# Montgomery HCSPICE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2009, Montgomery Hospice cared for

1,528

patients and their families,

provided grief education and support to

5,672

Montgomery County residents,

educated more than

3,600

community members,

and distributed information to an additiona

3,600

at community events.

# At Montgomery Hospice we are constantly looking at ways to cultivate a culture of compassion and on-going professionalism.

We spend a significant amount of time and resources screening potential employees because we want to hire the best possible candidates. We invest important resources in employee education, an investment crucial to retaining competent staff. In 2009 we took our professional education capabilities to a different level by making our staff available to share their expertise with clinicians in our community who are providing end-of-life care. We offered 35 professional workshops in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Along with formal presentations for hospital personnel, we made more than 1,500 care planning visits with patients in hospitals, helping hospital staff and families make decisions about follow-up care. We are proud that both our medical and non-medical employees are extraordinarily gifted individuals on a mission to "gentle the journey" for families in Montgomery County.

In 2009, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of Casey House, the only facility solely devoted to the care of hospice patients in Montgomery County. We celebrated the original staff, community volunteers and donors who together worked to turn the dream of Casey House into a reality. Their work allowed Casey House to become a blessed and safe place for more than 3,800 patients and their families and loved ones. We also acknowledged all those who continue to financially support the Casey House mission; we could not do what we do without them.

Our community needs the compassionate, professional care provided by the dedicated staff of Montgomery Hospice. And Montgomery Hospice continues to need the help of the community to spread the word about our services and to provide financial support. Your contributions enable us to continue to care for those who cannot afford it, to educate both

professional and general audiences, and to help patients living with a life limiting illness.

We can't thank you enough for your support.



**Paul Nicholson, Chairman** *Board of Directors* 



**Ann Mitchell**President & CEO



#### Montgomery Hospice Board of Directors

as of December 31, 2009

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\* Dual service Montgomery Hospice Board, Montgomery Hospice Foundation

#### Beryl's story:

# The love story of Stanley and Annette Lowenthal began at a party in New York when both were just 16 years old.

Annette allowed Stanley to drive her home, despite having come to the party with another boy. When she arrived, she told her mother, "I am going to marry him one day." Her prediction came true five years later. A year later, their lives changed when Pearl Harbor was attacked and Stanley enlisted in the Navy. Their marriage almost ended prematurely; Annette received a telegram from a rabbi chaplain that read: "Come immediately; your husband is dying." Stanley's bout with hepatitis was nearly fatal due to a severe allergic reaction to sulfur.

After the war, the story of their marriage continued with children, Stanley's career in the family electric wholesale and retail supply business, and volunteer involvement in their close-knit New Jersey community. Annette's difficult and frightening encounter with breast cancer while she was in her 40s added to their desire to live life to the fullest. They balanced work with travel, visiting several Caribbean islands, London and Paris, Greece and Israel. In 1988 Stanley and Annette moved to Leisure World. They became active at Temple Shalom and volunteered at Montgomery General Hospital and Holiday Park Senior Center. They also joined B'nai B'rith, and enjoyed subscriptions to Olney Theater and Arena Stage.

Stanley and Annette's daughter, Beryl Feinberg, fondly remembers her parents' lives together and their dedication to each other, and tearfully recalls both the joys and the difficulties of their last years.









A fall in 2005 while celebrating their 65th anniversary on a cruise was the start of health problems for her mother, eventually leading to several hospital stays and time spent in skilled nursing facilities. As her health worsened and she articulated her extreme fatigue and desire for the pain to stop, Beryl knew that they would all benefit from the medical expertise and the emotional and practical support of the staff of Montgomery Hospice. Beryl credits Montgomery Hospice for helping her family achieve their goals for her mother: to be in her own home, with no pain and no anxiety. Beryl remembers her mother's last day, a Thursday in June of 2006, as being a beautiful day, filled with conversations and memories.

After her mother's death, it became clear to Beryl that her father was not well. He was devastated over the loss of his wife of 65 years, but he began to suffer other losses as well. As his Alzheimer's progressed, he lost the ability to drive, began to forget parts of speech, and eventually forgot even to eat. Moving to an assisted living facility helped, as did Beryl's frequent visits. He suffered a fall leaving her home in April after a joyous celebration at the Passover Seder resulting in an inoperable brain hemorrhage. Understanding that her dad's time was limited, and determined that his remaining days or weeks should be without arm and leg restraints in an intensive care unit and weary from constant battles over the administration of pain and anxiety medicines, Beryl again called on Montgomery Hospice for help.

"Casey House gave Dad the sanctuary he needed. Casey House gave me the opportunity to keep a promise to my mother to watch over my dad, to keep him safe, and to preserve his dignity. Everyone respectfully cared for Dad and also supported me. It was a wonderful experience."

Beryl is grateful to Montgomery Hospice for easing her caretaker tasks and allowing her to return to simply being the daughter. She was able to fully participate in the bittersweet ending chapters of her parents' lives. Beryl has become an advocate for Montgomery Hospice, working to educate others about the difference that hospice care made for her parents. She publicly thanked the staff of Montgomery Hospice at the Casey House tenth anniversary celebration on August 15, 2009. She is serving on the Gala auction committee, wanting to do what she can to ensure other families are able to take advantage of the compassionate, professional services provided by Montgomery Hospice.

I want to personally thank the staff at Casey House, as well as those providing home hospice care for the beautiful memories you have afforded me as I lost both parents.

This is a gift I shall carry with me forever.

\*\*Beryl Feinberg\*\*



# "Everyone who works here—their hearts are in it. For them, it is not just a job, it is a vocation."

Standing in front of Casey House, Karen Rush described the current and past staff and reminisced about their work 10 years ago starting the first inpatient hospice house in Montgomery County. Her emphasis on her co-workers, her pride in their work and their professional development, clearly reflected her leadership style. She described the joy of watching her staff's professional skills grow as well as watching them grow in their relationships with patients and families.

Karen moved to Maryland from Fort Worth, Texas, in August of 1999 in order to become the first director of Casey House. She arrived with years of hospice experience, previously working at Community Hospice of Texas where she started and managed their inpatient facility. She also brought a strong academic background, holding both nursing and social work degrees.

Catherine Leggett, Montgomery Hospice Board Director, described Karen at the 10th anniversary celebration of the opening of Casey House: "She believed in the dream and made it into a reality. She was dedicated, and she

trained and supported a dedicated staff."

This year, Karen received a "You Make a Difference Award" from the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland for being an outstanding hospice professional. Her work as director of Casey House was described with these words: "She taught the staff how to create an atmosphere where serenity and good medical care can be delivered side by side."

A few years ago, Karen switched positions to become part of the admissions team of Montgomery Hospice. Over the phone and in person, Karen listened and taught and helped families make difficult decisions. Karen supported patients needing end-of-life care. Her descriptions of Montgomery Hospice's services provided clarification for families and detailed answers to questions and concerns. She shared her expertise as well with doctors, discharge planners in hospitals and other medical professionals.



Montgomery Hospice congratulates Karen on her 43-year healthcare career and thanks her for her work serving patients and families, as well as nurturing, mentoring and leading her co-workers.

Karen, we thank you for your service to this community and to this organization. It was because of you and your staff's hard, hard work that Casey House became a home where fears lie conquered and where courage and goodness abide.

### **Community Education & Support**

#### Professional education was provided to the following organizations:

Adventist HealthCare

Asbury Methodist Village

**Bartholomew House** 

**Bedford Court** 

**Brooke Grove Foundation** 

CHI Centers, Inc.

Collingswood Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Community professionals at the annual Montgomery Hospice Bereavement Conference

End-of-Life Nursing Education (ELNEC) Consortium Conference 2009

Friends House Retirement Community

Hebrew Home

Ingleside at King Farm

Leisure World

Manor Care Bethesda

Maplewood Park Place

Montgomery County Mental Health Association

Montgomery General Hospital

Montgomery Village Healthcare Center

National Lutheran Home and Village

Potomac Valley Nursing and Wellness Center

Riderwood Community

Roberts Home Medical

Rockville Nursing Home

Shady Grove Hospital

Sligo Creek Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Dr. Frederick Smith Oncology and Internal Medicine

Suburban Hospital

Sunrise at Fox Hill









#### In addition, seminars and presentations were made to the following community groups:

The Arc of Montgomery County

Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

Black Ministers' Conference of Montgomery County

B'nai Shalom of Olney

Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church

Colesville United Methodist Church

Col. Zadok Magruder High School

Covenant Baptist Church

Danzansky-Goldberg Memorial Chapel

Darnestown Presbyterian Church

Greenridge Baptist Church

**Hughes United Methodist Church** 

Holiday Park Senior Center

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Lutheran Church of Saint Andrew

Manor Woods Church of Christ

Metro Bethesda Rotary Club

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless

Montgomery County HHS Center for Continuous Learning

Montgomery County Law Days at Holiday Park Senior Center

Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church

**New Beginnings** 

Nueva Vida

Olney Lions Club

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

Potomac Presbyterian Church

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

**Pumphrey Funeral Home** 

Richard Montgomery High School

**Rotary of Silver Spring** 

**Senior Connection** 

Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program

Sol Levinson Funeral Home

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

St. Nicholas Catholic Church

St. Paul Catholic Church

Thomas S. Wootton High School

Threshold Mental Health Services

U.S. Chemical Safety Board

Walter Johnson High School

Winston Churchill High School

### **Community Fundraising & Support**

#### "A Celebration of Life"

21st Montgomery Hospice Gala March 20, 2009

#### **Benefactors**

Abramson Family Foundation, Inc.
Chevy Chase Bank
Suzanne and Doug Firstenberg
Delia and Marvin Lang
Catherine and Ike Leggett
Pettit Family Charitable Foundation
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
and Washington Adventist Hospital

#### **Contributors**

Catherine Harris Byrd Family and Nursing Care Linowes and Blocher, LLP Janet and Paul Nolan Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Homes

#### **Patrons**

Sally and Steve Herman Kaiser Permanente Montgomery General Hospital Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. Sami and Annie Totah Carol Trawick

#### **Dessert Bar**

The Chevy Chase Land Company Sandy Spring Bank

#### **Entertainment Sponsor**

Calvert Group, Ltd.

#### **Social Hour Sponsor**

Warner Financial, Inc.

#### **Hospice Cup XXVIII**

September 26, 2009

#### **Sponsors and Donors**

Associates in Radiation Medicine
Tom and Jane DiGirolamo
Digestive Disease Consultants
Suzanne Firstenberg
James Fox
Lyle E. Gramley
Atiya Gopalani, M.D.
Deborah Hall
Arnold J. Kohn
Joseph Kaplan, M.D.
Lawrence J. Markovitz, M.D.
Margaret "Peggy" McCaig
Ann Mitchell and Thomas Carroll

Motamedi & Associates, PC Pulmonologists, P.C. Charles & Cecilia Thompson Charitable Trust Shady Grove Orthopaedic Associates, P.A. Arthur F. Woodwood, Jr., M.D.

#### **Derby Duck Race and Festival** October 4, 2009

#### **MEDIA Partners**

97.1 WASH-FM Comcast The Gazette

#### **GOLD Ducks**

Kaiser Permanente Pettit Family Charitable Foundation

#### **SILVER Ducks**

Family & Nursing Care Sandy Spring Bank Karen and Rick Schaeffer

#### **BRONZE Ducks**

Ann Mitchell and Thomas Carroll Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home

#### **DUCKLINGS**

John and Cathie Chaplin
The Chevy Chase Land Company
Dawn Crafton Dance Connection
Tom and Jane DiGirolamo
Fitzgerald Auto Malls
Furey, Doolan & Abell, LLP
Arnold and Carolyn Kohn
Mike and Donna McKinney
Moyer & Sons Moving and Storage
NIH Federal Credit Union
Janet and Ron Wolfsheimer

#### **Other Fundraising Events**

Montgomery Hospice Annual Tree of Lights The Julian Weinfeld Memorial Golf Tournament The Whitt Family Walk 4 Hospice





## Montgomery HOSPICE

### **Summary of 2009 Operations**

#### **REVENUE & SUPPORT**

Net Patient Services Revenue \$13,140,800

Fundraising \$1,220,100

Other Revenue-\**Note 1* \$447,600

TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT \$14,808,500

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Hospice at Home & Casey House Patients

& Community Services-\*\*Note 2 \$10,683,600

Fundraising \$353,800

Administrative \$2,220,500

#### TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

\$13,257,900

\*Note 1—Other Revenue includes realized and unrealized gains of \$435,800 from investments in stocks and mutual funds.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note 2-Expenses include charity and other community benefits.



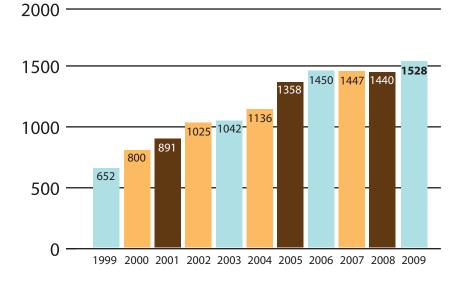
It is indeed a privilege for me to serve as a Board member and the Treasurer of Montgomery Hospice. The deeply compassionate and highly-skilled care that the staff and volunteers provide to their patients and their families is truly a blessing to our community. We are grateful for your financial support, which helps to ensure that the Montgomery Hospice team stands ready "to gentle the journey".

#### **Ronald Wolfsheimer** Senior Vice President Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

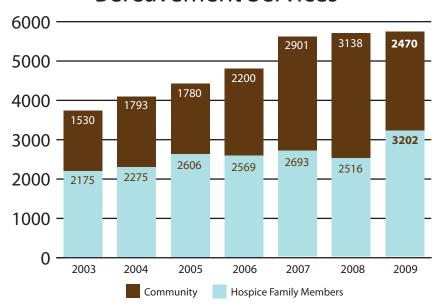
Calvert Group, Ltd.



#### History of Patients Served



### Community and Family Members Helped by Bereavement Services



We appreciate your never-ending patience and love you give to so many of our patients and their families who face hard decisions at the end of their lives.

Dr. John Melnick Dr. Steven Dolinsky and Staff



## Montgomery HOSPICE

### Depends on our Volunteers

We so appreciate these men and women who generously donate their time and their talents to help patients and families.

#### The following volunteers donated more than 80 hours in 2009:

Susan Barrett Diana Goroff

Barbara Baskin Margaret Hays Bonnie Benedict Marcia Joiner

Joanne Bowman Dick Jubert

Deborah Brown Deborah Kaplan

Heidi Chaney Kay Lee

Carole Clem Mary Lindberg

Karen Depew Alena Lizonova

Barbara DiGioia Basil Manns

Peter DiGioia Julia McBee

Noreen Duguid Betty Ann McGuire

Helen Edwards Peter McManus

Marvin Fell Virginia Nitkiewicz

Nancy Fragoyannis Carolyn Patterson

Jenny Geiger Billie Stephenson

Juline Glaz Frank Sullivan

George Gleason Lurethia Sykes

Catalina Gomez Martha Vayhinger

During 2009, volunteers donated more than 12,500 hours and drove more than 43,400 miles to get to patients' homes.



In 2009, volunteers
donated more than 1,100 hours of
administrative support to Casey
House and almost 2,000 hours to
the Montgomery
Hospice main office.

In 2009, Montgomery Hospice volunteers provided more than 6,090 hours of direct patient care support in patients' homes and at Casey House.

# They wrap their arms around you and they do not let go until you're all right.

-Sheila Boland Sister of Chris Boland



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www.montgomeryhospice.org

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