

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF HOSPICE CARE IN NIAGARA COUNTY



Our Mission:
We are dedicated
to providing
the right care,
in the right place,
at the right time.



NiagaraHospice.org (716) 439-4417

#### A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

2022-2023 was a special year for Niagara Hospice, as you will read on the following pages. We are honored to care for you and your loved ones, and we thank you for entrusting us with your care.

As the only hospice in Niagara County since 1988, we are dedicated to providing specialized, expert care to patients and personalized support for families, much of which is supported by donations.

We thank the countless individuals, foundations, businesses, and community groups who have supported us throughout our 35 years.

A very big thank you goes out to our staff & volunteers...they are truly the heart of Niagara Hospice.

With gratitude,

President & CEO

Chairman

# PATIENT CARE...YEAR IN REVIEW



1,142 patients



63,419 total days of care





173.8 average daily census



967 new patient admissions



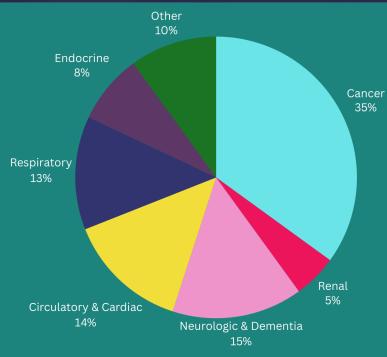
1,502 referrals

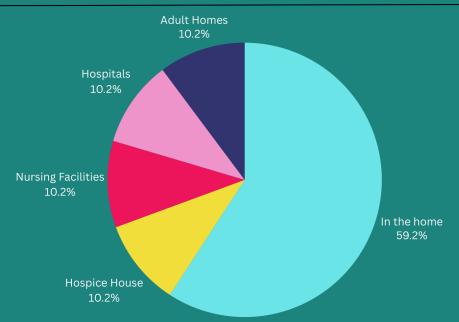
IN THE WORDS OF FAMILIES TOUCHED BY NIAGARA HOSPICE... "Hospice is true 'comfort care' that provides peace of mind for the patient and the family."

#### PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

#### PATIENT DIAGNOSES

Niagara Hospice cares for patients with a variety of diagnoses. Historically, the perception has been that hospice care mainly cares for patients diagnosed with cancer; when one reviews these demographics, it becomes apparent that while cancer diagnoses comprise 35% of patient diagnoses, 65% present with other diagnoses.



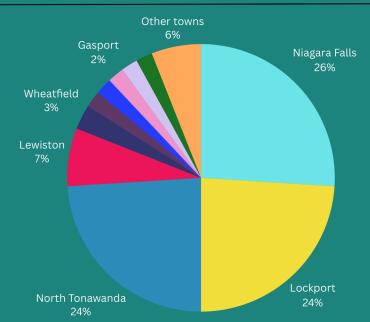


#### **PATIENT CARE LOCATIONS**

Niagara Hospice provides the right care, in the right place, at the right time. The location of patient care is one we carefully assess; we see the majority of patients in the home, however, several facilities, including Hospice House in Lockport, continue to provide specialized care, especially in those cases where the patient may require a higher level of care than what a caregiver can provide in the home.

#### PATIENT CITIES & TOWNS

Since 1988, Niagara Hospice has cared for all of Niagara County. The organization continues to see a majority of patients from the three largest cities, however, there continues to be a steady increase in patient representation from the many towns and villages throughout the community.



## **ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS**



December 14: Niagara Hospice Hospice House expanded its residential wing, and officially admitted the first patient. After a year of construction, the six new residential patient suites brings the total at the facility to 16, the maximum allowed by New York State.

June: We celebrated 35 years of Niagara Hospice with a fun staff picnic.





July 26: Corey Voelker,
Director of Support
Services & Executive
Chef, & Sue Moulden,
Hospice House Cook,
participated in Network
in Aging of WNY tasting
event with other longterm care facilities at
the Amherst Senior
Center.





June: Our dedicated volunteers introduced a new initiative at Niagara Hospice House...the Coffee & Tea Cart visits Hospice House patients and their loved ones once a week with special beverages and goodies.

December: Drive Against Diabetes (D.A.D) presented Niagara Hospice with a check for \$50,000 toward the fall appeal for replacing the two automated dispensing system units at Hospice House. D.A.D.'s generosity covered half of our goal of \$100,000 (which we met!)





IN THE WORDS OF FAMILIES TOUCHED BY NIAGARA HOSPICE...

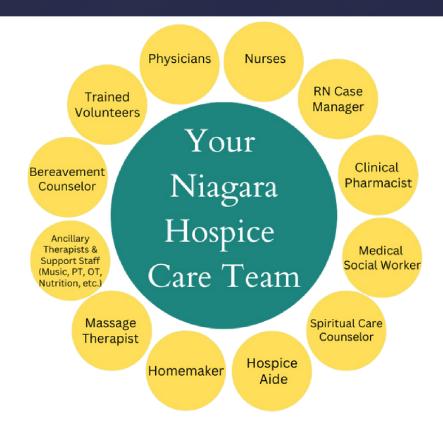
"Thank you for all your dedication & care for our community!!! Awesome team."

# COMMITTED, EXPERT STAFF

One very special element of Hospice care is our interdisciplinary care team...so many dedicated individuals working together to provide compassionate, expert care.

As the only hospice provider in Niagara County, our staff takes pride in their compassionate service to others.

Just one call to Niagara Hospice provides loved ones the physical, emotional, psychosocial, spiritual and bereavement care they need.



# COMPASSIONATE, TALENTED VOLUNTEERS



2022-2023 saw the full return of Niagara Hospice's amazing volunteer force, totaling nearly 100 individuals. Niagara Hospice volunteers are dedicated, compassionate, and give of their time in so many beneficial ways. They visit patients, provide respite for caregivers, assist with events, help with office duties, and so much more.



"Thank you Volunteers. Hospice would surely not be the same without you."

## **CELEBRATING PHILANTHROPY**

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Niagara Hospice's dedicated Events Department organizes several annual events. In 2022-2023, \$153,000 was raised by events to support the organization.



August 6, 2022 453 participants





October 1, 2022 1,120 participants



November 25, 2022
The virtual event was very successful, selling 408 tickets & raising more than any silent auction on record.

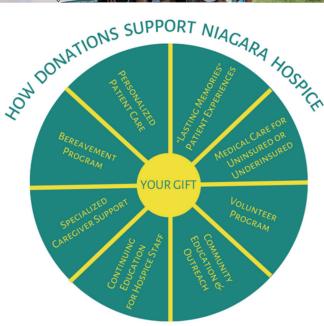


March 6-11, 2023 Our largest year to date! Pre-Sale Coordinators: 97 Walk-Up locations: 78



Many generous groups & individuals have made Niagara Hospice their "charity of choice," and we cannot thank you enough! The money raised benefits the organization in countless ways, as noted on the right. Over 1,000 donors supported our annual appeals which funded special patient projects, allowing us to replace two medication dispensing units and purchase new beds and bedroom furniture for Hospice House.

Over 2,500 donors supported our mission through memorials and general contributions. THANK YOU!





"The services offered by this agency are nothing short of outstanding."

# **CELEBRATING COMMUNITY**











Our community continues to support us in so many ways, and we are so incredibly grateful. From hosting fundraisers, to beautifying our Memorial Gardens, to assisting us at our events, we know we cannot do this work without this great community. THANK YOU.





IN THE WORDS OF FAMILIES TOUCHED BY NIAGARA HOSPICE...
"For the first time in the caregiver journey,
I didn't feel alone."

#### THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPONSORS

A-1 Land Care, Inc. **Abbott Answering Service** Acome Construction, Inc. American Concrete of WNY Anzalone Electric Aslan Plumbing And Mechanical Services Inc. AssuredPartners Northeast, LLC ATI Allvac Babbsco CARSTAR Collision Becker Farms Becky Thompson Ins Agency Inc Best Buy Auto Sales Black Willow Winery **Brickyard Brewing** Brownies Custard Stand Bucolo Cold Storage Inc. Cheri Amour Inc. Chudy Paper Company Inc. Clarence Wall and Ceiling, Inc. Clark Rigging & Rental Corporation Cole, Sorrentino, Hurley, Hewner & Gambino, P.C. Compu-Mail, LLC Cornerstone CFCU

Covanta Niagara LP

Crown Benefits Group Inc.

**DePaul Adult Care Communities** 

Dopkins & Company, LLP Doug E. Thompson Agency Inc. Drum Oil & Propane E. A. Granchelli Developer Eaton Office Supply Co., Inc. Fattey Beer Company Firth Jewelers, Inc. Fox Fence Inc Frank M Ventry LLC Fred E. Thomas Agency, Inc. Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC Great Lakes Real Estate Greater Niagara Kitchen Design Moley Magnetics Inc Gross Plumbing & Heating Co. Inc. Half Baked Café Hardison Funeral Homes, Inc. Hess Road Wesleyan Church Holland Group, LLC Hoover's Dairy Inc. Independent Health Association Race Management Solutions Inc Jay's Place JoJo's Ice Cream Joseph G Frazier, P.C. Judi's Lounge Kimmins Terrier Foundation

KIPO Chevrolet

LaSalle Contracting Corp.

Small Law Firm Lawley Service, Inc. Lewiston Family Dental Spalding Hardware Co Lockport Orthodontics, PC Spicey Pickle Inc. Lockport Waffle Company Stahlka Agency, Inc. M&T Charitable Foundation Starbucks Coffee StarFood Mart LLC Margaret O'Keefe PC Mark Cerrone, Inc. Stevenson Hardware, Inc. Metro Contracting & Stuart Sports, Inc. Environmental, Inc. Sunrise Door & Woodworks, MH White Siding & Roofing Co. Supermarket Management Inc. Inc. Mineo & Sapio Swans Marina U.S. Inc. Tater Cakes Bakeshop Naptime Kraftin The Fly Inn Lodge LLC Niagara Falls Coach Lines The Buffalo Sabres Foundation Northern Customs Services Inc. Tim Hortons Northstar Bikes Tops Friendly Markets On The Move Portable Storage Inc. Tuscarora Indian School Ontario Construction Twin City Glass Corporation Pusateri & Fitzgerald United Thermal Systems LLC Village of Wilson Register Graphics Inc. Wandering Gypsy Rhoney Funeral Home Inc. Waterbourne Construction Roswell Park Cancer Institute Advisors, LLC Sahlen's Hot Dogs Woodcock Brothers Brewery Scott Lawn Yard. Inc. Woodside Granite Industries. Sevenson Environmental Services, Inc. Youngstown Village Diner, Inc. Shelby Crushed Stone, Inc. Zajac Funeral Home Inc.

# IN THE WORDS OF FAMILIES TOUCHED BY NIAGARA HOSPICE...

"At a time when our decisions were the hardest, you offered gentle guidance and endless support."

## **CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY**

- 1980 On December 11, the first gathering of individuals interested in developing a hospice in Niagara County took place at the Payne Ave. Christian Church at corner of Payne Ave. and Wheatfield St. in N. Tonawanda
- 1981 Formation and first meeting of Adhoc Committee to develop a hospice in Niagara County
- 1982 Niagara Hospice Educational Association, Inc. was incorporated on October 20
- 1984 Niagara Hospice Educational Association established offices at the old air base in Cambria; the first Board of Directors is formed
- 1986 A Certificate of Need is presented to the NYSDOH (New York State Department of Health) by then board President, Patricia Evans
- 1987 On November 30, a Certificate of Amendment was filed to change the name of the corporation to Niagara Hospice, Inc.; all necessary policies and procedures developed by newly hired first CEO, Martin Jackson
- 1988 In June, Niagara Hospice, Inc. was licensed to serve its first home care patients
- 1990 Hospice offices moved to what is affectionately called,
  "The little house on the prairie" a small ranch house near the
  air base in Cambria
- 1991 Headquarters was moved to the Colonel Payne School building in North Tonawanda
- 1996 In February, the newly built Sunset Drive administrative building opened under the leadership of Carol Gettings, CEO
- 1999 On June 1, Niagara Hospice received accreditation on June 1 from the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) 2000 Current Niagara Hospice CEO, John Lomeo, is hired in August
- 2001 Camp Hope was established as the first bereavement camp for children in Western New York
- 2002 Niagara Hospice established a Pet Visit Volunteer program
- 2004 In December, the \$3 million "Wings of Serenity" campaign was launched to build Niagara Hospice House.
  - 2005 Niagara Hospice Pharmacy Practice residence program was accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the first pharmacy practice with emphasis in home care based in a hospice to receive accreditation in the nation.

- on the Niagara Hospice campus on Sunset Drive in the Town of Lockport.
- 2007 On June 5, the first patients were admitted to Niagara Hospice House.
  - 2010 In February, Niagara Hospice opened two additional residential suites at Hospice House, bringing the total to 10 residential and 10 general in-patient.
  - 2012 In March, Hospice at Jeanne's House a Northgate and Niagara Hospice Collaboration began serving residents in need of both 24-hour skilled nursing and hospice services, the only collaboration of its kind in New York State at the time.

    2013 May 10, Niagara Hospice and the Schoellkopf Health Center announced a new partnership to open a dedicated hospice unit on the Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center campus. David's Path is named for David Winker, a beloved Memorial Medical Center employee who spent his final days surrounded by family members while being cared for at Niagara Hospice House.
  - 2014 Niagara Hospice received accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC).

    2017 June Niagara Hospice House celebrates 10 years of service; July Niagara Hospice House residential wing named in honor of Paul Beatty, Sr. "Paul R. Beatty, Sr. Residential Suites."
  - 2020 In May, the Niagara Hospice House converted four of its 10 general inpatient suites into negative pressure suites to accommodate patients with infections.
  - 2021 On June 4, the New York State Department of Health approved the Niagara Hospice expansion project to add six residential patient suites to the Niagara Hospice House at 4675 Sunset Drive in Lockport.
  - 2022 On December 14, the Niagara Hospice House new residential wing with 6 additional suites opened and admitted the first Niagara County patient.

in the words of families touched by niagara hospice...

"The care I received was so special to me.

I can't thank you enough."



# **DEDICATED LEADERSHIP**

#### **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

John Lomeo, President & CEO

Carlo Figliomeni, CFO & COO

Andrea Sammarco, Esq. Corporate General Counsel

#### **MEDICAL LEADERSHIP**

Dr. Richard Castaldo Medical Director Dr. Edward O'Brien III Assistant Medical Director Dr. Jay Newman Assistant Medical Director

Dr. Robert G. Wahler PharmD, BCGP, FASCP, CPE Director of Pharmacy Services

Dr. Sameer Mamnoon

Dr. Mian Majeed

Dr. Todd M. Orszulak

Danielle M. Burngasser, RN, BSN Vice President of Clinical Operations

Janet Ligammari, RN
Director of Nursing Services

Sandra Sauvageau, NP Niagara Hospice House

James M. Shaw, DDS, Chairman
James Baker, Secretary
Patricia Evans, Treasurer
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