



**Board of Directors Meeting
Administrative and Foundation Offices
4220 Edison Lakes Pkwy, Suite 200, Mishawaka
June 19, 2013
7:30 a.m.**

**BOARD BRIEFING BOOK
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CHAPTER ONE AGENDA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Administrative and Foundation Offices
4220 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 200

June 19, 2013

7:30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. Approval of April 17, 2013 Minutes (*action*) – Corey Cressy (2 minutes)
2. President's Report (*information*) - Mark Murray (18 minutes)
3. Finance Committee (*action*) – Wendell Walsh (10 minutes)
(a) April and May Financial Statements
4. Foundation Update (*information*) – Terry Rodino (17 minutes)
5. Board Education – “Board Responsibilities and Committee Service” – Corey Cressy (10 Minutes)
6. Chairman’s Report (*information*) – Corey Cressy (3 minutes)

Note new time and location for August

Next meeting August 21, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

Conference Room A and B

NEW AFO / LTC Building

501 Comfort Place

Mishawaka, IN 46545

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CHAPTER TWO MINUTES

**Center for Hospice Care
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2013**

<i>Members Present:</i>	Amy Kuhar Mauro, Becky Asleson, Corey Cressy, Jim Brotherson, Julie Englert, Melanie Davis, Michael Method, Terry Rodino, Tim Yoder, Wendell Walsh
<i>Absent:</i>	Carmi Murphy, Francis Ellert, Mary Newbold
<i>CHC Staff:</i>	Mark Murray, Dave Haley, Donna Tieman, Karl Holderman, Mike Wargo, Becky Kizer

Topic	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. 	
2. Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New members Becky Asleson, Michael Method, and Tim Yoder were introduced. New member Francis Ellert was unable to attend today. 	
3. Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 02/20/13 meeting as presented. The motion was accepted unanimously. 	M. Davis motioned T. Rodino seconded
4. President's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADC in January was 305, February 315, March 330. One reason ADC is important is because the most frequent reimbursement for hospice care is on a per diem basis. About 97% of our patients are hospice. Break even ADC is around 310. In the first quarter we had a 9% increase in the number of patients served compared to a year ago. Original admissions were up 24% from a year ago. March had 169 original admissions—a new record, but also 158 deaths—another new record. Molly Feely of the Mayo Clinic made a site visit on 04/08. She was very impressed with our bereavement program, and would like to recommend to the graduate study committee it be a requirement of the fellowship rotation. If approved, the program would start in spring 2014. Ohio State University is also interested in our bereavement program for their fellows. We are sending them materials and will have further contact with them. CHC will be the recipient of the FHSSA Global Partnership Award to be presented at the NHPCO Management and Leadership Conference next week. A copy of our application is in the board packet. It was very well written by Cyndy Searfoss, Director of Communications and Annual Giving at the Hospice Foundation. The 2% Medicare sequestration cuts began 04/01. We budgeted for the cut for the entire year. A copy of the Health Affairs article is in the board packet regarding hospice saving Medicare money. MedPAC is suggesting up to a 5% cut in hospice 	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>reimbursement for hospice services provided in skilled nursing facilities. It is a flawed assumption in regards to the cost efficiencies of providing nursing and aides services in facilities. Staff still has to travel, document in both the facility charts and our chart. From an efficiency standpoint, there is no savings to us. NHPCO is working with MedPAC about these perceptions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The one credit hour, all-day class on Introduction to Hospice and Palliative Care was presented at Notre Dame on 02/23. 95 students signed up, and 11 staff volunteered to teach as faculty. • Our new marketing campaign started last week. We have received a tremendous response from people calling us directly. The South Bend Tribune article by Virginia Black about accessing hospice sooner was picked up by the AP and went national. • We have 23 competitors in our eight county service area. 16 of the 23 are for-profit. CHC has local people, is community based, and the fundraising dollars stay here. That is why we say ask for us by name. 	
<p>5. Finance Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The auditors from Culp & Company presented the 2012 audit to the finance committee last week. It was a clean audit and possibly the best in our history. The committee was impressed with how well the auditors know us and how that leads to very healthy interaction between the auditors and the accounting team to make sure the audit is thorough and we can rely on it. There is a free flow of constructive discussion about any issues that come up. The agency's financial position is very strong. The committee reviewed the audit and financial statements for the first quarter of 2013. Also in the board packet are summaries of the 2012 audited financial statements spelling out what each statement is for and what it represents. Also want to point out that the financial statements are combined for CHC and the Hospice Foundation. Over the course of the year those statements are segregated out, but auditing standards require they be combined for year end. In the footnotes of the statements is a break out of the two entities. • No changes were made to the December 2012 financial statements as presented at the February board meeting. January revenue was \$1.8 million, expenses \$1.3 million, net gain \$469,000, net gain without beneficial interest in foundation \$120,000. February revenue \$1.3 million, expenses \$1.2 million, net gain \$63,000, net gain without beneficial interest in foundation \$78,000. March operating revenue \$1.8 million, expenses \$1.4 million, net gain \$355,000, net gain without beneficial interest in foundation \$92,000. YTD revenue \$4.9 million, expenses \$4 	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>million, net gain \$888,000, beneficial interest in foundation \$597,000, overall net gain \$291,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One adjustment on the Hospice Foundation side was made due to a temporarily restricted asset versus an unrestricted asset of \$15,000. It was just a reclassification on the balance sheet that didn't affect the bottom line. For the 2011 audit, we had a problem with the Cerner's aging report. Cerner is our clinical and billing software. At the end of 2011 we were not in a good place procedurally and from an audit standpoint, which caused additional work for the auditors. In late 2011 and all of 2012 that was cleaned that up. We now have good procedures in place. Part of the reason why we have a good working relationship with the auditors, is we can call them any time throughout the year and be proactive to work through any issues. • A motion was made to accept the 2012 audit as presented. The motion was accepted unanimously. • A motion was made to accept the first quarter 2013 financial statements as presented. The motion was accepted unanimously. 	<p>T. Rodino motioned J. Englert seconded M. Method motioned A. Mauro seconded</p>
<p>6. Professional Advisory Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a home health regulation that we have a PAG meeting at least once a year. Last year home health patients were 5% of our overall census. • Julie E. reported the Professional Advisory Group (PAG) met on 04/09 for the annual clinical record review of the home health program. OASIS (Outcome Assessment Information Set) is a set of questions dealing with a patient's physical assessment we are required to complete. Codes assigned to the OASIS go to the state, which determines what the agency will get paid. The data is also posted on the Home Health Compare website where consumers can compare agencies. CHC focuses on two areas: pain management and reduction in acute hospitalizations. Last year our pain management goal was 100%, and pain was addressed 86.7%. We discovered a glitch in the computer, primarily due to new staff, on which box to check. Our reduction in acute hospitalizations goal was 35% or less, and we were 12.3% or less, so we decided to change our goal to the national average of 25%. We measure hospitalizations by looking to see if the patient was hospitalized prior to admission to CHC and after admission. One reason patients don't go back to the hospital is that we go to them 24/7 and manage their symptoms in the home. Again, this is only for home health care patients. • There are a set of policies the committee is required to review annually for scope of services offered, admission policies, discharge policies, medical supervision, 	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>plans of care, emergency care, clinical records, personnel qualifications, and program evaluation. For emergency care, we had previously included the human resources policy regarding employee safety, but it doesn't apply to this policy. The Standards of Care policy states staff is available 24/7. Pre-home placement physical was added to the HR employee screening procedures. The policies for Quality Clinical Record Review and Quality Assurance were added to be reviewed under Program Evaluation, which had not been done before. The PAG accepted the policies as presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A motion was made to accept the Professional Advisory Group report as presented. The motion was accepted unanimously. 	<p>W. Walsh motioned M. Method seconded</p>
7. Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donna T. reviewed the proposed new and revised policies for: Plan of Care; Managing Drugs and Biologicals; Managing Drugs and Biologicals in Hospice House; Medication Administration; Medication Orders; and, On Call Services. The policies were update to reflect current practices, process changes, or to meet regulatory requirements. The applicable Medicare regulation is cited on the policies. • Biologicals refer to any over-the-counter medication, herbal supplement, etc. Mike M. said Michiana Hematology Oncology is beginning to prescribe some non-prescription biologicals. He proposed adding a definition to the "Managing Drug and Biologicals" policy defining non-pharmacological biologicals. The definition will be changing, because this area is evolving so it might be easier to just change the definition in the future. He proposes adopting the policy as presented and then at the next meeting we could amend the policy with the definition, which is just for clarity. Jim B. said the policy should reflect what is really going on. Donna T. said we talk to the doctor about any biologicals, whether prescription or non-prescription, that a patient is taking for any reason and get a signed order. The nurse has to have the doctor's guidance for any drug or biological we recommend for the patient. After discussion Mike M. withdrew his proposal. • A motion was made to accept the six policies as presented. Nine accepted the motion and one opposed. The motion was accepted. 	<p>W. Walsh motioned M. Davis seconded</p>
8. Foundation Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have talented staff backing up board members. Terry R. encouraged board members to participate on any committee that interests them. Contact Corey or Mark about being on a committee. We look forward to your help as board members. • Mike W. reported fundraising YTD is \$70,000 ahead compared to a year ago. A 	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>lot of that is due in large part to staff being diligent in collecting money early on for the Helping Hands Award dinner. So far we have over \$200,000 in fundraising for the dinner and 540 guests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The third annual Bike Michiana for Hospice is 09/16. We received a \$5,000 grant again from the Conventions and Visitors Bureau. We held Circle of Caring luncheons in Goshen, Plymouth and Mishawaka. Note cards with artwork from our art counseling program were distributed to the board. We are pleased that CHC is receiving the FHSSA Global Partnership Award. Staff has done a fantastic job supporting of our partnership with PCAU. Mike will be co-presenting with John Mastrojohn at the NHPCO conference next week. Work on the Mishawaka campus continues moving forward. The target date for completion is 06/28 with staff moving in in July. 	
9. Board Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cards giving the top ten reasons CHC is the right choice were distributed. Corey C. distributed a copy of the South Bend Tribune article from December 10, 2010 written by Mark about providing compassionate care was distributed. The article is helpful in understanding CHC. How do we change the perception in the community when people see a large building going up, to continue donating to CHC? We are working with Dan Reagan on a capital campaign piece that we will be sharing with the board in the near future that will address many of those concerns. The Hospice Foundation will be hosting a number of two-hour lunches to address these perceptions. Marilyn D. complimented Mike on his choice of working with Dan. He led a \$2.2 billion capital campaign, the most successful one Notre Dame ever had. Dan is currently retired from Notre Dame and consulting on his own. We are one of three agencies he is working with today. The others are Catholic Relief Services and Marquette University. 	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting adjourned at 8:38 a.m. 	Next meeting 06/19

Prepared by Becky Kizer for approval by the Board of Directors on 06/19/13.

Julie Englert, Secretary

Becky Kizer, Recording Secretary

CHAPTER THREE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Center for Hospice Care
Hospice Foundation
President / CEO Report
June 19, 2013
(Report posted June 13, 2013)**

**This meeting takes place in Suite 200 at the AFO at 7:30 AM.
This report includes event information from April 18 – June 19, 2013.
Hospice Foundation Board meeting will begin at 9:00 AM in the same room, Suite 200.**

CENSUS

Through the end of May, we have received 1,217 referrals, a 13% increase from May of 2012. Referrals from the “Family/Self” category is up 46% from this same time last year is now in second place, surpassing the “Physician” category for the first time indicating our media campaign is working. The number of patients served year to date (YTD) at the end of May is up 9% from same time last year and the number of original admissions is up 18% from May 2012. Both Hospice Houses were very busy during May with the average daily census (ADC) of both seven bed units added together hitting 12. YTD through May the ADC was 10 compared to 8 YTD through May 2012. The numbers of patients served at both Hospice Houses YTD through May is running 11% higher than 2012.

May 2013	Current Month	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	YTD Change
Patients Served	454	1,085	996	89
Original Admissions	147	774	657	117
ADC Hospice	314.13	301.00	331.37	(30.37)
ADC Home Health	13.84	19.70	16.14	3.556
ADC CHC Total	327.97	320.70	347.51	(26.81)

April 2013	Current Month	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	YTD Change
Patients Served	458	938	854	84
Original Admissions	145	627	515	112
ADC Hospice	304.72	297.61	335.02	(37.41)
ADC Home Health	20.07	21.22	14.59	6.63
ADC CHC Total	324.80	318.83	349.61	(30.78)

Monthly Average Daily Census by Office and Hospice Houses

	2013 Jan	2013 Feb	2013 Mar	2013 Apr	2013 May	2013 June	2013 July	2013 Aug	2012 Sept	2012 Oct	2012 Nov	2012 Dec
S.B.:	181	188	193	194	189				189	186	181	186
Ply:	58	54	59	60	59				62	64	66	64
Elk:	59	63	68	62	68				62	65	64	61
SBH:	6	6	6	5	6				6	5	6	4
EKH:	1	4	4	4	6				4	4	3	4

Total:	305	315	330	325	328				323	324	320	319

HOSPICE HOUSES

May 2013	Current Month	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	YTD Change
SB House Pts Served	37	169	135	34
SB House ALOS	5.11	5.20	5.24	(0.04)
SB House Occupancy	87.10%	83.07%	66.54%	16.53%
Elk House Pts Served	35	106	112	(6)
Elk House ALOS	4.94	5.42	5.05	0.37
Elk House Occupancy	79.72%	54.40%	53.20%	1.20%
April 2013	Current Month	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	YTD Change
SB House Pts Served	32	141	99	42
SB House ALOS	5.09	4.89	5.45	(0.56)
SB House Occupancy	77.62%	82.02%	63.75%	18.27%
Elk House Pts Served	27	81	88	(7)
Elk House ALOS	4.59	4.96	4.84	0.12
Elk House Occupancy	59.05%	47.86%	50.30%	-2.44%

PATIENTS IN FACILITIES

Of the 454 patients served in May, 150 resided in facilities and of the 458 patients served in April, 144 resided in facilities. The average daily census of patients in skilled nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and group homes during May was 107; April was 104 and YTD through May it is 106.

FINANCES

Karl Holderman, CFO, reports that the May and year-to-date May 2013 Financials will be posted to the Board website on Friday morning, June 14th following Finance Committee approval. They will review both April and May at that time. The draft, non-approved April 2013 financials are below.

April 2013 Financial Information

Center for Hospice Care

(Numbers include CHC's beneficial interest in the Hospice Foundation)

April Overall Revenue	\$ 1,705,932	Year to Date Overall Revenue	\$ 6,647,585
April Total Expense	\$ 1,340,594	Year to Date Total Expense	\$ 5,393,556
April Net Gain	\$ 365,338	Year to Date Net Gain	\$ 1,254,029

Hospice Foundation

April Development Income	\$ 130,675	Year to Date Development Income	\$ 395,247
April Investment Gains (Loss)	\$ 188,412	Year to Date Investment Income	\$ 856,927
April Overall revenue	\$ 324,060	Year to Date Overall Revenue	\$ 1,258,576
Total April Expenses	\$ 119,262	Total Year to Date Expenses	\$ 456,320
February April Net	\$ 204,798	Year to Date Overall Net	\$ 802,256

Combined

April Overall Revenue	\$ 1,825,196	Year to Date Overall Revenue	\$ 7,103,904
April Overall Net Gain	\$ 365,338	Year to Date Overall Net Gain	\$ 1,254,029

At the end of April 2013, Center for Hospice Care's Year to Date Net without the beneficial interest in the Hospice Foundation was \$451,772.

At the end of April 2013, CHC and HF combined had a net without investments of \$397,102.

At the end of April 2013, the Foundation's Intermediate Investments (formerly known as Pool Two) totaled \$3,998,905. Long Term Investments (formerly known as Pool Three) totaled \$11,357,213.

CHC's assets on April 30, 2013, including its beneficial interest in the Hospice Foundation, totaled \$32.4MM.

CHC VP/COO UPDATE

Dave Haley, VP/COO, reports we have signed a clinical affiliation agreement with Indiana University to provide clinical experience for medical students enrolled in the University's Undergraduate Medical Education Program. The first medical student we will be seeing under this agreement will start in November 2013 for a for a four week rotation in hospice and palliative care. This marks the first time we will be providing a clinical teaching experience in conjunction with a medical school. Each of our medical directors will be given an Associate Clinical Instructor status with the Indiana University School of Medicine. With the signing of this agreement, this means we will be providing teaching experiences to medical students, in addition to our current and past practice of providing teaching experiences to Family Medicine Residents. This year we will be providing teaching experiences to eight residents from St. Joseph Regional Medical Center and five residents from Memorial Hospital's Family Residency Program. These residents begin their experience next month.

We recently received the following email from Molly Feely, MD, Hospice and Palliative Care Program Director at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota: "Greetings. It has been a month and I wanted to update you as to where things are at on this end. Our application for off-site elective rotation has been submitted to the Mayo Graduate Education Committee. The wheels move slowly in a behemoth institution like Mayo but I do not anticipate any road blocks to approval at this time. I will let you know once I hear from the committee. I suspect that will take weeks. Hope all is well in South Bend. Molly." When this Fellowship training program affiliation materializes, we will be able to promote that we train medical school students, residents, and fellows. This represents all levels in physician medical education.

The number of Deaths Before Admission of referred to CHC from area hospitals from January 1 to May 31, 2013 is 49, as compared to 45 during the same time frame in 2012.

Camp Evergreen 2013 took place the weekend of June 7-9. 45 youth and teens participated along with 64 volunteers, eight staff for a total of 117 individuals, plus two additional people on Saturday to make a video of camp. This was the 20th consecutive year for CHC's Camp Evergreen for grieving children from throughout the community who have lost a loved one. A story on this year's Camp Evergreen appeared in the Elkhart Truth on June 10 and is attached to this report.

Dave Haley's Census Charts are contained in the Board Briefing Book.

DIRECTOR OF NURSING UPDATE

Donna Tieman, RN, DON, reports four nurses, representing all three CHC offices, will attend a pediatric palliative care organization conference in Illinois this month. Knowledge acquired at the PPCO conference will strengthen our efforts in growing a CHC pediatric hospice and palliative care program. Donna Tieman will begin networking with our state hospice association, IHPCO, to explore state-wide interest in developing a pediatric palliative care program in Indiana.

The Nursing department will officially begin Pediatric End of Life Nurse Education Consortium training at the June nurses meeting. Rebecca Fear, CHC Nurse Educator, and Terri Lawton, Patient Care Coordinator at our Plymouth office are ELNEC certified trainers. Pediatric ELNEC training

consists of ten modules. Following a needs assessment of the nursing staff in June, a targeted ten-month program will consist of classroom lecture, interspersed with self-learning modules to minimize time away from patient care.

Donna Tieman, RN, DON has developed an audit tool to be used by Patient Care Coordinators for random monthly chart audits to monitor and ensure clinical documentation reflects quality patient care and regulatory compliance.

HOSPICE FOUNDATION VP / COO UPDATE

Mike Wargo, VP/COO, Hospice Foundation, reports...

Fund Raising Comparative Summary

Through May 2013, the Development Department recorded the following calendar year gift totals as compared with the same period during the prior four years:

	Year to Date Total Revenue (Cumulative)				
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
January	70,808.77	64,964.45	32,655.69	36,775.87	83,619.96
February	114,791.61	108,025.76	64,530.43	88,893.51	166,563.17
March	156,227.15	231,949.73	165,468.92	194,345.35	264,625.29
April	265,103.24	354,644.69	269,676.53	319,818.81	395,299.97
May	358,108.50	389,785.41	332,141.44	416,792.85	446,125.49
June	739,094.00	477,029.89	427,098.62	513,432.22	
July	782,028.00	532,913.52	487,325.01	579,801.36	
August	831,699.47	585,168.77	626,466.72	643,819.01	
September	913,852.09	671,103.04	724,782.28	736,557.59	
October	1,249,692.64	992,743.37	1,026,728.58	846,979.95	
November	1,294,948.93	1,043,750.46	1,091,575.65	895,164.28	
December	1,415,554.25	1,178,938.91	1,275,402.38	1,027,116.05	

	Year to Date Monthly Revenue				
	<i>(less Elkhart Hospice House capital campaign, bequests and one-time major gifts)</i>				
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
January	36,382.10	52,442.49	32,110.69	32,309.58	82,300.18
February	33,816.42	41,364.37	30,644.74	43,783.64	82,943.21
March	34,722.57	65,886.51	99,796.42	102,351.84	98,212.12
April	105,621.19	104,544.96	97,332.61	123,998.46	130,694.68
May	92,613.21	33,768.72	51,753.98	90,909.04	50,825.52
June	94,353.52	74,084.48	90,718.18	92,036.89	
July	43,103.73	55,278.63	53,536.39	62,069.43	
August	48,215.45	51,240.25	83,202.86	64,017.65	
September	55,710.51	85,629.27	94,000.56	92,808.58	
October	78,996.22	66,061.97	47,779.09	65,904.80	
November	45,136.29	49,247.09	48,284.08	46,674.33	
December	113,640.59	115,188.45	133,617.73	111,236.77	
Total	782,331.80	794,737.19	862,777.33	928,101.01	

Special Events & Projects

The 29th Annual Helping Hands Award Dinner, honoring Ann Manion, was held on May 1st at the Hilton Garden Inn with 510 registered guests. This year's theme, Celebrating Life, paid tribute to both Ann's work at Women's Care Center and Center for Hospice Care. Gross revenue for the event is \$225,750.28. The dinner video was shown on WNDU-TV as part of the "American Dream" series hosted by WNDU-TV's Maureen and Terry McFadden. The program weaves different heroic stories into one distinctively Midwestern vision of the American Dream. It will air again on July 4th and over the Labor Day weekend.

The final Circle of Caring luncheon for 2013 was held in Mishawaka on Thursday, April 11 at Riverside Terrace in The St. Joseph River Room and Patio. The more than 20 guests in attendance received a set of notecards featuring art from the After Images art counseling program produced in conjunction with Dave Labrum.

Bike Michiana for Hospice currently has more than 300 registered riders and volunteers for this year's event. The ride will be held on Sunday, September 15th at St. Patrick's County Park. Moser's Austrian Café will be the SAG restaurant for Spicer Lake, replacing LaSalle Grill. All other SAG restaurants, including Yesterday's, Fiddler's Hearth, Indulgence Café, Corndance Tavern and Grand Mere Inn, have once again signed on to prepare and serve food for the 5th annual event. This year's commemorative jersey has been designed and will be used as a fundraising incentive as well as available for purchase. The ride is being heavily promoted via social media and press releases to riders in the Chicago area as well as Indianapolis, Fort Wayne and Kalamazoo.

This year's Walk for Hospice, which will coincide with an Open House for the Mishawaka Campus, will be held on August 11th on the Mishawaka Riverwalk. Due to construction in Central Park and on the Riverwalk, the Walk will begin at Beutter Park. Participants who would like to visit the Open House will be directed to the Campus via signs and guides. The Walk is being promoted locally on TV, radio and billboards at minimal cost. Many thanks to Amy Tribbett and Transcend Marketing for their assistance in securing these opportunities. We are also using social media extensively.

FHSSA/PCAU

Three students from the University of Notre Dame have been placed with PCAU partner organizations for summer internships. Gaby Austgen is a MS in Global Health from the University of Notre Dame's Eck Institute for Global Health. While in Uganda, she will help in structuring a national palliative care audit (framework for monitoring and evaluation); identify methodology; research tools, work plans and establishing possible prompt updating of palliative care data. She will be placed at the Mulago Palliative Care Unit that offers palliative care to patients and families in a national referral hospital and national cancer center.

Anna Heffron is an honor's student with majors in biochemistry and philosophy. She has a minor in Glynn Family Honors program of University of Notre Dame. While in Uganda, Anna will be undertaking a research project - comparing the practice of palliative care delivery in Uganda to the practices in the United States. PCAU identified Hospice Jinja as a suitable member organization to host Anna. Hospice Jinja coordinates its services around Busoga region and its team visits and networks with the five hospitals in the region. It also has outreach clinic programs near remote villages.

Emmie Mediate is a sophomore minor in International Development Studies student with Africana Studies and Pre-Medicine majors from University of Notre Dame's Kellogg Institute for International Studies. Emmie will be visiting Uganda for the second time, having spent some time last summer in Hoima and Gulu doing research work, she fell in love with the country and says returning to Uganda and doing an internship will revive all the beautiful memories of the country. While in Uganda she will be furthering her understanding of the Ugandan healthcare. She will be placed at Kawempe Home Care, a PCAU community based member organization that provides holistic home care to people living with TB, HIV/AIDS and or cancer.

“You Can Okuyamba,” our first crowdfunding initiative, raised \$535 of the \$4,000 goal. The funds raised will help provide a scholarship for a healthcare worker to attend the CPCC Diploma course at Hospice Africa Uganda.

Okuyamba

Film Marketing Services (FMS), an L.A.-based film distribution company, has inked a deal with Shorts International (SI) for the exclusive U.S. television rights to Okuyamba for a period of six months. During that time, Okuyamba will air on the SI television network. The SI Channel is available on the AT&T HD Premier Tier Package and the Direct TV HD Extra Pack package. FMS is currently in negotiations with SI for television rights for Okuyamba to air on their European channel.

Mishawaka Campus

Phase I construction is very rapidly nearing completion. The first group of AFO employees is scheduled to begin moving into the new facilities on June 28th. LTC and AFO West employees will follow beginning on July 1 and July 5, respectively.

A donor recognition installation has been designed and ordered and will be installed in the main entry area. The installation will provide recognition for cumulative donors, Circle of Caring members at the \$1,000 level and above, planned and estate gifts, with room to include recognition of future capital and endowment gifts.

To solicit input regarding our strategic direction with respect to fundraising activities, Mike and I are hosting a series of luncheons and cocktail receptions at the Guest House. Board members, key community leaders, prospective donors, and other centers of influence are being invited to take part in the events, which are followed by optional campus tours.

Annual Giving

The 2013 Friends of Hospice was launched the last week of May. This year's appeal features the stories of patients describing how their CHC team helped to improve their quality of living during their final days. This appeal, which will run through Thanksgiving, is being promoted via Crossroads, direct mail, social media, and the Foundation's e-newsletter and web site.

Communications

The Hospice Foundation e-newsletter continues to feature mini-articles on events, PCAU, various giving opportunities as well as new campus updates. The mailing list currently includes more than 1,000 subscribers.

The spring 2013 issue of Crossroads was mailed to 35,000 households in April. The cover story featured an article about Ann Manion, this year's Helping Hands Award recipient. Other stories included the After Images art counseling program, the ND/CHC Intro to Hospice Class, "You Can Okuyamba," the bike and walk events as well as a donor profile an innovative employee giving program at Gates Automotive Group.

The Foundation, Walk and Bike web sites continue to be updated on an on-going basis. A new item on the Foundation site includes blogs by each of the ND interns, who will be sharing their experiences in Uganda through the summer.

Staff Update

We are pleased to announce that Chris Taelman has accepted the new position of Chief Development Officer at the Hospice Foundation where he will be responsible for Major Gifts, Capital Campaigns and Planned Giving. Chris comes to us directly from Saint Mary's College where he has been Director of Major Gifts. He will start with us on July 15. Prior to Saint Mary's College, he worked as Director of Marketing and Strategy at I.U. Health LaPorte Hospital. He was also VP of Community Relations and Development at Madison Center / Madison Foundation for nearly eight years, and for eight years prior to that he was the Manager of Community Relations for NIPSCO. Chris brings to the Hospice Foundation more than 20 years' experience -- primarily with not-for-profit healthcare providers -- in marketing, fundraising, fund development, public affairs, communications management, staff management and budgeting.

COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING, VOLUNTEERS AND ACCESS

Amy Tribbett, Director of Marketing and Access reports...

Outreach in February & March

During this time our three Community Liaisons visited more than 200 physician practices and made 190 visits to extended care facilities. More than 80 visits were made to our service area hospitals.

Hospital social workers, case managers, discharge planners and a few physicians were honored during April at a series of events held by CHC in collaboration with the new Sprenger Healthcare Center. Appetizers and drinks were served at Corndance in Mishawaka in two separate events for SJRMC, Memorial, Rivercrest Specialty Hospital, and Kindred Transitional Care Hospital. In Elkhart, EGH and Goshen were invited to McCarthy's on the Riverwalk, and in Culver, SJRMC-Plymouth, IU LaPorte and Starke enjoyed an evening at the Corndance Café.

Creating a Social Media Marketing Plan for CHC will soon be taking on a whole new dimension. Amy recently completed a program at the University of Notre Dame. The intense, information-

filled, hands-on six-day program was taught by top experts in the field of Social Media Marketing and will help her develop our own campaigns for Social Media – a quickly changing and necessary new marketing arena. The week-long class, presented through the Non Profit Executive program at Notre Dame, presented strategies to leverage Social Media opportunities. The course provided exposure to popular media for business (e.g., Facebook, Google+, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube and more) and practical steps for implementing successful Social Media communications. She received a Nonprofit Program Certificate from the University of Notre Dame.

Senior Networking and Speaking Engagements

- Lunch with St. Joseph Church to discuss upcoming presentation and other opportunities
- IUSB Health Fair – Saturday event, well attended, good volunteer recruits
- Indiana University South Bend Elkhart Campus. Spoke to Death and Life Class
- Warsaw Tigers Senior Apartments – Consider the Conversation. 17 attended.
- Social hour with Case Managers from EGH with Sprenger Health Care Center.
- Gala event for Elkhart County Council on Aging and Riverview Adult Day Care.
- Attended the Goshen Chamber Event with IU Health “The New Face of Healthcare”
- MCOC Kosciusko County at The Meadows.
- Miller’s Merry Manor Assisted Living – Open House
- Kiwanis – Hospice 101
- Spring Sensation – Community Hospital of Bremen
- Breathless Club – Received a self-referral and admission because of this presentation.
- Starke Co COC – CHC Featured Speaker
- Attended United Religious Community Day of Prayer Breakfast
- Vendor at RSVP Senior Expo, St. Joseph County
- Funeral home/hospice/elder attorney – two presentations at Kaniewski Funeral Home.
- Presentation to Young at Heart Senior Group at St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka
- Starke Co Chamber Breakfast – discussed Camp Evergreen.

Referral Source Meetings and Lunches

- Lunch with Dr. McClain and her office
- Lunch for nurses at Arborwood for National Nurses Week
- IU Cardiology - Lunch
- Breakfast with physicians at Ireland Road Family Practice
- Warsaw Meadows Luncheon. Met with the new Admissions Marketing Team.
- Dr. Clayton. Lunch meeting with Dr. and nurse only. Able to distinguish hospice agencies.
- Memorial Cancer Center. Meeting with new Social Worker.
- Eastlake nursing home meeting
- Dr. Susan Moore-Reisback meeting with her at Hubbard Hill.
- Woodlawn Hospital in Rochester. Continued progress on general inpatient contract.

Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and Volunteer Training was the theme for the 2013 Volunteer Inservice. Approximately 175 staff and volunteers participated in this half-day event. CHC utilizes the in-service day to complete the TB and mandatory training requirements (OSHA and HIPAA), as well as present useful information to our volunteers. Five staff nurses assisted with the TB process. Leading off was the CHC CEO (dressed as HOF and former Chicago Cubs second baseman Ryne Sandberg), taking the opportunity to simply thank our volunteers for all they do. On deck was Joe

Hart, president of the South Bend Silver Hawks who discussed teamwork and communication. The rest of the lineup included: Karl Holderman on HIPAA Regulations; Rebecca Fear, RN Educator on our We Honor Veterans program; Jerry Miller, Maintenance Coordinator, on Bed Bugs; Anna Wasierski, Dietician, on Hospice House food services regulations; Debra Mayfield, Volunteer Coordinator, on Complementary and Alternative Medicine techniques; and Gail Wind, Assistant DON on Blood Borne Pathogens. All presenters wore CHC Baseball jerseys. Lunch included an All-American Hot Dog bar and a salad bar with apple pie for dessert. Volunteers received presentation packets, a bag of CHC branded peanuts, Cracker Jacks and two tickets to a South Bend Silver Hawks baseball game during the month of June. From the volunteer feedback, the event was a home run!

2012: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Copies of “2012: The Year in Review” will be distributed at the board meeting and will also be circulated as a stewardship piece for all donors who gave \$1,000 or more (Helping Hands Society, President’s Society, and Chairman’s Circle levels of giving) during 2012. A cover letter from Hospice Foundation VP/COO, Mike Wargo, will be included along with the publication to thank them for what they helped us accomplish during 2012. My thanks to Jim Wiskatoni, Web / Print Coordinator at the Hospice Foundation, who helped with a much improved appearance of this year’s document.

TIME CHANGE FOR AUGUST 21 BOARD MEETING

Just a reminder the August 21 Board Meeting will be the first inside our new Mishawaka Campus Phase I facility. After discussion with Corey, we are making it a two-hour luncheon meeting from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM. In recognition of this special occasion I have arranged for J. Donald Schumacher, PsyD to join us in-person and present an overview of the hospice industry, its current challenges, and its future as he sees it. Don is the President and CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) in Alexandria, VA. He is also President/CEO of NHPCO’s affiliate organizations, the National Hospice Foundation, FHSSA (formerly known as the Foundation for Hospices of Sub Saharan Africa), and its 501 (c) 4 Capitol Hill advocacy organization, the Hospice Action Network.

Don has agreed to meet with the CHC Administrative Team Tuesday night, present at a special All Staff meeting Wednesday morning at 8 AM (staff need to have this meeting early so they can spend the rest of the day seeing patients), and then join us for a special CHC luncheon Board Meeting, present to the board and allow time for Q&A from the CHC Board members.

With over 53,000 members including 3,880 hospice and palliative care provider members, NHPCO is the oldest and largest membership organization representing hospice and palliative care programs and professionals in the world. NHPCO members care for over 90% of the nation’s more than 1.6 million hospice patients. Don has more than 30 years’ experience in hospice and palliative care administration and has been Pres/CEO of NHPCO since 2002. From 1989 through 2002 he was Pres/CEO of a very successful hospice program in Buffalo, NY. He led the development of an integrated campus launching a variety of hospice-related organizations including nursing homes, mental health and pediatric care facilities, and a stellar bereavement education program.

NATIONAL UPDATE

The federally mandated sequestration cuts that went into effect for the hospice community on April 1, 2013 continue. Under sequestration, reimbursement for all Medicare providers is reduced by 2%. This cut remains in place for ten years unless Congress takes action to remove it. Effects of reimbursement cuts are already being felt in the hospice community, most notably by reductions in staffing at some programs. A number of my colleagues in the National Hospice Executive Roundtable and on the NHPCO board have spoken about the steps they took to prepare for sequestration, yet some have still faced difficult decisions that have included downsizing. Some of layoffs were due to audits that tied up cash flow and reduced census at some hospice programs. A colleague member with me in the National Hospice Executive Roundtable has laid off 114 staff and additionally had fifteen days to repay Medicare \$11 million in cash due to capitation issues at one of their offices. The fiscal intermediary asked for three years of cap payments all at once due to recent change in the rules and the timeline for cap notifications.

At the last NHPCO board meeting and on recent NHPCO Executive Committee conference calls, we have spent some time looking at some of the other trends in the field that are making the work we do more complex. This includes quality reporting, ever-changing regulatory requirements and increased audits and reviews throughout the field. There is no question that our field is changing – mergers continue, expansions of end-of-life care continue in health systems and long term care organizations. Hospice is not the only provider coping with change. The entire U.S. health care system is changing. NHPCO is involved in dialogue related to ACOs, Medicare Advantage, Medical Homes, and the variety of other “designs.” It is clear there is no single “right design” but many innovative systems can be found. How hospice fits into all of this remains to be seen. Locally we are doing our best to insure CHC is at the table. Challenges also bring opportunities for assessment, improvement, and innovation. The NHPCO board has recently specifically discussed the value of the hospice palliative care continuum within a healthcare system more focused on coordinated care, quality, and cost effectiveness. Hospice continues to be seen by many thought-leaders as the answer to many challenges being managed by individuals and their families during the end of life. However, we know that far too many fail to take advantage of hospice services in a timely manner and that is an issue we must continue to address in both professional and provider education and consumer engagement. I believe CHC is accomplishing the education piece in a remarkable manner here on the local level.

NATIONAL HOSICE EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE UPDATE

The National Hospice Executive Roundtable (NHERT) is a collection of eleven hospice CEOs from leading non-profit hospice agencies throughout the United States who meet in-person three times per year to develop and share industry best practices. We recently met in Salem, MA May 15-18 which included visiting the inpatient unit of Hospice of the Northshore and Greater Boston and guest speakers Timothy Ferris, MD, MPH, Vice President for Population Health Management, Partners HealthCare and Medical Director, Mass General Physicians Organization. We also heard from Margaret Terry and Azalea Kim, inventors of myProxy.com, a website for the collection of Advanced Directives. The NHERT has also now set up an account for the various departments within each organization to share information within a secure website at box.com. Managers at each of our hospice programs can now share and archive information, data, articles, reports and basically anything in the following folder categories of:

1. Sales
2. Finance
3. Communications
4. IT
5. Volunteers
6. HME/Supplies
7. Development
8. Admit/Intake
9. Quality
10. CEO
11. Bereavement
12. Clinical Operations
13. Marketing
14. HR
15. Physicians
16. Palliative Care
17. Compliance
18. Pharmacy
19. Other

The NHERT continues to grow and develop in its usefulness for all of its CEO members and now their various staffs as well.

OUT AND ABOUT

I attended the NHPCO Board, Executive Committee, and Hospice Action Network (HAN) Board meetings the week of April 21 in Washington, DC including an all-day presentation by HAN at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center called “Conversations Before the Crises: The Intersection of Family, Faith and Policy in Advance Care Planning” which featured Joe Klein from TIME magazine, Eleanor Clift from PBS, and congressmen Ron Wyden, Jim McDermott, Johnny Isakson, and Phil Roe. I also presented at three different sessions at the NHPCO Management and Leadership Conference on “Changing Organizations Meet Community Needs,” “CEO Roundtable,” and guest chaired a session at the Innovation Intensive track with the man who invented the “Green House” nursing home model. Other conference attendees included Donna Tieman and Mike Wargo. Mike also accepted the third annual FHSSA Global Partnership Award at the annual FHSSA Breakfast on April 25.

I spoke on national hospice trends at the IHPCO / LeadingAge Indiana, INALA & HOPE Spring Conference at the Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, on May 7.

Gail Wind, ADON, and Terri Lawton, Patient Care Coordinator for our Plymouth office, attended the IHPCO Conference in Indianapolis May 6-7. The conference focused on current regulatory changes and hot topics.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS SECTION OF THE .PDF

Dave Haley's Census Reports.

2013 Roster of Center for Hospice Care Board Members.

A remarkable thank you letter from a lady who went through many of our bereavement programs over several years and found resolution.

Cover of FHSSA newsletter featuring CHC as winning the third annual Global Partnership Award.

Story from NHPCO newsletter featuring our Introduction to Palliative Care class at Notre Dame.

6/10/13 story on Camp Evergreen from the Elkhart Truth.

Board Committee Information and Committee descriptions.

HARD COPY BOARD ITEMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE MEETING

May 2013 and Year to Date Financials.

2012: The Year in Review

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Our next regular Board Meeting will be **Wednesday, August 21, 2013 at 11:30 AM** in the large Conference Room in the main building, first floor, at the new Mishawaka Campus, 501 Comfort Place, Mishawaka, IN 46545. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, suggestions or comments, please contact me directly at 574-243-3117 or email mmurray@centerforhospice.org .

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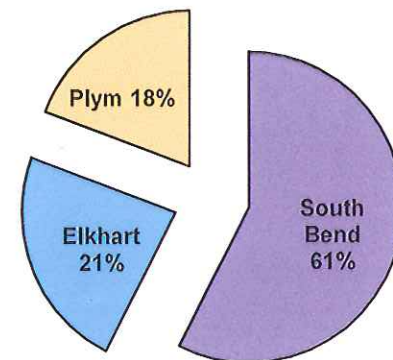
Center for Hospice Care
2013 YTD Average Daily Census (ADC)
 (includes Hospice House and Home Health)

	<u>All</u>	<u>South Bend</u>	<u>Elkhart</u>	<u>Plymouth</u>
J	305	187	60	58
F	315	193	68	54
M	330	199	72	59
A	325	199	66	60
M	328	195	74	59
J				
J				
A				
S				
O				
N				
D				

2013 YTD Totals	1603	973	340	290
2013 YTD ADC	321	195	68	58
2012 YTD ADC	348	203	78	67
YTD Change 2012 to 2013	-27	-8	-10	-9
YTD % Change 2012 to 2013	-7.9%	-4.1%	-12.8%	-13.4%

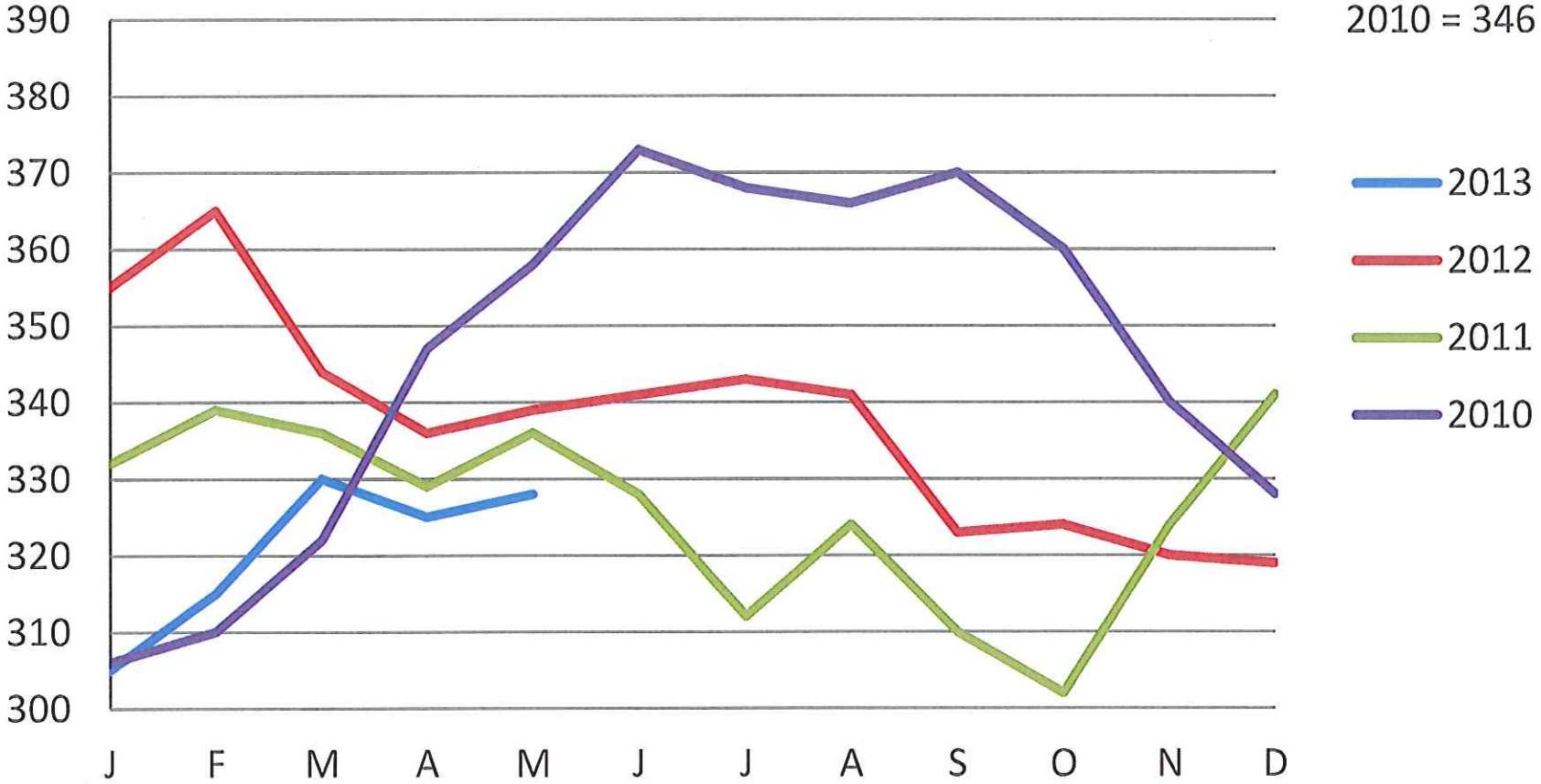
2013 YTD ADC by Branch

South Bend	60.7%
Elkhart	21.2%
Plymouth	18.1%
All	100%



Center for Hospice Care Total Average Daily Census (ADC)

ADC
 YTD 2013 = 321
 2012 = 337
 2011 = 326
 2010 = 346



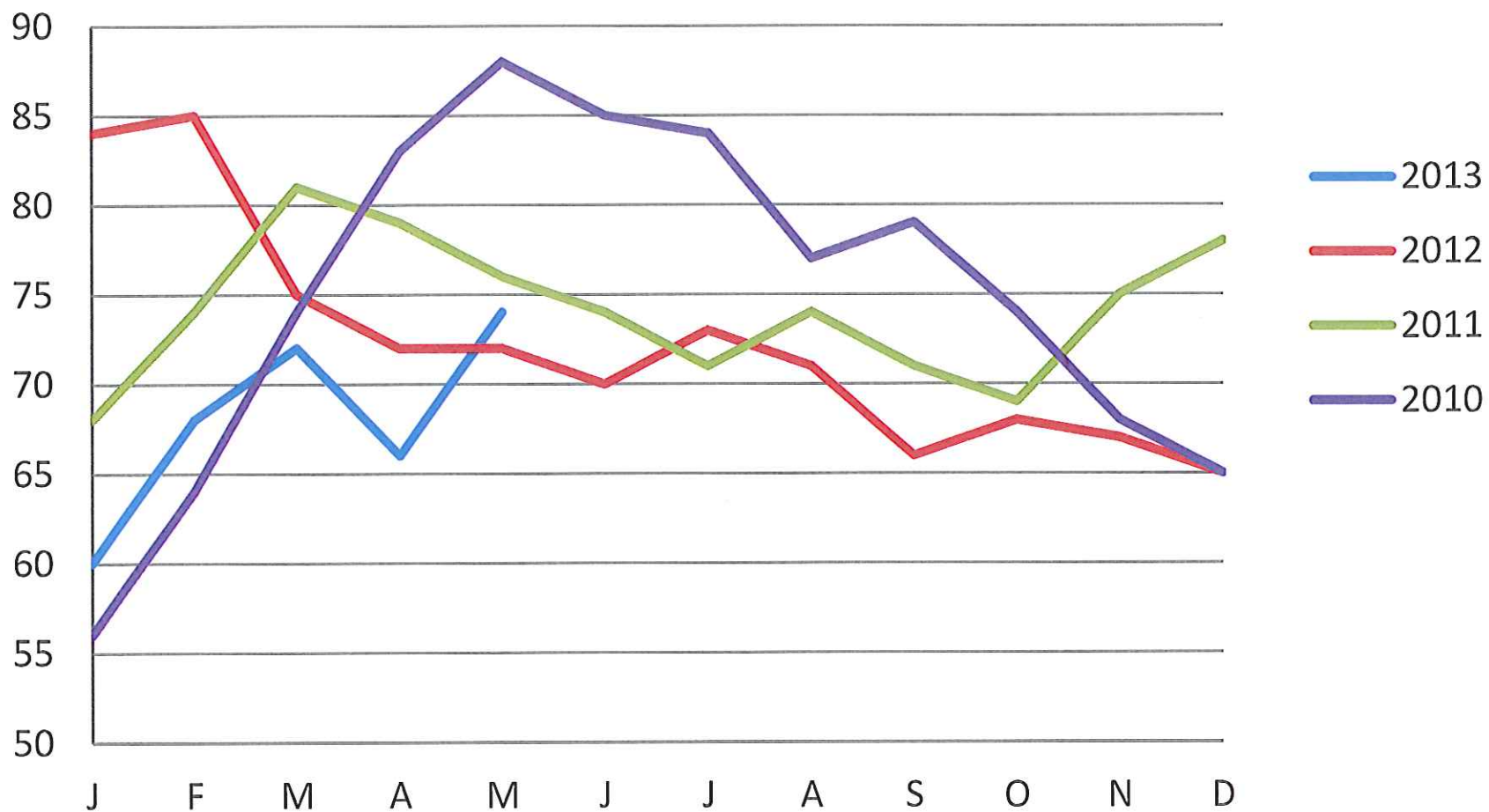
South Bend Average Daily Census

ADC
 YTD 2013 = 195
 2012 = 200
 2011 = 190
 2010 = 210



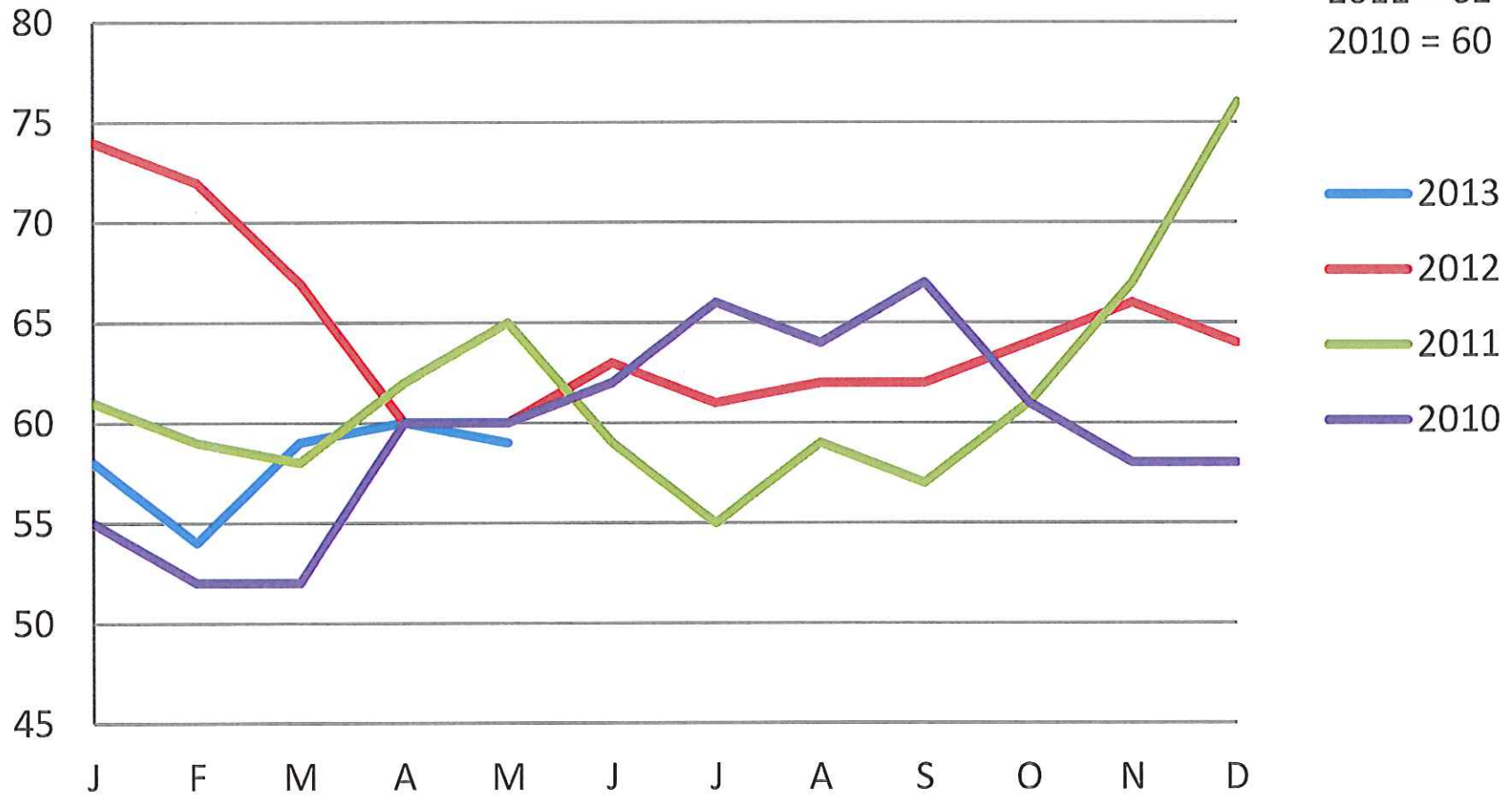
Elkhart Average Daily Census

ADC
YTD 2013 = 68
2012 = 72
2011 = 74
2010 = 75



Plymouth Average Daily Census

ADC
YTD 2013 = 58
2012 = 65
2011 = 62
2010 = 60



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April 9, 2013

Hospice Staff,

My name is Sam Price. My husband passed away unexpectedly August 19, 2010. My mind could not fathom at age 59, I was a widow. My future completely shattered. Only by my faith in my God Almighty and Hospice Home I have been able to survive.

My father had Alzheimer's and passed away 5 years ago. I was his care giver but I could not have done it without Hospice. You people enabled me to care for my father in the last year of his life in the security of his own home and go on to his blessed eternal home in the comfort of his own bed surrounded by his family. For this I am ever so grateful to you.

My husband was diagnosed with esophageal cancer and passed away 10 days later. During his short few days in the hospital he begged me to take him someplace quiet and peaceful. Do to his condition taking him home was not an option. Once again Hospice became essential in my life. You people made all the arrangements and took him to Hospice Home. When I told him of the arrangements he only ask if I was going with him. He passed away in less than 24 hours at Hospice Home. You provided for us a beautiful, peaceful place to say our goodbyes until we see each other again in God's glorious home. For this I am ever so grateful to you.

Three months later Hospice, once again, became an essential part of my life, my survival. I first attended your "getting through the Holidays" support group, then "Living with Loss", then "Resilience" and currently, after 2 1/2 years of my loss, "Rebuilding Our Lives." I also attended "Dreams and After Death Experiences" group. This past

Summer I was privileged to get on the panel for the "Summer Grief Forum" in Elkhart. I also presently attend every month "Crafting Memories". All of these support groups have been my life line, my survival. The support groups are very intense, emotionally draining, and tearful but I have found "Crafting Memories" to be as excellent as all the other support groups. It is a more relaxed, happy, sense of accomplishment feeling. It lifts up my heart. My first project was making a memory box in which I can place all my small cherished items; his wallet, my special perfume he gave me, my wedding bands, special Scriptures, and much more. I also made a garden stepping stone with smaller stones embedded in it with what my husband meant to me. I made a book shaped like a heart which I titled "Made With Love". This project helped me face my memories of our courtship, our wedding vows, and until death do us part. For another project we took an old hard back book and turned it into our own personal book. My book is titled "The Quilting of My Life". I incorporated all my ~~memories~~ special memories of my life. All the blessings of my life and my faith. Everything and everyone who always love and continue to quilt my life together and make me who I am. Each and every project has helped me through my grieving process. Through not only thoughts but words, pictures, and special symbols of meaning. I so look forward to each new craft helping me to continue to grow and rebuild my life.

I share my experiences with you in hopes they will help show my great gratitude and thankfulness for

lack and everyone of you who are my Idaspeie Angels.
The Angels God sent to me here on earth so that I
might survive; - loss - loneliness - grief.

I say a special thank you and prayer for my
bereavement counselors, Deb and Michele. Also for
my very special friend and encourager, Laura.

I can not express how much your always special
smile and words of encouragement have lifted my
heart.

August 19, 2010: darkness, heartbrokenness

August 19, 2011: I will be OK

Today: I am OK. I can once again smell the
roses and they are beautiful.

God Bless You All,

Pam

Faith + Hospice = SURVIVAL !!!



FOCUS ON COMPASSION

a quarterly newsletter

Third Annual FHSSA Global Partnership Award Was Presented on April 25

Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation of Indiana and the Palliative Care Association of Uganda are the 2013 Winners

The third annual FHSSA Global Partnership Award was presented to Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation of South Bend, Indiana and Palliative Care Association of Uganda on April 25 during the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's (NHPCO) Management and Leadership Conference.

The Global Partnership Award is an opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of a partner that went above and beyond the expectations of a partnership. The award winner is selected based on creativity in fundraising, partner collaboration, staff contribution and commitment, and community outreach and involvement. The award comes with a \$500 donation to the African hospice partner.

"Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation has shown what a tremendous impact one partnership can have. The creativity and commitment they have made to the Palliative Care Association of Uganda will have a lasting effect on the patients and families needing palliative care and also to the dedicated health care workers who work tirelessly with limited resources to provide that care," said John Mastrojohn, executive director of FHSSA.

Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation, which raised over \$25,000 in 2012, partners with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU). The review committee was impressed with CHC/HF's award application on many levels, including their unique and creative fundraising efforts and involvement in advocacy efforts on the national level in Uganda, their dedication to finding a new home for PCAU headquarters, and their financial support for scholarships to train Ugandan healthcare workers in palliative care.

"Our FHSSA partnership has been rewarding and meaningful for our staff, our board and our volunteers. It has been our privilege to be partnered



Members of the *Okuyamba* film crew and Rose Kiwanuka during filming of the award-winning short documentary.

with PCAU. But it's so much more than a partnership. For us, faraway places have come closer, the planet has become smaller, and our own hospice family has grown in the best ways possible," said Mark Murray, president and CEO of CHC/HF.

Some of the 2012 highlights of this award-winning partnership include:

- **Okuyamba.** In collaboration with faculty and alumni of University of Notre Dame Film, Television and Theatre Department, CHC/HF created an award-winning documentary that offers a glimpse at the astounding challenges facing terminally ill people living in Uganda and the monumental issues PCAU encounters in its daily work. The film has helped increase world-wide awareness of the suffering of patients with life-limiting illness in Uganda and throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. CHC/HF has made the film available to hospices across the country to use in awareness-raising and fundraising efforts locally.
- **PCAU Building Fund.** One of PCAU's top strategic priorities for 2012 was to find a sustainable office space for its headquarters. Proceeds from CHC/HF's World Hospice & Palliative Care day event were directed toward acquiring that space.
- **Partner Visits.** CHC/HF provided funding for PCAU Country Director, Rose Kiwanuka to visit the U.S. In addition to meeting with CHC staff on a number of initiatives, Rose also attended NHPCO's MLC near

continued on page 2

Avow advancement team, with creative services assistance from a local marketing firm. The commercials can be viewed at avowcares.org/video-gallery.



Members of the Avow advancement team (l to r): Deborah Jonsson, Kit Chamberlain, Karen Stevenson and Kylee A. Pitts.

Joint Effort Leads to Second Introductory Class on Hospice Care at Prestigious Notre Dame



Mark Murray

For the second year in a row, the Center for Hospice Care (South Bend, IN) and the University of Notre Dame teamed up to offer students a one-day introduction to hospice and palliative care.

This year's class, which attracted an impressive 95 students (15 more than last year), featured 12 different presentations that focused on how hospice and palliative care is given in the current healthcare system. The presentations were taught

by various members of the interdisciplinary team—including Center for Hospice Care CEO, Mark Murray.

NHPCO Staff Lend a Hand as Spring for Alexandria Volunteers

More than 400 volunteers spent most of Friday, May 3, at 50 sites around Alexandria, VA, as part of “Spring for Alexandria”—an annual effort to make the city a cleaner, more beautiful place to live and work.

Joining in were 10 staff from NHPCO, who painted 10 rooms at a local shelter—then went the extra mile by doing all the clean-up!



Have News to Share?
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Weekend camp in Michigan helps kids work through grief



Renee Fess (far left) of Middlebury stands with her daughters, Brianna Eggleston (center) and Emily Fess (far right) just before the girls boarded a bus for Camp Evergreen Friday, June 7. Camp Evergreen is a grief camp for kids run by the Center for Hospice Care. The girls are students at Northridge High School. (Truth Photo By Lydia Sheaks)

Posted: 06/10/2013 at 3:00 pm

By: Lydia Sheaks
lsheaks@etruth.com

ELKHART — At first glance, Camp Evergreen looks the same as any other summer camp for kids — horseback riding, swimming, fishing and crafts. But kids from northern Indiana who go to Camp Evergreen each year all have one thing in common.

They've all lost someone close to them.

Camp Evergreen, a free weekend camp run by the Center for Hospice Care, started in 1994 and has since helped about 700 local children from 6 to 17 deal with grief.

"One of our goals is to help kids know they are not alone," said Holly Farmer, camp director.

She explained that each child is given a different-colored wristband symbolizing their relationship

with the person who died. That way, said Farmer, kids can bond with others their age who have lost a grandmother, a sibling or a parent.

"Kids can look around and see that they are not the only one with (a particular color wristband)," said Farmer. "That's something that's been helpful for them and they even wear it after camp is over."

She said that camp activities such as making a memory box and conquering a ropes course help kids learn how to work through their feelings in a healthy way. There are also fun activities to keep kids' minds off the sadness.

Farmer said that the camp depends on volunteers. More than 470 adults have helped at the camp since 1994.

"We've had six campers who have come back to volunteer once they were old enough," said Farmer. "I feel really good about that."

One of those former campers is Alyssa Peterson, a 21-year-old college student from Michigan. She's volunteering at Camp Evergreen for the third year. Peterson stayed at the camp after losing her grandmother at age 11.

"I was scared to go (to the camp) at first," remembered Peterson. "It was hard for me because we had just lost our grandma and we were really close to her. My brother and I both stayed for the weekend, and I had a blast."

Peterson said that young children need a mentor during the grief process — and sometimes, that mentor can't be a parent

“You don't listen to your parents all the time at that age because you think they are wrong about everything,” said Peterson. “It's good to have a mentor and it's good to be around people outside of your family who are going through the exact same thing.”

Peterson is studying nursing because she wants to help people. She said her experience at Camp Evergreen as a camper and volunteer has helped her realize that nursing is what she wants to do.

“I love helping the little kids out and helping them deal with their loss,” said Peterson. “It gets sad at times but you do have a lot of fun.”

Farmer said that the relationship kids form with their “buddy” — adult volunteer — during camp weekend is what most kids like the most about Camp Evergreen.

“When (the kids) do the evaluations the volunteers are the number one thing they talk about,” said Farmer. “Sometimes support isn't available from adults in the child's family because those adults might be grieving too. We are pretty blessed with volunteers that recognize the worth of the camp and the benefit to the kids.”

Camp Evergreen is open to any child younger than 18 in northern Indiana who has experienced a loss, and it's paid for by the Center for Hospice Care. Kids ages 12-17 stay overnight Friday and Saturday nights at Bair Lake Bible Camp in Jones, Mich., while 6- to 11-year-olds come to the same facility for a day camp on Saturday. Around 30 kids participated in this year's camp, June 7-9, and about a third of them were from the Elkhart County area.

For more information about Camp Evergreen and to find out how to participate in next year's camp, go to www.centerforhospice.org and click on “Grief Counseling.”

Center for Hospice Care Committees of the Board of Directors

The following committees of the CHC Board of Directors are currently available for board member participation. Contact the Chairman of the Board if you are interested in joining one of these committees.

Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee of the Corporation and other appointees by the Chairman of the Board of Directors in such numbers as they deem necessary. It shall have the responsibility of reviewing the Corporation's Bylaws at least once every three years. This committee will meet again in 2014.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee of the Corporation and other appointees by the Chairman of the Board of Directors in such numbers as they deem necessary. It shall have the responsibility of nominating candidates for positions on the Board, as well as for officers of the Board of Directors. The committee generally meets two to three times a year.

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee and other appointees by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, and be chaired by the Chairman of the Board of Directors. This committee shall concern itself with the review and recommendations for approval of the Personnel Policies governing the staff of the Corporation. This committee meets at least biannually to review the Human Resources Manual and as needed. The committee will meet again in 2014.

Professional Advisory Group

This Committee shall advise the Corporation on professional clinical issues, participates in the review of the Corporation's clinical programming, patient care policies, procedures and clinical records as required by the federal and/or state Home Health regulations. Membership is to include but not be limited to:

- At least one physician
- One registered nurse
- Appropriate representatives of disciplines involved in delivery of Home Health services under the Corporation's state home health license and federal certification to provide home health care services.
- At least one member of the group is neither an owner nor an employee of the Agency.

The chairman shall be the Corporation's current Chief Medical Officer. Other members are appointed for one (1) year terms by the Chairman of the Board of Directors and may be reappointed. The group meets annually in April.

Special Committees

Special committees may be appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Directors as the need arises. Some of these committees include the Helping Hands Award Selection Committee and the Helping Hands Award Dinner Committee.