

HOSPICE OF THE *Piedmont*

FALL 2026

HEART of HOSPICE



Inside the Hospice House: Compassionate Care in Action

Our Hospice House on Park Street is full of warmth and life. Patients come here to live out their final weeks, days, and moments. On this morning the distant notes of piano music and the score of an old movie drift downstairs.

Our front doorbell rings and a woman enters, her arms full of framed family photos and lotion. "We just helped my sister move in yesterday," she shares. "She's so glad to be here. It reminds us of our grandparent's house."

The front doorbell rings again – a son arrives. “How’s my mom doing today?”

“She’s good. She’s had some breakfast, and I might bring her some watermelon,” shares Sigh Goldsmith, a Hospice House volunteer and Death Doula.

His mom has been here two weeks, and they celebrated her birthday last week with cupcakes. The dining room table overflows with sweet treats – gifts from grateful family members. Much like most homes, the kitchen and dining room are natural gathering spaces for families to share a favorite meal or for staff and volunteers to grab a quick cup of coffee.

Hospice Aide Doris Henson is grateful for all the community support that makes the Hospice House such a special place. “Seeing what our patients and their families are going through each day ... to have these volunteers come in ... it feeds our soul. It may just be two ladies singing, but it sounds like a choir. I just have to stop sometimes to take it in.”

“Every time I do this work, I leave feeling fuller than when I arrived ... I leave nourished,” Sigh explained. She shared a story of a special goodbye with a patient. “I walked into her room, and her daughter was at her side holding one hand, and her nurse was holding the other. I went in and placed my hands on her feet. We were listening to her favorite song and just as the song ended, she took her last



“Every time I do this work, I leave feeling fuller than when I arrived ... I leave nourished.”



Hospice House Manager Angie Barbour and Hospice Aide Doris Henson.

breath. It was beautiful. I told her daughter that her mother said she’d like to come back as a hummingbird. That meant a lot.”

“Visiting with patients, you shouldn’t have favorites, but sometimes you do,” Volunteer Chris Collins grinned. He shared how he loved talking with one lady. “She was so witty, and she loved dogs. We’d sometimes just watch silly dog videos together. One day her daughter was visiting, and I brought some ice cream into the room, and she said with her quick wit, ‘That’s him – he’s the one I’m gonna marry!’” He laughed.

Chris was with her the day she died. “So much of this work is for the family, really.” He shared



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how he helped her daughter pack up her mother's things. She looked at old photos and shared stories - her grief journey was just beginning.

"We have so many people that don't have family that can care for them, or they can't afford care at a facility," explains Angie Barbour, Hospice House Manager, "and the fact that we can take care of them here, well that makes my heart full."

"We can take time, hold our patients' hands and get to know families, helping them at their most vulnerable time in life. It's just the most rewarding job I've ever had." Pushing back tears, she laughs, "I'm not gonna cry today!"

Later, the sound of a guitar floats out of a patient's room. Family and friends gather around their loved one's bed, filling the air with sweet Virginia bluegrass—their voices in harmony.

"It has been a good day," Doris says. "Today, everyone is comfortable and preparing for their journeys."

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Care in *Action*

By the Numbers FY26



\$297,000

Donor Dollars in
Room-and-Board assistance
at the Hospice House



116

Patients Served in
the Hospice House

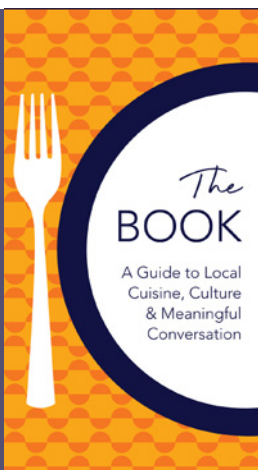


900+

Hours of Volunteer Service
at the Hospice House

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Helping Us Go The Distance

Our staff are out on the roads. A lot. Whether it's sweltering in a heat wave or braving the roads after an ice storm, they are there for our patients and families. Last year alone, they racked up over 690,000 miles in Central Virginia. That's 230 trips across the United States, or 27 times around the globe!

With all those miles, our team members encounter their fair share of car troubles. For our caregivers to be fully present with patients and families, they can't be

worried about how they are going to pay their mortgage and fix their car. That's why **HOP's Emergency Employee Assistance Fund matters.** It is there to help with those unexpected bills. It's just the cost of new tires or brakes, but it helps buy peace of mind.

Because of you, our team knows they are not alone when hardship hits. Your generosity offers practical help for the people who care for others every day. Thank you for being there for them.



690,000
MILES

230 TRIPS
ACROSS
THE US

27 TIMES
AROUND THE
GLOBE

Meet the **Perry Foundation Challenge**

The Perry Foundation has awarded Hospice of the Piedmont a \$40,000 challenge grant to support critical technology upgrades for our clinical team. With your help, we can equip 130 clinicians with iPads that enable real-time, bedside documentation, even in rural areas with limited internet access.

Make your gift today to help us meet this challenge and advance compassionate, patient-centered care for every family we serve.



**SCAN THE
QR CODE
TO MAKE
A GIFT.**

Rising to the Challenge for Children and Families

There are families in our community facing every parent's worst fear: a child with a serious illness. During these unimaginably difficult times, parents search for answers, siblings try to cope, and children are left to navigate emotions far beyond their years.

Recognizing this need, Hospice of the Piedmont (HOP) has launched **Pediatric Care**, a new program designed to provide specialized support for children and families facing serious illness, grief, and loss.

"One of the most important things we do is keep our eye on how well we are serving our community with the expertise we have," says Nancy Littlefield, President & CEO of HOP.

So No Family Ever Feels Alone

"We're not here to duplicate the outstanding pediatric services that already exist," Littlefield explains. "Our desire is to have a significant community impact by providing additional resources for families in need, so that no family ever feels alone."

Developed in collaboration with the care teams at UVA Health Children's, our Pediatric Care is a natural extension of HOP's longstanding commitment to caring for people facing serious illness. The program provides compassionate, family-centered pediatric palliative care and concurrent hospice care for infants, children, and teens while offering guidance, emotional support, and practical resources for the people who love them.



Nancy Littlefield, Dick Fontaine, and Jenny Cline

When offering hospice care to seriously ill children, families never have to give up seeking curative treatment. HOP's Pediatric Care team will work alongside families and in partnership with a child's existing medical providers to ensure they receive comprehensive support while continuing to pursue treatments and care plans aligned with their goals.

To make Pediatric Care a reality, HOP is making significant investments in pediatric training, counseling services, care coordination, and dedicated clinical support. While pediatric palliative and hospice services are reimbursable through Medicaid and private insurance, reimbursement alone will not cover the cost of providing this highly specialized level of care. HOP will be relying on community philanthropic support to make this possible.

"The needs are great," says Littlefield. "We want to be there to meet them."

A Gift and A Challenge

For longtime Hospice of the Piedmont champions Dick and Barbara Fontaine, their commitment to pediatric care is deeply personal.

Nearly 30 years ago, Dick volunteered with a nonprofit hospice serving children and their families.



HOSPICE OF THE *Piedmont*

PEDIATRIC CARE

- Assists with hospital-to-home transitions,
- Helps families navigate complex medical conversations,
- Provides concurrent palliative and hospice care,
- Offers counseling and grief services for parents, siblings and family members.

“Almost immediately, it was apparent that the work was important and made a significant difference in the lives of the children and their families,” he says. “The work was particularly meaningful for the hospice staff and volunteers and certainly was for me.”

When Dick and Barbara moved to Charlottesville, he was surprised to discover that the region’s largest community-based hospice did not offer pediatric services.

When the Fontaines learned that HOP was expanding our care to children, they wanted to be part of making Pediatric Care a reality. **The Fontaines have made a \$100,000 challenge gift to help establish and expand Pediatric Care, inviting others in the community to join them in supporting children and families when they need it most.**

“We are heartened to be able to help Hospice of the Piedmont establish services that address this critical need in our community,” he says.

As a nonprofit organization, Hospice of the Piedmont depends on community support to ensure that every child and family can access the compassionate, specialized care they need. The Fontaines’ challenge gift is helping make that possible.

“We are so thankful to Dick and Barbara Fontaine for stepping forward with this challenge gift, and we hope our generous community will respond,” shared Littlefield. “This is an essential service for our community, and simply the right thing to do.”

Meet Jenny

Leading the initiative is Jennifer Cline, PhD, LPC, ACS, NCC, who recently joined Hospice of the Piedmont as its full-time Pediatric Care Counselor. With more than 25 years of experience helping children and families navigate trauma, serious illness, grief, and loss, she brings both clinical expertise and deep compassion to this pioneering work.

“People don’t need someone to tell them how to heal,” Cline says. “They need someone who will honor their experience, trust their capacity for growth, and walk alongside them as they find their own way.”

“Children deserve truthful information, opportunities to ask questions, and the reassurance that they don’t have to face difficult feelings alone,” Cline says.

It is just as important to support the adults who care for these children.

“Parents and caregivers are essential,” she says. “Children don’t need parents who always know exactly what to say. They need caring adults who are honest, emotionally available, and willing to stay connected.”



IMPACT REPORT FY26

1,631

Hospice Patients Served

367

PALLIATIVE PATIENTS SERVED

643

AVERAGE DAILY PATIENT CENSUS

7,059

VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED

865

KIDS' GRIEF AND HEALING SESSIONS

737

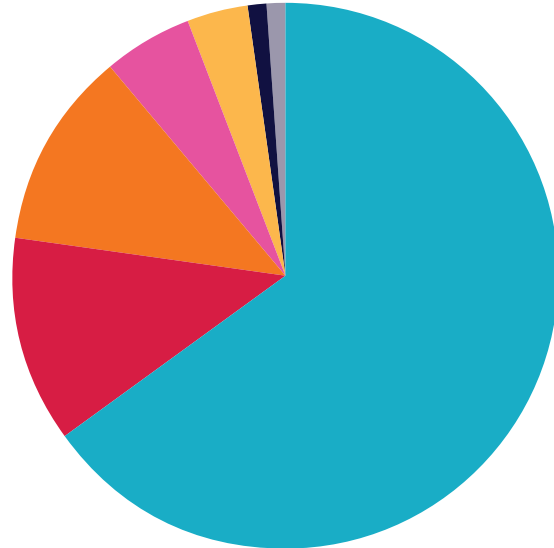
DEATH DOULA VISITS PROVIDED

663

SUPPORTIVE MUSIC VISITS PROVIDED

Community Philanthropy

\$2.495M



- Greatest Need \$1,626,858
- Realized Bequests \$303,565
- Kids' Grief & Healing \$292,320
- Other Restricted \$128,042
- Pediatric Care \$93,132
- Hospice House \$25,961
- Education \$25,757

*Other Restricted: Capital Expenditures, Community Outreach and Engagement, Companion Pet Program, Compassionate Care, Death Doula Program, Grief and Healing, Palliative Medicine, The Serenity Fund, Supportive Music, Technology, and Veterans' Services.

The financial information represents July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

**We Value
YOUR
FEEDBACK**



**Leave us a
Google Review**

If our services have been meaningful to you, we would be grateful if you would consider sharing your experience through a [Google review](#). Your words may help someone else discover the support they need.

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on the support of our community to ensure that individuals and families facing serious illness, end of life, and grief have access to compassionate care and support when they need it most.





Why I Give

"My passion for Hospice of the Piedmont began when my father's emphysema was progressing; we were given great advice: contact Hospice of the Piedmont sooner rather than waiting until he reached the final stages of life. That decision made a big difference in my father's quality of life and provided invaluable support and comfort to our whole family.

Our experience with Hospice of the Piedmont is the reason I love being a part of this compassionate organization. I want others to know that Hospice of the Piedmont's mission is to make sure that no one faces the end of life alone or in pain. Just as important, they have a wide range of services to also support families and loved ones throughout the journey."

— Betsy Stewart

Celebrating a Year of Generosity and growth

The members of the Piedmont Society are at the heart of Hospice of the Piedmont's mission. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of every one of the 493 donors recognized on this year's Honor Roll. We are especially delighted to welcome 40 new members to the Piedmont Society, representing an 8.3% increase in membership.

Together, your support expands our ability to serve more patients and families, ensuring that compassionate care remains available throughout our community, regardless of financial hardship.

Every gift, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our patients and their loved ones, and for that, we thank you.



David and Bitsy Waters

Piedmont Society Honor Roll

The following list recognizes those who contributed \$1,000 or more between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. Your generosity makes this important work possible.

Skyline

Recognizes gifts of \$50,000 or more

Tessa Ader
Estate of Tessa Ader
The Melvin L. Blincoe Trust
Estate of Ulla Chunn
The Joseph and Robert
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Shenandoah

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Piedmont Society

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To learn more about giving opportunities, please visit hopva.org/giving.



Memorial Illumination

35 Years of Light, Love, and *Remembrance*

This December, Hospice of the Piedmont invites our community to gather for the 35th Annual Memorial Illumination, a cherished tradition that honors the lives of those we love and remember. The Memorial Illumination provides a meaningful opportunity for family, friends, and neighbors to come together in reflection, shared remembrance, and connection during the holiday season. We hope you will be part of this time-honored tradition.

Hospice of the Piedmont will host two events. Both are free and open to the public:

CHARLOTTESVILLE:

Thursday, December 3, at 5:00 p.m.
at First Presbyterian Church,
500 Park Street, Charlottesville

CULPEPER:

Tuesday, December 8, at 5:00 p.m.
at Culpeper United Methodist Church,
1233 Oaklawn Drive, Culpeper

Sponsor a Light in memory of
or in honor of someone
special with a gift of \$25.
To learn more, visit
hopva.org/light.

