



HOSPICE *Happenings*

Providing physical, emotional and spiritual support to terminally ill patients and their families with free around the clock registered nursing availability and trained volunteers.

vhocc.org

Volunteer Spotlight



Rosalinda Castiglioni

More than 30 years ago, bereavement volunteer Rosalinda Castiglioni's husband died following an extended hospitaliza-

tion. Rosalinda was raising a two-year-old daughter and working full-time at a university in Taiwan. **"After I lost him, I started healing by learning from the experiences of others, appreciating each person's journey and sharing. As a result, I continue to heal and more than I ever could alone.** The VHOCC Grief and Bereavement programs help me and provide comfort to individuals living with loss and grief. It's a safe, supportive, and powerful environment. I have also seen many friendships develop in the groups. A kinship forms with others through shared pain."

Rosalinda has an impressive background in psychology and counseling. She's a teacher at heart, and she has the heart for giving. Rosalinda has been serving as a group leader at VHOCC since her retirement six years ago.

She finds joy in giving back to others, as she was so fortunate years ago to have been surrounded by love and support when she needed it most, especially from her church. Rosalinda also learns from her cultural heritage. She said, "In the Filipino community, family and friends surround a bereaved person and provide ongoing support."

Remembering Loved Ones

On February 27, VHOCC held its third annual Remembrance Ceremony. The meaningful event was attended by individuals that have lost loved ones, as well as other volunteers, staff, and donors. This year, unlike any other, the ceremony was virtual through Zoom. The ceremony included participants lighting their candles at their homes to remember a loved one who has died. Also, volunteer and poet Doug Stanfield, and volunteer Debbie Crumb, Rose Crumb's daughter recited poetry. VHOCC Executive Director JooRi Jun, ND was the host and Reverend Maggie Bourne-Raiswell lead the invocation.



In February, VHOCC was the recipient of a **very kind bequest of \$131,247 donated by Betsy June Decker.** VHOCC is grateful to Betsy for remembering VHOCC in her will. Her gift will have a significant impact on VHOCC services.



This issue of "Hospice Happenings" launching VHOCC's new design is dedicated to VHOCC's founder and extraordinary community leader Rose Crumb who started VHOCC in 1978.

Volunteers of the Month

January: **Shirley Messick** (not pictured)

February: **Jean Pratschner**

Jean volunteers for many organizations. At VHOCC, she devotes her time to the Lending Closet. Jean's support makes a difference!



March: **Parker Smith**



Parker is thoughtful, and he always goes the extra mile to help. He answers questions at the front desk and Lending Closet. "I volunteer because I love the people!"

Event Calendar

Community Orientations

Zoom—Monthly, first Thursday from 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Register at vsm@vhocc.org.

In-Person—Monthly, first Friday from 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. Port Angeles. Register at 360-452-1511.

Grief Support Group

In-Person—Mondays, June 7–July 12, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Register at 360-452-1511 or office@vhocc.org.

Empower Yourself: Practical Tools for Living Alone

Zoom and In-Person—May, June, and July, five workshops to help you with the practical aspects of being alone. Call 360-452-1511 for dates and locations.

How is VHOCC different from other hospices?

VHOCC is a local, independent nonprofit organization, serving the population of Clallam County at no charge. VHOCC does not bill any insurance company or government agency for services.

Empowering— A series of workshops on practical matters for those who are living alone is being offered to the community from May 19 to July 14. The series “**Empower Yourself: Practical Tools For Living Alone**” will assist individuals to live alone or prepare to live alone, manage everyday problems that may arise when they live alone, and confront daily living after the loss of a loved one. Facilitators will give practical guidelines including home and car maintenance, shopping and cooking for one, household finances, consumer protection and fraud prevention, and self-care. The free series of workshops will be held on a bi-weekly basis, on Wednesdays, with some workshops in person and some on Zoom. In person meetings will be limited to a small group to respect current meeting guidelines. **Please register for the entire series or each workshop by calling 360-452-1511 or emailing office@vhocc.org.**

A huge thank you to Sequim Bay Yacht Club

for support and contributions since 1991 totaling \$401,202 to The Respite Fund.



VHOCC Executive Director JooRi Jun, ND and Interim Patient Care Manager Molly Wallace, RN are presented with a check for \$18,128 from Sequim Bay Yacht Club (SBYC) from SBYC member and Chairperson of 2020 Reach and Row for Hospice Race Susan Sorenson and Commodore Jerry Fine.

VHOCC appreciates Jim's Pharmacy and Express Employment for selecting VHOCC as their Charity of the Month to ask others to support hospice.



Clinical Corner

Patients Are Our Teachers

Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County nurse Haley Blackburn-Jacobs says, "Often my patients become my mentors because I am awed by a patient's recognition and adaptability, knowing that death is a part of their life. I am humbled and grateful to be a witness to serve the patient." She also encourages families and caregivers to be quiet and listen because patients are our teachers. "Whether we are caregivers or the receivers of care, we all have narratives and stories that are special. Each patient is recognized as someone with their own extraordinary journey, and we need to honor that rather than only focusing on their end of life."

Seven years ago, VHOCC nurse Haley lost her sister, Tina Joy, to cervical cancer after a 2-year battle. Tina was a patient in a hospice. It was serendipity that Haley discovered VHOCC when she read VHOCC founder Rose Crumb's obituary in a local newspaper before her move to the Olympic Peninsula. Haley embraces the hospice philosophy of care centered on comfort and relief from suffering.

Sending Hospice Hugs

VHOCC appreciates the supply of vaccine for staff, patients, and volunteers given by Clallam County Health and Human Services from the Washington State Department of Health and Jamestown Family Health Clinic.

VHOCC is grateful for Lavish Day Spa and Oak Table Café for providing gift certificates for the Volunteer of the Month program.

Sound Publishing's generous contribution toward advertising the Remembrance Ceremony in the *Peninsula Daily News* and *Sequim Gazette* in February helped to promote the event.

Thomas Building and generous anonymous donors donated supplies to upgrade the Sequim delivery truck, and their in-kind support was significant.

VHOCC appreciates the *Peninsula Daily News* and the *Sequim Gazette* for publishing articles noting VHOCC's support and programs.

Meet and Gift

In December, Volunteer Services Manager Astrid Raffinpeyloz hand-delivered baskets across the county to volunteers' front doors. She brought the joy of the holidays to VHOCC's volunteer family members. Volunteers received bright and cheery jute tote bags brimming with gifts donated from local businesses. The gifts included seed packets or bulbs to plant in the spring, fresh baked cookies, coffee, fudge, and other decadent desserts.



Volunteer Services Manager Astrid Raffinpeyloz and volunteer Maggie Bourne-Raiswell.

"What Hospice did by delivering gifts to the volunteers was amazingly kind and very appreciated. The bag of goodies are delightful and some are missing from my bag already." - **Cheryl C.**

Cheryl has been serving VHOCC for many years in her volunteer role as a hairdresser for hospice patients.

"What a delightful gift to open today. Thank you for such nice sweets and seeds for growth. We all need a little cheering this year." - **Gale E.**

Gale is a new volunteer at the front desk. Her warm demeanor is like sunshine!



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Support VHOCC

- Friend our organization on Facebook and like our page.
- Volunteer.
- Donate at vhocc.org.
- Add VHOCC to your will.
- Donate in-kind items to the Lending Closet.

Please contact editor@vhocc.org to request electronic newsletters to help VHOCC save on printing expenses.

CLINICAL STAFF

Molly Wallace, RN, BSN - *Interim Patient Care Manager*
 Haley Blackburn-Jacobs, RN, BSN
 Trish Buckingham, RN
 Jenn Constable, RN
 Lauren Davenport, RN
 Tammy Dedmore, CNA
 Stacy Forshaw, RN
 Anne L’Heureux, RN, BSN
 Elizabeth Perez, RN, MSN
 Lynn Whitmore, RN, BSN, MS
Per Diem
 Mariah Blanchard, RN
 Juanice Reyes, RN, BSN

MISSION SUPPORT STAFF

JooRi Jun, ND – Executive Director
 Anita Chilton – Office Administrator
 Julie Kramer – Development Manager
 Astrid Raffinpeyloz – Volunteer Services Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Please contact the Development Office at 360-452-1511 to let VHOCC know that you added VHOCC to your will or you would like to request information.