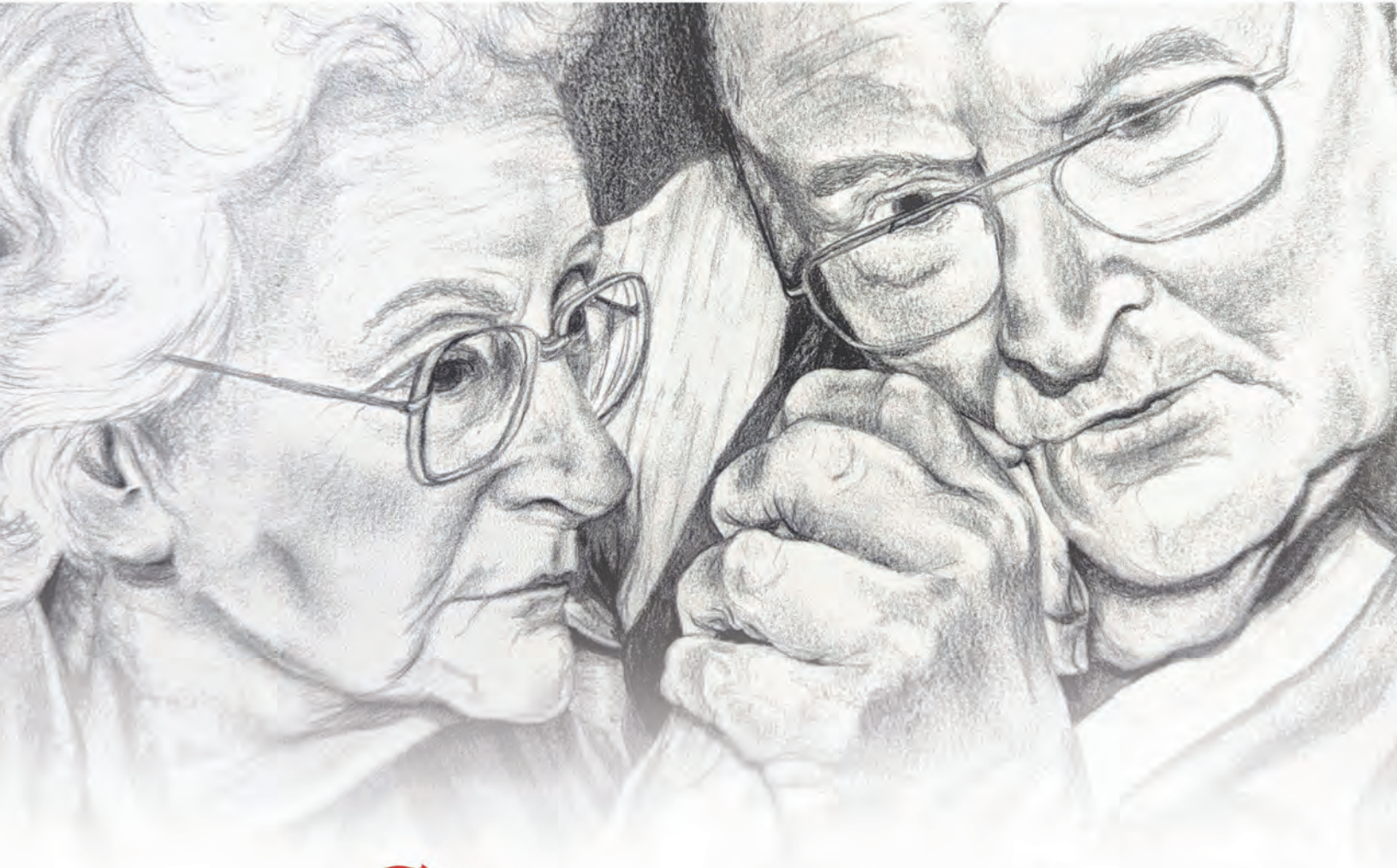


# 2023 NEWSLETTER



## **Our Mission**

*To provide peace of mind and comfort  
through compassionate care.*

· *Founded 1988 in Ashland, Ohio* ·

## A Message from the Executive Director, William “Bill” Kahl

We are well into the new year, and we have much to be thankful for. The COVID crises continues to subside, and we recently joined the growing chorus of healthcare providers that have ended their masking and social distancing safeguards. As we deal with the most compromised patients, we waited for the area hospitals to phase these protocols out before joining. Our HNCO team continues to provide the highest quality care for its patients and will always err on the side of caution when it comes to safety, in fact we will continue to follow the protocols at extended care facilities that still demand these precautions.



Yet, C19 aftereffects still linger, in that our census has yet to recover to pre-pandemic levels. Last year was the first in many that we did not have a positive operating margin. HNCO continues to provide the very best care in the area and ranks among the top tier of hospice providers. We are looking to expand our territory into adjacent counties and are working with the Care Solutions Network to solicit contracts in the ever-increasing inclusion of hospice services in managed care, in fact we just secured our first contract with Aetna in Ohio. Despite increasing competition from the for-profit sector, HNCO continues to offer services that you will not find them providing. Our bereavement services are open to the public, not just for our patients’ families, we even provide them to almost two dozen schools in our area. We also provide a children’s grief camp, Camp Hope, and did so last year while still coping with the pandemic. We offer Virtual Reality experience for our patients, the second in the country to do so, and maintain a patient fund to augment services and requests that Medicare and insurance will not cover.

We also provide a robust palliative care program for pre-hospice patients. However, as the challenge of C19 wanes, we find ourselves coping with a new one, in the ever-increasing shortage of nurses and home care aides. Retention and attraction of these essential healthcare workers is a huge problem in all healthcare and will continue for the foreseeable future. Yet, we are still blessed with a strong team and the most generous community support I have ever witnessed. This support is what makes these “extra” services possible! We are committed to making HNCO a great place to work and our team is looking forward to meeting these challenges and continuing to provide the best hospice care in the area to our patients and their families.

William “Bill” Kahl



Executive Director

## Hospice of North Central Ohio Provider Profiles



Dr. Kenelm McCormick is certified in hospice and palliative medicine and in family medicine. He earned his medical degree from Wright State University in Dayton. Dr. McCormick has been teaching family medicine, hospice and palliative medicine at local medical schools and residencies for over 20 years.

**Dr. Kenelm McCormick**  
HNCO Medical Director



A longtime supporter of hospice care and palliative medicine. Dr. William Elder attained his medical degree at Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton. Upon completion of a family practice residency at Wright State Affiliated Hospitals, Dr. Elder was board certified in the field of family practice.

**Dr. William Elder**  
HNCO Associate Medical Director



*Richland County Foundation (RCF) President Brady Groves and Ralph Tomassi, Chief Development Officer at Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO). HNCO established Memorial Endowment Fund at RCF.*

## **HNCO Endowment Funds Honor Donors, Provide Financial Stability**

Hospice of North Central Ohio has been and continues to be a leader among area non-profit organizations in their continued emphasis on the creation of endowment funds for operations and “core” mission programs and services.

Since 2015, HNCO has established 31 new endowment funds. These endowed funds are managed and distributed by area community foundations located in HNCO primary service areas.

### **The following is a listing of HNCO Endowed Funds:**

- The Sandra J. Rule Dauch Volunteer of the Year Fund
- The Susan & Dawn Petrone Memorial Gardens & Walkway Fund
- The Robert ‘Driz’ Young Fund
- The HNCO Agency Fund
- The Special Request Fund
- The Hendrickson Chaplaincy Fund
- The Betty Plank Fund
- The Robert L. Beverly Fund
- The Nancy Kopp Fund

- The HNCO Palliative Care Fund
- The Ripley H. & Donna L. Scurlock Fund
- The Ruth Lindsey Fund
- The HNCO Building & Facilities Fund
- The HNCO Emergency Fund
- The HNCO “We Honor Veterans” Fund
- The JoAnn Ford Watson Fund
- The Hire Community Bereavement Center Fund
- The HNCO Board of Directors Fund
- The Herbert L. Heyl Fund
- The HNCO Equipment Fund
- The Sally & Walter Dennis Fund
- The Joan & Dean Bartosic Fund
- The Mildred Cline Fund
- The HNCO General Operations Fund
- The Camp Hope Children’s Bereavement Camp Fund
- The James L. Wilson Fund
- The George & Ruth Gelsantier Fund
- The Wilbur Gaunder Fund
- The Friends of Hospice of Knox County Fund
- The Doris M. Zink Fund
- The Patricia “Trish” Rankin Fund
- The Charles & Doris Farina Fund
- The Frances JoAnn Kerschner Fund
- The Shirley Patterson Fund

For information on how you can establish a named endowment fund for Hospice of North Central Ohio, contact the HNCO Office of Development at 419-289-4859.

## **HNCO Receives \$35,907 Legacy Estate Gift from Galion Couple**

Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) has received a Legacy Estate Gift in the amount of \$35,907.00 from The Farina Family Trust. A portion of this gift will be used to support end-of-life, palliative care and bereavement programs and services provided by HNCO. In addition, The Charles A. & Doris G. Memorial Endowed Fund for HNCO has been established at The Richland County Foundation.

Charles and Doris Farina were longtime Galion residents. They were married in 1948 until Doris’s death in 2020. Charles and Doris were both employed in various capacities in Richland County. Charles was a retired police officer, businessman and a veteran of the US Army where he was a championship boxer. Doris was a realtor, volunteered and did charitable work throughout the area.

**Sandra J. Rule Dauch  
Volunteer-of-the-Year Award  
Recognizes Service Above Self**



Established in 2015 through a \$25,000 grant from The Richard & Sandra Dauch Foundation in Charlevoix, Michigan, The HNCO Volunteer of the Year Award is presented annually at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Breakfast to the volunteer who has exhibited outstanding dedication, service, and compassionate care to the agency.

The following HNCO volunteers have been recipients of this special award:

- 2016 - Betty Barker
- 2017 - Patricia "Trish" Rankin (posthumously)
- 2018 - Ruth Lindsey
- 2019 - Marie Poe
- 2020 - Gert Myers
- 2021 - Marge Armstrong
- 2022 - Jeanette Thomas

Those interested in volunteer opportunities at HNCO in Ashland County, Richland County, or Knox County may contact:



Danielle England, Volunteer Coordinator  
Email: [danielle.England@myhnco.org](mailto:danielle.England@myhnco.org)  
Website: [www.myhnco.org](http://www.myhnco.org)  
Phone: 419-685-4232

In 2022, over 170 volunteers supported our mission and purpose through 11,475 volunteer hours. We are grateful for the contribution of time each person gave.

**Danielle England**  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Electric Cooperative People Funds  
Continue to Provide Grants to HNCO**

Hospice of North Central Ohio is grateful for the significant support received annually from Electric Cooperatives in the HNCO service areas. During the 2022 fiscal year the following grants were approved:

**The Energy Cooperative Operation Round Up Foundation Inc., Newark, Ohio:**

-\$1,299.89 to fund the purchase of Video Monitors & Patient Scales.

-\$2,250.00 to fund the purchase of Memory Bears for Camp Hope children's bereavement camp.

-\$1,000.00 to fund the Knox Gratitude Picnic honoring veterans & first responders.

**The Firelands Electric Cooperative People's Fund, New London, Ohio:**

-\$1,199.00 to fund the purchase of CoaguChek Systems to monitor HNCO patients for bleeding.

**The Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Cooperative People Fund, Wellington, Ohio:**

-\$2,157.00 to fund the purchase of Desk Magnifying Lamps, Therapy Lights, Music Therapy Instruments and Absorbent Blankets for hospice patients.

**"Thank you (HNCO Nurse), she is an asset to your operation, I truly hope you know how valuable she really is. You could never overpay her. She is invaluable."**

**-HNCO Patient Review**

# Our Hospice Promise

## A Message From Teresa Wilkins, MBA, BSN, RN, Director of Clinical Services

As we celebrate and honor the legacy of Hospice of North Central Ohio/Hospice of Knox County, we want to express our gratitude to everyone who have supported and fueled our mission over the years. Thank you to all who have enabled us to keep our promise to patients and their families in the communities we serve. Our Hospice and Palliative Programs continue to provide high quality health services that are delivered with care, love, and compassion as we walk with our patients and families on their journey in life. We are proud to share that we have approximately 32 team members that are certified dementia practitioners, through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners, thanks to the Black Family Foundation. It is our desire to continue providing care that is specialized to meet the needs of all the population we serve. As we continue to fulfill the mission of the organization, providing peace of mind through comfort and compassionate care, we want to share with you all our promise to our patients, their families, and the community.

### Our Hospice Promise

We are honored to walk with you on this journey. Just like this beautiful field of flowers, as they bloom, so does hope. Our desire is to offer hope and help you live out life with love.

On this journey, always know that we care, and you are never alone. We promise to be patient, kind, and loving. We promise to listen and support you and your loved ones. We promise to provide peace of mind through comfort and compassionate care. And we promise to hold your hand at the time you need us the most.

We are here for you! Thank you for the honor and privilege to serve you.



**Teresa Wilkins, MBA, BSN, RN, Director of Clinical Services**



**Trevor Moreland, RN, WCC, Clinical Manager**



**Christine Murphy, RN, Clinical Resource, RN Educator**



**Richelle Workman, RN, QAPI Manager**



## Tree of Hope at Hospice of Knox County Honors Loved Ones

Hospice of Knox County, member of Hospice of North Central Ohio, hosted its annual Tree of Hope at our Knox County office on Monday, December 5th, at 5:30PM. A brief, meaningful ceremony took place to honor and remember loved ones who we have lost. An evergreen tree on our property was decorated with a star that was designed and donated by Kepple Sheet Metal. The celebration included music and words in remembrance of loved ones.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Ross Brothers Salvage Inc., Park National Bank

Kathy Wantland said, "We hope that this service provided an opportunity for viewers to pause and reflect on those loved ones that have passed." Anyone needing extra support with their loss is encouraged to reach out to us at Hospice of Knox County.

## Ashland's Tree of Lights is an HNCO Tradition

Hospice of North Central Ohio hosted its traditional Tree of Lights at our Ashland headquarters at 1021 Dauch Drive on Tuesday, December 6th, at 5:30PM. A brief, meaningful ceremony took place to honor and remember loved ones who have died. The celebration included music, readings, and luminaries in remembrance of loved ones. This tree remained lit throughout the holiday season, in quiet remembrance of those who are no longer here.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Grandpa's Cheese Barn & Sweeties Chocolates, Guenther Mechanical.



## HNCO Provides Rewarding Employment Opportunities

*A Message from Candace Singh, Director of Human Resources*

Make every day meaningful for those who have days that are limited. Our focus is on a quality, customized care plan to create a comfortable end-of-life experience. Our patients receive a compassionate, team-based approach to meet the needs of the patient and their family's unique needs.



Join a team where your hard work pays off in more ways than your paycheck. We are a family where teamwork is celebrated. As you build your future at HNCO, you will quickly learn that giving patients an end-of-life experience on their terms is at the heart of what we do.

We are committed to helping our patients spend the rest of their days comfortable and free from pain. Supporting the community along with our patients and families has been a part of our culture since 1988.

You will find that your work in our patients' homes and facilities deeply impacts the quality of their daily lives. Our staff has the freedom of working independently while benefiting from the support of expert and knowledgeable team members. Please express interest in our employment opportunities by visiting [myhnco.org](http://myhnco.org) and become part of a caring, professional team!

### Current job opportunities include:

- Registered Nurses (RNs) – Case Managers, After Hours Team, PRN
- Palliative Nurse Practitioner - Part time

### Benefits Include:

- Generous training
- Full medical benefits package
- Generous mileage reimbursement
- Continuing education funds
- Freedom to work independently, but with the support of a high-functioning team
- Competitive salary
- Generous PTO
- 403b retirement savings plan with company match
- Company-provided scrub tops

For more information please call: 419-289-4876, or email: [candace.singh@myhnco.org](mailto:candace.singh@myhnco.org)

## Hospice of North Central Ohio Bereavement Team

If you have experienced the death of a loved one, desire a safe space to process grief, and need assurance that you are not alone please reach out to our team.

**Becky Pfister, MSW, LISW**

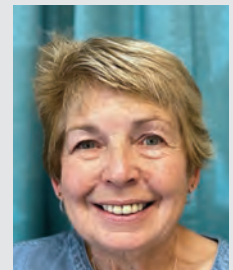
Phone: 419-281-7107 or Email: [becky.pfister@myhnco.org](mailto:becky.pfister@myhnco.org)

**Kathy Wantland, BSW, LSW**

Phone: 740-397-5188 or Email: [kathy.wantland@myhnco.org](mailto:kathy.wantland@myhnco.org)



**Becky Pfister, MSW, LISW**



**Kathy Wantland, BSW, LSW**

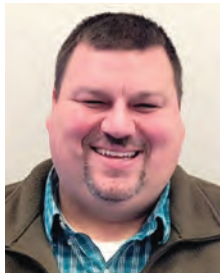
## Life's Seasons Palliative Care Provides Support, Education, and Relief During Chronic Illness

Life's Seasons Palliative Care program, established in 2015, improves the quality of lives of hundreds of patients annually who have chronic diseases by controlling symptoms, pain, and stress.

Certified nurse practitioners partner with the patient's primary care physicians to extend care into his or her home or care facility.

Palliative care differs from hospice care in that it may be provided for anyone with a serious illness, at any age and at any stage of illness. One can receive palliative care along with curative treatment, therefore it is not dependent on prognosis.

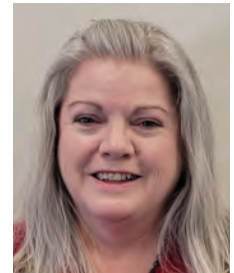
If you or someone you know would like more information on Life's Seasons Palliative Care program, call 1-800-952-2207.



**Brad Bostic, CNP**



**Lynn Trease, CNP**



**Brenda Dilts, RN**

## HNCO Life's Seasons Palliative Care Adds Medical Director



Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) is pleased to welcome Dr. Aaron Young as our new Palliative Care Medical Director.

The Palliative Care (PC) Medical Director role is a new

addition to our Medical Director ranks which include a Primary Medical Director for the overall agency and two associate medical directors, one for Richland and one for Knox counties.

The PC Medical Director is responsible for oversight of our Palliative Program which has two full-time NPs currently.

Dr. Young is a Board Certified provider in Internal Medicine, Nephrology and Critical Care. He runs a Kidney Clinic at UH Samaritan Medical Center in Ashland. Dr. Young is from the area and lives in Perrysville with his wife Hillary, and children Holland, Addison, Asher, and Hudson.

Bill Kahl, HNCO Executive Director said, "We are thrilled to have Dr. Young join our Ashland Palliative Care team, he is well respected, especially in the senior community and will be a real asset for our patients."



## Support HNCO Through Rewards Program

### Kroger Community Rewards

HNCO has been a member organization and benefited from the Kroger Community Rewards Program since 2015. If you shop at Kroger and have a Rewards Card, please consider signing up to donate to HNCO. While your purchase price will not change, a portion of your purchases will automatically be donated to Hospice of North Central Ohio.

Simply complete these easy steps:

1. Go to <http://www.kroger.com>.
2. Log in. (If you have never registered your rewards card, do so at this point.)
3. Click the 'Community' tab, then the 'Community Rewards' tab.
4. Click on 'Enroll Now' then 'Save.'
5. You will be asked to identify the agency to which you would like to donate. Type #HN541 or search by typing the word "hospice" and click on Hospice of North Central Ohio. That's it!

**Celebrate World Hospice and Palliative Care Day on Saturday, October 14, 2023.**

*The goal is to improve the quality of life for people affected by serious health problems.*

## Charity Outing Benefits HNCO

Reflections Salon & Spa owner, Amy Forrest established a charity golf outing in memory of former owner Linda Horning in 2004 as a business team building event. Proceeds from the event are directed to a local non-profit organization. The most recent outing generated \$4,900.00 which will be donated to Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) to support end-of-life care.

According to Amy Forrest, "So many of our families have experienced the compassionate care provided by HNCO that the idea of supporting their special mission resonated with everyone associated with this outing. Many hands go into the planning and implementation of a Charity Golf Outing, we are thankful for our many sponsors, participants, and volunteers."

## 2023 HNCO Event Calendar

April 13	Knox Spring Memorial Service
April 20	Ashland Spring Memorial Service
April 27	Richland Spring Memorial Service
May 15	No-Show Ball
June 14	What Goes 'Round Thrift Shoppe Volunteer Luncheon
June 16, 17, 23, 24	2023 Camp Hope
July 26	Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
August 17	Sending Hope Butterfly Release
August 24	Knox Gratitude Picnic, Mt. Vernon (Event for Veterans / First Responders)
September 1	Employee Picnic
September 18	Veterans' Service at Ashland County Fair
September 25	Golf Outing Westbrook Country Club (Richland Co.)
October 5	Knox Fall Memorial Service
TBD	He(Arts) for Hospice Art Auction
October 12	Ashland Fall Memorial Service
October 19	Richland Fall Memorial Service
December	Ashland Memorial Ornament Program
December	Knox Memorial Ornament Program
December 4	Tree of Hope in Mt. Vernon
December 5	Tree of Lights in Ashland
TBD	Tree of Lights in New London
TBD	Tree of Lights Shelby (Richland)

## HNCO Financial Update

HNCO thanks generous individuals like you for your charitable support. It is our honor to recognize and thank all our donors.

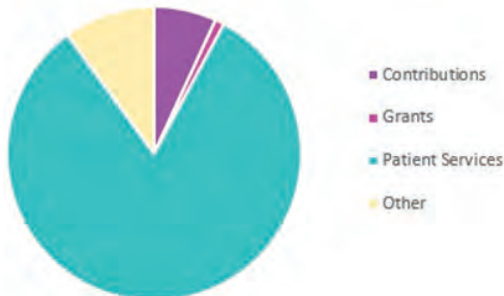
HNCO Thanks everyone who contributed in the categories below:

- Grants
- United Way
- Annual Giving
- Special Events/Fundraisers
- Volunteers
- What Goes' Round Thrift Shoppe
- Foundations
- Memorial Giving
- Major Gifts
- Estates
- Board Members

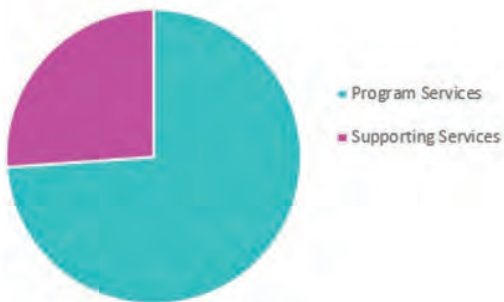
For the 2022 year, HNCO received 1172 donations from 837 donors.

This enhances the quality of life for our patients and their families. We couldn't do it without you. We are here for people, not for profit.

**Income 2021**



**Expenses 2021**



## Annual Ruth Lindsey Charity Golf Outing Was a Success

The 29th Annual Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) Ruth Lindsey Charity Golf Outing raised over \$16,000 for end-of-life care on September 26th at Westbrook Country Club. Over 100 golfers participated in the outing which was sponsored by Park National Bank.



Ralph Tomassi, HNCO Chief Development Officer stated: "We are indeed grateful for the extraordinary support provided by the many sponsors and participants that contribute to the success of this annual event."

Thank you to Noah Gangi (Marketing), Volunteer Coordinator Danielle England and our family of volunteers, and the Golf Outing committee of Chris Laux, Tom McGee, John Shultz, Denny Smalley, and Dwight McElfresh.

We are grateful for Kelly Prince, Tawna England, Ruth Lindsey and all those who helped get the golf registration mailing out on time in August.

### 2022 Event Sponsors:

- Ashtone Packaging
- Country Court
- Gene Haberman
- Levering Management Inc.
- Lighthouse Wealth Mgmt.
- MWD Logistics
- RCI Mechanical
- Schoonover Industries
- Brethren Care Inc.
- Energy Cooperative
- Jamison Well Drilling
- Licking Rural
- Mechanics Bank
- Park National Bank
- Dr. JoAnn Ford Watson
- Spreng Smith Agency

HNCO board members in attendance included Chris Laux, Ruth Lindsey, Tom McGee, and John Shultz. Special thanks to John Shultz for the use of his truck to transport.



Photo: Park National Bank team, Bob Boss, Brian Hinkle, Matt Malone and Andy Van Horn



Photo: Marge Armstrong, Ruth Lindsey (Trustee Emeritus), William Kahl (HNCO Executive Director)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

**The 2023 HNCO  
Ruth Lindsey Charity Golf Outing,  
September 25th at Westbrook Country Club.**

**SPONSORED BY: PARK NATIONAL BANK**

**Kathy Wantland Wins Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice 2022 Award of Excellence**

The Award of Excellence recognizes the licensed professional who is outstanding in his/her field. This nominee must have at least three years of experience in home care or hospice patient care (past or present position) and must be currently employed by a member agency.

Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) is proud to announce that Kathy Wantland, BSW, LSW, is the 2022 winner.



Kathy Wantland is currently our Bereavement Coordinator with Hospice of North Central Ohio. Kathy began working with Hospice of Knox County in 2000 and continued her work when Hospice of Knox County merged with Hospice of North Central Ohio in 2014. Over the years Kathy has worked in the home as a social worker for hospice by assisting with admissions, performing psychosocial assessments, and supporting the families emotionally through end of life. Kathy later transitioned into the bereavement coordinator role and has done an exceptional job helping bereaved individuals navigate through the stages of grief. Kathy's demonstration of compassion and care is exemplified as she meets every individual where they are during their stage of grief, in an environment that is most comfortable for them. Kathy believes grief support is essential to all those grieving in our community.



## Eagles Club Continues Support of HNCO Mission

Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) representatives, Ralph Tomassi and Noah Gangi, present a plaque to Steve Bates in recognition of the Fraternal Order of Ashland Eagles.

For the past twelve years, the Eagles Club has held annual events to raise funds for HNCO including casino nights, pie auctions, food booths and poker runs. The gifts will help support HNCO's bereavement programs which include "Camp Hope" children's bereavement camp and a multitude of bereavement services provided by HNCO to families throughout our service areas. These services and programs include individual and group support groups, school groups and individual counseling.

## Elks of Mount Vernon Lodge #140 Continues Support for HNCO/Hospice of Knox County

HNCO/Hospice of Knox County representatives, Becky Pfister and Tara Severance, presented a plaque to Laura Webster and Joan Fithian in recognition of Elks of Mount Vernon Lodge #140 for their continued support.

For many years, Elks of Mount Vernon has provided annual support to HNCO/Hospice of Knox County for its community bereavement programs and Camp Hope, a bereavement camp for children who have experienced loss. Laura and Joan both expressed how essential and important HNCO/Hospice of Knox County services are to the Knox County community. Laura recalled one of her family members attended Camp Hope 20 years ago. "Camp Hope was great for her and the grief counseling a necessary and valuable service," stated Laura. She added, "We like supporting and staying in our community!"

## HNCO Receives Grant from the Russell and Mary Gimbel Foundation

The board of trustees of the Russell and Mary Gimbel Foundation, Mansfield, Ohio has approved a grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 in support of HNCO's Special Request program.

HNCO's Special Request program provides financial support in the form of reasonable requests from hospice and palliative care patients and their families for a multitude of items and services not covered by insurance. These special requests typically range from installing needed handicap ramps and railings at a patient's residence to paying for pet care and personal hygiene products. The grant will be used to fund special requests for hospice and palliative care patients residing in Richland County.

The Russell and Mary Gimbel Foundation was established in 1989. The Gimbels memory is perpetuated through the many grants that continue to benefit charitable organizations like HNCO.

## Colonial City Moose Lodge #2555 of Mount Vernon Continues Support for HNCO/Hospice of Knox County

HNCO/Hospice of Knox County representatives, Becky Pfister, Kathy Wantland, and Tara Severance, presented a plaque to Michael Smith in recognition of Colonial Moose Lodge #2555 of Mount Vernon for their continued support.

For many years, Colonial City Moose Lodge #2555 has provided annual support to HNCO/Hospice of Knox County for its community bereavement programs and Camp Hope, a bereavement camp for children who have experienced loss.

"Thank you to Colonial Moose Lodge for being so generous and for their support through the years. The funds provided by the Lodge are utilized for Camp Hope and our community bereavement services. It is because of the generosity of Colonial Moose Lodge and other supporters that we can provide a wide array of services to our community, free of charge," said Kathy Wantland, HNCO Bereavement Coordinator (BSW, LSW) and Becky Pfister, HNCO Support Services Manager (LISW, MSW).

## HNCO Appreciates the 2022 Event and Program Sponsors

<b>No-Show Ball</b>	The Burgett Family Foundation
<b>Richland Spring Memorial Service</b>	Kelly Prince
<b>What Goes 'Round Volunteer Recognition Luncheon</b>	Park National Bank
<b>Camp Hope</b>	Ashland Eagles Club New London Rotary
<b>Knox Gratitude Picnic</b>	VFW of Ohio Charities Energy Cooperative
<b>Employee Picnic</b>	Josh Lambert Mary Knowlton
<b>Veteran's Service</b>	Tom and Ann Wurster VFW of Ohio Charities
<b>Ruth Lindsey Charity Golf Outing</b>	Park National Bank MWD Logistics Inc. RCI Mechanical, Inc Brian Stafford Plumbing Dr. JoAnn Ford Watson Jamison Well Drilling Mechanics Bank
<b>Knox Fall Memorial Service</b>	Snyder Funeral Homes Mark & Denise Ramser
<b>Richland Memorial Service</b>	Snyder Funeral Homes
<b>Volunteer Recognition Breakfast</b>	The Dauch Foundation
<b>Annual Thanksgiving Benefit</b>	Southside Diner
<b>Knox County Tree of Hope</b>	Ross Brothers Salvage Inc.
<b>Ashland Tree of Lights</b>	Grandpa's Cheese Barn Guenther Mechanical



## Annual HNCO Camp Hope Children's Bereavement Camp

The 26th annual HNCO Camp Hope Children's Bereavement camp took place at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp in Perrysville Ohio in June. Camp Hope is a grief camp for children ages 6-17 who have experienced the loss of a loved one through death.

This special camp is provided by HNCO free-of-charge (except for a small deposit) thanks to the generous support of the following donors:

- \*The United Fund of Shelby
- \*The Ashland Eagles Club #2178
- \*Mohican Area Community Fund
- \*S.N. & Ada Ford Foundation
- \*Mark & Denise Ramser
- Mike & Jan Ringle
- Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
- Diane Henwood
- Joseph & Carol Harding
- Teresa Wilkins
- Marge Armstrong
- Randy & Sara Lovell
- Tyson Hall
- Monica Robinson
- John & Karen Feltman

- \*New London's Rotary Area United Fund
- \*Colonial City Moose Lodge #2555
- \*Ohio State Eagles
- \*Sally Sprinkle
- Snyder Funeral Homes
- Richland County Foundation
- Bob & Debbie Collins
- St. Paul Lutheran Church
- David & Dana Matos
- Todd & Michelle Wiltrout
- Ann Henry
- Knox County Foundation
- Rick Stewart
- Kera Clinedist

\*Denotes Sponsorship Level Gift.

For information on Camp Hope call 800-952-2207.

## HNCO Heritage Society

Established in 2015, The HNCO Heritage Society recognizes all those who have provided for HNCO in their estate through a life income gift, trust, life insurance, bequest, or other legacy estate gift:

- Marge Armstrong
- Dean & Joan Bartosic
- Robert Beverly
- Sally K. & Walter L. Dennis
- Lorinda Dsrosiers
- Lucille Egyed
- Ervin Fackler
- Mary K. Freil-Fazzi
- Robert Glasser
- Laura Hart
- Donald Herr
- Herbert Heyl
- Joan Hines
- Oscar "Bill" Jarvis
- Mabel Jeffries
- Kathy Johnson
- Martha Mann
- Dean & Marg McBurney
- Walter Payne
- Shirley Patterson
- Betty Plank
- Margaret Poland
- Patricia "Trish" Rankin
- Richard Roberts
- Ripley & Donna Scurlock
- Richard Stauffer
- Robert Driz Young
- Richard Sauder
- Doris Zink
- Charles & Doris Farina
- Frances Kerscher

**"I would especially like to thank all the caregivers, nurses, and aides who were all so very compassionate and caring and became a part of our family...they are very special people. I will miss them all.**

***-HNCO Patient Review***

## HNCO is Proud to be Partners with We Honor Veterans Program

Hospice of North Central Ohio has been involved in the We Honor Veterans program for over a decade. During this time HNCO has focused on honoring those who served our country. If a veteran on our service is accepting of a Veteran's Pinning Ceremony, then staff or volunteers over the years have helped with this recognition. Every fall, HNCO reaches out to nursing facilities in our service area to offer veterans recognition materials to honor veterans residing in facilities. The goal of this community outreach is to recognize veterans that might not otherwise be able to make it to a recognition event for Veterans Day in November.



The We Honor Veterans program developed through a partnership between the Veterans Administration (VA) and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). The goal was to raise awareness amongst end-of-life care organizations to the needs of veterans.

Through the years HNCO has been involved to help raise awareness in the community for the needs of veterans. We are grateful to all of our community partners for all they have done to assist with our Gratitude Picnic in Knox County and the Veterans Ceremony at the Ashland County Fair. It is wonderful to see such appreciation from our community for the veterans who have given so much.

## HNCO Circle of Hope Club

All gifts made to HNCO are needed and appreciated. The “Circle of Hope” Club was established in 2022 to recognize annual gifts of \$1,000 or more in the fiscal year (January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022).

Circle of hope members receive invitations to special events, updates throughout the year, and special recognition in the HNCO Annual Report/Newsletter.

2022 Hospice of North Central Ohio Circle of Hope members:

- Guenther Mechanical
- Ross Brothers Salvage
- Reflections Salon & Spa
- Grant Milliron
- Anonymous
- Park National Bank
- Ashland County Community Foundation
- Energy Electric Cooperative Round Up Foundation
- Snyder Funeral Homes
- Russell & Mary Gimbel Foundation
- S.N. & Ada Ford Foundation
- Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Cooperative People Fund
- The Ohio State Eagles
- Knox County Quilt Guild
- James Stifferlin
- Mount Vernon Elks Lodge #140
- R&M Southside Diner
- Colonial Moose Lodge #2555
- Shirley Burgett
- Donald Monson
- Sally Sprinkle
- Bill Buckingham
- McDonald's Corporation
- Brenda K. Bailey-Hainer
- Liz Myers
- Milliron Iron & Metal
- Colonial City Moose Lodge
- Knox County Foundation
- Scott Cooper
- MWD Logistics
- Grandpa's Cheese Barn & Sweeties Chocolates
- Mike & Carolyn Braddock
- The Samaritan Hospital Foundation
- Richland County Foundation
- The Hire Family Foundation
- Robert & Esther Black Foundation
- Firelands Electric Cooperative People Fund
- Tom & Ann Wurster
- New London Rotary Area United Fund
- United Fund of Shelby
- Mohican Area Community Fund
- The Milton & Beulah Young Foundation
- Alisa Tankersley
- Jacquelyn Boyd Trust
- Dick & Ronda Poorbaugh
- Jon's Plumbing & Heating
- Rod Masters
- Richard Polig
- Family of Mary Lou Imel
- Ashland VFW Post #8586
- Mike & Tammy Buckingham
- Glenn Bennett
- Kathryn Smith
- Joan Crissinger
- The Burgett Family Foundation
- Shelby Community Foundation
- Dean & Marsha Rinehart
- Cody Stafford
- Dennis Golden
- Dr. JoAnn Ford Watson

### CELEBRATE NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY ON NOVEMBER 15TH!

*In 1986, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed November 15th as National Philanthropy Day, and communities throughout the world have celebrated the occasion since to signify the importance of working together for the common good.*





## Hire Foundation Approves Grant for HNCO

The Hire Family Foundation, Rocky River, Ohio has approved a grant in the amount of \$14,216.00 to fund the construction of a new exterior terrace that will enhance programs and services offered through the Jack and Phyllis Hire Community Bereavement Center at Hospice of North Central Ohio.

Established through a grant from the Hire Family Foundation in 2020, the Jack & Phyllis Hire Community Bereavement Center is located at HNCO's corporate headquarters at 1021 Dauch Drive in Ashland, Ohio. The center is one of only a handful of such facilities in north central Ohio. The Mission of the center is to assist the bereaved as they move through their grief process by providing a multitude of special support groups, education, lectures and training, children's bereavement camp and individual grief support to anyone in Richland-Ashland County.

## HNCO Receives Ford Foundation Grant

The S.N. & Ada Ford Foundation has approved a grant in the amount of \$5,000 in support of Hospice of North Central Ohio's Camp Hope children's bereavement camp. Camp Hope, created by HNCO in 1996 is a children's bereavement camp for children ages 6-17 who have experienced the loss of a loved one through death. The annual 4-day camp is held at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp.

Becky Pfister, HNCO Lead Social Worker/MSW stated, "We are grateful for this much-needed grant from the Ford Foundation. It will be used to support this special camp which provides a safe and supportive environment for grieving children". Ralph Tomassi, Chief Development Officer added, "Ada Ford was obviously an extraordinary visionary and philanthropist. She recognized that her philanthropy could perpetuate through the formation of this trust fund which she established to support charitable organizations like HNCO."

## Milton & Beulah Young Foundation Approves Hospice Grant

The trustees of the Milton R. & Beulah M. Young Foundation, Mansfield, Ohio have approved a grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 in support of Hospice of North Central Ohio. The grant will be used to fund the purchase of Vital Sign Logbooks for Palliative Care patients and Protective Changing Pads for hospice patients. In addition, a portion of the grant will be directed for the cost of HNCO's annual Camp Hope children's bereavement camp, which is scheduled for June 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp.

Established in 2000, the Milton R. & Beulah Young Foundation focuses its charitable support to non-profit organizations in Richland and Ashland counties whose mission is to help individuals in need in the areas of health, education and welfare.



## HNCO Garden and Walkway Memorial Donations

Ruth Lindsey Memorial Gardens / Katherine Hess Memorial Walkway

HNCO's Ruth Lindsey Memorial Gardens / Katherine Hess Walkway provides families with a meaningful and tangible opportunity to perpetuate the memory of a loved one through the purchase of engraved bricks, pavers, trees and benches.

The following are recently subscribed memorials:

### Memorial Trees

- In Memory of Jay Myers (Liz Myers)
- In Memory of John Bauer (Chloe Bauer)
- In Memory of Paul William Crissinger (Joan Crissinger)

### Engraved Memorial Bricks

- In Memory of Joan Ronk (Ralph & Betty Jo Tomassi)
- In Memory of Gerald Arden Hawk
- In Honor of John Johnson (HNCO Volunteer)
- In Memory of Kenneth Tankersley (Alisa Tankersley)
- In Memory of Ken Donelson (Ralph & Betty Jo Tomassi)
- In Memory of Dorothy Kern (Katie Allman)
- In Memory of Patricia Hinz (David Vandersomen)
- In Memory of Ross William Oehling
- In Memory of Imagine Yoho (Knowlton Family)
- In Memory of Carl Fulmer (Chris Murphy)
- In Memory of Richard Marshall (Chris Murphy)
- In Memory of Debra Dilgard (Richard Dilgard)

**“My mother loved the nurses that gave her care, they were very friendly and supportive. She loved the social worker that visited her. Very good care!” -HNCO Patient Review**

## HNCO Receives Black Family Foundation Grant

The Robert & Esther Black Family Foundation Fund at the Richland County Community Foundation, Mansfield, Ohio has approved a grant in the amount of \$7,600.00 to fund the training of front-line caregivers in Alzheimer's and Dementia Care at Hospice of North Central Ohio.

Teresa Wilkins, HNCO Director of Clinical Services stated, “This special training will allow our frontline staff to apply for Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. Hospice and Palliative healthcare providers with expertise in Alzheimer's and Dementia can better help families understand what to expect in both the early and final stages of the disease.”

## Park National Bank Sponsors 6th Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon for Thrift Shoppe Volunteers

The 6th annual 'What Goes Round' Thrift Shoppe Volunteer Recognition Luncheon took place at DLX restaurant in downtown Mansfield on Friday, May 13th. Approximately 50 volunteers and staff were in attendance. Special thanks to Park National for sponsorship of the 6th annual Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.



*Photo: Park National Bank's Director of Home Lending Chris Hiner accepts a plaque from HNCO Chief Development Officer Ralph Tomassi and What Goes 'Round Thrift Shoppe Assistant Manager Sarah Bennett.*

What Goes 'Round Thrift Shoppe is in the historic Carrousel District of Mansfield, Ohio. One of the nicest secondhand stores in the area, it is known for its eclectic atmosphere, high-end products, vintage treasures, and wonderful staff of volunteers.

All proceeds support HNCO. The treasures you purchase at our thrift shoppe help support the patient and family services in our entire service area, so you're giving back just by shopping in our store.



## New HNCO Board Member Greg Emmons

Hospice of North Central Ohio (HNCO) is pleased to welcome Greg Emmons, CFP, to our board of directors.

"We are pleased to welcome Greg to our board of directors. He brings a multitude of experience and skill sets to our organization and is a person of high integrity," said Ralph V. Tomassi Jr., Chief Development Officer.

Greg is a 2007 Ashland University graduate, where he studied business and finance and was a captain on the Varsity Basketball team. Greg is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP). He has over 13 years of experience in the finance industry. Greg is a graduate of the 2016 Leadership Ashland class and serves on the board at Associated Charities. He is married to Melissa Emmons, and they have three kids, Georgia, Graham, and Beckett.

## HNCO Receives VFW Gift

Hospice of North Central Ohio has received a gift in the amount of \$5,000.00 from The VFW Post #8586 in Perrysville, Ohio. The gift was facilitated through the VFW of Ohio Charities, Columbus, Ohio and will be used to support HNCO programs and services for veterans as part of the We Honor Veterans initiative.

Ralph Tomassi, HNCO Chief Development Officer/Senior Administrator stated, "HNCO has and will continue to provide special programs for veterans in our care and throughout the community. Specifically, this grant will help fund the annual Veterans Memorial Service scheduled for September 18th at the Ashland County fairgrounds. We continue to be grateful for the generous support we receive annually through VFW Post #8586 and VFW of Ohio Charities."

## HNCO Employees Help Spread the Mission

### HNCO Chaplains

Hospice Chaplains provide spiritual and emotional support to patients, families and care teams throughout the end-of-life journey.

*Thanks to our HNCO Chaplains: Reggie Cureton, Anne Hughes, Dave Matos.*

### HNCO Social Worker

The role of the hospice social workers is to advocate for each patient's end-of-life wishes and help individuals address the emotional aspects of late-stage illness. Hospice social workers also assist families in identifying other available local services and resources for additional support.

*Thanks to our HNCO Social Workers: Cindy Hudnut, Hannah Nye, Stacy Simon*



### HNCO Hospice Health Aides

Hospice health aides perform a combination of light housekeeping and personal hygiene duties, including shopping, bathing, dressing, feeding, hair care, and oral care for patients.

*Thanks to HNCO Health Aides: Lindsay Carroll, Ashley Dunham, Gina Goon, Deb Layton, Kristee Richards, Donna Swiger.*

### HNCO Hospice Nurses

Hospice Nurses organize and direct the hospice plan of care. They provide treatments, and ongoing support to the patient, patient's caregivers, and community members through the day and after hours. HNCO nurses are diligent and professional when collaborating with resources in the community as they plan and direct services to meet the needs of individuals and families within their homes or the place an individual calls home.

*HNCO Nurses are a cut above the rest: Erica Abel, Kathy Aduddell, Katie Allman, Megan Buckingham, Brenda Dilts, Sheila Eaton, Debbie Harris, Gretchen Kincaid, Tammy Laforest, Deb Leber, Devon Litt, Sherry Lohr, Brittany Oliver, Tara Puckett, Katie Ramsey, Destiney Walters, Brittany Wickham, Brice Wiltrout.*

## New London Rotary's Area United Fund Approves Hospice Grant

The New London Rotary's Area United Fund committee has selected Hospice of North Central Ohio as one of the area's agencies to receive a 2023 grant. The grant in the amount of \$1,200.00 is designated for Camp Hope children's bereavement camp, which is scheduled for June 16, 17, 23 and 24th at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp in southern Ashland County. The camp was established by HNCO in 1996 to provide a safe and caring environment for grieving children ages 6-17 who have lost a loved one through death, to tell their story. The camp is staffed by a team of qualified bereavement counselors and trained volunteers.



## MACF Provides Grant for HNCO Camp Hope

The Mohican Area Community Fund has awarded Hospice of North Central Ohio a grant in the amount of \$900.00 through MAFC's annual campaign which provides support to local charities and non-profit organizations that serve the Greater Mohican community.

The grant will be used to support HNCO's Camp Hope children's bereavement camp which is held annually in June at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp. HNCO created Camp Hope in 1996 to address a growing need to provide grieving children with a safe and supportive environment to express their feelings and share their story. Since its inception, Camp Hope has served the needs of over 1,000 grieving children who have experienced a loss through death.

## HNCO Receives United Fund of Shelby Grant

The United Fund of Shelby, Ohio has successfully completed their 2022 fund-raising campaign and allocated \$1,500.00 from the proceeds for HNCO's Camp Hope children's bereavement camp. The camp, established by HNCO in 1996, is held annually at Pleasant Hill Outdoor Camp. Becky Pfister, HNCO Social Services Supervisor stated, "We are indeed grateful to the United Fund of Shelby for their continued support of this special program. HNCO could not provide this much-needed program to grieving children without the generous support received through charitable gifts and grants."

## HNCO Annual Church Support

- Amity United Methodist Church
- Ashland Church of the Nazarene
- Bladensburg Church of Christ
- Central Christian Church
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Green Valley United Methodist Church
- Mount Perry United Methodist Church
- Park Street Brethren Church
- Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
- Saint Paul Lutheran Church
- Shelby Council of Churches
- Union Grove Church of Christ
- Utica Presbyterian Church



## Release a Butterfly Today and Make a Memory Forever!

Hospice of Knox County and Hospice of North Central Ohio invite you to participate in "Sending Hope", a special service of remembrance. After a brief memorial service, we will release live butterflies to honor and remember your loved ones. The names of those we are honoring will be read during the memorial service. Butterflies are \$20 each. You are invited to purchase a butterfly (or multiple butterflies) using the website below. Deadline is August 1.

[www.myhnco.org/butterfly-event-2023](http://www.myhnco.org/butterfly-event-2023)

Proceeds from this event will support patient care and bereavement services. Our mission is to provide peace of mind and comfort through compassionate care.

You are invited to bring a blanket or chair for your comfort. Transportation will be available from the parking area to the site of the event for those who need assistance. The gardens open at 4:30PM and close at 6:30PM. The service is at 5:30PM.

Schnormeier Gardens  
8701 Laymon Road  
Gambier, OH 43022

August 17  
4:30-6:30PM

Thank You to our Sponsor:  
Schnormeier Gardens



SCAN TO  
ORDER  
YOUR  
BUTTERFLY



**I (we) would like to support Hospice of North Central Ohio.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Gift Amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Designation:**

- Camp Hope (2023) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Life's Seasons Palliative Care \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Special Request \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Endowment Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Memorial Gift in memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- Unrestricted (use where need is greatest)
- Please send me information on the Ruth Lindsey Memorial Gardens and Walkway Program.
- Please send me information on the Knox Memorial Garden (Mount Vernon).
- Please contact me regarding including HNCO in my estate plan.
- I (We) have included HNCO in our estate plan.

Make checks payable to: Hospice of North Central Ohio, 1021 Dauch Drive, Ashland, Ohio 44805

The Internal Revenue Service classifies Hospice of North Central Ohio as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Gifts to HNCO are tax deductible as allowed by law. HNCO Tax ID # 34-1491502

**Questions:** Contact Ralph V. Tomassi Jr., Chief Development Officer at 419-289-4859 or [ralph.tomassi@myhnco.org](mailto:ralph.tomassi@myhnco.org)

**Ways to Support Hospice of North Central Ohio**

Remember HNCO in your estate planning. Leave a gift in your will or name HNCO as a beneficiary of your IRA, pension plan or life insurance policy.

Provide a memorial gift as a thoughtful remembrance of a loved one.

Donate your gently used home furnishings, decorative items and collectibles to What Goes 'Round Thrift Shoppe, 113 North Main Street, Mansfield, Ohio. 419-522-2890

Memorialize or honor a loved one with a brick, bench, or tree in the Ruth Lindsey Memorial Garden & Walkway.

Sponsor and/or participate in one of our 2023 special events.

**Consider Making Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) to HNCO**

With passage of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act of 2015, the QCD provision is now a permanent part of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you are age 72 or older, IRS rules require you to take a minimum distribution (RMD) each year from your tax-deferred retirement accounts.

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA payable directly to a qualified 501(c)(3) charity like HNCO. These QCD amounts distributed to charities can be counted towards satisfying your RMD for the year. You may distribute up to \$100,000 and the QMD is excluded from your taxable income.

Consult with your tax advisor to determine whether your IRA qualifies for QMDs.



Hospice of North Central Ohio is a community-based, non-profit agency. Hospice and palliative care services are provided to those who need them regardless of complexity of illness or ability to pay. Complimentary grief support, educational services, and programs enhance the health and well being of the entire community.

Certified Medicare/Medicaid hospice, licensed in Ohio.

**Hospice of Ashland County**

1021 Dauch Drive  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

**Hospice of Knox County**

17700 Coshocton Road  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

**Hospice of Richland County**

2131 Park Avenue West (Suite 400)  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906



**Life's Seasons Palliative Care**

2131 Park Avenue West (Suite 400)  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906



**Cover Artwork**

Special thanks to Dianne Hammontree, local artist and HNCO volunteer, for the beautiful drawing used for the 2023 Newsletter Cover.



115 North Main Street  
Mansfield, OH 44902

**Thanks for all you do!**

Bring in this coupon and receive \$5 off your next purchase at What Goes 'Round Thrift Shoppe!

*Expires: October 1, 2023*

**Store Hours:**

Monday – Friday: 10:00AM – 4:00PM  
Saturday: 10:00AM – 2:00PM



HNCO is a proud community partner of the United Way of Ashland and Knox County.

## HNCO Leadership Team

- William Kahl, Executive Director
- Teresa Wilkins, Director of Clinical Services
- Ralph Tomassi, Jr., Chief Development Officer
- Candace Singh, Director of Human Resources
- Kim Giffin, Director of Finance

- Noel Alden, Treasurer
- Amy Boyd
- Father Mark Hammond
- Joshua Lambert
- Jeanne Phillip
- Marge Armstrong
- Bruce Hawkins
- Michelle Mann
- Sabrina Pugh

## HNCO Board of Directors

- Mary Knowlton, President
- Chris Laux, Past President
- Amy Boyd, Vice President
- Greg Emmons, Treasurer
- John Boyd, Secretary
- Sabrina Pugh
- Bruce Hawkins
- Todd Snyder
- Rev. Dr. JoAnn Christine Ford Watson
- Ruth Lindsey, Emeritus
- John Shultz
- Thomas McGee

## Hospice Physicians

- Dr. Kenelm McCormick, Medical Director
- Dr. Ajay Chawla, Hospice of Richland County
- Dr. William Elder, Hospice of Knox County
- Dr. Aaron Young, Life's Seasons (Palliative Care)

## Marketing Team



Tara Severance, *Liaison*



Noah Gangi, *Sr. Liaison*

## Friends of Hospice of Knox County Advisory Board

- Brenda George, President
- Diane Henwood, Vice President

