Palliative Care Expert
Dr. Martha Twaddle Joins JourneyCare
Making Music and Making a Difference
Volunteer Receives Congressional Honor
Advocate Sherman Hospital Honors JourneyCare

November is National Hospice & Palliative Care Month

Join JourneyCare and the National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) this November in celebrating how hospice and palliative care help make more moments possible for patients and families facing serious illness. Visit our website at www.journeycare.org or “like” us on social media for tips on getting involved and spreading the word about how JourneyCare helps make every moment count for those touched by serious illness and loss.
Dr. Martha Twaddle Joins the JourneyCare Team

A picture may be worth a thousand words, but the one Dr. Martha Twaddle received on her first day from Jan Farrell, JourneyCare’s Volunteer Coordinator, left her at a loss for words. “Jan came to my office and said, ‘you’re not going to believe this,’” Martha recalled. “She gave me a photo of my Dad…there he was, with a big grin and his HNI volunteer badge.” Herb Twaddle volunteered with JourneyCare (then Hospice of Northeastern Illinois) from 1993-2003, helping in the office and visiting patients in their homes. “He was such a delight,” Jan said. “The nicest guy you’d ever want to meet.” Martha said seeing the photo of her father was “so powerful...what an affirmation.”

Life seems to have come full circle for Martha since she joined JourneyCare in May as Senior Vice President of Medical Excellence and Innovation. “I feel very much at home with JourneyCare,” she said. “The creativity, the energy and the can-do attitude of the agency are an absolute delight. It’s like-minds and like-hearts going in the same direction.”

It’s no surprise that JourneyCare’s patient and family-centered approach to care resonated with Martha. “I’m about communicating, interpersonal relationships and helping people who are seriously ill live well and die well,” she explained. “I feel very much at home with JourneyCare.”

As JourneyCare continues to work toward integrating home-based, patient-centered palliative care through all care settings to better serve patients and families, Martha looks forward to advancing JourneyCare’s role in healthcare reform. “We need to skate to where the puck is going, not to where it’s been,” she stated. “There will be an increasing need for the delivery of early palliative care services for those with serious illnesses and a rapidly evolving push to move palliative care beyond the hospital into the community. With our experience and expertise in effectively implementing innovative models of care, JourneyCare is in a unique position to take a lead role in defining the future of care for the seriously ill, both regionally and nationally...this is where I belong.”

A pioneer in the palliative care and hospice movement, Dr. Martha Twaddle was named one of the 30 most influential leaders in hospice and palliative medicine last year by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) in recognition of her significant role in advancing this medical specialty. “I have had the unbelievable privilege of watching both the hospice & palliative care movements unfold,” she said. “Being part of the formation of the palliative care movement in the United States has been a joy.”

“JourneyCare is in a unique position to take a lead role in defining the future of care for the seriously ill...”

- Dr. Martha Twaddle

NOTICE TO OUR DONORS: JourneyCare has cared for the needs of families dealing with serious illness for generations. Unfortunately we must warn all donors to be extremely careful and to closely check any mailed solicitations they may receive asking for donations as part of a “2014 Barrington Area Annual Fund” from an organization calling itself the “Hospice Support Fund.” While these mailings identify the town nearest the recipient, donations to the Hospice Support Fund do not support JourneyCare in any way. It is the intention of the unknown Hospice Support Fund to deceptively obtain donations from unsuspecting donors by deceiving such donors into mistakenly thinking that they are supporting JourneyCare.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Jason Leppin, Vice President of Foundation at 224-770-2484 or jleppin@journeycare.org.
JourneyCare Volunteer Receives Congressional Honor

At 102, Marie Schaak has witnessed her fair share of history. She’s seen two World Wars, lived through the Great Depression, Prohibition, segregation and the civil rights movement. In Marie’s lifetime, 18 presidents have taken office, beginning with William Howard Taft.

One experience Marie never counted on was being recognized by the United States House of Representatives. On July 25, U.S. Representative Peter Roskam (R-Wheaton) read a Congressional Commendation honoring Marie for her 25+ years as a volunteer with JourneyCare, making her the longest serving of the agency’s 600+ volunteers.

“Mrs. Schaak has faithfully volunteered her time...to provide comfort and compassion, and she has left an indelible mark on our community and the families and individuals she has assisted,” Congressman Roskam said when he addressed Speaker of the House John Boehner in Washington D.C.

In honor of this event, JourneyCare hosted a reception in Marie’s honor, where Congressman Roskam presented a copy of the Commendation to Marie and her son, Bob.

“When I read about Mrs. Schaak in the Daily Herald, I knew I had to meet her,” he explained. “At the spry young age of 102, Mrs. Schaak continues to volunteer and inspire everyone she comes in contact with. After reading her story and spending time with her and her son, Bob, she’s become an inspiration to me.”

“I can’t even begin to tell you how surprised I was,” shared Marie. “This is pretty much at the top of the list in what’s happened in my life.”

Making Music and Making a Difference

When Grandma Phillips was a hospice patient, she found comfort and relaxation when her granddaughter, Emmie, came to visit and played her violin. Emmie also enjoyed playing Irish Airs for her maternal grandmother, Grandma Ryan.

Emmie, now a teen volunteer with JourneyCare, shares her talents each week at the Pepper Family Hospice Center by playing violin for patients and families.

Based on her experiences with her grandmothers, Emmie worked with her fiddle teacher, legendary Irish musician and composer, Maurice Lennon, and world-renowned Irish guitarist, Dennis Cahill, to produce a CD of Irish fiddle music, Remember the Music, with all proceeds benefiting JourneyCare Foundation. To purchase Emmie’s CD, visit her website, www.emmiephillips.com. CDs cost $6, plus shipping.

Make a difference for those touched by serious illness & loss.

JourneyCare’s volunteers are at the heart of what we do. Whether you provide support to patients and families, help with office duties or work at a fundraising event, you are an integral part of the JourneyCare team.

Contact us today to learn how you can help JourneyCare through volunteer opportunities in your community.... volunteers@journeycare.org 224-770-2477
A collaboration that included JourneyCare, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and Advocate Sherman Hospital was recognized in June by Advocate Health Care with their M.V.P. Value Leader Award for Equality. These monthly awards recognize Sherman associates, physicians and volunteers who represent Advocate’s values in extraordinary ways. JourneyCare is the first outside partner to be honored with this award.

The Equality Award recognizes “collaborating to ensure a patient and family’s cultural and religious needs were integrated into the patient’s care plan.” Sherman Hospital enlisted JourneyCare’s help when facing a challenging situation trying to help a family make decisions about the care of a loved one with a terminal diagnosis. The family wanted to make sure they were making the right decisions for their loved one who was visiting from Mexico and had contacted LULAC for guidance. The JourneyCare team, which included a Spanish interpreter, was brought in as part of a meeting with the family and LULAC where they discussed goals of care and services that JourneyCare would provide. “We explained to the family what we could do to help,” said Leslie Horwitz, Director of Access at JourneyCare. “We shared that hospice is not about losing hope, it’s about planning for the future. it’s about living, having better days and staying with family.” She added that they were able to reassure the family that their loved one would receive excellent care, regardless of their financial situation.

“information is power,” Leslie shared. “We provide the information...each family makes their own decisions...but they are always free to choose a different path. The family’s job is to tell us what we need to do to help them.” Working together, JourneyCare, Sherman Hospital and LULAC helped the family define their goals for the loved one’s care, educated them about hospice benefits and services and worked out logistics for transportation from Sherman hospital to the sister’s home.”We did the right thing by the family,” shared Leslie. “When you do the right thing, great things happen.”

Let Your Legacy Live On With a Charitable Gift Annuity

Have you always wanted to give a major gift to JourneyCare? Would you also like to receive guaranteed, fixed income for life? Remember, thoughtful giving doesn’t have to be complicated, nor is it only for the wealthy. You, too, can be a philanthropist with a charitable gift annuity. Charitable gift annuities offer a much higher return than low-earning securities or CDs. The result is a generous donation and an increase in your income. An added benefit is an immediate tax deduction.

The process is easy...you transfer cash or securities in exchange for JourneyCare’s promise to pay a fixed annuity income to one or two individuals for life. Your rate is based on your age and the number of annuitants. JourneyCare Foundation will offer you a full prospectus based on the amount of your gift and your age.

Please contact Donna Kassens, Director of Planned Giving, at 224-770-2411 to request a plan that fits your needs.