





Making Life Better ... Together

An Open Letter to Our Community:

Caring and compassionate are words often associated with Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, now known as Community Hospice & Palliative CareSM While quite simple, these two words represent the fabric of who we are and so aptly describe the many generous, selfless individuals who have served this organization from its earliest beginnings until today. We are immensely grateful to our 950 employees, more than 1,000 volunteers and partners, and the thousands of donors who enable us to fulfill our mission to provide comfort and care to adults and children in need.

During 2016 our organization began an evolution to a new phase. That work has culminated in a change to our name and a new look for our organization through a refreshing of our brand. These are important steps that prepare us to serve communities to the west of our traditional service area, including Gainesville and Lake City. This future expansion is a result of being granted a Certificate of Need for these areas by the State of Florida in early 2017.

Making Life Better...Together, our 2016 report, shares but a few of the stories and accomplishments from our organization in 2016. This snapshot in time shares how we are improving the lives of individuals and families together through care, education and service.

As the only locally governed, mission-driven, nonprofit palliative and hospice care provider, we acknowledge and take seriously our obligation to not only understand the emerging health care needs of our community, but to respond to them. Thank you for playing such a significant role in this journey and enabling us to fulfill that responsibility.

With appreciation,

Susan Ponder-Stansel
President & CEO
Community Hospice
& Palliative Care

Susan Ponder-Stansel & Hutot

Fernando Acosta-Rua Chair, Community Hospice & Palliative Care Board of Directors Ray Driver Chair, Community Hospice & Palliative Care Foundation[™] Board of Directors

ABO.

$2016\;By\;the\;Numbers\;$ (For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2016)

Caring _

— **13,081** — patients cared for

in Baker, Clay,
Duval, Nassau and
St. Johns counties

— ONLY —

locally-based, nonprofit hospice provider in NE FL

— 413 families —

supported by Community PedsCare®

LEVEL III PartnerWe Honor Veterans

— 200 —

on any given day there are approximately 200 veterans in our care — More than 90% —

of patient families would recommend us to others

— 95% / 5% —

95% of care provided at patient's home

5% of care provided in our 8 homelike inpatient centers

Learning _

— 245 trained —

Honoring Choices® Florida facilitators had advance care planning conversations with

1,737 individuals

— 170 —

advance care planning education sessions reached

5,835 people

— **302** unique —

in-service programs delivered to area health care professionals

Community Hospice & Palliative Care hosted

23 fellows & residents

rotating through key hospice disciplines for residency training **4 Caregiver Conferences** + ONE CAREGIVER EXPO

1,229 attendees

MyCaregiverConnection.org 24-7-365 online support for

— 15,000 caregivers —

Serving ____

974 VOLUNTEERS **95,444 hours**

\$2.12 millionMONETARY EQUIVALENT

Volunteers fulfilled
92% of our
patient family requests

70 teens —
 served on the
 Community PedsCare®
 Teen Advisory Board

— \$4.2 million raised to support Community PedsCare® at Halloween Doors & More since 2005 — 16,597 —
community members
found hope and healing
through Community Grief &
Bereavement services

— **45 children** — attended Camp Healing Powers® in 2016

Our Community Investment

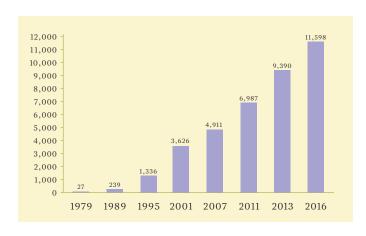
Pediatric Palliative Care \$ 1,451,060
Unfunded Community Programs \$ 1,172,010
Community Palliative Care \$ 1,674,300
Bereavement Care \$ 390,671
Home Care & Community Benefit \$ 892,960

(For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2016) \$ 5,581,001



2016 Patient Statistics

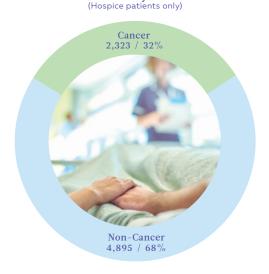
Patients Admitted



Patients Served by County (13,081 total)



Patients by Illness



Patients by Age*



Caring...Together

Providing a Range of Care For Advanced Illness

Community Hospice & Palliative Care served 13,081 adults and children across Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties during 2016.

Our commitment to providing the right care at the right time resulted in the delivery of palliative and hospice care services to patients at home, in skilled nursing and long-term care facilities, alongside our hospital partners and in our eight inpatient care centers throughout Northeast Florida – including our newest Center for Caring at St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside.

Our complete care team of physicians, advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs), pharmacists, nurses, nursing assistants and aides; psychosocial counselors; chaplains; volunteers; therapists and technicians, worked together to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs of our patients, their families and other loved ones.



In 2017, we will further our commitment to innovative, advanced care services with the aid of a \$300,000 grant from Florida Blue Foundation. Through these funds, and in collaboration with Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine, we will be able to provide care management services for 400 underserved patients who are not yet eligible for hospice.

More than 90% of patient families would recommend us to others



Honoring Veterans in Our Care and Our Community

Community Hospice & Palliative Care was recently recognized as a "Level III Partner" by the We Honor Veterans program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the National Hospice & Palliative Care Organization. This means we have deepened our commitment to provide veteran-specific caring techniques; assist veterans with questions

about VA benefits and other veteran services; match veterans in our care with volunteers who are veterans; and partner with other veterans organizations throughout our community.

A special thank you to our partners at the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation and City of Jacksonville's Veterans Resource and Reintegration Center for providing funding for the flags and pins presented to our veteran patients to honor their service.



Our Care Teams Anticipate Every Need

Francis S. – known as "Dutch" to family and friends – is a World War II veteran and a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Now battling age and illness, he was referred by his physician to Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

"We had heard of Community through friends and neighbors," says his wife, Barbara. "But we had never experienced them."

At first, Dutch received hospice care at home.

"They were wonderful," says Barbara. "Community delivered everything we needed. They sent and set up a hospital bed and linens; a high-back wheelchair; stationary and portable oxygen; and health and personal supplies. They even brought us a plaque commemorating his military service."

"I say, 'Thank you, Lord' for Community Hospice & Palliative Care. They have been a godsend. I don't know how they have managed to get so many loving and caring people in one place."

- Barbara S.

Community's service didn't stop with material goods, however.

"At first we had a Community nurse once a week. When Dutch needed more care, we had the nurse or a private-pay home health aide 12 hours a day. Although I personally have a great support system, a social worker visited to see if I needed any resources or services. Physical and occupational therapists came out to assess and help Dutch. The chaplain paid a visit and even sang a beautiful rendition of 'Ave Maria' for us."

On two occasions, Dutch stayed at Community Hospice & Palliative Care's Earl B. Hadlow Center for Caring as part of a respite program, so Barbara could have a break from her caregiver duties. Dutch was later transferred from home to the Hadlow Center so he could receive more comprehensive care.

"Community Hospice & Palliative Care has been a real comfort," says Barbara. "They are such loving and caring people."

Learning...Together

Educational Outreach Programs to Serve Residents and Health Providers

Community Hospice & Palliative Care provides a number of programs that serve the needs of our community and prepare people for a time in their lives where they are managing an advanced illness.

Honoring Choices® Florida (HCFL) is the community-wide advance care planning (ACP) program coordinated by Community Hospice & Palliative Care. Its goal is to provide opportunities for individuals to have a guided conversation about their wishes if faced with a serious or life-limiting illness and to help them document those wishes. Nearly 250 trained facilitators engaged 1,737 individuals in ACP conversations in 2016 at sites including senior and faith-based organizations. Staff also conducted 170 educational programs, reaching 5,835 people.



Effective Jan. 1, 2016, physicians were able to bill Medicare and Medicaid for conducting ACP conversations. A focus area of HCFL work during 2016 was assisting physicians and their office staff in developing ACP as a routine aspect of the annual wellness visit.

1,737 individuals had

advance care planning conversations with 245 trained facilitators



Charles M. Neviaser Educational Institute

The Charles M. Neviaser Educational Institute serves as a focal point for Community Hospice & Palliative Care's community outreach and education initiatives. Services provided at the Institute include:

- · Advance care planning
- · Caregiver support and coaching
- Individual and group grief and bereavement counseling
- Health fairs and educational presentations
- Training for clinical professionals, including physicians, nurses and nursing assistants
- Training for community volunteers and employees
- Conference space for community meetings and events

In 2016, the Hospice Foundation of America selected Community Hospice & Palliative Care to promote advance care planning (ACP) in the region by sponsoring viewings of "Being Mortal," a Frontline documentary, and engaging community discussion about the importance of ACP.



Advance Care Planning & Peace of Mind

"My mother lived up in Virginia and was very ill. The doctors said she was dying and recommended hospice. I brought her back to Florida with me and our doctor contacted Community Hospice & Palliative Care. I didn't even know what hospice meant, but I was so impressed with Community. I got all the equipment I needed, and people came out two or three times a week. They were so helpful.

They talked to my mother about her advance care options and wishes. They were very attentive and really listened to what she wanted and needed. I listened and they asked for my opinion here and there, but it was all her thoughts and ideas. It was very informative and interesting to me. Soon afterward my mother suffered a stroke and could not speak. To know that her wishes had been documented beforehand was a real load off my shoulders.

"Our family came together with advance care planning. After my mother, we went through the process and our daughter joined us and went through it, too. We then talked to our sons who live out of town to encourage them. as well."

Later, after she passed, my husband and I realized that we should document our choices

- Faye R.

and wishes. We talked with an Honoring Choices® Florida facilitator through the Baptist AgeWell Center for Senior Health. They walked us through the advance care planning process and put us at ease with the conversation. My daughter was very happy we did it. We now have signed copies with our doctor, our children and in our safety deposit box. I have more peace of mind because we went through the process. These things need to be taken care of before something happens."

Specialized Education for Community Health Providers



Community Hospice & Palliative Care presented 302 unique continuing education in-services during 2016. These unique and specialized education programs were delivered to community health care providers, medical residents and staff at hospitals, skilled nursing and assisted living facilities, physician practices, allied health professional groups and insurance companies.

The Community Hospice & Palliative Care Medical Services department hosted 23 fellows/residents from Navy Family Medical, UF Health Internal Medicine, St. Vincent's Family Practice and Mayo Clinic Florida to rotate through key hospice disciplines as part of their residency training.

Community also supported two fellows with the University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville through a collaborative fellowship in pediatric and adult hospice and palliative medicine.

Caregiver Coalition Programs Creating Confident Caregivers

The Caregiver Coalition of Northeast Florida, a program of Community Hospice & Palliative Care, provides programs and services to support the more than 15,000 family caregivers across Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties.

During 2016, the Coalition hosted four "Caring for the Caregiver" conferences with a total attendance of 457; the fifth annual "Caregiver Expo" — a daylong event with health screenings, fun activities and inspirational talks by leading caregiving experts; and distributed five issues of Caregiver Connections with practical tips and news about community events to support caregivers.

In addition to year-round events and support, MyCaregiverConnection.org offers 24/7 online support and resources caregivers need to better care for themselves and their loved ones.



772 caregivers
attended the Fifth Annual
Caregiver Expo

Thank you to our Caregiver Coalition partners: AARP, Aging True, Mayo Clinic Florida, ElderSource, Alzheimer's Association, City of Jacksonville Senior Services Division, Baptist AgeWell Center for Senior Health, Brooks Rehabilitation, the Councils on Aging in Clay, Nassau and St. Johns counties, YMCA of Florida's First Coast and Jewish Family & Community Services.



A Wealth of Resources & Support for the Caregiver

Fred H. relates how more than four years ago his wife Sandi began having memory issues. According to Fred, she was forgetting little things at home.

"Then one day she called me from the car," says Fred. "Although she was near home, she said she was lost and didn't know where she was. We had to find out what was

wrong. A neurologist said she had 'mild cognitive impairment,' but it was the tip of the iceberg. She was eventually diagnosed as having Alzheimer's and dementia."

Fred reached out to Toula Wootan, director of community programs at Community Hospice & Palliative Care. Toula referred Fred to Aging True Community Senior Services and ElderSource, both members of the Caregiver Coalition of Northeast Florida, a program of Community Hospice & Palliative Care. Aging True services include care coordination, home health care and caregiver support, while ElderSource provides information, referral assistance and answers on all aging issues.

"After Sandi passed away, for the next year I used both the support groups and individual grief counseling provided by Community Hospice & Palliative Care. It helped me and made me feel better about the things I was doing to cope. I'm forever grateful for all Community has done to help."

Fred H.

"I cared for Sandi for four years before she passed," says Fred. "It was a very difficult time. Toula's support was so helpful. One referral was to a company that took care of the mountain of Medicaid paperwork. Our application went through the first time."

Sandi spent her final weeks at one of Community Hospice & Palliative Care's inpatient centers. "I was so thankful that God allowed me to be her caregiver when I could," says Fred. "I was able to be there for Sandi, due in part to the resources and advocacy available for patients and families through the Caregiver Coalition."

Serving...Together

Volunteers Help Us Fulfill Our Mission

Volunteers are a life-blood for Community Hospice & Palliative Care and critical to our ability to fulfill our mission. In 2016, 974 volunteers provided integral services in areas as varied as patient care, administrative support, Thrift Shop, Pet Peace of Mind® and bereavement.

The ages and experiences of our volunteers vary as well – from 15 to 94 years old. Each individual has valuable abilities they contribute to fulfilling our mission. They are also supported with basic and areaspecific training. These dedicated individuals provided a total of 94,544 hours in 2016 – a monetary equivalent of more than \$2 million.

In all, volunteers were able to fulfill 92 percent of all family requests — a key measurement in ensuring a quality experience for patients and families.



\$5,000+ raised by 70
Teen Advisory Board members
to benefit Community PedsCare®



Bereavement and Community Grief Help Our Community Heal

Community Hospice & Palliative Care grief and bereavement services helped nearly 16,600 community members cope with the loss of their loved one in 2016. These services are available, free of charge, to any member of our community who has experienced a loss within 13 months, and include:

- · Private counseling
- · Understanding Grief workshops
- · Grief Relief: A Family Experience
- 8-week therapeutic support groups
- · Anticipatory grief counseling
- · Camp Healing Powers®
- · Hope for the Holidays workshops
- Tree of Life and Candlelight Service of Remembrance

Since 2005, Halloween Doors & More, our signature benefit event for Community PedsCare, has raised more than \$4.2 million to support vital pediatric care in our community. In 2016, 1,800 guests, volunteers and Community PedsCare patients and their families enjoyed our "gala of a different sort."



Young Leaders Bring Joy to Community PedsCare® Children

Megan is a graduating senior at The Bolles School and is currently the president of the Community PedsCare® Teen Advisory Board, a youth organization whose purpose is to fund, plan, organize and help present the annual Diamond D Ranch event for our Community PedsCare children and their families. Megan has served on the Teen Advisory Board since seventh grade.

"I first volunteered at Halloween Doors & More (the Halloween gala that builds financial support and raises awareness of Community PedsCare) and saw all the happiness at that event. That's what drew me to the Teen Advisory Board," says Megan.

The Diamond D Ranch is a working horse and cattle ranch covering more than 500 acres. The Teen Advisory Board/Community PedsCare event offers a fun-filled day of food, games, rides, music and a petting zoo.

"The whole Board meets once a month, with subgroup meetings for things like decorations, food

and games," says Megan. "Our activities are geared toward raising money. For example, we

washed while having old documents securely shredded."

"One year at Halloween Doors & More I dressed up as Cinderella. The look of joy on the faces of the children as they came up to me was magical. That is one of my strongest memories of helping at Community Hospice. It was incredibly fulfilling."

> - Megan, President, Community PedsCare® Teen Advisory Board

Megan says she has been honored to be the Board's president this year, which had grown to 70 members during her tenure. After six years of dedicated involvement with the Board and Community PedsCare, Megan will attend the University of Alabama in the fall, and she plans to study nursing.

held our 'Suds-n-Shred' as a spring cleaning fundraiser. Participants could get their cars

"It was my involvement with Community PedsCare that fueled my interest in nursing."



Pet Therapy: Our Furry, Four-Legged Volunteers

For 10 years, certified pet therapy teams have played an integral role on the Community Hospice & Palliative Care team. Pet therapy provides benefits to patients and families such as reduced stress, increased sensory stimulation and relief from pain. Community Hospice & Palliative Care provides free training and certification for pet therapy animals and their owners. Forty-five active pet therapy teams serve our patients at home, in hospitals, at our inpatient centers, and in assisted living and skilled nursing centers.

Patients Find Peace & Comfort Through Pet Therapy

Ken K. helped care for his mother-in-law who battled Alzheimer's disease. Whenever Ken brought his dog Bailey along, it became clear that his mother-in-law bonded with the terrier; the dog comforted her. People recommended that Ken train Bailey as a pet therapy

dog. Researching the topic, Ken found free training for owners and pets through Community Hospice & Palliative Care. Today, Ken, Bailey and Daisy (a mixed-breed dog Ken rescued) have provided pet therapy for hospice patients for more than seven years.

Ken sees hospice patients at different locations up to four days a week. "In one instance, I visited an elderly hospice patient, and her two grown children were there," says Ken. "They were all glad to see Daisy. It got them talking about a beagle they had when the kids were young. The mother and kids were trading stories about the dog, laughing and reminiscing. Daisy went on the bed and laid very still at the woman's feet. During the conversation the mother passed away, very quietly and serenely. It took us a moment to realize what had happened.

"I probably would have been happy to sit around after retiring, but volunteering with Community has kept me involved and engaged in the world of real people. I have learned the difference between sympathy and compassion and it has left a permanent desire within me to help people."

- Ken K., Pet Therapy Volunteer

Later the children told me they were so glad we had been there — that their mother passed while telling and listening to stories she loved. I like to feel that we made the transition easier for everyone."

Giving...Together

We are thankful to the individuals and organizations below that have supported Community Hospice & Palliative Care at the Guardians of Light level (gifts of \$1,000 or more annually). These contributions support Community Hospice & Palliative Care in continuing our mission to improve the quality of life for our patients and their families. In appreciation, we recognize and honor our Guardians of Light donors who made gifts between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016.

Guardians of Light

\$1 Million+ (Lifetime Giving)

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We would like to acknowledge and deeply thank the families that have made it possible for Community
Hospice & Palliative Care to expand to eight inpatient centers and continue our work in the communities we serve. It is because of you that our patients and their families continue to receive the quality care and comfort that so many rely upon.

Community Hospice & Palliative Care Centers for Caring

Earl B. Hadlow Center for Caring
George and Margaret Morris Center for Caring
Dr. Gaston J. Acosta-Rua Center for Caring
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Bailey Family Center for Caring
Community Center for Caring at
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We would like to thank those who have included Community Hospice & Palliative Care in their will or other financial planning.

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Medallion recipients at the annual Light Party recognizing Guardians of Light members.

Community Hospice & Palliative Care Leadership

As the only locally-based, locally governed nonprofit palliative and hospice care provider, our leaders are part of the communities we serve. Their care and compassion further strengthen Community Hospice & Palliative Care to ensure our sustainability and stewardship to our communities.

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Phillip Ward

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We are immensely grateful to our community partners who enable us to fulfill our mission: *To improve* the quality of life for patients and families, and to be the compassionate guide for end-of-life care in our community.

Along with our donors, volunteers and community partners, we are able to support patients and families experiencing advanced illness every step of the way.

We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing our work together in 2017 and beyond.



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