



National Hospice  
Foundation

# Giving Matters

A newsletter of the National Hospice Foundation

WINTER 2017

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## NHF Disaster Relief Fund Assists with Hurricane Recovery

### \$33,000 Provided to Hospices and Staff in Texas and Florida

August and September brought several strong hurricanes to the U.S., leaving paths of destruction across multiple states and territories. The scope of these natural disasters was overwhelming. Yet hospice and palliative care professionals continued to care for patients and families despite flooding, blocked roads, power outages, property damage, and even personal loss.

Larry Farrow, Executive Director of the Texas & New Mexico Hospice Organization, reached out to the hospices that were in the path of the Hurricane Harvey after the storm made landfall. While most hospices were able to cover the majority of their losses with insurance, the same couldn't be said for many staff members. Requests for assistance quickly exceeded the available resources.

Paul Ledford, Executive Director of the Florida Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, told a similar story. They received about 250 requests for financial assistance from staff members of hospice organizations who lived in the path of Hurricane Irma and were struggling to rebuild.

With the support of generous donors, the National Hospice Foundation stepped in to meet those needs through the Disaster Relief Fund. This fund was specifically established to aid the hospice community when disaster overwhelms regularly-available resources. In collaboration with the Texas & New Mexico Hospice Organization as well as the Florida Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, NHF contributed \$33,000 to hospices and staff members in areas affected by the hurricanes.

NHF received an outpouring of support from partners, members and donors to aid the hurricane recovery efforts.

OnePoint Patient Care generously offered to match the donations made by their employees and partners in Florida. With this match, OnePoint Patient Care brought in over \$2,000 to assist hospice staff in Texas and Florida.

"OnePoint Patient Care was fortunate to work closely with our long-time partners at National Hospice Foundation to provide aid to hospice communities affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Through NHF's outreach and OnePoint employee generosity, we were able to help many dedicated hospice workers continue caring for their patients during a very challenging time," said Marketing Director Charlie Otterbeck.

## Ride For 3 Reasons Continues Support for Hospice

### The cross-country bike ride raised over \$41,000 for NHF

From February to April 2017, Jan Gierlach rode his bicycle 3,300 miles across the country, beginning in San Diego and ending in St. Augustine, Florida. His journey continued the legacy of Bob Lee's Ride For 3 Reasons, a fundraiser for the three causes of cancer, ALS, and hospice.

Bob Lee completed cross country bike rides for Ride For 3 Reasons in 2001, 2007, and 2012. Jan took over the ride in 2017. Jan was a biker from a young age, but his dream to do a national ride came from Bob himself. Bob gave a presentation about Ride For 3 Reasons in 2007, when Jan was in third grade. This inspired Jan to continue biking and eventually continue Bob's role in the ride.

The portion of the money raised in support of hospice care was given to NHF and JourneyCare, Bob and Jan's local hospice in Glenview, IL. Total support for the ride topped \$609,000; NHF was honored to receive \$41,398.37. The funds will help NHF's initiatives to educate the public about hospice and improve care at the end of life for all people across the country.

NHF thanks Bob and Jan for their amazing work and generosity.

To learn more about Ride for 3 Reasons and read Jan's blog chronicling his trip, visit [www.ridefor3reasons.org](http://www.ridefor3reasons.org).

## NHF Disaster Relief Fund Assists with Hurricane Recovery (continued)



In September, Care Dimensions staff in their Danvers headquarters held a special Jeans Day fundraiser to benefit hurricane victims in Texas, Louisiana and Florida. Office Manager Michele Arnone said, "Our staff wanted to do what they could to help people who experienced such unimaginable devastation. We hope our efforts will assist those in need."

In total, NHF received over \$33,000 from donors to support hurricane recovery efforts, and donations are still coming in.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support we've gotten from individuals and organizations for the Disaster Relief Fund," said Sarah Meltzer, Vice President of Access and Philanthropy for NHF. "When it comes to rebuilding after a disaster, every little bit counts."

**Thank you to the many donors who gave to the Disaster Relief Fund, especially:**

- Abbey Hospice
- Amity Hospice
- Care Dimensions
- Center for Hospice Care
- Hospice & Community Care
- Hospice and Palliative Care of the Blue Ridge
- Hospice Cleveland County
- OnePoint Patient Care

*Thank You!*

On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, Kendra Scott hosted a "Kendra Gives Back Party" at their Mosaic location in Falls Church, Virginia. An evening of sips and shopping raised funds for the programs of NHF.

Kendra Scott has been extremely generous to NHF, donating items for giveaways and silent auctions.

**NHF thanks Kendra Scott for their continued support!**



KENDRA SCOTT

# NHF Year-End Appeal is Underway



Dear Friends of NHF,

The programs of the National Hospice Foundation support the work to improve care for all – young and old, all races, LGBTQ, Veterans, wealthy, low-income, insured and non-insured. These programs are utilized by providers, healthcare professionals, and consumers with one common goal: providing the best possible care to all who need it.

This is the impact you make when you support NHF:

**You meet the needs of our nation's heroes who are dealing with advanced illness.** Through We Honor Veterans, Colonel Bill Fortune, an Air Force Veteran who served in WWII, was honored and thanked for his service by his care team at Hospice in the Pines.

**You provide special final experiences to hospice patients across the country.** Greg's final wish was to ride in a race car. NHF's Lighthouse of Hope program helped make that a reality.

**You provide free advance directives to help others make important decisions about their health care.** On CaringInfo.org, consumers can download advance directives to make their wishes known to doctors and loved ones.

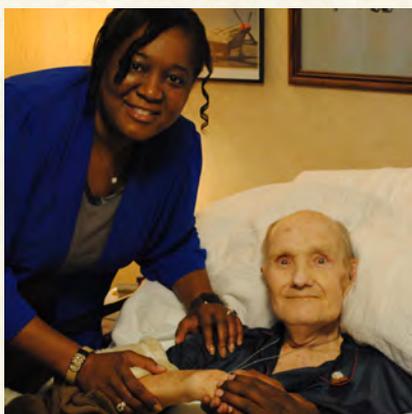
This year, NHF is asking for your help to strengthen programs like these to meet the needs of those we serve.

We've done a lot this year together, and we want to do even more in 2018. But we can't do it without you. **Please act today to continue supporting this important work by making a tax-deductible gift to the National Hospice Foundation.** A gift of \$23, \$47, or \$59 will strengthen NHF's programs.

We, and the many patients and families we serve, are so grateful for your continued support.

## GIVE ONLINE

Make your online year-end donation today at [nationalhospicefoundation.org/donate2017](https://nationalhospicefoundation.org/donate2017)





**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)

S A V E T H E D A T E

*Gala*

2018 NATIONAL HOSPICE

HONORING THE INNOVATORS OF HOSPICE

**TUESDAY,  
APRIL 24, 2018**

WASHINGTON HILTON  
WASHINGTON, DC

**6:30PM - 11:00PM**

COCKTAIL RECEPTION,  
AUCTION, ENTERTAINMENT  
AND DANCING

To be an event sponsor, purchase  
tickets or donate auction items, please  
call (703) 647-5167, email  
[jnguyen@nationalhospicefoundation.org](mailto:jnguyen@nationalhospicefoundation.org) or  
visit [www.nationalhospicefoundation.org/gala](http://www.nationalhospicefoundation.org/gala).

National Hospice and Palliative Care  
Organization

