

Volunteer Voices



*A Newsletter of the Whatcom Hospice Volunteer Program, 2800 Douglas Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225 360.733.5877
Editor: Dianne Gillespie, Volunteer Coordinator, 360.788.6892--dgillespie@peacehealth.org*

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Please submit your volunteer report at the end of the month. Mail, fax to 788-6884, or email it to dgillespie@peacehealth.org. For email, patient initials only. For all others, full names, please. If your patient is not using you, please report it—your help may be needed elsewhere.

FOOD HANDLER'S TRAINING FOR HOSPICE HOUSE VOLUNTEERS Monday, August 30th, 2:45—5:00, 2800 Douglas Ave., Bellingham

If you are hoping to volunteer at the new Hospice Care Center, you will need a food handler's permit. If you haven't already responded, please let Dianne know as soon as possible if you can make the training that day. Those who can't make it will be given another date, but we need to know how many will attend on that day before we can request a second training date from the Health Department. The training will be held at the new facility, either in the administration building or the Hospice Care Center at 2800 Douglas Ave.

RECORD CLASS SIZE FOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Eighteen new volunteers will be attending the Level I training on July 16, and thirty two new volunteers will be attending the Level II training starting July 20th. Also attending the Level II training is Gina Saettone and Jennifer Ludwigson, the new Volunteer Associates for the Hospice House. Gina and Jennifer have generously offered to attend the training on their own time to learn more about our hospice. Welcome Gina and Jennifer!

***PLEASE SEND YOUR VOLUNTEER REPORTS TO
2800 DOUGLAS AVE., BELLINGHAM, WA 98225
PHONE & FAX NUMBERS ARE THE SAME
HOSPICE: 733-5877 — DIANNE: 788-6892 — FAX: 788-6884***

Directions to the new location: From north or south, take exit 252 off I5. From the south, left onto Samish, left across the freeway, left on 36th (at Sehome Village). From the north, go straight onto 36th (at Sehome Village). From both directions, go right from 32nd onto Fielding, left on 32nd, right on Taylor (at Joe's Garden), left on 30th, and right on Douglas. Hospice is about 1/2 block up on left.

The administration building is the first building near the street (2800 Douglas).

The Hospice Care Center is down the driveway (2806 Douglas)

Construction on the Hospice Care Center should be completed by the end of August, and the opening date for hospice patients should be the 16th of September.

WALK THE LABYRINTH FOR HOSPICE HOUSE

The public is invited to participate in a Labyrinth Vigil for Hospice House on August 21, 2010, at 2806 Douglas Ave., Bellingham, WA, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The event will be held at the new Hospice House. Suggested donation is \$10 per person; however any donation is accepted. Donations are fully tax-deductible.

Visit www.laughingflowerlabyrinth.com or call Myra Smith at 360-927-8803 for more information.



August Volunteer Birthdays

You may be cleaning up after
"The Dirty Dozen" or
"Driving Miss Daisy,"
You may be "Home Alone" with your
patient or spending
"Tuesdays with Morrie"
But whatever tasks
you do for hospice,
In our book, you're a STAR!
Thanks for all you do for Hospice!

Beverly Bishop 6/16

Jeanette Bouwman 8/31

Susan Bradley 8/20

Diane Bruland 8/22

Joy English 8/28

Cheryl Metcalf 8/6

Anne Mikkelsen 8/31

Johanna Skinner 8/1

Christen Tibbits 8/5



ENVELOPE STUFFERS NEEDED

The next Bereavement envelope
stuffing party is
Wed. Sept. 1st, 1:30 to 3pm
in the Baker conference room,
2800 Douglas Ave., Bellingham.
Refreshments will be served.
Please call or email Dianne
if you can help.
Thanks!

"Compassionate Presence in End
of Life Care" workshop with
Frank Ostaseski, Friday, Oct. 15,
2010, Chateau at Bothell Landing,
17543 102nd Ave NE, Bothell. \$75
for volunteers. To register, go to
www.centerforlivinganddying.org

Massage Discount for Volunteers
\$ 40/hr. Call Lisa Tenney 961-0799

A tribute to the many new beginnings at Hospice...

A Prayer for a New Beginning

By John O'Donohue

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you will have willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown...

Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your soul's desire.

"When the signs of age begin to mark my body (and still more when they touch my mind); when the ill that is to diminish me or carry me off strikes from without or is born within me; when the painful moment comes in which I suddenly awaken to the fact that I am ill or growing old;...in all those dark moments, O God, grant that I may understand that it is You (provided only my faith is strong enough) who are painfully parting the fibers of my being in order to penetrate to the very marrow of my substance and bear me away within Yourself."

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Guest House

by Jalal al-Din Rumi

This being human is a guest house
Every morning a new arrival.
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
As an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still treat each guest honorably.

He may be clearing you out for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice,
meet them at the door laughing,
and invite them in.

Be grateful for whoever comes,
because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond.