

# Your Community Hospice.

*The Impact of Giving.*

## Annual Report

April 1, 2021 • March 31, 2022



St. Joseph's  
*Hospice*  
Sarnia Lambton

Care... Compassion... Community

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St. Joseph's Hospice of Samia Lambton

## Our Mission, Vision, Values

### Mission

Guided by the legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph, we offer exemplary grief support, palliative and end of life care in partnership with all individuals and their circle of care in Lambton County.

### Vision

An empowered community compassionately supporting the grieving, the dying and those caring for them.

### Values

- S** Stewardship
- E** Equity
- R** Respect
- V** Volunteerism
- I** Innovation
- C** Compassion
- E** Education

# A Message from the Board Chair



**St. Joseph's Hospice is striving to be a hub for palliative, end of life and bereavement care in our County."**

– Leslie Potts

The Samia Lambton Community has continued to provide unwavering support for St. Joseph's Hospice to help us reach our Fundraising Goal for another year. Hospice services are only partially funded, so that this year the Organization was required to raise approximately \$1.6 million, over half of its operating budget. Thank you to the many donors who were able to help us reach this lofty goal. Since the Hospice was founded over 15 years ago, the fundraising goal has more than doubled. The generosity of our community is amazing but as a Board we know the current funding model will not sustain us in the long term.

There is a nursing and PSW shortage in this country due in part to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many hospices in the province are struggling with this problem. Hospice staff salaries cannot match those in the hospital setting, due to a different funding formula, and as a result we are losing wonderful palliative staff to the hospital setting. The care in the Hospice Residence remains

superb and we continue to strive to make it better.

The Board, Executive Director, Leadership team and staff of Hospice have innovative ideas to continue to improve palliative and bereavement care in our County, in partnership with the Samia Lambton Ontario Health Team as it evolves and matures. Through our affiliation with the Palliative Care Clinic and our Ontario Health Teams partners, St. Joseph's Hospice is striving to be a hub for palliative, end of life and bereavement care in our County. Our mission, vision and values guides the work we do each day.

The Community of Samia Lambton has been a staunch supporter of the Hospice through fund raising. I now encourage you to lend your voice to reach out to regional and provincial politicians to ask for improved funding to the Hospice sector. That way the Hospice will be here to serve those throughout the County for many years to come.

Warmest regards,

Leslie Potts, Board Chair



## Board of Directors

Leslie Potts, Board Chair

Lewis Mitchell, Secretary

Warren Parrott, Treasurer

Terri Pask, Board Member

Richard Comeil, St. Joseph's Health Care Society, Board Member

Paul Lane, Board Member

Karly Somers, Board Member

Karen Dally, Board Member

Ed Litrenta, Board Member

Bruce Hein, Board member

Larry Lafranier, Executive Director

Bob Murray, Board Member Emeritus

# A Message from the Executive Director



Once again, as was the case in the previous year, the pandemic has overshadowed this year. It has had a profound physical, emotional and social effect on all aspects of our lives, and also, in all aspects of the operation of St. Joseph's Hospice and the services we provide. The impact of the pandemic, while extremely damaging in so many ways, has also inspired for creativity and innovation.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the staff and volunteers during these unprecedented times. Team members have gone above and beyond to ensure quality, compassionate care to all who come to Hospice. They have had to make hard choices that no doubt impacted the day-to-day operations, to continue to serve the community to provide the services we are known for.

I appreciate each and every one for their sacrifice and service to those in our care, following the Mission, Vision, and Values that underly the reason they have chosen to work at Hospice.

While facing an unprecedented global pandemic, our collaborative team of nurses, staff, physicians and volunteers were honoured to continue to provide comfort and care to our residents and their families. As we entered the 2021-2022 fiscal year, our Hospice Residence was being faced with many challenges, and still is, to ensure we continue to provide exceptional care to our community while keeping our staff, volunteers, residents and visitors safe. All of which, have showed amazing resiliency to our ever-changing environment.

From the onset of the pandemic, many grief professionals forecasted an increased need for grief support. Our Supportive Services Team recognized a gap, both internally and in the community, and continued to provide counselling in the areas of bereavement, anticipatory grief and spiritual care, for adults, teens and children, with the support of a dedicated team of trained volunteers and professionals.

St. Joseph's Hospice is by no means immune to the current financial and human resource pressures being faced in the current health care environment. In fact, I would state that our given current funding model, which is not sustainable in the current environment, given we have to fundraise over 57% of

our current operating budget of \$1.6 million that Hospice viability is at risk.

For the constituents of Sarnia Lambton, now is the time more so than ever to continue your generosity as you have done so in the past, however, also providing awareness to your fellow constituents and all levels of government, that the services offered at St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia and the impact those services have had on the community since its inception in 2009, are under severe strain.

Our Hospice has become known for the wonderful care we provide through our Hospice Residence and Supportive Programs because of the dedication and commitment to the Mission, Vision and Values of St. Joseph's Hospice and the Sisters of St. Joseph. As we have done in the past, we will continue to face challenges and persevere in the name of the Sisters and their legacy, which is our very foundation. We continue to work with our community partners in maintaining the provision of our palliative and end-of-life care. With the commitment and support of our staff, volunteers and generous community, in the face of adversity, we will continue to serve those in their time of need.

Thank you,

Larry Lafranier  
Executive Director

## Clinic Statistics

Total Clinic Visits:	2,545
Total Dialysis Visits:	84
Total Nursing Home Visits:	52
Total Home Visits:	1,070
Total Visits:	3,751
Total New Referrals:	410



**Dr. Glen Maddison,**  
Medical Director,  
Palliative Care  
Physician



**Dr. Allison Crombeen,**  
Palliative Care  
Physician



**Dr. David Kim,**  
Palliative Care  
Physician



**Dr. Evan Lilly,**  
Palliative Care  
Physician



**Dr. Orla MacSweeney,**  
Palliative Care  
Physician

## Palliative Care Clinic

In January 2010, Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) established the Palliative Care Clinic at St. Joseph's Hospice with Dr. Glen Maddison as the Medical Director. In June 2019 the Palliative Care Clinic with the support of St. Joseph's Hospice expanded their Palliative Care Clinic and moved across the street. The Palliative Care Clinic offers pain and symptom management to patients with life threatening illnesses.

Moving the Clinic across the street allows us to remain connected to St. Joseph's Hospice, while expanding the Clinical services. The Palliative Care Clinic now with its expanded space allows for multiple physicians including Dr. Maddison, Dr. Crombeen, Dr. Kim, Dr. MacSweeney and Dr. Lilly to see patients at the same time, ensuring timely access to end of life care in our community. It also allows patients to remain connected to St. Joseph's Hospice by linking patients and their families with the free programming that is offered at St. Joseph's Hospice.

The Clinic is a part of the Palliative Care Consultation Team (PCCT), a group made up of our community partners. This has had a measurable impact in ensuring quality of life and the choice of residency (i.e. home, hospital or hospice) at end of life. The Team diverts visits from the Emergency department to the Clinic to provide service in a timely and expeditious manner, including in the patient's home. The Team is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Through this interdisciplinary team, we are building lasting and meaningful relationships, supporting patients and their families through the progression of their illness. It helps shape future Hospice Palliative Care Services in this region with a focus on individual advanced care planning alternatives.

The Palliative Care Clinic coordinates outreach for palliative patients and their families throughout Lambton County. These patients are referred by family physicians, Emergency physicians in the area, as well as Oncologists, and other specialists practicing in Sarnia and London allowing them to integrate with all of Hospice services.

Partnerships have been formed with the Renal Care Network and local Nursing Homes, allowing renal patients and long-term care patients a glimpse at what Palliative Care Services are available to them should their condition change or should they wish to no longer pursue dialysis treatments.

Dr. Maddison, Dr. Crombeen and Dr. Kim continue their ongoing commitment with Western Schulich School of Medicine and the training of medical students, residents, and palliative care fellows' program. This commitment ensures new graduate physicians are being exposed to integrated Palliative Care in the setting of clinic, home, hospice and hospital.

We are also in the process of planning the next in-person Bluewater Palliative Care Retreat in Grand Bend at the Oakwood Resort. In 2021 we offered the retreat virtually and had over 400 virtual attendees stretching across Canada, USA, and Europe with presentations from Dr. Ira Byock and Dr. Harvey Chochinov. The 2022 Retreat is building on the success of a virtual event and hosting our first In-person and virtual event September 29 & 30, 2022 with both Canadian and American renowned speakers.



Gazebo



Great Room



Resident's Suite



Nurses' Station

# Hospice Residence

Throughout the course of the unprecedented global pandemic, our collaborative team of nurses, support personnel, physicians and volunteers were honoured to provide comfort and care to our residents and their families. In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, we admitted 171 residents of which 70% living with a cancer diagnosis and 30% with a non-cancer related life limiting illness. Our occupancy in our 10-bed Residence was 66% with our average length of stay being 14 days. Our total resident bed days in the 2021 to 2022 fiscal year was 2,397.

As we entered the 2021-2022 fiscal year, our Residence still faced many challenges to ensure we continue to provide exceptional care to our community whilst keeping our staff, volunteers, residents, and visitors safe; all of which showed amazing resiliency to our ever-changing environment! We were able to lift many COVID-19 visiting restrictions that has allowed all family and friends to be with their loved one through their end-of-life journey.

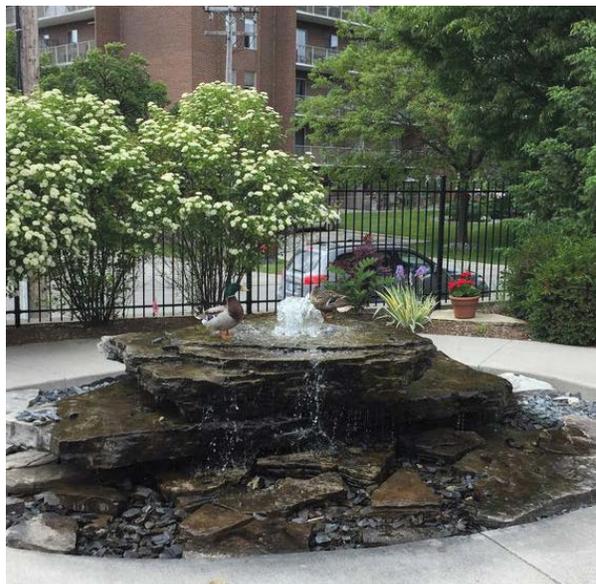
We are humbled by the generosity and support from our dedicated volunteers, who are involved in every aspect of the residence services; cooking, gardening, cleaning, reception, direct support at the bedside, along with giving us the encouragement, support, and a kind word daily.

As always, we want to thank Dr. Glen Maddison our Medical Director, Dr. Allison Crombeen, Dr. David Kim, Dr. Evan Lilly and Dr. Orla MacSweeney for the ongoing support, education and excellent care they provide to our residents and their families.

Our team and organization continues to grow and evolve in many ways. We are in the planning phases of working in collaboration with our Aamjiwnaang First Nations to provide on-site Palliative/End-of-Life care education to PSW's in their community. We had four (4) staff members attend the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario (HPCO) Conference in Vaughn thanks to the continuing educational funds provided by generous donors. These funds allow us to continue to offer educational opportunities to all

staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in Hospice care.

It is a true gift to work at St. Joseph's Hospice and share in the end-of-life journey with our residents and their loved ones. With the commitment and support of our residence staff, volunteers, and our generous community we look forward to serving our community.



Fountain

# Supportive Services

St. Joseph's Hospice offers community programs to people in Samia Lambton who are living with a life limiting illness, their families and those who are grieving the death of a significant person. Support from a multidisciplinary team is available to meet the physical, emotional, and social needs in a way that is sensitive to personal, cultural and religious beliefs and practices. Our Supportive Services are delivered by a dedicated team of trained volunteers and professionals. Services are offered through 5 main programs: The Living Life Well Program, The Adult Bereavement Program, Caring Hearts Children's Program, Public Education and our Counselling Program.

## Living Life Well Program

### Volunteer Visiting

Individuals with a life limiting illness were matched with a trained volunteer to receive companionship, emotional and practical support. Visits were provided in the home or by telephone on a weekly basis.

### Caregiver Support

Individuals who were caring for a loved one with a life limiting illness were matched with trained volunteers. Weekly telephone calls were provided so that they could receive emotional support and companionship while they provide care for their loved ones in the home.

## Adult Bereavement Program

### Adult Bereavement Support Groups

Peer support groups were offered to those who had experienced a death of a significant person. Examples of groups include spousal loss, child loss, and family loss (primarily for the death of a parent, sibling, friend, or multiple losses). Groups ran 8 weeks long and were facilitated by staff and volunteers.

## Supportive Services Statistics

April 2021–March 2022

### Living Life Well Program

#### Volunteer Visiting

5 individuals served.  
165 support sessions held.

#### Caregiver Volunteer Telephone Support:

4 individuals served.  
68 support sessions held.

### Adult Bereavement Program

#### Adult Bereavement Support Groups:

5 groups held.  
41 individuals participated.

#### 8 Critical Questions Group:

2 groups held.  
18 individuals participated.

#### Walking Group:

1 group held (16 walks).  
20 individuals participated.

### Public Education Program

#### Information Sessions & Presentations:

183 individuals attended  
7 presentations.

### Caring Hearts Children's Program

#### Kids Grief Support Groups

2 groups held.  
9 children participated.

#### Grief Packages:

Holiday Grief Packages:  
30 families (65 children) received grief packages.

Children's Grief Awareness Day: 12 children received packages.

Mother's Day & Father's Day Grief Package:  
13 children received packages.

### Counselling Program

#### Grief & Bereavement Counselling

For those who are anticipating the death of a loved one or who are grieving the death of a loved one.

58 children served.  
129 adults served.

#### End-of-Life Counselling

For those living in the community who have been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.

4 clients served.

#### Total individuals who received counselling:

191

#### Total sessions held:

767

## 8 Critical Questions Group

An educational group offered to those who have experienced a loss. It was based on the book by Alan Wolfelt and provides education on grief experiences and coping strategies. This group accommodated those who are unable to make the commitment to attend 8 consecutive weeks.

## Bereavement Walking Group

A weekly group that met in Canatara park in the summer and fall for a leisurely walk and companionship.

# Public Education

## Information Sessions & Presentations

Regular speaker/themed events for anyone in the community whether they are ill, caregivers, bereaved, or simply interested in the topic. It was a chance to find resources while learning to adjust to the transitions brought on by loss. Educational presentations were also available to other organizations in the community looking to build capacity and expertise in these areas. This year we provided our public education online, allowing improved accessibility to the presentations, and an opportunity to record the presentations so others can watch again in the future. Presentations were offered to the public, to students, professionals, volunteers, community members and service recipients connected to child-welfare organizations, post-secondary institutions, long-term care homes, indigenous health centers and more. Examples of topics include:

- Coping through the Holidays
- Grief in the Workplace
- Supportive Grieving Children
- Grieving non-death losses

## Quarterly Bereavement Newsletter

We distributed three (3) editions of our bereavement newsletter, Seasons of Grief. This newsletter was available to anyone in our community who is grieving the death of a loved one and is meant to be a resource in their journey. Topics included are grief and mourning, children's grief, and spiritual care.

# Counselling Program

Counselling was provided by a qualified professional specializing in grief and bereavement. Individuals in our community who are diagnosed with a life-limiting illness, are anticipating the death of a loved one or is grieving the death of a significant person can access up to eight (8) counselling sessions. Counselling was available for children and adults and has provided virtually, by telephone and in-person.



With the generous grant from Plains Midstream Canada, we were able to assemble 30 Family Holiday Grief Packages to support families commemorating and mourning after the death of a loved one.

# Caring Hearts Children's Program

This program serves children and teens ages 6-18 in Sarnia-Lambton who are anticipating the death of a loved one or who are grieving the death of a loved one.

## Bereavement Support Groups

Bereavement groups for children started again this year after being on hold throughout the beginning of the pandemic. Children met with others their age in a group for those who are ages 6-9, and a group for those who are ages 10-13. Art, play, music and story telling were used to help children express their feelings and experiences and cope with the loss of a loved one.

## Grief Packages

To support children and families who are grieving amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to provide Grief Packages throughout the year in place of our usual "Special Events". Our Grief Packages included educational resources for caregivers on how they can support their child/youth through special occasion, as well as supplies and directions for a memorial activity that families could participate in from the comfort and safety of their own home.

### Children's Grief Awareness Day:

The Peaceful Pillowcase Project Activity Kit included a blank

pillowcase, fabric markers, and an activity book with grief-centered activities inside.

### Mother's Day & Father's Day:

Each kit included supplies to make a memory lantern or picture frame craft to honour the child's special person.

### Holiday Event & Grief Packages:

Every December the Supportive Services Team provides a Family Holiday Event for community members of Lambton County. The focus of the event is to provide an environment for children and their families to participate in commemorative activities and rituals of connection with loved ones who have died. Families build gingerbread houses, writing message to their loved one who died and put the messages in the houses. For the second year in a row, we adapted this event to be held through recorded videos and grief packages that each family could bring home. Each package provided a family with contents such as a gift certificate for a pizza dinner, gingerbread houses, a copy of the book "The Memory Box" and a battery-operated candle.

### Psychoeducation

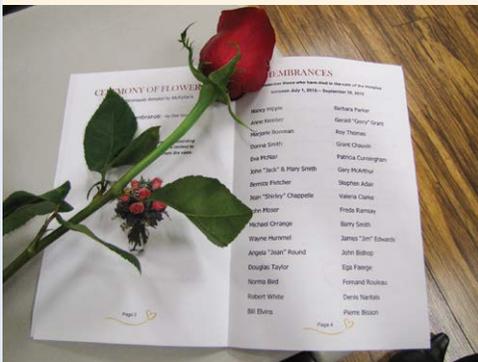
Resources, consultations, and psychoeducation on supporting grieving children and youth are available to all members, caregivers, and organizations of our community.



# Spiritual Care

## Service of Remembrance

Past resident families are invited to join us for an evening of music, reflection and fellowship to honour their loved one and their time spent with us at Hospice. In 2021, we held two virtual Services of Remembrance, due to the global pandemic. For our July 8, 2021, Service of Remembrance, 49 invitations were sent and there have been 95 views to date. For our November 25, 2021, Service of Remembrance, 63 invitations were sent and there have been 122 views to date.



Spiritual Care is foundational to the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Mission, Vision and Values of St. Joseph's Hospice, and remains an integral part of the day to day operations at Hospice. Our Spiritual Care Provider is a trained professional who provides spiritual, emotional and psychosocial care to residents and their families, as well as staff and volunteers, regardless of their culture, faith, beliefs or value systems. The spiritual and religious needs of residents and their families are assessed upon their arrival at Hospice and relevant resources are provided to support them on their end-of-life journey. Collaboration with community spiritual affiliations is arranged based on the resident's needs and/or request. When the death of a resident occurs, we light our Living Life Fireplace and candle outside of the resident's door; each remain lit for 24 hours. Spiritual Care is offered through many of the Supportive Services programs and other special events throughout the year. Additionally, the Spiritual Care Provider offers reflection, debriefing and education for staff and volunteers around selfcare strategies to support them in the care they provide.



# Volunteer Program

## Our Volunteer Areas

### Supportive Services Volunteers

- Caregiver Group Facilitators
- Caregiver Volunteers
- Visiting Volunteers
- Day Hospice Volunteers
- Share the Journey Volunteers
- Adult Grief and Bereavement Volunteers
- Caring Hearts Children's Volunteers
- Pet Therapy Volunteers
- Complementary Therapy Volunteers
- Vigil Volunteers
- Music Volunteers

### Residence Volunteers

- Residence Reception Volunteers
- Direct Support Volunteers
- Kitchen Volunteers
- Maintenance Volunteers
- Gardening Volunteers
- Housekeeping Volunteers
- Laundry Aid Volunteers

### Resource Centre Volunteers

- Resource Reception Volunteers
- Board Members
- Committee Members
- Event and Fundraising Volunteers
- Gala Committee Volunteers
- Gala Event Volunteers
- Golf Committee Volunteers

**If you would like to volunteer with St. Joseph's Hospice or are interested in learning more about our volunteer opportunities, please call St. Joseph's Hospice.**

While our volunteer hours are down this year due to the pandemic, we were very fortunate to have our volunteer support even in a minimal capacity.

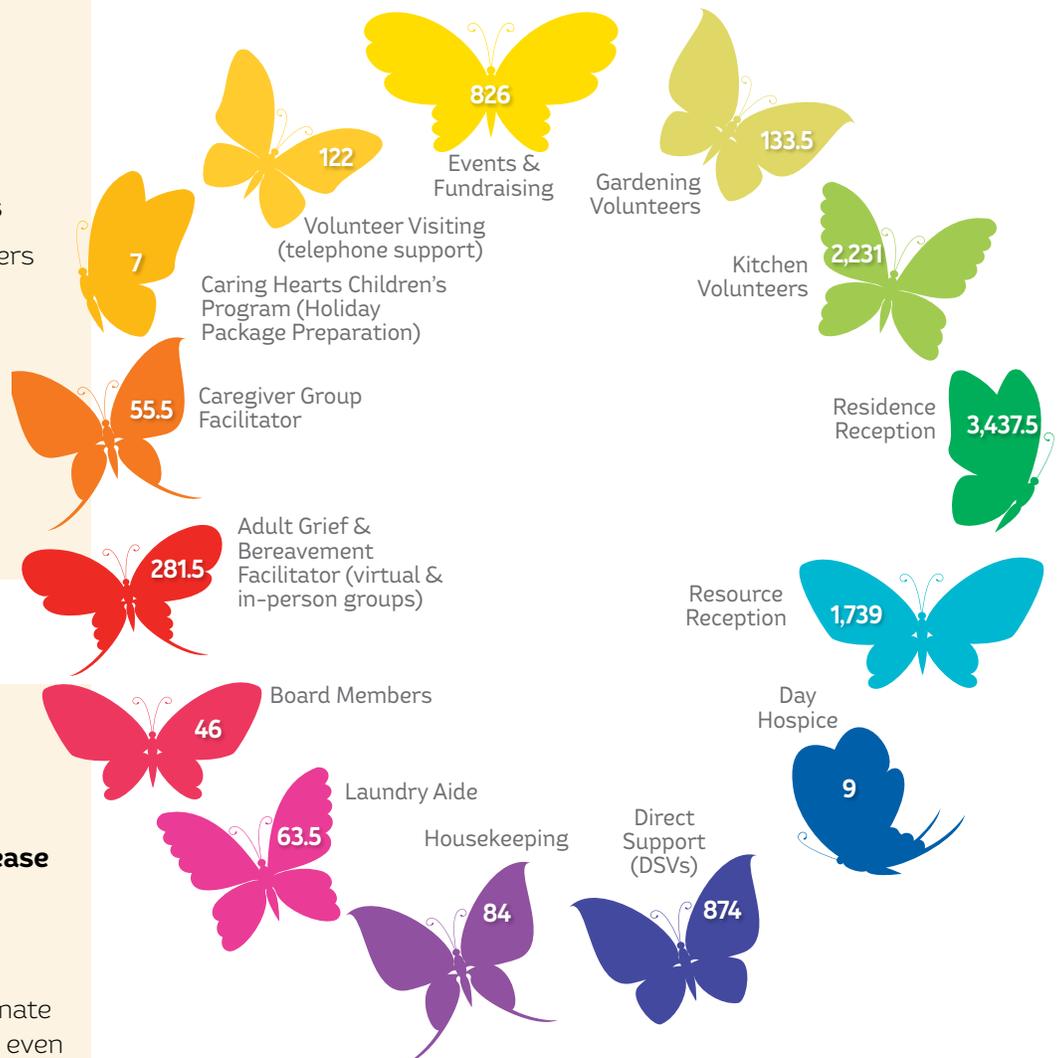
Our volunteers offer their time, compassion, presence, and expertise in 23 different roles here at St. Joseph's Hospice. Their talents span a wide variety of activities of care, from welcoming our residents and clients, to assisting our professional staff with the direct personal bedside care of our residents, gardening, preparing meals, assisting in fundraising events, and leading Bereavement Programs to those grieving a loss.

With the ongoing pandemic, we were only able to have support in 14 different roles during that time. The COVID-19 pandemic has truly underscored the value of our volunteers. With our volunteer program and support we are able to provide such wonderful programs, services, care and compassion for our community.

Our volunteers receive ongoing education, specific to their roles and are trained to assist staff in all the practical measures required to assist residents, clients and families.

Our ancillary goal is to create an outstanding and deeply meaningful volunteer opportunity, which is highly valued by our community.

## Total Volunteer Hours: Over 9,963



# Financial Support

April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

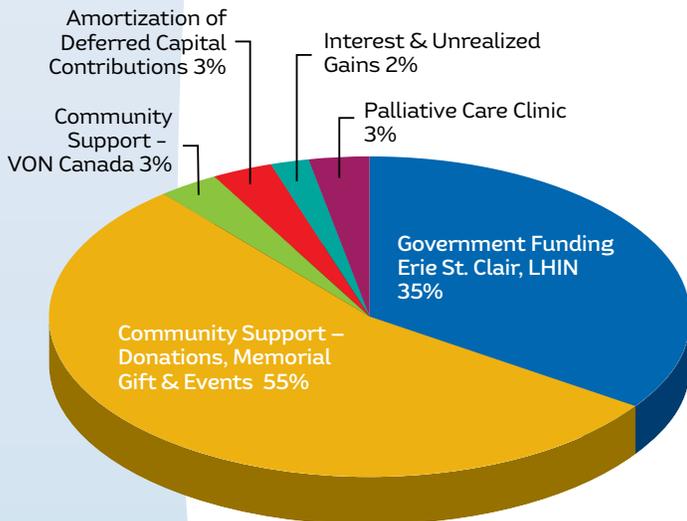
## Revenue Sources

Government Funding – Erie St. Clair LHIN	\$1,701,915.00
Community Support – Donations, Memorial	\$2,683,404.00
Community Support – VON Canada	\$ 126,200.00
Amortization of Deferred Capital Contribution	\$ 166,703.00
Interest & Unrealized Gains	\$ 86,862.00
Palliative Care Clinic	\$ 150,579.00
	<u>\$ 4,915,663.00</u>

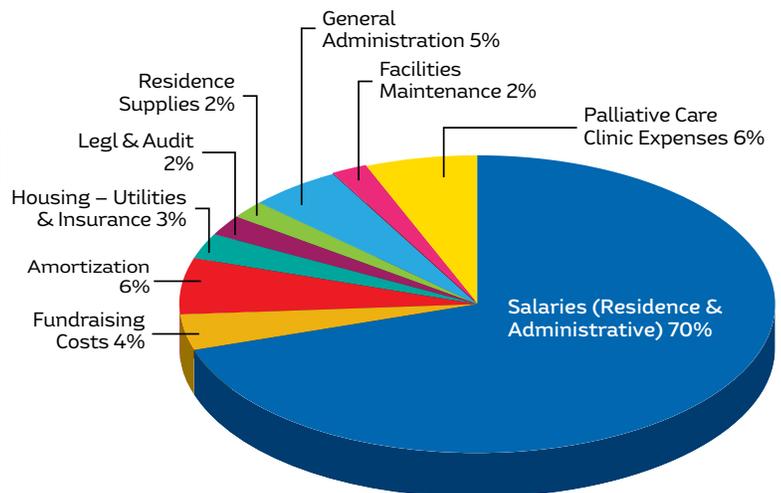
## Expenses

Salaries (Residence & Administrative)	\$ 2,277,078.00
Fundraising Costs	\$ 131,964.00
Amortization	\$189,382.00
Housing – Utilities & Insurance	\$ 100,153.00
Legal & Audit	\$ 53,752.00
Residence Supplies	\$ 51,570.00
Programs & Services	\$ 2,949.00
General Administration	\$ 173,063.00
Facilities Maintenance	\$ 74,575.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 5,530.00
Palliative Care Clinic Expenses	\$198,831.00
	<u>\$3,258,847.00</u>

### Revenue Sources



### Expenses



**Notes:**

- Results are for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 – the fiscal period for St. Joseph's Hospice
- St. Joseph's Hospice uses the auditing firm of BDO Canada LLP

- Programs & Services: 0.09%
- Miscellaneous: 0.16%

# Fund Development



Fund Development, or fundraising, is an important strategic area for St. Joseph's Hospice. It underwrites more than half of St. Joseph's Hospice annual operating costs and is crucial for the ongoing operation of programs and services. This past year, St. Joseph's Hospice raised \$2,622,586 dollars. This remarkable accomplishment was made possible by our generous donations that came through many avenues, including a fall newsletter, holiday mail appeal, fundraising events, individual giving, memorial gifts and bequests. Through these ways, we ensure that our residents receive expert palliative care and their families can access our programs and services at no cost. We have increased our community awareness of the programs and services offered by St. Joseph's Hospice through numerous public presentations, as well as third-party events held by our generous supporters.



Our community came out in great numbers again this year to raise funds for Hospice through events including our Signature Events and third-party events. Our Annual Dancing Under the Stars Gala was postponed this year, due to the pandemic. The 8th Annual Alan Day Charity Open Golf Tournament was a sold-out event raising \$64,800.



Our 2021 Annual Holiday Mail Appeal exceeded expectations and raised over \$176,000. Special thanks to Carol Murray and the entire Murray Family for allowing us to share their personal story with the community of Sarnia Lambton.

Third-party events are fundraisers held on behalf of Hospice and organized and managed independently. In total, 30 third-party events raised \$80,489.64 for Hospice. For example, included in this total, the Sarnia Golf & Curling Club hosted a Benefit Best Ball, in place of their Annual Charity Pro-Am (due to the Pandemic), and donated \$28,690 in net proceeds.

Our 11th Annual Face to Face Campaign, which ran May 1st until June 30th, is a fundraiser where we ask 100 volunteer canvassers to ask 10 people for \$10. This past year our goal of \$10,000 was surpassed by raising \$24,190. Since 2010, our Face to Face Campaign has raised a total of \$192,301.



Thank you to all who made St. Joseph's Hospice their charity of choice and encouraged friends and family to donate. We would also like to acknowledge and thank our amazing team of hard-working staff and volunteers, all the businesses, service clubs, and churches who supported us with donations, sponsorships, gifts-in-kind and fundraisers.

- 2,730** Memorial gifts made in memory of a loved one
- 3,273** Followers on St. Joseph's Hospice Facebook
- 763** Holiday Mail Appeal gifts

# Our Signature Events

2021-2022

A sincere thanks for supporting all our Signature Events at Hospice. St. Joseph's Hospice has had a difficult year during these unprecedented times and the impact that COVID – 19 has had on fundraising efforts. The invaluable contribution from our sponsors and supporting partners, the hard work and dedication of the organizing committees, volunteers and all who participated in these special events has helped to raise over \$183,959. Your generous contributions will have a lasting impact on the people served by St. Joseph's Hospice.



## Annual Dancing Under the Stars Gala

Our Dancing Under the Stars Gala was postponed this year, due to the pandemic. Our world continued to face enormous challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and during this time we at St. Joseph's Hospice strived to ensure the important cause you support continues. As a health care provider, the health and safety of our community, guests, staff, volunteers and supporters is our top priority. Although we had to postpone our highly anticipated event, we were able to remain hopeful that we would be able to hold an in-person Gala on November 5, 2022. We want to thank our many sponsors who reallocated their gala sponsorship for 2021 to our general operating costs.



## Bill Cannon Memorial Golf Tournament

This year the Annual Bill Cannon Memorial Golf Tournament at the Samia Golf and Curling Club was once again SOLD OUT! There were 144 golfers, we raised a net profit of \$56,565, and had an outstanding day. Special thanks to our donors, sponsors, participants, and Joe O'Driscoll, Tournament Convener, for all your support! A very special thank you to our title sponsor the Judith & Norman Alix Foundation.



## Annual Ladies Fore Hospice Charity Golf Tournament

Our 10th Annual Ladies Fore Hospice Charity Golf Tournament was held on September 2nd at Greenwood Golf Course. The event was sold out with a total of 100 golfers. This year we raised \$21,995 in net proceeds for St. Joseph's Hospice. Thank you to our sponsors, silent auction donors, purse donors and golfers who helped make this day such a success!



**Every day, ordinary people become donor champions.”**

– Anonymous

**Bronze Leaf - Friend**

\$2,500 to \$4,999

**Silver Leaf - Companion**

\$5,000 to \$9,999

**Gold Leaf - Supporter**

\$10,000 to \$24,999

**Bronze Butterfly - Benefactor**

\$25,000 to \$49,999

**Silver Butterfly - Patron**

\$50,000 to \$99,999

**Gold Butterfly - Visionary**

\$100,000

**Stone – Founding Donor**

\$500,000+



## Donor Tree of Life

Our Donor Recognition Wall, located at the entrance of our Residence, acknowledges the generosity of our donors, through various donor recognition levels. Each donor receives a thank you letter from our executive director, a tax receipt, a photo opportunity, recognition in our donor newsletter and recognition on our donor wall. Gifts of \$25,000 or more receive an invitation to a donor special event.

A tree symbolizes life – most notably, strength and stability. This is what the gift of donations represents to St. Joseph’s Hospice. Hospice’s giving trees are a reminder of the selfless gifts that donors and their families have given and of the miracles that have happened. The tree’s canopy embraces the life and love that each resident receives when they enter Hospice’s door. The memory of loved ones will forever live in our hearts and the hearts of those who continue to live. Hospice’s giving trees recognize the generous gifts that donors and their families have contributed to honour the memory of their loved ones. They embody the spirit of generosity and each name on the leaves, butterflies and acorns is a legacy, not only to those who knew them but to the recipients.

The butterfly symbol is often used throughout Hospices and is a mark of respect for dying residents.

## Endowment

**A gift to the St. Joseph’s Hospice Endowment Fund is an investment in the legacy of care, compassion and community.**

An endowment is an essential component of St. Joseph’s Hospice’s financial plan. Just as individuals save for the future and prepare for unforeseen economic conditions, St. Joseph’s Hospice is building its nest egg in order to ensure its ability to provide high-quality end-of-life services for generations. With a strong Endowment Fund, Hospice is able to offset the increasing costs of providing care amid decreasing provincial funding. The principal of the endowment is invested, and a portion of the interest earned can be made available for discretionary use by Hospice and its Board of Directors. Donors can designate funds for a specific purpose or request that support be directed where need is the greatest. Donors can support the Endowment Fund with a minimum investment of \$50,000 through a donation of cash, securities or a bequest in a will.



# Holiday Mail Appeal

## If you could give one gift to benefit generations of families in your community, what would it be?



**B**ob Murray – husband, father and grandfather, lawyer, and community builder, helped people in Sarnia Lambton experience the choice and the chance to die with dignity in a place filled with love and comfort. His legacy includes the instrumental role he played in the establishment of St. Joseph's Hospice Sarnia Lambton to support those with life-limiting illness and their families.

It's hard to pin-point when Bob's Hospice story began. He served on the Board of Directors of St. Joseph's Hospital (now part of Bluewater Health) where the Sisters of St. Joseph had established palliative care beds from 1986 to 1997. For a time, the Hospital was under the direction of the St. Joseph's Health Care Society. The Society began studying what end-of-life care and bereavement programs were available in the community and offered a referral service through the St. Joseph's Hospice Resource Centre. A short time later, Bob and a small number of like-minded individuals discussed the need for a Residential Hospice in Sarnia Lambton. The community supported the concept and the \$6.3 million capital campaign through fundraisers such as the Dancing Under the Stars Gala and private donations.

Bob was tireless in his on-going commitment to Hospice, serving as Chairman of the Board and speaking to community organizations and potential donors about the need for a Residential Hospice, and why it was so important and essential to our community. He took great pride in placing every leaf and

butterfly on the Donor Tree of Life in the Residence until his death in 2020. Any request asked of Bob, whether large or small, was met with enthusiasm and commitment.

Bob's wife of over 52 years, Carol, has also been a dedicated Hospice volunteer, serving as receptionist one day a week since Hospice opened its Residence in 2009. As she welcomes family and friends coming to Hospice to visit their loved ones, people often ask her "How can you do that week in and week out? Isn't it hard?" Each time she replies, "It's not hard, it's an honour to be here."

Carol has now also experienced Hospice as a family member of a resident when Bob was here. "Every week I used to watch families come through the door and I always knew there was another "world" on the other side of the door leading to the residents' rooms. I didn't know what that "world" encompassed until Bob arrived there."

Bob died in Hospice, during the start of the pandemic. Due to the restrictions at the time, it was Carol and their son Matt who took turns staying with him. Before his death Bob and his family learned that the Great Room of the Hospice Residence would be named in his honour.

At the Great Room dedication ceremony, Matt spoke on behalf of the family, and said "I always knew of Hospice before, but I didn't know Hospice until my dad was here. I was overwhelmed by the kindness, compassion and caring. I thought when I first stayed with my dad that perhaps he was receiving special treatment at

### Thank You!

St. Joseph's Hospice would like to thank Carol Murray and the entire Murray Family for allowing us the opportunity to share their personal experience with the community of Sarnia Lambton. This community of Sarnia Lambton generously donated over \$176,000 in response to the 2021 appeal.



Hospice because everyone knew him there, but it didn't take me long to realize that every resident and family who walks through that door is given the same kindness, compassion, and caring our family received"

"Hospice means everything to our family" adds Carol. "The nurses and PSWs are incredible. With everything they've had to deal with in their own lives, especially during the COVID-19 Pandemic, I honestly don't know how they do it on a daily basis. I've never seen such care as I have witnessed there, not just when Bob was there, but now that I have returned to volunteering, every week I am there. Often it is just the simple act of the nurses and PSWs sitting and holding a resident's hand and talking to them at times when their families are not always able to be there."

Bob Murray was a pillar of this community and a devoted supporter of St. Joseph's Hospice Sarnia Lambton who truly made a difference in peoples' lives. The contribution Bob made to Hospice wasn't his only gift to his community, but it may be his most enduring. Dignity is an important part of the dying process and

thanks in a large part to Bob and others who shared his passion, the dignity afforded to their loved ones at Hospice remains a source of comfort to families for the rest of their lives.

Watching a loved one die can be so difficult for people, especially at home. Hospice is an option with around-the-clock care in a setting that is as close to home as possible. Our ten private rooms allow family members to come to visit twenty-four hours a day and families are given the option to stay with the resident at all times if that is their wish.

It is because of the commitment of our community that we have the privilege of supporting families and enhancing their loved ones' dignity and quality of life by providing end-of-life care. We rely on the generosity of our community to financially support our yearly fundraising goal of \$1.6 million, now more than ever, due to the disruptions to our fundraising events due to the pandemic. We receive provincial funding only to cover nursing care and personal support workers, so every gift, memorial donation, monthly, or annual giving can help provide comfort and support to our residents and their families and friends.

The Hospice family wish for your health and happiness through the holidays and the coming year and thank you for your continuing support.

## With the Support of our Generous Community

763 Holiday Mail Appeal Gifts were given to Hospice

Over \$176,000 was raised



St. Joseph's Health Care Society believes...

“Now, as always, the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph is to respond to the needs of the people with gentleness, peace and joy.”



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