



National Hospice Foundation

# Giving Matters

A newsletter of the National Hospice Foundation

SUMMER 2017

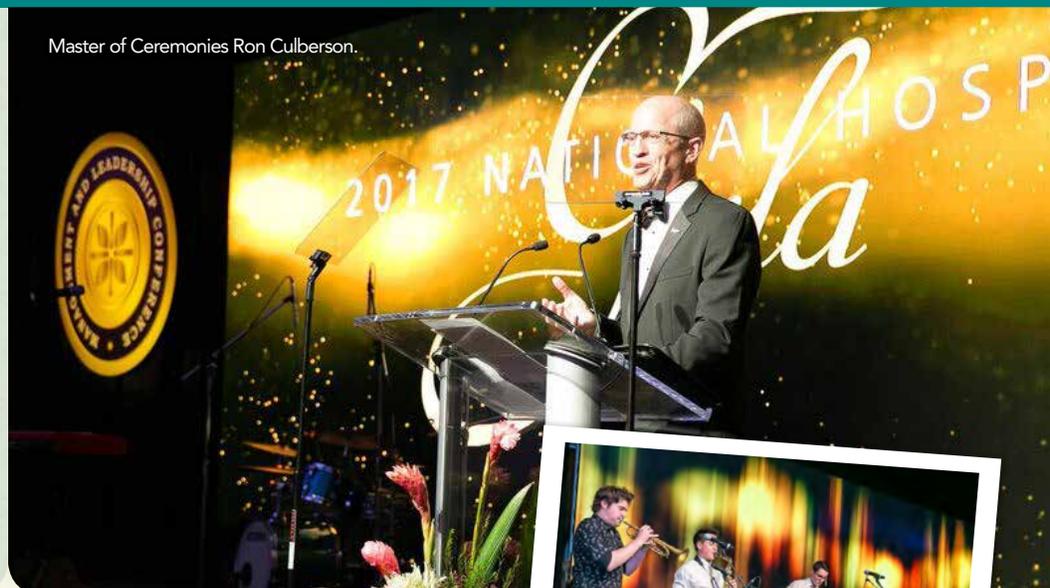
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Master of Ceremonies Ron Culberson.

## 2017 National Hospice Foundation Gala – A Night of Generosity and Celebration!

The 2017 National Hospice Foundation Gala was held May 2, 2017, at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C. Over 300 people attended the event that raised funds for the Foundation and for the Lighthouse of Hope Fund – one of NHF’s most successful initiatives.

Master of Ceremonies Ron Culberson opened the program with an entertaining monologue and helped set the stage for a successful night. Sherry Truhlar from Red Apple Auctions did a wonderful job motivating the audience to be generous and donate. The live auction garnered over \$8,000 in funds to support the Foundation.

During the live appeal, attendees gave to the Lighthouse of Hope Fund, an NHF program that provides funding to NHPCO member organizations for patients who have a special wish or dream they would like to fulfill. A video highlighting some of the patients who received assistance from this program tugged at everyone’s heartstrings. The live appeal raised approximately \$25,000 for Lighthouse of Hope – money that will help NHF continue to grant experiences for hospice patients and their loved ones.



The band Shakewell entertained gala attendees and brought many to their feet.

One of the many highlights of the evening was a drum performance by NHPCO’s new President and CEO Edo Banach. Sherry Truhlar promised that Edo would show off his musical talents if the attendees could raise a bit more money for Lighthouse of Hope; they rose to the challenge! Edo hopped up on stage mid-program and performed a song with the band Shakewell. The performance was great and brought a lot energy and excitement to the room.

“The event was made possible by the incredible generosity of the sponsors, donors, and attendees,” says NHPCO Vice President of Philanthropy and Access Sarah Meltzer. “NHF thanks all those who participated in making the evening such a great success.”

A list of sponsors can be found on the back of this newsletter and on our website.



A view of the ballroom during the gala.

NHPCO President and CEO Edo Banach performed with the band.

## A Spa Day for Mia – A Lighthouse of Hope Story

In December of 2016, the Lighthouse of Hope Fund fulfilled a very special experience for Mia Jordan, a 45 year old VNA Hospice of Greater Philadelphia patient with end-stage lung cancer. Mia felt there were many things she hadn't experienced yet in her short life, like spending the day at a spa. Her social worker sprung to action and requested funds from the Lighthouse of Hope Fund. Mia died just two days after her spa day.

VNA chaplain Laura Barry said this about Mia's experience:

*"She was treated like a queen at the spa and really enjoyed her day. She said it was the best thing she ever did and never wanted that feeling to go away."*

*The spa was very accommodating to Mia's special needs and they provided eyebrow waxing and make-up at no cost. She loved having her hair washed, and although it was a struggle getting in the chair, she was determined to have her hair properly washed.*

*Mia was delightfully tired at the end of the day of spa treatments. She rallied at dinner seeing her family and friends. Although she didn't eat a lot, she enjoyed what she ate and was very happy that she could take her leftovers home."*



Mia Jordan wanted to experience a day at the spa.



Mia gets treated to a manicure.

The NHF Lighthouse of Hope Fund offers children and adults with a life-limiting illness, such as cancer, heart failure, liver disease, end-stage renal disease and ALS the chance to take a break by allowing them to have their wishes and dreams come true. Such dreams, big or small, can help people with life-limiting illness improve the quality of their lives in ways medicine alone cannot.

To learn more, please contact Emily Van Etten at (703) 647-5165 or [evanetten@nhpco.org](mailto:evanetten@nhpco.org).

## Legal & General America Donates Funds to NHF to Increase Awareness About Advance Care Planning



In 2017, Legal & General America awarded NHF a grant to create a video to educate the public about the importance of advance care planning. NHPCO released the video in April to coincide with the 10 year anniversary of National Healthcare Decisions Day.

The video features Michael and Liz Sampair, a California couple who are navigating the challenges that come with Michael's advanced cancer diagnosis, including advance care planning. NHPCO Board Chair and The Elizabeth Hospice President and CEO Jan Jones is also featured in the video explaining why advance care planning conversations are so vital and how to get these conversations started. NHPCO President and CEO Edo Banach presents a legal perspective on advance care planning documents.

Through the generosity of LGA, NHPCO was able to create a comprehensive and touching video resource that educates consumers on the necessity of advance care planning. NHF is grateful to LGA for their continued support.



Michael and Liz Sampair share their story in a new video about advance care planning.

## Honor Dad or the Grad in Your Life with a Gift to NHF

There are many events to celebrate during this time of year and each provide an opportunity to make a charitable gift in honor of someone special. Honor or remember an inspirational man in your life this Father's Day with a gift to the National Hospice Foundation or make a donation in honor of a graduate. Please visit [www.nationalhospicefoundation.org/donate](http://www.nationalhospicefoundation.org/donate) to make your donation.



## Y.C. Ho/Helen and Michael Chiang Foundation Supports Palliative Care Initiative

### NHPCO's partnership with MJHS provides education to palliative care professionals

NHPCO is in its second year of a partnership with the MJHS Institute for Innovation in Palliative Care to further advanced level palliative care education, thanks to the support of the Y.C. Ho/Helen and Michael Chiang Foundation.

This collaborative project offers education that will enable clinicians to provide interdisciplinary palliative care services to patients. The grant extended NHPCO's partnership with MJHS to offer webinars, professor's rounds, clinical case studies, and digital resources for palliative care professionals. Through these educational opportunities, palliative care professionals will have improved assessment and clinical skills, a better understanding of evidence-based practices, and more knowledge of the tools and resources available for pain and symptom management.

NHF extends sincere gratitude to the Y.C. Ho/Helen and Michael Chiang Foundation for their continued support. This support allows NHPCO to provide practical, accessible information for palliative care organizations and professionals across the country, which will lead to better care for patients and families at the bedside.



**National Hospice  
Foundation**

*Committed to compassionate  
care at the end of life*

1731 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Ph: 703-516-4928 or 877-470-6472

Fax: 703-837-1233

[info@nationalhospicefoundation.org](mailto:info@nationalhospicefoundation.org)

Learn more about NHF at  
[www.nationalhospicefoundation.org](http://www.nationalhospicefoundation.org)

2017 NATIONAL HOSPICE  
*Gala*

*Thank you*

TO ALL OF THE GUESTS AND SUPPORTERS  
OF THE GALA ON MAY 2, 2017.

WE THANK YOU FOR BEING PART  
OF OUR CELEBRATION AND SUPPORTING  
THE NATIONAL HOSPICE FOUNDATION.



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For a full sponsor listing, please go to our  
website, [www.nationalhospicefoundation.org](http://www.nationalhospicefoundation.org).

For more information on how you can be  
involved in next year's event, please  
contact Joy Nguyen at (703) 647-5167 or  
[jnguyen@nationalhospicefoundation.org](mailto:jnguyen@nationalhospicefoundation.org).