



Friends of Hospice,

We know that the holiday season brought with it both joys and sadness for some. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to journey by the sides of Alaskans and their families at end-of-life. We do hope the season was full of meaningful moments for you.

As we look forward to a new calendar year, we do so with renewed commitment to responsible stewardship and compassionate care. We are deeply grateful for your trust and ongoing investment in our mission.

We will be wrapping up our Remembrance Tree event and our Navigating the Holidays bereavement support on January 31st, 2026. Please do check our calendar inside the newsletter; we continue to provide ongoing monthly grief and bereavement support to our community and have some great events coming up to support our community.

On behalf of our clients, families, staff and volunteers, thank you for being an essential part of our hospice community!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Susie

Suzanne R. Smith
Executive Director

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Operations Update

As the new year begins, Hospice of Anchorage continues to strengthen the behind-the-scenes systems that support compassionate care across all programs. These operational efforts include coordinating volunteers, stewarding financial and donor resources, maintaining accurate reporting, and ensuring the Resource Center remains accessible, welcoming, and well stocked for individuals and families seeking support. Strong operations provide the foundation that allows staff and volunteers to focus their time and energy on caring for those navigating terminal diagnosis, dying and grief.

Much of this work happens quietly, carried out by dedicated staff and volunteers whose consistency and attention to detail keep services running smoothly. From supporting the Resource Center and managing information requests to maintaining schedules, supplies, and compliance requirements, these efforts help ensure Hospice of Anchorage remains a trusted and responsive community resource. As the organization moves into the year ahead, the focus remains on sustainability, building systems that support people, honoring donor generosity, and allowing Hospice of Anchorage to continue serving the community with compassion and care.

With appreciation,

Ann

Ann Corbett
Operations Director

If you asked anyone of our small team of 6, you'd find that we've all been met with the same question: "what brought you here?"

Being in the line of hospice work, it often feels as though there is an underlying truth, an unspoken understanding and a profound sense of meaning that draws each of us to walk alongside death and dying every day. While we each carry a different story, this common thread we share has built the foundation for our amazing team.

No matter the path that led us, we recognize the sacredness of death and the journey at end of life. We honor that for ourselves, for one another, and for all who seek support.

My personal relationship with death is what brought me to Hospice of

Anchorage. Believing in the importance of this work is why I stay. Death holds deep meaning for anyone who has walked closely with it, and I am grateful to be part of the support that helps people navigate those experiences.

If you feel called to this kind of work, we invite you to consider joining our team, as our next Clinical Program Manager.

Angie

Angela Frank
Administrative & Communications
Coordinator



Now Hiring

— ♥ —
Clinical Program
Manager

Part time or Full-time
\$48,000 - 84,000

To apply email your
resume to:

ann@hospiceofanchorage.com
— ♥ —

HOSPICE OF ANCHORAGE

907.561.5322 | info@hospiceofanchorage.org | 2612 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99508

Upcoming Events!

JANURARY:

17th - Compassionate
Companion Training
10-4PM

29th - Restorative Yoga
with Angie Frank
6:30-7:30PM

1-31st - Navigating the
Holidays: Grief Support
Bags

Friday's - Grief &
Caregiver Support
Group 10-11AM

FEBRUARY:

6th - Volunteer: My
Impact Reporting
Workshop 6-7PM

12th - "The Gift of
Presence" Presentation
with Deb Sis 6-7PM

Friday's - Grief &
Caregiver Support
Group 10-11AM

MARCH:

20th - Volunteer:
Boundaries Workshop
12-1PM

Upcoming in Spring -
Anticipatory Grief
Support Group

Message from Volunteer, Mary Heiner

"I cannot think of anything better to do with my time, quite frankly. Laundry, dishes, and scrubbing floors get done over and over again without much accolade. But when you volunteer at Hospice, whether you pull weeds or needed sticker placement, you get the warmest, fuzziest feeling ever! Although I am a Hospice client, I made up my mind I wanted to help other people in my same situation for as long as I could. That was the best decision I have ever made. It has been better for me that any medicine the doctors could have prescribed! When I do the Spark of Joy for others, it gives me a treasure beyond measure for the entire month!! It gives me a positive lift to my soul, a joy to my heart. Try it...You might like it!!"



If you would like to honor your loved one, there is still time. Our Remembrance Tree will remain up through the end of January, and we welcome you to add an ornament in their memory. Their light continues to shine in our space and in our hearts.



In-office Pick up
Nov. 1 - Jan. 31

Loss doesn't follow a calendar, and memories often arrive wrapped in both warmth and sorrow. For support after the holiday season, stop by our office to pick up a free grief support bag, thoughtfully prepared to bring a little warmth to your winter.



Friday's 10-11AM
Nov. 14 - Feb. 20

Join us for a 12-week open support group offering a safe and compassionate space to explore the journey of grief and caregiving. Each week will focus on themes such as understanding grief, coping with waves of emotion, caring for yourself, finding meaning in memories, and moving toward hope and new identities.

Compassionate Companion Training

January 17th 10AM-4PM

Come join us!

If you're interested in becoming (or currently) a volunteer to bring companionship to those with a terminal diagnosis, you are welcome.

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Dear Donors,

To everyone who contributed to our Remembrance Tree, thank you for sharing the memory of your loved ones and allowing us to hold space for them. Each ornament was written with care and placed thoughtfully on our tree, creating a beautiful tribute of memory, love, and the enduring truth that their light lives on, for which we are honored to walk alongside.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, First National Bank Alaska, Fashion Pact, and our community partners. Your donation has helped sustain our mission and fills our space with a gentle reminder of the lives that continue to shine in our hearts.

With gratitude,

Hospice of Anchorage Team

Supporting Children Through Grief

Children experience grief deeply, yet often lack the words or space to express their feelings. Hospice of Anchorage's Children's Bereavement Program provides age-appropriate grief resources to help children navigate loss in healthy ways. We are currently seeking \$5,000 in community support to sustain this important program for the coming year. This funding ensures that grieving children in our community can receive compassionate support—at no cost to their families—during one of the most difficult times in their young lives. We humbly request your consideration in donating for this cause.



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