

Seasons



The Dorothy Ley Hospice

Spring 2005

Lindsey's Story

People always ask me why I would want to work with a hospice; they say it must be all tears and sorrow. But working with The Dorothy Ley Hospice has shown me how to live, laugh and cry. I have learned more than I could ever have imagined and am a better person because of it.

I became aware of The Dorothy Ley Hospice in my first year of school. I was working in a community-based bereavement organization and was researching agencies for my second year placement. Having grown up in Etobicoke, I was drawn to the mission of The Dorothy Ley Hospice and its efforts to reach the members of the community. I began my work with the Hospice this past September as part of my field practicum.

I have been fortunate enough to support people in their homes as well at the Day Respite at St. George's On-The-Hill Anglican Church. Being accepted and welcomed into the homes of families has helped me appreciate the compassion and trust integral to hospice work.

My time with the hospice has changed my life. I have been able

to spend time with some of the strongest people I have ever met. I have come to understand the need to advocate and support hospice care in the community. Meeting individuals faced with tremendous pain has taught me to accept and to be open to the many difficulties life can throw your way, and has also taught me the meaning of hope.

Not only the clients, but also the staff and volunteers involved with the Hospice have strengthened my passion for my work in hospice care. The amazing determination and drive of the people involved with the Hospice is something to be admired.

I can only begin to describe the amazing experience The Dorothy Ley Hospice has given me and the truly outstanding people I met over the last couple months. I've learned more about living and the meaning of life during my time with the hospice than I ever could have imagined.

I am walking away from this experience with a better understanding of myself and a deeper love for hospice care. I will never forget my time with The Dorothy Ley Hospice and



Lindsey Patterson (right) spends time with client Pauline McFarlane.

will take the knowledge and hope I have learned from this experience and carry it with me throughout my life.

I could not have asked for more fulfilling placement opportunity and am extremely grateful to everyone involved with The Dorothy Ley Hospice.

Lindsey Patterson graduated this year from the Human Services Counsellor Program at George Brown College. In September, she will begin the Grief & Bereavement Program at the University of Western Ontario.

Welcome Ron Lirette



The Hospice Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Ron Lirette as our new Executive Director.

Ron has more than 10 years experience as a Senior Manager in the health and social sectors. For the last three years he was Manager of Community Programs at Casey House, and before that was Manager of the Community-Based AIDS Education and Support Program with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, AIDS Bureau.

He brings a wealth of experience in strategic planning, financial management and program development that will be critical as we move forward with our plans to build The Dorothy Ley Hospice Palliative Care Centre. *Welcome aboard, Ron!*

Letter to the Editor

Dear Seasons

In his article *Just Be Here* (Seasons, Winter 2005), client support volunteer Scott Russell acknowledges some of the hidden rewards that can be found in this kind of service. But he also appears to be posing some interesting questions about how able we are as volunteers to cope with personal shortcomings in our relationships with clients.

None of us is perfect, but the single most important quality we need to have in our Hospice work is a high degree of authenticity - of being true to ourselves.

Authenticity is the bedrock upon which our credibility and integrity ultimately rest. Our offerings to our clients, of love, understanding, friendship, acceptance and the like, are all compromised if our personal authenticity is not fully in place.

Unfortunately much in our current social climate encourages us to assume airs or pretence, to don masks, to hide behind phony attitudes and affectations and distorted values that undermine our ability to

be fully authentic. Powerful and seductive market interests are constantly trying to make us into something other than who we are, in order that we feel incomplete without this or that product.

But the ending of life's journey offers each of us a unique gift and hidden blessing if we can find and reconnect with our innermost selves. Somewhere within this domain, I believe, is the key to a peaceful and serene departure from this life. There is something powerful, beautiful and deeply transformative in the act of reclaiming our personal authenticity.

JOHN H. BOYD

Volunteer - March 6, 2005

P.S. Perhaps Seasons could encourage more of our Hospice volunteers, staff and clients to put forth their comments, thoughts, and personal wisdom on some of the issues integral to the kind of service we offer. Thank you Scott Russell for starting the ball rolling.

GOODBYE TO DAN DEMPSTER

The Hospice is losing a true and dedicated friend. With deeply mixed feelings, Dan Dempster, our Executive Director of three years, announced on March 31 that he was leaving in May to take the helm of Casey House, the Toronto AIDS hospice. In his resignation letter, Dan acknowledged the huge contribution made by the rest of The Dorothy Ley Hospice team:

"I couldn't have worked with a more supportive team of committed volunteers, staff and board members. I have learned so much in working with all of you... I will miss working at the Hospice, but will visit often - and definitely will be there when the shovel goes in the ground for The Dorothy Ley Hospice Palliative Care Centre." For many of us, Dan has been the embodiment of the Hospice. His vigorous leadership and untiring promotion of the Hospice and of palliative care have been instrumental in bringing us to where we are today. We're sorry to see him go.

GOODBYE TO GENE GIORDANO

After serving on the Board of Directors for over two years, Gene Giordano has resigned as a Director, Vice President, and Chair of the Hospice fundraising committee. His regular presence on the board will be greatly missed, but fortunately we have not lost him entirely: he will still continue to volunteer his time on special projects.

A Residential Hospice Moves One Step Closer to Being Within Our Reach

More than 60 people gathered at Sherway Mall to celebrate the public launch of the \$4 million capital campaign to build The Dorothy Ley Hospice Palliative Care Centre. The Centre will become Toronto's first residential hospice open to people with any terminal illness. It is one of only three residential hospices planned for construction in Ontario over the next two years.

"Today is really an enormous milestone for our organization," said Paul Ginou, Hospice President. "This new centre will fortify the strength of our 15 year history in Etobicoke. It will give us the capability to provide a complete continuum of care to our clients. With your help, we will transform the delivery of palliative care in West Toronto."

The Dorothy Ley Hospice Palliative Care Centre will look like a large home overlooking the Etobicoke Creek. It will offer 24-hour care to approximately 220 clients a year — the majority of whom currently have to leave Etobicoke to obtain a palliative care bed.

"Our goal is to keep people in their homes for as long as possible," said Mr. Ginou. "However, when the time comes that home care is no longer feasible, they will move to our 10-bed residential hospice, close to their family and friends."

For Marjorie Pitchford, a Board Member and Hospice founder, the campaign launch brought the dream of the Hospice's founders one step closer.

"Many wonderful people have worked diligently since 1987 towards our initial shared goal of a free-standing residential hospice," said Mrs. Pitchford. "Since we began our in-home program in January 1990, our trained volunteers and staff have always gone the extra mile to ensure the excellence of our many services.



(l to r) Dan Dempster, Executive Director, The Dorothy Ley Hospice; Paul Ginou, President, The Dorothy Ley Hospice; Donna Cansfield, MPP Etobicoke-Centre; Peter Milczyn, City Councillor, Etobicoke-Lakeshore; Jim Brownell, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

A residential hospice is vital to our health care system, and we are all so thankful to have reached the point where our vision can become a reality."

The Centre, located next to the Trillium Health Centre, Queensway site (near Highway 427 and the QEW), will enable people with a terminal illness to complete their final journey in peace, with their pain and symptoms controlled, and surrounded by family and friends as well as specially trained volunteers and health care professionals.

Each resident will occupy one of 10 private bedrooms equipped with special comfort beds, ensuite bathrooms and bay windows designed to bring the outside world of sky and garden into the inside world of each resident. It will have recreation and dining areas, quiet meditation spaces and tranquil garden areas. In addition, the Centre will enable the Hospice to expand its day respite, bereavement and educational programs, and other support services to family members and loved ones.

"As one of our clients so eloquently said, 'a hospice is not a place where you go to die; rather it's a place where you live life to the

fullest, even if you have only days left,'" said Mr. Ginou. "This Centre will make it possible for us to further that goal."

Also in attendance at the launch were Jim Brownell, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Donna Cansfield, MPP for Etobicoke-Centre; and Peter Milczyn.

"For more than 15 years, The Dorothy Ley Hospice has made an invaluable contribution to this community," said Mr. Brownell. "The Hospice and its proposed centre is an excellent role model for what end-of-life care can and should be: ensuring residents in the west end of Toronto receive the right care, in the right place at the right time."

Mr. Brownell also brought greetings from Laurel Broten, MPP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore. In her message, Ms. Broten said, "I am delighted to support this expansion initiative, which will provide additional care for those in need and their families."

Donna Cansfield, MPP for Etobicoke-Centre, and a former Hospice board member, told the crowd, "If you believe that every

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Hospice Happenings

CHILDRENS' VOLUNTEERS

In January, Virginia Radulescu, Glendon Rayworth and Masarrat Khan, all graduates of the standard volunteer training process, expanded their skills by completing the Hospice Care for Children volunteer training program.

Each of these volunteers will continue to work with adult clients as they have in the past. Their new training expands their qualifications so they will also be considered for assignments with children when they arise.

HOSPICE TEAM ROUNDS

Our first Hospice Team Rounds meeting, in which volunteers joined their case managers to discuss the joys and challenges of hospice work, was

a great success back in November. The next Team Rounds will be held on Wednesday, June 8th 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Thursday, June 16th 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon. All volunteers - whether or not they're currently working with a client - are invited.

WELCOME ABOARD

A new crop of volunteers have graduated from the joint training by The Dorothy Ley Hospice and The Philip Aziz Centre. We're proud to welcome Melinda Nagy, Linda Braendel, Laura Fox and Lynne Parker to the Dorothy Ley Hospice family.

Left to right: Eileen White, Marita Faulds and Mar Johnstone received certificates of appreciation at the April 15 Volunteer Recognition Tea.

CANADA SAYS "THANK YOU" TO VOLUNTEERS

The Honourable Jean Augustine, Minister of State (Multiculturalism and Status of Women) hosted a Volunteer Recognition Tea at The Old Mill Inn on April 15th, as part of Volunteer Week. Well-deserved Certificates of Appreciation went to three of our fantastic volunteers: Eileen White, Marita Faulds and Mar Johnstone. Congratulations to you all!



Residential Hospice from Page 3

person has the right to die where they choose, pain-free, with the emotional support of their family and friends and with the bereavement support that they know their family and friends will need, then you'll know that The Dorothy Ley Palliative Care Centre will make a huge differ-

ence in the lives of hundreds of people each year."

City Councillor for Etobicoke Lakeshore, Peter Milczyn, spoke eloquently about the support the Hospice provided his father and family when his father was dying with cancer. "Knowing my father was well taken care of when we couldn't be

there helped relieve some of the pressure my family was feeling. We need this facility in Etobicoke. We need it today."

He also brought greetings from Mayor David Miller, who extended his best wishes and success with the capital campaign.

Rounding out the event, three of the campaign's major donors, Rector of St. George's Church On-The-Hill the Reverend Father Myles Hunter, Woodbine Entertainment Group Vice President Jane Holmes, and Turner and Porter Funeral Homes General Manager Paul Fletcher, were on hand to sign presentation cheques.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Ginou appealed to the residents of Etobicoke for support. "We have the land. We have the vision. We have raised \$1.4 million to-date. Now, we are counting on the support of the citizens of Etobicoke. As our slogan says, our new centre is Within Our Reach."



(l to r) Jim Brownell, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; Paul Fletcher, Turner and Porter Funeral Homes; Paul Ginou, President, The Dorothy Ley Hospice; Father Myles Hunter, St. George's On-The-Hill; Jane Holmes, Woodbine Entertainment Group; Kirk Hamilton, Campaign Chair. Paul Fletcher, Father Hunter and Jane Holmes hold their generous cheques.

Celebrating 15 Years of Success

You're Invited

An elegant evening of dining, dancing and a silent auction will mark The Dorothy Ley Hospice 15th anniversary.

We will celebrate milestones, recognize our dedicated volunteers, and give out gifts and prizes.

The Anniversary Gala

Friday, October 21, 2005, Reception begins at 6:30 p.m.

Renaissance Convention Centre

(Near Hwy 427 & Dundas Street)

Visit our website www.dlhospice.org for more information

To help with the event or if you would like to attend, please contact

Colleen Manger at (416) 626-0116 ext. 236.

Donated Items Needed to Make Auction a Success

The Kingsway Business Improvement Area (BIA) has chosen The Dorothy Ley Hospice as its 2005 Charity Partner for the annual Taste of the Kingsway Festival. It's a perfect opportunity to raise awareness of the Hospice in the community, and to raise funds with an exciting event.

We'll have a tent in a prime location near the main stage, and plans are underway for a fantastic silent auction. The first step is getting a wide range of high-quality donated items to auction off. Vacations, golf foursomes, artwork, spa days and floral arrangements all make great auction items. Fran McBride, Director of Resource Development for the Hospice, points out that donating to the auction does more than help the Hospice. It provides plenty of exposure for the donors as well. "Last year, more than 150,000 people attended the Taste of the Kingsway," she says.

The Kingsway BIA has an established tradition of giving back to the community, and selects a different community service organization as its Charity Partner each year.

Paul Ginou, President of The Dorothy Ley Hospice, is delighted, and says the timing couldn't be better. "This is an exciting time. Not only are we celebrating our fifteenth anniversary, but we have just launched a \$4 million capital campaign to build the freestanding residential Palliative Care Centre. The Festival will help us get our message out to the community."

This year's festival will kick off at 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 9 and close at 11:00 p.m. Saturday, September 10. But even those who can't get out to the festivities will have a chance to bid at the auction. We'll open for earlybird bids at our website, www.dlhospice.org, in August before moving everything to

the Taste of the Kingsway on September 9.

To help with the event, donate silent auction items or obtain further information, please contact Fran McBride at (416) 626-0116 ext. 234.

Did You Know?

The generosity of our community is what allows The Dorothy Ley Hospice to provide all its services at no cost to our clients and families. With only nine percent of our funding coming from government, it is you, our donors and friends, who truly make our mission possible by donating more than 90% of our program funding. That's why your support is so important. Your help is making a difference in the lives of our clients

Delving into Client Care - Join Us!

Sign-up has begun for a new session of Advanced Issues in Hospice Palliative Client Care

For three years, members of the community hospice palliative care team have been coming together for 10 evenings on Advanced Issues in Client Care.

Thought-provoking topics such as the philosophy of hospice palliative care, communicating with people who are dying, working with families in transition, holistic symptom and pain management and care for the palliative caregiver are each examined in discussions facilitated by insightful expert speakers.

Advanced Issues in Client Care is an excellent opportunity for commu-

nity professionals to share ideas and learn from one another. "Learning more about how to be client-focused has helped me change the way I work," one participant noted.

But participants also find these sessions valuable beyond the realm of palliative caregiving. "This was so worthwhile - for professional and personal learning," said one. "I have learned so much and have connected with new people in the community."

Community professionals are invited to join us for the next 10-week session, which will begin in mid-September. Sessions will run in the

evening, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in a central Etobicoke location. The cost to participants is \$65.

For more information, call Jeanette Browne at (416) 626-0116 ext. 240.



Facilitators and participants learn together as they discuss in-depth issues of client care



The weather cooperated, the band was terrific, the food was good and plentiful, the clown made us laugh, the massage students helped with those aching muscles and kids and adults alike were covered in tattoos!

All in all, the Third Annual Hike for Hospice held at Centennial Park on Sunday, May 1st couldn't have been better. Thank you to all who raised pledges, walked or ran and volun-

teered. Your efforts raised more than \$20,000 for the Hospice.

And thank you to our event Gold Sponsor, Moore Stephens Cooper Molyneux LLP, Chartered Accountants and to our Media Sponsor, The Etobicoke Guardian.

Congratulations to our winners for most dollars raised:

First place: Julie Bean

Second place: Olive Ross

Third place: Ann Havery

It was a wonderful day and we hope to see you at next year's event on Sunday, April 30, 2006!



Ingenious Events Put The 'Fun' in Fundraising

What do a law firm and a roofing company have in common? They both chose creative ways to support The Dorothy Ley Hospice.

Blake, Cassells and Graydon LLP hold casual days throughout the year. Staff who want to participate make a donation to a predetermined charity. A different charity is chosen for each casual day. On March 11, 2005, The Dorothy Ley Hospice was the recipient. It must have been a good day to dress down because we received a gift of \$509.

Meanwhile, Peter and Greg Walker Contracting found a unique way to advertise and give to the community at the same time. Through its 'Signs for Charity' program, the company contacted past clients during the

month of March and offered to donate \$50 to local charities in return for permission to post its roofing signs on people's front lawns. The company chose The Dorothy Ley Hospice as one of its recipients.



Arnold Korpela (right) of Peter and Greg Walker Contracting presents the Hospice's Dan Dempster with proceeds from their unique 'Signs for Charity' program.

"By re-allocating some of our marketing budget away from traditional forms of advertising, we are looking to give back to our clients, the community and local charities," said Greg Walker in his letter to clients. The response was overwhelming and the company donated \$1,500 to the Hospice.

If your company would like to support The Dorothy Ley Hospice, check out our fundraising guidelines on the website at www.dlhospice.org/pages/m4/FundraisingEvents%20.htm

Or contact Colleen Manger at cmanger@dlhospice.org or (416) 626-0116 ext. 236.

Donated Toys Will Bring Laughter to Young Hospice Clients

When children are struggling with the death of someone close to them or their own death, joy is sometimes in short supply. The Dorothy Ley Hospice children's volunteers exist to bring some normalcy and laughter to the lives of these children.

So we were delighted when we received a gift of small wind-up toys from Kidding Aaround, a toy store located in Toronto's Yorkville. The gift arrived in time for the annual training program, and the volunteers were able to discover their 'inner child.'

We are grateful to Kidding Aaround for their generosity. We know the toys will bring a smile to the faces of the children we serve.

KIDDING AROUND, 91 CUMBERLAND ST., TORONTO, 416-926-8996.



Go Shopping for Hospice

Here is an easy way to help raise money for the Hospice. Send in your Dominion, A&P and Ultra Food & Drug cash register receipts for the next year to The Dorothy Ley Hospice. We will receive a dollar for every \$450 in cash register receipts, to a maximum of \$1,000 for the Hospice!

Website Makeover

The Dorothy Ley Hospice website just got a whole new look, thanks to the staff at the Hospice and to Jon Duerdoth, Sunny Widerman, Glenn Osborne, Corinne LaBossiere, Larry Freedman, Brian Freedman, Scott Young and Catharine Barker, who volunteered their time to help make our new website a reality.

If you haven't visited in a while, check it out at www.dlhospice.org.

Upcoming Events

September

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FAIR

Cloverdale Mall
Time and date TBA

September 9 & 10

TASTE OF THE KINGSWAY

Bloor Street (between Grenview Blvd.
& Royal York Road)
Starting at 5:00 p.m. Friday,
all day Saturday

September 10, 17, 24

HOSPICE TRAINING FOR CHILDREN'S VOLUNTEERS

Location TBA
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

September 13

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER BBQ

Ursaki Auditorium Patio
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Volunteers will receive invitations by mail. Bring a friend who might like to volunteer with us!

September 15 - 17

THE TIME IS NOW:

Hospice Association of Ontario 15th Annual Conference and June Callwood Circle of Outstanding Volunteers Induction

Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston, Ontario
For more information call HAO:
(416) 304-1477

One of The Dorothy Ley Hospice outstanding volunteers will be inducted into the June Callwood Circle.

Mid-September-mid-November

ADVANCED ISSUES IN CLIENT CARE FOR THE HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE TEAM

Location and date TBA

September 28, October 26, November 30

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH SUPPORT/PRACTICE SESSIONS

The Dorothy Ley Hospice Office
6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

For more information call Marguerite Langley at 416-626-0116 Ext. 224

October 2 - 8

HOSPICE AWARENESS WEEK

October 4, 11, 18, 25,
November 1, 8, 15, 22

"NEW BEGINNINGS" BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Dorothy Ley Hospice
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

October 5, 12, 19, 26,
November 2

A MATTER OF LIFE & DEATH: ADDRESSING A COMPLEX TOPIC APPROPRIATE WITH CHILDREN

A five-part course for educators
offered free of charge.
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Information/registration:

*Vera C. Teschow, Course Facilitator
(416) 992-8372 or
vera.teschow@utoronto.ca*

*Sponsored by G.H. Hogle
Funeral Homes Ltd.*

October 6

THE DOROTHY LEY HOSPICE ANNUAL MEETING

Ursaki Auditorium
160 Sherway Drive
7:00 p.m.

October 17, 19, 24, 26, 28, 31

Client Support Volunteer Training

Location TBA
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Do you know someone who would
make a good hospice volunteer?
Pass the news along.*

*Information/registration: Sonia Arana
(416) 626-0116 ext. 227*

October 21

THE DOROTHY LEY HOSPICE 15TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Renaissance Convention Centre
3045 Southcreek, Mississauga
Begins at 6:30 p.m.

*For information on, or to register for
any of these events, call the Hospice
office at (416) 626-0116.*

OUR WISH LIST

- Dominion, A&P and Ultra Food & Drug cash register receipts
- Small meeting table with two matching chairs
- Digital camera
- Obus Forme cushions
- Office chairs
- LCD projector
- Easels
- Dolly
- DVD player
- Canadian Tire money

Stephanie McCann, our Manager of Operations, would be delighted to receive any of these much-needed items; you can reach her at (416) 626-0116, ext. 222.

The Dorothy Ley Hospice offers compassionate end-of-life care to our clients and their families enabling them to live in comfort with dignity, meaning and hope

To give your financial support, contact Kathy Roulston (giving@dlbhospice.org)

To share your time and skills as a volunteer, contact Sonia Arana (volunteers@dlbhospice.org)

To inquire about using our services, contact:

The Dorothy Ley Hospice

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■ Privacy notice:

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