

## We Honor Veterans Program – Continuing to Grow

A couple of years ago, we joined the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's *We Honor Veterans program*. A joint effort between the Veterans Administration and hospices throughout the nation, this program focuses on respectful inquiry, compassionate listening and grateful acknowledgement of the service and sacrifices our men and women have made for this country.

We are now taking the next step in expanding this program. On February 14, 2012, High Desert Hospice hired a Veterans and Community Outreach Coordinator, Bonnie Holloway, to help us reach our goals and continue our mission of to serve these men and women with the dignity they deserve. In her new position, Bonnie will oversee the growth, effectiveness and quality of our program.



WE HONOR VETERANS

## Veterans and Community Outreach Coordinator

### Bonnie Holloway – Veterans and Community Outreach Coordinator



Being born and raised locally in Klamath Falls has been rewarding in many ways.

This year my husband Gary and I will celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Together we have raised a son, Cory, and daughters, Camie and Crissy. Our family has grown to include eleven wonderful grandchildren.

Professional opportunities have included caregiving, sales, office management, Administrator/Residence Director for Assisted Living, Memory Care and retirement communities. These experiences have enhanced my passion to love and assist seniors.

My new opportunity with High Desert Hospice, as the Veterans and Community Outreach Coordinator, allows me to pursue my passion of serving and working with those in my community who served their county. What an honor....

#### Inside this issue:

We Honor Veterans	1
Veterans and Community Outreach	1
New Staff Members	2
Volunteer Corner	3
2011 Year in Review	4

---

## New Staff Members

---

### Angela Max, Licensed Practical Nurse –



I was born in Southern California and have lived in many states including North Carolina, Washington, and Texas before moving to Klamath Falls to be around my parents. I traveled extensively throughout Mexico and Guatemala where I climbed to the top of the Mayan ruins.

I have three children, 18, 13, and 5. I enjoy being outdoors and exploring all the wonderful things Oregon, and Klamath Falls has to offer. I love to golf, and in my spare time raising butterflies with my youngest daughter for our zoo, and other community activities.

Since I can remember, I have always wanted to be a nurse, and like many others, I began my career as a personal aide in the 1990's working for an assisted living facility before being accepted into the nursing program in 2002. I have always had a heart for our geriatric community, and thought it was nothing short of an honor to have shared so many life stories with these folks. I have roughly 15 years total nursing experience in acute care, long term care peritoneal dialysis, Home Health and Hospice. I am currently working on a transfer degree for my BS in nursing. After working in a hospice center and experiencing firsthand what it means to put the patient first, I decided this was the path of nursing I would like to pursue.

I can honestly say that my work with Hospice is by far the most rewarding. I feel a deep passion and respect for the families that allow me to share this journey with them. I am glad to have found a home with the other team members that are High Desert Hospice. It's great to work for professionals who share my belief, for delivering outstanding, compassionate care no matter your rank. We all get our hands dirty, and it takes a team to complete this journey. I look forward to helping many families.

### Ann Haskins, Hospice Aide –



Coming from Long Beach, California, I've lived in Sprague River for 26 years. I started in patient care at Klamath Regional Rehabilitation Center in 1992 as a Certified Nursing Assistant. I worked at Klamath Hospice for 2 years and Plum Ridge for 6 years as a CNA and Medication Aide. Helping care for people is a privilege and very rewarding.

My husband, Jimmy, was born and raised in Sprague River. He has been a logger for 30 years. We have recently re-started our own logging operation.

For entertainment, we hunt elk and deer and we both enjoy riding our quad runners.

---

*When you are sorrowful look again in your heart,  
and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that  
which has been your delight.*

*~Kahlil Gibran Spring 2012 Newsletter*

## Volunteer Corner

**What is your absolutely most precious possession?**

*Your time.*

The Vet to Vet Volunteer program is in need of individuals who are willing to share some of their precious time to help a family that is providing end of life care for a loved one.

We are currently recruiting Veterans and will provide specialized hospice volunteer training focusing on Veteran's needs and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. This training allows Veterans a unique opportunity to care for other Veterans during the end of life.

Veteran volunteers work directly with patients and families to provide such services as:

- Visitation
- Companionship
- Emotional Support
- Transportation
- Respite for caregivers

If you want to make the most of your precious possession, your time, and give back to those who gave so much to our country, please give Bonnie a call at **541-882-1636**.

National Volunteer Week  
April 15–21, 2012

Hospice Volunteers...  
*We Listen, We Care.*

Hospice Volunteers are an essential part of the care team that makes sure you and your loved ones find comfort, dignity and respect.

Learn more about hospice and volunteering at High Desert Hospice 541-882-1636



- Shasta Litho – 541-883-3010
  - Ward's Funeral Home – 541-882-4404
  - Davenport's Chapel of the Good Shepherd – 541-883-3458
- “ A special thank you to our sponsors”**

High Desert Hospice LLC  
2894 Greensprings Drive  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

## 2011 Year in Review

**High Desert Hospice LLC continued to grow in 2011. Here are some of the highlights:**

- \* The number of patients we served increased
- \* We hired and trained additional staff
- \* We received our Level 1 in the We Honor Veterans Program
- \* Our not-for-profit High Desert Hospice Foundation was established and we received tax-exempt status.
- \* Dr. Yolanda Suarez, our Medical Director, was awarded a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Hospice and Palliative Medicine by the American Board of Family Medicine.
- \* Dr. Brandon Chase joined our team as Assistant Medical Director.

	2011	2010
Total Patients Cared for by High Desert Hospice	183	124
Total Patient Days	10,561	7,089
Average Length of Stay	42.3 days	94 days
Patients on service 7 days or less	52 or 28.4%	24 or 19.4%