations@hynesmemorial.org, or visit hynesmemorial.org/lights-of-life.