



August, 2020
Volume 2, Issue 3

Word from our Chairman

Leisa Matthews

Dear Solace House Supporters,

Greetings, Friends of Solace House of the Ozarks!

Thanks to you, we opened our doors on June 1 and immediately took our first guest. It was a week of organized chaos as we figured out the little things. But the BIG thing was YOU! We had wonderful volunteers show up and serve! It was SO beautiful to see how much love was in that home! We had the honor and pleasure of impacting the lives of two families and will forever remember the first people in our home.

Due to the COVID-19 increase and several volunteers on quarantine, we delayed taking our

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Joyce Nicoletti by
Tony Nicoletti

Cleo Allen by
Candy Sorensen

"Our Story with Solace" by Tony Nicoletti

What a true blessing it was for our family to find Solace House of the Ozarks. When my sister was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, it was agonizing news. In a span of days, we were trying to locate a care facility because we knew that we were not capable of giving my sister around the clock care.

At the time, most care facilities were not accepting patients due to the COVID crisis. Just at the moment we were thinking we were out of options, a hospice worker told us about the Solace House.

Upon arriving at the Solace House, the volunteers were amazing! My wife and I stayed with my sister the first night.
(continued on page 2)

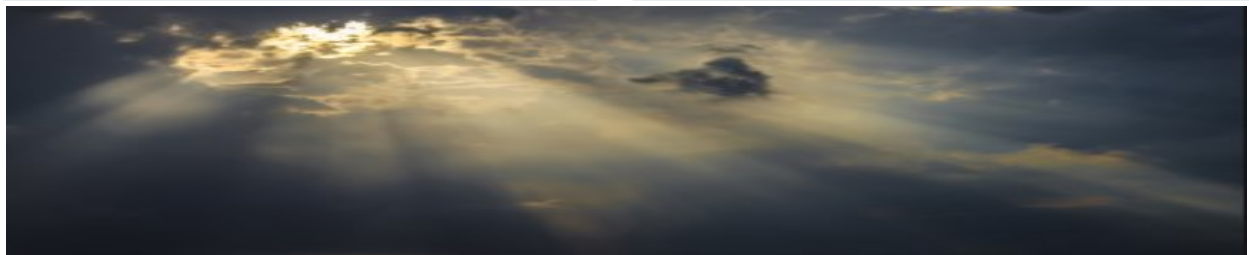
A Word from our Chairman, *continued from page 1*

next guest for a few weeks. However, we see the incredible need for our service and want to reopen soon. We will have precautionary guidelines in place for everyone's protection and are asking our volunteers to sign-up on next week's schedule. If you have not already done so, please call to schedule a tour of our beautiful home. One of our

trustees would be delighted to show it off and share additional details of our mission.

On behalf of our board, I would like to thank each one of you that has supported us financially, volunteered your time and lifted us up in prayer.

*Leisa Matthews Chairman,
Board of Trustees
Solace House of the Ozarks*



"Our Story with Solace" *continued from page 1*

The staff was unbelievably compassionate and caring. They provided food, drinks, and empathy above and beyond what we ever expected.

In the last remaining days of my sister's life, I felt confident in leaving my sister in their care, since I needed to still work.

With this being said, I hope that if a family finds themselves in this same situation that they will consider the Solace House of the Ozarks. My sister was surrounded by thoughtful, kindhearted,

attentive volunteers.

Thanks so much for allowing us to have the honor of being the first family in Joplin to benefit from your service. Words can't express how much we appreciate all that you did for our family.

Sincerely,
The Nicoletti
Family



Friend/Fund Raising Committee —Chair—Lana Nelson,

*Kelly Wheeler, Amanda Bearden, Cortnee Eaton, Leisa Matthews,
Amanda Harrell*

Fund raising has certainly been a challenge over the last several months...thanks to “you know what”! However, many have donated funds to help cover our monthly expenses. Friend raising has also been a little more difficult because so many groups are not meeting for their regular programs. However, so many of our volunteers have brought their friends with them to Solace House for tours and to introduce them to our work at the home. Thank you so much!

We are looking forward to settling into a new normal eventually, being able to conduct fund-

raiser events as well as being able to visit with you at your club meetings and other community groups!

We do have an ongoing garage sale called The Blessing Boutique that we have set up for our volunteers and supporter list. You should stop by and visit it at some point. It is in a garage behind our Solace House home. It is not a typical garage sale with lots of small items...like clothing. It is just decorator and seasonal items, beautiful dishes, and some small furniture....nothing big....just very nice... There are no prices. You just make a donation.

GREAT NEWS!!!

We have a new platform which makes it very easy to donate to Solace House. Go to www.donatesolacehouse.com and you can help us get 31 donors in 31 days! Can you help provide for our sustainability?



Every little bit helps. And regular income will make a big difference as we confidently move forward.

Thank you!

Cleo Allen—by Candy Sorensen

On June 19, my 94 year old father, Cleo Allen suffered a brain bleed. The choices: immediate brain surgery and ventilator (which would probably not have good outcome) or palliative care. Reluctantly, I chose palliative care as the best option given the diagnosis and his age.

He was admitted to a palliative care room and there we stayed from Thursday afternoon until Monday morning. Sometime over the weekend, I was told that he would have to be transferred to a skilled nursing facility on Monday or Tuesday.

I immediately went into a panic mode because I knew I could not visit him in a skilled nursing facility because of Covid. I prayed there would be another way because I could not bear to leave him.

On Monday morning, Dr. Black informed me that my Dad would have to move to another facility. I asked him, "Aren't there any hospice house facilities in Joplin where

he could go?" Dr. Black answered, "Yes, there is one. Solace House. I will check to see if they have room". The answer was "yes, they did!"

I cannot begin to explain the relief I felt when I heard about their services. My daughter and I could be with him; there would be volunteers there around the clock; hospice nurses and CNAs would come by to check on him every day. Dr. Black arranged for him to be moved. When we got there, he had a hospital bed and an oxygen concentrator. I was able to sleep in the same room on a comfortable twin bed. I had a private bath.

The volunteers made coffee (decaf, at my request) served lunch for me and my daughter and baked us cookies. All of the volunteers were friendly, kind and compassionate to my Daddy and to me and my daughter as well. One volunteer even helped straighten out a mistake I made on a bank deposit!



I cannot begin to list all the great connections I had with the volunteers, but the one that pops out most in my mind is that one of the volunteers, Sandy Hughes, was one of my mother's dance students from the 1960's. We had many wonderful conversations.

My Daddy was there from Tuesday afternoon until he passed peacefully on Friday evening. I could not have asked for a better place for him to be. I had prayed for a way to be with him until the end and God certainly answered that prayer.

A couple of Scriptures come to my mind.

Philippians 4:19 NIV

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

(continued next page)

Cleo Allen continued from p. 4

Ephesians 3:20 ESV

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think according to the power at work within us...”

Words cannot convey my gratitude to all of you at Solace House who were there for us when we needed you most.

The Family of Cleo L. Allen

Candy Sorensen

Amanda Sorensen



Committees!



Check out the committees below and the sub-committees and see if there is one you'd like to work on. You don't have to be on the board to be on a committee. We need everyone's expertise and circle of influence to keep Solace House free to the community. All of us working together can make it happen. We have a wonderful generous community here in this part of the United States.

What a terrific place to serve!

Government

Legislation

Governance

Business Plan

Nominating

Outreach

Fundraising

Education

House Operations

Communication

External

Media

Publicity

Grant Writing

Email and let us know how you'd like to help.

FYI: Currently working on the House Operations Committee are:

Bonita Bond (Chair),

Holly Bennish,

Susan Eck

Marilyn O'Brien

Teresa Deardorff (Intern from MSSU)

Dianne Ray

Kelley Wheeler

Laura Morris

COST OF 24 HOUR CARE

\$3,528* **PRIVATE CAREGIVER**

Average cost of one week of 24 hour care



MEDICAL HOSPICE HOUSE **\$5,054**



Room, board, medications and medical equipment for one week

\$6,300 **HOSPITAL**

Cost of a one week stay as an inpatient



NURSING HOME **\$1,183****



Cost of one week in a private room

\$0

SOLACE HOUSE OF THE OZARKS

Thanks to our volunteers and donors, the cost to stay in our Home



These figures are estimates of current costs (June 2020)

**<https://www.dibbern.com/home-health-care-costs/cost-for-missouri-home-health-care-htm>*

***https://www.dibbern.com/nursing-homes/missouri/cost_for_missouri_nursing_homes.htm*

Thank you so much,
Doug Hall, for the
generous contribution
to Solace House....a
beautifully framed print
of his work entitled:
“Slippery Rock Falls”!



And thank you, too, to all who bid on this beautiful gift! The recipient of the artwork was Jennifer Schlessman Bishop of Pineville, MO. Jennifer participated in our social media silent auction. As you know, fundraising has been curtailed due to Covid.

*Thank you, Doug and Jennifer for raising \$700
for our operations!*





Thank you, Don King
and friends from
Christ's Community
Church for the
aluminum ramp!
You saved the day!



Hearts and Hammers ministry provided an ADA approved ramp at Solace House. Volunteers are John Clayton, Jeff Adkins, Tom Laney, Rex Adamson, Jerry McCoy. Not available for picture, Dave Watkins.

Board of Trustees

Chairman—Leisa Matthews

Vice Chairman—Amanda Bearden

Secretary—Sandy Hughes

Treasurer—Margie Myers, HCC

Members Alphabetically

Dr. Chris Black, MD

Cortnee Eaton, SHCC

Dr. Amanda Harrell

Susan Lincoln, BME

Crystal Lowery

Philip Mitchell

Danny Mullins, BBL, BCE

Lana Nelson, GRI

Marilyn O'Brien

Kelley Wheeler, MPS

Randy Wilson

Advisors Alphabetically

Chuck Brown, JD

Lane Clevenger, CFP

Brandon C. Davis, CPA

Lynne Duffield, BSN, RN, CPN

Dr. Adam Fahrenholtz

Megan Spiering, BSN, RN, CHPN

A word about our Board of Trustees and Advisors List.

You will notice that the names of the Board of Trustees and Advisors change slightly annually. That's because, from the beginning we designed our board to continually accept new people while maintain continuity. We are interested in fresh perspectives as well as "the wisdom of the ages"...so to speak. So even though people move off the board for a time, they stay actively involved in the work as committee members and as advisors until and if they desire to come back to the board.

Mission and Vision

Our objective is to provide a safe dwelling for persons nearing end of life who cannot or do not wish to stay in their own homes until death; to convey a sense of home by showing love, comfort and support during the final days of living.

Solace House of the Ozarks will be a home filled with loving-kindness for those at life's end, and a haven of support for caregivers.

Volunteer Opportunities at the Home



We are so happy to be able to help guests and their families now! We are only able to do this because of you, the Volunteers. Without you, we can not function. So thank you, again for your liberal sacrifice of time to help love those who are hurting!

There are many ways to help at the home. Just “being there” is worth a lot in itself.

Sometimes there are other things to do...make coffee, bake cookies, do laundry, dust furniture, water plants, file things, clean things, etc. Sometimesjust sit and listen...

Rest assured that your presence is vital.

Can you donate 4 hours a week? Let us know. Solace House phone number is 417-208-9292. Please add

that number to your contact list.

Thank you!

PS Don't forget to check out the committees that need you on page 5.



Many hands make light work.

If you make any change to the online volunteer schedule, please email Solace House and let us know. We will update our daily schedule board in the office. We try to keep both schedules in sync!

Volunteer online schedule link is:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18YiEhuqRBg55WRUT4ap-UWVm2xmv2n4qQ1zKei61DS0/edit?usp=sharing>

Also, we are compiling a directory of all the volunteers and the board members, complete with a picture of everyone. That way, you can know who the people are that you are working with. This directory will be at Solace House for you to look at when you're there.

Please send a short bio and a picture of yourself to the Solace House email. Nothing fancy...just a little blurb and a pic!



Solace House of the Ozarks is:

- A home filled with loving-kindness for those at life's end, and a haven of support for caregivers.
- A home that provides a safe and peaceful environment for those at the end of life.
- A home where life is celebrated and the dying process is regarded as a precious time for the resident and their family.
- A home where each resident and their family will know unconditional love and will be treated with respect and dignity.
- A home where volunteers come together with servants' hearts, intending to treat each resident as we would want our own family member treated.

Contact information

*solacehouseoftheoarksgmail.com

*417-208-9262

(Google Voice—leave a message)

*P.O. Box 4467, Joplin, MO 64803

2425 S. Mina Ave, Joplin, MO 64804

*<https://www.facebook.com/solacehouseoftheoarksgmail.com>

Don't forget to "like" us!

Donate at <www.donatesolacehouse.com>

31 donors in 31 days!

****This is really great!*** When ordering stuff from Amazon, go to ***Amazon Smile*** and order through there if possible, specifying Solace House of the Ozarks as your charity. They will make a donation to Solace House of the Ozarks every time you buy something!

