THE CARING VOICE

VOL. 11
JULY - SEPT. 2026

Friends of Hospice,

We've been strengthening our foundation this past year, clarifying who we are and defining how we serve. As part of this effort, we have updated our mission statement, developed new values, and a clear vision to guide us forward. These updates reflect the heart of our organization and our deep commitment to our community.

As a volunteer hospice, we fill a much-needed gap in the community by offering compassionate, non-medical support for individuals and families navigating end-of-life, caregiving, and grief. Our role is to walk alongside people through these universal experiences with dignity, presence, and care.

We are dedicated to normalizing conversations around death and dying, supporting caregivers more fully, and expanding the ways we show up for those experiencing grief. You will see this reflected in our bolstered outreach, deeper community partnerships, and multiple and varied monthly events designed to bring people together in meaningful ways at end-of-life.

Thank you for being part of this community and for supporting the continued growth at Hospice of Anchorage. Together, we are building a culture where compassion, connection, and honest conversation can flourish.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Susie
Suzanne R. Smith
Executive Director

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Growing Forward Together

As we begin a new fiscal year, July offers an opportunity to look ahead with purpose and gratitude. Guided by our mission to offer compassionate support and resources that help people and those who care for them live well through all stages of dying and bereavement, we are excited to launch our new annual budget and program calendar. These plans help ensure that we can continue providing meaningful support to individuals and families throughout our community.

Hospice of Anchorage remains committed to offering non-medical hospice care, medical equipment and supplies, educational resources, and information at no cost to those navigating end-of-life, caregiving, grief, and loss. As community needs continue to grow, we are also expanding our team and hiring for key positions that will strengthen our ability to serve more individuals and families with compassion and excellence.

This month, we also celebrate and thank our incredible volunteers. Their generosity, kindness, and dedication are woven into every aspect of our work. Whether assisting in our Resource Center, supporting programs and events, providing companionship, or helping behind the scenes, our volunteers extend the reach of our mission each and every day.

As we step into this new year of service, we are grateful for the volunteers, donors, community partners, and supporters who make our work possible. Together, we continue building a community where no one has to navigate serious illness, caregiving, dying, or grief alone.

With gratitude,

Ann

Ann Corbett
Operations Director

Message from the Board

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The only constant in life is change, and organizational standards & policies are no exception. Hospice of Anchorage was founded over 45 years ago – and while we are incredibly proud of our history as an organization, it has become a priority for your Hospice of Anchorage board to review outdated policies & create new ones to cover any gaps identified. To facilitate this effort, we recently participated in a 2-day strategic development retreat centered on aligning our mission, vision and values with the organization we are today. Our revised vision statement especially speaks to my heart –

The vision for Hospice of Anchorage is to create a compassionate and connected community that is empowered to navigate end-of-life via conversation, preparedness, and companionship.

On behalf of the entire board of directors, we are so grateful for the opportunity to build this community alongside our wonderful staff, volunteers, and service partners. As we continue this important work, we invite you to join us in strengthening the compassionate and connected community we envision by participating in or sponsoring our upcoming Embrace the Journey Summer Walk. Whether you register to walk, form a team, or support the event as a sponsor, your involvement helps ensure that Hospice of Anchorage can continue providing education, resources, and companionship to individuals and families navigating end-of-life experiences.

With appreciation,

Paloma

Paloma Hawn
Board President

Upcoming Events

July: 10th - Volunteer Contin. Education: Dementia Tools 12-1PM
29th - End-of-Life Clarity: Understanding the Dying Process

Aug: 8th - Walk to Remember with Providence
19th - Grief in the Body 6-7PM

Sept: 5th - Healing Trails Grief Walk 10-11AM
13th - Trick-or-Treat in the Heat 5-7PM
23rd - Caregiver Resilience Circle 6-7PM

Grief Support Group
Tuesday's 6:30-7:30PM
Aug. 11 - Oct. 27
2612 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

Volunteer Spotlight

"Hi, I am Norma Monsen, volunteer at Hospice of Anchorage (HOA). I joined HOA in January. Prior to HOA I worked as a hospice nurse and enjoyed working with patients and their families. Now working with HOA I am talking with clients and their caregivers and offering assisting with needs and concerns. I enjoy working with the HOA team helping them provide their programs and services."

Norma

Walk with Us

Dear Community,

We are excited to share with you a new event at Hospice of Anchorage, one that focuses our energy on the work that matters most: supporting our community and caring for one another at end-of-life.

Please join us August 1st to Embrace the Journey: A Summer Walk with Hospice of Anchorage. We're excited to bring our community together in a way that feels accessible, joyful, and aligned with the heart of Hospice of Anchorage reflecting our commitment to compassion, connection, and conversation.

Your participation directly supports the programs that allow us to walk alongside individuals and families through end-of-life, caregiving, and grief. Thank you for being part of this community and for embracing the journey with us.

To join, please sign up following the QR code or visit our website, www.hospiceofanchorage.org.

Adult: $20
Child: $5
Under 5: Free

Message from Our Volunteer Program Coordinator

Looking back over the last 10 months I see such growth in our HOA volunteer program. It has been my privilege as the new Volunteer Program Coordinator to work with our team of devoted staff and dedicated volunteers. In that time, we've been able to host two training courses, six volunteer events – including a lovely Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, and matched nine Compassionate Companions with clients. Our volunteers have also participated in Health Fairs, Fundraisers, Community Outreach, Administrative Support, and group facilitation. The willingness to serve our community is evident in all of you. I'm grateful for the efforts, heart, talents, and kindness I witness every day here at Hospice of Anchorage. I'm looking forward to what we will accomplish this coming year.

Thank you!

Krista
Krista Petersen
Volunteer Program Coordinator

Board of Directors

Paloma Hawn
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Suzanne Smith
Executive Director

Kae Quick
Palliative Care Manager

Krista Petersen
Volunteer Program Coordinator

Ann Corbett
Operations Director

Angela Frank
Engagement & Administrative Program Manager

Carolyn Stone
Palliative Care Case Manager

Naomi Vaughan
Administrative Program Support Coordinator

Dear Community and Partners,

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support and generosity of our community. Hospice of Anchorage is currently seeking community sponsors and in-kind donations for Embrace the Journey: A Summer Walk to help bring this experience to life. Your support directly contributes to making the event accessible, engaging, and impactful for those we serve. We would be honored to partner with you and highlight your commitment to community well-being.

Thank you for helping us make this work possible.

With gratitude,

Hospice of Anchorage Team

Journey Champion — $1,000

- Logo featured on our in-office Community Partnership Wall
- Sponsor name featured at a specific "joy station"
- Logo on event webpage
- Featured social media post
- Social media thank you
- 6 complimentary registrations

Journey Partner — $500

- Sponsor name featured at a specific "joy station" (e.g., bubbles, affirmation pull, movement lane)
- Logo on event webpage
- Social media thank-you
- 4 complimentary registrations

Joy Supporter — $250

- Logo on event webpage
- Social media thank-you
- 2 complimentary registrations

Sponsoring Our Mission

Hospice of Anchorage
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Hospice of Anchorage is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Agency – Serving the Anchorage Community Since 1980