



# EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024

# Hospice Caregiver of the Year Award



We are so proud that our very own Maggie Mayunga, STNA from Columbus, won the Hospice Aide of the Year award at this year's Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice annual conference! Maggie was nominated by Clinical Supervisor Stefani Jeffers. Maggie has been at Bella Care for over 7 years. This is what Stefani had to say:

"Every time I see Maggie she has a smile on her face and is a delight to be around. We need more Maggie's in this world! Aside from many years of experience in healthcare, her dedication to hospice care, and drive to give each patient the best end of life they could possibly have, Maggie brings a contagious smile and happiness to her patients each day. She cares for them as if they were her own family. She takes time to talk, laugh, even cry with patients. She gets to know them and their family. Maggie creates a safe and peaceful environment for her patients to be cared for and gives them the time and attention they need. Maggie is a true team player and goes out of her way to participate and donate her

time to celebration of life events that our team plans for patients. She helps in any capacity needed for our patients, so they can enjoy the rest of their life."

These qualities exemplify the Bella Care Hospice mission and values. Maggie is a wonderful example of who we are. Your Bella Team loves and is so proud of you, Maggie! Congratulations!



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# REGIONAL MEETINGS





## **Regional MSW Meeting**

In June, we held an all state Social Worker meeting for the first time in years! This meeting was full of energy, collaboration, excitement- all while learning more about Hospice regulations and Bella Care Policy. It was a great day!



#### **Physician & NP Dinners**

Bella Care hosted our bi-annual Physician and Nurse Practitioner meetings this fall! We combined the north offices for one meeting, the southern programs for another, and Columbus held their own meeting. This meeting covers everything from a 'State of the Union' for what's happening at Bella Care, the current climate of the Hospice industry from CMS, Compliance Review and overall professional training for our practitioners. We always enjoy this opportunity to sit down with these important team members and focus on how our Hospice can continue to improve and be the best in Ohio!





#### **Volunteer Coordinator Meeting**

Our Volunteer Coordinators with the Executive Directors held their annual meeting at the Columbus office in October. It was a wonderful way to review the last year and look forward to the future! There were some new initiatives, training, and dicussion. We are so blessed to have this group of very successful, dedicated people here within our Bella Team!

# ASHTABULA

## **Food Truck Fun**

Staff enjoyed Mary's Kitchen Food Truck at our office before an all staff meeting. Our friends & family enjoyed a sweet treat when the East Coast Custard Catering Truck came out for our ice cream social event.







Quarter 1 - Lauren Hutchison, RNCM Quarter 2 - Lori Alexander, STNA





#### **Annual Memorial Service**

The Ashtabula Branch was grateful to the Harvest Church in Austinburg for allowing us to host our Annual Memorial Service there this year! Our chaplains, Pastor Pam & Penelope, put together a wonderful service to help us honor and celebrate the lives of those we had lost over the past year.





# CINCINNATI

#### **Pumpkin Decorating**

This October the Cincinnati Branch had a little team building Halloween fun with a pumpkin decorating contest! Individuals and teams took part to make the cutest" looking pumpkin. The winning 'witch pumpkin' belonged to Kelly, Erin, and Tammy.













## Welcome Baby Hinkle

Bella Care Cincinnati is excited to welcome our newest family member! Social Worker Laura Hinkle gave birth to a healthy baby girl on November, 5th: Lucy Elizabeth Hinkle. Mom and baby are both doing well. We are so happy for Laura and her family.



## **Employees of the Quarter**

Quarter 2 - Nicole Douglas, STNA

Quarter 3 - Laura Hinkle, SW



# CLEVELAND



Employees of the Quarter Ouarter 2 - Vada Koeffer, STNA



#### **Alzheimer's Walk**

Our Cleveland team was proud to walk again in this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's event held on October 19th at the Metroparks Zoo! After some decent fundraising, we had a nice turn out for the walk and the team enjoyed a beautiful morning.

#### Happy Halloween in Cleveland!

Happy Halloween from Bella Care, Akron Cleveland! In October, we had a fun all staff party with a caramel apple bar, cider and a "wicked" round of Bingo. We capped it off with Halloween movie trivia and treat bags of handmade candy!





# Persevering in Difficult Times -by Executive Director Lakisha

The AKC team has been brave and resilient!

Bouncing back from every challenge and obstacle in our path! We were able to focus on our strengths and learn from our weaknesses! With our heads held high and our hearts postured properly our team will continue to provide compassionate care while affirming and celebrating life!

# COLUMBUS

#### **Fall Festival**

Bella Care Columbus participated in their 3rd Annual Fall Festival. It's always a favorite for the Bella Kids and a good time for all who attend. There was plenty of good food, games, prizes, and, of course, trick-or-treating!



## Walk to End Alzheimer's

Bella Care Columbus participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's, and raised a total of \$3,081.19 for this cause that is so special to our hearts. It was a beautiful day with an amazing turnout of the Purple People!

# **Employees of the Quarter**

- Quarter 1 Ashley Croston, RNCM
- Quarter 2 Rebecca Adkins, STNA







# DAYTON



## Walk to End Alzheimer's

A group representing Bella Care was proud to once again walk in support of the Alzheimer's Foundation on October 19th, this year. Staff and family came together to support this cause!



## **Employees of the Quarter**

Quarter 2 - Leticia Moreland, STNA

Quarter 3 - Heather Everett, RNCM

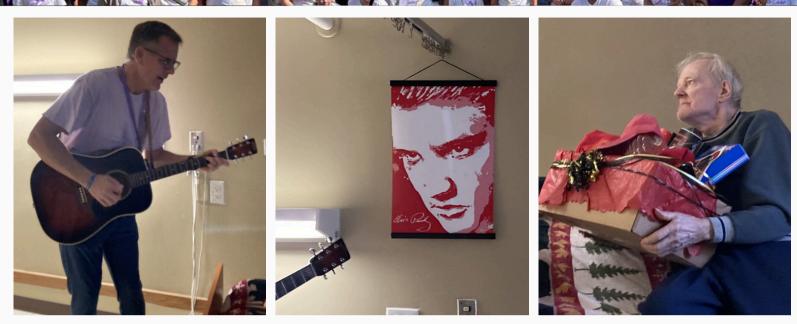


#### **Memorial Service**

Our Dayton team held another beautiful Memorial Service on October 15th at the Hills and Dales MetroPark. The service was once again led by our Chaplain Brian who has a passion for bereavement care, supporting families in their grief and celebrating the lives of patients we have served in the last year. This year we were also excited to have live music from our hospice volunteer Kyle. Thank you to all who helped set up the event and came out to support families.



# CELEBRATE LIFE



## **Celebrating Elvis**

Cleveland recently had a wonderful Celebrate Life that was a culmination of IDT collaboration, Volunteer Services, and Music & Memory. Our patient Bernie doesn't leave his room much or even show his face much with visitors. However our psych/social team identified his love for Elvis and wanted to gift with some items and decoration for his room. Volunteer musician Tim also got involved in the project. Together they were able to deliver a basket of Elvis goodies and sing Elvis songs. Bernie came out of his shell and sang along with a huge smile on his face!

## **A Farmer's Friend**

Ashtabula patient, Robert, had shared with us that he grew up on a farm and really enjoyed animals. He was a dairy farmer for many years prior to he & his wife selling the farm a few years back. He shared with his hospice aide that he would love to be able to see a cow again as it had been quite some time since he had been to a farm. With the help of the hospice social worker, marketer, and facility staff, the team was able to make a connection with 4-H who was able to bring the cows to him! At one point, Robert stated, "She's trying to get attention!" as one of the calves moved closer to his wheelchair.





# CELEBRATE LIFE

## Happy 50th Anniversary!

Bella Care Hospice Ashtabula & Jefferson Healthcare were excited to be able to be a part of Judy's & Ron's 50th wedding year anniversary celebration as family and friends gathered to honor the happy couple!



## A Visit From the Zoo





Columbus patient Mary is a newer resident at Tuscany Gardens nursing home. She was having a difficult time connecting with other residents. She loves the Zoo, talking frequently about some of her happiest memories of how her family would go multiple times a year and how much joy it brought her. MSW Caitlyn spoke about having a big event to celebrate her arrival to the facility, and inviting the Columbus Zoo and all the other residents to join in. She was convinced that the zoo animals would not just come to her, and that they had better things to do. Mary was kept in the dark about the event until about a week prior when we discussed the party that was occurring the following Monday. Mary cried and thanked Caitlyn, who worked so hard setting everything up, and even helped pick what she would be wearing to her big event. Mary's family was able to come and celebrate too! Many stated this is the first time they had seen her genuinely smile since moving in. Mary had several generations of family there and it was so nice to see her introduce all the staff members to her loved ones. Watching her face light up to see the sloth, the penguin and the other animals was wonderful. Even having to show the penguin her shirt that she had gotten special to wear to the event. Mary has since made several friends and frequents many of the other activities offered at the facility throughout the week. It's funny we often don't think that one event big or small can just change someone's life so much, but Mary is no longer just the new member at the facility, but truly part of their community.

# CELEBRATE LIFE





## **BBQ and Memories**

Mildred loves discussing her favorite barbecue dishes with her care team, so they arranged a special outing for her and her sister. Mildred's sister shared heartwarming stories from their childhood, highlighting how Mildred was like a second mom to her. The day was filled with laughter and love, celebrating both delicious food and their special bond.



## **Trip to the Arcade**

At Bella Care Hospice, we believe in celebrating life every day. Adrian is one of our cherished patients and he loves painting in his room, but he's always had a special place in his heart for arcade games—something he's enjoyed since the 1970s. Recently, his care team made it possible for him to relive those memories with an outing to Marion's Pizza followed by an afternoon of fun at Gaming Adventures in Englewood. A heartfelt thank you to his amazing care team: Nurse Nadia, STNA Taylor, Social Worker Rachel, Volunteer Coordinator Abby, and Chaplain Brian for making this day so special for Adrian. Moments like these are why we love what we do.





# STAFF ANNIVERSARIES



#### Let's celebrate employees who reached an anniversary of 3 years or more! **3 Years 5** Years 9 Years

- Rebecca Adkins, STNA Columbus
- Melanie Fox, Director of HR
- Kelly Campbell, Clinical Director Cincinnati
- Elizabeth Bauer, SW Cincinnati
- Laura Hinkle, SW Cincinnati
- Jessica Trotter, Director of Marketing Cincinnati
- Aretha Burt, STNA Cincinnati
- Abigail Green, RN Cincinnati
- Valerie Lovell, RN Davton
- Melissa Sutton, VC Cleveland
- Kiana Pryor, STNA Cleveland
- Tomarah Medley, STNA Cleveland

#### 4 Years

- Ashley Baker, STNA Cincinnati
- Sabrina Young, Patient Account Specialist
- Michelle Kalifon, ED Ashtabula



- Krista Pace, LPN Columbus
- Kendra Lambert, VC Columbus
- Jessica Eschenbrenner, RN Columbus
- Erica Crowden, LPN Cincinnati
- Tammy Bolin, BOM Cincinnati
- Shandrekia Hull, LPN Ashtabula

#### 6 Years

- Megan Lash, APRN Dayton
- Scott Gorbold, Director of Volunteer Services
- Nichole Lister, VC Ashtabula

#### 7 Years

- Orville Williams, STNA Columbus
- Ashlee Sullivan, ED Dayton
- Raenette Biedka, RN Cleveland
- Jessica Brainard, STNA Ashtabula

#### 8 Years

Gretchen Todd, APRN Cincinnati



- Brandy Stenson, ED Columbus
- Leticia Moreland, STNA Dayton
- Amanda Millard, APRN Cleveland
- Iennifer Matos, STNA Ashtabula

#### **11 Years**

- Alicia Angelo, APRN Columbus
- Wosilat Majekodunmi, STNA Cincinnati
- Liezl Malibiran, APRN Cleveland
- Heather Ertle, RN Ashtabula

#### 12 Years

- Kim Sells, ED Cincinnati
- Candice Nickell, Patient Account Specialist

#### **13 Years**

• Michelle Dooley, Director of Marketing, Columbus





# NEW TEAM MEMBERS

# Help us welcome all the staff members joining our amazing teams!

#### Asthabula

- Penelope Rose, Chaplain
- Victoria Collins, STNA
- Noel Harrison, STNA
- Megan Akers, Receptionist
- Randi Fisher, LPN
- Sherri Gregory, STNA
- Skyler Sanders, STNA

#### Cincinnati

- Kimberly Coffey, LPN
- Nicole Miller, RN
- Desiree Davis, APRN
- Mark Cravens, Chaplain
- Katie Fulks, VC
- Rebecca Benjamin, STNA
- Aleah Flowers, SW
- Jennifer Barrett, RN
- Anthony Hudson, Chaplain
- Mark Urton, Chaplain
- Jillian McGinnis, RN
- Allison Hale, Administrative Assistant
- Laura Rider, RN
- Brittany Brewer STNA
- Alexis Nemorin, RN

#### Columbus

- Aumend Cunningham, RN
- Layne Riley, STNA
- Vera McNeal, STNA
- Daffernee Morris, STNA
- Miranda Wilson, STNA
- Jalisa Davis, STNA
- Lelah Sparks, RN
- Alexis Smith, STNA
- Zoe Cap, SW
- Cheryl Sharpes, VC
- Shane Johnson, RN
- Leslie Kiraly, HR Assistant
- Breeanna Brower, RN
- Halle Wilder, STNA



#### Cleveland

- Lillian Britt, STNA
- Krystle Boyington, Clinical Director
- Erik Hill, Chaplain
- Catherine Casey, Receptionist
- Kimberly Rahman, LPN
- Tiffinnie Knapp, STNA
- Christian McCrary, LPN
- Amy Higgins, RN

#### Dayton

- Kiersten Bailey, STNA
- Taylor Friedman, STNA
- Kashina Whitmore, LPN
- Nadia Caldwell, RN
- Tashawna Howard, STNA
- Michaela Dillinger, STNA
- Jamison Noble, Director of Marketing



