

# HOSPICE HURONIA

---

ANNUAL REPORT  
2018-2019



COMFORT • CARE • COMPASSION



**Hospice  
Huron**

TOMKINS HOUSE

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

What an incredible year! We made great strides towards making *Tomkins House*, our five bed residential hospice, a reality in our community. We continue to receive great feedback from our clients about the emotional and practical palliative care and bereavement supports we provide.

This fiscal year has seen tremendous support from residents, service clubs and our municipalities, as awareness of Hospice Huronia's programs, services and capital campaign gained momentum.

The year started strong with our annual "Hike for Hospice," followed by our inaugural "Voices for Hospice" gala, and ended with our "Bowls with Heart" event.

We were overwhelmed with the generosity of angel donors Nicola Tomkins and Dave Gowen, who donated 1.56 million dollars to our capital campaign and named our residential hospice "Tomkins House".

The momentum continued to grow with many community fundraisers such as "Fall Fest" and donations from the *Georgian Bay Gals Give*, *Guys Who Care* and *Women Giving for a Cause* groups. Every single donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue to offer our programs and services at no cost to our community.



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank all of our volunteers, donors and staff who provide the dedication, funds and skills needed to care for those who are dying and bereaved in our community.

With sincere thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Murphy".

Anne Murphy  
*Board Chair, Hospice Huronia*

## June Callwood Award

The Hospice Huronia Board of Directors are pleased to announce that Anne Murphy was the recipient of this year's June Callwood Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions as a volunteer in their community.

Anne has been a dedicated Hospice Huronia volunteer for more than six years. She has served on the Board of Directors for six years, and also served as the Board Chair for the past three years. Anne also participates in many Hospice Huronia fundraising events. Thank you Anne for your ongoing support!





# OUR VOLUNTEERS

## Volunteer Support

Volunteers are integral to the success of Hospice Huronia. The dedication, energy and countless hours spent sitting and holding a client's hand during the dying process is invaluable. Our volunteers do everything from supporting families after a loved one has passed away, to fundraising and organizing events, answering phones and even walking a client's dog. Volunteers play an essential role in the quality of our programs and services. In 2018-2019 Hospice Huronia welcomed:

- Over 4600 volunteer hours
- 36 new volunteers
- 2 qualified volunteers who provided massage therapy to clients
- 10 episodic volunteers who gave their time at different events
- 14 trained bereavement volunteers
- 5 volunteers trained in Mental Health First Aid
- 2 volunteers who participated in a pregnancy and infant loss compassionate care workshop

## Volunteer Training

Hospice Huronia offers six volunteer orientation training sessions per year and incorporates the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario (HPCO) online training into the orientation sessions. Volunteers also participate in eight educational lunch and learns throughout the year, such as Mental Health First Aid, Advance Care Planning, LGBTQ2S, the Alzheimer's Society and more.

*"Hospice is not your typical volunteer position. This orientation far exceeded my expectations."*

*~Hospice Huronia Volunteer*

## Honouring Our Volunteers

In 2018, Réjeanne Parkes was named Volunteer of the Year for her commitment, dedication and willingness to volunteer in many areas of Hospice Huronia. Thank you Réjeanne for your time and dedication!

In honour of their dedication, every year Hospice Huronia hosts two volunteer appreciation days. We are so thankful to all of our volunteers for their support!



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

## Visiting Hospice

Our Visiting Hospice program consists of a specialized group of 'professional volunteers' who offer many services including companionship, emotional support and practical assistance to our clients. Over the past year, we helped over 73 clients through our Visiting Hospice program. From offering warm companionship, reading the local paper or remembering past life experiences - volunteers bring normalcy to day-to-day life. Many of our volunteers also assist with life's basic tasks such as organizing papers, helping to make phone calls, assisting with basic food preparation and light household duties and providing comfort measures and personal care.

*"Hospice was able to provide very compassionate end of life care to my father. The hospice was a profound experience for our family. It was a time of letting go and saying goodbye in a supportive environment without fear."*

~Dr. Rainer Loiskandl

## Bereavement Support

Hospice Huronia provides emotional, spiritual and psychosocial support to individuals and families who are anticipating a death or experiencing grief due to loss of a loved one.

*"My bereavement support volunteer has shown me there is a reason to go on. She compliments my hard work, helping me get through the worst time of my life."*

~Hospice Huronia Client

Over the past year Hospice Huronia supported over 67 clients through our bereavement support groups including a weekly drop-in support group, healing walks, parent's circle and peer-to-peer support. In December, we lit up the night sky with our *Tree of Remembrance* ceremony, honouring loved ones who have past away.

**96%**

of clients say that  
Hospice has a  
positive impact on  
quality of life

**97%**

of clients have a  
high satisfaction  
with their Hospice  
experience





## WHY RESIDENTIAL HOSPICE?

Through our Capital Campaign, Hospice Huronia's dream of providing our community with a much needed residential hospice is becoming a reality. Our site has been chosen and work has begun on the construction of the new building.

There is a recognized province-wide shortage of hospice beds. The number of people requiring palliative care is projected to double in Ontario by 2041. North Simcoe has a higher than average senior population with 55% of residents dying in acute care hospitals. At the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH), there are approximately eight patients every day receiving palliative care services.

The average length of stay at Tomkins House will be 10 to 14 days and it will provide 24 hour care to over 150 individuals and their families each year, freeing up the GBGH acute care beds for those who truly need them. It will provide a warm, home-like setting, where individuals who are unable to die at home, can receive expert hospice care in a medically-safe environment, which includes quality pain and symptom management.

**Tomkins House will save  
approximately \$1 million in  
health care dollars each year.**

To provide our clients with quality palliative care, a residential hospice building must meet higher than average building standards due to what is essentially a "mini-hospital" within a comfortable, home-like setting. The Tomkins House building will include:

- Five large private rooms where families can stay with their loved ones. These rooms will feature infection control, specialized beds, and a nurse call system
- A common kitchen-family room where group meals can be made
- A beautiful bath area complete with a soaker tub
- A garden where beds can be brought out into the sunshine
- Community rooms and more

Tomkins House will be located at 948 Fuller Avenue in Penetanguishene and plans to be open and serving the community by March 2020.



# THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY

## Hospice Huronia Employees

Cathy Dance - Office Administrator  
Marie-France Laramée - Coordinator, Volunteer Program  
Christine Preston - Coordinator, Community Programs  
JoAnn Warren - Fund Development and Public Relations Manager

## Board of Directors

Anne Murphy - Chair  
Marthe Scott - Vice Chair  
Ian Vasey - Treasurer - Chair Finance Committee  
Donna Macfarlane - Secretary  
Anita Fegarty - Chair Governance Committee  
Nancy Harris - Chair Building Committee  
Kelly Hubbard - Chair Operations Committee  
Dr. Glenn Cameron  
Paul Howe  
Robert (Bob) Morton

## Donating to Hospice Huronia

We are thankful for those who make Hospice Huronia their charity of choice, for giving locally and for helping us build our dream of a local residential hospice. Every single dollar raised or donated to Hospice Huronia stays in our community and allows us to continue to provide quality hospice care, comfort and compassion to our clients and their families.



**Facebook:** Hospice Huronia



**Twitter:** @HHuronia



**Instagram:** @hospicehuronia

25 Jeffery Street  
Penetanguishene, Ontario L9M 1K6  
Telephone: 705.549.1034  
Email: [info@hospicehuronia.ca](mailto:info@hospicehuronia.ca)  
Charitable Number: 89991 5243 RR0001