

PHILANTHROPY UPDATE

An in-depth look at how you are making a difference for our patients, their families and the communities we serve through charitable giving.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Advocate at Home and Post Acute Network continues to be on the forefront of changes in health care delivery, ensuring patients get the care they need in a number of settings. Our Skilled Nursing Facility Care Program has been singled out by organizations such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services as a national model for quality, cost-effective care.



Denise Keefe

Through the commitment of our donors, caregivers, volunteers, physicians and community members, we are able to consistently find new and better ways to ensure patients get the care they deserve and maintain the longstanding programs and services that have meant so much to so many over the years. This summer, with funding made possible by our donors, we presented our fifth annual Camp Bear Hugs grief camp for children who have endured the death of a loved one. More than 30 children participated in the camp, which provides a fun-filled, safe and supportive environment in which they can share their feelings.

I am proud to be a part of a system that does so much for those we are privileged to serve.

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Advocate at Home provides home health care, including hospice care, to thousands of patients throughout the metro area. We believe that no patient should be excluded from receiving home-based care because they live in a dangerous area. Our staff of nurses, aides, social workers, therapists, and chaplains bravely travel into some of Chicagoland's toughest neighborhoods to provide care to our patients.

To ensure access to our patients and the safety of our staff, Advocate at Home retains the services of a security agency, staffed by retired and off-duty Chicago police officers. With the recent spike in gang activity, their support has been more vital than ever. In 2016, Advocate at Home made 20,682 secured visits.

This program is essential to our ability to provide the best possible care to patients in every community we serve. Secured visits are not covered by insurance or fees. Philanthropy plays a major role in supporting this critical program.

YOUR IMPACT

MAKING MUSIC

With the help of philanthropy, Advocate Hospice offers patients a variety of alternative therapies including music therapy to help patients facing the end of life “make every day count.” Music therapy has been clinically proven to reduce anxiety and decrease perception of pain. It can also stimulate positive emotions and memories when a patient hears a song that is familiar, adding richness and meaning to the present moment.

REDUCING PAIN AND STRESS

Pain control is often a primary concern for hospice patients, and massage is an excellent way to reduce or alleviate pain and provide stress relief. Hospice nurse and massage therapist Linda Cise, RN, recalls a recent interaction with a patient and her family. “I gave a massage to a woman in the presence of her daughter. The patient did not speak English and was extremely quiet during her massage, so I wasn’t sure if she liked it. But when I finished she called her daughter over and spoke to her quietly in Spanish. The daughter turned to me and translated, ‘My mom said to tell you that she felt like she was being touched by angels. Thank you.’”



To learn more about philanthropy at Advocate at Home and Post Acute Network, visit advocategiving.org.