

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elyzabeth Marcussen, 443-837-1559

emarcussen@hospicechesapeake.org

Hospice of the Chesapeake honors the gift of time by thanking its volunteers

(PASADENA, MD, Oct. 19, 2017) — Hospice of the Chesapeake celebrated its volunteer at its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held Oct. 15 at the Loews Hotel in Annapolis.

Among the approximately 100 volunteers in attendance was this year's Spirit of Hospice Award recipient **Jimmy Wilburn** of Frederick. Wilburn is the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hospice of the Chesapeake Foundation and serves in several other capacities, including the nonprofit's Board of Directors and We Honor Veterans Committee. The Spirit of Hospice Award was inaugurated in 2007 to acknowledge the commitment of the organization's non-patient care volunteers. The assistance they provide in our various departments is vital to carrying out the mission at Hospice of the Chesapeake.

The two recipients of the Joseph P. and Elizabeth Earley Award were **Russ Stewart** of Annapolis and **Bill Vincek** of Severna Park. The Earley Award honors exemplary and extraordinary care provided to Hospice of the Chesapeake's patients by a volunteer.

Gayle Bremer of Severna Park was awarded the David William Malicki Veterans Service Award, which was created in memory of Malicki, a late staff member with Hospice of the Chesapeake who played a critical role in launching the organization's We Honor Veterans program. The award honors a volunteer for their time and dedication to the Veteran patients in hospice care.

Jay Beeler received the Chesapeake Life Center Award for his commitment to children's bereavement programs.

As a nonprofit hospice and palliative care organization, the importance of its volunteer corps cannot be emphasized enough. It was an all-volunteer organization when it accepted its first patient in 1979. Now caring for nearly 500 patients every day in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties, volunteers contributed 26,977 hours of that care over the last year.

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High resolution photos available upon request.



Hospice of the Chesapeake recently presented awards to several Volunteers during its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held Oct. 15 at the Loews Annapolis. Pictured from left are President and CEO, Ben Marcantonio, Chesapeake Life Center Award winner Jay Beeler; Earley Award winner Russ Stewart; Director of Volunteer Services, Mary Jermann, holding the Malicki Award for Gayle Bremer, who was unable to attend; Earley Award Winner Bill Vincek and Spirit of Hospice Award winner Jimmy Wilburn. Photo by Elyzabeth Marcussen, Hospice of the Chesapeake



Buzz Stillinger graciously performed on the cello while volunteers and team members mingled before the luncheon program. Photo by Elise Fonseca, Hospice of the Chesapeake



Volunteers Rose Lovelace, left, and Cathy Belcher pose with Director of Advancement, Christine Wilson. Photo by Elyzabeth Marcussen, Hospice of the Chesapeake



Bill and Jeanne Malicki, both longtime volunteers for the nonprofit, pose in the atrium of the Loews Hotel. Photo by Elyzabeth Marcussen, Hospice of the Chesapeake

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Caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss is the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake. For more information, please visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.