



Hynes Hallmark

Volume 1.4 Summer 2023



Donations



Volunteers



Grief Support

Why We Love Harry Hynes Hospice

Our donors tell us every day how passionate they are about supporting Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice and how deeply they believe in the work we do. We are very grateful for the generosity of our donors who help us advance our mission and improve lives in our community and beyond.



"Endings matter, not just for the person but, perhaps even more, for the ones left behind. Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice did an amazing job for my wife until she passed away. Then you served us again through the grief counseling. I donate because I want to make sure the services are available for any family that needs the comfort and support like we received. You are all such a blessing!"
- Dale, Winfield, KS



"Our desire is that any person who needs Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice is able to receive your services. As a non-profit hospice, you serve families regardless of their ability to pay. We believe everyone should have comfort, compassion and quality care, just like they provided for our son, Andrew."
- Jim and Nancy, Wichita, KS



"I donate in memory of my sister, Alice, who received hospice care from Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice. She was so calm and peaceful toward the end, and I credit that to the incredible staff. The doctors, nurses, aides and even volunteers, were always available to answer any questions, and get my sister whatever she needed. They truly are angels. I want to make sure Harry Hynes is able to provide that level of care to anyone who needs it. I donate as a way to honor my sister and her legacy."
- Angela, Coffeyville, KS

Words from Our Staff



I appreciate the outreach our hospice provides to those in the community in meeting their grief needs through our bereavement department. We have responded to physician's offices, the local United Way and other agencies in providing professional and compassionate care through individual counseling, group services and our newsletter the Rising Sun. Our group members have also brought or referred their friends and family members knowing that they will receive help. Going the extra step in ministering to the community as a whole sets Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice apart from others.

Rita, Social Worker



I believe Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice sets the bar for hospice care. The agency and staff have non-profit hearts. In other words, “patient-centered” in order to provide whatever services are needed to take care of the body, heart, and soul. What sets us apart from other agencies? There are so many things. We are unique in many ways, such as being non-profit, having a hospice center, a dedicated bereavement support team, and our trained volunteers, just to name a few. Our staff answered the calling to work in the hospice industry. They come to work each day with a smile on their face, compassion in their heart, and the knowledge and experience to provide the care needed. They make a difference for patients and caregivers/families when they need it the most. I am truly blessed to work at HHMH.

Jeanne, Administrative Assistant



It is a joy to work for Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice. What I love most is that we are mission-driven. Doing what is right for the patient and their family is our top priority. In my role as Community Liaison, I have seen coworkers go above and beyond their regular duties to make sure our patient’s needs were met. Daily I get the honor of witnessing nurses not only taking care of medical needs, but also talking with family members, giving them comfort and peace of mind. I have seen social workers make dozens of phone calls to help find the best place for a patient to reside as they live their final days. I have seen chaplains share their native language and culture with patients who spent years as missionaries abroad. All these acts of kindness are not unusual. It is who we are at Harry Hynes.

Marie, Community Liaison



I have been with the agency for almost three years now, and the care and compassion that our staff provide for the patients never ceases to amaze me! I know that our staff would do anything for any of the patients they care for, even if it was giving them the shirt off their back. Not only have I been able to witness this as a co-worker, but I have also witnessed the amazing care on a personal level. My mother was hospice with Harry Hynes 7 years ago, and my grandfather was on service earlier this year and we without a doubt know that if we hadn’t had the help of Harry Hynes, we would have been completely lost. We never went a moment without knowing what was going on, or what we should expect next during the time my loved ones were on service. I will be forever grateful to Harry Hynes, not only for giving me the opportunity to work at a place I love, but for taking such wonderful care of some of the people that matter most to me.

Katee, Marketing and Community Education Coordinator



People Worth Celebrating

By Karen Sherbak, Director of Volunteers

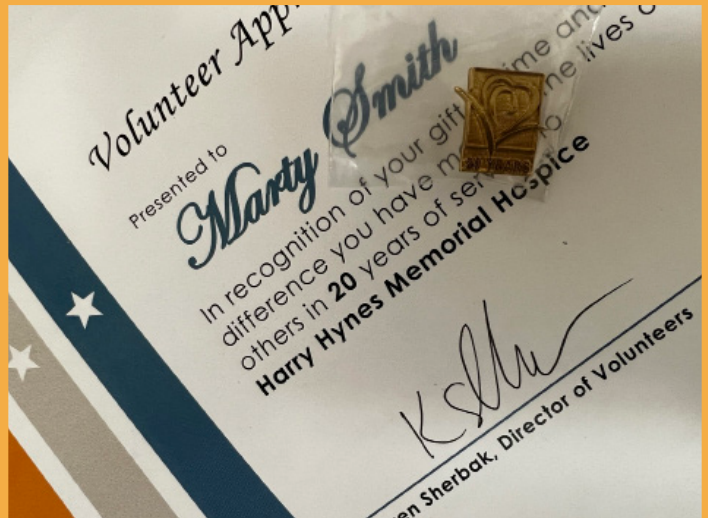
Celebrating our hospice volunteers for National Volunteer Appreciation Week was a spectacular success! Our amazing volunteers give so much of themselves daily it was our turn to shower them with gratitude. Volunteers in Wichita and our Southeast Kansas offices were treated to an event in their honor filled with decadent desserts and much-needed socialization. Sharing laughs, heartfelt stories of their volunteering with Harry Hynes, and getting to know fellow volunteers, the events were heavily attended.

Held in Coffeyville, the southeast Kansas event was attended by volunteers from towns such as Erie, Oswego, St. Paul, and Girard. Hosted by Volunteer Coordinator for Southeast Kansas, Jessica Atherton, LMSW, and Katee Camus, Marketing and Community Education Coordinator, volunteers were treated to door prizes donated from several businesses and their own scratch-off lottery tickets! Jessica says, "I'm so grateful we were able to gather as a group and celebrate our SEK volunteers! I loved being able to honor them for all of their invaluable contributions to our patients and families. We had a wonderful time!" Director of Volunteers, Karen Sherbak and Volunteer Coordinator, Ashley Basinger, from Wichita, were also in attendance, as well as staff members of the Coffeyville office.

Many of the team members in our Wichita office gave their time to decorate the Market Street office for the local event to show their gratitude to our volunteers. The desserts were incredible, and many were donated by local bakeries. Chocolate ganache, Parisian fruit bites, and dulce de leche cake were just a few of the tempting treats available. Numerous door prizes were awarded including 4 tickets to the Wichita Regulators arena football game and 2 tickets to Cirque du Soleil at Intrust Bank Arena this fall!

All volunteers were gifted a monogrammed decorative dish, handmade by the volunteer department, and other tokens of appreciation. Certificates and awards were given out to those volunteers who reached a milestone anniversary this past year. Those reaching 10 years; Aide R., Phyllis S., Ginny S., Jaunita S., and Jane G., were given a wooden clock, handmade by Father Tom Welk, and those reaching 15 years; Dolores B., and Dave H., were given a wooden vase, also made by our woodworking Father Tom! Those reaching their 5-year anniversary, Linda W., Lisa B., Lynn H., Glenda L., Adrienne E., and Mike S., received gift cards to local businesses and a very special gift was given to Marty Smith for her 20 years of service to Harry Hynes Hospice.





Thank you to these businesses who donated to our event, making it a very special one this year!

Blessed Roots, Oswego

The Beauty Mark Oswego, Ks

Black Crow Trading Co. Oswego, Ks

Willow Creek Wellness Oswego, Ks

Chick-Fil-A

Sherri Row, RN

Paris Baguette

All Sports West

Artistic Cakes

Cheri's Bakery

Club Carwash

Slim Chickens

Wichita Brewing Company

Orpheum Theater

Wichita Regulators Arena Football

Intrust Arena

Wichita Sports Forum

Wichita Wind Surge

The Impact of Hospice

By Brie Kerschen, Director of Nursing, Bridges

In the language of Medicare, the interdisciplinary group consists of physicians, nurses, hospice aides, social workers, counselors, chaplains, therapists, and trained volunteers. As a registered nurse who has witnessed the profound impact of hospice care and personally experienced the loss of my own daughter, I can confidently say that the true “interdisciplinary group” extends to every single member of our staff.

Behind the scenes, our passionate and dedicated team members support our organization in numerous ways such as balancing our budget and ensuring our sustainability. We have staff directly involved in Kansas Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, influencing national policies and the advancement of the field of hospice care. I work alongside co-workers who advocate daily to ensure our patients receive the support and resources they need via conversations with insurance case managers, physicians, hospital clinicians, and medical supply chains. We are graced with the latest technology enabling us to provide the best care possible and are nurtured through the most dedicated and compassionate group of volunteers.

Over the past 40 years, Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice has grown from a grassroots organization into the leading non-profit hospice in the region. The recognition we have received as the “Best Hospice” in the Wichita Eagle’s “Best of Wichita” contest for 12 consecutive years is a testament to the exceptional care provided by our staff.

Further demonstrating our commitment to comprehensive and innovative care, Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice provides the region’s only inpatient hospice unit for acute symptom management and the only in-house compounding pharmacy with clinical pharmacists available 24/7 for innovative symptom management.



I am both honored and grateful to be part of an organization that exemplifies ongoing teamwork, compassionate care, and continuous innovation. A pharmacist became instrumental in navigating my own daughter’s unique medication regimen when she entered our hospice care. The nurse, who served as my preceptor years ago, was the hospice nurse who solemnly handed me her stethoscope, allowing me to confirm the heart-wrenching truth that my own daughter’s heart was no longer beating. And in a testament to the unwavering support within this remarkable organization, it was one of our founding members who compassionately guided me through the memorial service for my teenage daughter Zei.

United by a shared purpose to make a positive impact in our community and in the lives of those grappling with the challenges of serious illness and end-of-life, Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice will continue to serve, uplift, and bring solace to countless individuals for many years to come.



“At the blueness
of the skies and in
the warmth of
summer, we
remember them.”
- Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi
Jack Reimer

Understanding Children and Grief

Death is a real part of a child's life. Even a very young child has seen a dead animal or insect. They may have watched Mufasa fall to his death in the movie *The Lion King* or watched the movie *Frozen* and learned that Anna and Elsa's parent's have died. All children grieve but there are important distinctions between the grief of a child versus the grief of an adult.

Immature cognitive development

Children's immature cognitive development limits their understanding of death. Generally, a child needs to be about ten or eleven before the abstract nature of death can be fully understood. For example, death should not be referred to as a person sleeping because a young child might believe they would wake up in the morning.

Ability to tolerate sadness

Children have a limited ability to tolerate emotional pain. They may express sadness one minute and then the next minute are ready to play. Play is a way to escape the pain of all the confusing feelings they are experiencing. Adults sometimes misinterpret this behavior as not feeling the loss as deeply as they are.

Ability to verbalize feelings

The ability to talk about how they feel is limited and talking about feelings may be avoided. Grief

may be expressed more by changes in behavior. Reactions may include depression, low energy level, anger, fear, disorganization, low self-esteem, hyperactivity, aggression, and regression. Parents and other significant adults can help children learn to identify their feelings. Children need to be given a honest explanation of the death in words they can understand.

Sensitive about being different from other children

The peer group is very important to a school aged child. Children who have experienced the death of a close family member may not want to be seen as being different. Friends may be uncomfortable talking to a peer who is grieving.

The biggest hurdle for adults in talking with children is their own uncomfortableness or uncertainty about death. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross says, “You cannot be a phony-baloney” with children. Children may interpret adult uncomfortableness as meaning that talking and feeling is not okay. They may fill in the gaps in their understanding of what has occurred with their own interpretation.

How children learn to deal with death will impact their ability to deal with loss for the rest of their lives. If you are concerned about your children or grandchildren, ask your grief counselor or other medical professional.



Giving in Memory of a Loved One

By Chenay Sloan, Director of Donor Development

As your local, independent non-profit hospice, we rely on community support to sustain our mission and provide high-quality care to patients and their families when they need us. Gifts to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice can be made in memory or honor of a loved one at any time. Birthdays, anniversaries, Mother's and Father's Day, or any time that is special, are great times to donate, and a fitting way to honor their legacy.

Donations to Harry Hynes help ensure patient care and grief programs for those facing critical illness. Gifts can serve as a meaningful and lasting tribute to your loved one that will live on through care and service to others.

We honor all donation designations, but an unrestricted gift to Harry Hynes Hospice, allows us to fill needs as they arise. Unrestricted gifts are directed into the areas of most need in support of the patients and families we serve. Donations can be made one time, or they can be sustained with gifts made in intervals (weekly, monthly, semi-annually or the frequency of your choice).

We are grateful for the tremendous support of our community, and look forward to honoring your loved one with a gift made in their honor or memory. For details, go to hynesmemorial.org/donation or call the Donor Development Department at 316-265-9441. You can also email at chenay.sloan@hynesmemorial.org.



Thank you to those who donated in honor of the following:

Donations were made from March 1, 2023 to July 20, 2023.

Agnes Henning
Alan Little
Aleta Ruth Hastings
Angeline L. Evans
Angeline M. Solorio
Ann P. Vincent
Ann Vuong
Annabella N. Shannon
Archie W. Riley
Bernard R. "Barney" Murray
Beryl Silkey
Bessie Mae Martin
Betty Ann Thompson Gordon

Betty L. Marshall
Billy Gene Gordon
Brandon S. Grimm
Carl L. Shultz
Carol S. Ludwig
Carol Weakley
Charlene D. Stine
Charles D. Mitchell
Charles E. Hebert
Clyde Kermit Taverner
Darrell L. Pracht
David C. Wohlschlegel
Deborah "Debbie" L. Pierce

Debra Margheim
Devin Alan Haskins-Unruh
Dolores Mae Kyle
Donald L. Hoberecht
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Dora Jean Gordon
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Gerald W. "Jerry" Karleskint
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Marguerite Pendleton
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Marsha Hearson
Marsha Lezniak
Mary (Louise) Grove
Mary B. Moyer
Mary J. Butler
Mary Jo Brady
Mary LeAnn Schrag
Melodee S. Wright
Merle E. Clawson
Michael Eugene Foster
My Mother
Nancy Frey
Nancy L. Lauck
Nathan J. Welch
Nathaniel A. "Nat" Brawley Sr.
Neal A. Scott
Neal Scott
Nona Kay Sumner
Patricia A. Lindell
Patricia I. Matlock
Patricia I. Starkel
Patricia J. Rausch
Patricia JoAnn McElwain
Patricia Jordan
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Patrick "Pat" J. Reibenspies
Paul and Patricia Moore
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Wilfred & Marjorie Hommertzheim
William J. Dravis
William J. Ewertz
William S. "Bill" Riley
William S. Riley
William W. "Bill" Richey
Wilma L. Monical
Yvonne (Cleaver) Goins



Harry Hynes Hospice has been celebrating their 40-year anniversary since the beginning of 2023.

Our story began in February 1981 when a group of civic-minded Wichita area community members held their first meeting to discuss a vital need for specialized care for the terminally ill. In March of 1982 the initial planning committee meeting was held, and the following June, Wichita Hospice Inc., the area's first and only non-profit hospice, was incorporated. In October, the decision was made to change our name to Hospice of Wichita. Area oncologists

were involved and representatives from local hospitals were on the board of directors. In October of 1983, we cared for our first patient.

In June 1986, Hospice of Wichita - the first certified hospice in Kansas - received certification as a provider of the Medicare Hospice Benefit. In the same year, Friends of Hospice was established by dedicated volunteers who kicked off the inaugural Tree of Life campaign to raise funds for our agency.

In 1989 our name was changed to Hospice Inc., and we began to expand; we merged with Butler County Hospice; were invited by Cowley County Hospice and Sumner County Hospice to be the hospice provider in their counties; started serving patients in Kingman and Harper Counties; invited by Coffeyville Hospice and Mt. Carmel Hospice in Pittsburg to become the hospice provider in their area; also began serving other counties in Southeast Kansas. In 2002 we changed our name to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice to honor

one of our founders, Harry E. Hynes, M.D., (who passed away in December 2000). In 2004 we opened the Hospice Center at Via Christi - St. Francis in Wichita, the first hospital-based hospice.

In 2011 our agency received the "Health Care Hero" award from Labette Health Foundation in Southeast Kansas. In 2011, we were voted the "Readers' Choice" for Hospice from the Wichita Eagle, as well as every year following, becoming the recipient of the honor 12 years in a row.

Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice has grown from its humble beginnings to a preferred hospice provider and our service area's only non-profit hospice (medicare.gov) serving 25 counties in South Central and Southeast Kansas.

For more information about our history and our services, please visit hynesmemorial.org or call 800-767-4965.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Hynes Hallmark

