

HOSPICE OF ANCHORAGE HOURS:

VISITORS TO THE RESOURCE CENTER,
COMMUNITY WALK-INS, & REFERRALS FROM OUR
COMMUNITY PARTNERS
MON - THURS: 11AM - 4PM

CURRENTLY REGISTERED CLIENTS AND TEAMS
SUPPORTING THEIR CARE
MON - FRI: 8AM - 4PM



A Note From the Executive Director

Friends of Hospice of Anchorage,

The sun is back and is it ever shining on HOA! We have seen so much growth and kindness as we commit to supporting Alaskans facing end-of-life. In December, we closed out our Remembrance Tree event, memorializing loved ones whose lights will always shine in our hearts. In January, we launched an inaugural ten-week grief and bereavement support group (you will see those again in the near future). In February, we hosted almost 70 people at the HOA Older Persons Action Group event along with a Meet and Greet with Kim Perry, an amazing new author of *Loving to Death: Self-Help for Caregivers*. We anxiously await March as we have partnered with both Legacy Funeral Homes and the Bear Tooth Theatrepub, to show the film *The Last Ecstatic Days*. The movie follows the journey of a young man with brain cancer through his very last breath. Our clinical team will be with us that evening to answer questions at the end of the showing. Please consider joining us! Tickets are on sale now at: www.beartooththeatre.net. We are thrilled to be launching our new website in March. This is one of our last steps to ensure seamless and accurate communication to all friends of HOA. Stay tuned! And in April, we will launch our second Annual Bloom into Spring Campaign. We would love your support. Please keep an eye out for details.

Lastly, if you haven't yet met our incredible social work interns, please come by and say hi to Leeann Brewster, Tracy Israelson and Maya Thayer! They have been tremendous helpers to us at HOA as they learn the beauty of the hospice philosophy and just what wonderful work that we do here in Anchorage for those at the end of their lives.

Our cups runneth over! We are privileged to do this work by your side and can only do so by the incredible generosity of our beautiful community. Thank you for partnering with us and Happy Spring!

Warmly,
Susie

IN-HOME CARE

GRIEF SUPPORT

END OF LIFE PLANNING

Operations Update

At Hospice of Anchorage, volunteers truly are the heartbeat and lifeblood of our organization. They play an essential role in every aspect of our work, from serving on the Board of Directors to supporting fundraising efforts, providing bereavement services, offering direct care, assisting with office and administrative tasks, helping with facility support, beautifying our location, hospitality, and delivering the Spark of Joy program.

There are countless ways for volunteers to get involved, and each individual works closely with our Volunteer Program Coordinator to choose opportunities that align with their interests, skills, and availability. Once the right fit is determined, volunteers complete any necessary training and qualification requirements for their chosen role. Some positions require in-depth initial training, along with ongoing education and reporting to ensure continued excellence in service.

We are excited to announce that Hospice of Anchorage is nearly at full staffing capacity. In the coming year, we are eager to focus on enhancing the direct leadership of our volunteers. Our goal is to establish dedicated volunteer leaders who will create and manage teams focused on specific functions that support our HOA mission. We look forward to integrating volunteer leadership, support, and empowerment, ensuring they have all the resources they need to continue making a profound impact on the lives of those we serve.

Thank you to all of our incredible volunteers for your dedication and heart. We couldn't do this important work without you. Please be on the lookout for more about this exciting roll out in next quarter's newsletter. If you are interested in learning more, or know a friend who might fit into this need, please reach out to Tracy at tracy@hospiceofanchorage.org.

Donor Thank Yous

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! Your loyalty and trust in the work we do for our community means so much to us all. We could not do this without you!

Anchorage Log Cabin Quilters
Baileys Furniture
Fashion Pact
First Congregational Church
First National Bank Alaska
HomeWell Senior Care
Kroger/Fred Meyer
Municipality of Anchorage
State of Alaska
United Way of Anchorage
Legacy Funeral Homes

*CU1-2024 Leading Change Partner



Calendar of Events

10-Week Grief Support Group

Hospice of Anchorage invites you to join a compassionate group of individuals as we explore healing through Dr. Alan Wolfelt's Ten Essential Touchstones of grief. This 10- week group offers a safe space to openly share your experience while receiving tools and guidance to help you on your path toward hope.

Wednesdays

Jan 29-April 9 11:00AM-12:00 PM

2612 E Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Bear Tooth Movie Fundraiser

BEAR TOOTH THEATRE PUB PRESENTS

A death film that fills you with life.

The Last Ecstatic Days

WWW.THELASTECSTATICDAYSMOVIE.COM @THELASTECSTATICDAYS

THE LAST ECSTATIC DAYS

Ethan Sisser, a young man with terminal brain cancer, sits alone in his hospital room. When he starts livestreaming his death journey on social media, thousands of people around the world join to celebrate his courage. Still, Ethan envisions more - to teach the world how to die without fear. To do that, he needs to film his death. Please join us for a Q & A after the show.

Hospice of Anchorage
A caring community of help, hope and comfort.

Part of the proceeds will benefit Hospice of Anchorage, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

3/24/25 5:30 PM | **TICKETS ON SALE JAN. 21ST** | **\$15** | **907-276-4200** | **BEARTOOTHTHEATRE.NET**

Remembrance Ceremony

This event typically takes place in August, but this year it will be in May.

Details to come.....Stay Tuned!

New Dementia Care Items!



Thanks to the generous support of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, we are now able to offer a variety of products designed to help support and connect with community members experiencing Alzheimer's and Dementia. These items can provide comfort and assistance to individuals and caregivers alike.

If you know someone who could benefit from any of these products, please feel free to stop by our office and pick one up. We have a range of items available, including:

- Chair alarms
- Painting sets
- Baby dolls
- Fidget muffs
- Robotic cats and dogs
- Automatic pill dispensers
- Dementia clocks
- And much more!

We would be honored to support your friend or loved one on this journey. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need assistance or more information.

Hospice of Anchorage



A caring community of help, hope and comfort.

Board of Directors:

Paloma Hawn President	Chris Barazza HOA Board Member
Kristina Beckstead Vice-President	Ariel Burr HOA Board Member
Alyssa Marshall Treasurer	Kathleen Bugbee HOA Board Member
Davyn Williams Secretary	Lacey Kaufman HOA Board Member

Staff:

Suzanne R. Smith Executive Director	Carrie Chisholm Administrative Program Asst.
Stefanie LeBarre Clinical Program Manager	Tina Knolmayer Nurse Educator
Ann Corbett Operations Manager	Lecann Brewster MSW Intern
Tracy Israelson Volunteer Program Coord. BSW Intern	Maya Thayer MSW Intern

How You Can Help Hospice of Anchorage

All the services we provide at Hospice of Anchorage are completely free of charge. Please consider making an investment in our community through Hospice of Anchorage today so together, we can continue to help individuals and families prepare for and live well with serious, life-limiting illness, dying, and grief throughout the Anchorage community.

Ways to Serve:

Become a Hospice of Anchorage volunteer on our website:
www.hospiceofanchorage.org under the 'Volunteer' tab, choose 'Apply Now.'

Ways to Donate:

1. Scan the QR Code and donate.
2. Donate at www.hospiceofanchorage.org
3. Send a check to Hospice of Anchorage:
2612 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage / AK 99508

