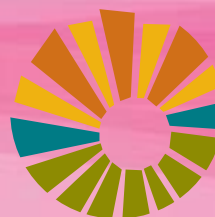


ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Our People are
Our Strength



Hospice
of the
Calumet
Area

cherishing life

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

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Our Strength



Special Thanks...

We could not imagine doing what we do without the support from all of our patients, families, partners, volunteers and supporters. Our Cherishing Life mission is inspired by your commitment, compassion and generosity.



Hospice of the Calumet Area cared for Jim Hewitt over two decades ago. Every year, the Hewitts host their Good Friday Bowl, in honor of their father, to support the work of HCA and the American Brain Tumor Society. To date, the Hewitts have raised over \$80,000.

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True to Our Core Values

Hospice of the Calumet Area (HCA)'s mission is to improve the quality of life through compassionate care for individuals and families facing life-limiting illness. It is all about Cherishing Life and as we began our 41st year of service to our community, this did not change. From our volunteers, staff, to our donors, our people remain our strength.

Quality and innovation have been hallmarks of Hospice of the Calumet Area, and these were a constant in 2022. Once again, we were recognized by HEALTHCAREfirst with Hospice Honors for our exceptional satisfaction scores. We achieved a 5-Star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. The star rating system for hospice providers was new in 2022. HCA was the only hospice provider in our area to achieve a 5-Star rating with the initial publication.

HCA remained true to its core value of caring for individuals and families regardless of their ability to pay. This was one of the first values instituted by the original Board of Directors before insurances covered hospice care, and it remains part of HCA's uniqueness and culture. This commitment extends not only to hospice care but also to our free Transitions Program, now in its 21st year, and care at our in-patient hospice care facility, the William J. Riley Memorial Residence (WJR).

In 2022, we celebrated WJR's 25th anniversary. The first patient was admitted to WJR in August 1997. He was a young man with no insurance whose elderly mother was unable to care for him in her home.

It was the reason our Board of Directors was committed to providing this specialized care in our community. We remain committed to it 25 years later.



Adrienne
ADRIANNE MAY
CEO



Mitch
MITCH GAFFIGAN
BOARD PRESIDENT

Over 5,500 individuals have received all or a portion of their hospice care at WJR. They have referred to it as a blessing and a haven of comfort and peace.

It is heartwarming to hear the stories of those who have benefited from the care their loved one received at WJR. One gentleman shared his story and support for this special care in a testimonial for the Indiana legislature in the early days of in-patient hospice facilities. He shared that he didn't know what he didn't know until the care needs for his mother evolved and he realized he could not provide the needed care at home. He said that whenever he is awake in the middle of the night, he thinks of the WJR staff, caring for those in need. And he has indeed continued to think about the WJR staff and volunteers by bringing baked goods every year at Christmas in appreciation for what they do. His commitment, along with all the other volunteers who care for patients, plant flowers, knit comfort blankets, or a multitude of other things that make WJR special.

Like any 25-year-old home, WJR needs major infrastructure updates. To preserve WJR as a premier in-patient hospice care facility without jeopardizing our core value regarding all our direct care programs, we launched a \$1 million Honoring Legacies Capital Campaign to maintain the integrity, safety and comfort of WJR for the next 25 years. Please see the article in this report for more information about WJR and our campaign.

HCA is blessed to be a part of the fabric of this caring community. The support of your time, talent and financial resources help make HCA a 5-Star hospice and inspires our HCA team to provide this important Cherishing Life care.

IMPACT in 2022

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

623

Hospice
Patients/Families
Cared For



\$3 million

Charity, Discounted,
Uncompensated Care

228

William J. Riley
Memorial
Residence
Cared For



465

Transitions Clients Assisted



92%
Excellence
Care Rating
(by caregivers)
Natl. Avg-85%



100%
Would
Recommend Us
(by caregivers)
Natl. Avg-96%



197
Veterans
Cared For



467
Active
Volunteers



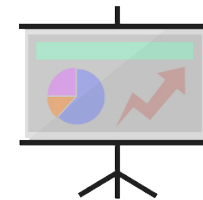
3,210
Followers



3,843
WJOB/WIMS
Monthly
Listeners/
Viewers



5,765
TV Spots/
3 Zones



51
Educational
Community
Initiatives



HIGHLAND/GRIFFITH
CHAMBER



SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

**HOSPICE
HONORS**



Schererville Chamber
of Commerce



FIVE-STAR RATED
By Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS)

WE HONOR VETERANS



Duneland
Chamber



Volunteers Make a Difference

In 2022, Hospice of the Calumet Area volunteers contributed 13,094 hours of service, which led to an organizational financial savings of \$386,805.

HCA has nearly 500 active volunteers, who package supplies, visit patients, attend memorial services, perform office work, plan events, fundraise, create and sell art and more.

In 2022, the Friends of Hospice, the fundraising auxiliary of HCA, raised \$100,000 to support the organization's Cherishing Life efforts.

"This was a milestone year for the Friends of Hospice," said Courtney Markovich, president. "What began 40 years ago, as a small group of individuals volunteering their time and talent, is now more than 250 Friends. We remain fully committed to supporting the mission of Hospice of the Calumet Area to serve individuals and families facing life-limiting illnesses."

Volunteers Marianne Madratowski and her partner, Gerry Lelito, spend their Wednesdays at the William J. Riley Memorial Residence assisting patients and families.

"It's great to know that we can help families and patients," said Marianne. "We are a great organization that supports and cares for patients and families during a tough time. They are so appreciative of the work we do here for them."

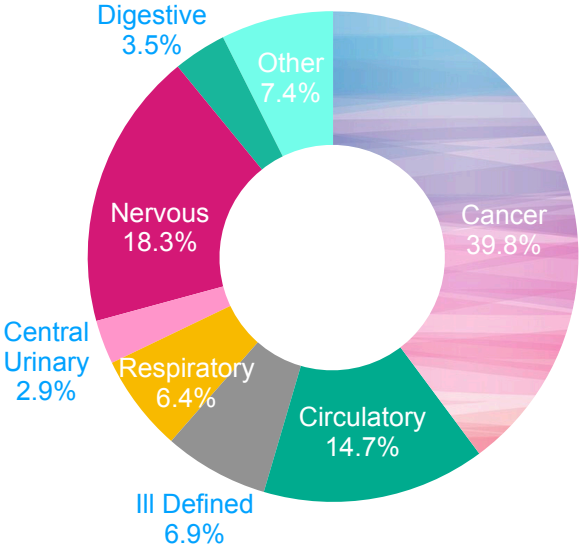
HCA Volunteer Coordinator Cynthia Camp knows that each volunteer that walks through our doors has a special place in his or her heart for giving back.

"Every facet of life is touched with the help from our volunteers," said Cynthia. "We are very lucky to have their generosity, compassion and dedication to serving others. It's what makes our Cherishing Life philosophy so unique."

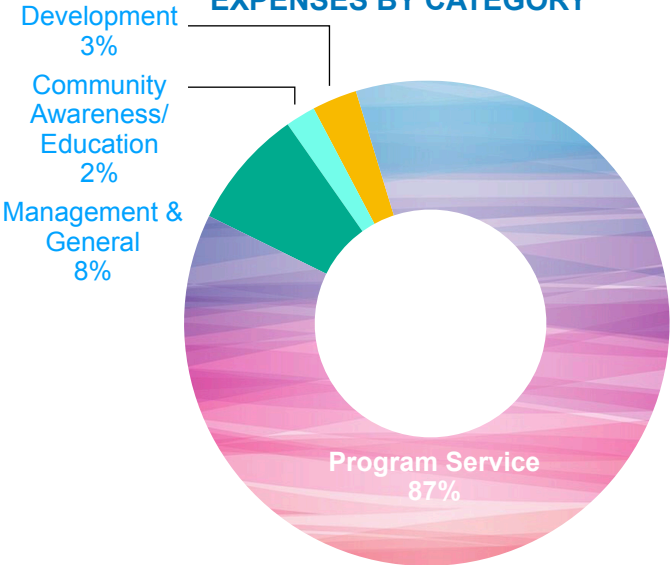


A CLOSER LOOK KEY FIGURES

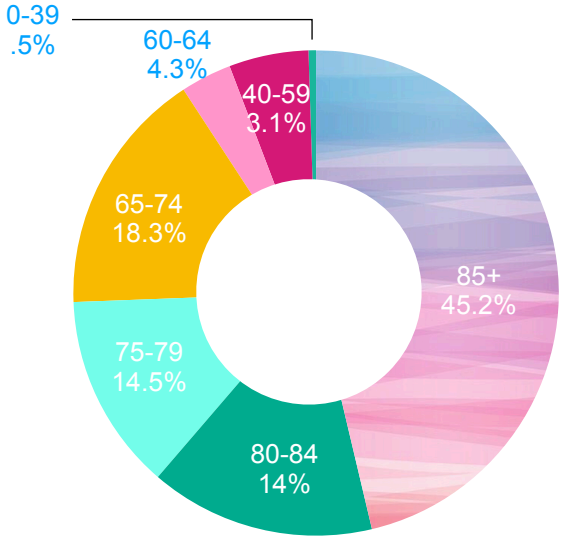
PATIENTS BY DIAGNOSIS



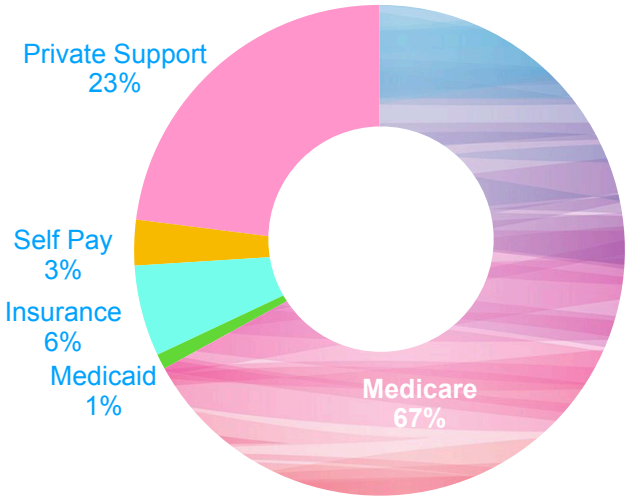
EXPENSES BY CATEGORY



PATIENTS BY AGE



REVENUE BY CATEGORY







A Family's Commitment to Serving



My parents were great role models. Their core values have always been to help others through volunteering. Naturally, it was what I grew up to know and appreciate about them.

KRISTI NANCE-HMUROVICH



James Nance served in the Army during Vietnam. Today, he serves Hospice of the Calumet Area's veteran patients as a "We Honor Veterans" volunteer.

As the father of HCA's Counseling Coordinator Kristi Nance-Hmurovich, James spends his days visiting with veteran patients in life's final chapter, honoring them with a special certificate and pinning ceremony in gratitude and appreciation for their service to our country. As an HCA volunteer, Nance also attends funerals of patients who have passed.

"Having my father volunteer and impact patients and families revitalizes my spirit and pride for our country," said Kristi. "My parents were great role models. Their core values have always been to help others through volunteering. Naturally, it was what I grew up to know and appreciate about them."

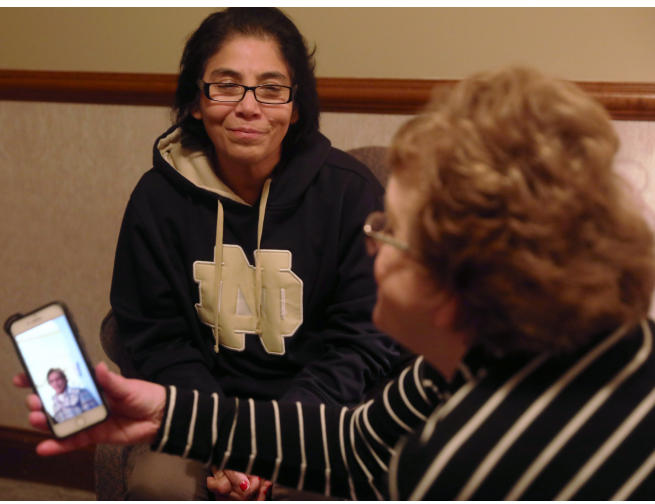
This father-daughter duo also support the community through the Schererville Lion's Club. Every year, the club sends care packages to veterans, typically ones stationed overseas. In 2022, they brought their focus back to our local community. Working with American Legion Post 485, Daughters of the American Revolution, and fourth graders from Lake Central schools, the Lions gathered personal care packages tailored to the needs of local veterans at the Adam Benjamin Jr. VA Clinic in Crown Point.

James and Kristi knew they could rely on HCA to help. HCA staff donated two carloads of personal hygiene items and socks to support this inspiring initiative.

James and Kristi are part of three generations of Lions Club members. The organization's motto – "we serve" rings true for the Nance family, as well. The Schererville Lions Club also surprised HCA with a generous donation in support of our Honoring Legacies Capital Campaign.

"Throughout the years, my wife and I would always do our best to support the community where we lived," said James. "The best part of giving is supporting others and letting them know that you are there for them. We have been very blessed throughout the years to help others."

Top, Kristi Nance-Hmurovich comforts a family member. Opposite page, clockwise, Kristi presents John Pastrick with a We Honor Veterans certificate, HCA Bereavement Facilitator Sarah Ticich and Jim Nance, Jim and Kristi at the Seeds of Hope fundraiser, and Kristi shares a moment with a patient family member at the William J. Riley Memorial Residence.



Empowering Education and Celebrating Legacies



This job is so inspiring because we build relationships with the most amazing patients and families and it's so wonderful to keep their memories alive and well in our hearts. This is going to be an incredible day.

TAMMY VANVLEET, HCA NURSE



Seven-year-old Ethan Frazier released a butterfly in honor of his aunt, while 15-year-old Ryan Maldonado released one in memory of his grandparents and 10-year-old Addie Logue honored her "Pappou."

Hospice of the Calumet Area celebrated the lives of countless loved ones during their Butterflies in the Park premiere event Sunday, Aug. 21, at Wicker Memorial Park. The day began with an inspiring butterfly release, with nearly 200 butterflies fluttering through the park and culminating with hundreds dashing through the park on a Butterfly Hunt.

"We are so excited to see families scurry through Wicker Park searching for 25 hand-crafted butterflies valued from \$50-\$1,000," said Joan McInerney, HCA development director. "We are so grateful to celebrate our loved ones and pay tribute to the beautiful legacies they leave behind with their families. Someone is going to find a \$1,000 butterfly, and that is just so awesome."

HCA RN Tammy VanVleet originally suggested the idea of the release in memory of a dear co-worker who died in 2020. After the initial discussions, the creation of Butterflies in the Park began.

"We have so many loved ones to remember and this is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate them," said VanVleet.

"This job is so inspiring because we build relationships with the most amazing patients and families and it's so wonderful to keep their memories alive and well in our hearts. This is an incredible day."

The family-friendly event brought out participants from children to seniors and many shared stories and photos about the lives they were there to honor.

"It was so fun and I loved all the games and prizes for the kids," said 7-year-old Ethan Frazier. "My favorite part was releasing the butterflies at the beginning and finding a butterfly in the tree."

The event raised over \$28,000 for HCA. Event sponsors included Times Media Co., Calumet Electric Supply, NW Indiana ER & Hospital, Peoples Bank, Chase Lowden, Financial Advisor and Chris and Adrienne May.

[Top, Brittany Sekulovski finds a Peoples Bank butterfly. Opposite page, clockwise, Samantha Kouros releases a butterfly; HCA Spiritual Counselor Reecinda Burns; Ethan Frazier loves his prize; and HCA Development Director Joan McInerney and Monica Rico meet Tom and Jerry.](#)



Community Support Speaks Volumes



The holidays are special and my Grandmother [Sylvia Castillo] recently passed, and I credit a lot of my growing up to her because I looked up to her as she was all about kindness. I was taught to celebrate life always.

ANNA CASTILLO



Munster High School Senior Anna Castillo is destined for greatness with her philanthropic soul and her genuinely radiant personality.

When she heard Hospice of the Calumet Area was undertaking a \$1 million Honoring Legacies: Capital Campaign for the 25-year-old William J. Riley Memorial Residence, our inpatient facility for patients that need critical care, she wanted to help.

Castillo recruited her best pals and purchased Disney Frozen and other holiday costumes to visit children during the holidays to spread holiday cheer to kids in the Region. They trekked all over Lake and Porter Counties and Illinois for three weeks seeking donations for HCA.

“We know sometimes during the holidays people struggle, and we thought about the patients and families at the [William J. Riley Memorial Residence] and wanted to help, said Castillo. “The holidays are special, and my Grandmother [Sylvia Castillo] recently passed, and I credit a lot of my growing up to her because I looked up to her as she was all about kindness. I was taught to celebrate life always.”

In December, HCA Development Director Joan McInerney was delighted to open a surprise email from Peoples Bank. Chairperson for Peoples Bank’s Community First Committee Sarah Ricciardi contacted

Joan with wonderful news calling our work “inspiring.” Peoples’ employee philanthropic committee coordinates fundraisers throughout the year and distributes the funds to a non-profit of choice.

“We are grateful for the work that Hospice of the Calumet Area does in our community,” said Ricciardi, Peoples Bank’s Community First chairperson. “I know this is a small testament to the big stuff you guys do but we are happy to have you as a partner.”

St. Michael Religious Education students also had a compassionate heart for HCA. They made cards and ornaments for patients and families as part of their holiday giving project.

“I think it’s so cool that we can help the hospice,” said Bryce Wright, St. Michael fifth grader. “The ornaments were fun. It’s good to think about others and let them know we are thinking and praying for them.”

Top, Anna Castillo and Danielle Nansen present a donation to HCA Nurse Kelli Aiello, center. Opposite page, clockwise, Anna, as Olaf, is serenaded with carols by Anthony Rico, Korellis Roofing Safety Coordinator Meredith Pruitt drops off cards for patients; St. Michaels Religious Education fifth grader Bryce Wright makes ornaments. Bottom left, Peymon Torabi, Peoples Bank, Adrienne May, HCA, Steve Handel, Candice Logue, Diane Dalton, Peoples, Joan McInerney, HCA, Samantha Vanosky, and Sarah Ricciardi, Peoples.



An Inspiring Place of Peace and Comfort

“

It's a unique place with so many wonderful memories over the years. We are proud to offer a home-like setting to our patients and families. Our commitment to offer 5-star expert hospice care, regardless of ability to pay, has remained consistent.

ADRIANNE MAY

In the fall, when speaking to a group of supporters at our Honoring Legacies Capital Campaign kickoff, Hospice of the Calumet Area CEO Adrienne May recalled opening the doors of our William J. Riley Memorial Residence (WJR) 25 years ago.

“One of my very first tasks was to get the doors open,” said May. “I remember wanting to make sure everything was perfect before we did that. I received a call from a social worker asking when are we going to open because she had a patient in his mid-40's, and his elderly mother couldn't provide the care needed at their home.”

Weeks before the projected opening date, HCA sprung into action and admitted its first patient the next day at WJR in August of 1997.

“It's a unique place with so many wonderful memories over the years,” said May. “We are proud to offer a home-like setting to our patients and families. Our commitment to offer 5-star expert hospice care, regardless of ability to pay, has remained consistent.”

Since its opening in 1997, more than 5,500 patients have received this special 24-hour brand of care at the WJR. The facility has hosted anniversary celebrations, weddings, birthday parties for patients and families that wanted their loved one to be part of cherished family memories.



Lydia Dershewitz has been volunteering at the WJR for over two decades and she remembers a patient who seemed to be ignoring her as she took his dinner order.

“He then turned to me with the greatest smile and said, ‘this is the most beautiful place I have ever lived,’ and I was so touched by his joy,” Dershewitz said. “I’ll never forget him.”

Three years ago, when patient Dan Viktora told his daughter that he just wanted to take one last look at his motorcycle, an HCA RN called the Marketing Department immediately. In less than two hours, Harley Davidson of Calumet parked Dan's identical motorcycle outside his beautiful picture window for him to see.

“This was such a beautiful act of compassion,” said Nicole Stout, Dan's daughter. “Helping patients and families cherish every moment is what sets Hospice of the Calumet Area apart.”

Top, The William J. Riley Memorial Residence. Opposite page, clockwise, Mike and Becky Buchanan and Maggie visit patients at WJR; the Viktora Family; Board Members break ground for WJR over 25 years ago; Dr. Bob Dershewitz and Steve Wattles, bottom from left, Dana Dershewitz Atwell, Lydia Dershewitz and Naomi Dershewitz Wattles volunteer at the Artisans' Holiday Boutique.





Hospice
of the
Calumet
Area

Cherishing Life

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