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www.hospiceball.com

Newsletter
November 2011

Included in this Newsletter:

National Hospice Month ~ Halloween 4 Hospice ~ Herberger's Community Days
2012 Hospice Benefit Ball ~ Board Membership Drive ~ Calendar of Events

NHPCO Stresses Importance of Hospice Access for All Americans during November's National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

(Alexandria, Va – Portion of Press Release from 10/31/11 by NHPCO)— Amidst the outreach hospices are doing in communities across the country this November for National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization is emphasizing the importance of quality end-of-life care for all Americans, regardless of age, diagnoses or location of care.

NHPCO consumer research has found that eight out of 10 Americans would want to be cared for in their homes if facing a life-limiting illness. Hospice makes this happen; almost 70 percent of patients receive care in their place of residence. Whether it's the family home, nursing home, residential facility, or hospice inpatient setting, hospice teams strive to reach all appropriate patients and families wherever compassionate end-of-life care is needed.

NHPCO continues to strongly advocate for availability of hospice care services in all settings including the nursing home. "Coping with a life-limiting illness is not easy. It's about the most challenging thing a person will ever do," said J. Donald Schumacher, NHPCO president and CEO. "Think about a seriously ill person doing their best to communicate with doctors and hospitals, navigating the maze of care needs, figuring out insurance coverage, all in addition to helping his or her loved ones face the challenges of caregiving... it's overwhelming."

"We want to make sure that people know that help is available and that's why National Hospice and Palliative Care Month is still so important after more than 35 years of observance. It is a time when efforts to educate and inform consumers and other health care practitioners are even more focused," he added.

Hospice and palliative care providers take the time to talk with patients and family caregivers, listen to their concerns, and work to ensure they get the care they want. Hospice care provides expert pain management, symptom control, psycho-social support and spiritual care to patients and families when a cure is not possible. All the necessary medicines and equipment needed to keep a patient comfortable are provided. And hospice is covered by Medicare, Medicaid in most states, and by most insurance plans and HMOs.

Palliative care brings these same skilled services earlier in the course of an illness and can be provided along with other treatments a patient may want to pursue. Many hospitals may have a palliative care program, yet many people don't realize that hospices are the largest and most extensive network of providers offering palliative care services in the US. More than 1.5 million people with a life-limiting illness get help from the nation's hospice and palliative care providers every single year. "It's about quality of life. With the help of hospice and palliative care, patients and families can focus on what's most important, living as fully as possible in spite of illness," Schumacher said.

<http://www.nhpc.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=5848>

"Halloween 4 Hospice" Carnival

HCF and Southgate Mall co-sponsored the 1st annual "Halloween 4 Hospice" event. This family fun event took place on Monday, October 31st from 5:00 pm till 9:00 pm throughout Southgate Mall. Local hospice providers, hospitals and palliative care organizations were invited to participate in the event. For participating, they earned funds for their organization. Hospice Care Foundation would like to Thank Southgate Mall, Hospice of Missoula, Aspen Hospice and The Village for all your hard work. If you participated in this new event and have comments or ideas you would like to share for next year, please email them to admin@hcfmissoula.com.

THANK YOU!

Southgate Mall ~ Pepsi Cola Bottling
Company ~ Mountain Mojo Photo ~
Montana Party Time ~ Coca-Cola Bottling
Company ~ Caras Landscape & Nursery



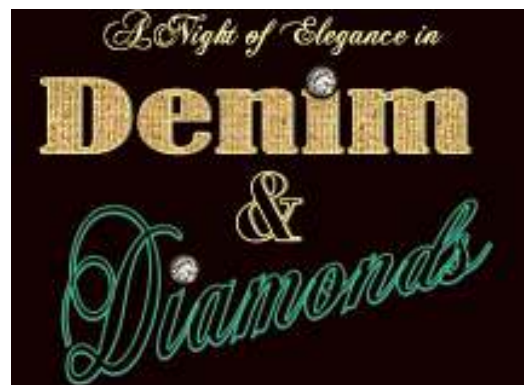
SUPPORT THE HOSPICE CARE FOUNDATION! We are happy to announce that HCF will be joining Herberger's when they host a silent auction on behalf of all Community Days agencies. The auction will take place at Southgate Mall on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 10AM to 2PM at the clock tower court (in front of Herberger's main store). Come down and place a bid and help us raise a few bucks. A few of the packages include: Sonicare gift basket, a chandelier, child's fun basket, large tool gift Set, tattoo gift certificate, Kate Spade sunglasses and many others.

2012 Hospice Benefit Ball

HCF invites you to enjoy "A Night of Elegance in Denim and Diamonds" on Friday, February 24, 2012 from 7:00pm till Midnight at Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown.

New for 2012: Venue is Holiday Inn Downtown with "Ride the Elevator Home" room rates of only \$69.00 plus tax. TV Promotions sponsored by ABC TV. HCF is also working with local vendors who will be offering child care during the event.

Updates will be posted to www.hospiceball.com over the next few weeks. Check the website often to learn more.



BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

Hospice Care Foundation has begun its annual Board Member recruitment drive. As existing members term out and others move or resign for personal reasons, the Foundation recruits new community members to take those seats. Currently, there are four seats available. Contact Kevi at (406) 541-2255 or kevi@hcfmissoula.com for more information.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS ~ For more details visit our calendar at www.hcfmissoula.com

- November 2011: Semi-Annual Newsletter sent out; Door Hosting @ Herberger's & Silent Auction
- December 2011: Quarterly Grant Winners Announced; Quarterly Roundtable Discussion hosted
- January 2012: Hospice Ball Invitations sent out and online purchasing system implemented