



If you are familiar with Home Health VNA or Merrimack Valley Hospice, you know the agencies of Home Health Foundation. Together, our not-for-profit health and home care providers are a family of agencies, committed to caring for those of all ages, in the many places they call home.

Merrimack Valley Hospice cruises to success, raising \$100,000 at Annual Fundraiser!

Ahoy! Thank you for making Cruising the High Seas, our annual Food, Wine, Beer Sampling and Silent Auction a huge success!

More than 300 guests “set sail” to support Merrimack Valley Hospice at our annual fall fundraiser at the Black Swan Country Club on September 26th. The evening included a variety of food, wine and beer selections and more than 100 silent auction items, while guests also had the opportunity to enjoy a live steel drum band, try their hand at the wine bottle ring toss, sing some classic karaoke hits and grab a relaxing chair massage.

This year, with the generous support of our sponsors, including Premier Sponsor Clive B. and Suzanne I. Fazioli Charitable Foundation and Chateau Sponsor TD Bank, volunteers and donors raised more than \$100,000, which will help to provide patient care and much needed bereavement services for families.

For more information and a complete listing of the many sponsors who contributed to making this event such a success, please visit MerrimackValleyHospice.org/silent-auction.



From Caregiver to Patient

Eleanor loved people and taking care of others. She found a calling in her church, and along with her husband Arthur, they became Eucharistic Ministers traveling to give communion to those who were homebound. On one visit, they traveled to a local nursing home to see a resident. When there, Eleanor met a Merrimack Valley Hospice nurse caring for a patient. The nurse asked her if she had ever considered volunteering for hospice. Upon realizing there was an opportunity to volunteer, she signed up right away. She ended up volunteering for more than 4 years for Merrimack Valley Hospice and loved her experience supporting the important, compassionate care provided to each hospice patient.



After retirement, the couple spent much of their time together when sailing on their custom sailboat. Being deeply faithful, they talked about the end of life often while out at sea. After Eleanor's experience with hospice, she knew what she wanted when that time came. After a brief illness, Arthur made sure to carry out those wishes as she spent her last days at High Pointe House.

Arthur shared about their special time together at the House where many of Eleanor's fellow volunteers and staff came to visit her while there. Eleanor's time caring for others came full circle, her support of others lead her to understanding more about hospice, and Merrimack Valley Hospice was there to support her in the end. "I knew I loved her," shared her husband, "but it was special to know so many others did too."

Main Office
360 Merrimack Street
Building 9
Lawrence, MA 01843

High Pointe House
360 North Avenue
Haverhill, MA 01830

York Hospital Hospice
127 Long Sands Road
Suite 12
York, ME 03909

800-933-5593 • HomeHealthFoundation.org



**Home Health VNA
Merrimack Valley Hospice**

Proudly *wellforce*

Giving Thanks

November is National Home Care and Hospice Month and, also, a time to give thanks. We extend a heartfelt “thank you” to our generous supporters and dedicated staff and volunteers for the care and support each of you bring to so many in our community.

Your dedication and generosity brings health and hope into the lives of people every day. On behalf of the patients and families that rely on us for care, thank you for your commitment, enthusiasm and kindness.

More “Cruising” Fun



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Friends donate funds for patient care

The Friends of Merrimack Valley Hospice is an all-volunteer service organization formed by a group of passionate individuals, many of whom have been touched by the services of hospice. The group works to support hospice patients and their families by raising awareness and funds through yearly activities. The group announced their annual gift commitment for 2019 as a pledge to replace the 21 patient beds at High Pointe House, and they are pleased to announce the beds were delivered this summer! This gift will help to ensure that patients at the House stay comfortable while they receive compassionate, specialized care. Thank you to the Friends of Merrimack Valley Hospice for this special gift! For more information about the Friends of Merrimack Valley Hospice, visit MerrimackValleyHospice.org/friends or call 978-552-4927.



Special Events Calendar

Please join us at an upcoming event!

Candles of Remembrance

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

5:45 – 7:30 PM

Renaissance Golf Club, Haverhill, MA

MerrimackValleyHospice.org/Candles

Spring has Sprung Brunch

Hosted by Stephen Janavicus of Flowers by Steve to benefit Friends of Merrimack Valley Hospice

Sunday, March 29, 2020

10:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Andover Country Club, Andover, MA

MerrimackValleyHospice.org/Spring-has-Sprung

Legacy of Leading

Thursday, May 21, 2020

5:30 – 8:30 PM

Andover Country Club, Andover, MA

HomeHealthFoundation.org/Legacy

For additional details on the events listed, please visit HomeHealthFoundation.org/events or contact Erin Masterson at 978-552-4188

GIVING TUESDAY

GivingTuesday is a global day of giving, celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. Paired with the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

On December 3rd, join the movement and give - whether it's some of your time, a donation, or the power of your voice in your local community. Staff and volunteers turn your generosity into compassionate care for the individuals we serve throughout the year, and every gift makes a difference.

For ways to support the agencies of Home Health Foundation on December 3rd through your time, talent or treasure visit homehealthfoundation.org/volunteer-support/

Candles of Remembrance

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

5:45pm - 7:30pm

Renaissance Golf Club

Haverhill, MA



Connection in Care

In a family of musicians, Marsha was the artist. She loved all forms of art; from the hands-on aspect of crafting to the fascinating world of art history, she treasured it all. She had an eye for design and soaked up knowledge. She most enjoyed quilting and made more than 200 quilts in all sizes, sharing her talent with family and friends. Her husband, Robert, brought some of her favorites with her to High Pointe House to add to her feelings of comfort and home.

They met at Nashoba Valley Ski Area “Working, not skiing!” shared Robert. “It all started with a pun. I offered to ‘show her the ropes’ at the rope tow on her first day. The rest is history!” The couple shared a common appreciation of art, and their first date was a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts with lunch on the tailgate of his pickup.

The couple learned of High Pointe House when both Marsha’s father and brother were cared for by the residence a few years apart. When Marsha received her cancer diagnosis, she faced it head-on and was not afraid. Being incredibly organized, she knew after the diagnosis that she would have a short time, and was well prepared for the end. Robert shared that he feels lucky in the sense that she planned for her time at High Pointe House in advance, and knows she was well taken care of.

Robert also feels he was taken care of, being pulled into the House’s “care circle.” He thanks his wife’s amazing care team, each nurse, social worker, aide, volunteer and support staff, for providing unwavering support and never making him feel like he was secondary.



Bereavement Support for the Holiday Season

As the holidays approach, many patients and families face the uncertainty of life-limiting illness or are grieving the recent loss of a loved one. At a time when families gather in celebration of familiar traditions, the holidays can heighten feelings of sadness and grief. Bereavement programs offered by Merrimack Valley Hospice are free of charge and open to all, whether their loved one was cared for by our hospice service or not. For bereavement support specific to grief during the holiday season, we are offering the following meetings:

Coping with the Holidays

St. Michael’s Parish
196 Main Street, North Andover, MA
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Oct. 29th, Nov. 5th, Dec. 3rd & 17th
For information or to register, call 978-552-4510

Grief Support for Living with Loss

Chelmsford Senior Center
75 Groton Road, N. Chelmsford, MA
1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Oct. 7th – Dec. 2nd, No group Oct. 21st
For information and to register call 978-552-4510

Grief Support for Living with Loss

High Pointe House
360 North Avenue, Haverhill, MA
2nd & 4th Sundays, 2:30 – 4:00 PM
Sept. 8th - Dec. 22nd
For information or to register, call 978-552-4510

Grief Support for Living with Loss

St George’s Episcopal Church
407 York St, York, ME
Tuesdays, 10:30 -11:30 AM
For information and to register call 207-337-7333

Time well spent

Hospice volunteers provide a wide range of services and support to patients and families dealing with life-limiting illnesses. They share compassion and a desire to make a difference by providing companionship, respite and support to hospice patients and families. Others donate time in our administrative offices, assist at fundraising events or share their creative talents by sewing keepsake memories for those who have lost a loved one.

Volunteers for Merrimack Valley Hospice and York Hospital Hospice are an essential part of our team of caregivers, and help to extend the range of support we provide within the communities we serve. All volunteers receive training and ongoing education as they are critical members of the hospice team.

We welcome all types of volunteers, but are particularly in need of:

- Licensed Massage Therapists
- Weekend volunteers at High Pointe House
- Veterans
- Volunteers in the Greater Lawrence, Greater Lowell, or Berwick, ME area
- Sewing enthusiasts to make teddy bears for the Keepsake Program
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) in all of our service areas

Put your compassion into action! To become a volunteer, call 978-552-4522 or email VolunteerManager@HomeHealthFoundation.org

Warm Sentiments

To all the staff at York Hospital Hospice, I would like to thank you for all you have done for my family this past year and a half. My husband passed away last year and my mother passed away last month... hospice was there through it all offering care and support. Thank you all for the great work you do.

-Celeste

My husband received VNA care from you and I would like to thank you all for the wonderful care he received. He was recently discharged, but all the caregivers who came were very kind. It helped me so much.

-Mary

My mother found peace while at High Pointe House. As her son, I will forever be grateful for the respectful way that my mother was treated as she passed peacefully from life. I am also thankful for how the staff helped me through this time. At the end, the staff allowed me to focus on being a son and not on being her constant caregiver. This has brought me peace as well.

-Mark

We're on the Rise. Join us Today!

The growing demand for home-based health and hospice care continues to rise. Home Health Foundation delivers care to patients in more than 110 cities and towns, offering many of our staff the opportunity to go to work and provide care in the same communities in which they live.

Home Health Foundation, which includes Home Health VNA, Merrimack Valley Hospice, Circle Home and Hallmark Health VNA, is one of the most respected, not-for-profit home health and hospice agencies in the region. A member of the Wellforce Health System, we are building upon rich traditions of providing essential home health and hospice care in all the places patients call home.

To meet the ever-increasing need for home health professionals, we're now hiring nurses, licensed practical nurses, physical therapists, medical social workers, certified nursing assistants, and licensed nursing assistants to deliver care to patients in northeastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and York, Maine.

As one of the region's longest-standing home health agencies, our employees value our experience and the extensive training they receive. We offer clinicians the ability to sharpen their skills and apply their talents to deliver one-on-one, personalized care in the places people call home.

Do you know someone who would be a great fit for our exceptional team? Encourage them to visit homehealthfoundation.org/careers for a full listing of job opportunities or upcoming job fairs.





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Make a difference in 2019 with a year-end donation!

As 2019 comes to a close, the patients and families cared for by the agencies of Home Health Foundation need your support.

The generosity of our donors – dedicated community members like you – assists in helping patients stay safe and independent in their own home when recovering from illness or managing complex needs. It also provides support and caring for our patients and their families while preserving dignity at the end of life. When you choose to make a charitable donation to the agencies of Home Health Foundation, you are helping to provide the hope, care, comfort and support that patients and families are so grateful for.



Your donation is tax-deductible, and there has never been a better time to give. Learn more online at HomeHealthFoundation.org/donate or call 978-552-4171.

