



CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter to Keep Our Volunteers & Bereaved Connected

April 2015



THIS MONTH'S CONNECT EVENT



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Gary Jones 4/5
Karl Olesen 4/15

Wednesday, April 15th

Jim 'N Nick's
6415 Atlanta Highway

11:30 AM

Please let Clara know if you plan to attend so accurate count can be called in!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Special Derby Volunteer Training

Thursday April 9th at 12:30 PM

or

Thursday April 23rd at 5:30 PM

It's important that all Derby volunteers come to one of these sessions so that you will know how to perform your assignments.

This year guests will be able to place bids from their cell phones.

Instructions for that process will be included in this training.

Please contact Clara and let her know which session you can attend.

Three Volunteers Needed April 10th from 9:15 to 2:00

Hospice will be hosting Students from Prattville Christian Academy for their Great Day of Service

The students will be making patriotic craft projects for our patients.

We will be providing lunch!
(Ordering Pizza)

Derby Auction Item Prep Day APRIL 7

10:00 - till? Hosted by Julia Wilson

Help is needed to photograph, create descriptions and bid information on the auction items, let Clara know if you help!

Make plans to attend this year's :

HandsOn River Region Volunteer of the Year Celebration

Thursday, April 16th at 3:30 PM

**Trinity Hall, Trinity Presbyterian Church
1728 South Hull Street**

**Our own Caroline Barmettler is one of the nominees!
Join us in celebrating her 30 plus years as a
Hospice of Montgomery Volunteer.**

Hospice of Montgomery to Host Grief Support Group

Hospice of Montgomery (HOM) will be hosting a Grief Support Group each Wednesday in April from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The support group will meet at Hospice of Montgomery's office located at 1111 Holloway Park, Montgomery, 36117 .

HOM's bereavement program is a voluntary one offered to family members and loved ones of HOM's patient's who want this type of support. The bereavement program offers the following services:

- Individual and family counseling with the bereavement counselor in the hospice office.
- Referral to Grief Support Groups.
- Bereavement mailings- grief support materials.
- Grief and bereavement literature and books from our lending library.
- Regular telephone contact for support from the bereavement counselor.
- Annual memorial/celebration of life service.

This Grief Support Group is open to the community. Grief education programs are also available to individuals living within Hospice of Montgomery's service area. For more information contact Winston Brooks at Hospice of Montgomery at 334-279-6677 or www.hospiceofmontgomery.org

SHARE THIS WITH A FRIEND!





EVERYDAY HEROES

Here's to the everyday heroes,
The volunteers who do what they can,
To ease the suffering of others,
And be of service to their fellow man.

May they know the true satisfaction
That comes from helping others
Less fortunate than themselves,
But no less their sisters and brothers.

May they feel the gratitude in our hearts
For all of the good that they've done.
The appreciation that we all feel for them
Is truly second to none.

Volunteer Open House was a Success!

We had a total of 21 people respond to our invitation. Fourteen were able to attend one of the two sessions offered. Nine were referred from the Maxwell Volunteer Web site. Four responded from the Boom Volunteer Article, and four from the HandsOn River Region Volunteer Network. Four did not give us their source information. Four have completed the application process and have begun the on-line training for patient care.

If you attended the session and want more information or to participate in any of the events mention in this newsletter please contact Clara Jehle at cjehle@hospiceofmontgomery.org.

Welcome to Anisha, Donna, Ken, and Kim!



April In-Service: Understanding Other Cultures

Culture refers to the values, beliefs and customs of a particular group. Montgomery is represented by a number of different cultures including black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American and Pacific Islander. As a Hospice of Montgomery volunteer you may find yourself assisting a hospice patient and family who come from a different cultural background than your own. It is important to be sensitive to and be prepared for cultural differences.

Here are just a few of the cultural differences you may encounter. A patient who was not born in an English speaking country may still speak their language of origin causing challenges in communication. A Jewish patient and family may follow Kosher dietary restrictions. Muslim families may follow strict clothing requirements for women and may want to position the patient's bed to face the Holy Mosque in Mecca. Asian Americans may believe suffering is due to Karma. Some African and Asian cultural groups actively protect the patient from end-of-life discussions.

Some general guidelines are:

Learn about cultural differences you may experience from the hospice team and from the family. Be sensitive to those cultural differences.

If there is a language barrier or challenge, identify a family member as an interpreter.

Honor lifestyle practices and traditions, such as dietary restrictions or clothing requirements for women.

Treat each patient as an individual and recognize that their cultural experiences may affect how they perceive their hospice experience. Avoid stereotyping.

If the topic is raised by the patient or family, learn about the patient's religious beliefs and how those may affect their view of dying and death.

Communicate with the patient and their family.

Remember the hospice team is a resource if you have questions or concerns.

As a volunteer, you have your own cultural values, beliefs and customs that may be challenged by the differing cultural values, beliefs and customs of your hospice patient and their family. The general guidelines in this in-service may assist you in recognizing and honoring those differing cultural experiences. As members of the hospice team, we do well to remember as Nobel Peace Prize winner Kofi Annan said, "We may have different religions, different languages and different colored skin, but we all belong to the same human race."

PICTURE DAIRY FROM FEBRUARY 2015

HOSPICE OF MONTGOMERY

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www.hospiceofmontgomery.org

The Annual Benefit
Kentucky
DERBY

Mark Your Calendars for the
“Most Exciting Two Minutes in Racing”

Saturday May 2



Top, Middle Left and Right: 10th Grade Students from Montgomery Academy on their Community Day of Service. They made Easter craft for our patients. Middle Left: Caleb Cutts in red t-shirt is a volunteer at Hospice of Montgomery.

Bottom: Volunteers—Linda Christy, Tiana Cutts, and Diane Sams working registration at the 2015 Hittin for Hospice.

