Chatham-Kent Hospice

HOSPICE HAPPENINGS *newsletter*

FALL, 2016

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www.chathamkenthospice.com

Hospice Care Proven to be a Real Need...

Chatham-Kent Hospice has now been operational for over 6 months and we have been honoured to care for over 100 families to date. We knew that there was a need in our community for residential hospice care and that need has been proven in a very short period of time.

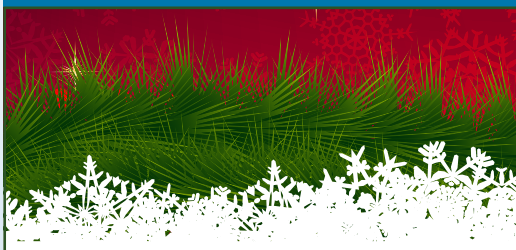
Working with our partners (St. Andrew's Residence, Chatham Kent Health Alliance, ESC Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), VON) has not only helped keep costs down but has allowed us to identify people in the community who are living with a life-limiting illness and make them aware of the benefits of residential hospice care allowing the transition to hospice (from home or hospital) seamless.

We couldn't operate without our team of dedicated volunteers. We currently have 190 volunteers who are trained and assisting in a variety of ways including administration, reception, kitchen and direct support. They have given 6,000+ hours since we opened and their involvement has proven to be a real asset to the services we provide and the families we serve.

If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities, the services we offer, or how your donation will make a difference, please visit our website at www.chathamkenthospice.com or call us at 519-354-3113.

Changing moments, changing lives.

Providing care that changes how families live the important experiences near the end of life.



This holiday season we wish you and your family peace, happiness and health and we keep the residents and families we've served close to our hearts.

Save the Stamp!

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter and have an e-mail address, please send it to us at foundation@chathamkenthospice.com. We will send you an electronic copy of the newsletter instead. It helps us save money and it is environmentally friendly!

Fall Fundraising Campaign

We recently launched our Fall Fundraising Campaign to raise funds for our operational expenses and raise awareness about our need for ongoing funding support. Our goal this Fall is to raise $300,000 and we had a great start with our Benefit Gala raising close to $30,000.

With only partial government funding, Chatham-Kent Hospice must operate very efficiently in order to be able to provide compassionate, end of life care at no cost to residents or their families. With the benefits and cost savings derived from our community partnerships and the extensive use of dedicated volunteers, we have one of the lowest operating budgets when compared with other 10 bed residential hospices.

Please help families when they need it the most and donate today!

A gift of any size is greatly appreciated as the need for specialized hospice care in a home-like setting will never diminish.

Enclosed, please find a reply card and envelope you can use to make your donation. You can also make a donation with credit card on our website (www.chathamkenthospice.com) or by calling 519-354-3113 ext. #2403. If you've recently made a donation Thank You! Please consider sharing this reply card and envelope with someone who might be interested in supporting the Hospice.

Did you Know?

- It costs **$233** to cover the cost of one resident per day
- Groceries and dietary supplies average **$385** per week
- Cable and internet costs per month are **$600**

Consider becoming a Hospice Hero by joining our Monthly Giving Program

Your ongoing gift of...

$20 PER MONTH *helps support one resident for one day*

$30 PER MONTH *helps buy groceries for one week*

$50 PER MONTH *helps cover the cost of cable & internet*

$100 PER MONTH *helps support five residents for one day*

Volunteering -Compassion in Action

Hi, my name is Dan and I have been volunteering at the Chatham-Kent Hospice since it opened in April. I've always enjoyed cooking for my family and when I was asked to volunteer preparing meals in the kitchen, it was a great opportunity, to further expand my skills. As a volunteer I have been given the responsibility and freedom to make decisions that impact my experience. I was inspired to give back to hospice because, like many others who volunteer here, I lost a loved one who could have benefited from the care that is provided at this facility. The most remarkable element about the hospice is its atmosphere. You get a warm, fuzzy feeling, knowing that everything is done for the right reasons with the best intentions. Once you experience it, it's easy to understand all the benefits the hospice has to offer. I was taught, "It takes an individual to make a community and a community to make an individual". I am honoured to volunteer in such a trusting, supportive, hospice community.

Visit our website (www.chathamkenthospice.com) under the Volunteer tab to learn more about how to become a volunteer and to view our new Volunteer video.

Inaugural Changing Moments, Changing Lives Benefit Gala a *Success!*

Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation hosted the first Changing Moments, Changing Lives Gala at the Links of Kent Golf and Event Centre in October. The nearly 200 guests in attendance enjoyed an evening of excellent food, excitement in the form of a Diamond Draw and live auction, and entertainment by a local band. The event raised almost $30,000 to be used for ongoing operational needs.

> ***"Our thanks goes to the guests in attendance, the businesses and individuals who donated auction experiences and the generous sponsors for their support. It was a real community effort for a great community need."***
>
> John Lawrence
> -Board Chair, Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation

Sponsors for the event included Gold Ribbon Sponsors – Ross Insurance Brokers & Victory Lincoln; Silver Ribbon Sponsors – Battery Boy & ProResp and Bronze Ribbon Sponsors – Advanced Realty Solutions (Sheila Young), Armstrong Macko, Kearney Planters, Links of Kent, McKinlay Funeral Homes, Pelee Island Winery, Perry Refrigeration, SG Walker Financial, Westhoek Construction Ltd. and Whittal + Company.

Adding to the excitement of the evening was the chance to win a 0.50 ct Round Brilliant Cut Canadian Diamond compliments of Mittons Jewellers in Ridgetown. The lucky winner was Dan Whittal of Chatham.

We would also like to thank those who supported the event by lending their time and various skills.

Hospice Heart Quotes

Read about our hospice residents and their family experiences made possible by our generous donors - THANK YOU!

"Our sincere appreciation for all your care and concern for my mom during her last days. You treated her with kindness and gave her dignity. Not only did you care for Mom, but you also looked after us and made this time calm and peaceful."

"We are truly thankful our Mom had her final resting place at the CK Hospice. We appreciated you opening your doors to our large family and encouraging us to use the building as our home away from home. Thank you for the care you gave to all of us!"

Visit our website *(www.chathamkenthospice.com)* to see Hospice Heart Stories and videos.
If you have a story to share, we'd love to hear it!
Contact us by phone at 519-354-3113 #2404, or by email at foundation@chathamkenthospice.com

Accessing Hospice Care

Are you or is someone you love struggling with a life limiting illness?

Residential hospice care may be something to consider. To access residential hospice care the first step is to call the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) at 519-436-2222. The helpful staff will ask questions to better understand your needs. Then, you will either be connected with a Care Coordinator, or you will be referred to the program or service that is right for your needs. This may include services offered by Chatham-Kent Hospice.

Message from the Chair

The holiday season is a time for family and friends to come together, to celebrate our connections and to make memories. But I would bet at every gathering there is an absence, a chair that remains empty. This empty spot in our hearts can never be filled because the loss of a loved one cannot be 'gotten over' it can only be 'gotten through'. Good memories will help us get through the tough times, will help us smile when smiling seems like the last thing we could ever do again.

As of this newsletter, the Chatham Kent Hospice has served over 100 families. That is 100 families that we hope will have good memories to help them through their loss.

Our compassionate and dedicated staff and volunteers want to thank the people of Chatham-Kent for supporting us in our first half year. Even though each one of us is a trained professional, it has been a huge learning curve. Who knew we would be hosts to birthday parties, weddings and graduations?

We promise you we will continue to learn and improve in everything we do so that we can provide the very best care – physical, emotional, spiritual - because we know your loved one deserves nothing less.

Most of all we want to thank you for trusting us with those precious last days and hours. We are so honoured by your trust.

We love what we do and will always provide care to the very best of our ability in hopes that we can leave you and your loved one with memories that will make you smile for many years to come.

Jennifer Wilson
Chair, Chatham-Kent Hospice Board

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A Spectra Energy Company

Attention Union Gas Employees, Retirees and Board Members!

Spectra Energy will match donations of $50 or more to support Chatham-Kent Hospice.

If you would like to take advantage of this program, visit www.easymatch.com/Spectra-energy or call Chatham-Kent Hospice at 519-354-3113 for an application form.

What a wonderful way to make the most of your donation.

Chatham-Kent Hospice
FOUNDATION

Contact us to learn more or donate:

By mail to: 34 Wellington St. E. Chatham, ON N7M 3N7
Online: www.chathamkenthospice.com
Or call: 519-354-3113 #2403

We are grateful for your support of Chatham-Kent Hospice. If you would no longer like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please email foundation@chathamkenthospice.com or call 519-354-3113 extension #2403 and ask that your name be removed.

Charitable Status #: 809001597RR0001