



## **RENFREW HOSPICE HAPPENINGS 2024**

### **Greetings from Hospice Renfrew**



#### **Hospice Renfrew Chair: Gerald Tracey**

Throughout the holiday season, Hospice Renfrew continues to provide compassion, comfort, and care to those who require it. Our dedicated staff and many volunteers will be here to ensure our residents, and their families are provided with the best level of care possible.

I, and members of the board at Hospice Renfrew, are proud to be a part of this wonderful facility. We are grateful to be associated with amazing staff and a group of people who give freely of their time, ensuring we maintain the high level of service we have become known for. We have an awesome team and truly appreciate the efforts put forth by each and every

person.

To the wider Renfrew community and the hundreds of people who choose to support Hospice Renfrew with their donations, it is because of your generosity we are able to keep the doors open, the lights on and a wonderful team providing first-class care.

To my fellow board members - Bill McMahon, Donna Anderson, Leo Hall, Jamie Cybulski, George Wade, Kevin Cherry and Amber Hultink – our management team of Marjorie Joly, Cindy Lowry, Betty Coulas, Debroah Coelho, Jenny Rigby-McCabe, Kim Fraser and the many individuals who sit on various committees, thank you for giving your time and sharing your expertise with Hospice Renfrew.

*May the gift of love, the gift of peace and the gift of happiness be yours at Christmas.*

**Merry Christmas!**

Gerald Tracey, Chair



**Hospice Renfrew Executive Director: Marjorie Joly**

As we come to the close of another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we have accomplished together at Hospice Renfrew. This year has been filled with moments of compassion, resilience, and unwavering dedication from our staff, volunteers, physicians, board members, and supporters.

Your commitment to our mission has enabled us to provide exceptional care, comfort, and support to our residents and their families during some of life's most challenging times. From the tireless efforts of our care team to the generosity of our community, every contribution has helped us make a profound difference.

As we look forward to the year ahead, I remain inspired by the passion and kindness that defines Hospice Renfrew. Together, we will continue to enhance our services, embrace inclusivity, and uphold the values that make our hospice a place of comfort and peace.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

Wishing you and your loved ones a peaceful holiday season and a New

Year filled with hope and joy.

**Marjorie Joly, Executive Director**

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**Clinical Services Coordinator:  
Cindy Stafford-Lowry**

Hospice Renfrew is committed to the ongoing education and training of our staff and volunteers. Throughout the year we offer educational opportunities and encourage staff to enroll and participate in specialized palliative care education and training.

We also host an annual Education Day and invite guest speakers to discuss a variety of topics related to palliative and end-of-life care. This year, our Education Day took place on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The theme of this year's education was difficult and delicate conversations. Staff and volunteers received expert advice and coaching to enhance their skills in navigating conversations that require empathy, respect, validation and, sometimes, simply silence. Both staff and volunteers found the event to be very relevant and insightful.

We pride ourselves on the provision of exceptional care and support to our residents and to their families. By continuing to invest in the knowledge and training of our staff and volunteers, we are ensuring that the superior care we provide is ongoing.

I am proud to be leading such an impressive team of skilled and highly trained staff into another year. Merry Christmas and best wishes for a safe and healthy New Year.



## Staff & Volunteer Education Day 2024

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### Grief & Bereavement Counsellor: Jenny Rigby-McCabe



Our Grief & Bereavement services have expanded, reaching more community members in need of support after a loss. We launched an additional monthly grief support group at the Arnprior Public Library, partnered with regional seniors' organizations to offer several grief education workshops, and recently hosted a well-attended Holiday Grief Workshop to offer support during this difficult time of year.

For more information on support groups, grief counseling, and educational opportunities, please visit the Grief & Bereavement section of our website at: [www.hospicereinfrew.ca](http://www.hospicereinfrew.ca)

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### Volunteer & Events Coordinator: Debroah Coelho

2024 was a very successful year in recruiting new volunteers. With that we were able to fill our Resident and Family Support Team with 95% full coverage for two times a day seven days a week. Our volunteer family did not disappoint when it came to helping with many behind the scenes events which includes fundraiser's, celebration of life as well as continuing our tradition of our holiday meals for every resident and their families. Our calming views of our outdoors with wildlife and continued blossoms, all volunteer run, really does create a calming feeling for residents and family members. Each volunteer contributes a lot to help provide care, comfort and compassion to everyone who comes to Hospice Renfrew.

Thank you to you all for your continued dedication and support!

### **Recruitment for New Volunteers**

While we have had great success this year with recruiting volunteers, some areas are still in need of volunteer support. We are looking for dedicated individuals with a strong commitment to helping others in the community. If this sounds like you, Hospice Renfrew would love to have you join our team. Currently we are recruiting for the following areas: Reception, Garden team, Bereavement Support groups, Fundraising Committee or Complimentary Therapy which includes music, crafts, visiting therapy dog etc. Anyone aged 15 years and older we welcome you to fill out an application and begin the volunteer process.

Students volunteering at Hospice Renfrew not only fulfills the required volunteer hours for your diploma but opens the door to a world of personal growth and community impact that you may never have imagined! For more information visit [www.hospicerefrew.ca](http://www.hospicerefrew.ca) or call Debroah at 613-433-3993 ext. 2236.



**Members of Staff:**

Courtney McKellar,  
Debroah Coelho,  
Jana Norman

**Members of Staff:**

Susan  
Shefler

**Members of Staff:**

Betty Coulas

**Volunteers:**

Anne Cassidy,  
Janet Springer,  
Kevin Cherry (Board  
of Directors),  
Roy Vasey

**Volunteers:**

Elizabeth  
Mosco,  
Leo Hall  
(Board of  
Directors)

**Volunteers:**

Dorothy  
Moore

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**2024 Fundraising Events**

Each year, we are profoundly touched and grateful for the unwavering support from our community, which showcases the true spirit of compassion that defines Renfrew County. Your kindness and generosity manifest in

myriad ways, each one leaving a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve. This year alone, we witnessed remarkable fundraisers that exemplify this commitment, from one-time donations to annual contributions, bequests, and vibrant third-party events. These efforts represent just a fraction of the incredible generosity that fuels our mission at Hospice Renfrew. We invite you to join us on this journey, as every act of kindness enhances the quality of life for individuals and families navigating their final journey with dignity and love. Together, we can create an even more supportive environment for those in need of our services, and we encourage you to explore how you can get involved and make a difference—because every effort counts!



### Your Donations Make Our Care Possible

Hospice Renfrew stands as a beacon of hope and compassion for those facing the profound challenges of terminal illness, and it is with heartfelt gratitude that we recognize the indispensable support and generosity of our

community. As a not-for-profit organization and registered charity, our mission is to deliver free, high-quality palliative care services to individuals and families during their most vulnerable moments. While we are thankful for the funding provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, which covers approximately sixty percent of our operational costs, we rely heavily on the kindness of community donations to bridge the gap and sustain our vital services. We invite you to join us in this meaningful endeavor, considering a contribution that prioritizes dignity and comfort for those in need. Together, we can foster an environment of care that uplifts families, reminding us all of the collective strength we possess when we come together for a common cause. Every donation, regardless of size, plays a crucial role in making a profound difference in the lives of those we serve.

### **Rural Reflections Legacy Wall**

The 'Rural Reflection Legacy Wall' stands as a heartfelt tribute to the cherished memories of loved ones, beautifully capturing the essence of Renfrew County through its recognizable components. This initiative offers a meaningful opportunity to honor those who have touched our lives by purchasing an engraved item on the wall, serving as both a personal memorial and a vital source of financial support for Hospice Renfrew. The proceeds generated from this Legacy Wall will play a crucial role in sustaining essential programs and services, ensuring that compassionate palliative care continues to be accessible to our community. We invite you to consider the emotional solace that comes from commemorating your loved ones in this special way, while also contributing to the ongoing mission of Hospice Renfrew. To explore this opportunity further, please reach out to Marjorie Joly at 613-433-3993 X 2222 or via email at [mjoly@hospicerenfrew.ca](mailto:mjoly@hospicerenfrew.ca). Together, let us celebrate life and strengthen our community through this meaningful initiative.

### **Legacy Estate Planning**

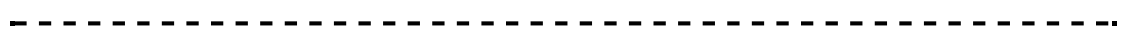
Legacy Estate Planning is a forward thinking way to ensure you can leave a lasting impact well beyond your lifetime. You can leave a set cash legacy or designate a percentage of your estate, and receive a donation receipt for the full value of the bequest, which may dramatically reduce taxes payable by your estate. Choosing to bequest a gift in your will to Hospice Renfrew would create a lasting difference for many generations to come within our community. For more information on Legacy Estate Planning, please email: [info@hospicerenfrew.ca](mailto:info@hospicerenfrew.ca)

### **Monthly Donations**

When you choose to make a monthly gift to Hospice Renfrew, you are not just providing a reliable source of funding; you are becoming an integral part of a compassionate community dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for those facing terminal illnesses and their families. Your consistent contributions empower us to plan and implement long-term initiatives that bring comfort, dignity, and support to those who need it most. Imagine the profound impact your generosity can have! We invite you to take action today—whether you reach out for more information at [info@hospicerenfrew.ca](mailto:info@hospicerenfrew.ca) or make your donation directly on our website at [www.hospicerenfrew.ca](http://www.hospicerenfrew.ca), every gift, no matter the size, plays a vital role in our mission. Join us in making a difference, and together, let's foster a respectful and inclusive community that uplifts those we serve.

### **General Donations**

At Hospice Renfrew, we understand that each individual has unique preferences when it comes to supporting our mission, which is why we offer a variety of donation options tailored to suit your personal values and needs. We invite you to explore these flexible choices by visiting our website at [www.hospicerenfrew.ca](http://www.hospicerenfrew.ca), where you can find the option that resonates most with you. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at 613-433-3993; we are here to provide you with the support and information you need. Your generosity plays a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for individuals facing terminal illnesses and their families in our Renfrew community, and together, we can continue to make a meaningful impact.



### **Are We There Yet? Workshop**

On September 19th, Hospice Renfrew hosted an enlightening workshop with guest speaker, David Kennedy. With his experience as a Grief & Bereavement Counsellor in hospice care, he shared many heart felt stories and insights into end-of-life planning. David captured the audiences attention talking with people he has worked with and how they have fulfilled their final wishes, taken final trips and completed personal goals in their life. His stories were awe inspiring and everyone could feel the love and

inspiration from his experience working at hospice. His take away message was, "even if you don't have much time left, go out in the world and live your life to the fullest that you are able to, fulfill your dreams, complete your final wishes and go on adventures while there is still time."



### **Is Your Organization Looking For A Guest Speaker?**

By inviting a speaker from Hospice Renfrew to your community group, class, church, service club, or business, you have a unique opportunity to foster understanding and compassion around the vital topic of Hospice Palliative Care. Our dedicated staff and compassionate volunteers are eager to share their insights, tailoring each presentation to meet the specific needs and interests of your audience. This engagement not only enhances awareness but also inspires meaningful conversations about end-of-life care, reinforcing the values of comfort and dignity that we hold dear. We encourage you to

consider how this opportunity can enrich your community and promote a deeper connection with the principles of palliative care. For more information or to book a speaker, please reach out to us at [mjoly@hospicerenfrew.ca](mailto:mjoly@hospicerenfrew.ca) or call 613-433-3993 X 2222. Let's work together to illuminate the path to compassionate care.

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