



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE NORTHSTAR CARE COMMUNITY

GENEROUS “EMAGINE-ATION” LIFTED MAYA’S SPIRIT

Most teenagers have a fictional movie character they idolize. Whether it’s Batman, Hermione Granger or Luke Skywalker, these characters have admirable traits that inspire them. For 16-year-old *Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children* pediatric hospice patient, Maya, it’s a young girl named Lucky, who is the main character in the DreamWorks Animation adventure film *Spirit Untamed*.

Spirit Untamed is an epic adventure about a girl, Lucky, who is longing for a place to belong. She discovers a kindred spirit when her life intersects with a wild horse, Spirit. Lucky’s brave, independent and headstrong personality captured Maya’s attention from the first promotional movie trailer she saw.

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▶ Maya enjoying her day at a local farm

northstar Care Community



Jo Elyn Nyman
Programs
for Children

A MESSAGE FROM BOB

Over the past year and a half, we have learned so much about ourselves, and our potential as individuals and as an organization, to adapt and grow. I am proud of how we have successfully navigated the pandemic and have become a stronger, more resilient organization.

In some ways, I am not surprised. History shows that people are natural problem solvers and that some of the most groundbreaking changes have been made in response to incredible adversity.

True to our legacy of innovation, COVID-19 has been our moment to address some great challenges and lead the way to improving end-of-life care.

With an unrelenting focus on making the hands-on experience of hospice care better, we leaned into our expertise in technology to:

- ▶ Embrace telehealth as a means to deepen our capacity to meet the evolving needs of patients and families;
- ▶ Create platforms like wE-Connect, a real-time interactive telehealth program that provides a wealth of resources that brings caregiver support to a new level;
- ▶ Expand services and service areas to ensure that these communities have access to the deep resources only Hospice of Michigan's and Arbor Hospice's not-for-profit resources can provide; and
- ▶ Forge technology-based collaborations with not-for-profit hospices across the country to preserve and protect our shared commitment.

Even as new variants continue to challenge the progress of our fight against this virus, the efficacy and growing vaccination rates give us hope that COVID-19 will soon be in our rear view. Nevertheless, we will never let go of our commitment to transform the future of hospice care.



Best wishes,

Bob Cahill
President and CEO



Annual giving is the foundation of Hospice of Michigan's and Arbor Hospice's ability to fulfill its not-for-profit mission of serving all who need our care regardless of their diagnosis, age, or ability to pay. It is through the annual support of our donors – who support Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice year after year – that we are able to offer the quality, compassionate care everyone deserves at the end of life.

The **Caring Circle Annual Giving Society** recognizes the generosity of these annual donors, whose gifts allow Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice to continue offering hospice and palliative care, bereavement services to adults and children, community education and outreach throughout Michigan.

You can give the gift of hospice care and join the **Caring Circle** by making cumulative annual gifts of \$1,000 or more within a calendar year (January through December). Please keep Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice in mind as you make your year-end giving plans.

As a **Caring Circle** donor, you will be recognized in Hospice of Michigan's and Arbor Hospice's spring edition of *Connections*.

Make your gift to Hospice of Michigan at hom.org, to Arbor Hospice at arborhospice.org or call 800-669-9335.

BUILDING ON A LEGACY

As the nation's only statewide pediatric hospice program, **Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children** continues to attract the best in the medical community to ensure that we can continue to meet the needs of families of seriously ill children.

To continue the legacy that James B. Fahner, MD, FAAP, founded more than 25 years ago, and that he and Kenneth Pituch, MD, FAAP have nurtured since expanding the program across the state, we are proud to welcome Dr. Patricia Keefer and Dr. Bradd Hemker to this distinguished group of pediatric end-of-life specialists.

A Difficult Diagnosis

Maya has been fearlessly fighting a rare neuromuscular disease since preschool, first diagnosed when her walk became unsteady. With the help of a walker, she was able to move around, but by the third grade Maya needed to rely on a wheelchair – and has ever since.

Maya has never let her condition slow her down. She loves typical teen activities – going to the movies, arcades and the mall – but her favorite activity is horseback riding. Riding horses has been therapeutic for Maya, helping to strengthen her muscles and improve her balance and range of motion.

When COVID restrictions placed her favorite activities on hold, and Maya and her family were stuck at home, they relied on new movie rentals to lift their spirits.

Compounding Pandemic Strain

The family's pandemic stress intensified when Maya was diagnosed with stage four lymphoma a few months before the shutdown, making her immune system incredibly weak. So even when pandemic restrictions started lifting, Maya was still too sick to venture out in public.

As Maya repeatedly saw the *Spirit Untamed* trailer on TV, she wanted to see it, but was bummed it was showing "only in theaters." It was simply too risky to expose Maya to any type of virus circulating in public.

When Maya's mom, Suha mentioned Maya's disappointment over the movie to their *Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children* Social Worker Tara Derby she contacted Arbor Hospice Director of Philanthropy, Judy Vindici, who began pursuing a safe night out at the movies for Maya.

A Generous Gesture

Imagine Theater CEO Paul Glantz, who, without hesitation, arranged a showing of *Spirit Untamed* for the entire family and close friends, away from the general public in a specially cleaned private screening room – complete with an endless supply of popcorn and soda.

The look on Maya's face – with a big, bright smile throughout the movie – was priceless. Suha described it as "a dream come true" in expressing her appreciation of Paul, who personally welcomed the family, for accommodating them and making Maya's day.

"It was a wonderful two hours to just enjoy each other's company without worrying about Maya's sickness," said Suha.

Hospice of Michigan, Arbor Hospice and *Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children* are grateful for our wonderful partnership with Paul Glantz and Imagine Theaters and thrilled we could brighten Maya and her family's day.



Maya's mother Suha Kridl and Imagine Theater CEO Paul Glantz

The *Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children* is 100% funded by philanthropy. For more information about this program, please visit www.anchors4children.org.



PATRICIA KEEFER, MD, FAAHPM, FAAP

Specializes in pediatric hospice and palliative care and has a special interest in improving quality of life for chronically ill children. She received her medical education from the University of Michigan Medical School and performed residency at St. Joseph Mercy Health System and University of Michigan Health System. Dr. Keefer will be working closely with Dr. Pituch when she joins as Medical Director.



BRADD HEMKER, MD

Is a pediatric hematologist oncologist who is trained and passionate about working with pediatric hospice and palliative care patients. He received his medical education and performed residency at Loyola University of Chicago. Dr. Hemker will be working closely with Dr. James Fahner when he joins as Medical Director.

As a not-for-profit, it is our responsibility to assure that this highly specialized care remains available. The addition of Dr. Keefer and Dr. Hemker to the *Jo Elyn Nyman Anchors Programs for Children* is an exciting step to continue the legacy.



Jo Elyn Nyman
**Programs
for Children**

June B. Hamersma & Arbor Hospice Planned Giving Societies



In loving memory of
June B. Hamersma

April 5, 1929 – February 16, 2020

The June B. Hamersma Planned Giving Society and Arbor Hospice Planned Giving Society, recognize individuals who have named Hospice of Michigan or Arbor Hospice as a beneficiary in their estate plans, trusts or wills. These individuals understand the importance of leaving a legacy for the future of Hospice of Michigan or Arbor Hospice.

For more information about remembering Hospice of Michigan or Arbor Hospice in your estate planning or how to become a member of this Society, please call Stephanie Le at (248) 346-4253 or Judy Vindici at (734) 794-5542.

Arbor Hospice Planned Giving Society members are italicized.

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**In Memory Of*

THOUGHTFUL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES ENHANCE DONOR IMPACT

Forward by Michael TerHorst, Vice President, Antares Capital and Chair of the Hospice of Michigan Investment Committee.

As the chair of the Hospice of Michigan Investment Committee – comprised of members of the Board of Trustees, Foundation Board, and other experienced professionals – we are responsible for the asset allocation of funds donated to the Hospice of Michigan Foundation.

For the last few years, the Investment Committee has worked closely with Morgan Stanley, an independent third-party financial advisor, to be intentional with asset allocations to deliver positive returns.

In this pursuit, the Investment Committee has been an early adopter with its analysis, and eventual allocation, of a portion of its portfolio to a fund focused on **Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance** (“ESG”), often referred to as “sustainable Investing.”

An ESG allocation is important to Hospice of Michigan as it not only aligns with the organization’s mission to be a good steward in the communities it serves, but also has shown to generate attractive risk-adjusted returns.

Below is a Q&A from the team at Morgan Stanley to provide additional context to this investment strategy:

Q: What is sustainable investing?

MARK: Sustainable investing is the general practice of making investments in companies or funds that aim to achieve market rate performance along with positive social and/or environmental impact.

JOHN: Sustainable investments often utilize Environmental, Social and Governance integration to proactively consider ESG criteria alongside financial analysis to identify opportunities and risks during the investment process.

Q: Why are foundations considering Environmental, Social and Governance factors when making investment decisions?

MARK: Institutions such as endowments, foundations, nonprofits and religious institutions are increasingly deploying capital across their investments in ways that are aligned with their mission and/or charitable goals. Other institutions, such as pensions funds, are investing in Sustainable Investments to help mitigate long-term risk in their overall allocation decisions.

JOHN: ESG integration may consider corporate practices such as natural resource utilization, human capital policies and board governance as well as a company’s products and solutions. ESG data and ratings can help investors identify ESG leaders and laggards, enhance risk mitigation, and inform business valuation.

MARK: Donors are increasingly demanding a receptacle for their donation that is ESG integrated and foundations are protecting their long-term assets.

Q:

How is the Hospice of Michigan Investment Committee executing its sustainable investment strategy?

MARK: The Hospice of Michigan Investment Committee has been discussing and monitoring the performance of ESG investments for the last three years.

JOHN: The committee was further reassured by the 2018 Department of Labor guidance that the integration of ESG factors in investment selection and proxy voting policies is consistent with fiduciary duty as long as the ESG factors considered are financially material consideration

MARK: In late 2019, the Committee devoted a small portion of the long-term portfolio to a broadly diversified ESG investment strategy.

Q:

How can donors learn more about sustainable investing?

JOHN: Donors can contact the planned giving team at Hospice of Michigan to learn more about directing their donation to the ESG pool.

MARK: Our firm established the Morgan Stanley Institute for Sustainable Investing to lead work with our clients and with academic institutions to help mobilize capital to sustainable enterprises via global markets. To learn more about sustainable investing, you can visit our website:

<https://www.morganstanley.com/what-we-do/institute-for-sustainable-investing>



MARK J. ROGERS
Executive Director
Investing with Impact Director
Institutional Consulting Director
Family Wealth Director

Mark Rogers is an Executive Director and Institutional Consulting Director for Graystone –Farmington Hills, a business of Morgan Stanley. Mark delivers objective, customized strategies for institutional investors to meet their missions. Mark is also a Family Wealth Director, leveraging sophisticated resources and exclusive tailored investment opportunities to help meet the complex needs of investors with significant wealth.



JOHN G. ROGERS
Institutional Consultant
Investing with Impact Director

John Rogers is an Investing with Impact Director, a designation at Morgan Stanley for specialization in the impact investing space. John serves as relationship manager for the group's nonprofit, corporate and individual clients.

The returns on a portfolio consisting primarily of Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") aware investments may be lower or higher than a portfolio that is more diversified or where decisions are based solely on investment considerations. Because ESG criteria exclude some investments, investors may not be able to take advantage of the same opportunities or market trends as investors that do not use such criteria.

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CRC#3722265 08/2021

VOLUNTEER SEALS LEGACY WITH AN ESTATE GIFT TO ARBOR HOSPICE

Retiring from a meaningful career closes some doors but can often open many more. Such was the case for Darlene Covell who retired in 2009 after 38 years of teaching at Gabriel Richard High School in Riverview, Michigan. Eager to apply her career skills to volunteering, Darlene was familiar with many charities and not-for-profits, but always had one in mind to devote her time – Arbor Hospice.

Darlene began volunteering at The Residence of Arbor Hospice in March 2009, bringing her sweet personality to patients and families. She was eventually joined by her equally

sweet certified therapy dog, Kallie, a beautiful Black Labrador who has eight years of volunteering under her collar.

Averaging three volunteer hours per week, Darlene has been particularly moved by the existence of the Paul J. Rice Charity Bed Fund.

Established in 2017 by the estate of the long-time Ann Arbor-based philanthropist, the fund offsets the out-of-pocket costs of residential hospice care for patients who need it, regardless of their ability to pay for services. Caring for charity patients is part of Arbor Hospice's not-for-profit mission, meaning we never turn away patients because of their financial situation.

Considering the connection she and Kallie have to the not-for profit as The Residence of Arbor Hospice volunteers, Darlene has decided to designate an estate gift in her will supporting the Paul J. Rice Charity Bed Fund.

During her time volunteering she witnessed the impact it had on patients and she wanted to leave her legacy. Darlene said, "The room and board cost for in-patient hospice care isn't cheap, but some patients really need the type of extra support that in-patient care provides. So it's important everyone has the same opportunity for care at end of life."

Owner Darlene with Black Lab Kallie

Interested in volunteering at Hospice of Michigan or Arbor Hospice? There are many ways to get involved, including pet therapy visits.

For more information, please visit our websites at hom.org or arborhospice.org.

Honoring a Legacy of Giving



DOLORES BOS
CRYSTAL ROSE SOCIETY

— for —
Lifetime Giving

Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice are honored to have so many donors who are included in our ***Dolores Bos Crystal Rose Society for Lifetime Giving.***

This society honors the extraordinary giving of individuals, foundations and companies whose generosity has exceeded \$50,000. To recognize members of the Dolores Bos Crystal Rose Society for Lifetime Giving, an ornate rose pin – inspired by Dolores' artwork – has been created.

Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice staff honor each member of this society with a personal pinning ceremony to thank them for their legacy of giving. Members of the Crystal Rose Society will be able to schedule a pinning at their home or place of business.

As a member of this prestigious society, we thank you for your vital resources you have provided that have shaped our history and will secure our future.

Arbor Hospice donors are italicized.



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*In Memory Of



GRIEF AND THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION

A presentation by Grief Support Services Manager, Wesley Lawton and Director of Grief Support Services, Karen Monts was selected to be presented at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's (NHPCO) 2021 Interdisciplinary Conference in Memphis, Tennessee this fall.

Entitled *Grief and the Millennial Generation*, their talk highlights approaches hospice and palliative care professionals can take to effectively support the unique needs of millennials experiencing grief. The idea was born out of a brainstorm between the two colleagues about the different ways generations experience and work through grief.

Wesley has observed that while many millennial participants take longer than usual to warm up to one another at the start of a grief support session, most ultimately open up, share vulnerabilities, and actively offer support to one another.



Wesley Lawton
Grief Support Services Manager



A HOLE IN ONE FOR THE RESIDENCE OF ARBOR HOSPICE

Arbor Hospice held its first in-person event following the pandemic on June 22nd and it was a success *fore* sure.

126 golfers and 18 sponsors supported the inaugural *Heroes for Arbor Hospice Golf Outing* at the Eagle Crest Golf Club in Ypsilanti to raise crucial funds for *The Residence of Arbor Hospice*.

“It was a wonderful and beautiful day for us to have our first event after such a long hiatus. Being able to interact with donors and sponsors and to thank them in person was extra special, especially after social distancing for so long,” said Judy Vindici, Director of Philanthropy.

The event netted more than \$40,000 to support this important community resource for immediate needs.

The participants and sponsors had so much fun attending the event and were enthusiastic throughout the whole day. It was great to see how they understood how important their support is to keeping this community resource. The event was so special and successful that we want to continue it annually.

A big thank you to our sponsors, attendees, volunteers and Eagle Crest Golf Club for supporting *The Residence of Arbor Hospice*.

See you there next year on Tuesday, September 13th 2022!

“IT’S AS IF THERE IS A PARTICULAR DISCOMFORT OR DISTRUST RELATED TO EXPRESSING FEELINGS RELATED TO GRIEF AND LOSS, BUT ALSO A PARTICULAR YEARNING AND COMMITMENT TO DOING SO WHEN THOSE CONNECTIONS ARE MADE WITHIN THE GROUP.” – WESLEY

With a research assist by Hospice of Michigan Analyst C.S. Pimm, Wesley’s NHPCO presentation will help other hospice providers enhance grief support services targeting their younger audiences.

“The millennial generation is a quickly growing population among caregivers – people are losing loved ones at an increasing rate and will someday become the largest segment of that population,” Wesley said.

For more information about Grief Support Services, as well as Music and other Complementary Therapies offered through Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice, please visit hom.org or arborhospice.org.

LEADING THE WAY

Caring for nearly 1,200 patients every day takes the dedication and expertise of hundreds of hospice and palliative care professionals. Guided by an overarching standard of care – **Every Person. Every Time** – the individual and collective efforts of our colleagues contribute to a reputation of excellence that is recognized across the nation.

The special support that our music therapy and grief support colleagues provide represent two components of the hospice experience

that patients and families value highly. Yet the spiritual, emotional and physical comfort that these disciplines address is only available because donors like you understand how integral these services are to a family facing end of life.


Earlier this year, their expertise was recognized on a national scale with invitations to present at two industry conferences to share their insights and expertise with other hospice providers.


Listening, Learning & Leaving a Legacy

Music Therapists Allison Buttermore, MT-BC, and Kaitlin Ridgway, MM, MT-BC, had the honor of presenting their legacy work at the 2021 Great Lakes Regional and Midwest Regional Joint Music Therapy Conference.

Their presentation, *Listening, Learning, and Leaving a Legacy: Ideas and Implications for Use of Legacy Projects*, featured the music therapy team's extraordinary efforts to reach patients and families during the pandemic.

AMONG THE UNIQUE MUSIC THERAPY APPROACHES THE DUO SHARED WERE:

 A legacy project built around a heartbeat recording for a teenage patient. The patient selected the song “In My Blood” by Shawn Mendes. The lyrics of this song connected with her because they spoke to not giving up and always pushing forward, something that she felt through her diagnosis and the obstacles she’s overcome.

 Giving the space needed to a patient who felt overwhelmed. Respecting the wishes a patient who had asked for a pause in music therapy visits, the team gave her the space she needed. Yet, during this pause, they recorded a song that was important to her, adding some additional verses that were discussed in earlier visits. Even without being at the bedside, the music therapists were able to provide the comfort of music to this patient on her terms. She was grateful for their efforts, sharing this legacy piece with family members across the world, and listening to it in her own time.

These techniques spotlight some of the many ways creativity and compassion can come together to encourage patients and families to make deeper connections and share precious moments at the end of life.

“A lot of things felt turned upside down in 2020, and it was so great to share the creative ways we were able to reach our patients and families. Hopefully it inspires other music therapists in the future to continue to adapt and help even more people,” said Kaitlin.

For a video example of our Music Therapy program, visit: www.hom.org/music-therapy

Kaitlin Ridgway (LEFT) and Allison Buttermore
Music Therapists



HOSPICE OF MICHIGAN LOCATIONS

- Ada (Grand Rapids)
- Alpena
- Ann Arbor
- Big Rapids
- Bloomfield Hills
- Cadillac
- Charlevoix
- Clinton Township
- Dearborn
- Gaylord
- Holland
- Ludington
- Muskegon
- Southfield
- Traverse City

ARBOR HOSPICE / HOME OFFICE

- Ann Arbor
- Saline

northstar

Care Community

2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103

24/7 CONTACT CENTER
888.247.5701



24/7 CONTACT CENTER
888.992.2273 (CARE)

If you wish to remove your name from future fundraising solicitations, contact the Donation Processing Center: 800.669.9335 or email: info@hom.org

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*In Memory Of

2021 HEARTS OF REMEMBRANCE

For nearly 30 years, this signature fundraising campaign has raised much needed funds to support patient care, pediatric hospice, grief support and complementary therapies at Arbor Hospice.

Each Heart is hand-crafted by a dedicated group of volunteers – many who's loved ones received hospice services – providing a unique keepsake, and for many families, a cherished collectible. Every Heart comes with a ribbon and tag to write a loved one's name on it—making it easy to hang it on a holiday tree, or from the refrigerator, window, etc.

Please consider ordering a traditional or Veteran's *Hearts of Remembrance* in memory or in honor of a loved one. Your donation will make a direct impact for patients and families.

2021 Hearts
of Remembrance

To learn more please visit:
www.arborhospice.org/hearts
or contact: Sarah Parkin at
313-578-5025.

2021 Veterans
Hearts of
Remembrance

