



May 1 - 7th, 2011

## Communities Sharing the Care

National Hospice Palliative Care Week is a one-week campaign that focuses on raising awareness about hospice palliative care. It is also a time to celebrate, recognize and share the many achievements of hospice palliative care throughout the nation.

The theme for the 2011 NHPCW campaign is "Communities Sharing the Care" Think about what you can do to help. The responsibility of caring for someone with a life limiting illness is one that needs to be shared collectively within our community. Together we can all make a difference in the lives of those who are living with a life-limiting illness, and those affected by it.

At The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice we are fortunate to have many very generous, compassionate and dedicated individuals who enrich the lives of our residents and staff in so many ways.

We are most grateful for the support of our many community partners and are pleased to recognize but a few in this special issue.

To learn more about how you too can *Share the Care*, please call Agapé Hospice's Development Manager at (403) 282-6588 ext 243.

## The Heart Of Hospice

*"Spiritual care lies at the heart of hospice. It says we are here. We will be with you in your living and your dying. We will free you from pain and give you the freedom to find your own meaning in your own life -- your way. We will comfort you and those you love -- not always with words, often with a touch or a glance. We will bring you hope -- not for tomorrow but for this day. We will not leave you. We will watch with you. We will be there."*  
Dr. Dorothy Ley

During National Hospice Palliative Care Week, and this our 19th year in service, we reflect on what Hospice Palliative Care means to those we serve and take pride in our participation in ensuring that top quality palliative care is available to those in need in our community.



You might be surprised to know that hospice is not a place...it is a philosophy of caring for terminally ill patients, providing guidance and support to their families and loved ones. It is rooted in a thread that goes back to a dusty road in Galilee and the story of the Good Samaritan. It is founded on the principle that we are our brother's keeper.

Palliative care is about living and the meaning of life. It is about loss and grief and joy. It's about giving and receiving. It's about caring and sharing. It's about tears and laughter. These short words may

sound trite but they are not. They are very powerful words when acted upon. In short, palliative care is about life, not death. We must always remember that.

Rather than "curative care," where caregivers and physicians focus on curing a person facing a life limiting illness, hospice offers "palliative care," where the patient, family or loved ones have decided that quality of life for whatever time remains is the primary focus. Palliative care concentrates on managing pain and controlling symptoms for the patient and providing emotional and spiritual guidance for all affected.

**There are four pillars that provide the basis of a good palliative care service; Physical, Social, Emotional and Spiritual Care.** A skilled interdisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, resident attendants, social workers, spiritual and bereavement care professionals, dieticians, volunteers and others are required in meeting the needs of people who are dying, and their families.

*Continued on page 2*

## Agapé Hospice Mission Statement

The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice provides unconditional love and acceptance to individuals in need of end of life care. Agapé is a leader in giving individualized physical, social, emotional and spiritual care. Residents and their loved ones are assured of dignity, respect and hope in a home like, welcoming setting.

## THE HEART OF HOSPICE CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

As we countdown to our 20th Anniversary next year, the Salvation Army Agapé Hospice is honored to have become a renowned leader in providing the highest quality hospice palliative care and having served some 4,000 residents and their loved ones since opening in 1992. We are also extremely proud of our contributions to education and caregiver support through our precedent setting Caring for Our Caregivers program.

As reflected in NHPCW's theme of Communities Sharing the Care, your support is an important commitment to palliative end-of-life care in our community. You too are the Heart of Hospice, making a difference in the lives of others such as the Stewart family, who expressed " from the bottom of our hearts, words can not express our gratitude for the Agapé caregivers who made the end of my father's life a bit easier to bear. Bless you for your fine work"

We are most grateful to our many generous supporters who have helped Agapé in so many varied ways to fulfill this important mission.

*Excerpts from The Heart of Hospice, Written by Dr. Dorothy C.H. Ley and Harry van Bommel*

## UPCOMING AT AGAPÉ

### Making it Through The First Year Workshop

May 14, 2011  
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

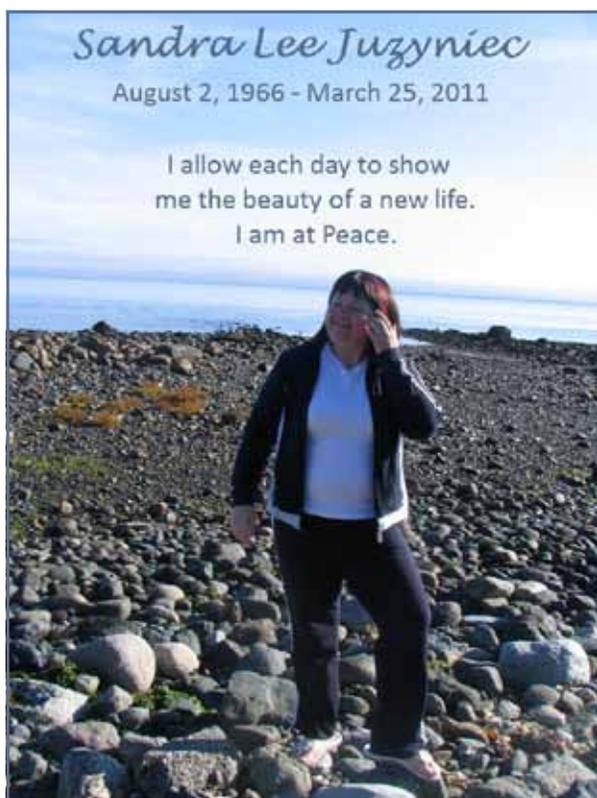
With Guest Speaker Donna Devlin

The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice  
RSVP to (403) 282-6588 ext 271 or  
doug.priestap@agapehospice.ca

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51st Annual CSPG Golf Classic  
For The Benefit of Agapé Hospice  
Elbow Springs Golf Club  
June 15-17, 2011

## THE POWER OF A CARING COMMUNITY



You may have heard in the news recently how the power of social media enabled a Calgary woman's dying wish come true. A fan of Michael Buble, Sandra's Juzyniec's last wish was to have the artist sing a song to her. Determined to fulfil her wish, her friend of 16 years, Lee Horbachewski, launched an online campaign using Twitter, a blog and Facebook to ask her contacts to reach out to their contacts to connect her with Michael. Within 24 hours Michael's people made contact and he sent a personal recorded message to Sandra from his tour in Hong Kong. "It was a beautiful moment that Sandra and her parents got to share together" says Lee.

After a valiant battle with brain cancer, Sandra peacefully passed away at Agapé Hospice on March 25, 2011, with her family by her side. The experience of Sandra's having received compassionate hospice palliative care by Agapé's amazing team of caregivers has left a lasting impression on her family and friends and the **power of a caring community** continues in building a meaningful legacy in Sandra's honour.

In the spirit of Sandra's love for butterflies, which is Agapé's brand found throughout the facility, her friends have set up a website and a \$100,000 challenge has been issued through Sandra's network to establish a fund in her name and to have a butterfly placed permanently on Agapé's Butterfly Wall.

The power of a few reaching out to many can achieve so much! An opportunity to have a wish come true for a friend, becomes an opportunity to ensure that many others facing end of life are enabled to die in peace, with dignity and embraced in loving care. The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice is most grateful to Sandra's friends and family for their very generous expressions of appreciation and hold you, and all those we serve, in our prayers.

For more information about Sandra's Butterfly please visit [www.sandrasbutterfly.com](http://www.sandrasbutterfly.com) or call Agapé Hospice at (403) 282-6588 ext 243.



Trish Rogers & Stuart Smith



Carl & Evelyn Braun

## 2011 AGAPÉ HOSPICE RECOGNITION

The Salvation Army Agapé Hospice has become renowned as a leader in providing a workplace where our qualified and compassionate staff are provided with continuing education, respect and care for their own well being. On April 5th a Recognition Luncheon was held in honour of staff who have completed 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service, and individuals who have been nominated by their peers for special awards in the following categories:

### 2011 Manager of the Year - Trish Rogers

Having the longest service record at Agapé Hospice, Trish began her career 22 years ago working in the kitchen. She transitioned to caregiving but her love for cooking took her back to the kitchen in 1998 and achieving her journeyman's licence. Currently Agapé's Food Services Coordinator, Trish oversees a team of 7 dedicated people who are responsible for providing delicious and nutritious meals for residents, staff and families. "Making sure each resident's last meal is special and meets their needs makes my work here rewarding" says Trish.

### 2011 Employee of the Year - Stuart Smith

SAIT trained, Stuart has been in the food services industry for 35 years and joined Agapé Hospice 2 1/2 years ago at the urging of one of his fellow kitchen staff mates. He began on a casual basis but soon took on a permanent role. Stuart takes the time to talk to the residents to find out their individual needs and preferences and enjoys presenting meals they will enjoy. Stuart confided, "the fact that we treat people with the dignity they deserve is where I get the most pride in working at Agapé".

### 2011 Volunteer of the Year - Carl & Evelyn Braun

Carl & Evelyn have been volunteering as a team at Agapé Hospice every Wednesday morning for more than 10 years. They joyfully spend time with the residents, Evelyn providing compassionate care with her gentle touch and Carl playing a tune on the piano or giving tours of the facility to prospective residents and their families. They are often found caring for the bird feeders that sit outside the windows of each resident room. To know how much their visits mean to residents is relayed in the story of one resident who did not wish to have visitors so she had a note placed on her door that she did not wish to be disturbed, unless it was "Mr. & Mrs. Birdfeeder", a name they are still fondly called.

We congratulate each of this year's award recipients and send our heartfelt gratitude for the individual contributions that you have made to ensuring the highest quality of care for those we serve.

**WE'D LIKE TO  
HEAR FROM  
YOU!**



In the spirit of *Community Sharing The Care*, we are pleased to present our Spring Newsletter, featuring a creative new design by Marvin Tolentino, a SAIT Graphic Design Student.

Having experienced first hand the difference Agapé Hospice made for his family, Marvin wanted to give back by volunteering with us and by giving our newsletter a polished new look.

We have also taken this opportunity to ensure that we are meeting our social responsibility and are pleased to enter into this project with First On Color to produce this communication using FSC certified, 100% recycled post consumer waste materials, organic toner and vegetable inks.

In addition to reviewing the materials we use to communicate with you, we would like to know how you would like to hear from us.

Currently we send you a bi-annual newsletter, thank you letters and event Invitations. Would you like to hear from us more often? What points of interest would you like to hear from us? Are you interested in hearing more about our upcoming events or our programs services? Perhaps you would prefer our contact in more diverse ways or prefer to provide your email contact so that we may communicate electronically.

We have enclosed a remittance form on which we have provided an opportunity for you to raise your voice and tell us what you think; How do you like our new look; what kinds of information would you like to hear; how would you like to hear from us. Please take a moment to complete and return the form so that we may communicate with you more effectively!

## SHARING THE CARE

A not-for-profit service organization, Agapé Hospice provides a peaceful homelike setting and compassionate end of life care to our residents at no charge. During an average stay of 18 days, the resident pays only for their pharmaceuticals and oxygen. Agapé's priority is to help residents peacefully live the remainder of their lives to the fullest and support their loved ones through the process.

In order to ensure that crucial services are available in the time of need, Agapé Hospice relies heavily on the support of our valued funding partners, the Alberta Health Services and The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. However, in addition to this support, Agapé's Fund Development team is required to raise in excess of \$1.3 million dollars annually to ensure the continuation of the quality care and services for which Agapé is renowned.

Meeting our goals is only made possible through the generosity of our community partners: generous individuals, Calgary's corporate and business leaders, various church groups, social associations and charitable foundations who provide monetary donations, home baked breads and cookies, theme dinners for the residents and their families, handcrafted quilts and prayer shawls and volunteers who give their time with residents, arrange flowers, tend to our

beautiful gardens or paint and repair the facility.

For more on how you can **Share the Care**, please visit [www.agapehospice.ca](http://www.agapehospice.ca) or call Agapé Hospice at 403 282-6588 ext 243 or email [colleen.clancy@agapehospice.ca](mailto:colleen.clancy@agapehospice.ca)

### HOW CAN I SHARE THE CARE?

In Memoriam Donations  
 Undesignated or Designated  
 Gifts of Cash  
 Matching Gifts from Employers  
 Designate Through The United Way  
 Corporate Giving and Sponsorship  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Events and Teambuilding  
 Gifts of Securities, Life Insurance and  
 Planned Giving  
 Become an Agapé Volunteer

## WITH OUR GRATITUDE

### A Special Thanks To Our Generous Donors

William Herron Family Foundation, Clearwater Charitable Foundation, Cenovus Energy Inc., Encana Cares Foundation, Ruth Elsasser, Giselle Glazer, Ken & Colleen Goddard

Marlette and Brian Reed, Siu Chung Chan, Trent Erne, Ann Buckingham, Foothills Street Rod Association, Kathleen Gaschnitz, Walter Hatfield, Maunders McNeil Foundation Inc., Reinhold Winterer, Holy Spirit Charitable Society, Kiwanis Club of Calgary Foothills, B.A. Clarke

Reinhard Lietz, Violet Madsen, Doug Priestap, Dawn Falk, Joyce Bradford, Tammy Hallquist, Charlotte Rentz, Janice Cushman, ARC Resources, B. R. Giles, Bearspaw Lions Club, Connie Boreski, Dana & Gary Borkristl, Angela Brailsford, Robert Brawn, Calgary Royal Purple Lodge #7, George Fox, Katherine Fujiwara, Solana Jear, Stewart SZE Wing Lee, John Lundeen, Kathleen McHenry, Chad Nahuis, Donald & Jeanne Nelson, David Schroth, St Davids United Church Foundation of Calgary, A. Swystun, Linda Tansowny, The Calgary Foundation, Norman Thurn, Anne Traynor, Justine Wu

*Agapé Hospice is extremely grateful for each and every donation. Unfortunately, the availability of space limits recognition to donations of \$1,000 or more received since the last newsletter.*

### Community Council

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 Howard Gorman  
 Richard Horne  
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 Trish Rogers  
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