



Spring 2016

Thank you for your recent gift supporting one of our Hospice programs. Your donation makes a tremendous impact on the lives of our patients and their families as they face serious and life-limiting illnesses.

Hospice Funds

Your support of our Hospice funds provides comfort and peace of mind to patients and caregivers. It often allows patients to be cared for in the comfort of their own home, resting in their own bed.

Hospice Program Support Fund:

Supports the needs of hospice patients and their families during treatment and helps enhance program needs. A wheelchair ramp, burial plot, aid with prescription expenses and medical equipment are just a few examples of how your gifts help families.

Hospice Restricted Fund: Supports the general operational needs of the Hospice program and enriches services by supporting specific projects or the purchase of identified equipment needs.

Pediatric Hospice Walk With Me Program Fund: Provides patients and families experiencing hospice and pediatric palliative care with financial assistance, massage, music and art therapy as well as specialized pediatric equipment, bereavement program services and training for volunteers and staff.

You play a role in caring for our hospice patients and families

Kimberly's story

By Steve & Betsy Fowler

Up until age 2, our daughter Kimberly achieved normal childhood milestones. She walked, talked in short phrases and enjoyed trying to feed herself. Then we began to notice significant delays in her speech and coordination. She developed severe sleeping problems and was very hyperactive.

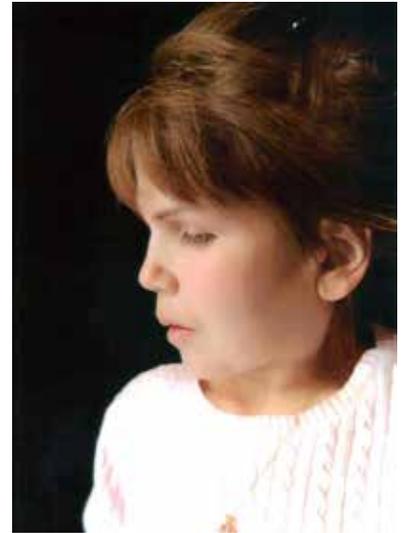
Through age 8½, Kimberly saw many doctors and got many diagnoses. Finally, a geneticist confirmed she had Sanfilippo Syndrome—a disorder that stores sugar molecules and causes damage to healthy cells. It would affect the brain, the muscles and then the vital organs. A shortened life span was certain.

Kimberly did her best to defeat Sanfilippo, but when she began using a wheelchair full time and needed a feeding tube to maintain her weight, we realized we would need help. Her doctor suggested hospice care.

Our daughter was a recipient of the Walk With ME pediatric hospice and palliative care program for almost four years. We utilized every service the program offered. The nurses put us at ease by monitoring Kimberly's health at home and school and by answering all of our questions. The occupational therapist seemed to read Kimberly's feelings with a touch of her hand and would sometimes get her treasured smile.

The whole team became a cherished part of our family. As the Sanfilippo progressed, our hospice nurse prepared us for the inevitable. Kimberly had been sleeping most of the time and not eating. On the morning of Aug. 17, 2014, at age 26, God welcomed her home.

The Walk With ME staff ushered us through the toughest time in our lives and helped us meet our challenges. We will be forever grateful.



Kimberly Fowler

Your generosity assists families like Kimberly's as they go through the most vulnerable times with their loved ones.

What is Walk With ME?

Walk With ME is a pediatric hospice and palliative care program offered through Reverence Home Health & Hospice. It provides comfort care to children of all ages with life-limiting illnesses, including those unborn through early adulthood, and provides practical and spiritual support to their families.



Hospice Facts

Nearly 2 million patients receive hospice services in the U.S. every year



59% of hospice patients receive care at home

84% of hospice patients are age 65 & older



Cancer patients account for less than 1/2 of all hospice admissions

Diagnoses for hospice patients:

- Cancer (36.6%)
- Dementia (14.8%)
- Heart Disease (14.7%)
- Lung Disease (9.3%)
- Stroke or Coma (6.4%)



Average length of hospice service is 71.3 days

Source: National Hospice Palliative Care Organization

Reverence cares for many patients locally

Last year Reverence Home Health & Hospice cared for

2,415 hospice patients, an average of **201** a month

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1,123 hospice patients received care at home

1,234 received care in a hospital or inpatient facility

26 were Walk With ME pediatric patients

Thank you!

1,234 caring donors contributed **1,659** gifts totaling **\$312,875** to SJP hospice programs in the **past 18 months**



In **10 years,** **1,974** caring donors contributed **5,472** gifts totaling nearly **\$1.63 million** to the annual Hospice Walk With Me Event, which supports hospice & palliative care programs for all ages

Your gifts helped provide:

- adaptive wheelchairs, seating systems and safety equipment for pediatric patients
- portable oxygen concentrators with carrying bags/mobile carts for patients
- gift certificates for SJP Healing Arts Centers
- payment of funeral expenses for patients
- memory-making supplies, e.g., creation of products from children's artwork, DVDs of family photos
- prescriptions for patients
- bereavement support and resource materials for families
- CPR equipment for staff and an automated external defibrillator training system
- educational equipment to aid staff in training of field clinicians
- staff education for pain management, symptom management and wound care

Reverence Home Health & Hospice transitions to Ascension Health at Home

Ascension has entered into an agreement with Evolution Health, a division of Envision Healthcare, to form a joint venture to provide home care, hospice care and infusion therapy to individuals in communities served by Ascension. This year, Reverence Home Health & Hospice, a service of St. John Providence, will transition to this platform, known as Ascension Health at Home. As this partnership evolves, Reverence Home Health & Hospice will provide updates. If you have questions, please call 888-246-6322.