



Olds and District
**HOSPICE
SOCIETY**

Helping people live until they die.

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Newsletter September 2012

Hike for Hospice a success



The Olds & District Hospice Society's first annual Hike

for Hospice on May 6th raised more than \$25,000. Over 140 local resident participated in a one-kilometer or five-kilometer course. This was the 10th Anniversary of the Hike in

Canada and the event in Olds was organized by the Olds and District Hospice Society and the Olds Palliative Care Committee to kick off Palliative Care Week, which ran from May 6 to

May 12 in Olds.

The Olds and District Hospice Society wishes to thank everyone who participated and donated to make our first annual Hike for Hospice a great success!

Olds and District Hospice Society receives \$18,000 from Mountain View Credit Union Charity Golf Classic

Mountain View Credit Union proudly presented a \$17,500 cheque to the Olds and District Hospice Society on July 5, 2012. The funds were raised through the generous support of sponsors and golfers at the credit union's 2nd Annual Charity Golf Classic held at Coyote Creek Golf Resort near Sundre. One hundred and twenty eight golfers enjoyed a beautiful day to help Mountain View Credit

Union raise money for this very worthwhile organization. Douglas McCrae of CIP/Looker topped up the amount by donating the \$415 he won in the 50/50 draw. The credit union then rounded up the total to \$18,000.

"We appreciate the support that we have received in our local communities including this very generous donation from Mountain View Credit Union," said

Kathy Kemmere, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Olds and District Hospice Society, who was in attendance to golf and receive the cheque. "The Hospice can make such a difference for those individuals, their family and friends who are facing end of life and its challenges, wherever they are – at home or in hospital. The Hospice provides care where it's needed."

"A big thank you goes to all supporters, golfers, and volunteers who helped to make the 2012 Mountain View Credit Union Charity Golf Classic such a success," said President and CEO, Bob Marshall. "Our own Olds Branch Manager, Betty Neufeld, is on the Hospice Board, so we are proud that we can support her and this great organization at the same time," Marshall added.

Annual General Meeting Oct. 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Olds Hospital and Health Care Centre classroom (downstairs). Guest Speaker: Bev Berg, Manager, Advanced Care Planning: Goals of Care. O&DHS invites everyone to attend. Also please renew your membership so you can vote!

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association Commends New Benefits for Families of Critically Ill Children This article can be found on the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association website: www.chpca.net

Olds & District Hospice Society would like to thank Family and Community Support Services, the Town of Olds, and Nu2U for their generous grants.

Proudly
funded
by:



Nu2U



Olds and District
**HOSPICE
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**Our office is now open by
appointment only!
Call 403-586-9992**

Moonbeams and Miracles

Country Gospel Music

Saturday, Oct 20

Olds Baptist Church

Admission: Food Bank Donation

Show: Freewill Offering

Door Prizes

SUPPER 4 P.M. SHOW 5:30 P.M.

Supper tickets \$25

See poster on Olds & District Hospice website

oldshospice.com

*All proceeds from freewill offering will be
directed to Olds and District Hospice!*

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Meeting Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Olds Hospital and Health Care Centre classroom at 7:00 pm. Come and meet the new Service Coordinator!

Palliative Care Volunteer Training Oct. 27 & Nov. 3 at the Peter Lougheed Hospital in Calgary. No cost to attend. Free parking. For more information or to register to attend this training, please contact Bev Hallett, Service Coordinator at 403-586-9992.

Introducing New Service Coordinator

Hi! My name is Bev Hallett and I am honored to be hired into the Service Coordinator position. I have enjoyed a long career as a Registered Social Worker, working in Children Welfare and for the past 13 years as a Case Manager/Social Worker with Alberta Health Services, Edmonton Region. This position with O&DHS offers me the opportunity to return to my rural roots and to pursue my long time interest in end-of-life care. It is truly exciting to join an organization which has such passion and determination to promote quality care in these communities.

“When Are You Building?”

The Olds & District Hospice Society was born in 2009 out of a desire to “have a hospice” in the Olds area.

Personal experience with residential hospices in Calgary and Red Deer resulted in a deep conviction as to their value and a vision to improve hospice palliative care in our community by building one here.

While the dream to have a free-standing, residential hospice is still present, a realization has been made that improving hospice palliative care in our area is much, much more than bricks and mortar – more than a specialized facility. Good hospice palliative care is “bigger than a building” and as we continue to work toward having a community-based hospice, some major gaps in end-of-life care are being addressed with extremely positive results.

The Olds & District Hospice Society has identified a model of care fashioned after a hospice group in rural Ontario. The five components of care being implemented through the society are:

Contact Base: The society has become a consistent point of contact and support for individuals and their families facing end-of-life. We have an email address, a phone and an office.

Information Base: Navigating through the health care system can be exhausting. O&DHS can help.

Volunteer: Trained volunteers can help connect to existing services, offer respite, support in home or facility, assist with transportation, run errands, offer companionship or just be whatever is needed.

Bereavement Support: O&DHS can connect people with support services as needed.

Communication/Advocacy: The society supports other communities launching similar initiatives and maintains regular contact with many levels of government to partner in “sharing the care”.

Since securing insurance in December of 2011, the Olds & District Hospice Society has worked with 18 families in a variety of capacities. We have a growing list of trained palliative volunteers and a hard-working board behind all of our projects. We have presented to numerous service groups, government and private health providers, churches and other interested audiences to increase awareness and education regarding hospice palliative care.

The dream to have “the building” is still very much alive. We were just unwilling to wait until it’s built before we started helping people.