

Celebrating 50 Years of Gratitude for YOU!



Hospice of Santa Barbara / 2023 Annual Report

Your compassion allows Patient Care Services to help families coping with a life-threatening illness

“When clouded by grief and other emotions, day-to-day care of my parents was overwhelming. The support staff at Hospice were greatly skilled at helping me and my siblings stay present while they coordinated our parents’ medical, spiritual, and emotional care details. This was a huge relief.” ~ Family Caregiver

We served 359 patients with a life-threatening illness and 483 of their immediate family members last year. Patients had support in navigating the difficult medical care system, understanding their disease, and making decisions about their care. Families also received counseling, spiritual care, visits from volunteers, and bereavement care if their loved one died.

In partnership with The Starfish Connection, we distributed \$18,914 in Quality of Life Grants to 62 low-income families who were financially impacted by their illness. These grants covered basic necessities like groceries, gas, meals, transportation, or funeral expenses.

“When my husband took his own life, a friend referred me, actually INSISTED, that I get Hospice grief counseling. At that time, I just couldn’t imagine that it would ever be possible to survive my unbearable pain. I had individual therapy and then group therapy in Survivors of Suicide. Without it, I’m not sure I’d be here today.” ~ Erika Gomez

Your kindness allowed Hospice of Santa Barbara to serve 4,065 people in 2023

Since 1974, you have allowed Hospice of Santa Barbara to be there for our neighbors who are in the depths of grief or struggling with a life-threatening illness. You also make it possible for us to help change the conversation about death and dying for the better through our education programs. It is only because of you that we can do all of this completely free of charge. Read on to discover how your generosity impacted the people served by our many programs in 2023.

Grieving adults find solace... thanks to your support

Last year, 795 adults had a caring hand to help them through the loss of a loved one. The compassionate counselors at Hospice of Santa Barbara help grieving people find the strength to move forward in life, one step at a time. Your support makes this journey of healing possible.

Last year we offered one-on-one counseling as well as groups specifically for those who have lost an adult child, a spouse, partner, or even a pet. We also offer poetry and art therapy groups.



Our beloved donors and volunteers have made 50 years of compassion possible.

Because you care, young people have a helping hand through grief

In 2023, **290** children, teens, young adults, and their family members received counseling after losing a loved one. Our skilled counselors see young people ages 4 - 24 in our office, and on the campuses of **17** schools. Grief counseling leaves a lasting impact on young people, shaping their emotional well-being for decades. Counseling alleviates immediate distress and fosters resilience, contributing to positive long-term outcomes that reverberate in their lives for decades.



Grief counseling helped 165 students at these local schools:

Aliso Elementary	La Cuesta Continuation
Bishop Diego High	La Cumbre Jr. High
Canalino Elementary	McKinley Elementary
Carpinteria Jr. High	San Marcos High
Carpinteria High	Santa Barbara High
Dos Pueblos High	Santa Ynez Valley High
Goleta Valley Jr. High	Santa Barbara Jr. High
Franklin Elementary	Washington Elementary
La Colina Jr. High	

“Hospice has been with us through countless disasters, with students who have lost loved ones, and with those that have a family member who is ill. Unfortunately we see a lot of that here on campus. It is hard to counsel kids on grief and loss and I always feel comfortable turning to your counselors to help in that process.”
~ San Marcos High School Counselor



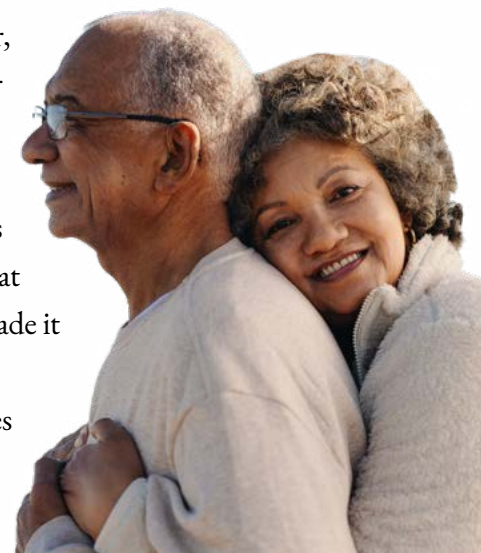
**compassionate care**
OF CARPINTERIA
An initiative of Hospice of Santa Barbara

Compassionate Care of Carpinteria exists because of you

We helped **160** children and adults in Carpinteria through grief or illness. Compassionate Care of Carpinteria, started in 2017, offers bereavement counseling and support for patients with a life-threatening illness and their families.

Every week, our counselors support grieving students on the campuses of Carpinteria schools, including Carpinteria High School, Carpinteria Middle School, Canalino Elementary, and Aliso Elementary.

“Hospice support was outstanding in managing my dying husband’s last few months and supporting both of us through the end of life journey. During my husband’s last few months of dying due to cancer, [we experienced] their amazing care and support when he passed at home. It was always his wish to die at home and Hospice made it possible.”
~ Patient Care Services Client



Volunteers are the heart of our work

In 2023, **115** volunteers lovingly gave **3,271** hours to help people in our community who are dealing with grief or illness.

As a volunteer hospice organization, Hospice of Santa Barbara couldn't exist without the wonderful, giving people who make up our volunteer program. Volunteers spend at least two hours each week doing things such as taking patients to doctors appointments, picking up groceries or medications, walking a dog, spending quality time with a sick person, and giving caregivers a break.



Other volunteers co-lead support groups in collaboration with our counseling staff, run workshops to help people fill out their MyCare advance directives, and make our Beloved Bears out of the clothing of loved ones who have passed.

“My mother’s volunteer was really such a God-send to her. She has such a gentle, loving spirit that was so comforting to mom; and they had just so much fun together! She really brought my mom a lot of joy in her last few months.” ~ Patient Care Services Client



Special volunteers make these one-of-a-kind bears from the clothing of loved ones who have passed.

With your support, we are changing the way our community talks about death and dying

In 2023, HSB provided **600** community members and professionals training on issues of death and dying. This included **204** people who completed their MyCare advance health care directive.

You made it possible for Spanish-speakers to get critical information

Mi Vida, Mi Voz distributed **29,000** print newsletters countywide to ensure that Spanish-speaking people have access to information about basic needs, health, and behavioral wellness services. We reached even more people through our monthly e-newsletters sent to hundreds of Latino-serving organizations. We also held nine workshops to support Spanish-speaking people in completing their advance health care directives.



Shining Light Society 2023

It is only through the compassionate support of our Shining Light Society donors that we are able to meet the needs of our community. For a list of our additional supporters, please visit www.hospiceofsantabarbara.org.

Supernova \$100,000 and Above

James S. Bower Foundation
Santa Barbara Hospice Foundation

Superstar \$50,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous

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recommendation of Bruce
& Kay McFadden



Shooting Star \$2,500 - \$4,999, Con't.

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Harry & Michele Van Wingerden
Suzanne Von Drehle
Leslie Sinclair von Wiesenberger in
memory of Zander von Wiesenberger

Lucky Star \$1,000 - \$2,499

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William & Alison Werts
Mona Wise
James Witherell
Katina Zaninovich
Gina & Alex Ziegler
Dick & Anna Zylstra

Planning for the future

Supporters like you “pay it forward” out of gratitude.

Terri and Brian Bailey were devastated when their 21-year-old daughter Emily died unexpectedly. When a friend recommended they seek support from Hospice of Santa Barbara, they learned that free counseling was available to help families like theirs.

The impact of the counseling they received still resonates with them...so much so that Terri and Brian decided to leave a legacy gift to Hospice of Santa Barbara.

Terri said, “Our legacy gift is being made with gratitude for all the organization has done for us, our family, and for the community. We encourage others who have benefitted from the grief support services offered by Hospice of Santa Barbara to consider joining us as members of the HSB Legacy Society.”

Please contact us to learn how you, too, can leave a legacy gift. By doing so, you can ensure that Hospice of Santa Barbara is here to serve our community for the next 50 years!

Email Nancy Shobe, Key Relationships Manager, at nshobe@hospiceofsb.org for more information.



Emily and her parents,
Terri and Brian Bailey

Legacy Society 2023

Legacy gifts made by these generous donors have a tremendous impact on Hospice of Santa Barbara's ability to provide services free of charge over the long term.



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Brian & Terri Bailey
James & Selma Baker
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Deanne Gillette Violich
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Leslie Sinclair von Wiesenberger in
memory of Zander von Wiesenberger
Steve Warner & Vince Turano
Jeanne West
Linda Seltzer Yawitz

Please let us know if you have already named Hospice of Santa Barbara in your estate plans so that we can show you our sincere appreciation! By doing so, you help to inspire others to support our work as well. You can contact Nancy Shobe, Key Relationships Manager, at nshobe@hospiceofsb.org.