



Changing Lives... because of you

Hospice Savannah's 2016 Gratitude Report



“ Hospice Savannah allowed our beautiful mother to peacefully enter into eternal rest with comfort and dignity, and to be surrounded by those who loved her most right up until the very end. ”

“ I have always heard that you are a “God-send” to terminally ill patients and their families, and you truly are...My husband died fully prepared, in comfort and in peace. ”



You may call this an Annual Report. We call it our Gratitude Report.

We are grateful. Grateful for the hundreds of donors, staff members and volunteers who help us fulfill our mission.

Because of you, those suffering from a life-limiting illness find the best clinical, psychosocial and spiritual support at their end-of-life. Because of you, their caregivers receive both practical help and compassion. Because of you, those grieving find healing.

On a personal note, I am grateful for the privilege of serving as Board Chair this past year. It is an honor to be part of the "people with a gift for helping™."

Thank you for helping us to change lives for the better.

– Paul Meyer, Chair, Hospice Savannah Board of Directors.



In 2016, the New York Life Foundation awarded us a \$100,000 grant to offer help to more than 200 children and youth who have lost a loved one to homicide or gun violence. Additionally, over the next two years, our Full Circle bereavement counselors will identify and train 100 neighborhood-based volunteers to serve as a new network of ongoing and sustainable support to these young people.

*Because of you, **Full Circle** provides solace, encouragement and hope to any child, teen or adult in need of bereavement support. Find out more at www.HospiceSavannah.org/fullcircle*

In 2010, Jim and Polly Strickland created an endowment in memory of Jim's dad who had served as a young marine on Iwo Jima. Thanks to the Stricklands and other generous donors, our staff and volunteers continue to work closely with veterans' organizations and last year honored 233 patients who served our country.

Pictured is Rev. Robert Emsweller, last Coastal Empire survivor of Pearl Harbor, being pinned and thanked by U.S. Navy CAPT Lacey on the occasion of his 97th birthday.

*Find out more about how your gifts make a difference for our **veterans** at www.HospiceSavannah.org/veterans*





“ I have a dear friend named Lisa. I met her several years ago as I was her veterinarian. She loved her dogs! She recently was in the hospital and told me over and over again how she did not want to die there. I called one of my part-time employees who works at Hospice Savannah and she was able to coordinate with Lisa's family so that she could go home and not have to spend her last days in the hospital.

I was so very thankful for this! Hospice Savannah really helped the family take good care of Lisa. As a tribute to her and as a tribute to her beloved dogs, I wanted to do something in return. I know it's not much, but we are happy to help any way that we can. ” ~Dr. Allison Witherow, who donates proceeds from the sale of Allison Animal Care T-shirts to raise funds for our **Pet Peace of Mind** program.

Find out more about how your donations help patients and their beloved animals at www.HospiceSavannah.org/PetPeaceofMind

“**The Edel Caregiver Institute** has provided a safe place to express my frustrations, challenges and triumphs. Before, I had no one to talk to.”

~ Dr. Dana. L. Taylor, primary caregiver for 86 year-old mother with dementia.

Dana has attended our “Dealing with Dementia Behaviors” training, participates in a monthly caregiver support group, attends restorative yoga classes, and is provided a volunteer companion a few hours each week for some much-needed respite. Instead of feeling overwhelmed, she feels “empowered” and has even begun taking bass lessons!

Find out more about the resources and training your gifts make possible for unpaid family caregivers at www.EdelCaregiverInstitute.org





In 2016 our **Steward Center for Palliative Care** was honored to win a Georgia Medical Society Healthcare Hero award for successfully integrating its services into a community cancer center: the Lewis Cancer & Research Pavilion. A multi-disciplinary team consisting of physician, advance practice nurses, nurse navigators, social workers, dietitians and chaplain, all specifically trained in palliative care, provide expert management of distressing symptoms such as pain, nausea, shortness of breath, anxiety and depression, while attending to the emotional, psychological, social, cultural, and spiritual needs of patients and families.

Thank to your continued support, we have begun offering home-based palliative care to patients with life-limiting illnesses who are unable to travel to clinic visits. *Find out more at www.StewardCenter.org*

“Volunteering helps to give me purpose, keeps skills honed, and lets me give back to my community while at the same time being given the respect of the Hospice Savannah family. I have always looked forward to my time at hospice. It has been a loving, positive experience. ”

~ Hope Lawler, volunteer since 1995.

Our warm thanks to Hope and the 150-plus dedicated volunteers and board members who give tirelessly of their time and talents. *Find out more at www.HospiceSavannah.org/volunteer*

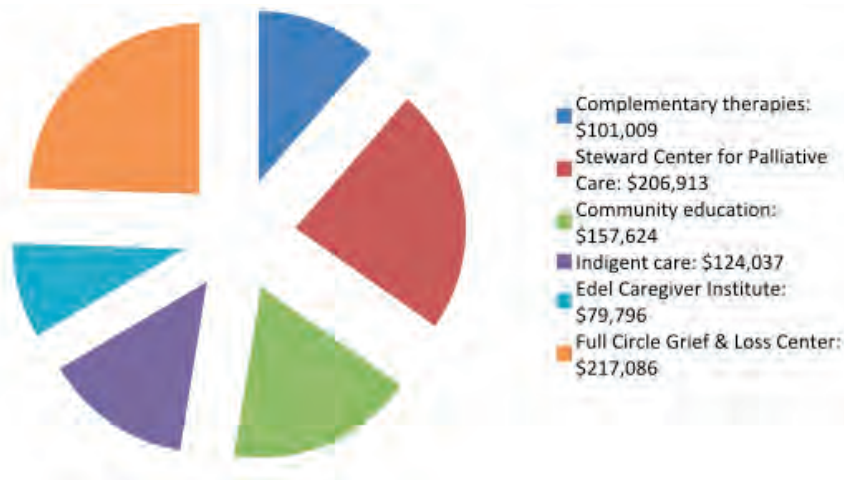




The *complementary therapy of music* is provided by Sara, our board-certified music therapist. We are particularly grateful for a family bequest and a Savannah Community Foundation's Emerging Leaders Committee grant that has provided funding for a new "Music and Memory" program at Hospice House. "Music and Memory" uses the concepts described in the Alive Inside documentary to create personalized playlists for our long-term residential patients. Using iPods and volunteer, family, and staff involvement, we create a meaningful activity for our patients and improve their quality of life.

During 2016 we provided end-of-life care to 1,179 patients. However, it is your support that enabled us to offer the “extra” services not covered by the Medicare hospice benefit or by other insurances. This commitment totaled almost \$887,000 in value.

Your donations at work:



Thanks to our 2016-2017 leadership

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Particular thanks to Bruce Barragan,
Kathy McCurry and Bill Roelle
who are rotating off the board.

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Particular thanks to Bill Baker, Myra
Hill and Carolyn Luck McElveen
who are rotating off the board and
to Vincent Martin, resigning after
five years of service.

Thanks to our 2016-2017 leadership

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Particular thanks to Dr. Nolan Moore,
resigning after four years of service.





Thanks to the more than 2,000 individual donors, foundations, corporations and institutions that supported our work in 2016.
Hospice Savannah Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31416 www.HospiceSavannah.org/Give 912.629.1055



- ☐ Yes! I would like to help Hospice Savannah with my donation of \$_____
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- City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
- Phone: (____) _____ ☐ home ☐ work ☐ cell Email: _____
- ☐ Check enclosed (payable to Hospice Savannah Foundation)
- ☐ Please charge my credit/debit card (MasterCard, Visa, AmEx, Discover) ☐ One time ☐ Monthly
- Card number: _____ Expiration: _____ CVN (security code): _____
- Name as it appears on card: _____
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Please mail to Hospice Savannah Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31416. Thank you.

