## Hospice of the Upstate Volunteer Newsletter

August 2016



## Did you know?



For many years volunteers have been making Buddy Bears for patients' families after their loved one is gone. They are made in remembrance of a loved one or as a keepsake to pass from one generation to another. In making a Buddy Bear, old clothes are transformed into a beautiful and comforting bear.

They have been proven therapeutic for children and adults. The natural instinct to hug someone we love remains after a loved one is gone. A Buddy Bear made from the loved one's clothing is there to hold and hug while one remembers. They provide a presence of love.

Buddy Bears are many things to many people. From two to ninety-two, they find a place in the hearts of anyone who has lost a loved one. That favorite shirt is now a soft, cuddly bear to hug, as you close your eyes and remember.

If you want to get involved in this program let me know. It's a great way to help families through their tough times while doing something you love!

## Meaningful Relationships

The most important role for a Volunteer is to build relationships with the hospice care team, patients, and their families. What often drives a person to join our Volunteer Services and give their time and heart is usually the difference they can make in a patient's life and the difference that relationship will make in his or hers.

Relationships are what tie us together as a program, an organization and a community. Without meaningful relationships, we don't have trust. Without trust, we can't provide the intimate, transformative, reverent care that makes Hospice of the Upstate what it is.

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On July 26, 1998, the first patient was admitted to the Hospice House marking eighteen years of providing excellent patient care to patients needing inpatient care. In September we will celebrate 28 years of Home Hospice services to the community. So much has changed while our commitment to good patient care has never waivered. The passion for care demonstrated by our

volunteers and staff has always made Hospice of the Upstate the gold standard for end of life care. Thank you for being such an important part of the care that we are so proud of providing!