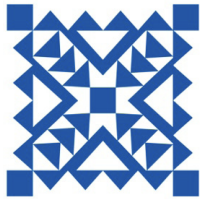


# Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership

2009-2010  
Annual Report

## Director's Message



In March, I began the privilege of leading the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative

Care Partnership. I am enjoying getting to know our members and supporters and learning what is most wanted from a state hospice association.

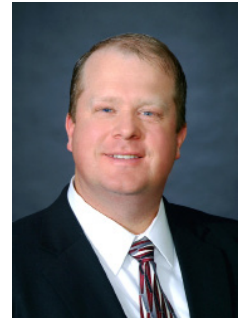
I have quickly learned that issues related to reimbursement and regulations are at the top of the priority list. Members' input is at

the core of any steps we will take to address these important issues. My intention is to be responsive and respectful of your requests and needs.

I am highly impressed with all that was accomplished by the Association's board of directors, committees and staff in 2009. With your support, I look forward to building on the foundation that has been laid before me.

As a former nursing home administrator, I witnessed the value of hospice for residents,

families and nursing home staff. I will forever be an advocate for hospice and look forward to being a part of watching it grow in Nebraska.



*Sincerely,  
Heath G. Boddy  
Executive Director*

## RAISING AWARENESS

The Association holds relationships with local, state and national media. In 2009, these relationships reached a variety of audiences and resulted in placements in such outlets as the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's *NewsLine*, American Pain Foundation's *Pain Monitor*, Nebraska Medical Association's *NMA News*, State Board of Nursing's *Nursing News*, *Living Well* Magazine by southeast Nebraska's Aging Partners, Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, Grand Island Independent, KPTM Fox 42, KLKN-TV and KOLN/KGIN-TV, KFOR 1240AM, and countless hometown newspapers and radio stations across the state.

## PRIORITY: QUALITY EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

Offering top-notch education to those who work with chronically and terminally ill Nebraskans is the foundation of the Association's work. Last year, more than 600 hospice, nursing home, hospital and other professionals received education from the Association.

Sessions included Are You Survey-Ready? and Tools for Helping

Children and Adults Through Grief. In addition, staff traveled the state to give an overview of hospice regulatory changes and hold member listening sessions.

In partnership with the VA and State Veterans' Homes, education was held on Homeless Veterans and the End of Life, as well as Interdisciplinary Pain and Non-Pain

Symptom Management.

Members took advantage of a course preparing them to take a national hospice certification exam. Lastly, regular teleconferences for hospice social workers, chaplains and volunteer coordinators provided an opportunity to share ideas with counterparts statewide.

## LIVING A GOOD LIFE...AT THE END OF LIFE

For nine years, professionals who work with individuals at the end of life come to Lincoln from across the region to attend the Association's "Living a Good Life... at the End of Life" Conference. The conference has become a tradition for physicians, nurses, social workers, advocates, administrators, and others working in the end-of-life field.

The conference included such sessions as PTSD: The Unrecognized Symptom, Communication Strategies for Shared Caregiving, Hospice Volunteers: Filling a Void for the Dying Patient, and Better Breathing with Palliative Care: Managing Pulmonary Symptoms.



## A PARTNERSHIP OF HEALTH AGENCIES

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership is a member of Community Health Charities of Nebraska (CHC), a federation that raises funds for Nebraska's health charities through workplace giving. Through speaking engagements, display booths, co-branding, and representation on CHC's three board of directors, the Association has strengthened its relationship with CHC and participating businesses. Funds directed to the Association from these efforts have increased 51 percent since 2007.

This partnership not only raises needed funds that help support the work of the Association, but also allows for Nebraska's workforce to become educated on hospice.

## PROVIDING A VOICE FOR HOSPICE

With health care reform taking center stage in national politics last year, Nebraska's hospice association was busy providing state-specific hospice data requested by federal policymakers.

Association members were kept apprised of reform activity through email and newsletters and were encouraged to make their voice heard, no matter their stand on the issue.

## A PARTNERSHIP FOR VETERANS

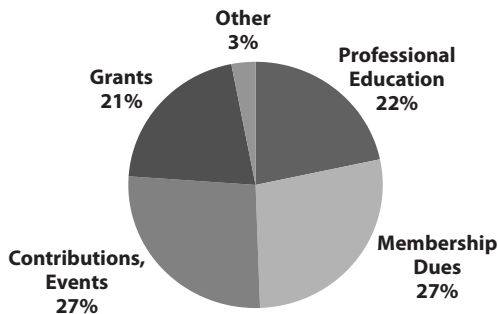


A partnership between the Association, the VA, and State Veterans' Homes, the Nebraska Hospice-Veteran Partnership (HVP) continued its work to increase hospice use by veterans. Activities included regular educational events for professionals working with veterans at the end of life. The HVP also facilitated the distribution of educational DVDs titled *Wounded Warrior* to the staff of 71 Nebraska hospices, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. And, hospice information fairs were held at seven VA facilities and State Veterans' Homes.

■ *The Association's Website, [nehospice.org](http://nehospice.org), continues to be a focal point of all marketing and serves as the primary source for members of the public and medical professionals looking for end-of-life information. Last year, the site averaged 53 visitors per day, many of whom were searching for a hospice in their area, looking for advance directive information, or seeking details on professional education events.*

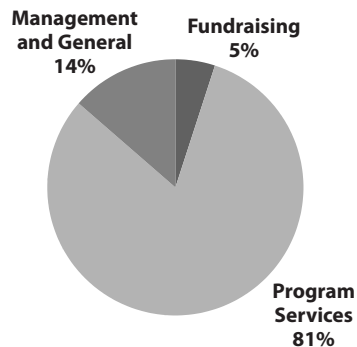
## REVENUE

\$287,617



## EXPENSES

\$273,130



2008-2009 Net Income: \$2,480  
2009-2010 Net Income: \$14,487

## USING PALLIATIVE CARE TO RETURN NEBRASKANS TO WORK

Last year, the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership began the development of WorkPath, which originated in 2006 as a federally-funded, systems-change grant project called Ticket to Work Palliative Care.

The Association has administered Ticket to Work Palliative Care since 2006 to pilot the concept of

returning Nebraskans in pain to the workforce through the use of palliative care. The grant requires that the concept become a self-sustaining operation by the end of 2010, and therefore WorkPath was developed.

WorkPath will partner with worker's compensation companies, self-insured organizations, disability insurance

companies, and others to identify individuals who will benefit from participation.

 *American Pain Foundation*  
**ACTION NETWORK**

*Association staff continued to serve as State Leaders for the American Pain Foundation Action Network, a grassroots network working to transform pain care through public awareness and legislation.*

## A ROLE IN END-OF-LIFE RESEARCH

Last year, the Association played a role in research that advanced the mission of hospice. The August issue of *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* included an article titled "Nebraska Veterans' Preferences for End-of-Life Care." The article was based on the Nebraska End-of-Life Survey, a research project completed by the Association in 2003 and 2006.

Also in 2009, the Association began surveying Nebraska hospices to collect data on length of stay and location of service. The gathering of this data on a statewide basis allows the Association to have more current data for use with its advocacy, regulatory and public relations work.

■ After getting input from members, the Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership worked with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to align Nebraska's hospice licensure regulations with federal Conditions of Participation, the guidelines by which hospice providers must follow to be reimbursed by Medicare. The Association then testified on behalf of Nebraska hospices at a public hearing on these regulatory changes.

facebook

twitter

*In 2009, the Association created a presence on social networking sites, allowing the hospice message to reach those with a personal or professional interest in our work.*

## **NHPCP Leadership, 2009-2010**

### **Board of Directors**

President Joanie Kush, RN, MS, CHA, VNA Hospice, Omaha  
Vice President LaDonna VanEngen, RN, CHPN, HealthConnect at Home, Lincoln  
Secretary Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, RN, PhD, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha  
Treasurer, Aloha Schmid, RN, CHPN, Hospice of Tabitha, York  
Chair, Advocacy Committee, Lisa Weber-Kohler, MSW, Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus  
Chair, Community Engagement Committee, Jean Suehl, RN, Faith Regional Hospice, Norfolk  
Chair, Development Committee, Beth Nelsen, RN, CHPN, NHA, Eastmont Towers Community, Lincoln  
Chair, Professional Education, Diane Randolph, RN, BSN, Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha  
Chair, Operations Committee, Bonnie Brown, RN, BGS, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha  
Chair, Research and Quality Improvement Committee, Greg Schieke, MBA, CIMRO of Nebraska

### **Board of Advisors**

Tom and Nancy Osborne, Honorary Co-Chairs  
Dr. John and Janis Haggstrom  
Terry and Judy Haney  
Bruce Lauritzen  
Bob and Cynthia Milligan  
Lee and Carol Rowe  
Del and Phyllis Toebben  
Dr. Ed Vandenberg

### **Staff**

Heath G. Boddy, Executive Director  
Jennifer Eurek, CSW, Education and Outreach  
Coordinator  
Tracy Rathe, Communications Coordinator  
Jan Tooker, LCSW, Executive Assistant and  
Ticket to Work Palliative Care Coordinator

### **Community Health Charities of Nebraska Boards of Directors, Association Representatives**

State Board of Directors, Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, RN, PhD, Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha  
West Central Board of Directors, Adrienne Redwine, BSN, CHPN, Grand Island  
Lincoln Board of Directors, Carol Ernst, MA, NHA, Eastmont Towers Community, Lincoln

www.nehospice.org  
info@nehospice.org  
402-475-6289 fax  
402-477-0204 ph

Lincoln, NE 68521  
3900 NW 12th Street, Suite 100

# Thank You

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2009, through March 31, 2010.

## GIFTS

### \$50-\$99

Pamela and Felix Aldana  
LaVerne J. Andersen  
Robert Archambault  
Beverly Banks  
Berneice Barth  
Deborah Berger  
Maj. Gen. Edward C. Binder, Ret.  
Mary Blaszak  
Mark and Denise Bohlsen  
Dale M. Bunsen  
Diana Canine  
Patricia A. Carr  
Gerald L. Chamberlen  
Catherine Chapman, in memory of  
Marty Chapman  
Laurel Crusinberry  
Mrs. Roger Curry  
Thomas Eberle  
Joseph R. Ellison, MD, in memory of  
M. Joanne Ellison  
Carl H. and M. Ruth Epp  
Jacqueline Fee  
Hal L. Fecht  
Mary Ann Flood  
Tracy Fort  
Kathleen Goerl  
Ulysses F. Grant  
Victor J. Gravel  
Lynn and Cindy Gray  
Paul Green, in memory of Donald E. Welch  
Raymond J. Greunke  
Michael Hall, in memory of his wife, Bonnie  
Dr. Richard S. Hay  
Betty Herpolsheimer  
Rev. Conley K. Hinrichs, in memory of  
C. Keith Hinrichs  
Thomas J. Hix, in memory of Gordon L. Harrow  
Cleo Hoback  
Clayton Hoke, in memory of DeWitt Hoke  
Sydney Homan, in memory of Larry H. Homan  
Robert J. Huck  
Rick Hughes, Phoenix Underwriting Managers,  
in memory of Bill Summers  
Claudette C. Irvine, in memory of  
Clyde N. Crandall  
Randy and Trish Johnson, in memory of  
ALS victims  
Robert Jordan  
Neal D. Kennedy  
Mr. and Mrs. Vern Kuhl  
Patricia A. Ladenburger  
C. Joyce Luster  
Robert and Sharon Mack, in memory of  
Leona Zuerlein  
Donald Mardock, in memory of Ellen Todd  
Monnie Markel, in memory of John Markel  
Ruth Mason  
Pat Meierhenry  
Evan Moody, in memory of Robert E. Butler and  
in honor of Steve and Suzanne Barker  
Brad and JoAnn Morris, in memory of  
Josephine Alba  
Herman J. Mrsny  
Diane Mulcair, in memory of Ann Fisher  
Russell Mundorf

Marjorie M. Neill, in memory of  
Neal and Madge Sege  
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Nelson  
Carol L. Nisley, in memory of Helen V. Barnes  
William Novak, in memory of Margaret Novak  
Cynthia S. Odabasi  
Glenn and Pat Ohlmann  
Mrs. Dale Olson  
Bonnie A. Pacer, in memory of Joey Pacer  
Dean Papenhagen  
Lloyd H. Parker  
Virginia B. Parry, in memory of Bill Parry  
Robert W. Pearson  
Richard T. Phelan  
John A. Pierson  
Quillie H. Polk  
Diane Randolph  
Cindy Rauner  
Kristi Robison, in memory of V. Elaine Miller  
R. L. Rosberg  
James J. Ryan, in memory of JoAnn Ryan  
Norman H. Sack  
Leon and MaryAnn Satterfield  
Sandra M. Schmidt  
Richard D. and Sherry R. Schultz  
R. G. Seiter  
Paul T. Skovgaard  
Albert Slottje  
Shirley Spieker, in memory of Lawrence Spieker  
Sharon Stanner  
Gary Stolp  
Dave Taladay  
Dr. Terry M. Theis  
Rob Thoma  
Martha Thomas  
Kenneth Toberer  
John W. and Patricia A. True  
Nancy J. Tyson  
Patricia Vik  
Karen Warrick  
David and Marilyn Westenhaver  
Dr. and Mrs. Wilbur Wiedman  
Donald Wilkinson  
Dariel Woodward  
William T. Workman  
Jerry Wurtele, Jerry Wurtele Distributors  
Rosemary Yager  
William Yearian  
Kim Zielsdorf, in memory of  
Emmett Francis Gyhra

### \$100-\$249

Lora Arnold  
Marvin L. Blocker  
Dana Bonsell  
Alan C. Brown, Al Brown Fund  
David Cizek, in memory of Maude Johnson  
James Coughlin, JC Construction, in memory of  
Evelyn Coughlin and Jeanette Hunt  
Dave Darrow  
Douglas Diedrichsen  
Robert D. Dutton  
Lyle B. Egerman  
Judy Eicher  
Dennis C. and Judy Elledge  
Jerry & Sharon Ginn, in memory of Ralph Ginn  
Thomas Holley

Thomas C. Howard, MD, Surgery Center of the  
Heartland  
Barbara Hunt  
John Bryce Johnson  
Bob Kallio  
James C. Lange, in memory of Rita A. Lange  
William and Margaret March Fund  
Leslie McAuley  
Donald E. McCord, in memory of  
Rosalee McCord  
Holly Meisinger  
Jo Ann Moore  
Diane Noyce Sass, in honor of Mrs. Sherrill Jones  
Alvina M. Olesen, in memory of  
Kenneth A. Olesen  
Mary Oliver, in memory of Billy Oliver  
Ronald Overby  
Patricia T. Packard  
Ron Sallach  
Charlotte P. Schenken  
Tom and Aloha Schmid  
Patricia Snyder  
Paul and Rosemary Soukup  
The Struve Foundation  
William J. Talmon  
Bob Throop  
Deaun Trayer  
Raymond P. Trumble  
LaDonna VanEngen, in memory of  
Donald DeBuhr and Roy VanEngen  
Patricia D. Wallington  
Sen. Norm Wallman  
Iris Warman  
Robert B. Way  
Gabe & Carey Wilcox, in memory of Alex Schildt  
Susan Windle  
Miranda Woodward, Woodward Charitable  
Foundation  
David Wysong  
Gwen R. Zaruba  
Robert and Susan Ziegler

### \$250-\$499

Stephanie A. Bess and Keith Green  
Mary Ann Crabb, in memory of Robert J. Crabb  
Kristi J. Martin  
Alberta A. Nieland, in memory of  
Dennis J. Nieland  
Mark and Kim Robison  
Joe and Barbara SantaMaria, Joseph and  
Barbara SantaMaria Family Fund  
Deborah L. Waggoner  
Paul and Anna Marie White

### \$500-\$999

Annie Emig  
Dr. John and Janis Haggstrom  
Terry and Judy Haney  
Bruce Lauritzen  
Bob and Cynthia Milligan  
Tom and Nancy Osborne  
Lee and Carol Rowe  
Del and Phyllis Toebben  
Dr. Ed Vandenburg

### \$1,000-\$1,500

Cargill  
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford C. Cheever

# Thank You (continued)

The Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Partnership thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support given from April 1, 2009, through March 31, 2010.

## 2009 "LIVING A GOOD LIFE...AT THE END OF LIFE" CONFERENCE

Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha  
Community Hospital, McCook  
HPC for Foundation for Hospice Care/AseraCare Hospice Nebraska  
Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha  
Prairie Haven Hospice, Scottsbluff  
Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Ctr, Lincoln  
St. Joseph Villa Homecare & Hospice, Omaha  
VNA Hospice, Omaha

## GRANTS

Nebraska Department of Education  
Nebraska Dept. of Health and Human Services

## WEBSITE SPONSORS

Catholic Health Initiatives HealthConnect at Home  
HPC Foundation for Hospice Care

## IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

1LifePress and Laura Casey  
American Pain Foundation  
Boomer's Printing Co.

## VOLUNTEERS

Linda Beckers  
Betty Beecham  
Jann Britton  
Holli Burger  
Kathy Cannon  
Dodie Leslie  
Pat Meierhenry  
Alma Parent  
Alice Peterson  
Alicia Peterson  
Dianne Rathe  
Jackie Stewart  
Bernadette Thiel  
Margaret Tooker  
Millie Will  
Cathy Willits

## VOLUNTEER SPEAKERS AND EXHIBITORS (Community Health Charities or other events)

Mary Cannon  
Deb Dydyk  
Gary George  
Annette Kasselman  
Annette Krueger  
Nina Martin  
Mary Oliver  
Trudy Meyer  
Linda Robinson Rutz

## MEMBERS (Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2009)

### Hospices

Abundant Life Hospice, Falls City  
Alegent Health Hospice, Omaha  
AseraCare Hospice - Lincoln  
AseraCare Hospice - Norfolk  
AseraCare Hospice - Omaha  
Beatrice Community Hospital Hospice  
Central Plains Home Health and Hospice, Cozad

Chadron Community Hospital Hospice  
Community Healthcare & Hospice, McCook  
Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk  
Fremont Area Medical Center Hospice  
Good Samaritan Hospital Hospice, Kearney  
HoriSun Hospice, Lincoln  
Hospice & Home Healthcare of Saunders Co.  
Hospice of Columbus Community Hospital  
Hospice of Siouxland  
Hospice of Tabitha, Lincoln  
In Home Health Care Hospice, Falls City  
Mary Lanning Hospice, Hastings  
MCH & HS Hospice, Blair  
Memorial Health Center Hospice, Sidney  
Methodist Home Health & Hospice, Omaha  
Odyssey Health Care of Omaha  
Prairie Haven Hospice, Scottsbluff  
Providence Medical Center Hospice, Wayne  
Saint Elizabeth Hospice, Lincoln  
St. Francis Hospice, West Point  
St. Joseph Villa Homecare & Hospice, Omaha  
Tri-County Hospital Hospice, Lexington  
Valley County Hospital Hospice, Ord  
VNA Hospice, Omaha

### Hospices - Satellite Offices

AseraCare Hospice - Kearney  
AseraCare Hospice - O'Neill  
AseraCare Hospice - York  
Hospice of Tabitha - Grand Island  
Hospice of Tabitha - Nebraska City  
Hospice of Tabitha - York  
MCH & HS Hospice - Oakland  
MCH & HS Hospice - Tekamah  
Memorial Health Center Hospice - Ogallala  
Odyssey Health Care of Fremont  
Prairie Haven Hospice - Alliance

### Developing Hospice

Compassionate Care Hospice of Nebraska, Omaha  
Hillcrest Home Care, Bellevue

### Organizations

Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains  
BryanLGH Palliative Care Program  
Butherus, Maser & Love  
Children's Hospital Hand in Hand Program  
CIMRO of Nebraska  
Hospice House-Josie Harper Residence, Omaha  
Hospice Pharmacia  
The Monarch, Lincoln  
Nebraska Health Care Association  
Nebraska Hospital Association  
Nebraska Medical Center

### Long Term Care-Assisted Living

Cottonwood Villa, Ainsworth  
Legacy Retirement Communities, Lincoln  
Harvard Rest Haven, Harvard

### Long Term Care-Nursing Facility

Good Samaritan Colonial Villa, Alma  
Hamilton Manor, Aurora  
Heritage of Emerson, Emerson

Homestead Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Lincoln  
Sunrise Country Manor, Milford

### Long Term Care Facility-Dually Licensed

Countryside Home, Madison  
Gold Crest Retirement Center, Adams  
Golden Living Center, Clarkson  
Heritage Crossing, Geneva  
Hillcrest Nursing Home, McCook

### End-of-Life Coalitions

Grand Island Coalition for End of Life Care  
Franciscan Care Services End of Life Coalition  
Greater Omaha End of Life Coalition  
Seward County BRIDGES End of Life Coalition  
York County Health Coalition-End of Life Partnership

### INDIVIDUALS (JAN 1 - DEC 31, 2009)

Dennis Berens  
Bonnie Brown  
Marcia Cederdahl  
Helen Chapple  
Marie Chilcott  
Vicki Coffin  
Colleen Donovan  
June Eilers  
Connie Engelbart  
Mary Fitzke  
Mary Hastings  
Sister Rose Marie Imig  
Clare Kennedy  
Sherry Kropatsch  
Janet Kuhl  
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Todd Sauer, MD  
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Aloha Schmid  
Kelly Schneider  
Carri Siedlik  
Tammy Spiegel  
Sue Stensland  
M. Allen Tompkins, MD  
Christine Vanderford  
Sarah Yokel



RAISING FUNDS FOR NEBRASKA'S HEALTH CHARITIES

Thanks also goes to the many Nebraskans who donated to the Association through a Community Health Charities workplace giving campaign