

The BRH Volunteer Newsletter

December 2025



Happy Holidays to our beloved Hospice Volunteer Team from all of the staff at Broad Reach Hospice. May your holiday season be filled with joy and peace.

ANNUAL End of the Year GATHERING

You are all welcome to join Broad Reach Hospice Staff for our annual holiday gathering. There will be a "yankee swap" gifting (\$\$ range of 15-20\$, wrapped gift. Food will be provided!!

Wednesday December 17th 3:00 pm

Chatham Community Center

702 Main St Chatham

Hope you can join us!

A Note from Karen:

Seriously??? It's December??? Hard to believe isn't it? Time just goes by so fast.

As I contemplate how quickly it seems 2025 went by, it makes me think about how you as hospice volunteers give so generously of YOUR time. All of you have chosen to share your time with those at end of life cared for by Broad Reach. You manage to carve that time into your weekly routines and juggle it with family, or work commitments. That speaks to just how dedicated and compassionate you all are. It is my goal to make sure that the time you spend with patients is meaningful, for them and YOU. When I spoke at the Chatham Men's Club last week, Jim Fulton (one of our volunteers), was there and he commented to the group about how much the visits mean to him, and the honor and reward he receives from each visit. I'm sure all of you feel that way. As I review the background information about each patient, I try to match the patients life story with your gifts and passions. I'll admit, sometimes there is a significant connection between volunteer's interest areas and that of the patient, other times I simply know that you will each provide the compassionate presence and do your best to raise up the patient's history. Always remember that whether the patient is verbal, or sleeping on and off or not engaging; your time spent with them is of value. YOU SHOWED UP!!

From the bottom of my heart I wish you all a Happy Holiday season. May the days ahead be filled with wellness and joy. You are all in my heart and prayers... everyday!

Much love, Karen



In October and November we welcomed a new volunteer:

Skyler Callahan – Skyler will be seeing patients at Maplewood in Brewster

FOUR more volunteers are in the onboarding/ training process and will be officially joining the team in December

Deb Harry – Deb will be seeing patients in the Chatham area

Joan Ryan – will be seeing patients in Harwich area

Rita Wahlstedt – will be seeing patients in the Barnstable area

Susan Goetz - will be seeing patients in the Yarmouth area

Welcome all and thank you for your interest in hospice work!

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Covid, RSV, Flu - Winter sick season is here!

As many of you are aware we have already been seeing that Covid is rearing its ugly face again for patients in their own homes as well in facilities. I will continue to do my best to communicate with all of you when precautions are in effect for a patient you are seeing. Please check notices at the facilities you go to. Masks are always available, please use them if you choose.

FLU SHOTS and COVID

Thank you for submitting your flu shot documentation. I apologize for not including this in prior newsletter and emails,If you chose to have a COVID vaccine, that documentation is also needed. If you decline COVID vaccines... **you MUST wear a mask in the facilities you visit as well in private homes.**

Together we will do our best to keep everyone healthy this fall and winter!!



Visit Report Forms

Thank you for getting report forms to the office in a timely fashion.

- ♥ Karen is more than happy to meet you at facility or wherever to pick up... I'll treat to coffee!!!!
- ♥ Reminder to fill out one form for each patient, we scan these reports into each patient file
- ♥ Black ink is needed for the reports! Thank you Everyone!!!

Reminders and Need to know info:

- Reminder that visits should be made on a **weekly basis** to build relationship and to be compliant with the guidelines for hospice volunteer visits. If you are unable to make weekly visits, please let Karen know. Thank you
- To reach Karen 508-945-1611 ext 382
karensangler@broadreachhealth.org
- **Karen's hours:** Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri
8am-4pm. (note Mon and Wed working remotely). Day off is Thursday
- **When filling out report forms, please be sure they are signed, dated correctly, in BLACK ink and on clean paper as they are scanned into patient's charts.**
- Blank volunteer **report forms** are available by either stopping at the office, or by email
- Reminder to please wear your **ID badge** when you visit. If you need a new one, please let Karen know



There will not be a Volunteer Support Meeting in December

Next meeting is January 20th at 11:00. Watch for a link and info about the meeting in early January

The meeting will have an educational time focused on Parkinson's Disease.

JOHN LEVIN MEMORIAL TELECONFERENCE ON ALZHEIMER'S WITH TEEPA SNOW

Friday, December 5
11:00 - 3:30 EST
A ZOOM Event

for information call (508) 896-5170,
or email info@capecodalz.org



Join the Alzheimer's Family Support Center and Teepa Snow for a day-long training on person-centered dementia care. CE's included.



SCAN TO REGISTER
or

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
ON EVENTBRITE](#)



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Amedco LLC and the Alzheimer's Family Support Center. Amedco LLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

www.alzfamilysupport.org

If you are interested in attending this teleconference, please register using the URL bar or call me at the office and I will register for you. This training is very well known and will give you a new understanding of Alzheimer's and Dementia. I believe it will enhance your visits with those we care for who have this diagnosis. It also will "count" towards the annual training that is required by the Dept. of Public Health in Mass for all hospice volunteers. Please call or email Karen with any questions.