Hospice Chaplains — caring for patient and families

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— Nicole and Kenzie, Chaplains

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For more information on the Chaplain services, contact us at 320-259-9375.

Our Team

Medical Director – Paul Lindhorst, MD
Associate Medical Director – Nicholas Bruce, MD
Physician member of the hospice interdisciplinary group – George Schwebert, MD
Home Nurse Practitioner – Karen Don, DNP, GNP-BC
Hospice Physician Volunteer – Terry Pladson, MD
Director of Transitional Care – Dr. Chiu, MBA, MCHT
Director of Home Care and Hospice – Kristo Baun, PT, COS-C
Coordinator, Hospice Services – Brenda Hansen, RN, BSN
Community Outreach – Nola Varilek

Clinical Spenders RN – Mary Kay Hille, RN
Volunteer Spender – Kerry Rentsch

Spiritual Care – Nicole Reuter, BCC, Kenzie Wilson, BSW

Grief Support Coordinators – Jolisa Mearns, MS, LPC, Jackie Connors, LPC
Intake – Becky Olson, RN
Registered Nurses – Berna Dohr, Delph Allen, Dea Konent, Jill Lord, Jill Lee
Dietary Coordinator – Wendy Bertch, Pam Hanson, Dona Steen, Laurie Wolk, Melly Dono, Anjali Shaftathan, Angela Trenor, Spring Jin, Angie Weidmuller

Tracy Hieke, Haaland-Davis
Licensed Social Workers – Tracy, Kari, and Tammy, Fondalson, Jill Johnson, Cathy Jenks, Tamara Colen

Hospice Administrator – Mel Schlotter, CMMT
Volunteer Services – Brenda Hansen, RN, BSN

Team Assistant – Candi Wood

It has been said that “home is where the heart is.” This year has been a year of significant change for our agency which has resulted in our staff serving families and patients, whatever that is they call home, all across the heart of Central Minnesota. Earlier this year, CentraCare Health made a decision to close the home health/hospice agency in Sauk Centre with the intention to continue to provide services in that area through Central’s St. Cloud-based agency. The Sauk Centre agency officially closed on April 30. As a result, eight staff positions are now part of the hospice team here at TEAL. All patients were seamlessly transitioned to another agency, with almost all of them choosing to remain with CentraCare Health.

This significant expansion created an opportunity to provide home care and hospice services to an additional 900 square miles of Central Minnesota and means we now cover the majority of CentraCare Health’s entire service area.

We were extremely blessed to have the amazing CentraCare Hospice team.

“"We could never begin to thank you enough for all you have meant and cared for us. We were extremely blessed to have the amazing CentraCare Hospice team.”

— Kristy Husen and Brenda Hansen

For more information, call 320-259-9375 or visit centracare.com/hospice.
Hospice volunteers are a compassionate and caring group who get their greatest satisfaction from supporting those facing the end of life. More than 80 volunteers bring caring companionship to patients by holding an hand, playing piano, reading, sharing stories or just being a calming, reassuring presence. Caregivers also can benefit from hospice volunteers who can enjoy time with patients while caregivers run-errands, go to appointments or benefit from much needed rest.

Several members of the hospice volunteer team were recognized for exemplary service with 2016 Volunteers of the Month award from CentraCare Health. Those receiving the award were: Patti Yocum, May 2016; Tom Klecker, June 2016; and Kathleen Braunecker, September 2016.

Hospice Volunteer Specialist Sherry Branch said, "If you’re looking for a rich and rewarding experience, hospice volunteering might be for you. It’s a wonderful gift you can give to others and to yourself."

For more information on the CentraCare Health Hospice volunteer team, call Sherry at 320-240-3278.

Pet Therapy offers a helping paw

Wagging tails, soft coats and tender paws join the ranks as the newest members of the hospice volunteer team. Coda, Diesel and Miles enthusiastically bring their expertise and reassuring presence to the end-of-life journey. Hospice patients who enjoy animals can now enjoy, cuddling with and petting a certified therapy dog. Therapy animals offer benefits such as lowered blood pressure, reduced anxiety and improved mental health at end of life. For more information on our new Pet Therapy program, call at 320-240-3276.

Nurses Achieve Advanced Certification

CentraCare Health Hospice nurses, Tami Unger, RN and Debra Ritter, RN, have achieved advanced certification as Hospice and Palliative Care (HPC) nurses. Achieving certification demonstrates a commitment to the specialty of hospice and palliative care, and certifies their competence and knowledge in the field. CentraCare Health Hospice Coordinator Brenda Schlenker states, "Tami and Debra take great pride in their work and are committed to providing the highest quality of care to our patients and families. Achieving HPC certification recognizes this commitment and the work we do is well worth it to our patients and families. Tami and Debra join Delaine Dammann-Schlenker, RN, HPC, who previously achieved her Hospice and Palliative Care Certification.

Hospice volunteering: a rich and rewarding experience

The care, patience, generosity and love you provided were awesome! Talk about making a huge difference in others’ lives! The nurses, nurses, nurses, social workers, chaplains, office staff and all others did an amazing job, and it was so nice to know that in the face of such a huge challenge your compassionate care to our family and all families using your services is greatly appreciated. THE BIGGEST THANKS POSSIBLE!!
As always, we are eager to find ways to provide a superior patient and family experience and deliver the highest quality of care to our patients and their families. We will not cease in our quest for continued improvement. If you have questions about our services, please give us a call. We look forward to hearing from you.

Cumulative result of our work has helped us realize a 10 percent increase in the number of patients admitted to our services and 11 percent more home visits being made.

In addition to these changes, we also have increased access to specialized services in the new territories we serve. These services include advanced wound care, infusion therapy, pediatric care and access to grief counseling and speech therapy. The cumulative result of our work has helped us realize a 10 percent increase in the number of patients admitted to our services and 11 percent more home visits being made.

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Cover story continued...

There is no way we could have coped with our situation without the loving care, advice and tremendous help of Hospice. Hospice nurses were especially wonderful through it all, including preparing our loved one for his last journey home. Words can't express how much Hospice meant to us. May God bless you all.

Hospice V olunteer Specialist Sherry Branch said, “If you’re looking for a rich and rewarding experience, hospice volunteering might be for you. It’s a wonderful gift you can give to others.” For more information on joining the CentraCare Health Hospice volunteer team, call Sherry at 320-240-3276.

Wagging tails, soft coats and tender paws join the ranks as the newest members of the hospice volunteer team. Cats, dogs and other animals are encouraged to join our team of volunteers. They bring their expertise and remaining presence to the end-of-life journey. Hospice patients who choose animals can now enjoy, cuddling with and petting a certified therapy dog. Therapy animals offer benefits such as lowered blood pressure, reduced anxiety and improved mental health at end of life. For more information on our new Pet Therapy program, call us at 320-240-3276.

Events centracare.com

December 3, 2016
Twin Cities Times Free Press

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Hospice volunteering — a rich and rewarding experience

Hospice Care Volunteers

Hospice Care Volunteers are compassionate and caring individuals who provide the highest quality of care to hospice patients. Each volunteer is uniquely suited for hospice care and makes a rich and rewarding experience. The cumulative result of our efforts has resulted in a 10 percent increase in the number of patients admitted to our services and an increase in home visits being made.

Our hospice team is dedicated to providing the highest quality of care to hospice patients and their families. We will not cease in our quest for continued improvement. If you have questions about our services, please give us a call. We look forward to hearing from you.

CentralCare Home Health Care & Hospice participates in Harmon Killebrew Hospice Day

CentralCare Home Health Care & Hospice participated in Harmon Killebrew Hospice Day at Target Field on Saturday, August 15. Hospice is considered the model for quality comprehensive care for people facing a life limiting illness. Hospice provides expert medical care, pain management, and emotional and spiritual support, especially valued to the patient’s needs and wishes. Support is provided to the patient’s loved ones as well. Hospice focuses on caring, not curing. The fourth annual Harmon Killebrew Hospice Day event brought this message of hope to a larger audience.

Thanks to sponsorship by J.Bell Mechanical Contractors, Tractor’s Blue Service, Charter Towers Place and Blue Line Service Center, hospice patients, families, volunteers and staff members enjoyed Volunteering Party at Charter Towers Place, a comfortable movie theater box in the studio and a winning Minnesota Twins versus the Kansas City Royals baseball game at Target Field.

To reserve a Memory Screening appointment: 320-654-2355

Memory Screening - Alzheimer’s Disease & Related Disorders

CentralCare Home Health Care & Hospice participates in Labor Day Pet Therapy event

CentralCare Home Health Care & Hospice participates in Labor Day Pet Therapy event. Wagging tails, soft coats and tender paws join the ranks as the newest members of the hospice volunteer team. Cats, dogs and other animals can now enjoy cuddling with and petting a certified pet therapy dog. Therapy animals offer benefits such as lowered blood pressure, reduced anxiety and improved mental health at end-of-life. For more information on our new Pet Therapy program, call us at 320-240-2576.

Hospice Volunteer Specialist Sherry Branch said, “If you’re looking for a rich and rewarding experience, hospice volunteering might be for you. It’s a wonderful gift you can give to others.”

More information on volunteering with the CentralCare Health Hospice can be found at: ccare.com/foundation/events/holly-ball
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Grief Support Coordination – Nolla Adams, MS, LIPC; Jackie Courson, LIPC
Intake – Becky Olsen, RN
Registered Nurses – Marcia Dehler, RN; Disco Kmetz, RN; Jill Lohr, RN; Dayna Scherberg, BSN; Bertha Baer, RN; Kari Lamp, RN; Lorri Bowe, RN; Molly Zuck, BSN; Ashley Hafner, BSN
Grief Counselor – Terry Hickle, Hannah Harren
Licensed Social Workers – Tracy Kratz, Eden Adams
Social Worker – Terry Hickle
Grief Support Coordinators – Dana Peterson, MS-MT; Syndie Studanski, CMMT

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