



## National Social Work Month



The relationship and communication between Celia's House staff and social workers remained strong throughout the challenging times of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

### Exploring the Vital Role of Hospice Social Work

Lily Herwald, Dir. of Development and Communications

Many professionals help guide patients and their loved ones when entering hospice. This month, we spotlight hospice social workers, a valued part of the end-of-life care team at Celia's House. Our hospice partners (Asante, Providence, Signature, Bristol, and Riverside) employ them, and they collaborate with medical directors, physicians, nurses, chaplains, CNAs, and volunteers. Social workers aim to ensure patients receive comprehensive, holistic care that meets their unique needs.

Social workers help patients navigate life during what is often a difficult time, including both emotional and resource support. Examples may be helping patients and their support teams understand their insurance coverage options and linking them with local resources related to finances, healthcare planning, and end-of-life arrangements. They also help manage logistics, such as accessing medical equipment and transportation services.

Lisa Anderson-Allred, LCSW of Asante Hospice, frequently visits Celia's House professionally:



"My job is to take things off the plates of the patients and their loved ones so they have more time to spend with each other. This may mean I make phone calls to agencies, which can take a lot of time. Sometimes, it means offering emotional support with a cup of coffee. She added, "At the end of the day, it doesn't matter so much what I say to patients and their loved ones, as much as how they feel when they are with me."

By doing this important job, social workers help create a supportive environment that promotes comfort, safety, and well-being wherever the patient calls home, including nursing homes, hospitals, or hospice residences like Celia's House.

### The Next Generation of Mindful Caregiving

Alexandria Castelo, Development and Communications Coordinator

Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice is pleased with its continuing partnership with Oregon Health & Science University's (OSHU) rotating internship program and the placement of nursing students at Celia's House. This is the program's third year.

"It is very special to be able to open the door to a new generation of nurses that want to be a part of providing end-of-life care," shares Diane Augustine, RN. "It reminds us of when we were fresh and eager to learn. As nurses, we greatly appreciate this partnership with OHSU," adds Rose Barnum, Celia's House RN.

Nursing students Nic Harlacher and Alex Dent have a passion for hospice and have been present at Celia's House each week to meet with nurses, caregivers, and residents. During their ten-week internship, they have learned from spiritual care and resident support volunteers, administrative staff, visiting family, and community members.

"It is an honor to spend time with people at Celia's House. This is such a unique model of care, and everything is done with intention and compassion. I feel extremely grateful to be here each week," explains Nic. "I am really drawn to home hospice and labor and delivery because spending individual time with patients is my favorite thing. The one-on-one connection motivates me."

Alex feels similarly. He shares, "I grew up in Southern Oregon, and the Alameda Fire disaster put me in the hospital environment for the first time. I was a caregiver for several years before pursuing Oncology and Hematology. I feel drawn to cancer and end-of-life. I want to help make a difference when people face some of their most challenging times."

### Springing Forward at The HUB

P. Dean, Manager, and Lara Knackstedt, Assistant Manager

We are excited to announce that the much-anticipated HUB Annex is moving forward! We have signed a contract with Clark Construction Service, and we can't wait for them to get started. The crew will begin working in early April, and we expect construction to be completed later this spring. The new space will streamline the donation process, improve safety, and ease congestion and workflow challenges for staff and volunteers. Keep an eye out for project updates on our social media!

Please consider supporting the HUB and its growth here: <https://sofriendssohospice.org/hub-annex/>



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- Donation hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10:30am - 4:00pm.
- Interested in volunteering at The HUB? Please email [chalayne.gwin@sofriendssohospice.org](mailto:chalayne.gwin@sofriendssohospice.org)
- Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [facebook.com/HospiceUniqueBoutique/](https://facebook.com/HospiceUniqueBoutique/) & [@hospiceuniqueboutique](https://instagram.com/hospiceuniqueboutique)
- Shop The HUB [eBay](#)

### Remembering our Residents



A memorial brick is laid in the Reflection Garden for every resident we've been honored to serve at Celia's House. This year, we will have bricks for those we had the privilege of serving in 2023. For inquiries about the memorial bricks or bricks honoring community members, please contact Alex Castelo, Communications Coordinator, at 707-480-5704 or via email at [alexandria.castelo@sofriendssohospice.org](mailto:alexandria.castelo@sofriendssohospice.org). Thank you for your support!

### Second Annual June in Bloom

On Sunday, June 2, from 2 to 5 pm, Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice will hold the second annual *June in Bloom*, a beautiful community event and fundraiser for Celia's House. Tickets will be available for purchase in April. Thank you to everyone who attended the first annual *June in Bloom* last year!



### Become a Sponsor of June in Bloom

We are looking for businesses or individuals to sponsor the upcoming *June in Bloom*. Join us in supporting the event filled with fun, food and heart in Celia's House's magnificent gardens. The money raised will go directly toward supporting our residents and their families. As a sponsor, you will get free tickets to the event, a VIP table, and will be included in all our promotional materials, as well as our 2024 Annual Report.

**Interested in becoming a sponsor?**  
Contact Alexandria Castelo at [alexandria.castelo@sofriendssohospice.org](mailto:alexandria.castelo@sofriendssohospice.org)

### Quotes From Families

"Every time we walked through those doors, it felt like home. And it wasn't our house, but it felt like it because of how warm everyone is and how nice the home is kept. One caregiver asked him what his favorite pajamas were, and the staff dressed him in that pair so he wore them when he died. No one had to do that—it was just above and beyond." - S

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### We are Here to Help. Please Give Us a Call.

For questions regarding admission, please call (541) 743-7997

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Check Out Our YouTube Video Tour:  
[Celia's House - An Inside Look at Resident and Common Rooms](#)

Every month, the following individuals make the Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice E-newsletter possible: Alexandria Castelo, Cheryl French, Dwight Wilson, Lily Herwald, Lara Knackstedt, Patrice Dean, Rebecca Reid, and Steve Roe.

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