

For friends of Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice

Impressions

Volume 5, Issue 2 + Fall 2016



Ohio Living
Home Health & Hospice

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OUR NEW NAME: Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice

Our name has changed; our mission, people and ownership remain the same

Did you know that Senior Independence Hospice was part of a much larger organization, Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services (OPRS)? And that OPRS also operated 12 retirement communities throughout Ohio? Did you know that, in addition to hospice, OPRS – through its retirement communities and Senior Independence division – provided independent living, HUD housing, adult day centers, home health, assisted living, short-term rehab, long-term nursing care and memory care? Would you have guessed that OPRS was founded in 1922?

Chances are you didn't know these things. Most people didn't. After extensive research, we discovered that people were unaware of our parent organization and the scope of our services. That's why we created the name Ohio Living to unify our organization and strengthen each entity in the process.

We chose Ohio Living because we believe it embodies the essence of who we are as an organization – a community of people who celebrate living. We believe our new name is an expression of our values and speaks to the principles on which we were founded.

Our rebrand is not the result of a change in ownership, a merger or an acquisition. It is the result of a thoughtful process that sought to honor our nearly 95-year history while remaining relevant to current and future generations.

Additionally, we believe this new brand will help to better position our organization in an ever-growing, highly-competitive senior living and health care marketplace. It will showcase our strengths and expertise, while remaining true to our mission and values.

With the name Ohio Living, we will live our mission and values every day as we provide high-quality care and services to our residents and patients as they move through the next phases of their lives, living life to the fullest.

We hope you share our excitement for this new chapter in our lives as we move forward together as Ohio Living. 🌱



The Ohio Living mission is to provide adults with caring and quality services toward the enhancement of physical, mental and spiritual well-being consistent with the Christian Gospel.



The purpose of the Ohio Living Foundation is to partner with donors to provide charitable support for the people, projects and programs of Ohio Living.



Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ohio Living, is one of Ohio's premier providers of home health and hospice services, recognized for quality, innovation and a positive work environment. Statewide, Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice provides services to more than 67,000 adults annually and operates two adult day centers.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

Hospice patient honored, grandson throws out first pitch

When 11-year-old Braylen Schuller threw out the first pitch at a Mahoning Valley Scrappers game, he was throwing a strike against cancer and paying tribute to his grandmother, Hazel Schuller.

The game was part of a special event for Hazel, planned by Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice as part of our Make it Happen program, which brings moments of joy and meaning to patients and their families.

A Scrappers game was the perfect venue for a tribute to Hazel, as she and her family have a strong baseball tradition.

Braylen and his sister, Payton, both play; family members have served on the board of the Warren Athletic Club's baseball and softball divisions; and others have given many hours of their time to coaching, concessions and various programs.

Hazel, who has since passed away, was unable to attend the rainy game but was delighted that a Make it Happen had been held for her and her family. "She was overjoyed," said Sarah Hadley, executive director of Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice's Greater Youngstown region.

Videos and a photo album capturing highlights of the day were made for Hazel.

"It was a great day, even with the rain," said Sarah. "We are truly blessed to have been given the opportunity to allow Braylen the recognition of the spotlight of a big-time pitcher, all the while honoring his grandmother," she added.

The game was also used as a fundraiser for the Make it Happen program. Half of the proceeds for tickets sold by Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice were donated back to the organization. 🍀

ON THE COVER: *Braylen Schuller, grandson of hospice patient Hazel Schuller, throws out the first pitch at a Mahoning Valley Scrappers game as part of his grandma's Make it Happen wish.*

ABOVE, LEFT: *Braylen gets a high-five from Scrappy, the Mahoning Valley Scrappers' mascot, after throwing a strike against cancer in honor of his grandma.*

ABOVE, RIGHT: *Braylen and his family enjoyed the Mahoning Valley Scrappers game as part of a special Make it Happen event held for their loved one, hospice patient Hazel Schuller.*



PAT'S LOVE OF PAINTING

Patient enjoys special day with daughters

Pat Sollinger was an avid artist who loved painting. Just days before she died, her Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice care team coordinated a special Make it Happen event that brought her together with her daughters and daughter-in-law for an afternoon of fun, family and painting.

Hospice staff arranged for coffee, tea, non-alcoholic champagne and desserts to be set up in a sunroom at Ohio Living Rockynol, where Pat lived. Local business Painting with a Twist donated five canvases, and two of their artists led Pat and her family through the experience.

“Pat was quite weak but was able to complete her painting with the assistance of her daughters, daughter-in-law and the artists,” explained Daphne Massaro, volunteer coordinator for Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice in the Greater Akron region.

Although Pat had to take a break from the excitement, she was able to come back to the sunroom later to admire and critique all the paintings. “It was such an emotional moment for everyone, especially when Pat said how much she enjoyed the day and how nice it was for her to have all her daughters together in one room,” Daphne shared.

Pat's painting was displayed at her memorial service, a beautiful reminder of a beautiful day between a mother and her daughters. 🌈

TOP: Pat raises a glass in celebration of her special day.

MIDDLE: Hospice patient Pat Sollinger enjoyed a Make it Happen wish that combined her love of painting with her love for her family. Here, Pat poses with her three daughters, who shared the day with her.

BOTTOM: Part of Pat's day included creating this work of art, which now serves as a beautiful memory for Pat's family.





A CLASSIC MAKE IT HAPPEN

Special car show planned for patient

Robert “Bob” Keister loved everything about cars. He had been a car dealer, and even collected some classics over the years.

This lifelong passion was the key to creating a special Make it Happen day for Bob and his family.

Working with Arby’s Car Cruise, a not-for-profit group of car enthusiasts, Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice staff helped create a classic car show especially for Bob.

Twenty five cars were displayed that day at the care facility where Bob lived. His hospice team provided pizza for everyone, and some of Bob’s fellow residents at the center were also able to come out to see the cars. A local TV station even showed up to cover the event.

“We had an overwhelming response from the community and it exceeded our expectations,” said Michelle Gongaware, transitional liaison for Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice in the Greater Youngstown region.

“It turned out perfectly,” Michelle shared, adding, “The family was delighted and just enjoyed the moment. [They were] taking pictures, laughing, crying and talking with friends and the folks from the car club.”

Creating lasting memories like these are exactly what Make it Happen is all about. 🌟

ABOVE: Hospice patient Bob Keister and his family enjoyed a classic car show that was planned by his Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice care team for his Make it Happen wish.

THE THERAPY BUDDY

Furry friend visits patients

Buddy the dog is 80 pounds of furry, unconditional love.

When he and his owner, Brenda Harling, show up to visit Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice patients, they're always greeted with smiles.

Brenda had been a hospice volunteer, and decided to find out if her beloved Buddy, a Boarder Collie/Great Pyrenees mix, was a candidate to become a therapy dog.

Therapy dogs have to be “bomb proof,” meaning they won't startle and run away if there is a sudden loud sound like a tray dropping.

They also have to be able to remain calm when surrounded by walkers and wheelchairs, and must know to not jump on people.

Buddy proved an excellent candidate and Brenda signed him up for a 12-week therapy dog training course.

“She had him certified just for us,” said Carol Davis, volunteer coordinator for Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice in the Greater Youngstown region.

“Brenda is amazing with Buddy and our patients really perk up when they see them coming. They are truly a blessing to our team,” Carol added.

Brenda enjoys going for patient visits with Buddy, and has noticed what a difference his presence can make.



Brenda recalled one patient who didn't interact with anyone and had refused Brenda's attempted visits. Then came Buddy.

“The first time I took him in, her eyes lit up. She welcomed me in, smiled and began petting and talking to him,” Brenda shared. “If it weren't for Buddy, I wouldn't have been able to talk to her or create any connection,” she added.

And how does Buddy like being a hospice volunteer? Brenda said he knows what it means when it's time to “go to work.” He knows what it means when his harness is put on, and he gets excited when he sees his hospice patient friends. 🌈

ABOVE: Volunteer Brenda Harling and her dog Buddy are greeted with smiles every time they visit Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice patients in the Greater Youngstown region.



Thank you for your generosity

The following donations were made between June 1, 2016 and August 31, 2016 in support of Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice. If you believe your name to be omitted or printed in error, please accept our sincerest apologies and call the Ohio Living Foundation at 800.686.7800.

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STEPPING UP

Local businesses help make wishes come true

Local businesses are stepping up to help hospice patients. From birthday cakes to flowers and everything in between, these businesses are providing goods and services that play a special role in making wishes come true.

The donations come as part of Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice's Make it Happen program, which, as you've seen in this issue, provides special moments of joy and meaning for patients and their families.

To honor this generosity, we will now include participating businesses in the quarterly donor listings in this publication.

The list below represents all business donors from our previous fiscal year (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) through August 31, 2016.

We are grateful for the partnership of these businesses, and look forward to sharing more stories of the impact they're making on the lives of the people we serve. 🌱

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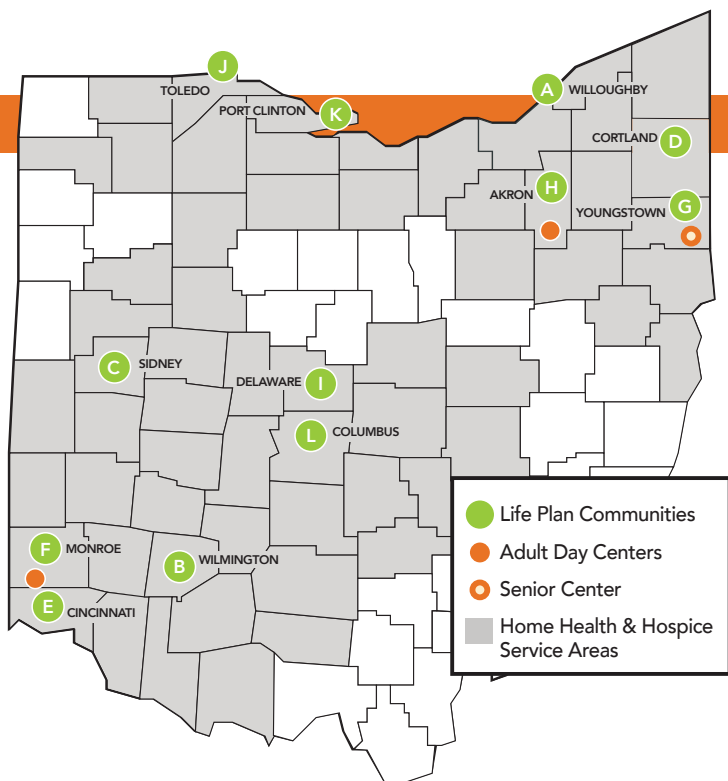


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As you've seen in this newsletter, donors make a lasting impact on the lives of patients and their families.

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