

New Equipment Allows Beth Donovan to Continue Lending

“In late March, a week after our world changed due to COVID-19, one of our clients called,” says Sue Walker, Executive Director, Beth Donovan Hospice. “She had borrowed mobility equipment from our free lending service.”

“When the husband of our client passed away, the pandemic rules did not allow for a funeral. They only had a private service for immediate family,” says Sue. “She was understandably distraught and told me the only thing she could control was putting her house back to normal.”

This feeling of normalcy included having all the equipment removed from the house. It was a very painful reminder of her husband’s suffering and how very much she missed him.

COVID-19 Puts Program on Hold

Unfortunately, Beth Donovan Hospice was not able to accept the return of the borrowed equipment because they didn’t have the means to meet new COVID-19 protocols for sanitizing equipment before accepting it back into inventory.

“We didn’t have the industrial strength tools to clean the equipment, until now!”, says Sue.

“Thanks to help we received from the OutCare Foundation we’ve been able to order an industrial steamer that arrives soon. We look forward to continuing to lend out safely to those waiting for wheelchairs, commodes, walkers and so much more.”

The Beth Donovan Hospice, located in Kemptville, loans medical and mobility equipment to people who are able to spend their last days in the comfort and familiar surroundings of home.



Their resourceful team acquired a shipping container to temporarily store equipment as they await arrival of the new steam-cleaner.

“The OutCare Foundation, through donors like you, is proud to be able to help people who support their loved ones by helping them spend their time together at home,” says Linda McCallum, OutCare Foundation Chair. “COVID-19 is changing everything, including how we support people in their final days of life. Through this small gesture, we know that Beth Donovan and other hospices in Eastern Ontario can safely continue to help people stay together as long as they can.”

Currently OutCare is working with hospices with equipment lending programs to ensure they have the appropriate cleaning equipment. You can help at outcarefoundation.org

“Thanks to help we received from the OutCare Foundation we’ve been able to order an industrial steamer that arrives soon.”

Sue Walker, E.D., Beth Donovan Hospice

Board of Directors

Linda McCallum
Chair

Bernie Forestell
Vice Chair

Brian MacGregor
Secretary

Christine Irvine
Treasurer

Linda Bruce

Michael Hughes

Eric Kalbfleisch

Jim Nininger

Michael Sangster

Ian Warrack

Welcome

OutCare is pleased to welcome Jennifer Cass, our new Program Coordinator. She is ready to support you as we work together to improve the lives of patients and families needing palliative care. Reach her directly by email at

jennifer.cass@
outcarefoundation.org



With Thanks

Ian Rathwell, Long-time Board Member & Treasurer, Moves On

Since joining the Board of OutCare Foundation in 2006, Ian Rathwell, a former Partner at Deloitte & Touche, LLP, has played a major role, offering financial guidance, crafting governance and fundraising expertise. In his role as treasurer, Ian's direction helped OutCare to protect its funds, giving us the resources to provide help to families in the community in much the same way as the community helped his.

Personal Connection to Palliative Care

Before he was approached by then Board Chair, Kim Devooght to join the OutCare Foundation as Treasurer, Ian Rathwell had no direct experience with palliative care and, like many of us, he never expected to. When his wife Deborah was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in early September 2009, his focus shifted to Deborah's end-of-life journey.

"The most important thing for Deborah was her family," says Ian. "She chose to live out her remaining days at home and we were fortunate to have the resources in our community to allow Deborah to receive palliative care in the comfort our home."

Surrounded by her loving family and compassionate caregivers, Deborah passed away on September 22, 2011, just over two years after her diagnosis.

Enduring Ties

After fourteen years in a leadership role, Ian is leaving the Board and moving to his "heaven on earth" on Vancouver Island.

"It has been my absolute honour to work with OutCare, it's donors and the people they help," he says. "Although I'll be physically moving, my heart will always be connected to OutCare and the work we do."

The OutCare Foundation thanks Ian for his nearly two decades of support and is grateful for the legacy he leaves behind.

Join the conversation. Share this newsletter with friends, family and colleagues.

2019 OutCare Hospice Grants

The OutCare Foundation continues to invest your donations to improve hospices programs in Eastern Ontario. In 2019, we funded these organization needs:

Beth Donovan Hospice, Kemptville

- Hoyer Lift to facilitate patient wheelchair to bed transfer
- air mattresses
- wheelchairs

Carefor, Pembroke

- Delivery of 20 hospital beds to patients receiving in-home palliative care

Home Hospice North Lanark

- LEAP (Learning Essentials Approach to Palliative Care) training for 15 volunteers to provide in-home palliative care visits
- Continuing education for 15 hospice home visiting volunteers

Ottawa Mission Hospice

- Balanced Air Self Adjusting mattresses
- Masimo Set Oximeter
- Stethoscopes

Champlain Hospice Palliative Care Program

- Bursaries for 24 volunteers to receive training



L-R Toni Surko, Fundraising Chair & Nancy Deschenes, Board Chair of Home Hospice North Lanark, Linda McCallum, Chair & Jennifer Cass, Program Coordinator, the OutCare Foundation.

Events Update

All in-person events are on hold for the time being. Like other organizations, we are creating new virtual events. Please watch our web site for updates.

OutCare Awesome Auction September 8, 2020 to October 13, 2020

7th Annual Black Tie Bingo **NEW DATE!** November 13, 2021

How to Help

Donate Today

You can help more people on their end-of-life journey by calling us at **613-232-2273** or going online at outcarefoundation.org

Become a Monthly Donor

You may want to join our growing number of monthly donors. Monthly giving is an affordable and easy way to support palliative care, year round. To set up your monthly gift please call us at **613-232-2273** or visit outcarefoundation.org/monthly-giving/