

# Hearts for Hospice



Fall 2020



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Health Is

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# Home Health: *Home is where your health is.*



In recent months, we have all become very familiar with our homes. With the help of technology and out-of-the-box thinking, residences have transformed into entertainment venues, churches and more. But what if a person's home could transform into a rehabilitation center where they can recover safely while surrounded by loved ones to support them every step of the way?

Gulfside Healthcare Services is setting out to transform the way people receive home health care by becoming one of the first non-profits in Pasco County to offer this service to our community.

When a person experiences a fall or surgery and needs to stay in an in-patient rehabilitation center, they often say, "I can't wait to get this over with so I can be HOME." Gulfside Home Health services allows people to begin the recovery process in the place where they are most comfortable: home.

Gulfside's skilled home health services are aimed at helping you recover from a surgery, injury or illness in the comfort of home. This can include a knee replacement, hip replacement, bone fracture resulting from a fall, and more. Home health includes the following services and more:

- Skilled nursing services
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Home rehabilitation services
- Nursing assessment at each home visit to monitor and manage progress

In 2019, Gulfside Healthcare Services started offering home health services to Pasco and Pinellas County, even to those who are uninsured. Since then, Gulfside has provided free skilled care to uninsured or underinsured patients at a cost of more than \$170,000. This means that recovering patients were able to access these essential services and not have the added pressure of financial stress while trying to get back on their feet.

This essential care would not be possible without the support of donors like you.

Unfortunately, there are many cases where insurance does not cover the full cost of medical treatment and life circumstances leave us in a place where it is tough to take on extra expenses. That's when charity home health benefits the folks that need it most.

**Through this new charitable service, Gulfside is changing the way those in our community recover and maintain independence in the place they call home.**

Many say that home is where the heart is, and Gulfside believes that home is where health is, too. With the help of generous donors like you, patients in this community will be able to receive home health treatment without the added burden of financial stress. Your gift can help people be home for the moments that matter most.



**Gulfside  
Home Health**

Lic. 2019 #20255096

To learn more, visit [www.GulfsideHomeHealth.org](http://www.GulfsideHomeHealth.org).



# Why I Give

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT WITH MICHAEL RICKEY

Telling the stories of people that  
make hospice care possible.



**Were you familiar with hospice before and did you think differently about hospice after your family received hospice care?**

I was not familiar with Hospice before my wife's illness. I never thought badly of hospice. We just did not have a need for it until she was diagnosed with the word "terminal." Life then became a very serious matter.

**What made you decide to give every month to hospice?**

The monetary gift I give every month to hospice is out of respect for my wife and the knowledge another human being is being helped physically, mentally and spiritually.

**How did Gulfside's social workers help you through your hospice experience?**

Social workers are a great bunch of individuals. They really help start the process of healing or end of life

realization. Social workers are the folks you open up to and shed a tear with, of which there could be many. If something just does not seem right, contact your social worker. Also, can't forget the nurses. Wonderful caring people along with the home health aides.

**What do you wish everyone knew about Gulfside Hospice's care?**

Hospice is in this community and ready to help. Get a brochure, read it and do not be afraid to ask questions. They are here for the long and short term and you can lean on their shoulder. From a band aide, ham sandwich and counseling, Hospice gets an A+ for attention to family and their needs.



Hospice CNA  
Mavis B.

## Gulfside Receives Grant for Purchase of PPE

Thanks to a grant from the Pasco Aging Network (PAN), the team at Gulfside Hospice is able to provide additional Personal Protective Equipment for staff on the frontlines caring for patients.

The \$750 grant was awarded to the non-profit through PAN's Annual Grant Program, which awards funds to organizations or projects that are focused on the needs or services for senior citizens in Pasco County. At Gulfside Hospice, the funds were

used to purchase PPE, including gloves, thermometers and disposable stethoscopes, in an effort to continue protecting nursing staff during the current pandemic.

"Our team is on the frontlines caring for the most vulnerable during this pandemic," said Tara Still, Fundraising Communications Coordinator for Gulfside. "These funds will go a long way in purchasing much needed supplies to help protect them while they are bravely caring for patients."

# Staying Connected: Innovating in the Coronavirus Crisis



It's safe to say COVID-19 completely changed the world as we know it. For many, this was the first time living through a global health event such as this, and we all had to make adjustments to keep ourselves, and those we love, safe.

When the pandemic hit, Gulfside's team quickly adjusted and used technology to continue serving the residents of Pasco County with patient-centered care. Because of generous donors like you, Gulfside was able to overcome the barriers of social distancing and meet people where they needed help most.

### **"Our medical team jumped into action."**

Our medical team jumped into action and took advantage of a new mandate that allowed hospice to provide care through telehealth. Dr. Lisa Barker and Virginia Norton, APRN

Service Manager, shared how their department adjusted to the "new normal."

Dr. Barker: "Gulfside has eight nurse practitioners that cover the entire county of Pasco. By using telehealth options, our Nurse Practitioners were able to FaceTime with nurses and be 'right there' with patients without traveling miles and using time to commute. With this new tool in place, care has improved for many patients due to quicker response times. Of course, this also helps our team provide compassionate service as safely as possible by eliminating in person contact with extra care team members."

Virginia Norton, APRN: "We've received great feedback that the families of patients very much enjoy the new technology and are experiencing a new kind of care with innovative possibilities."

When the pandemic hit, Gulfside's team quickly adjusted and used technology to continue serving the residents of Pasco County.

Gulfside's Medical Services team made the best of working remotely by staying connected over Zoom, and even having themed meetings, like this patriotic one.







**“Zoom meetings were not just reserved for internal teams.”**

Dr. Barker: “As the Gulfside team transitioned to a work from home structure, we were able to keep a sense of camaraderie and mission with Zoom team meetings. The medical team leaders met safely from their home offices and kept spirits lifted with themed meetings while charting the course of patient care in this new landscape of COVID-19.”

Zoom meetings were not just reserved for internal teams. They also allowed Gulfside to reach family members and loved ones in need of bereavement services.

We spoke with Charlie Lowry, Director of Caregiver Support Services who shared some of the benefits of going virtual:

**“We are able to stay connected... and even reach new people who would not normally be able to attend.”**

“By moving to virtual groups, we are able to stay connected to those in need of bereavement care and even reach new people who would not normally be able to attend. When the Coronavirus crisis began, we moved completely to phone calls but adding the video aspect provided another level of personal connection. We began Zoom calls with one-on-one sessions and quickly saw how this would be a great asset to our group meetings.

Through these video meetings, our team has been able to stay in touch with people who are staying home and

even some of our snowbirds who have traveled north but still want to remain connected to the group. These new technologies are allowing us to transcend state borders and reach people right where they are. There was a small adjustment period, but our participants have found it pretty easy to learn.”

Charlie on how virtual meetings have helped to create a haven in caregivers' homes:

“This format also helps with our new caregiver support group. Many times caregivers do not have the freedom to leave home for too long. This new virtual setup allows full time caregivers a short getaway without leaving home, even if it is just in another room. Having a safe space to unload their feelings and talk about the challenges of the day can be such a relief when a person is responsible for 24/7 care of a loved one.”

**“This new virtual setup allows full time caregivers a short getaway without leaving home.”**

Gulfside's bereavement team has always been there for the families and loved ones of Pasco County. Now, we are using this unfortunate event to improve that support and provide more to our community.

*Continued >*





## Gulfside in the Community

Continued



How Gulfside is keeping care first throughout COVID-19:

Gulfside's nurses, aides, chaplains and social workers are still out in the field providing compassionate care to patients throughout Pasco County as front-line healthcare workers. Additionally, Gulfside's Hospice Care Centers remain open for safe family visits so they can cherish precious time with their loved ones. Although COVID-19 has changed the world we live in, it has not changed Gulfside's commitment to excellent care and devoted support.

All of this is only possible with the help of donors like you. Your gifts strengthen our mission, our team and our service. Without your support, emergencies like COVID-19 could completely disrupt the care we provide to those in need.

Thank you for helping to make this, and so much more, possible.

## Giving Back to Gulfside

*Looking for a way to remember your loved one and pay it forward?*



In Loving Memory  
Gloria Marasco  
4/19/1930 - 9/14/2016

Devoted Mother,  
Grandma, Great Grandma,  
Wife and Sister  
Always in our thoughts  
Forever in our hearts  
So loved, so missed  
Matt, Liz and Family

For many families that experience hospice care, there is a desire to say "thank you" and also honor the person's memory that meant so much to them. Gulfside has two ways to leave a lasting legacy for your loved one.

### Wall of Caring Tribute Plaques

Wall of Caring celebrates the life of your loved one for all to remember. A dedicated plaque with your chosen inscription commemorates their journey and shows the legacy they left behind.

### Butterfly Garden Brick Pavers

The Butterfly Garden features a beautifully designed path of engraved bricks, donated by friends and family members and filled with inspirational messages.

To make a Wall of Caring or Butterfly Garden tribute gift, visit [www.gulfside.org](http://www.gulfside.org) or contact Elicia Hinson at [eliciahinson@gulfside.org](mailto:eliciahinson@gulfside.org) or 727-845-5707. Every tribute gift makes hospice care possible for a hospice patient in need.



Gulfside offers a variety of ways to remember loved ones on our Walls of Caring, in our Butterfly Gardens and with memorial gifts.

From May through July 2020, generous donations were given to Gulfside Hospice from families and friends in honor or memory of the following loved ones, who will remain in their hearts forever:

## Walls of Caring:

Robert Geiger  
Richard B. Goodall

George Constantine

Elizabeth Convey  
Richard Cox  
Ruby Cyrus

Anthony Gullo

Violet Hart  
Eugene Heiter  
Kingdon Helie  
Dale Hellemn

Robert Malanga

Mary Malat  
James Marcellino  
Mildred Maresca  
Raymond L. Marshall

Bonnie Scussel

Thelma Seabury  
Patricia Sims  
Zbigniew T. Skik  
Carl F. Sletten

## Memorial & Honor Gifts:

Donald Aboussleman

James Albaugh  
Martha Albert  
Peter J. Alexander  
Genevieve Ammiano

Armando Arodgeni

Leonarda Barbara

Jean A. Barron

William Bartel

Phyllis A. Barth

Thomas Beausoliel

Luella Bellinger

Rita Beltran

Joann Bennett

Lowell W. Bennett

Austin P. Bondi

Gloria E. Boothby

Gloria B. Bostaph

Russel B. Bower

Douglas Brandt

Pete H. Brock

Jeanette M. Brown

George Brown

Clara M. Burlbies

Rita Burnstein

Jose Calabria

Joan Caldwell

Delores Call

Gilberto O. Cardona Perez

Jaime Caro

Lawrence G. Carpenter

Edith Caster

John E. Celia

Eileen M. Chagnon

Patricia Chumas

Richard D. Davis

Vivian H. Davis

William Dean

Ira D. Decker

Ruth Desjardins

Aneta Desterre

Polly A. Dickie

Thomas J. Dominski

Joseph D. Duggan

James Dunk

James L. Dupree

Marlow A. Dustin

Delores Eberts

Nanci El Reedy

Afton L. Elhage

John Ennis

Billy F. Enzor

Theresa Evans

Edwin Faust

Francis D. Finneran

Cora Flaughner

James E. Foulkes

Judith A. Fox

Ruth Fryer

John J. Fryza

Lois Gainer

Evelyn Geertgens

Frances L. Gerhardt

Georges M. Ghezzi

Abdel Ghuneim

Lois Gilley

Candace B. Glewen

John Golden

Marvin E. Goward

Russell A. Gugino

Mary Hendrickson

Helen I. Herman

Karen L. Hile

Gladys K. Hill

Leroy Hines

Paula G. Holcombe

Barbara Hoover

Ada Horan

Earl Howell

Raymond Hubert

Joanna Gallo Importuna

Otis Jackson

Frank Juranek

Juanita T. Kellas

Connie B. Kiefer

John A. Kline

William S. Klinger

David L. Knapp

Ann T. Kolebar

Margaret Kubis

Lisa Kutz

Nola J. Lago

Kenneth C. Lamb

Frank Law

Thomas Lawson

Michael Leblanc

Wilma E. Lenardson

Judith A. Leriger

Keith L. Lewis

Marjorie S. Lewis

Jeffrey Lipkes

Warren F. Littlefield

Michael Lonetto

Charlie Love

Bernard P. Magrino

Dorothy Mauger

Amy L. Mayville

Maryann Merle

Marjorie Miller

Betty Miller

Betty Mindlin

Deanna F. Mitchell-Hartman

Charles Morant

Edith Mormolstein

Joseph A. Murabito

Thelma Murphy

Jean Musto

Robert J. North

William R. Palmer

Joseph C. Passero

Charlotte L. Pelton

Grace E. Penny

Laurette E. Penton

Ann Poleo

Robert Povolny

Leon A. Powell

Ghislaine Powers

Zoia A. Prosnikova

Maria Ptyza

Gerald K. Radick

Frank G. Raudonis

Leo H. Riding

Marilyn Rola

Gilda Romeika

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Nicholas Valiante

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Lee H. Vanocker

Arlene J. Ventura

Margaret Veverka

Virginia Viccari

Charles C. Villwock

Martha Wagner

Thomas Walsh

Emily Waz

Paul N. Weegar

Pauline Wyskiel

Charles Youngster

Francis T. Zuilkowski





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