

# Your donations at work!



Offering telemedicine at **12 palliative care sites** serving over **6,000 patients**

Celebrating **52 palliative care volunteers** from 14 organizations

Awarding bursaries to **24 future healthcare workers**

## Making a difference in palliative care across Eastern Ontario

The OutCare Foundation is the only charity devoted to raising funds for palliative care across Eastern Ontario. We support patients and their families by raising money for special projects that benefit palliative care. With advice from the Champlain Hospice Palliative Care Program, OutCare selects high-priority projects with a regional impact so that regardless of which organization families turn to, they receive the skilled and compassionate help they need and deserve.

Over the years, our activities have resulted in \$1.5 million in support for programs and services throughout our community. Whether helping to make more care available, supporting caregivers, or ensuring proper training is offered, OutCare donors are making a difference. This report outlines how.

### *Telelink*

Offering telemedicine at **12 palliative care sites serving over 6,000 patients**

Together, we made *Telelink* possible! Thanks to your enthusiasm and generous support, palliative care teams are using telemedicine to enhance access to quality care for patients with a terminal illness.

*“The increased expertise that we can now access enables our clients to remain at Hospice Renfrew while receiving the best care possible. Staying in their community, close to friends and family, is incredibly important at this time in their lives.”*

— **Diane Caughey**, Executive Director, Hospice Renfrew

Using special high-definition video-conferencing equipment, *Telelink* enables clinical consultations, distance education and meetings among healthcare team members province-wide. Our community is one of the first to take advantage of technology to expand access to palliative care regionally.

*Telelink* was financed through the great generosity and foresight of many supporters. Major donors and partners include: Cisco Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Champlain Local Health Integration Network, the Kiwanis Club of Ottawa, the Community Foundation of Ottawa: Canyon Foundation Fund, the Healing Cycle Foundation, the GlaxoSmithKline Foundation, and the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, Ottawa Commandery.

*“Patients love it, particularly those who live far from Ottawa,”* says **Dr. José Pereira**, head of Palliative Care at The Ottawa Hospital and Bruyère Continuing Care. *“It saves them driving to those hospitals for*



*Telelink in Hawkesbury*

## Communities supported by donations to OutCare



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hospice Renfrew</li> <li>2. Arnprior and District Memorial Hospital</li> <li>3. Community Home Support – Lanark County</li> <li>4. Bruyère Continuing Care Palliative Care Program</li> <li>4. Centre de services Guigues</li> <li>4. Hospice Care Ottawa, Central West Hospice</li> <li>4. Hospice Care Ottawa, Friends of Hospice</li> <li>4. Hospice Care Ottawa, May Court Hospice</li> <li>4. Montfort Hospital Palliative Care Consult Service</li> <li>4. Perley &amp; Rideau Veterans Health Care</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Queensway Carleton Hospital Palliative Care Consult Service</li> <li>4. Roger's House</li> <li>4. The Ottawa Hospital Palliative Care Team (Civic &amp; General Campuses)</li> <li>5. Beth Donovan Hospice</li> <li>6. Dundas County Hospice</li> <li>7. Carefor Cornwall Hospice</li> <li>8. Hawkesbury &amp; District Hospital Palliative Care Unit</li> </ol> |
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*“Loss and life transitions are not just things that we deal with as caregivers, they are universal human experiences, and as such are very worthy of exploration and thought.*

*This educational experience will support me in my role at Roger’s House; in any future positions as a caregiver; and also in my own life, in times of loss and change.”*

— **Hannah Lilly**, Roger’s House, OutCare Foundation Bursary Recipient



*“As a palliative care volunteer furthering my education to support my clients and families is so important. Thank you for this incredible opportunity!”*

— **Melanie Goldberg**, Beth Donovan Hospice, OutCare Foundation Bursary Recipient

*follow-up appointments, waiting for a long time to see the doctor for a short visit and then driving back home. Now they can visit the hospice or hospital in their community and connect with the palliative care specialist team remotely.*

*“The benefit of the latest research and access to specialist-level advice is often not accessible quickly across the region,” he adds. “Telelink will help to close the gap.”*

We are delighted to include a special insert about this important project that will continue to benefit the palliative community for years to come.

*“Videoconference through the Ontario Telemedicine Network is a leading practice which paves the way for consultation, education and meetings. We are very happy to have this equipment at Cornwall Hospice and we are very thankful to the OutCare Foundation for providing funds for it.”* — **Maria Badek**, Director of Operations - Eastern Counties, CAREFOR® Health & Community Services

## Volunteers

**Celebrating 52 palliative care volunteers from 14 organizations**

In May, we celebrated and recognized the valuable contribution of 24 volunteers through the OutCare Foundation Bursaries for Palliative Care Volunteers. Recipients were able to attend the full-day Hospice Palliative Care Education conferences held in English and French in Ottawa where they met others working in palliative care, shared their experiences and enjoyed presentations from expert speakers.

This was the second year this program was offered in our community. Thanks to the generosity of OutCare donors, 52 volunteers have been recognized through this bursary program. It is just one of the ways that your donations are helping to make a difference.

*“Thank you very, very much! Without these bursaries our volunteers would not be attending the Palliative Care Education Day. Your organization is providing a great service to hospice palliative care!”* — **Rebecca Bowie**, Community Home Support – Lanark County

## Students

**Awarding bursaries to 24 future healthcare workers**

In its eighth year, OutCare Foundation Bursaries have provided \$16,000 in support to students pursuing healthcare studies at Algonquin College. Awarded to those who demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in palliative care, 24 recipients have now been supported by this program. They are the future of our healthcare system and OutCare is pleased to help them pursue their studies.

## THANK YOU!!

Together, we are making a difference. With only 30% of Canadians in need able to access palliative care, your interest in this cause is important. Your support truly does matter!

To learn more, please contact our office at (613) 232-2273, or visit our website [www.outcarefoundation.org](http://www.outcarefoundation.org). Join us on Twitter and facebook where interest in palliative care news and stories is growing fast!