



2018 Tribute Annual Report

YOU are the strength at OUR side.



Strength
at Your Side

*A caring nonprofit partnership of Bellin Health, HSHS St. Mary's Hospital
Medical Center and HSHS St. Vincent Hospital*

Dear Friends –

This is so much more than
an annual report!



Every word and number printed here reflects the compassionate service of employees, volunteers, donors and community

supporters. Our

Unity family consists of 240 employees, 349 volunteers and more than 2,500 donors who together, help Unity provide excellent care for each patient and family. Whether your gift is time, in-kind, or financial, you make our work possible.

You were at our side directly caring for 2,064 patients and their loved ones across 13 northeast Wisconsin counties. You were at our side caring for patients in the Jack and Engrid Meng Residence. You were at our side providing grief support to 8,222 individuals. And you were at our side during each of the 96,711 face-to-face visits we made.

You make possible 24/7 care, along with tranquil gardens at the Jack and Engrid Meng Hospice Residence, Treatment Plus Palliative Care, Veteran to Veteran Volunteer Companion Program, Compassionate Touch® massage therapy, Doorstep Meds®, Pet Therapy, Filled with Love Memorial Bears and Pillows, and the Unity Resale Shoppe LLC.

We know you have a choice in who cares for you and your loved ones and which community organizations you support. We are deeply grateful to you and humbled to serve. The impact you make is too big for words. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Warmly,

Alisa A. Gerke,
Executive Director

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

David Schrier, MD, Joins Unity as Medical Director



Unity Hospice welcomed Dr. David Schrier as Medical Director in fall 2018. As Medical Director, Dr. Schrier is responsible for the review and certification of patient referrals to hospice and the oversight of patients' medical care and treatment plans.

Dr. Schrier has nearly 30 years of combined experience in oncology, hospice and palliative care. He prides himself in developing strong rapport with patients, families and community partners.

"I am honored and humbled to be a part of the Unity family serving patients and families throughout Northeast Wisconsin," expressed Dr. Schrier.

Unity Exceeds National Benchmark

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services require all hospices to survey family members and ask them to rate the care provided. The survey, called the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS), covers nearly every element of hospice care.

We are pleased to report family members rated Unity higher than the national benchmark for likelihood to recommend, quality of care and emotional support. Thank you for helping make this possible.

We Honor Veterans

As a proud partner of We Honor Veterans, Unity is committed to ensure the most meaningful and sensitive end-of-life journey. Unity is fully equipped to care for the unique needs of Veterans and their family members - medically, emotionally and spiritually.

Because of the generous gifts made to Unity through the Sgt. David L. Rasmussen Fund, donors make possible:



WE HONOR VETERANS

- **Financial assistance** – to cover the costs of basic needs
- **Unity's Veteran to Veteran Volunteer Program** – Partners specially-trained Veteran volunteers with Unity patients who have served in the military. The camaraderie created between Veterans has proven to be supportive for all involved, bringing great peace and support.
- **Patriotic Lap Blankets** – Veteran patients receive a handcrafted red, white and blue lap blanket as a token of appreciation for their service. Each is lovingly made by one of 91 different volunteers.
- **Grief Counseling** – Support for Veteran's loved ones through one-on-one counseling.





Palliative Journal Club – Leading the Medical Community in Discussion

In partnership with Bellin Health, Unity hosted the second year of the Palliative Journal Club for area physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. This educational offering is designed to promote high quality, consistent and evidence-based palliative support to patients in Northeast Wisconsin through discussion of peer reviewed journal articles related to palliative care practices and symptom management techniques. The Palliative Journal Club meets five times a year and each attendee earns two continuing medical education credits per event.

Unity Resale Shoppe, LLC Celebrates 1st Anniversary

Unity Resale Shoppe, LLC opened in May, 2017 to provide a meaningful place for the community to donate and purchase quality household items and clothing. To maximize dollars in support of Unity's CommUnity Care and Grief Support programs, the shoppe is staffed by more than 45 volunteers who sort donated items, clean, organize, stage and manage the sales floor. Since opening, these dedicated volunteers have provided more than 8,000 hours of service! Each takes great responsibility for the shoppe's success. One of these volunteers, Shirley Garthwaite, has more than 1,000 hours of service herself! Shirley says the shoppe is very personal to her and she enjoys giving her time in support of patients and their families facing end-of-life.

The shoppe is always in need of gently used furniture, décor and clothing and accepts donations whenever the shoppe is open. To donate, shop or volunteer, visit us at:

Unity Resale Shoppe, LLC

1641 Commanche Ave., Green Bay, WI
920-339-5501

Store and Donation Hours

May vary during holiday season.
Tuesday-Thursday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



"One of the best parts about volunteering at Unity Resale Shoppe is the opportunity of being able to give my time and support a very special cause."
—Shirley Garthwaite



"Helping people go through the most difficult time of their lives in comfortable surroundings, being treated with exceptional care and concern by Unity staff and with their loved ones is very important to us."
—Jack and Inky Meng

Jack and Engrid Meng Residence Refurbishment Completed

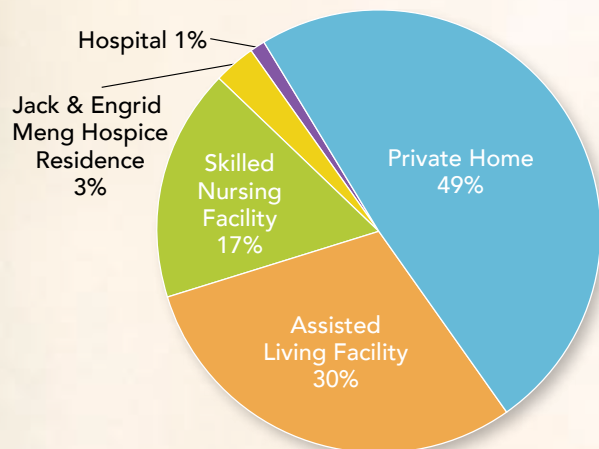
Unity is home to the Jack and Engrid Meng Residence, the region's only inpatient facility where those facing end-of-life receive personalized care 24/7. The Meng Residence has served more than 2,000 patients and families over the past decade and offers specialized care in the comfort and serenity of a homelike environment.

To maintain this level of care, the Meng Residence underwent a refurbishment which was completed in June, 2018. Fully funded by the incredible generosity of Jack and Engrid Meng, the refurbishment included new furnishings, flooring and televisions in each of the 12 rooms and allowed for a renovation of the family rooms and nursing station. The Meng Residence makes a profound difference in the lives of patients and families. We are humbled by those who donate in support of the Meng Residence and grateful for gifts that allow us to serve in the best way possible.

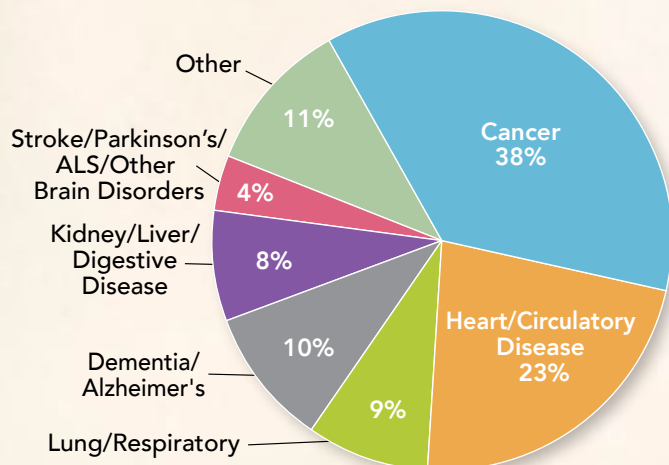
HOSPICE CARE QUICK FACTS

1991	Number of our family, friends and neighbors who received hospice care
331	Number of Veterans who received hospice care
9	Average age of pediatric patients who received hospice care
88,221	Number of visits made to hospice patients by a member of Unity's care team
83%	Percentage of patients who lived their final days outside of a hospital setting

Location of Hospice Care



Hospice Admissions by Diagnosis



"The thing I love most about having the Memorial Bears is it's hard for kids to voice their feelings towards death. They give the kids a sense of security that great grandma and great grandpa are always with them, no matter what."
 – Stacy Compton, granddaughter of Harold and Germaine Compton

Left to Right: Stacy Compton, Granddaughter;
 Eva, Great Granddaughter; Ellen Gueths, Daughter.

TREATMENT PLUS QUICK FACTS

73	Number of our family, friends and neighbors who received Treatment Plus care
2,532	Number of visits made to Treatment Plus patients by a member of Unity's care team

GRIEF SUPPORT QUICK FACTS

8,222	Number of individuals who benefited from Unity's grief support services
1,102	Number of hours grief counselors spent facilitating support groups
100%	Percentage of <i>Navigating Grief & Generations</i> attendees who would recommend the support groups to others
100%	Percentage of grief group participants who would recommend Unity's support services to others ¹
97%	Percentage of families who would recommend Unity's grief support services to others ²
98%	Percentage of families who report Unity's grief support services were compassionate and personal

¹Source: 2017 Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Hospice Survey

²Source: July-December 2018 National Hospital and Palliative Care Evaluation of Grief Support Services (EGSS)

VOLUNTEER SERVICE QUICK FACTS

359	Number of volunteers
97	Number of new volunteers
26,496	Hours shared
\$611,944	Value of service
56	Number of patients served by Unity's Veteran to Veteran Companion Program
1,054	Number of memorial bears and pillows handcrafted from the cherished garments of loved ones to serve as a lasting keepsake
300	Number of patriotic lap blankets knitted for Veteran patients
13	Full time employee equivalents



Unity's Continuum of Care

Unity's care team, comprised of nurses, social workers, chaplains, certified nursing assistants, grief counselors and volunteers, is committed to providing the highest quality of care. We pride ourselves in exceeding the expectations of patients and families through prompt pain and symptom control, doorstep medication delivery, visit frequency tailored to needs and ongoing education and support.

YOUR CARE TEAM



HOSPICE CARE

- For individuals with a life expectancy of six months or less
- Children can receive life prolonging treatment
- Focus of care is optimizing comfort and holistic wellbeing
- Care is provided in a private home, Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng Hospice Residence, assisted living facilities, skilled nursing homes and hospitals
- Care visits occur 24/7

TREATMENT PLUS

- For individuals with a life expectancy of 7-24 months
- Life prolonging treatment is acceptable
- Focus of care is reducing hospitalizations and optimizing quality of life through advanced disease management
- Care is provided in a private home, assisted living facility and hospital
- Education about ever-changing disease progression
- Care visits occur 7 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday

Ways Your Gift Makes an Impact

- \$30** Covers attendance for one child at *Generations*, the area's only community support group designed for grieving families with children and teens ages 6-18
- \$60** Offsets the cost of Unity's "Filled With Love" program, where keepsake bears and pillows are handcrafted from the cherished garments of loved ones served by Unity
- \$100** Covers one week of Unity's Treatment Plus services for a critically-ill individual who has limited or no financial resources
- \$150** Helps offset yarn expenses for Volunteers to handcraft patriotic lap blankets for Veteran patients
- \$285** Covers one night of respite stay at Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng Hospice Residence
- \$400** Covers one month of Unity's Treatment Plus care for a critically-ill individual with limited or no financial resources
- \$500** Offsets patient care expense and includes one personalized 4"x8" Memorial/Honorarium Brick installed in Unity's Gardens in honor or memory of a loved one
- \$1,000** Offsets patient care expense and includes one personalized 8"x8" Memorial/Honorarium Brick installed in Unity's Gardens
- \$1,425** Supports five nights of respite care for one hospice patient at Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng Hospice Residence
- \$2,000** Covers annual licensing, training and materials for 20 Certified Nursing Assistants to provide Compassionate Touch® for hospice patients
- \$2,500** Covers medication and supply delivery for Unity patients or an entire year of Unity's *Generations*
- \$5,000** Your name inscribed on the Tribute Placard displayed at the Unity Resale Shoppe, LLC to help offset store operating costs

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), your donation to Unity may be tax deductible. There may be further tax advantages with planned giving. Contact Unity's Development Department for more information.



Unity's 3rd Annual Golf Classic

Under beautiful skies, 27 foursomes teed off July 19th for Unity's 3rd Annual Golf Classic at Thornberry Creek Golf Course. These foursomes and our event and hole sponsors raised more than \$45,000 to help fund Unity's CommUnity Care, a financial assistance program which helps provide end-of-life care for all, regardless of financial status. Register for this year's Golf Classic to be held July 18, 2019 by calling our Development Department or visiting our website. Have fun while doing good!



"Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped raised funds. You will never know the difference you made in the lives of someone struggling with end-of-life challenges. We couldn't have managed without Unity. Thank you so much for helping my mom, me and the rest of our family."
 – Amy, a very grateful daughter

Unity's Memorial Brick Dedication

A reflection was offered, stories were shared and the harpist was playing as more than 100 people gathered in Unity's gardens on August 16th to formally dedicate their memorial or honorarium bricks. Each family was invited forward as the name of their loved one was read and they watched a dove released in honor of a memory that lives on. If you are interested in participating in our next Memorial Brick Dedication on August 15, 2019, call Unity's Development Department to purchase a brick prior to June 1.



Unity's 4th Annual Honor a Life Holiday Gathering

Held at the National Railroad Museum, 300 people joined together in spirit of community and heartfelt reflection. Those who gathered enjoyed the festival of trees, toured the historical trains and created keepsake ornaments honoring their loved one. The event will be held this year on December 17th. Memorial ornaments will again be sold with sales helping to fund Unity's Grief Programs.



Dedicated Washington Island Hospice Nurse

Unity continues to be the only provider of hospice care on Washington Island. Thanks to a grant made by the Door County Community Foundation and the Kopseker Fund, Unity was able to employ a full-time hospice nurse who lives on the Island. Since this addition, the number of hospice patients who could remain at home on the Island increased from one to eight. These generous gifts have allowed Island residents to receive expert, personalized end-of-life care from one of their own.

Even though living in an out-of-the-way place, patients can die with dignity and comfort in the place they call home.

Thank you for the generous gifts that truly impact lives.



Left to Right: Jack Parsons, hospice patient and Karen N., Washington Island RN.

THE STORY OF JACK PARSONS

My name is Jack Parsons. I came to Washington Island in 1967. In 1968, I married my wife, Kristy, a Washington Island native, and retired from the Coast Guard.

A couple of years ago I got really sick and was taken by ambulance to Sturgeon Bay. I got there and they told me they had to transport me down to Bellin Hospital. We were there for seven days when the doctor said I needed hospice. The doctor asked me if I really wanted to go through this again. She said they could keep having me come down to Green Bay every time there was a problem, but told me hospice could take care of me at home.

My wife and I then talked to Unity Hospice. They have been a life saver.

We see Unity Nurse Karen at home three times a week. She calls in between. We also have others checking in from Unity ...do you need medicine, do you need anything? I'm telling you, I've not had this type of service ever...ever. How do you tell people this is pretty good stuff and make them believe you? All you have is my word on it...that's all I've got.

Kristy, Jack's wife, shared, "At first, Jack didn't want family to visit because he couldn't breathe very well and he would get panicky that something was

going to happen and they would see that. Now he looks forward to family visiting because he has something for anxiety to keep the panic down. He can talk more now because he has morphine to help him breathe. So now he can enjoy our family visits and his grandchildren. Right now, with Unity Hospice being here, we don't have rescue squads anymore and he's comfortable. I sleep, I don't get panicky and I know what to do and when to do it because Nurse Karen taught me. She's worked with me and Jack to get the medication to what she calls "the sweet point," which we've done. Relief. Peace."

"We were totally out of control before. Now we have control over his breathing, his wellness, and a comfortable way of life...it's good. Before hospice Jack did not have quality of life. He was living poorly...barely living. Now we have a quality of life and there's peace with that. I know at least now he won't suffer...because he was suffering before. The life he's got left is good because of Unity hospice," said Kristy.

I know I'm not going to get cured, no doubt about it. But I'm at a level now where this is pretty darn good and if today is my last day, I've had a good run. I'm very pleased.





Strength
at Your Side

Unity Limited Partnership

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*If you wish to no longer receive mailings
from Unity, please contact our office to
be removed from the list.*

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Larry Connors, HSHS St. Vincent Hospital and
HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center

Jody Wilmet, Bellin Health

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Functions as Unity's Board of Directors

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Brian Burnette, MD, Green Bay Oncology

Larry Connors, Jackie Nitschke Center

Amy James, MD, Bellin Health

Sally Luehring, HSHS Division Eastern Wisconsin

Paul Pritchard, MD, Prevea Health

John Rocheleau, Bellin Health

Helen Wellens, APNP, NP, Bellin Health

Jody Wilmet, Bellin Health

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

*FUNCTIONS AS UNITY'S
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Tom Mahoney, Deacon St. Francis Xavier Cathedral/
St. John the Evangelist

Joe Schinkten, Director Emeritus,
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920.338.1111 or 800.990.9249

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Nancy Hanna *A Family's Perspective*

Gary Hanna, Husband

"My wife, Nancy, was a patient of Unity Hospice from November through February. Right after moving here from Michigan, Nancy had scheduled an operation. We thought they were going to find a benign mass, but it was not. A two hour operation became eight. She then had chemo. Her nurse practitioner said the best thing would be to get Nancy onto hospice. She said hospice could react faster and give more personalized attention. We were surprised as we thought of a hospice as a place you go during your last couple of days and that's it.

Before Christmas, Unity Social Worker Hailie, came and said, "I have something for you. She brought in a big bag and box full of toys for our grandson, Hayden. Just unbelievable; these were all donated. There was a Unity benefactor who wanted to take care of the kids. We were so fortunate. It was tremendous, just tremendous," Gary said tearfully.

"Hailie also said Unity could provide respite stays so we took advantage of that. In mid-February, Nancy went to Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng residence for four days. This gave me a break from being her caregiver and I think it gave her a break from me! The people, the services, the speed...everything was great."

Kelly, Nancy's daughter

"I definitely had quality time with my mom. It actually turned from a couple of weeks to four months! It was very helpful to have that time and Unity made us a family again.

My fiancé and I were in the midst of planning our wedding. Mom was even able to go with me to get my dress. Because we are older and established, we didn't need gifts. A lot of our family and friends knew Unity because of mom, so they donated to Unity for our wedding. This meant a lot because we wanted to help another family just like we were helped.

Facebook does fundraisers for nonprofits so for my birthday in June, I asked family and friends to pitch in again. Being able to donate and give back to Unity means so much to me....Because it's the last place mom was a part of. I feel very honored to help Unity, the organization that helped mom at the end and make her at peace."



*Left to Right: Gary Hanna, Nancy Hanna,
Haiden Hanna, Faith Hanna, Kirk Hanna,
Kelly Romanesco and Shane Romanesco*