



HOME
NURSING
AGENCY

Part of UPMC

celebrate **GIVING**

aligning excellence

This year, Home Nursing Agency proudly celebrates 50 years of service. Thank you for welcoming us into your homes and communities.



From humble beginnings with just six nurses in Blair County, Home Nursing Agency has grown over the past five decades in response to the changing and varied needs in each of the regions we serve. I hope you enjoy the stories in this magazine that show the current impact of Home Nursing Agency as a result of our founders' vision for people to receive care and services in the comfort of their own homes.

In 2018 we also mark the five-year anniversary of Home Nursing Agency

becoming part of UPMC. Our diverse home- and community-based services are an integral link in the continuum of care within this expansive integrated delivery and finance system. We continue to evolve and align with other UPMC providers as we build specialty services with unified best practices that result in a consistent and improved customer experience throughout UPMC.

In the midst of re-alignment, Home Nursing Agency's Behavioral Health Services went through a corporate division on July 1, 2018 and is now operating in a new company called UPMC Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies. Our local behavioral health professionals will continue to have opportunities for expansion, improved support, and resources to provide these vital mental health services in our communities.

As the UPMC footprint expands eastward, the infrastructures of Home Nursing Agency and Family Hospice are supporting our integrations and future success. In August we brought in UPMC Susquehanna Home Health & Hospice as part of Home Nursing Agency. Services include Home Health, Hospice, in-patient hospice, and Nurse-Family Partnership®, all familiar offerings for Home Nursing

Agency. We are currently in the process of opening a new home health agency in the Harrisburg area under the name UPMC Home Healthcare of Central PA.

Throughout the growth and changes of Home Nursing Agency and Family Hospice, one thing remains the same – a focus on the best quality of life for those we serve. While this most often translates to the care our clinicians provide, it also reflects the additional services and resources that are made possible through your contributions to the Home Nursing Agency Foundation. Thank you for impacting the lives of your friends and neighbors with your financial gifts to our Foundation!

Sincerely,

Paula Thomas
President, UPMC Home Healthcare



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THEN:

The signature Mercedes Moment fundraiser originally began as the “Friends of the Home Nursing Agency Foundation Automobile Raffle” in 1998, raising \$43,600 to support charitable efforts supporting patients and clients.



giving support

Mercedes Moment Winners Named

James “Tony” Ruggery of Hollidaysburg held the winning number -501- for the Home Nursing Agency Foundation’s Mercedes Moment fundraiser held on May 18, 2018. Mercedes Moment is Home Nursing Agency Foundation’s annual signature fundraising event. Based on the mid-day Pick 3 Pennsylvania lottery number, only 1,000 tickets were sold to win either a new Mercedes GLA 250 4Matic SUV or \$30,000 cash prize.

Mercedes Moment 2018 raised more than \$90,000 to help support individuals and families in our care who have needs beyond normal circumstances and need additional services not covered by insurance. In addition to our ticket buyers, the Home Nursing Agency Foundation is grateful for the support of the following community partners: UPMC Altoona and UPMC Health Plan; FOREVER Media; Mercedes Benz of State College; Reliance Bank; Gazette Printers; HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital; Ravine, Inc.; Sheetz, Inc.; Stuckey Ford Subaru; The Lakemont Partnership; Altoona Curve; Clean Service and Supply, Inc.; Howard Hanna Johnston Realty; Klesius & Sheedy; Friend of the Foundation; Quality Services; Reilly, Creppage & Co., Inc.; and Roaring Spring Water.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Tony Ruggery, who passed away on October 3, 2018.

Pictured with the car are James “Tony” Ruggery and his wife Barbara, winners of the Home Nursing Agency Foundation’s 2018 Mercedes Moment.



**SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR’S
MERCEDES MOMENT!
MAY 16, 2019**

HOME NURSING AGENCY CELEBRATES



Started in 1968 with six part-time nurses in Blair County, Home Nursing Agency has grown as a trusted leader in services for people of all ages and stages of life.

The partnership of local professionals who founded the agency sought a clinical leader who could weave home nursing services as a vital thread in the local healthcare system, and they found such a leader in Dr. John Sheedy.

"When he was first introduced to it, he absolutely fell in love with it immediately," explains Mary "Tim" Sheedy, wife of the late Dr. John G. Sheedy. "I remember him telling me, 'I honestly believe that this is the future of healthcare for people.'"

As Chairman of the Board, Dr. Sheedy soon hired Sylvia Schraff to serve as President & CEO. He continued to provide oversight as the agency began to flourish with Sylvia's leadership of daily home health operations. Homemaker services were added, and the Agency expanded into Huntingdon County upon the request of local residents and leaders. Services later moved into Fulton, Bedford, Cambria, Centre, and Franklin counties with the diversity of offerings growing as well.

"I see that area of greatest growth was the vision that the leadership had to meet the needs of the evolving healthcare system," explains Margaret Adams of Altoona, former patient and Home Nursing Agency Board Member. "As the healthcare system in the United States changed, we saw that services needed to be different. Home Nursing through its advisory committees - input from those multi-disciplinary groups - offered that type of input into the agency to meet the need."

These growing needs included mental health services for patients being discharged from the Hollidaysburg State Mental Hospital, a hospice program to support patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families, maternal child services, and more. Over the years, Home Nursing Agency became an increasingly important link in the local continuum of care. Throughout the changes, the leaders and staff remained true to the founders' original mission of providing high quality care that allowed people to remain in their own homes and the community.

Home Nursing Agency became characterized for compassionate quality care and a culture of service excellence. These strengths throughout diverse service lines became an asset to UPMC in 2013 when HNA became part of the expansive healthcare system.

"The commitment that they [HNA] have to their community and to the patients they serve was the dominant feature then, and it continues to be so today," says Deborah Brodine, President of UPMC Community Provider Services. "HNA now as part of UPMC, is positioned as part of an integrated delivery system. I think the opportunity of being part of a larger whole becomes the opportunity for HNA to continue to do what it does best in terms of serving the community needs."

Margaret recounts, "As I look back through all of these years, I am very thankful that Home Nursing was there, that the leadership had the vision to meet the community needs. It is with deep gratification that I am able to say what a celebration after 50 years! And as a community member to say, 'thank you' and have the comfort of knowing that Home Nursing will be there."



giving time

Altoona Woman Marks 30 Years of Volunteer Service


"It's a gift to say I'm a survivor," shares Altoona resident Paula Ellstrom. For the past three decades - even through her own battle with life-threatening cancer - Paula has offered her life in service as a gift for others through various volunteer roles, including Home Nursing Agency and Family Hospice.

After losing her mom in 1986 and as an only child, Paula became the sole caregiver for her father when he was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer a short time later. He passed away in the care of Home Nursing Agency Hospice in 1987, and Paula found herself grieving the loss of both parents.

"I loved my mom, and my dad and I were really close," Paula shares. "[Longtime Home Nursing Agency volunteer and supporter] Helen Rosch started a grief support group later that year, and I found it very helpful. The next year she asked me to volunteer, and I've been involved ever since."

Initially Paula visited hospice patients in facilities, particularly at the veterans' home, to provide companionship for those who rarely had visits from family. She also offered support to grieving family members through phone calls and notes of encouragement. After her cancer diagnosis, surgery, and chemotherapy treatments in 2010 weakened her immune system, Paula stepped back from patient visits, focusing on her outreach to bereaved caregivers, much like herself many years before.

"I am a nurturer by nature," she says with a gentle smile. "Although everyone experiences grief differently, I like trying to connect and support them in some way." After a Family Hospice patient passes away, family members can choose how much

A photograph of Paula Ellstrom, an elderly woman with short reddish-brown hair and glasses, sitting in a floral-patterned chair. She is wearing a light yellow short-sleeved button-down shirt over a yellow top and dark green shorts. She is smiling at the camera while writing in a spiral notebook on a round wooden table. A white pen is in her right hand, and a blue watch is on her left wrist. The background shows a window with a view of greenery.

Altoona resident Paula Ellstrom pens a note to a bereaved family member, one of hundreds that she has sent in her 30 years as a volunteer.

contact they would like, including personal visits, phone calls, handwritten notes, or monthly letters. Paula steps in to make phone calls and send personal notes to those facing the pain of loss.

"I really enjoy the phone calls because I get to know the people and their families," she shares. "It's harder to get to know people personally through the notecards, but it's still important to let them know that someone is thinking of and supporting them in this difficult time."

Paula also volunteers to play piano for the Family Hospice Service of Remembrance in Blair County. This annual event gives an opportunity for family members to remember the lives of their loved ones and to reconnect with the staff team that often becomes an extension of the family during the loved ones' hospice journeys.

Her additional volunteer work includes playing piano at her church, Garvey Manor, and the Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries Hillcrest Apartments and calling to remind patients of upcoming appointments at the UPMC Altoona Institute for Sleep Medicine.

"Paula brings great virtue to our volunteer team," shares Family Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Catherine Zimmerman-Moyer. "She listens without judgment, is empathetic to the needs of others, and is present without conditions. She extends her heart through her gift of music and fills any room with her piano playing."

Volunteers provide vital support to Family Hospice patients and caregivers and grieving children and families served through Home Nursing Agency's Healing Patch. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit homenursingagency.com or call 1.800.445.6262.



THEN:

Volunteers have been a vital part of Home Nursing Agency since 1972 when the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) came under the Agency's umbrella. Volunteers have been integral to Home Nursing Agency's operations ever since then.

COMING UP

**Mark your calendar
for these 2018/2019
events, and stay tuned
for more details!**

Thursday, November 15, 2018

CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS DAY

Wear blue to show your support, and get a handmade butterfly pin at UPMC Altoona, UPMC Bedford, and UPMC Station Medical Center gift shops.

Saturday, November 17, 2018

8TH ANNUAL PATCHED TOGETHER:

A Day of Music to Benefit the Healing Patch

Bavarian Aid Society, Altoona

November 2018-January 2019

LIGHTS OF LOVE

Light displays throughout Home Nursing Agency's service area. Interactive trees online at homenursingagency.com

Thursday, May 16, 2019

MERCEDES MOMENT

Saturday, September 21, 2019

DECADES CLUB

Reverse Raffle Drawing & Dance Event to Benefit the Healing Patch

Jaffa Shrine, Altoona

giving complex care

Lewistown Woman Rehabs with Home Health Multi-Disciplinary Approach

Grateful to be alive, Linda Forshey has come a long way since November 2017. She was managing her chronic lung and cardiac conditions when she got pneumonia, beginning a fight for her life that left her hospitalized for more than four months.

Wheelchair-bound, Linda finally returned to her Lewistown home in March with a tracheotomy, ventilator, foley catheter, and severe pressure ulcers. Linda's husband Carl cares for her around-the-clock with their daughter Brenda's help, and the Home Nursing Agency Home Health team provides clinical oversight, skilled nursing care, and therapy. This collaborative approach has allowed Linda to regain strength and return to a more normal daily life.

Professional Staff Nurse Kristy Sauer was the first person to help, assessing Linda's pressure wounds, managing catheter care, checking her vitals, and more. With Kristy's intervention, Linda's ulcers have healed, and the catheter was removed. Physical therapist Garth Espigh and occupational therapist Shelly Horning have been teaching Linda the exercises she needs to build her strength.

"They keep adding new exercises because they know when I am ready," Linda shares. "It's been hard work, but it's worth it. My husband pushes me, my daughter pushes me, and my nurse and therapists push me."

With a team of support, Linda has progressed from being completely restricted to a wheelchair and fully dependent on others for daily living to pulling herself up in bed, using a walker around the house, helping with meal preparation, and standing at the sink to wash dishes. As Linda's oxygen levels have stabilized with limited oxygen through the tracheotomy, she is ready for the next phase of her health journey. "I want rid of the trach completely," she declares.

Managing her health long-term is no less of a team effort. Carl hung whiteboards in their bedroom - one listing all of her daily exercises, and another to track her vital signs. Careful monitoring allows them to alert Kristy of any changes. As the clinical eyes and ears in the home, Kristy works with Linda's physician for medication adjustments or any other actions with the goal of keeping her safely at home and out of the hospital.

With nearly 38 years of home health experience at Home Nursing Agency, Vice President of Home Health Janie Christner has seen firsthand how patients' needs have changed through the decades.

"Lengths of stay in the hospital are typically shorter now, so when patients come home, they have more clinical needs," she shares. "This requires our nurses and therapists to continually progress in their skills and competencies. In addition



THEN:

Home Nursing Agency was founded with home healthcare as the primary service offering in 1968 to provide skilled nursing care to patients returning home from a hospital or other acute care setting.





Kristy Sauer, HNA Home Health Professional Staff Nurse, checks the blood pressure of Lewistown patient Linda Forshey. Careful monitoring of Linda's condition allows her to remain safely at home as she regains her health and independence.

to these evolving technical abilities, clinicians have an added layer of complexity to properly evaluate patients and document."

This information is used to provide publicly reported outcomes, clearly showing how patients like Linda progress and how home health is positioned as part of the larger healthcare system to provide cost-effective care, reduce hospital readmissions, and help patients have a better quality of life. The key to future success, according to Janie, will be

in continually adapting to innovative procedures in the acute setting that allow patients to return home sooner.

"We must operate step-for-step with what's happening at the hospital level and be poised from a nursing and therapy perspective to care for those patients at home where they are more comfortable," Janie explains. "Amidst all the changes in healthcare, this part never changes - people recover better and faster at home. We are grateful to help patients do just that."

At home in your home, Home Nursing Agency provides nationally recognized home healthcare through skilled nursing, therapy, and specialized services when an injury, illness, or surgery affects an individual's quality of life. To learn more, visit homenursingagency.com or call 1.800.445.6262.

giving dignity

Family Hospice Home Health Aides Support Comfort, Peace of Mind

“She is my hairdresser, my stylist, my big sister, and my coach,” says Family Hospice patient Marjorie Altmanshofer of her Home Health Aide Renee David.

Diagnosed with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder) more than five years ago, Margie’s declining health resulted in a hospital visit last year that led the family to elect Family Hospice care to help support her in this final season of life.

Since that time Renee and the rest of the Family Hospice team have surrounded Margie and her husband Dick, who is her primary caregiver, and their son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughters. The team provides physical, emotional, and spiritual support to keep her comfortable in the Hollidaysburg home she and Dick have shared for the past 43 years.

Despite her failing health, Margie’s quick wit and zest for life are evident. Her spunky personality is well-matched with Renee’s positivity and kindness. As Renee combs through Margie’s closet to choose the perfect outfit – including an animal patterned top with matching slippers – they chat with ease, catching up on what’s happened and what’s in store for their time together.

“We have a good time,” Renee shares with a smile. “We have a special bond. Some days we laugh so hard we cry! Other days we ‘sad cry’. We share a lot of tears together.”

In the midst of their laughter and tears, Renee assists Margie with bathing, dressing, and going the extra mile to make sure she looks and feels her best, including putting her cosmetology experience to use giving Margie a perm and styling her hair regularly. While performing these seemingly simple acts, Renee jokes and encourages Margie, sensitive to the fact that she has good and bad days as her disease progresses.

“To me, dying is the beginning of living,” Margie says softly. “I’ve never been afraid of dying, but I hoped it wouldn’t be a long process. What I’m more concerned about is my husband. We’ve been married for 54 years, and he’s just learning to cook.” Margie helps when she can, but activities like assisting in a day of making vegetable beef soup drain her strength and make her more dependent on Dick, her family, and the Family Hospice team.

“I never thought it would be this way...me taking care of her, but here we are,” Dick shares honestly. “Being a caregiver is the hardest thing I’ve ever done.” Through the exhaustion and demands of being a caregiver around the clock, Dick takes his responsibility seriously, logging all of Margie’s medications, breathing treatments, and other notes so the Family Hospice team can quickly see how she’s doing.



THEN:

Home Nursing Agency began providing end-of-life care in 1979 with much of that support coming from aides who assisted with personal care and daily living tasks to help patients live with dignity.

**“SHE IS MY
HAIRDRESSER,
MY STYLIST,
MY BIG SISTER,
& MY COACH”**



“Everyone who comes through that door is a friend,” Margie says, knowing that all of the Family Hospice team members – like Renee and her nurse, social worker, spiritual counselor, and volunteers – are part of a collaborative effort to help her remain in the environment where she is most comfortable. When Renee or a volunteer is scheduled to be with Margie, Dick has the rare opportunity to take a break or attend his own doctor’s appointments.

“They’ve been wonderful,” he says, grateful that Margie’s physician had the foresight to refer her for Family Hospice care. “We didn’t even know all of this was available before.”

Family Hospice provides comfort and compassion when every moment matters, focusing on physical, emotional, and spiritual care for individuals with a life-limiting illness and their caregivers. To learn more about Family Hospice, visit homenursingagency.com or call 1.800.445.6262.

Above: Family Hospice Home Health Aide Renee David and her patient Marjorie Altmanshofer share a special bond as Renee helps Margie with daily living tasks at home where she is most comfortable.

Below: Marjorie’s family partners with the Family Hospice team to ensure her physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met as her health declines. Her family support includes (from left) her husband and primary caregiver Dick, daughter-in-law Royellen, son Brent, granddaughter Amber and her husband Brandon, and granddaughter Nikki (in purple) and her wife Amber.





Nurse-Family Partnership® Nurse Home Visitor Chrissy Anderson (right) has provided the steady and positive influence Sarah Smith and her husband Derrick needed throughout Sarah's pregnancy and since their son Derrick Jr. was born in March 2017.

giving guidance

Nurse-Family Partnership® Bolsters Confidence for Bright Futures

From the time she was 13 weeks pregnant, Sarah Smith of Johnstown and her husband Derrick have formed a close bond with her Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) Nurse Home Visitor Chrissy Anderson. Over the past two years, Chrissy's mentorship has enabled Sarah to not only be a great mother to her son Derrick (named for his father), but also pursue her own goals for the future.

Having lost her mother years before and then facing the loss of her dad while pregnant, Sarah lacked the support system that is built in for many new moms.

"I don't have parental support, so NFP gives me the guidance that I need," Sarah shares gratefully. "Chrissy gave me advice that a mom would give a daughter. She helped me to gain the skills and confidence to stay grounded and realize that I don't have to be perfect to be a good mom."

NFP's unique mentorship model has allowed Chrissy, a Registered Nurse, to advocate for the progress of the whole family throughout Sarah's pregnancy, Derrick's birth in March 2017, and through Derrick's first two years of life.

"Having Chrissy as a steady force has been so good for us," Sarah says. "While I was pregnant and my body went through so many

changes, she'd tell me what to expect. When he was first born and I would freak out with questions or fears, I could text Chrissy, and she'd say, 'Calm down. It's ok.' Then she helped me to be comfortable leaving him at daycare while I worked."

Throughout this journey, they have celebrated little Derrick's milestones and each of the steps the family has made toward the future, including Sarah earning her Master of Social Work last December, a new job that fits her advanced education and experience, and Derrick's efforts to be an involved husband and dad.

"Being part of a family that is together - with a husband, wife, and child - is something I've never had, and something that I want," Derrick admits, as he shares of his own struggles that caused him to be absent for some of their son's life. "I've been working on myself and been able to be here for him more now."

A national program, Nurse-Family Partnership has evidence-based outcomes for young families like the Smiths, who have made positive changes at a critical time - to improve their own lives and position their children for a better future.

"Even though they have been through hard times, they have worked together and gotten back on track," Chrissy says proudly of Sarah and Derrick.

Nurse Home Visitors like Chrissy equip new moms with education, resources, and affirmation. Although they focus on healthy pregnancies, the child's developmental milestones, and positive child-parent relationships, they have a ripple effect for years to come.

"If I can reassure them in one area of their life as a mother, they can get confidence in other areas of life," Chrissy shares. "So many of the new moms I work with have their own goals they'd like to achieve, but they need some guidance and someone to say, 'I believe in you!'"

Based on a study done by the Rand Corporation, for every dollar invested in NFP, the community sees up to \$5.70 in positive return and impact. Home Nursing Agency is grateful for the investment of community partners: the 1889 Foundation, American Association for University Women, Centre County Council of Human Services, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, DuBois Area United Way, Home Nursing Agency Foundation, Lee Initiatives Inc., United Way of Blair County, United Way of Huntingdon County, and United Way of the Laurel Highlands, and the Ward Family Fund.

You can invest in the future by supporting Home Nursing Agency and Nurse-Family Partnership. To learn more or to make a donation, visit homenursingagency.com. To make a referral to NFP, call 1.800.315.4358.



Focusing on both parent-child interaction and achieving personal goals, Nurse-Family Partnership® gave Sarah Smith the confidence to excel as a new mom to her son Derrick and to earn her Master of Social Work.

THEN:

Home Nursing Agency began helping expectant and new moms through the Maternal Child Program in 1973. In 2002, Home Nursing Agency began offering Nurse-Family Partnership® as the local provider of this national evidence-based program for first-time mothers.



giving conversation



Accidental overdoses continue to rise across our country, leaving families at a loss as to how to assist the children who are grieving.

When Melody Ray, Volunteer Coordinator/Grief Specialist for Home Nursing Agency and Family Hospice, sought resources to help local children and families cope with losing a loved one to an overdose, she came up short.

The lack of resources prompted Melody to author a book, *Someone I Love Died from a Drug Overdose*. Melody has witnessed firsthand the impact overdoses have on children. Through her work with Home Nursing Agency's Healing Patch, a support program for children and families who have lost a loved one, Melody noticed more and more families losing people to substance abuse.

"Parents asked how to talk with their kids about substance abuse and overdoses. I struggled to find resources, so I took what I know from the grief field and this stigmatized type of loss in creating the book," Melody said.

Last summer, while participating in a children's grief symposium, she spoke with representatives from a publisher, who concurred about the lack of resources surrounding this topic and agreed to publish the book.

"There is so much stigma surrounding the opioid crisis. I wanted to get the conversation started," Melody shared. "The more it is talked about, the more people won't feel alone, and the better they can deal with the grief."

Her hope in writing the book is to assist families in communicating honestly about losing a loved one to an overdose, as well as raising awareness regarding grief needs of children who have lost a loved one to an overdose.

Someone I Love Died from a Drug Overdose is available on Amazon and has also been added to the Healing Patch's resources for the community.

The Healing Patch offers free services for children and their families who have suffered a loss to death. Services include family session groups in Blair and Cambria counties, in-school sessions, grief education, and more. For more information, visit homenursingagency.com or call 1.800.445.6262.

Grief Specialist Authors Children's Book About Drug Overdose



THEN:

Home Nursing Agency's Healing Patch:
A Program for Grieving Children and
Their Families began in 2006 to provide
free peer support services for children
mourning the death of a loved one.



THEN:

Homemaker Services were added to Home Nursing Agency in 1972 as another link in the chain of necessary care to keep people in their own homes.

giving help

Private Duty Home Care Allows Independence

Living in her own apartment at the Blair Towers at 90 years of age, Jean Hagan knew she wouldn't have been able to maintain her independence without the help of Home Nursing Agency Private Duty Home Care and Caregiver Dona Fitzgerald.

"I couldn't do it without her," Jean shared. "I do a little bit, but I get short of breath. My body is wearing out, and I want to stay here as long as I can."

A 32-year-employee of Home Nursing Agency, Dona honored Jean's wishes, providing vital help with activities of daily living that allowed Jean to remain in her own apartment for as long as possible. Dona assisted with grocery shopping, some meal preparation, cleaning, personal care, laundry, paying bills, and other tasks. On the days Dona wasn't there, another Private Duty caregiver visited Jean to indulge her love of friendly competition in card games. Although Jean knew Dona wouldn't play cards, she looked forward to the conversations they shared. Dona worked throughout Jean's apartment to ensure she had a clean and orderly home, talking easily about everything from the weather to their grown children and the challenges of being widowed.

"We decided we're sisters. We entertained each other," Dona said. "I truly enjoy my work and being with my patients. They're part of my family!"

As her health declined, Jean required additional care and resided briefly at a skilled nursing facility before passing away in early October. Our sympathies are extended to Jean's family and friends.

Private Duty Home Care helps clients to safely remain in the comfort of home by offering personal care, household management, and companionship at the level of support that each client needs. For more information, visit homenursingagency.com or call 1.800.315.4360.



giving matters

THEN:

In 2005, the Home Nursing Agency Foundation began using your donations to provide grants directly impacting the lives of those in our care. Since that time, the Foundation has awarded 353 grants totaling \$1,881,878.



Your Donation Makes a Difference

Every gift has a face, a story, a purpose

As you consider how your charitable support can help someone else - perhaps your friend or neighbor, read these examples of how donations to the Home Nursing Agency Foundation made an impact last year.

A FINAL VISIT

While in a rehabilitation facility in Pittsburgh, Jody* was notified that her dad, a Family Hospice patient in Bedford County, was declining quickly. She desperately wanted to visit him one last time but had no way to afford the trip. Your support purchased a round-trip train ticket that allowed Jody to spend precious moments at her father's bedside in his final days of life.

AN ALARMINGLY SIMPLE SOLUTION

For anyone dealing with a chronic illness, taking medications as prescribed is essential in managing symptoms and overall health. Imagine trying to remember your medications living alone as a 57-year-old with memory impairment, amnesia, and deafness. That was life for Blair County Home Health patient Susan*. Your donations funded the purchase of a specialized hearing-impaired pill planner to alert Susan when it's time to take her medications, keeping her on track with meds and living independently at home.

ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING COUNSELING

Recently 16-year-old Shawn* was enrolled in the counseling program for Children & Adolescents, but his family was unable to afford the co-pays for multiple visits. Your donations allowed him to continue receiving services and establish trust with his counselor. At his third visit, Shawn admitted that he had planned to commit suicide. Because he was able to receive the help he needed, he has returned to normal teenage activities and is doing well in daily life. Your support has saved a life.

**Names changed to protect confidentiality.*

**WAYS TO
GIVE
CHANGE
A LIFE**

HOW CAN YOU CHANGE THE LIVES OF PATIENTS, CLIENTS, AND FAMILIES SERVED BY HOME NURSING AGENCY?

- Make an outright donation by calling 1.855.GIVE.HNA, going online at homenursingagency.com or by mailing a donation to the Home Nursing Agency Foundation in the enclosed envelope.
- Consider remembering Home Nursing Agency in your will with a gift of a specific property, dollar amount, or percentage of your estate.
- Volunteer to share your time and talents through Family Hospice or the Healing Patch children's grief program. Learn more about volunteer opportunities by checking out our website at homenursingagency.com.

For more information about ways you can help, please contact:
Kim Helsel, Director of Development/Marketing Communications,
814.947.7024 or khelsel@homenursingagency.com.

giving thanks

Recognizing Our Supporters

For 50 years, Home Nursing Agency has depended upon the generosity of community partners – individuals, businesses, local governments, and organizations – to help ensure that our mission of providing care and services for those in need will continue.

Every dollar matters. Every gift has a story.

The following donations were received January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

We apologize for any errors or omissions to this list. Every effort is made to assure that proper information is recorded. Please call Carol Galioto at 1.800.992.2554 to make us aware of any corrections or changes.



Thank you to the following donors who have helped make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and our communities:

HEALING PATCH DONORS

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Attendees filled the dance floor as they enjoyed music from the 1960s thru now at the Decades Club, recently held on September 8, 2018. In addition to an Evening of Dancing Thru the Decades, a Reverse Raffle Drawing gave ticket buyers the chance to win cash prizes. Attendees also had the chance to win a variety of great baskets and gift cards donated by generous businesses, staff teams, and individuals.

Thank you to all of the sponsors, ticket buyers, attendees, donors, and committee members who made the Decades Club a great success to benefit the Healing Patch Children's Grief Program!

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