hofo.org

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Wow, time flies when you get to work in a field you love! As I complete my second year, one of the many things I have learned is that not all end-of-life care is the same.

At Hospice of the Foothills (HOF), we are always looking for the best ways to meet the needs and goals of our patients and families—whether it is helping manage pain, publishing poetry or helping to rehome pets. Witnessing the incredible love and expertise our staff brings to their patients' end-of-life journey is extremely gratifying.

Hospice of the Foothills team, Spring 2019

*Executive Director **Viv Tipton** with FAZZI National Award of Distinction*

Who you select to support you and your family at end of life is a choice, and we feel that HOF is uniquely qualified to be your partner in that journey. We are proud to be a community operated nonprofit whose quality and performance ranks among the highest in the nation.

Thank you for being at the heart of what we do! Your generosity allows us not only to meet the needs of our patients, but to consistently exceed their expectations.

MIKE IS BACK!

Mike Perito, the beloved HOF Gift & Thrift store manager is back home in the Penn Valley store!

In 2014, Mike began experiencing weakness, weight loss, and frequent falls. Tests revealed he had advanced multiple myeloma.

Despite treatment, his disease progressed, and Mike eventually turned to his friends at HOF for care. “Even when you are aware of the wonderful services provided, it can still be difficult to make that initial call,” Mike stated, but he is glad he did.

“The care given by the nurses, hospice aides and social workers was incredible,” Mike said. Volunteers did everything from bringing food, providing respite for his caregivers, and even helping with chores around his home! “There was a friendship that developed between us,” Mike shared.

“There was a friendship that developed between us.”

MIKE PERITO

As Mike’s health declined, his hospice team arranged to fly his daughter in from the Midwest so the family could be together one last time. Not long after, Father Sylvester from St. Canice Church was called to perform ‘last rites.’

Incredibly, Mike’s condition began to improve, and he ‘graduated’ from hospice care!

Mike continues chemotherapy once a month, to suppress the cancer. He has a lot to live for—a family he loves, a job he loves, and a community who loves him back. Mike is looking forward to meeting his first grandchild later this year.

2018/2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sally Gallagher, *President*
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Rev. Karyn Packard, *Secretary*
John Woodford, *Treasurer*
Mike Dent
Mark Freitas
Matt Haas
Jenni Johnston
Rick Kalb
Valerie Logsdon
Deb Plass
Frank Santos
Vida Santos
John Scott
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Norm Sauer
George Scarmon
Greg Schasiepen
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Norm Westmore
Howard Wilson

Our Volunteers are MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

373 Total VOLUNTEERS

31,291 Total Volunteer HOURS

$910,255 MARKET VALUE of Volunteer Time

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Heather Adams, Nevada City Gift & Thrift Store Manager, awards Tom Greene **HOF's Volunteer of the Year Award.** Tom has been a volunteer for over 20 years and has amused thrift store patrons with his many personas, (squirrel, bride, Santa, Viking, knight, cowboy, sheriff and genie to name a few).

BOARD PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As we celebrate Hospice of the Foothills' 40th anniversary, please join us in commemorating decades of service to the Nevada County community. The milestone would never have been achieved without your unending and generous support. Over these many years close to 15,000 patients and their families have received compassionate end-of-life care from our highly dedicated and professional health care team. This specialized care, both past, present and future depends on our family of donors.

Because of your generosity, you are making a difference in the lives of patients and their families. Thank you for all you do to support Hospice of the Foothills.

Sally Gallagher
Board President

2018-19 Board of Directors from left: *Mark Freitas, Bev Werntz, Larry Meek, Deb Plass, Mike Dent, John Scott, John Woodford, Rick Kalb, Vida Santos, Frank Santos, Sally Gallagher (President), Jenni Johnston.*

Not pictured: Matt Haas, Rev. Karyn Packard, Valerie Logsdon

A Heart for Hospice Extends Beyond Patients

One year later, 'the herd' and human have formed a happy blended family.

For Hospice of the Foothills, compassionate care extends beyond the patient and family; it can also include their beloved pets. Since many patients regard their animal companions as family members, preserving this important connection is crucial.

As a patient's health declines, a future home must be identified for these furry companions. While there is often a willing friend or family member, some pets require special accommodations making placement difficult.

Last year, one such pet was a 24-year-old 'special needs' horse. Unfortunately, no one offered to adopt the animal, which concerned both patient and her hospice caregiver, Rev. Carol Richey.

As the patient became unable to care for the horse, Carol offered to take him home. She owned two horses and wondered if they would welcome a newcomer. Thankfully, after some prancing and posturing, the senior horse was accepted.

In the patient's final weeks, she was able to visit her beloved pet for a final good-bye and was reassured he was happy in his new home. This important closure gave her peace of mind as she took her final breath.

When Carol was asked why she offered to care for the needy animal, she replied, "because I am able to do it."

While that might be true, we know it is because she has a "hospice heart!"

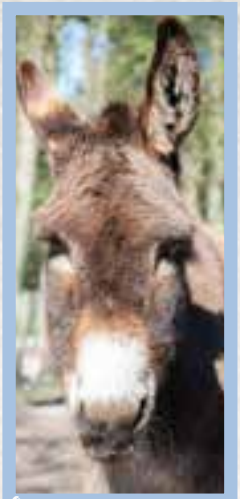
OTHER HOF **PET ADOPTIONS**

Cashmere

In 2016, Sari Trunk, RN, observed 12-year-old **Cashmere** keeping vigil at her owner's side during the patient's final days. When Sari learned Cashmere had been taken to a shelter after her owner's death, she rushed to adopt this loyal friend. They have been family for the past 3 years.

Mamasita & kittens

When a patient asked for help feeding his numerous feral cats, Donna Brown, RN, CHPN, complied. After the patient's death, Donna obtained permission from the family to catch, neuter and rehome these strays—except for one elusive mother cat who was in hiding with a new litter. When finally captured, **Mamasita** and her 3 kittens went home with Donna—for good!



Nutmeg

Nutmeg was 20 years old when both his owner and his donkey-mate passed away. With no one left to care for him, Donna Brown, RN, CHPN, brought him home to join her blended family of 7 cats, 4 sheep, 2 horses and 2 dogs. Nutmeg lived for another 10 years!

CIRCLE OF CARE

HOF would like to thank members of the **Friends of Hospice**, both past and present, whose long-standing fundraising events help sustain this organization.

Friends' events this past year raised **$124,478**!

Donors Dedicated to Compassionate Care

CARING BENEFACTOR \ $5,000+

Julia Amaral & Mark Strate ~ Chevron Humankind ~ Thomas Cunningham ~ Drs. Denis & Barbara Drew ~ Charles Fowler ~ Frank & LaVonne Amaral Trust ~ Leo & Gayle Granucci ~ Dorothy Hansen Trust ~ Richard Kalb ~ Lynn & Camille Kerby / Kerby Family Foundation ~ The Leiter / Fisher Family (Jeffrey Leiter, Lonn & Dianne Fisher and Robin Leiter) ~ Gladys Martines ~ Sam & Adele Mills ~ Richard Phillips ~ Louise Sallmann ~ John & Dottie Scott ~ Ardis Tobin ~ United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria ~ Timothy & Susan Wilson ~ Charles & Elizabeth Zavitz ~ Zepp Family Living Trust

CARING PROVIDER \ $3,000 - $4,999

Sheryl Bartolucci ~ Sandra Blake ~ Ralph & Marla Daley ~ Grass Valley, a Belden Brand ~ Paul Hardin ~ Chris & Doris Heisler ~ Larry & Cathy Jostes ~ Dieter Juli ~ Col. Larry & Ann Minnich ~ PG & E ~ Frank & Vida Santos ~ Sierra Presbyterian Church ~ SPD Market, Inc. ~ Angela & Paul Weidman

CARING SUSTAINER \ $1,200 - $2,999

Dee Albaugh ~ Daniel & Ruth Brown ~ Charlene Chase ~ John & Laurel Coltart ~ David Couch ~ Bruce & Kay Dillon ~ Sally Gallagher ~ Dr. Gary Glaze ~ Mary Good / Good and Company Realty ~ Katherine Goodwin & Nicholas Mesic ~ Hattie, Harley & Anna Robinson Foundation ~ Hilary & Jan Hedman ~ Charles Horel ~ Charles Lindquist ~ Larry & Pamela Meek ~ Richard & Rick Oehmcke ~ Alice Overby ~ Joanne Rasmus ~ Beverly Riddle ~ Michael Robinson ~ Ray & Cathy Shepherd ~ Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Foundation ~ Clay & Suzan Smith ~ Dietrich Sommer ~ Olga Thorson ~ Michael & Vivian Tipton ~ Gary & Carolyn Twing ~ United Way Of Nevada County ~ Debe Wilson ~ Harold & Patricia Wolfe

CIRCLE OF CARE

CARING SUSTAINER \ $500 - $1,199

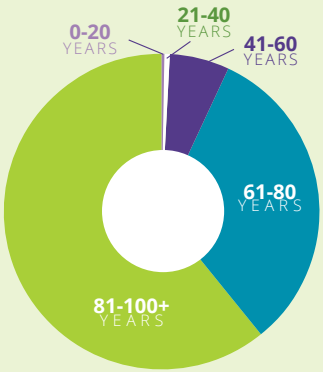
Bob & Sharon Altieri ~ Steven & Merrilyn Apicelli ~ Catherine Ayers/Agilent Technologies ~ B & C ACE Home Center ~ Susanne Bartoli ~ John & Susan Behrbaum ~ Charles & Paula Bertness ~ Joe & Sharon Boivin ~ Susan Boldi ~ Judy Boom ~ Bright Funds Foundation ~ Floyd Brock ~ Wayne Brooks ~ Michael & Debbie Burr ~ Rudy & Barbara Cisar ~ Dr. Christopher & Susan Claydon ~ Susan Corcoran & Troy Held ~ Dan & Linda Cox ~ Tom & Barbara Cross ~ James Crosswhite ~ Mark Curtis ~ Stephen & Martha Dasovic ~ G. Michael & Jacqueline Dent ~ Kristin Donahue ~ Patricia Donnelly ~ Judy Doyle ~ Russell Drummey ~ Leza Dunkel ~ Louis Ferretto ~ First Alumni of the Welcome Wagon ~ Michael Fondiller & Janis Linfield ~ MSgt Michael Fosgett ~ Verne & Katherine Freer ~ Mark & Sara Freitas ~ Dennis & Louise Garrison ~ Elizabeth Gebur ~ Roy & Kathleen Goodwin ~ Deb Plass ~ Anna Greco & Michael Pugh ~ Lt. Col. Dennis & Capt. Patricia Gruntorad ~ Douglas & Deborah Hake ~ Debra Horner ~ Donald R. Howery ~ Jerome & Nancy Ives ~ Kenneth & Mary Ellen Jacobs ~ Nancy Johansen ~ Jerald & Rowena Johnson ~ Matt & Jenni Johnston ~ Connie Kays ~ Kenton Ventures LLC ~ Marji Kerhart ~ Knights of Columbus #1875 ~ Knights of Columbus Assembly 2623 ~ David & Sharron Koslosky ~ Mark Kubich ~ Eva Lamm-Ruben ~ Jennifer Lenabarg ~ Valerie Logsdon ~ Reid Luhman ~ Charles & Teri Maier ~ Charles Martin ~ Amanda McCullough ~ John & Virginia McGee ~ Dick & Ann Mentzer ~ Marilyn Miller ~ Suzanne Nicoletti ~ Northrop Grumman ~ Reverend Karyn & Robert Packard ~ Linda Pagliaroni ~ Peace Lutheran Church ~ Laura Pendell ~ Carolynn Peterson & Richard Pechon ~ Paul & Sherrie Rankin ~ Linda Rasmussen ~ Si & Shirley Reedy ~ Diane Robertson ~ Elise Robinson ~ Timothy & Rebecca Robinson ~ Marlene Sakaue ~ Sierra Insulation Co., Inc. ~ Sinbads Norcal Motorcycle Club ~ Brian Smith ~ Shirley Smith ~ Steven Smith ~ Richard Snow II ~ Ernest & Jenene Sowell ~ St. Joseph's Men's Guild, Saint Canice Catholic Church ~ Sharon Tassone ~ Janice Turner ~ Bev Werntz ~ Jason White ~ Jack & Michele White ~ Billy Whorton ~ Herulf & Rosita Wikstad ~ Wilmor & Sons Plumbing & Construction ~ Howard & Barbara Wilson ~ John & Janna Woodford ~ Michael & Judy Wootton ~ Janie Zaviz & Joey Todd

2019 Dame Cicely Saunders Awards

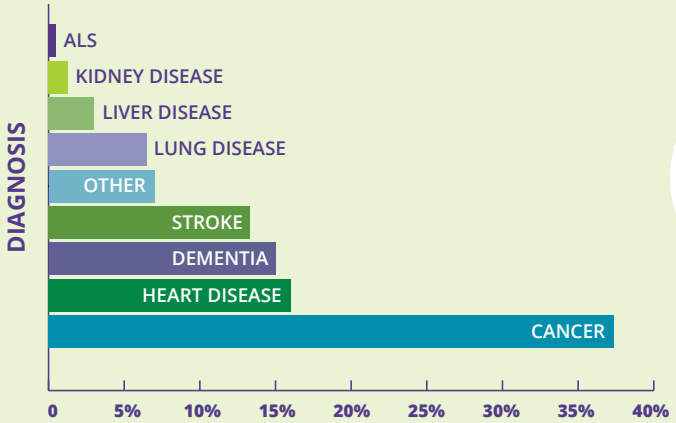
Recipients of the 2019 Dame Cicely Saunders awards, pictured from left: Donna Brown, RN, CHPN; Ann and Larry Minnich; Dianne and Lonn Fisher (the Leiter/Fisher Family); and Jenene Sowell, MFT (Sierra Presbyterian Church)

The Board and staff of HOF are **extremely grateful** to have the support of this community which allows us to provide compassionate, comprehensive end-of-life care to our patients and supportive services to their families.

Patient AGE Range



Patient Admission by DIAGNOSIS



468 Patients Served

Total Operating Expenses: $7,626,162

Total Income *(includes fundraising, investments, insurance reimbursments & bequests)* $8,110,176

Surplus/Cash Reserves $ 484,014

Net Fundraising Income:

Community/Event Donations:	$ 477,424
Gift & Thrift:	$ 296,069
Other	$ 224,566
Total Net Fundraising	**$ 998,059**

WRITE ON ZEKE!

Life can be full of surprises, even at 90 years old and living with a terminal illness.

When Zeke Lewis had a stroke at age 80, speaking became difficult. He began writing stories and poems hoping to encourage other stroke survivors.

In December 2018, as a new patient of Hospice of the Foothills, Zeke would ask his care team to read his writings aloud during their visit. This was a way for them to become acquainted. Often, as they read his personal stories, Zeke would wipe tears from his eyes.

HOF's Rev. Carol Richey and Marie Maloney, MSW, believed Zeke's writings should be published. Dee, Zeke's wife of 66 years, loved the idea but did not know where to begin. Well, Marie did!

"No one is having more fun dying than he is."

DEE LEWIS

Marie contacted the Dream Foundation, and Zeke's family submitted a selection of his writings and photos. These were published in a book titled "Zeke Ponders On" in March of 2019.

"No one is having more fun dying than he is," said Dee. In fact, Zeke is living out the dream of a lifetime, becoming a published author.

Zeke is a beautiful example that no matter one's age, or challenges, there can still be new opportunities, meaningful moments, and joy in the journey.

Zeke and Dee with Rev. Carol Richey and Marie Maloney, MSW

PLANT A SEED *for future generations*

Many of our loyal supporters include Hospice of the Foothills in their estate plan because they have experienced the comfort hospice provided to someone they love. By naming Hospice of the Foothills in your estate plan, you can help ensure that comprehensive medical, physical, emotional, spiritual, and bereavement support will be available to patients and their families for generations to come.

As a nonprofit, Hospice of the Foothills never bills patients for the end-of-life care we provide. While Medicare or private insurance covers much of the expense, the gap between insurance reimbursements and the actual cost of care totals approximately $1million each year. It is critical for Hospice of the Foothills to maintain adequate reserves to bridge this reimbursement gap.

If you have already made this provision in your will or trust, we would appreciate knowing your intentions. We want to make sure your charitable goals are satisfied and that your gift is used solely for the purpose intended. We would also value the opportunity to thank you.

WE ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL TO:

Eugene Zepp & Nina Leu Zepp, Audrey, Elton & Stephen Myers, Janet & William Roach, and LaVonne & Frank Amaral for their generous bequests this past year.