



VOLUNTEER Newsletter

WINTER 2010, ISSUE 2, VOLUME 15

Schedule of Upcoming Training & Meeting

Reflective Writing with Sharon Murphy

First Fridays Monthly
11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. all
volunteers welcome

Paws for Comfort

Handlers with Dogs and
Assistant/Escort Training.
Humans & Dogs welcome
Friday, January 14, 2011
1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. If you
want to learn more about
this program and meet
and greet our four-legged
heroes please attend.

Hospice House Volunteer Meeting

Tuesday, January 25th 2011
Hospice House Volunteer
meeting at Main Hospice
Office 11:30 a.m. to 1:30
p.m. Please RSVP

Vigil Meeting

Thurs., February 3, 2011
1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Current vigil volunteers and
those wanting to learn more
are welcome. (As Heather
used to say "Dave will bring
the cookies.")

Lights and Hope

As this year ends and we look forward to next year I want to pause and give Thanks! This past month we have experienced a bright moon, twinkle of Christmas Lights, and a change to more light in this season. All of us at Hospice of Spokane sincerely wish you all a safe and meaningful New Year!



The volunteer's at Hospice of Spokane continue to provide light and hope to many people in our community. Sometimes volunteers indicate that their actions in helping others seem small in nature and are amazed at how much gratitude families express. As we know, hope comes in many forms: a brief respite, a night time vigil, a cooked meal, a vacuumed floor, a walked dog, beautiful music, a fixed door or a listening ear. As we transition into a new year filled with hope and possibilities, I thank you for providing families with bright and uplifting moments of hope.

Dave McDougall, Volunteer Services Manager

About Hospice House and our wonderful volunteers



The opening of Hospice of Spokane's Hospice House two years ago created yet another opportunity and need for more volunteers. Today there are approximately 30 regular Hospice House Volunteers and 20 more who come when called to assist staff, clients and families. The comfort for our clients and support to staff cannot be measured. The volunteers are dedicated and doing a fantastic service.

The responsibility for training those volunteers is shared by five important volunteer "mentors," who provide orientation and guidance as new volunteers begin their important work at Hospice House. These mentors are **Wilma Engstrom, Carol Lawton, Heather McFarland, Elly Chestnut,**

and **Diane Fields.**

Wilma Engstrom RN, Carol Lawton and Hospice House Manager LouAnn Ward, RN. saw the need for new volunteers to receive on-the-job training, aided by experienced volunteers who could work alongside explaining guidelines and sharing their knowledge. Wilma and Carol Lawton designed the training guidelines, with input from staff and other volunteers. Now someone new to Hospice House can gain a clearer understanding of role and functions of Hospice House volunteering.

Our outstanding individual Hospice House volunteers work two to three-hour shifts, and volunteers are on duty each day from 9 A.M. until most often 8 P.M.

The scheduling of all the Hospice House Volunteers is handled by a wonderful volunteer **Nancy C. Young.** Nancy's vital role is the central point of communication on scheduling and meeting specific needs from volunteers at Hospice House. Nancy collaborates with me (Dave), the HH staff and other volunteers. I want to acknowledge that many times Nancy has lent a listening ear to volunteers that wanted to share on how things are going. Nancy also provides the service of a regular volunteer at the Hospice House and thus keeps a pulse on scheduling needs. I would like to also acknowledge our Hospice House back up support in scheduling for Nancy, **Sharon Seemann.** Sharon has been supportive for Nancy and other areas of the volunteer department. Sharon and her daughter **Rachel** also have been dedicated to helping with special mailing projects at Hospice and help out as needed.

Thank you to all the Hospice House Volunteers and also those that come to the Hospice House to help with Vigils, Paws for Comfort, music, and last, but not least, food service. In future news letters I plan to tell more of these other important aspects of volunteering. Thank you!!

- Dave McDougall, Volunteer Services Manager

Tri County News:

New volunteers from Sept. training in Stevens County are **Lupe Hamilton, Raelynn Pass** and **Joan Hulsey.** Also from Ferry County we have **Laura Walling.**

The October training in Stevens County was the result of a very nice gesture from the Statesman Review. It became a spontaneous training because the press release accidentally contained last years training dates. We had a great response and quickly put together a training to accommodate the volunteers.

New volunteers from the October Stevens County training are **Vicki Tomsha, Stephanie Fantasia,** and **Ann Wright** from Stevens County and **Carol Motz** from Pend Orielle County.

We had a wonderful Inservice Training for the Tri Counties Volunteers with Sharon Murphy on "Ethical Wills." She is so appreciated, the volunteers loved the training.

We are currently doing Inservice Trainings on Personal Care to train and refresh volunteers in the Tri Counties area.

Beatitudes For The Aged

by Ester Mary Walker

Blessed are they
Who understand
My faltering step
And palsied hand.

Blessed are they
Who know today
My ears must strain
To catch what they say.

Blessed are they
Who seem to know
My eyes are dim
and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they
That looked away
When coffee spilled
At the table today.

Blessed are they
With a cheery smile
Who stop to chat
For a little while.

Blessed are they
Who never say,
"You've told me that story
Twice today."

Blessed are they
Who know the ways
To bring back memories
Of yesterdays.

Blessed are they
Who make it known
That I'm loved, respected,
And not alone.

Blessed are they
Who know I'm at a loss
To find the strength
To carry the cross.

Blessed are they
Who ease the days
On my journey Home
In loving ways.



Thank you to our vigil volunteers

Thank you to our VIGIL volunteers! We had many vigils in 2010 and we will be gathering Stats in January. Many people have devoted amazing hours to providing Vigils on a consistent basis. I want to mention a few that have been on many vigils in people's homes or community facilities. The families and staff have expressed deep gratitude. I want to give special recognition to **Sharane Schacht** and **Danetta Schroeder** for providing comfort to many clients in the middle of the night. The following list is of our deeply committed volunteers that want to be with people so they are not alone at end of life: **Judy Herda, Mary Ann Will, Don Ragan, Elly Chestnut, Carol Cressey, Wilma Engstrom, Kathleen Green, Hal Holte, Sarah Dhatt, Gloria Benson, Heather McFarland, Derek Policani, Nancy Childre, Rose Bennet, Nancy C Young, Connie Emry, Marsha Dillon, Dean Duncan, Rita Everstine, Shareen Elloy, Donna Blair, Betty Manfred, Mary Jo Kane, Cynthia Shroeder, Virginia Zaagman, Donna Blair, Ronna Doulas, Mary Dawson, Terry Sticka, Penny Moore, Christine Hunter, Julie Schaffer, Darryl Northcraft, Joseph Chacon, Edith Poole, Nancy Young, Stan Bjorkland, James Murphy, Julie Tucker, Marjorie Roark, Carolyn Holmes, Stephen Wieber, Kim Connaroe, Joanna Fightmaster, Jim Ryon, Sharon Murphy, Judy O'Malley, Judy Tulleners, Sue Larson, Neva Keyes, Susan Smith, Elaine Tyrie, Shannon Sellers, Bill Barber, Pat Casey, and Megan Bohanek.**

If I missed your name, I apologize and please let me know. We will be talking about VIGIL COORDINATORS in our next news letter. On Behalf of Hospice of Spokane and Volunteer Department thank you to every volunteer that provided vigil. This sacred part of our work is challenging but vital in meeting peoples needs.

HOSPICE OF SPOKANE
PO Bx 2215
Spokane, WA 99210-2215

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Welcome to our new volunteers from our October 2010 class

Ira Amstadter
James Belisle
Wanda Belisle
Joseph Chacon
Jennifer Duran
Ruth Fealk
Renate Fischer

Susan Franklin
Cynthia Johnson
Meghan Martin
Sandy Manzo
Linda Miller
Michael Mukai

James Murphy
Darryl Northcraft
Crystal Orcutt
Julie Schaffer
Tanjy Tjoelker
Rebecca Van Halder

Reminder

Volunteers Sandee and Wanda are hard at work entering time sheets from visits. If you have any on your to do list please fill out and get to us in next two weeks. Your volunteer hours are part of the requirements needed to keep Hospice Licensed. Do your best to check for accuracy so it makes sense when they enter. We can't do it without you. Thank you!!

Thank you, all volunteers, for the many wonderful ways in which you serve Hospice of Spokane and its clients.

-Dave McDougall, Volunteer Services Manager