

HOSPICE HEADLINES

Winter 2021

Making Every Day Count, a Challenge During Covid Times

Although the present global pandemic is making life tougher in some ways, Circle of Love is able to provide care for those in need at the end of life by taking some extra precautions. Wearing face masks and other personal protective equipment to patient's homes, checking staff temperatures twice a day and continuing our hand washing and sanitizing practices, are some of the safety measures in place.

The physical, emotional and spiritual support Hospice Circle of Love provides can be even more important during a time when loved ones are socially distanced to stay safe from the virus.

Hopefully, it won't be long before it is once again safe for families to spend time together. Making every day count and cherishing moments with loved ones is so important.

No matter what, Circle of Love will continue to be there to surround patients and families with the care and support they need and deserve at such an important time in their lives.



Linda Ward, who is under the care of Hospice Circle of Love, is staying in and staying comfortable at home these days. Linda is pictured here with some kittens her family has.

Heart Ornament Symbolizes Love For Those No Longer With Us

Despite a snow storm and the need for extra protective health precautions, Hospice Circle of Love was able to come together with some former patient's families in mid-December to remember their loved ones. Those who attended the 2020 Tree of Life celebration wore masks, used hand sanitizer and sat in socially distanced chairs.

This year's ornaments, each containing the name of a loved one being remembered, were white ceramic hearts with navy ribbon. The hearts symbolize the love for those whose name is attached.

Each name was read during the event, which also included a spiritual message from Dr. Matt Miles and some Christmas music provided by 2 members of the Enid High Choir.

Ornaments will be available for pickup at the Hospice Circle of Love office through January 31st for

those who ordered some but were unable to attend the Tree of Life event.



The 2020 Tree of Life Ornament was chosen to symbolize the love we feel for those no longer with us.

Upcoming April Sale Will Raise Money for Hospice Care

Several thousand books will be available at Hospice Circle of Love's upcoming Spring Book Sale Fundraiser. Money raised will be used to care for hospice patients. Circle of Love takes book donations throughout the year and hosts book sales every April and October. Approximately 8,500 books were sold at the last sale, but supplies are replenishing fast. Volunteers spend a couple of hours a week sorting new donations. A larger group helps with set-up, sales and tear down for the event, including Bob Archer whose Mother-in-law was on Hospice Circle of Love services last year. "Having hospice care took a lot of day to day pressure off of my wife and me. There was a lot of general easing of the mind, knowing there were others to help," Archer commented.

All books at the sale will be categorized for easy selection. Mysteries, fiction novels, cookbooks, children's books, religious fiction and sci-fi are among the genres you will find, with popular authors grouped together. In addition there will be a large selection of non-fiction including historical works, how-to books, biographies, true stories and inspirational books. Puzzles, books on tape and movies can be found as well.

The next book sale is scheduled for Friday, April 16th from 9AM to 7 PM and Saturday, April 17th from 9AM to 5PM. The sales are held in the metal building just north of the Circle of Love office, located at 314 S. Third in Enid.



Circle of Love Volunteer Bob Archer puts books out before the last sale held in October 2020.

Spring Book Sale
Friday, April 16th - 9 to 7
Saturday, April 17th - 9 to 5
@ Hospice Circle of Love
(314 S. Third)

Grief never ends...But
it changes. It's a passage,
not a place to stay. Grief is
not a sign of weakness, nor
a lack of faith... It is the
price of love.

—Elizabeth I



Grief Groups
Held the 1st 4
Tuesdays
in February,
June & October

Call 580-234-2273
to register

Circle of Love Named Best Hospice

Hospice Circle of Love was named Best Hospice as part of the 2020 *Enid News & Eagle's* annual Reader's Choice Survey. "We appreciate everyone who voted for us in the survey. Our staff strives every day to do the best job possible to care for those in need," stated Executive Director Chad Caldwell.



Kentucky Derby is Fundraiser Theme

Big hats, a bugle calling the horses to the paddock, a great race, casino games and southern food will all be part of an upcoming Kentucky Derby Fundraiser. Circle of Love will host the event May 1st starting at 4:00 PM at Oakwood Country Club. Call Julie at 580-234-2273 or email julien@hospicecircleoflove.com for tickets and sponsorship information.



Staff Members Celebrate Years of Service

Community Relations Director Julie Nelson was recognized for 15 years at Hospice Circle of Love at the end of last year. Nelson was originally hired part-time as the agency's first ever Marketing Director and soon became full time. Now in addition to marketing, she runs Circle of Love's Volunteer Program and organizes the agency's fundraisers.

"I feel really good about being part of an organization that cares for people at such an important time in their lives. I strongly believe in our mission to help patients and families live life to it's fullest and finish well," Nelson shared.

Staff Nurse Alicia Hughes, LPN was recognized for 5 years of service and has been a great addition to the Circle of Love team, providing pain and symptom

management, education and emotional support to patients and families, among other duties.



Julie Nelson (left) is celebrating 15 years at Circle of Love. Alicia Hughes is celebrating 5 years.

Retired Nurse Aide Will Be Missed

Linda Malone served Hospice Circle of Love patients for 19 years before retiring last fall. Malone worked as a nurse aide providing personal care, such as bathing, delivering supplies and so much more. In 2015, she was named the Oklahoma Hospice Aide of the year and was number one to many hundreds of patients throughout her career. Malone is now spending more time with her grandchildren.

(Right) Bookkeeper Margie Lovell (left), Linda Malone and Social Worker Lynn Curl pose for a picture at Malone's retirement party.





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2020 Circle of Love Highlights

- Celebrated 15 years of service with Community Relations Director Julie Nelson, 10 years of volunteer service with Jean Syoen and Mickey Chapman and 5 years of service with Staff Nurse Alicia Hughes, LPN and Volunteer Mark Woods
- Staff and volunteers participated in virtual walks to raise money & awareness for the MS Society and the Alzheimer's Association
- Named Enid's Best Hospice Service in the *Enid News & Eagle's* Reader's Choice Survey
- Held a Clay Shoot and two Book Sales to raise funds to serve patients that don't have a Medicare or insurance hospice benefit
- Celebrated the lives of our patients who passed away in the last year at Tree of Life
- Hosted 2 free community grief groups